29 May 2023

Guests of the 63rd Krakow Film Festival

**An Oscar winner, renowned writers, the oldest DJ, award-winning actresses, famous and rebellious artists, as well as young, talented creators. You will find them all at various festival locations, most often in cinemas at Q&A meetings.**

##### **Dragon of Dragons Award for Oscar Winner**

The Dragon of Dragons Award 2023 for contribution to the development of world animation was awarded to Dutch artist and animated film director **Michael Dudok de Wit**. The creator of the Oscar-winning animated film *Father and Daughter* (2000) will present all his films in Krakow: expressive, modest in form animated shorts, as well as the Cannes-awarded and Oscar-nominated feature film *The Red Turtle*. Michael Dudok de Wit will also participate in KFF Talks, a meeting dedicated to the influence of art on shaping pro-environmental attitudes.

**Creators**

Two distinguished directors: **Margreth Olin**, creator of the opening film *Songs of Earth* and **Jagoda Szelc**, chairman of the Short Film Jury in the National Competition, will also take part in KFF Talks. The author of *Monument* will be accompanied in the deliberations by, among others, the multiple-time winner of the Krakow Film Festival **Damian Kocur.**

The competitions feature several very interesting names. **Bren Cukier** makes a debut with the excellent short *Thursday*, starring the great young actress **Marianna Zydek**. There will also be plenty of stars at the premiere of *My Old Gals*, with **Dorota Stalińska** and **Dorota Pomykała,** both starring in the main roles, present**.** This daring film was directed by **Natasza Parzymies**, whom we may know from the hit internet series *Control*. On the other hand, in Michał Toczek's phenomenal *Be Somebody* **Jowita Budnik** and **Sebastian Stankiewicz** shine in the roles of a married couple.They will all be available to talk to after the premiere screenings of their films.

**Heroines and Heroes**

The Krakow Film Festival is not only about the best short films from around the world, but also about exceptional documentaries. Their heroes and heroines are often well-known figures from the world of culture. In Bartosz Paduch's film *Fantastic Matt Parey* we will see, among others, Szczepan Twardoch, **Jacek Dukaj** or **Łukasz Orbitowski**. The latter two writers will appear at the festival.

The heroine of *Ula* directed by Agnieszka Iwańska will also be present. The outstanding vocalist **Urszula Dudziak** will be in Krakow on June 3. Another star from the music stage is **DJ Wika**, whom we will see both on the big screen in Agnieszka Zwiefka's biographical documentary *Vika!* by Agnieszka Zwiefka, but also behind the console during one of the industry events.

After the screening of *Lodz Kaliska: Classic Artists of the Absurd* by Sławomir Grünberg, the audience will get to meet the director and producers, as well as the extremely colourful and rebellious members of the titular group.

Although **Kasia Chlebny** is not the heroine of a documentary, but that is probably just a matter of time. The talented actress and singer will grace the award ceremony with her performance.

The detailed Festival program is available at [www.krakowfilmfestival.pl](https://www.krakowfilmfestival.pl/).

Krakow Film Festival is on the exclusive list of qualifying events for the Oscars® in the categories of short film (live action, animated, documentary) and documentary feature, as well as a recommending event for the [European Film Awards](https://europeanfilmawards.eu/?p=1) in the same categories.

Krakow Film Festival is organised with the financial support of the European Union as part of the [“Creative Europe”](https://kreatywna-europa.eu/) program, the [City of Kraków](https://www.krakow.pl/), the [Polish Film Institute](https://pisf.pl/), the [Ministry of Culture and National Heritage](https://www.gov.pl/web/kultura), and the [Lesser Poland Province](https://www.malopolska.pl/). The co-organiser is the [Polish Filmmakers Association](https://www.sfp.org.pl/), and the main organiser is the [Krakow Film Foundation](https://www.kff.com.pl/).

The 63rd Krakow Film Festival will be held in Kraków's cinemas from 28 May to 4 June and across Poland at the KFF VOD online streaming platform between 2 and 18 June.