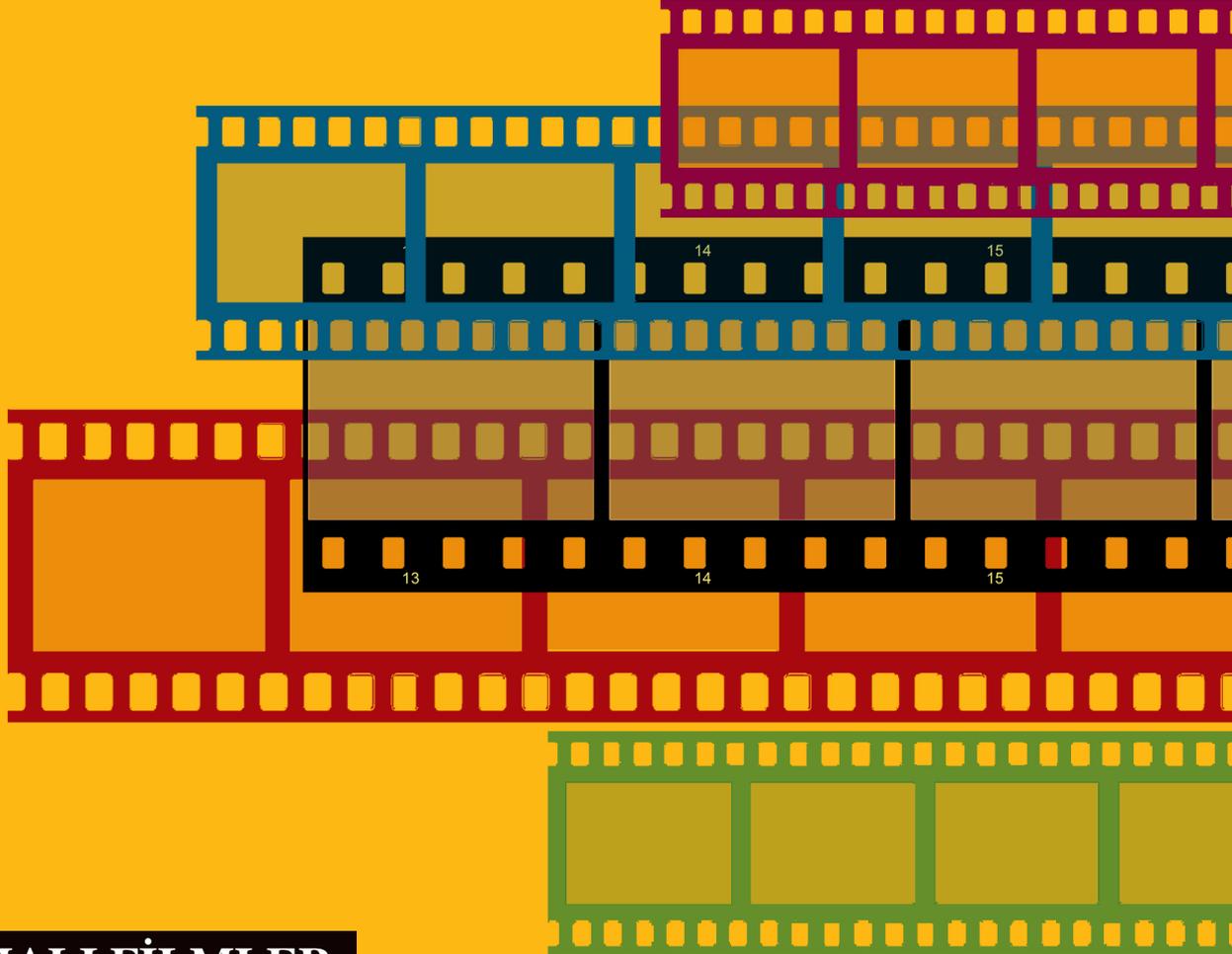


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GÖÇ TEMALI FİLMLER

Hazırlayan: Esra Demirkol

GÖÇ TEMALIL FİMLER

Film, diasporik toplulukların ve/ya ulusal sınırlar içerisinde göç etmek zorunda kalmıř toplulukların yařadıkları deneyimleri aktarmak ve bunu daha geniş kitlelere ulařtırmak için önemli bir araç olmuřtur.

Bu listede yer alan filmlerin, göçmenlerin, sığınmacıların, mültecilerin deneyimledikleri yer deđiřtirme süreci (zorunlu ve/ya kendi istekleri dahilinde), vardıkları ulusal sınırlar içerisinde maruz kaldıkları damgalayıcı davranıřlar, geldikleri ülkedeki kendi etnik grupları (ya da diđer etnik gruplar) içerisinde yařadıkları gerilimler ve geride bıraktıkları aileleri/ülkeleri ile kurdukları bađlar hakkında fikir vermesini umuyoruz.



1915**The Italian, Directed by Reginald Baker**

An immigrant leaves his sweetheart in Italy to find a better life across the sea in the grimy slums of New York. They are eventually reunited and marry. But life in New York is hard and tragedy tarnishes their dream of a better life in the new world.

1917**The Immigrant, Directed by Charles Chaplin**

Charlie is on his way to the USA. He wins in a card game, puts the money in Edna's bag (she and her sick mother have been robbed of everything). When he retrieves a little for himself he is accused of being a thief. Edna clears his name. Later, broke, Charlie finds a coin and goes into a restaurant. There he finds Edna, whose mother has died, and asks her to join him. When he reaches for the coin to pay for their meals it is missing (it has fallen through a hole in his pocket).

(https://www.imdb.com/title/tt0008133/?ref=fn_al_tt_2)

1933**I Cover the Waterfront, Directed by James Cruze**

Reporter Joe Miller is sure that fisherman Eli Kirk smuggles illegal Chinese immigrants into the country, but can't obtain enough evidence to satisfy his editor. Chance plays into his hands in the lovely form of Kirk's daughter, Julie, whom he catches swimming in the nude and pumps for information. But she's fiercely loyal to her dad, and may be too attractive for Joe's own good.

(https://www.imdb.com/title/tt0024151/?ref=fn_al_tt_1)

1935**The Wedding Night, Directed by King Vidor**

Because his finances are low and he is seeking background for a new book, author Tony Barratt and his wife Dora return to his country home in Connecticut. While he is finding a theme for his book on the lives and customs of the local, immigrant tobacco farmers, his wife returns to New York and, alas, his Japanese servant deserts him. He meets a neighboring farm girl, Manya Novak, and hires her to cook his meals and clean his house. They soon fall in love. But, following the customs of the old country, her father has entered a 'marriage bargain' for her to wed a man, Fredrik Sobieski, not of her choosing. (https://www.imdb.com/title/tt0027189/?ref=fn_al_tt_1)

Bordertown, Directed by Archie Mayo

Embittered when prejudice cuts short his nascent law career, once-idealistic Johnny Ramirez leaves his home in Los Angeles and ends up in Mexico. He quickly becomes the invaluable second-in-command to Charlie Roark, the owner of a border-town casino. But Roark's wife falls hard for Johnny and goes to great lengths to make him hers, which sets in motion more perilous events.

(https://www.imdb.com/title/tt0026129/?ref=ttls_li_tt)

1937**Where is My Child?, Directed by Abraham Leff and Henry Lynn**

Celia Adler, doyenne of the Yiddish stage, gives a haunting performance as the film's heroine who arrives in New York in 1911 at the height of mass Jewish immigration newly widowed, friendless, impoverished and the mother of a newborn baby boy. Fearing that she cannot care for the child, she places him in an orphanage. She quickly regrets her decision,

but it is too late as she finds herself tricked into the decision. Obsessed with the thought of reunion with him, she spends the next twenty-five years searching, pining, and bewailing her loss. The film is filled with the conventions of the popular Yiddish stage: the melodramatic plot centering on the rupture and restoration of family ties; the comic subplot; the songs; the stereotyped characters; the happy coincidences and happier endings. Above all, it was the theme of the pains and joys of the mother-son relationship, always idealized in the Jewish folk mind, which could be counted on to strike a responsive chord.

(https://www.imdb.com/title/tt0029765/?ref=fn_al_tt_1)

1940

The Grapes of Wrath, Directed by John Ford

The Joad clan, introduced to the world in John Steinbeck's iconic novel, is looking for a better life in California. After their drought-ridden farm is seized by the bank, the family -- led by just-paroled son Tom -- loads up a truck and heads West. On the road, beset by hardships, the Joads meet dozens of other families making the same trek and holding onto the same dream. Once in California, however, the Joads soon realize that the promised land isn't quite what they hoped.

(https://www.imdb.com/title/tt0032551/?ref=fn_al_tt_1)

1941

Hold back the dawn, Directed by Mitchell Leisen

Told in flashback from a preface in which the main character visits Paramount to sell his story! Romanian-French gigolo Georges Iscovescu wishes to enter the USA. Stopped in Mexico by the quota system, he decides to marry an American, then desert her and join his old partner Anita, who's done likewise. But after sweeping teacher Emmy Brown off her feet, he finds her so sweet that love and jealousy endanger his plans.

(https://www.imdb.com/title/tt0033722/?ref=ttls_li_tt)

1942

Rio Rita, Directed by S. Sylvan Simon

After being fired from their jobs as clerks in a pet store, Doc and Wishey, a couple of bumpkins, hide in the trunk of a car that they think will take them to New York. Somehow, however, they end up in Texas where they help to facilitate the romance of a popular Latin singer and the owner of a resort hotel while exposing a gang of Fifth-Columnists.

(https://www.imdb.com/title/tt0035259/?ref=fn_al_tt_1)

1943

Border Patrol, Directed by Lesley Selander

Hoppy, California and Johnny are Texas Rangers trying to end a scheme which smuggles Mexicans into the United States to become essentially slaves in a silver mine owned by Orestes Krebs. The three are captured, sentenced to hang, and then escape. They free the slaves and capture the bad guys.

(https://www.imdb.com/title/tt0035692/?ref=ttls_li_tt)

1945

Escuadron 201, Directed by Jaime Salvador

Fictional story about the Escuadron 201 de Caza (201st Mexican Fighter Squadron), which participated in military campaigns in the Phillipines during WWII. It focuses primarily on two brothers, one who has a promising future as a doctor, who volunteer for this unit after Mexico declares war on Germany after the sinking of Mexican merchants by U-boats. The story also follows another young man, the son of a Spanish immigrant baker. He volunteers

to pay what he feels is an unpaid debt to their new adopted country. (https://www.imdb.com/title/tt0179797/?ref=ttls_li_tt)

1948

My Girl Tisa, Directed by Elliot Nugent

1905 was a period of heavy immigration from Europe to America before laws were passed restricting the flow of immigrants. Almost every character in this movie is a recent arrival. Tisa has been in America only four months, yet she is holding four jobs to save enough money to pay for her father's boat passage to America. She works in a garment factory in Greenwich Village owned by Mr. Grumbach, who is studying to pass his citizenship test. Denek, a brash young man, tries to help her but gets her into trouble and her deportation is ordered by an immigration judge.

(https://www.imdb.com/title/tt0040628/?ref=fn_al_tt_1)

1949

Border Incident, Directed by Anthony Mann

To penetrate a gang exploiting illegal Mexican farmworkers smuggled into California (and leaving no live witnesses), Mexican federal agent Pablo Rodriguez poses as an ignorant bracero, while his American counterpart Jack Bearnes works from outside. Soon, both are in deadly danger from the ringleader, sinister rancher Owen Parkson, and find night on the farm to be full of shadowy film-noir menace.

(https://www.imdb.com/title/tt0041198/?ref=ttls_li_tt)

1950

Borderline, Directed by William A. Seiter

Customs agents are looking for information about Pete Ritchie, who is involved in smuggling drugs into the US. Police officer Madeleine Haley goes undercover in order to gain Ritchie's confidence, and before long she meets him through one of his associates. As she is talking with Ritchie, Johnny Macklin and one of his men burst in, and they provoke a violent confrontation. From then on, Haley is in constant danger as she attempts to figure out everything that is happening in the smuggling operation.

(https://www.imdb.com/title/tt0042274/?ref=ttls_li_tt)

The Lawless, Directed by Joseph Losey

A newspaper editor in a small agricultural town finds himself going against the people in the town when he gets involved in the plight of the area's fruit pickers, who are mostly Mexican.

(https://www.imdb.com/title/tt0042669/?ref=fn_al_tt_1)

1952

The ring, Directed by Kurt Neumann

A young American of Mexican decent in East Los Angeles, California uses the boxing ring to make a better life for himself and his family, and learns as much about being a Latino in a white society as he does about boxing.

(https://www.imdb.com/title/tt0045091/?ref=nv_sr_1?ref=nv_sr_1)

1954

Salt of the Earth, Directed by Herbert J. Biberman

Based on an actual strike against the Empire Zinc Mine in New Mexico, the film deals with the prejudice against the Mexican-American workers, who struck to attain wage parity with

Anglo workers in other mines and to be treated with dignity by the bosses. In the end, the greatest victory for the workers and their families is the realization that prejudice and poor treatment are conditions that are not always imposed by outside forces.

(https://www.imdb.com/title/tt0047443/?ref =nv_sr_2?ref =nv_sr_2)

1956

Wetbacks, Directed by Hank McCune

About to lose his sole possession, his boat, for lack of payments, ex- Coast Guardsman Jim Benson takes a gamble on a fishing charter and removes the boat from the dock despite a sheriff's seizure order. But Jim finds himself with a loudmouthed drunk, Shanks, and his companion, Sally. To avoid paying for the fishing excursion, Shanks stages a fight with Jim and, when Jim puts him ashore at a small Mexican port, Shanks takes off, stranding both Jim (who is out of gas as well as cash) and Sally. The two begin to become "friends in need" and are put up by Alfonso, local innkeeper who is a friend of Jim's. But the town is the base of operations for a gang, led by Bodine and Ortega, who smuggle illegal aliens into California for a profit. Learning of Jim's plight, they offer him money to run 'just one' shipment of these 'wetbacks' across the border - then blackmail Jim to continue working for them.

(https://www.imdb.com/title/tt0049946/?ref =ttls_li_tt)

1957

The Restless Breed, Directed by Allan Dwan

Educated but hot-headed Mitch Baker travels to the border town of Mission intent on avenging the death of his secret service father at the hand of contraband gang leader Newton.

(https://www.imdb.com/title/tt0050893/?ref =ttls_li_tt)

1958

Touch of Evil, Directed by Orson Welles

This film noir classic was not considered such a great triumph upon release. However, it's now considered one of Orson Welles' best movies and opens with a time bomb being planted in a car in a Mexican border town, before exploding when it's crossing the border. The implications of this are wide-ranging and attract the attention of police officials, who first suspect the victim's son-in-law. The moody setting of the US-Mexico border only adds to the suspense of *Touch of Evil*.

(https://www.imdb.com/title/tt0052311/?ref =fn_al_tt_1)

1963

America America, Directed by Elia Kazan

Elia Kazan, ethnic Greek but Turkish by birth, tells the story of the struggles of his uncle - in this account named Stavros Topouzoglou - in emigrating to America. In the 1890's, the young, kind-hearted but naive Stavros lived in Anatolia, where the Greek and Armenian minorities were repressed by the majority Turks, this repression which often led to violence. Even Stavros being friends with an Armenian was frowned upon. As such, Stavros dreamed of a better life - specifically in America - where, as a result, he could make his parents proud by his grand accomplishments. Instead, his parents, with most of their money, sent Stavros to Constantinople to help fund the carpet shop owned by his first cousin once removed. What Stavros encountered on his journey, made on foot with a small donkey, made him question life in Anatolia even further. Once in Constantinople, his resolve to earn the 110 Turkish pound third class fare to the United States became stronger than ever.

(https://www.imdb.com/title/tt0056825/?ref =fn_al_tt_1)

1964**Gurbet Kuşları, Directed by Halit Refiğ**

A Family immigrates from suburb to metropolitan to have a better life. Inspired from the Orhan Kemal's same named novel "Abroad birds", published in 1962.

(https://www.imdb.com/title/tt0184543/?ref=fn_al_tt_3)

1965**Bitmeyen Yol, Directed by Duygu Sağıroğlu**

A self-conscious construction labor witnesses how his fellow townsmen lose their virtues and traits when they migrate from village to city.

(https://www.imdb.com/title/tt0062206/?ref=fn_al_tt_1)

1966**Black Girl, Directed by Ousmane Sembene**

A Senegalese woman is eager to find a better life abroad. She takes a job as a governess for a French family, but finds her duties reduced to those of a maid after the family moves from Dakar to the south of France. In her new country, the woman is constantly made aware of her race and mistreated by her employers. Her hope for better times turns to disillusionment and she falls into isolation and despair. The harsh treatment leads her to consider suicide the only way out.

(https://www.imdb.com/title/tt0060758/?ref=fn_al_tt_1)

1967**The Long Ride Home, Directed by Phil Karlson**

During the Civil War Confederate soldiers escape from a Union prison and head for the Mexican border. Along the way they kill a Union courier who has a message that the war is over. Keeping the message a secret, the Captain has his men go on and they soon find themselves in a battle with the Union search party who also is unaware of the war's end.

(https://www.imdb.com/title/tt0062373/?ref=ttls_li_tt)

1968**Rivers of Blood**

On 20 April 1968, British Member of Parliament Enoch Powell addressed a meeting of the Conservative Political Centre in Birmingham, United Kingdom. His speech strongly criticised mass immigration, especially Commonwealth immigration to the United Kingdom and the proposed Race Relations Bill. It became known as the "**Rivers of Blood**" speech, although Powell always referred to it as "the Birmingham speech". (https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Rivers_of_Blood_speech)

1969**Bir Türk'e Gönül Verdim, Directed by Halit Refiğ**

I Lost My Heart to a Turk is the story of a German woman Eva Bender, who is deserted by a Turkish worker in Germany five years earlier and left alone with a child Zafer. Eva's father refuses his illegitimate grandson from a Turkish worker. She comes to Kayseri, Turkey with her illegitimate child to seek her lover, Ismail Acar. Ismail is now working at Sümer Cotton Cloth factory as a mechanic and establishing a small private business. Eva finds her ex-lover Ismail who now lives with his wife and children. Humiliated by her ex-lover, the German woman receives assistance by another Turkish worker, Mustafa. Mustafa is a young truck driver living in dreams of migrating to Germany as a worker. But after he meets

Eva he gives up his dream and falls in love with her. Mustafa also helps his home village to get funding for a water project. Eva also falls in love with Mustafa and Turkish hospitality and turns into Islam, changing her name into Havva.

(https://www.imdb.com/title/tt0274381/?ref=mv_sr_1?ref=mv_sr_1)

The Wild Bunch, Directed by Sam Peckinpah

It's 1913, and the "traditional" American West is dying. Among the inhabitants of this dying era are an outlaw gang called "The Wild Bunch." After a failed railroad office robbery, the gang heads to Mexico to do one last job. Seeing their times and lives drifting away in the newly formed world of the 20th century, the gang takes the job and ends up in a brutally violent last stand against their enemies deemed to be corrupt, in a small Mexican town ruled by a ruthless general.

(https://www.imdb.com/title/tt0065214/?ref=fn_al_tt_1)

1971

Baba, Directed by Yılmaz Güney

"Baba" is a bitter melodrama set in Istanbul. A father is not able to earn enough money to feed his family. He is waiting to emigrate to Germany. When his landlord's son kills a man while drunk, the father is prepared to answer for the deed himself, provided that the landlord supports his wife and children. As there is little difference for the father between ten years in prison or ten years in a foreign country, he regards this to be the best solution.

(<https://www.imdb.com/title/tt0069752/>)

1972

Gurbetçiler, Directed by Osman F. Seden

Dönüş, Directed by Türkan Şoray

Story of a wife and her son waiting for her husband to come back from Germany, where he immigrated for paying his family's debts in Turkey. (<https://www.imdb.com/title/tt0263283/>)

1973

Touki bouki, Directed by Djibril Diop Mambety

Mory, a cowherd who rides a motorcycle mounted with a cow's skull, and Anta, a university student, have met in Dakar, Senegal's capital. Alienated and disaffected with Senegal and Africa, they long to go to Paris and work up different con schemes to raise the money. Mory steals clothing and money from a wealthy gay man who had brought him home, and he and Anta book passage on a ship to France.

(https://www.imdb.com/title/tt0070820/?ref=fn_al_tt_1)

Gelin, Directed by Ömer Lütfi Akad

A young woman moves with her husband and small child to her husband's family in Istanbul. Her son becomes ill and the doctor tells her that he will soon die if he doesn't get an operation. The family refuses to help her because they can't see anything wrong with the boy and all money is needed for a new shop they have just opened. When her son dies she takes a desperate step.

(<https://www.imdb.com/title/tt0070099/>)

Düğün, Directed by Ömer Lütfi Akad

A story of a family of six who are coming from Urfa tries to survive economically in Istanbul.

(<https://www.imdb.com/title/tt0261668/>)

1974**Fear Eats the Soul, Directed by Rainer Werner Fassbinder**

Emmi, a German woman in her mid-sixties, falls in love with Ali, a Moroccan immigrant worker around twenty-five years younger. When they abruptly decide to marry, everyone around them seems appalled. When the folks calm down a bit, Emmi and Ali's relationship grows uncertain.

(https://www.imdb.com/title/tt0071141/?ref=fn_al_tt_1)

Diyet, Directed by Ömer Lütfi Akad

Hasan (Hakan Balamir) from opium to Istanbul, Bilal Masters (Erol Tas) peasants hired help start a large factory. Meanwhile, it is recent developments in manufacturing. Some workers have entered the union. The employer and his closest they go against this guy, Bilal Masters. After a while Hasan is married but her husband and two children abandoned two years ago from Germany to Hacer (Hulya Kocyigit) are met. An emotional bond between the two. Meanwhile, where the machine is defective works, he learns to stop by yourself before working man's leg cut work-related accidents. Meanwhile the union about certain developments, the problems arise between two young people. Hagar enter into unions. On the one hand because he has a hand for consultation in the Hajar so angry with Bilal Masters fell against ashamed.

(<https://www.imdb.com/title/tt0279779/>)

Otobüs, Directed by Tunç Okan

A group of illegal immigrants are brought to Stockholm in a bus by a smuggler who takes all their money and passports, and then runs away.

(<https://www.imdb.com/title/tt0212408/>)

1975**Hester Street, Directed by Joan Micklin Silver**

It's 1896. Yankel Bogovnik, a Russian Jew, emigrated to the United States three years earlier and has settled where many of his background have, namely on Hester Street on the Lower East Side of New York City. He has assimilated to American life, having learned English, anglicized his name to Jake, and shaved off his beard. He is working at a \$12/week job as a seamster, the money earned to be able to bring his wife Gitl and his son Yossele to America from Russia. Regardless, he has fallen in love with another woman, a dancer named Mamie Fein. Nonetheless, he is excited when he learns that Gitl and Yossele are indeed coming to America. His happiness at their arrival is dampened when he sees that Gitl is not "American" looking like Mamie and has troubles assimilating as quickly as he would like. Except to Mamie, he tries to show a public façade that everything is fine at home with Gitl.

(https://www.imdb.com/title/tt0073107/?ref=fn_al_tt_1)

1976**Pressure, Directed by Horace Ove**

A British-born younger son of an immigrant family from Trinidad finds himself adrift between two cultures.

(https://www.imdb.com/title/tt0075098/?ref=fn_al_tt_2)

Chulas Fronteras, Directed by Les Blank

"Chulas Fronteras" is a documentary about the music of the Mexican community on both sides of the Texas-Mexico border, particularly of migrant farmers. It includes material about

the roots of the music, but devotes principal attention to the music as a form of social protest against oppression and racism.

(https://www.imdb.com/title/tt0074316/?ref=ttls_li_tt)

1977

The Displaced Person, Directed by Glenn Jordan

A conscientious but driven Polish refugee disrupts the hierarchy of power on a Georgia farm in the 1940s.

(https://www.imdb.com/title/tt0074413/?ref=fn_al_tt_1)

News from Home, Directed by Chantal Akerman

Chantal Akerman, the Belgian filmmaker, lives in New York. Filmed images of the City are accompanied by the texts of Chantal Akerman's loving but manipulative mother back home in Brussels. The City comes more and more to the front while the words of the mother, read by Akerman herself, gradually fade away.

(https://www.imdb.com/title/tt0076452/?ref=fn_al_tt_1)

Alambrista!, Directed by Robert M. Young

After his daughter's birth, Roberto leaves his town in Michoacan to make money in the United States. He's "an illegal," crossing into California and taking work wherever he can: picking strawberries, grapes, lettuce, and cucumbers. He hitchhikes, rides freight trains, and depends on the kindness of strangers. Near Stockton, things look up when a sympathetic waitress gives him a place to live, and he gets a better job at a crop-dusting company. But immigration raids are a constant possibility that can end stability. Can Roberto hold onto his equilibrium in this foreign land where hard work is not enough?

(https://www.imdb.com/title/tt0075654/?ref=fn_al_tt_1)

1978

Sultan, Directed by Kartal Tibet

Portrayal of a young depressed Turkish widow in the slums whose infinite dignity alone looks after her orphan kids is depicted by the son of the town sheriff, who is in love with her.

(https://www.imdb.com/title/tt0264051/?ref=nm_fimg_act_42)

Taşı Toprağı Altın Şehri, Directed by Orhan Aksoy

Okkes comes to Istanbul from a small village with his wife Fatma, son Mehmet and brother Cemal to Istanbul. They buy a tractor and work for paying its installments. Fatma works as a maid for a bar woman which bothers Okkes a lot. Mehmet sells illegal cigarettes and gets arrested. Okkes is fired and he starts selling fruits. In the meantime the tractor's price increases. Cemal's boss and is a smuggler and Cemal is shot at a police operation. Okkes's tractor gets stolen and Fatma leaves with another man. Okkes is the only one in the family, who could stay firm in Istanbul, but understands that the life in the biff city is not easy.

(<https://www.imdb.com/title/tt0280416/>)

Sürü, Directed by Zeki Ökten

Because of a local blood feud, a peasant family in eastern Turkey decides to sell its sheep - a most precious commodity - in far away Ankara. During their long train ride, bribes must be paid to petty officials, sheep are stolen or die in the packed, airless, contaminated wagons, and the sick wife of one of the family's sons becomes deathly ill.

(<https://www.imdb.com/title/tt0078355/>)

1979**El Super, Directed by Leon Ichaso and Orlando Jimenez Lela**

Slice of life look at Roberto and Aurelia, Cuban exiles living in New York City with their 17-year-old daughter Aurelita. It's February, 1978; the winter is harsh, and for ten years Roberto's been the super of an apartment building, firing up the boiler, repairing windows, moving bags of garbage. He's homesick for Cuba, stuck in repetitive conversations about the Bay of Pigs, Castro, and life back home. He's too depressed to make love to Aurelia, and when his daughter thinks she's pregnant and he receives sad news from Cuba, he makes up his mind to quit the city for Miami. The decision gives him new life, he remembers Aurelia's birthday, and they have a party to celebrate.

(https://www.imdb.com/title/tt0079981/?ref=fn_al_tt_2)

Gül Hasan, Directed by Tuncel Kurtiz

A film director comes to Stockholm claiming he is an internationally renowned filmmaker. The truth is that he is a total failure. He is counting on that his compatriots have saved big money working in Sweden.

(<https://www.imdb.com/title/tt0081092/>)

Kara Kafa, Directed by Korhan Yurtsever**Almanya Acı Vatan, Directed by Şerif Gören and Zeki Ökten**

Follows the life of a Turkish woman living and working in Germany.

(<https://www.imdb.com/title/tt0456829/>)

1980**Banker Bilo, Directed by Ertem Eğilmez**

Bilo is a goodhearted man who wants to marry the cutest girl in the village but needs money to take the consent from her father. His best friend Mahmut (Sener Sen) offers him a way to go to Germany and work in a factory to save up the money he needs.

(https://www.imdb.com/title/tt0263102/?ref=fn_al_tt_1)

Borderline, Directed by Jerrold Freedman

Jeb Maynard is a patrolman guarding the U.S.-Mexican border, whose partner and buddy Scooter has just been murdered. Maynard knows that a smuggler of illegal aliens is responsible for Scooter's death, but the feds insist that drug dealers committed the crime. If this villainous smuggler is going to be caught, Maynard is going to have to do the dirty work himself.

(https://www.imdb.com/title/tt0080465/?ref=ttls_li_tt)

1981**The Boat is Full, Directed by Markus Imhoof**

During World War II, Switzerland severely limited refugees: "Our boat is full." A train from Germany halts briefly in an isolated corner of Switzerland. Six people jump off seeking asylum: four Jews, a French child, and a German soldier. They seek temporary refuge with a couple who run a village inn. They pose as a family: the deserter as husband, Judith as his wife, an old man from Vienna as her father, his granddaughter and the French lad, whom they beg to keep silent, as their children. Judith's teenage brother poses as a soldier. The fabrication unravels through chance and the local constable's exact investigation. Whom will the Swiss allow to stay? Who gets deported?

(https://www.imdb.com/title/tt0082095/?ref=fn_al_tt_1)

Davaro: Son Eşkiya, Directed by Kartal Tibet

Memo returns from Germany to get married with his love but his father's killer Sulo is being released from jail. As a village rule he has to get revenge for his father or he can not get married but he doesn't want to kill so they stage a fake death with Sulo and after that his luck runs out.

https://www.imdb.com/title/tt0252361/?ref=fn_al_tt_1

1982

Gülsüm Ana, Directed by Memduh Ün**Bir Küçük Bulut, Directed by Faruk Turgut****The Border (La frontera), Directed by Tony Richardson**

U.S. Border Patrol agent Charlie Smith just wants to do a good job and provide for his wife. But between her demands for a more affluent lifestyle and the importuning of Charlie's partner Cat to take part in illegal activities in exchange for bribes, Charlie gets caught up in helping smuggle illegal immigrants across the Texas border. When one of them, a young Mexican girl named Maria, loses her baby to abductors who plan to sell the child, Charlie decides to take a stand for her and against the corruption he's fallen into.

https://www.imdb.com/title/tt0083678/?ref=fn_al_tt_4

1984

Moscow on the Hudson, Directed by Paul Mazursky

A Russian circus visits the US. A clown wants to defect, but doesn't have the nerve. His saxophone playing friend however comes to the decision to defect in the middle of Bloomingdales. He is befriended by the black security guard and falls in love with the Italian immigrant from behind the perfume counter. We follow his life as he works his way through the American dream and tries to find work as a musician.

https://www.imdb.com/title/tt0087747/?ref=fn_al_tt_1

Ölmez Ağacı, Directed by Yusuf Kurçenli**El Norte, Directed by Gregory Nava**

Mayan Indian peasants, tired of being thought of as nothing more than "brazos fuertes" ("strong arms", i.e., manual laborers) and organizing in an effort to improve their lot in life, are discovered by the Guatemalan army. After the army destroys their village and family, a brother and sister, teenagers who just barely escaped the massacre, decide they must flee to "El Norte" ("the North", i.e., the USA). After receiving clandestine help from friends and humorous advice from a veteran immigrant on strategies for traveling through Mexico, they make their way by truck, bus and other means to Los Angeles, where they try to make a new life as young, and undocumented immigrants.

https://www.imdb.com/title/tt0085482/?ref=fn_al_tt_1

1985

Melek Leaves, Directed by Jeanine Meerapfel**Dim Sum: A Little Bit of Heart**

In San Francisco, an immigrant Chinese widow welcomes the new year with some unhappiness: she's 62 now, she wants to make a trip to China to pay last respects to her ancestors, a fortune teller has told her this is the year she'll die, and a daughter, Geraldine, remains unmarried. Geraldine does have a boyfriend, but she's not sure she's ready for marriage, and, anyway, he lives in Los Angeles and Geraldine doesn't want to leave her mother alone in her declining years. Mrs. Tan's cheerful brother-in-law tries to help out. Is

there any solution that will enable Mrs. Tan to hold onto her culturally-influenced and deep-seated hopes, yet keep those hopes from suffocating Geraldine?

(https://www.imdb.com/title/tt0087150/?ref=fn_al_tt_1)

Cumartesi Cumartesi, Directed by Tunç Okan

Gurbetçi Şaban, Directed by Kartal Tibet

A man goes to Germany to work there and falls for a Turkish girl who like him came to work in Germany too.

(https://www.imdb.com/title/tt0252485/?ref=nv_sr_2?ref=nv_sr_2)

1986

An American Tail, Directed by Don Bluth

Fievel is a young Russian mouse separated from his parents on the way to America, a land they think is without cats. When he arrives alone in the New World, he keeps up hope, searching for his family, making new friends, and running and dodging the cats he thought he'd be rid off.

(https://www.imdb.com/title/tt0090633/?ref=fn_al_tt_1)

Do not enter: the visa war against ideas, Directed by Robert Richter and Catherine Warnow

"Do Not Enter" is a thought-provoking and entertaining investigation of the far-reaching historic effects of the 1952 McCarran Walter Act, largely repealed in 1991-repealed with the help of this documentary. The Act had been used to bar 250,000 foreigners from entering the U.S. on political grounds. The USA Patriot Act has revived much of the McCarthy era law whose impact on free speech and foreign policy is the focus of "Do Not Enter." Exclusive interviews with prominent cultural and political figures amplify the legacy of this Cold War law and its blockade of democracy's free flow of ideas. The filmmakers traveled to twelve countries to interview people invited to speak or participate in U.S. cultural activities, to learn why they had been denied U.S. visas and what they might have told Americans if allowed to enter the U.S.

(https://www.imdb.com/title/tt0346877/?ref=ttls_li_tt)

Günter Wallraff – Ganz Unten (En Alttakiler), Directed by Jörg Gfrörer

40 Metrekare Almanya, Directed by Tevfik Başer

A Turk has brought a young Turk women from Turkey to his flat in Germany. The woman does not know much about Germany nor can she speak German. One day she realizes that her husband locks her in his flat when he is going to work. An inner fight against her culture and her husband begins.

(https://www.imdb.com/title/tt0090566/?ref=fn_al_tt_1)

Mala Noche, Directed by Gus van Sant

A story of amour fou. Walt is madly in love/lust with a young illegal Mexican immigrant. However, the object of his unrequited affection doesn't even speak any English and finds Walt really strange and undesirable

(https://www.imdb.com/title/tt0089537/?ref=fn_al_tt_1)

And the pursuit of happiness, Directed by Louis Malle

After acknowledging his own immigrant background, Malle, tries to present the range of immigrant experiences in the US during the 1980's. In an attempt to be comprehensive, the film includes interviews with migrant workers and illegal entrants along the Mexican border,

conversations with an enterprising Indian motel owner, coverage of industrious African and Asian families in the cities, an extensive interview with the first Costa Rican astronaut, visits with Cuban exiles in Miami, several conversations with West Indian poet Derek Walcott, an extended portrait of the deposed Nicaraguan General Somoza (the surviving brother of Anastasio Somoza Debayle) and his extended family. The film finishes with a brief visit to the Russian Jewish community in Brooklyn, NY to tie in with the centenary of the Statue of Liberty. (https://www.imdb.com/title/tt0092561/?ref=fn_al_tt_3)

1987

Living on Tokyo Time, Directed by Steven Okazaki

When her visa expires, a young Japanese immigrant in San Francisco agrees to marry a Japanese-American boy to avoid being deported back to Japan.

(https://www.imdb.com/title/tt0093429/?ref=fn_al_tt_1)

Drachenfutter, Directed by Jan Schütte

In Hamburg, always within reach of government officials, immigrants try to make their way. Shezad, a Pakistani in his early 20s, lives in a small hotel run by the shady Herder. The hotel is a virtual United Nations. Shezad tries to help an older friend, Rashid, with his amnesty claim. When it fails, Herder offers to smuggle Rashid into the US for a large fee. Herder also gets Shezad a job in the kitchen of a Chinese restaurant, where he befriends Xiao, a waiter. Xiao wants to open his own restaurant; they save enough to do so, mostly through Shezad's boldness. Because Shezad is the better cook, they serve Pakistani food. Through friendship, is economic success at hand?

(https://www.imdb.com/title/tt0092924/?ref=fn_al_tt_1)

China Girl, Directed by Abel Ferrara

A modern day Romeo & Juliet story is told in New York when an Italian boy and a Chinese girl become lovers, causing a tragic conflict between ethnic gangs.

(https://www.imdb.com/title/tt0092751/?ref=fn_al_tt_1)

Pelle the Conqueror, Directed by Bille August

The end of the 19th century. A boat filled with Swedish emigrants comes to the Danish island of Bornholm. Among them are Lasse and his son Pelle who move to Denmark to find work. They find employment at a large farm, but are treated as the lowest form of life. Pelle starts to speak Danish but is still harassed as a foreigner. But none of them wants to give up their dream of finding a better life than the life they left in Sweden.

(https://www.imdb.com/title/tt0093713/?ref=fn_al_tt_1)

Born in East L.A., Directed by Cheech Marin

Rudy is an American of Mexican descent who is caught up in an immigration raid on a factory. Deported to Mexico as an undocumented immigrant, he has no way of proving that he is in fact an American citizen, and is forced to rely on his cunning to sneak his way back home.

(https://www.imdb.com/title/tt0092690/?ref=ttls_li_tt)

Handsworth Songs, Directed by John Akomfrah

Documentary examining the 1985 riots in London and Birmingham's Handsworth district that erupted in reaction to the repressive policing of black communities.

(https://www.imdb.com/title/tt0251113/?ref=fn_al_tt_1)

1988**Yasemin, Directed by Hark Bohm**

20 years old Casanova Jan falls in love with the 3 years younger Turkish girl Yasemin, who lives in Germany with her family. She's well protected by her father, who believes in the Turkish traditions. She has to struggle for every little freedom that's certain for her German friends, but still respects and loves her father and keeps the appearance of an honorable Turkish girl. Her love to Jan however disturbs this fine balance. So it's not hate or quarrel that interferes with their love, but the differences of their cultures.

(https://www.imdb.com/title/tt0096476/?ref=fn_al_tt_1)

Polizei, Directed by Şerif Gören

Ali acts like a German Police, because he wants to affect a beautiful blonde German woman.

(https://www.imdb.com/title/tt0095888/?ref=fn_al_tt_1)

Düttürü Dünya, Directed by Zeki Ökten

The story of a family man who has hardship as a musician.

(https://www.imdb.com/title/tt0252405/?ref=nv_sr_1?ref=nv_sr_1)

Deadly stranger, Directed Max Kleven

An undercover cop infiltrates an illegal labor racket on a remote, Texas/Mexican border farm. After falling for the farm owner's mistress, the two discover the tables have been turned and they are the hunted.

(https://www.imdb.com/title/tt0094972/?ref=ttls_li_tt)

1989**Sahte Cennete Veda, Directed by Tevfik Başer**

A moving performance by Turkish actress Zuhâl Olcay as Elif in Tevfik Baser's Farewell from a False Paradise lifted this prison tale far above the usual. This is the story of a foreign alien, a shy and sensitive young mother of two small children placed behind bars for killing her husband.

(<https://mubi.com/films/farewell-to-false-paradise>)

Joe Leahy's Neighbours, Directed by Robin Anderson and Bob Conolly

This documentary follows the relationship between wealthy foreigner Joe Leahy and his Ganiga neighbours. Leahy, the unclaimed son of famous explorer and prospector Michael Leahy, bought land for his coffee plantation from the Ganiga tribe. Being of racially mixed origin, his status among the Ganiga is ambiguous at best, and he must try to maintain peace between himself and his neighbours, who do not want him to forget that the land was originally theirs.

1990**Avalon, Directed by Barry Levinson**

A Polish-Jewish family arrives in the US at the beginning of the century and they and their children try to build themselves a better future in the promised land.

Umuda Yolculuk, Directed by Xavier Koller

In a village in eastern Turkey, tales of the economic success of Turks in Switzerland inspire Haydar to convince his wife Meryem that they must go. He sells their livestock and small

plot of land in exchange for passage for two. He wants to leave their seven children in the care of the eldest and his parents; his father advises him to take one son to be educated in Europe, as economic insurance. The three set off for Istanbul, Milan, and Switzerland, stowing away on a ship. At Lake Como, they pay the rest of their money to unprincipled men who abandon them at an Alpine pass before a blizzard. Father and son are separated from Meryem. Will anyone reach the land of promise?

(https://www.imdb.com/title/tt0100470/?ref=fn_al_tt_1)

New Harvest, Old Shame, Directed by Hectot Galan

A sequel to Edward R. Murrow's famous Harvest of Shame documentary, showing the deplorable conditions of migrant farm workers in 1960, found little has changed in 30 years.

(https://www.imdb.com/title/tt0918649/?ref=ttls_li_tt)

1991

Mississippi Masala, Directed by Mira Nair

An Indian family is expelled from Uganda when Idi Amin takes power. They move to Mississippi and time passes. The Indian daughter falls in love with a black man, and the respective families have to come to terms with it.

(https://www.imdb.com/title/tt0102456/?ref=fn_al_tt_1)

1992

Far and Away, Directed by Ron Howard

A young man leaves Ireland with his landlord's daughter after some trouble with her father and they dream of owning land at the big give-away in Oklahoma ca. 1893. When they get to the new land, they find jobs and begin saving money. The man becomes a local barehands boxer and rides in glory until he is beaten, then his employers steal all the couple's money and they must fight off starvation in the winter and try to keep their dream of owning land alive. Meanwhile, the woman's parents find out where she has gone and have come to the U.S. to find her and take her back.

(https://www.imdb.com/title/tt0104231/?ref=fn_al_tt_1)

Happy Birthday, Türke!, Directed by Doris Dörrie

Kemal Kayankaya, a private detective, was hired by a Turkish women, Ilter, to search for his husband, Amend, who has been missing since the death of her father, Vassif. Unknownst to him, he was about to unravel the secrets of his client's family, as well as their various dealings with the underworld and the police. Moreover, being a Turk raised in a German foster family, he has also begun to understand and accept his own ethnicity.

(https://www.imdb.com/title/tt0102000/?ref=fn_al_tt_1)

Romper Stomper, Directed by Geoffrey Wright

Nazi skinheads in Melbourne take out their anger on local Vietnamese, who are seen as threatening racial purity. Finally the Vietnamese have had enough and confront the skinheads in an all-out confrontation, sending the skinheads running. A woman who is prone to epileptic seizures joins the skins' merry band, and helps them on their run from justice, but is her affliction also a sign of impurity?

(https://www.imdb.com/title/tt0105275/?ref=fn_al_tt_1)

1993**The Joy Luck Club, Directed by Wayne Wang**

Through a series of flashbacks, four young Chinese women born in America and their respective mothers born in feudal China, explore their past. This search will help them understand their difficult mother/daughter relationship.

(https://www.imdb.com/title/tt0107282/?ref=fn_al_tt_1)

Sarı Mercedes, directed by Tunç Okan

The film is based on 'Fikrimin İnce Gülü', a novel by Adalet Agaoglu, which depicts a first generation gurbetci/guest-worker returning home. It covers his land journey in short bursts from Germany to the Turkey's west border - and extensively from thereon to his village close to Ankara - capital of Turkey. He begins his journey purchasing a second hand yellow Mercedes - possibly his first car - using his meager savings working as a laborer. Offering deep insight into the mind of a manual laborer Bayram (Ilyas Salman) making his first trip back home, resorting to flashbacks in highlighting Bayram's motivation and experiences from his childhood right up to the events leading to his first departure from Turkey to Germany.

(<https://www.imdb.com/title/tt0200637/>)

Berlin in Berlin, Directed by Sinan Çetin

A young German engineer photographs a beautiful Turkish woman without her permission. Her husband finds out and starts a fight. In the midst of the argument the German engineer accidentally kills the husband. With his burdened conscience, he goes out to Berlin's Turkish district to find the woman. He is spotted by her relatives, and while escaping, by strange coincidence he ends up hiding in the man's home whom he has killed. According to Turkish customs, a guest in one's household must be treated with dignity and respect even if he is the enemy. Thus, the tension and difficulties among the Turkish family and the German engineer begin. As long as he stays he will survive, but how long can he live in the home of a man he murdered?

(https://www.imdb.com/title/tt0106389/?ref=fn_al_tt_1)

Bhaji on the Beach, Directed by Gurinder Chadha

A group of women of Indian descent take a trip together from their home in Birmingham, England to the beach resort of Blackpool. The women vary in ages from mid-teens to old, and initially have little in common. But the events of the day lead them to better mutual understanding and solidarity.

(https://www.imdb.com/title/tt0106408/?ref=fn_al_tt_1)

1994**Frontline (1983-) Episode: Go Back to Mexico! (1994)****Picture Bride, Directed by Kayo Hatta**

The story of 16-year-old Riyo who journeys to Hawaii in 1918 to marry a man she has never met, except through photographs and letters they have exchanged. Hoping to escape a troubled past and to start anew, Riyo is bitterly disappointed upon her arrival: her husband is twice her age and Hawaii is not the paradise she expected. As Riyo comes to terms with her new home, she discovers a land full of hardship, struggle--and unexpected joy.

(https://www.imdb.com/title/tt0114129/?ref=fn_al_tt_1)

I Can't Sleep, Directed by Claire Denis

Beautiful Daiga has emigrated from Lithuania to Paris and is looking for a place to stay and work. Theo is a struggling musician, and his brother Camille - a transvestite dancer. One of

these three people might be connected to the serial "Granny Killer" who has been terrorizing Paris for a while.

(https://www.imdb.com/title/tt0110171/?ref=fn_al_tt_1)

1995

Mi Familia, Directed by Gregory Nava

This epic film traces over three generations an immigrant family's trials, tribulations, tragedies and triumphs. Jose and Maria, the first generation, come to Los Angeles, meet, marry, face deportation all in the 1930s. They establish their family in East L.A., and their children Chucho, Paco, Memo, Irene, Toni, and Jimmy deal with youth culture and the L.A. police in the 1950s. As the second generation become adults in the 1960s, the focus shifts to Jimmy, his marriage to Isabel (a Salvadorian refugee), their son, and Jimmy's journey to becoming a responsible parent.

(https://www.imdb.com/title/tt0113896/?ref=fn_al_tt_3)

The Perez family, Directed by Mira Nair

In an attempt to secure a sponsor, an unlikely group of Cuban refugees become a "family" as the U.S. Immigration and Naturalization Service gives families priority over others. In the process, a political prisoner who hasn't seen his wife for twenty years and a disaffected sugarcane cutter fall in love. An excitable brother and a lovestruck cop contribute to the general confusion. The inevitable humorous romantic entanglements ensue as a final confrontation is set up.

(https://www.imdb.com/title/tt0114113/?ref=fn_al_tt_1)

1996

The Brave-hearted will take away the Bride, Directed by Aditya Chopra

When Raj (Shah Rukh Khan) and Simran (Kajol) first met on an inter-rail holiday in Europe, it wasn't exactly Love at first sight but when Simran is taken back to India for an arranged marriage, things change. Encouraged by his father Dharamvir (Anupam Kher), Raj decides to fly down from London to not just win his Bride but her whole family and the blessings of her father Baldev Singh (Amrish Puri).

(https://www.imdb.com/title/tt0112870/?ref=fn_al_tt_1)

Carla's song, Directed by Ken Loach

1987, love in time of war. A bus driver George Lennox meets Carla, a Nicaraguan exile living a precarious, profoundly sad life in Glasgow. Her back is scarred, her boyfriend missing, her family dispersed; she's suicidal. George takes her to Nicaragua to find out what has happened to them and to help her face her past. Once home, Carla's nightmarish memories take over, and Carla and George are thrown into the thick of the US war against the Sandinistas. A mystery develops over where Carla's boyfriend is, and the key to his whereabouts may be Carla's friend Bradley, a bitter American aid worker. She finds her family, the Contras attack, and she and the Scot face their choices

(https://www.imdb.com/title/tt0115832/?ref=fn_al_tt_1)

1997

The Bad Pack, Directed by Brent Huff

Mexican immigrants in a small Texas border town, under attack by a local militia group, hire a band of mercenaries to protect them.

(https://www.imdb.com/title/tt0147868/?ref=ttls_li_tt)

My Son the Fanatic, Directed by Udayan Prasad

Parvez was born in Lahore, Pakistan, and as a child was asked to study the Holy scriptures through a Maulvi. When the Maulvi started his sermon, Parvez would fall asleep, this led to the Maulvi devising a unique punishment, which ultimately compelled Parvez to stop attending. When he grew up, his marriage was arranged with Minoo and they immigrated to a small town in Britain, where Parvez started to make a living driving a taxi, and found himself free from all religious activity. 25 years later, Parvez is an alcoholic, still driving a cab, while people who had immigrated after him have their own businesses and are wealthier. Parvez now has a grown son, Farid, who is the apple of his eye, and is to be engaged to Madeleine Fingerhut, who is the daughter of the local Chief Inspector. After the two families' meet, Farid has a sudden change of heart when he notices that the Chief Inspector detests his family, and it slowly dawns on him that he and his girlfriend are quite different.

https://www.imdb.com/title/tt0119743/?ref=fn_al_tt_1

1998

Short Sharp Shock, Directed by Fatih Akin

Hamburg, Germany. The small crime scene. Three friends: Gabriel from Turkey and just out of prison, Costa from Greece and together with Gabriel's sister, Bobby from Serbia and together with her best friend. Bobby wants to get more into organized crime and decides to apply for a membership in an Albanian gang. As a test, he has to beat up someone who owes his future boss. He can join. Later, when Bobby has to do a weapon's deal on his own, he tries to get his friends in, too. But Gabriel does not want to go back into crime, he is dreaming of a life at the southern Turkish coast, owning a boat rental shop. Costa, always out of money, joins Bobby for one last time before getting good. But before the deal is on, both women start leaving their men for others. And when the deal is on, it goes terribly wrong.

https://www.imdb.com/title/tt0162426/?ref=nm_fimg_dr_17

La Ciudad (The City), Directed by David Riker

The stories of four Hispanic immigrants living in New York City.

https://www.imdb.com/title/tt0168589/?ref=ttls_li_tt

1999

Dealer, Directed by Thomas Arslan

Despite many attempts, Can is unable to devote himself to anything other than a career in crime, as a small-time dealer and errand-boy for drug boss Hakan. Hakan keeps his customers supplied within his narrowly staked out territory. Can's lover Jale who works in the warehouse of a department store, has been pressing Can to give up his activity. Can, also fed up with his situation, sees a bright new beginning for himself and his family when Hakan offers him the prospective chance to run a bar on his own. But Can has little control over the pressure that gradually begins to build up around him and soon finds himself floundering in quicksand.

<https://www.imdb.com/title/tt0187805/>

Hamam: The Turkish Bath, Directed by Ferzan Özpetek

Francesco and Marta are husband and wife running a small design company in Rome. When Francesco's long forgotten Aunt Anita dies in Istanbul, he travels there to look after the sale of the hamam (one of a few traditional Turkish baths left) he inherited. There he meets the family running the hamam, gets attracted to a member of it and the whole Turkish atmosphere and decides not to sell the hamam.

https://www.imdb.com/title/tt0119248/?ref=fn_al_tt_1

One Man's Hero, Directed by Lance Hool

"One Man's Hero" tells the little-known story of the "St. Patrick's Battalion" or "San Patricios," a group of mostly Irish, and other immigrants of the Catholic religion, who deserted to Mexico after encountering religious and ethnic prejudice in the U.S. Army during the Mexican-American War. The plot centers around the personal story of John Riley, an Irishman who had been a Sergeant in the American Army, who is commissioned as a Captain in the Mexican Army, and commands the battalion, as he leads his men in battle, and struggles with authorities on both sides of the border.

(https://www.imdb.com/title/tt0120775/?ref=ttls_li_tt)

East is east, Directed by Damien O'Donnell

In 1971 Salford fish-and-chip shop owner George Khan expects his family to follow his strict Pakistani Muslim ways. But his children, with an English mother and having been born and brought up in Britain, increasingly see themselves as British and start to reject their father's rules on dress, food, religion, and living in general.

(https://www.imdb.com/title/tt0166175/?ref=fn_al_tt_1)

Night Shapes, Directed by Andreas Dresen

The Pope is in town and the night of his visit is anything but heavenly for some of Berlin's inhabitants. The down-and-out, the rich and the poor, the polizei, the street kids and taxi drivers, in search of a little bit of happiness, all end up going for a harrowing odyssey through the labyrinth of the big city.

(https://www.imdb.com/title/tt0136423/?ref=fn_al_tt_1)

2000**Last Resort, Directed by Pawel Pawlikowski**

Tanya arrives in London with her son Artyom, expecting to be met by her boyfriend. When he doesn't show and immigration wants to send her back to Russia, she asks for political asylum to buy some time. She has no idea that this will consign them for at least a year to a detention center, a fenced "city" near an abandoned seaside amusement park. Once there, realizing her boyfriend will never help her, she just wants to go home, but withdrawing the petition for asylum takes months. She's approached by pornographers inviting her to strip on line for cash; she's befriended by Alfie, a clerk at a convenience store at the center. She's a dreamer; what can she do?

(https://www.imdb.com/title/tt0258761/?ref=fn_al_tt_2)

Well-Founded Fear, Directed by Michael Camerini and Shari Robertson

This documentary film takes us to an in-depth look at the asylum process of the federal U.S. Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS). Foreigners that are already in the United States, having fled their home countries, have the opportunity to apply for asylum through the INS. If a person's case establishes a "well-founded fear" of his/her home country, the adjudicating immigration officer approves his/her asylum application. If a person's case does not quite meet up to the officer's expectation of a "well-founded fear," it is referred to an immigration judge for a decision.

In July, Directed by Fatih Akin

Daniel is a young teacher in-spe, who in contrast to everyone else plans to stay in Hamburg for the summer. Juli, a girl at the flea-market, wants to get known to Daniel and manages to sell him a Mayan ring with a sun on it, foretelling him that he will meet a girl with a sun. One day later Daniel is already on his way across Europe. It seems the prophecy came true somehow. (https://www.imdb.com/title/tt0177858/?ref=ttls_li_tt)

Traffic, Directed by Steven Soderbergh

An intertwined drama about the United States' war on drugs, seen through the eyes of a once conservative judge, now newly-appointed drug czar, his heroin-addicted daughter, two DEA agents, a jailed drug kingpin's wife, and a Mexican cop who begins to question his boss's motives.

(https://www.imdb.com/title/tt0181865/?ref=fn_al_tt_1)

Bread and Roses, Directed by Ken Loach

Maya is a quick-witted young woman who comes over the Mexican border without papers and makes her way to the LA home of her older sister Rosa. Rosa gets Maya a job as a janitor: a non-union janitorial service has the contract, the foul-mouthed supervisor can fire workers on a whim, and the service-workers' union has assigned organizer Sam Shapiro to bring its "justice for janitors" campaign to the building. Sam finds Maya a willing listener, she's also attracted to him. Rosa resists, she has an ailing husband to consider. The workers try for public support; management intimidates workers to divide and conquer. Rosa and Maya as well as workers and management may be set to collide.

(https://www.imdb.com/title/tt0212826/?ref=fn_al_tt_1)

2001**Beyond the border, Directed by Ari Palos**

Follows Marcelo Ayala and his family, recently arrived from Mexico, as they find their way culturally and economically in the US.

(https://www.imdb.com/title/tt0472053/?ref=ttls_li_tt)

Missing young woman, Directed by Lourdes Portillo

This gripping documentary investigates the disappearance of young women from assembly plants that line the Mexican-American border.

(https://www.imdb.com/title/tt0303392/?ref=ttls_li_tt)

Go, Directed by Isao Yukisada

Sugihara, born in Japan but with North Korean parents, falls in love with a Japanese girl after changing from a North Korean school to a Japanese school. His boxer dad teaches him boxing - skills used a lot.

(https://www.imdb.com/title/tt0299937/?ref=fn_al_tt_2)

2002**In America, Directed by Jim Sheridan**

Following the tragic death of their five-year-old son Frankie, Irish couple Johnny and Sarah Sullivan and their remaining two offspring, 10 year old Christy Sullivan and 5 year old Ariel Sullivan, emigrate illegally to the United States via Canada with little in their pockets. Their final destination is Manhattan where Johnny hopes to work as a stage actor. They move into a unit in a run town tenement housed primarily with drug addicts, transvestites and one tenant coined "the man who screams". They do whatever they can to eke out a supportive family environment in this difficult situation, the support which ultimately extends to those around them, most specifically "the screamer" who turns out to be an African-American artist named Mateo with AIDS.

(https://www.imdb.com/title/tt0298845/?ref=ttls_li_tt)

Cuban Rafterers

The story of Cuban refugees who risked their lives in homemade rafts to reach the United States, and what life is like for those who succeed.

https://www.imdb.com/title/tt0321376/?ref=ttls_li_tt

In this World, Directed by Michael Winterbottom

In February 2002 in the Shamshatoo Refugee Camp in the North West Frontier Province in Pakistan, there are 53,000 refugees living in sub-human conditions since 1979 with the Soviet Union invasion and 2001 with the USA bombing and invasion of Afghanistan. The family of the Afghan Enayat and his cousin Jamal decides to send them illegally to London to have a better life. They hire coyotes to smuggle the cousins through Iran and Turkey to Italy and finally London hidden inside trucks and containers. However, the long journey locked in a container with other families poses a terrible challenge to the boys.

https://www.imdb.com/title/tt0310154/?ref=fn_al_tt_1

Dirty Pretty Things, Directed by Stephen Frears

Okwe is an illegal Nigerian immigrant leading a hard life and struggling to survive in London's underground. He works as a hotel receptionist in the night time and as he has a doctor degree he practices some medicine, during the day, in a very odd way. Besides that he must constantly escape from Immigration officers. One day Okwe discovers by chance an illegal scheme of surgeries is being lead by Juan, his boss in the hotel. Juan quickly comes up with a tempting proposal: if Okwe accepts to perform the illegal surgeries he makes a lot of money and gets legalized situation in the U.K. Can Okwe keep his moral values intact?

https://www.imdb.com/title/tt0301199/?ref=fn_al_tt_1

Two lost in a dirty night, Directed by José Joffily

Paco and Tonho are illegal Brazilian immigrants in New York. Shy Tonho dreams of being successful, but misses his family and Brazil. Pursued by Immigration Service and later arrested, he is about to be deported. Paco, a rapper and performer, indifferent to all except her career, dreams of hitting the top ten chart. The film shows the relationship of the couple in love mid hope, difficulties, and misencounters in a beautiful and violent metropolis.

https://www.imdb.com/title/tt0335054/?ref=fn_al_tt_1

Real women have curves, Directed by Patricia Cardoso

This is the story of Ana, a first generation Mexican-American teenager on the verge of becoming a woman. She lives in the predominately Latino community of East Los Angeles. Freshly graduated from high school, Ana receives a full scholarship to Columbia University. Her very traditional, old-world parents feel that now is the time for Ana to help provide for the family, not the time for college. Torn between her mainstream ambitions and her cultural heritage she agrees to work with her mother at her sister's downtown LA sewing factory. Over the summer she learns to admire the hardworking team of women who teach her solidarity and teamwork. Still at odds with what her mother expects of her, Ana realizes that leaving home to continue her education is essential to finding her place proudly in the world as an American and Chicana.

https://www.imdb.com/title/tt0296166/?ref=ttls_li_tt

Solino, Directed by Fatih Akın

In the sixties Romano Amato, his wife Rosa and their two sons Giancarlo and Gigi emigrate from Solino in Italy to Duisburg in the Ruhr area and establish the first Pizza restaurant in town. Their business emerges well and both children get used to Germany. 10 years later

the brothers fall in love with the same woman; they break tie with each other in anger and Gigi returns to Solino with his mother. A decade later both meet again and have a retrospect on their lives.

(https://www.imdb.com/title/tt0292242/?ref=ttls_li_tt)

2003

Independent Lens (1999 -) Episode: Los Trabajadores/The Workers

Lost Boys of Sudan, Directed by Megan Mylan and Jon Shenk

Lost Boys of Sudan is a feature-length documentary that follows two Sudanese refugees on an extraordinary journey from Africa to America. Orphaned as young boys in one of Africa's cruelest civil wars, Peter Dut and Santino Chuor survived lion attacks and militia gunfire to reach a refugee camp in Kenya along with thousands of other children. From there, remarkably, they were chosen to come to America. Safe at last from physical danger and hunger, a world away from home, they find themselves confronted with the abundance and alienation of contemporary American suburbia.

(https://www.imdb.com/title/tt0383475/?ref=fn_al_tt_1)

Los Jornaleros, Directed by Lane Shefter Bishop

Los Jornaleros presents the interwoven stories of three young Hispanic men who come to this country to pursue the American dream and instead end up struggling as day-laborers.

(https://www.imdb.com/title/tt0378139/?ref=ttls_li_tt)

The Mexican Dream, Directed by Gustavo Hernandez Perez

The Mexican Dream, is a Tragic comedy about the longings and delusions that lure so many illegal immigrants to this country. It's a fractured story about a naive, impulsive, but above all else passionate man, one who will do anything for his family, who will stop at nothing to live his dream. It is a look into one of the major social issues of the 21st century, immigration. Ajileo journeys from his home in Zapotitlan de Salinas, a village in southern Mexico, makes a perilous border crossing through the desert, and comes to Hollywood, where everything and nothing is as he dreamed it would be.

(https://www.imdb.com/title/tt0340242/?ref=ttls_li_tt)

2004

Kebab Connection, Directed by Anno Saul

In Hamburg, Ibrahim "Ibo" Secmez, of Turkish descent, wants to direct the first German kung-fu movie. For now, he makes commercials for his uncle's kebab restaurant. Titzie, an aspiring actress and Ibo's German girlfriend, finds she's pregnant. Ibo is uncertain about fatherhood - compounded by his father's disowning him for getting a German girl pregnant - so Titzie sends him packing. He makes attempts at getting it right, but as the birth approaches, he's still not ready. In the background are three thugs in search of good tripe soup and a Capulet-Montegue feud between the kebab joint and a Greek taverna across the street. Can Ibo be the glove upon that hand?

(https://www.imdb.com/title/tt0177882/?ref=fn_al_tt_1)

Turtles Can Fly, Directed by Bahman Ghobadi

On the Kurdish refugee camp on the Iraqi-Turkish border, the boy Satellite is the leader of the kids. He commands them to clear and collect American undetonated minefields in the fields to sell them in the street market and he installs antennae for the villagers. He goes with the local leader to buy a parabolic antenna to learn the news about the eminent American invasion but nobody speaks English and Satellite that knows a couple of words is assigned to translate the Fox News. When the orphans Agrin and her armless brother

Hengov and the blind toddler Riga come from Halabcheh to the camp, Satellite falls in an unrequited love for Egrin. But the girl is traumatized by a cruel raid in her home, when her parents were murdered and she was raped. She wants to leave Riga behind and travel with her brother Hengov to another place, but he does not agree with her intention.

(https://www.imdb.com/title/tt0424227/?ref=fn_al_tt_1)

Victoria para chino, Directed by Cary Joji Fukunaga

In May 2003 a refrigerated truck carrying more than 80 illegal immigrants from the Mexican border drove into the heartland of Texas. A deadly combination of heat and overcrowding lead to tragedy. This is a story of that journey.

(https://www.imdb.com/title/tt0428017/?ref=ttls_li_tt)

Maria Full of Grace, Directed by Joshua Marston

María Álvarez, an independent, feisty, and underpaid seventeen-year-old Colombian rose packager is stuck in a tedious life and a dead-end relationship with her good-for-nothing boyfriend, Juan. And as if things weren't bad enough, an unexpected pregnancy and an ugly altercation with her unfair boss will tempt María to accept the risky offer to become a drug mule, smuggling drugs from Bogotá to New York City. But, as things rapidly spiral out of control, suddenly, the option of an early retirement and a peaceful future for both María and her unborn baby begins to fade away. Is there a way out from this hopeless predicament?

(https://www.imdb.com/title/tt0390221/?ref=ttls_li_tt)

Hotel Rwanda, Directed by Terry George

1994. In Rwanda, the classification of the native population into Hutus and Tutsis, arbitrarily done by the colonial Belgians, is now ingrained within Rwandan mentality despite the Rwandan independence. Despite the Belgians having placed the Tutsis in a higher position during the Belgian rule, they have placed the majority Hutus in power after independence. [Paul Rusesabagina](#), a Hutu married to a Tutsi, Tatiana Rusesabagina, is the House Manager of the Hotel Des Milles Collines in Kigali. The Milles Collines, owned by Sabena (the national airline of Belgium), is a four-star hotel catering primarily to wealthy white westerners. Paul, who knows how to work the system to run the hotel effectively for its guests and for Sabena, is proud that most of the Caucasians who he meets in this professional capacity treat him with respect. After a specific incident, the relative calm between the Tutsi guerrillas and government-backed Hutu militia takes a turn. Paul's thought that the native.

(https://www.imdb.com/title/tt0395169/?ref=fn_al_tt_1)

Spanglish, Directed by James L. Brooks

Flor emigrates to Los Angeles from Mexico in hopes of finding a better life for her and her daughter, Cristina. Hired by the John and Deborah Clasky as their housekeeper, Flor contends with the language barrier, Cristina's budding femininity, and the eccentric Clasky's way of life.

(https://www.imdb.com/title/tt0371246/?ref=fn_al_tt_1)

A Day without a Mexican, Directed by Sergio Arau

A thick fog surrounds California's borders, communication beyond state lines is cut off, and the Mexicans disappear: workers, spouses, and business owners are missing. Cars are abandoned in the street, food is left cooking on the stove. We meet the wife of a musician who's gone, a state Senator whose maid doesn't show up for work, and a farm owner whose produce is ripe and unpicked. A scientist asks any Mexicans who haven't disappeared to volunteer for genetic experiments: a female newscaster and the daughter of

the musician may be the only missing links around. Why them? And where have all the Mexicans gone? Even the border guards grieve. The state and its economy grind to a halt.

(https://www.imdb.com/title/tt0377744/?ref=fn_al_tt_1)

The Terminal, Directed by Steven Spielberg

Victor Navorski reaches JFK airport from a politically unstable country. Due to collapse of his government, his papers are no longer valid in the airport, and hence he is forced to stay in the airport till the war cools down. He makes the airport his home and develops a friendship with the people who work there until he can leave.

(https://www.imdb.com/title/tt0362227/?ref=fn_al_tt_1)

Head-On, Directed by Fatih Akin

In 'Gegen die Wand' Cahit, a 40-something male from Mersin in Turkey has removed everything Turkish from his life. He has become an alcoholic drug addict and at the start of the movie wants to end it all. Sibel a 20-something female from Hamburg wishes to please her Turkish parents yet yearns for freedom. She has had her nose broken by her brother for being seen holding hands with a boy and yet she can not break her mother's heart and run away. She too attempts suicide and she first approaches Cahit there at the Hospital. Sibel asks Cahit to marry her, as she believes this to be the way out of her parent's house. She promises Cahit that their relationship will be like roommates, not like a married couple. The film follows Sibel and Cahit as they get married, become closer and eventually fall in love.

(https://www.imdb.com/title/tt0347048/?ref=nm_fimg_dr_13)

Mojados: through the night, Directed by Tommy Davis

Director Tommy Davis tags along with four migrants from a small village in Mexico as they leave their families and embark on a 120 mile trek across the deserts of Texas, attempting to evade the U.S. Border Patrol. They must overcome dehydration, hypothermia and come face to face with death.

(https://www.imdb.com/title/tt0400657/?ref=ttls_li_tt)

Al otro lado, Directed by Gustavo Loza

Three separate stories of children from different places seeking to find their missing fathers.

(https://www.imdb.com/title/tt0419424/?ref=ttls_li_tt)

Exiles, Directed by Tony Gatlif

Two French lovers, Zano and Naima, decided to travel to the land of their parents: Algeria. Their road trip gradually becomes a spiritual quest.

(https://www.imdb.com/title/tt0400420/?ref=fn_al_tt_1)

Yasmin, Directed by Kenneth Gleenan

In England, the Pakistanis Yasmin lives two lives in two different worlds: in her community, she wears Muslin clothes, cooks for her father and brother, and behaves as a traditional Muslin woman. Further, she has a unconsummated marriage with the illegal immigrant Faysal to facilitate the British stamp in his passport, after which she will divorce him. In her job, she changes her clothes and dresses like a Westerner, is considered a standard employee, and has a good friend, a Caucasian, who likes her. After September 11, the prejudice in her job and the treatment of common people make her take sides and change her life.

(https://www.imdb.com/title/tt0420333/?ref=fn_al_tt_1)

2005

ESL: English as a second language, Directed by Youssef Delara

Bolivar De La Cruz, with a baby on the way, has just made the treacherous journey over the border from Mexico to Los Angeles, California, home of the beautiful and restless Lola Sara, whose parents made the same journey some twenty years ago. Now two people from very different sides of the same culture find themselves on a collision course with the events that will change their lives forever.

(https://www.imdb.com/title/tt0435642/?ref=fn_al_tt_3)

Romentico, Directed by Mark Becker

A troubadour returns home to scratch out a living in Mexico after years of trying to get ahead in San Francisco. (https://www.imdb.com/title/tt0436728/?ref=ttls_li_tt)

Dying to live: A migrant's journey, Directed by William Groody**Pepe&Santo vs. America, Directed by Javier Chapa**

Pepe travels to America with Santo (The Patron Saint of Immigrants) in search of his grandmother's dying wish... "The Mexican Dream."

(https://www.imdb.com/title/tt1291555/?ref=ttls_li_tt)

Walking the line, Directed by Jeremy S. Levine and Landon Van Soest

Walking the Line offers a harrowing view of the chaos along the U.S.-Mexico border through private citizens who are taking the law into their own hands. Following a growing movement of anti-immigrant vigilantes, some clad in fatigues and armed with semi-automatic weapons, the documentary provides a scathing critique of our failed border policy.

(https://www.imdb.com/title/tt0763330/?ref=ttls_li_tt)

Princesas, Directed by Fernando Leon de Aranoa

In Madrid's bustling streets, two perfect strangers, Caye, a thirty-year-old single woman, and Zulema, an illegal immigrant from the Dominican Republic, struggle to make ends meet working as prostitutes, of course, unbeknownst to their families. Under those circumstances and by an unforeseen twist of fate, the two rivals will quickly bond, and even though they are worlds apart, Caye and Zulema will soon realise that they have so much in common, and in reality, their coincidental and somewhat improbable encounter will be the beginning of a beautiful and profound friendship.

(https://www.imdb.com/title/tt0434292/?ref=fn_al_tt_2)

Ninety millas, Directed by Francisco Rodriguez Fernandez

An emotive story that touches the heart! A Cuban family leaves the island on a homemade rubber dingy and decides to bravely cross the dangerous stretch from Cuba to Florida in search of freedom. This is a beautiful illustration of a family's struggle to survive with the support of each other!

(https://www.imdb.com/title/tt0462162/?ref=ttls_li_tt)

Wetback: the undocumented documentary, Directed Arturo Perez Torres

The filmmakers follow Nayo and Milton (whose surnames are not given), migrants from Chinandega, Nicaragua as they cross through Honduras, El Salvador, Guatemala, Mexico, and the United States in their attempt to reach Canada. Along the way, other migrants are interviewed as they are detained by Mexican

authorities. Catholic human rights workers in Chiapas also offer their perspectives, particularly on the abuse of migrants by gangs such as the Mara Salvatrucha.

(https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wetback:_The_Undocumented_Documentary)

El Alambrista: The Fence Jumper, Directed by Alfonso Sahagun Casaus

When he crosses the border into the United States, Mexican wrestler El Alambrista finds himself fighting rival lucha libre grapplers in the ring and battling powerful American anti-immigration forces in the fields and ranches far outside it.

(<https://mubi.com/films/el-alambrista-the-fence-jumper>)

Amor en Alquiler, Directed by Shane Edelman

Tells the story of Sofia (Angie Cepeda), a Colombian college student struggling with immigration issues in LA, who accepts a \$50,000 offer to rent her body and soul and become a surrogate mother to a wealthy couple.

(https://www.imdb.com/title/tt0386603/?ref=fn_al_tt_1)

Maid in America, Directed by Anayansi Prado

Telma, and Eva, three women who may not be American by birth, but whose jobs are each inexorably tied to the American dream. Salvadorian immigrant Telma has been taking care of six year old Mickey since he was an infant; 37 year old Eva earned a BA in accounting in Mexico, but can't find work stateside since she's in the country illegally; meanwhile, Guatemalan immigrant Judith left her four children behind in a bid to build a brighter future for them. Each woman has a story that might not be too different from your own. If you listen closely, it isn't difficult to recognize their universal plight.

(https://www.rottentomatoes.com/m/maid_in_america_2005)

Obras en Casa, Directed by Brigitte Roüan

Chantal, an advocate involved in defending homeless illegal immigrant, decides to refurbish her flat. Following her convictions she calls Columbian workers led by an unforeseeable architect. In the mean time a former client decides he is in love with her, her son and daughter are becoming nearly homeless since the flat's walls are demolished, the architect has new plans every day, an irregular workers fall in love with Chantal too and dance with her daughter, Martin (the son) still continue to roller blade around... Could the works go forward in this mess?

(https://www.imdb.com/title/tt0397692/?ref=fn_al_tt_1)

America 101, Directed by Mark A. Russell

Two brothers leave their home in Mexico in search of the 'American Dream', only to realize it was in front of them all the time. Angel is tired of living in his small Mexican town and has no interest in following in his father's footsteps. Instead he resolves to run away, across to cross the border and find his American dream. His older brother, Carlos, has plans of his own and they don't involve leaving home. When Angel tells his older brother of his grand scheme Carlos knows he won't be able to stop him, so he decides to tag along in order to watch over his headstrong little brother. Double-crossed by a smuggler, they find themselves alone in the desert. What follows is a strange and hilarious adventure filled with crazy characters and eye-opening truths until they finally realize the dream they were chasing was back home where they started.

(https://www.imdb.com/title/tt0446082/?ref=ttls_li_tt)

Linda Linda Linda, Directed by Nobuhiro Yamashita

Girls are friends, girls are not friends, girls come and go, but the band plays on in this film about a high school quartet with only three days to find a stable line-up, choose songs, rehearse and climb the stage at the rock music show of their annual festival. A foreign exchange student as a singer, a sullen guitarist, a shy bassist and a tom girl are a soaking wet band in a high school auditorium.

https://www.imdb.com/title/tt0468795/?ref=fn_al_tt_1=

Dying to get in: Undocumented immigration at the U.S. Mexican Border, Directed by Brett Tolley

Dying to Get In provides an intimate perspective of border crossing and the people who cross. The U.S./Mexican border, dubbed a "gauntlet of death" by documentarian Brett Tolley, is infiltrated first-hand in this gritty examination. In his effort to further understand the relationships between developed and developing countries, the viewer is pulled deep into the Arizona desert where so many have already perished.

https://www.imdb.com/title/tt1095401/?ref=ttls_li_tt

Izzat, Directed by Ulrik Intiaz Rolfen

The three young immigrant boys Wasim, Riaz and Munawar are growing up in the east end of Oslo, Norway. They find school extremely boring and become attracted to the hard boiled gang East Side Crew, which is run by the brothers Sadiq and Khalid. Petty theft soon develops in to drug dealing, violence and murder.

https://www.imdb.com/title/tt0469443/?ref=fn_al_tt_2

Frontera, Directed by Luis Salinas

From the people that want to cross to the US, to the people that only have a Mexican last name. Different people tell their stories on what it's like to be an immigrant.

https://www.imdb.com/title/tt0487906/?ref=ttls_li_tt

The Three Burials of Melquiades Estrada, Directed by Tommy Lee Jones

A man is shot and quickly buried in the high desert of west Texas. The body is found and reburied in Van Horn's town cemetery. Pete Perkins, a local ranch foreman, kidnaps a Border Patrolman and forces him to disinter the body. With his captive in tow and the body tied to a mule, Pete undertakes a dangerous and quixotic journey into Mexico.

<https://www.imdb.com/title/tt0419294/>

2006**The Namesake, Directed by Mira Nair**

While traveling by train to visit his grandfather in Jamshedpur, Calcutta born, Bengali-speaking Ashoke Ganguli meets with fellow-traveler, Ghosh, who impresses upon him to travel, while Ashoke is deep into a book authored by Nicholai Gogol. The train meets with an accident, and after recuperating, Ashoke re-locates to America, settles down, returns home in 1977 to get married to aspiring singer, Ashima, and returns home to New York. Shortly thereafter they become parents of a boy, who they initially name Gogol, and a few years later both give birth to Sonia. The family then buy their own house in the suburbs and travel to India for the first time after their marriage.

https://www.imdb.com/title/tt0433416/?ref=fn_al_tt_3

Border War: The battle over illegal immigration, Directed by Kevin Knoblock

The volatile issue of illegal immigration and the continued conflict taking place at the U.S.-Mexico border are brought to life in the documentary BORDER WAR. Border War takes viewers into the smuggling tunnels of Nogales, Arizona, to the migrant halfway houses for deportees in Tijuana, Mexico as well as the Congressional corridors of power in the nation's capitol.

https://www.imdb.com/title/tt0878106/?ref=ttls_li_tt

Crossing Arizona, Directed by Dan DeVivo and Joseph Mathew

With Americans on all sides of the issue up in arms and Congress embroiled in a knock-down-drag-out policy battle over how to move forward, CROSSING ARIZONA tells the story of how we got to where we are today. Heightened security in California and Texas has pushed illegal border-crossers into the treacherous Arizona desert in unprecedented numbers - an estimated 4,500 a day. Most are Mexican men in search of work, but increasingly the border-crossers are women and children seeking to reunite with their husbands and fathers. This influx of migrants crossing through Arizona and the attendant rising death toll have elicited complicated feelings about human rights, culture, class, labor and national security. "Crossing Arizona" examines the crisis through the eyes of those directly affected by it.

https://www.imdb.com/title/tt0492453/?ref=ttls_li_tt

La Sconosciuta, Directed by Giuseppe Tornatore

A Ukrainian woman named Irena calculatedly insinuates herself into the lives of a young, affluent Italian family. Stopping at nothing to become the couple's trusted maid and the beloved nanny to their fragile young daughter, Irena risks everything in her quest to uncover the truth about the family. Like an intricately constructed jigsaw puzzle, The Unknown Woman reveals piece by piece the enigma of Irena's past.

https://www.imdb.com/title/tt0494271/?ref=fn_al_tt_1

Nuovomondo, Directed by Emanuele Crialese

The story is set at the beginning of the 20th century in Sicily. Salvatore, a very poor farmer, and a widower, decides to emigrate to the US with all his family, including his old mother. Before they embark, they meet Lucy. She is supposed to be a British lady and wants to come back to the States. Lucy, or Luce as Salvatore calls her, for unknown reasons wants to marry someone before to arrive to Ellis Island in New York. Salvatore accepts the proposal. Once they arrive in Ellis Island they spend the quarantine period trying to pass the examinations to be admitted to the States. Tests are not so simple for poor farmers coming from Sicily. Their destiny is in the hands of the custom officers.

https://www.imdb.com/title/tt0465188/?ref=fn_al_tt_1

Nina's Heavenly Delights, Directed by Pratibha Parmar

Shelley Conn plays Nina, a young woman who ran away to London to avoid an arranged marriage. She returns to Glasgow three years later (after her father dies unexpectedly of a heart-attack) to find his gambling problem means the family restaurant has to be sold. To save it Nina decides to compete in a TV curry competition.

https://www.imdb.com/title/tt0435706/?ref=fn_al_tt_1

Letters from the other side, Directed by Heather Courtney

Video letters carried across the U.S./Mexico border interweave the lives of several women to tell the stories of those left behind in post-NAFTA Mexico.

https://www.imdb.com/title/tt0495137/?ref=ttls_li_tt

Provoked: A True Story, Directed by Jag Mundhra

Provoked is the true story of Kiranjit Ahluwalia, a Punjabi woman who moved to London after her marriage with Deepak Ahluwalia. Her husband seemed caring at first but then began to beat her up. He started drinking a lot and sleeping around with other women. he also subjected her to spousal rape. After ten years and having two children with him, out of fear, she sets him on fire while he is sleeping, two hours after another scene of domestic violence. He succumbs to the injuries and she is sentenced to prison for life for premeditated murder. However the Southall Black Sisters, an NGO which fights against domestic violence helps her get justice. And after spending 3 1/2 years in jail, she is set free and reunited with her two children.

(https://www.imdb.com/title/tt0458072/?ref=fn_al_tt_1)

Yellow, Directed by Alfredo Rodrigues de Villa

Family: a necessary burden. Amaryllis Campos is young and beautiful, a classically trained dancer delivering pizzas in Puerto Rico, living with her parents and her drug-selling chump of a boyfriend, her dream deferred. When family tragedy and betrayal hit in the same week, she goes to New York with help from an unlikely friend. There, she lucks into an apartment and befriends an elderly neighbor. She looks for work, taking a job at a strip club. By day, she answers casting calls; at night, she's a hit at the Club Labrador. When the possibility of romance appears unexpectedly, Amaryllis must choose between its promise and the faint shadow of her dream.

(https://www.imdb.com/title/tt0488349/?ref=fn_al_tt_2)

Sentenced Home, Directed by David Grabias, Nicole Newnham

Raised as Americans in inner city projects near Seattle, three young Cambodian refugees each made a rash decision as a teenager that irrevocably shaped their destiny. Years later, facing deportation back to Cambodia, they find themselves caught between a tragic past and an uncertain future by a system that doesn't offer any second chances. A PBS Indies / Global Voices selection.

(https://www.imdb.com/title/tt0808461/?ref=ttls_li_tt)

This is England, Directed by Shane Meadows

This is England: Mods, New Romantics, and Skinheads are the major youth sub-cultures of this very English summer of 1983 and young 12-year-old Shaun is left wandering aimlessly alone and lost during the start of his school holidays, until his chance meeting with Woody and his fun and friendly Skinhead pack. Finding a new lease of life; girls, parties, Ben Sherman shirts, Doc Martin boots and shaven hairstyles young Shaun is welcomed, life during this summer holiday has got a whole lot better. That is until Combo arrives on the scene bitter, dangerous, racist, militant and psychotic life for young Shaun has just approached his first major crossroads. This is England is a look back at the early eighties of British working-class life through the eyes of young Shaun and his new gang, and dealing with the bitterness of outside influences such as racism and xenophobia, of mass unemployment and the fall out of the Falkland's War; Thatcher's Britain: Did we ever have it so good?

(https://www.imdb.com/title/tt0480025/?ref=fn_al_tt_1)

Fortune, Directed by Electra Bada

A story about coffee and fortune: Eleftheria is famous in her neighborhood as a professional coffee fortune teller. But she has run out of the Greek/Turkish coffee necessary for the reading of the filmmaker's fortune. The entire Gypsy neighborhood in Ano Liossia is drinking frappe – instant coffee. The two women set out to find coffee for the fortune telling.

(<https://www.ethnofest.gr/film/fortune/>)

Babel

Four intertwined storylines make up the plot of the incredible *Babel*. However, the one that really resonates is that of illegal Mexican nanny, Amelia, who's traveled south for her son's wedding but winds up abandoned in the oppressive heat of the Sonoran desert on her attempts to return to the US. A harrowing sequence follows them as they attempt to find help, in a mirror image of the situations many immigrants find themselves in when attempting to make it to [the border](#).

(<https://theculturetrip.com/north-america/mexico/articles/10-films-about-the-mexican-border/>)

Frontline/World Episode Chicago: Little Mexico

Ghosts, Directed by Nick Broomfield

A young girl, Ai Qin, pays \$25,000 to be smuggled into the UK in order to support her family back in China. She is forced to live with eleven other Chinese in a small house in Thetford, Norfolk, working in factories and fields preparing food. The film was inspired by the Morecambe Bay tragedy of 2004, when a gang of Chinese cockle-pickers found themselves trapped tide coming in.

Children of Men, Directed by Alfonso Cuaron

London, 2027. In this dystopian world, humans have been incapable of reproducing for eighteen years for an unknown reason, meaning the imminent extinction of the species. Britain is the one remaining civilized society on the planet, which has resulted in people wanting to immigrate there. As such, it has become a police state in order to handle the immigrants, who are placed into refugee camps. Lowly government bureaucrat Theo Faron, once an activist, is approached by the Fishes, deemed a terrorist group, led by his ex-wife Julian Taylor, who he has not seen in close to twenty years, their marriage which disintegrated following the death of their infant son Dylan during the 2008 flu pandemic. Although the Fishes did use terrorist means in their on-going revolution against the state in the fight for immigrant rights, Julian vows that they now garner support solely by speaking to the people.

(https://www.imdb.com/title/tt0206634/?ref=fn_al_tt_1)

Umut Adası, Directed by Mustafa Kara

"Hope Island" tells the story of a group of people who come to the UK from Turkey illegally and a young girl who comes for the purpose of educational opportunities. These young people, who come from different classes and cultures, are taking the journey of hope towards England to resume life elsewhere.

(https://www.imdb.com/title/tt0984129/?ref=fn_al_tt_1)

Io, l'altro, Directed by Mohsen Melliti

Giuseppe and Youssef are two fishermen bond by sincere friendship. Giuseppe is an Italian, while Youssef is an Arab, working on the same boat, the two colleagues share everything, included the same first name: Joseph (Giuseppe in Italian, Youssef in Arabic), when cultural conflicts appear, everything quickly messes up.

(https://www.imdb.com/title/tt0827183/?ref=fn_al_tt_1)

2007

Import/Export, Directed by Ulrich Seidl

A nurse from Ukraine searches for a better life in the West, while an unemployed security guard from Austria heads East for the same reason.

It's a free world, Directed by Ken Loach

Angie gets the sack from a recruitment agency for bad behaviour in public. Seizing the chance, she teams up with her flatmate, Rose, to run a similar business from their kitchen. With immigrants desperate to work the opportunities are considerable, particularly for two girls so in tune with these times. (https://www.imdb.com/title/tt0807054/?ref=fn_al_tt_1)

Yaşamın Kıyısında, Directed by Fatih Akın

Nejat seems disapproving about his widower father Ali's choice of prostitute Yeter for a live-in girlfriend. But he grows fond of her when he discovers she sends money home to Turkey for her daughter's university studies. Yeter's sudden death distances father and son. Nejat travels to Istanbul to search for Yeter's daughter Ayten. Political activist Ayten has fled the Turkish police and is already in Germany. She is befriended by a young woman, Lotte, who invites rebellious Ayten to stay in her home, a gesture not particularly pleasing to her conservative mother Susanne. When Ayten is arrested and her asylum plea is denied, she is deported and imprisoned in Turkey. Lotte travels to Turkey, where she gets caught up in the seemingly hopeless situation of freeing Ayten.

(https://www.imdb.com/title/tt0880502/?ref=fn_al_tt_4)

Persepolis, Directed by Vincent Paronnaud and Marjane Satrapi

In 1970s Iran, Marjane 'Marji' Satrapi watches events through her young eyes and her idealistic family of a long dream being fulfilled of the hated Shah's defeat in the Iranian Revolution of 1979. However as Marji grows up, she witnesses first hand how the new Iran, now ruled by Islamic fundamentalists, has become a repressive tyranny on its own. With Marji dangerously refusing to remain silent at this injustice, her parents send her abroad to Vienna to study for a better life. However, this change proves an equally difficult trial with the young woman finding herself in a different culture loaded with abrasive characters and profound disappointments that deeply trouble her. Even when she returns home, Marji finds that both she and homeland have changed too much and the young woman and her loving family must decide where she truly belongs.

(https://www.imdb.com/title/tt0808417/?ref=fn_al_tt_1)

The Kite Runner, Directed by Marc Forster

In the 70's in Afghanistan, the Pushtun boy Amir and the Hazara boy Hassan, who is his loyal friend and son of their Hazara servant Ali, are raised together in Amir's father house, playing and kiting on the streets of a peaceful Kabul. Amir feels that his wise and good father Baba blames him for the death of his mother in the delivery, and also that his father loves and prefers Hassan to him. In return, Amir feels a great respect for his father's best friend Rahim Khan, who supports his intention to become a writer. After Amir winning a competition of kiting, Hassan runs to bring a kite to Amir, but he is beaten and raped by the brutal Assef in an empty street to protect Amir's kite; the coward Amir witness the assault but does not help the loyal Hassam. On the day after his birthday party, Amir hides his new watch in Hassam's bed to frame the boy as a thief and force his father to fire Ali, releasing his conscience from recalling his cowardice and betrayal.

(https://www.imdb.com/title/tt0419887/?ref=fn_al_tt_1)

Made in L.A., Directed by Almudena Carracedo

Made in L.A. follows the remarkable story of three Latina immigrants working in Los Angeles garment sweatshops as they embark on a three-year odyssey to win basic labor protections from a mega-trendy clothing retailer. In intimate verité style, Made in L.A. reveals the impact of the struggle on each woman's life as they are gradually transformed by the experience. Compelling, humorous, deeply human, Made in L.A. is a story about immigration, the power of unity, and the courage it takes to find your voice.

(https://www.imdb.com/title/tt1091814/?ref=ttls_li_tt)

Coyote, Directed by Brian Petersen

After their Mexican friend gets deported, two young Americans decide to begin smuggling illegal immigrants into Arizona for profit.

(https://www.imdb.com/title/tt1090647/?ref=ttls_li_tt)

Return to Spina-longa

The history of Spina-longa, “a leper colony” in the island Crete, through the biography of an ex Hansen patient. Manolis Fountoulakis first visited Spina-longa in 1952 to meet his friends. Since then, his recurring return has been a pilgrimage to revive memories and bonds.

(<https://www.ethnofest.gr/film/return-to-spina-longa/>)

The Visitor, Directed by Tom McCarthy

In Connecticut, lonely widowed Professor Walter Vale has a boring life. He teaches only one class at the local college and is trying to learn how to play the piano, despite not having the necessary musical talent. Walter is assigned to attend a conference about Global Policy and Development at New York University, where he is to give a lecture about a paper on which he is co-author. When he arrives at his apartment in New York, he finds Tarek Khalil, a Syrian musician, and Zainab, a Senegalese street vendor, living there. He sympathizes with the situation of the illegal immigrants and invites the couple to stay with him. Tarek invites him to go to his gig at Jules Live Jazz.

(https://www.imdb.com/title/tt0857191/?ref=ttls_li_tt)

Brick Lane, Directed by Sarah Gavron

A young Bangladeshi woman, Nazneen, arrives in 1980s London, leaving behind her beloved sister and home, for an arranged marriage and a new life. Trapped within the four walls of her flat in East London, and in a loveless marriage with the middle aged Chanu, she fears her soul is quietly dying. Her sister Hasina, meanwhile, through letters to Nazneen, tells of her carefree life back in Bangladesh, stumbling from one adventure to the next. Nazneen struggles to accept her lifestyle, and keeps her head down in spite of life's blows, but she soon discovers that life cannot be avoided - and is forced to confront it the day that the hotheaded young Karim comes knocking at her door.

Trade, Directed by Marco Kreuzpaintner

Adriana is a 13-year-old girl from Mexico City whose kidnapping by sex traffickers sets in motion a desperate mission by her 17-year-old brother, Jorge, to save her. Trapped and terrified by an underground network of international thugs who earn millions exploiting their human cargo, Adriana's only friend and protector throughout her ordeal is Veronica, a young Polish woman tricked into the trade by the same criminal gang. As Jorge dodges immigration officers and incredible obstacles to track the girls' abductors, he meets Ray, a Texas cop whose own family loss to sex trafficking leads him to become an ally in the boy's quest. Fighting with courage and hard-tested faith, the characters of Trade negotiate their way through the unspeakable terrain of the sex trade "tunnels" between Mexico and the United States.

(https://www.imdb.com/title/tt0399095/?ref=ttls_li_tt)

Por los que se Quedan, Uxval Gochez

Is the story of the quiet drama that unfolds in a typical Mexican town; one that is indigenous, bilingual, and has the stoicism to survive the gradual disintegration of families caused by men migrating to the United States. Life stories showed tell us about the collateral damage caused by poorly conducted government programs and chronic

unemployment. Although speakers aren't economic experts, those interviewed irrefutably present the terrible consequences that the North American Free Trade Agreement has had on their lives.

(https://www.imdb.com/title/tt1130849/?ref=ttls_li_tt)

Beyond Borders: The Debate over Human Migration, Directed by Brian Ging

Border, Directed by Christopher Burgard

An expose of U.S./Mexico border crossings.

(https://www.imdb.com/title/tt0491061/?ref=ttls_li_tt)

Padre nuestro, Directed by Christopher Zalla

A Mexican boy smuggles himself to Brooklyn to meet his long-lost father - only to have his identity stolen upon arrival by an impostor who seeks to steal the fathers' fortune.

(https://www.imdb.com/title/tt0834938/?ref=ttls_li_tt)

Bordertown, Directed by Gregory Nava

Lauren, an impassioned American reporter for the Chicago Sentinel heads to Juarez, a Mexican bordertown, in order to investigate a series of mysterious slayings involving young factory women from all over Mexico. As she discovers hundreds of victims, she gains the trust of local factory workers but falls into danger.

(https://www.imdb.com/title/tt0445935/?ref=fn_al_tt_2)

Mi vida dentro, Directed by Lucia Gaja

Teenage immigrant, Rosa Jimenez, is accused of committing murder in a Texas.

(https://www.imdb.com/title/tt0479713/?ref=ttls_li_tt)

La misma luna (Under the same moon), Directed by Patricia Riggen

UNDER THE SAME MOON (LA MISMA LUNA) tells the parallel stories of nine-year-old Carlitos and his mother, Rosario. In the hopes of providing a better life for her son, Rosario works illegally in the U.S. while her mother cares for Carlitos back in Mexico. Unexpected circumstances drive both Rosario and Carlitos to embark on their own journeys in a desperate attempt to reunite. Along the way, mother and son face challenges and obstacles but never lose hope that they will one day be together again. (https://www.imdb.com/title/tt0796307/?ref=ttls_li_tt)

Everyday life of Roma children from Block 71, Directed by Ivan Todorovic

An intimate window into Serbian Roma culture, shedding light on the intricacies of Roma customs. The film documents the life of the Stankovic family, who migrated from Southern Serbia in search of better opportunities. Provided with poor social services, their living conditions in the squatter settlements in Belgrade are rough and children work to help support the family.

(<https://www.ethnofest.gr/film/everyday-life-of-roma-children-from-block-71/>)

Gloria crossing borders, Directed by Ane Marie Hektoen

Gloria is from a township in Cape Town. In 1998 she has received a scholarship and went to Norway to study. After her graduation Gloria went back to Cape Town as a researcher in the government. She had crossed many borders in life. It is a film about female courage, and how education changed a black woman's life.

(<https://www.ethnofest.gr/film/gloria-crossing-borders/>)

2008

24 City, Directed by Jia Zangke Jia

Change and a city in China. In Chengdu, factory 420 is being pulled down to make way for multi-story buildings with luxury flats. Scenes of factory operations, of the workforce, and of buildings stripped bare and then razed, are inter-cut with workers who were born in the 1930s, 1940s, and 1950s telling their stories - about the factory, which manufactured military aircraft, and about their work and their lives. A middle-aged man visits his mentor, now elderly; a woman talks of being a 19-year-old beauty there and ending up alone. The film concludes with two young people talking, each the child of workers, each relaying a story of one visit to a factory. Times change.

(https://www.imdb.com/title/tt1103963/?ref=fn_al_tt_1)

Those With Voice (Los Con Voz), Directed by Jeff Arak

Los con Voz/Those With Voice documents current efforts in the Southern Mexican states of Oaxaca and Chiapas to produce what social scientists have dubbed "indigenous media". A pacifist group of radio engineers travel days to man the transmitter cabin in the hills of Chiapas, providing the surrounding communities with information about current events, family health, and national politics. An archaeologist in Massachusetts explains how his field has changed throughout the twentieth century. And an international film festival brings together visionaries from twenty-three countries including a girl from Finland searching for love and a Cree man working to keep his peoples' oral history alive. These stories illustrate the complexities of the indigenous experience today while at the same time they promote the universality of the human spirit. Through it all we find the undeniable desire to speak and be heard.

(<https://www.imdb.com/title/tt1378722/>)

Those who remain, Directed by Carlos Hagerman and Juan Carlos Rulfo

Those Who Remain is a film about the families of those who have crossed the border to the United States in search of better opportunities. During eleven months the directors followed the everyday life of nine families in six different states of Mexico. They developed a personal relationship with children, grandparents, mothers, husbands, and teenagers. In the film we see them at work, at rest, and playing while they reveal their hopes, fears and dreams through the simple things that they enjoy in life. The result is a deep and intimate conversation with the Mexican soul.

(https://www.imdb.com/title/tt1384779/?ref=ttls_li_tt)

Demolition, Directed by J. P. Sniadecki

Filmed on a worksite in the center of Chengdu, the capital of Sichuan province in western China, Chaiqian (Demolition) is a cinematic portrait of migrant labor, urban space, and the ephemeral connection between film-subject and filmmaker. Attending first to the transforming worksite - including the demands of physical labor and the relationship between human and machine - the film gradually shifts focus to the group of thirty men and women who have come from the countryside to work in this ever-changing urban landscape. The workers share jokes, meals, and evening strolls through the city, all with the filmmaker in tow. Whether on the worksite or in Chengdu's main square, they encounter a range of reactions from the city residents, from friendly curiosity to aggressive suspicion. With formal rigor and careful composition, Chaiqian (Demolition) explores these interactions between members of China's "floating population," the city's residents, and the filmmaker himself, offering a meditation on class, urban change, and cinema itself.

(<https://www.ethnofest.gr/film/demolition/>)

Le Silence de Lorna, Directed by Jean-Pierre Dardenne and Luc Dardenne

Sokol and Lorna, two Albanian emigrants in Belgium, dream of leaving their dreary jobs to set up a snack bar. They need money, and a permanent resident status. Claudy is a junkie - he needs money to satisfy his addiction. Andrei, the cigarette smuggler, must hold up for a while outside Russia; he has loads of money. Fabio, the Italian taxi driver and aspiring gang boss, elaborates a clever scheme: he will pay Claudy to marry Lorna so that she acquires a Belgian citizenship. Then she is to re-marry Andrei, who will in this way obtain the coveted EU passport - and pay a hefty price to Fabio and Lorna for the service. Like all plans, this one will not survive the contact with reality.

https://www.imdb.com/title/tt1186369/?ref=fn_al_tt_1

Gran Torino, Directed by Clint Eastwood

Walt Kowalski is a widower who holds onto his prejudices despite the changes in his Michigan neighborhood and the world around him. Kowalski is a grumpy, tough-minded, unhappy old man who can't get along with either his kids or his neighbors. He is a Korean War veteran whose prize possession is a 1972 Gran Torino he keeps in mint condition. When his neighbor Thao, a young Hmong teenager under pressure from his gang member cousin, tries to steal his Gran Torino, Kowalski sets out to reform the youth. Drawn against his will into the life of Thao's family, Kowalski is soon taking steps to protect them from the gangs that infest their neighborhood.

https://www.imdb.com/title/tt1205489/?ref=fn_al_tt_1

Children in No Man's Land, Directed by Anayansi Prado

Children In No Mans Land is a documentary that uncovers the current plight of the 100,000 unaccompanied minors entering the United States every year.

https://www.imdb.com/title/tt1296066/?ref=ttls_li_tt

Machan, Directed by Uberto Pasolini

A group of desperate slum dwellers, living on the margins of society under impossible pressures, find an invitation to a handball tournament in Bavaria to be the answer to their prayers, a one way ticket to the West and the wealth that will solve all their problems.

https://www.imdb.com/title/tt1172522/?ref=fn_al_tt_1

Southall Riots

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7Kc7d5T175Q>

Sleep Dealer, Directed by Alex Rivera

The dystopian nightmare flick *Sleep Dealer* rounds off our guide to US-Mexico border films, with its plotline focusing on how technology has wiped out migrant workers, instead replacing them with robots controlled by Mexicans. In a chilling prophecy of potential future US plans, a fortified wall now separates Mexico from its northern neighbor and the robots are disregarded and disposed of without a second thought when they inevitably 'fail'. Screaming social commentary meets science fiction.

<https://theculturetrip.com/north-america/mexico/articles/10-films-about-the-mexican-border/>

American Harvest, Directed by Angelo Mancuso

Anti-immigration sentiment sweeps across America. A journey from Florida to New York, including a trip to the Mexican border, reveals the lives and issues of legal and illegal migrants and farmers working toward a better life. Is the immigration system in America flawed? Immigrants are dying to feed America.

https://www.imdb.com/title/tt1002438/?ref=ttls_li_tt

La Americana, Directed by Nicholas Bruckman

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/La_Americana

Frozen River, Directed by Courtney Hunt

Takes place in the days before Christmas near a little-known border crossing on the Mohawk reservation between New York State and Quebec. Here, the lure of fast money from smuggling presents a daily challenge to single moms who would otherwise be earning minimum wage. Two women - one white, one Mohawk, both single mothers faced with desperate circumstances - are drawn into the world of border smuggling across the frozen water of the St. Lawrence River. Ray and Lila - and a New York State Trooper as opponent in an evolving cat-and-mouse game.

https://www.imdb.com/title/tt0978759/?ref=ttls_li_tt

Sugar, Directed by Anna Boden and Ryan Fleck

By 2008, more than 25 percent of major league baseball players were born in Latin America. At 19, Miguel "Sugar" Santos, a serious kid from the Dominican Republic, signs with Kansas City. He flies to Phoenix for tryouts and is sent to the Class A team "The Swing" in the fictional town of Bridgetown, Iowa, where he lives with a farm family. Thus begins his odyssey: leaving his mom and girlfriend; living in an alien culture; learning English; overcoming jitters; working hard; achieving early success; navigating friendships, occasional racism, and a woman's mixed signals; dealing with an injury; trying performance-enhancing drugs; and, searching for his place in the world. Will he make it to the Majors; will he play in New York?

https://www.imdb.com/title/tt0990413/?ref=ttls_li_tt

Return the Sender, Directed by Emma Bailin and Sarah Bailin

Imagine, three thousand boats, filled with 125,000 people, sailing over a small 90-mile patch of sea that might as well have spanned thousands of miles. On this sea, refugees sailed between two worlds. The outcome of those crossings not only had repercussions for the lives of the refugees, but for Arkansans as well. This is their story. This documentary is about the Cubans interned at Fort Chaffee, Arkansas, in 1980, as a result of the Cuban Mariel Boat Lift. It describes life at the camp but its focus is how the political landscape of Arkansas and the nation affected, and were affected by, the Cubans' internment.

https://www.imdb.com/title/tt1342926/?ref=ttls_li_tt

Una vida major (A better life), Directed by Andrew James

Welcome to America. The U.S. government has mandated the construction of a 2,000-mile long wall along the U.S./Mexico border and many Americans sport bumper stickers on their vehicles with slogans like, "Stop the Invasion." Una Vida Mejor (A Better Life) follows three families, each participating in the American experience, and each searching for their own version of the American dream. Two of the families have crossed the Mexican border illegally, and entered the United States in the midst of this social and political unrest. The film beautifully weaves the lives of these families together, forming a uniquely American tapestry of love, loss, and hardship. As the drama unfolds, the individual humanity behind the stark statistics and political rhetoric of the immigration issue is revealed and we find that the border between "right" and "wrong" is hopelessly blurred.

https://www.imdb.com/title/tt1180574/?ref=ttls_li_tt

2009

Migrant Express, Directed by Mumin Shakirov

https://www.rferl.org/a/The_Migrant_Experience_Aboard_The_Eastern_Express/1813134.html

Last Train Home, Directed by Lixin Fan

A couple embarks on a journey home for Chinese new year along with 130 million other migrant workers, to reunite with their children and struggle for a future. Their unseen story plays out as China soars towards being a world superpower.

https://www.imdb.com/title/tt1512201/?ref=fn_al_tt_1

Coffee Futures, Directed by Zeynep Devrim Gürsel

Coffee Futures weaves individual fortunes with the story of Turkey's decades-long attempts to become a member of the European Union. Promises and predictions made by politicians, both foreign and domestic, are juxtaposed with the rhetorics and practices of coffee fortune telling. July 31, 2009 marked the 50th year anniversary of Turkey's application to apply to the elusive European Union (maiden name: European Economic Community). On this seemingly endless path, Turkey's future is continually invoked and described, yet not quite within reach. Touching upon the psychology of collective waiting and anticipating a national future, Coffee Futures attempts to render the emotional texture of a society whose fate has been nationally and internationally debated – often in relation to its “Europeanness” – for a long, long time.

<https://www.ethnofest.gr/film/coffee-futures/>

Welcome, Directed by Philippe Lioret

Bilal is 17 years old, a Kurdish boy from Iraq. He sets off on an adventure-filled journey across Europe. He wants to get to England to see his love who lives there. Bilal finally reaches Calais, but how do you cover 32 kilometers of the English Channel when you can't swim? The boy soon discovers that his trip won't be as easy as he imagined... The community of struggling illegal aliens in Calais is captured with authenticity, from the point of view of people who arrived there knowing nothing about France. This immigrant drama, with wonderful performances by the actors, is a strong story which uses documentary austerity and minimalist style to create a great emotional impact.

https://www.imdb.com/title/tt1314280/?ref=fn_al_tt_4

New American Soldier, Directed by Emma Cott and Anna Belle Peevey

Three immigrant soldiers sweat through training and deployment, inching their way towards US citizenship.

https://www.imdb.com/title/tt1509166/?ref=ttls_li_tt

Sin Nombre, Directed by Cary Joji Fukunaga

Honduran teenager Sayra reunites with her father, an opportunity for her to potentially realize her dream of a life in the U.S. Moving to Mexico is the first step in a fateful journey of unexpected events.

https://www.imdb.com/title/tt1127715/?ref=fn_al_tt_1

La caminata, Directed by Jamie Meltzer

La Caminata recreates the experience of Mexicans crossing the border with the US. Participants don't actually cross, but learn how hard it is for those who do, in the hope of dissuading them from attempting it.

https://www.imdb.com/title/tt1344812/?ref=ttls_li_tt

The other side of immigration, Directed by Roy Germano

Based on over 700 interviews in Mexican towns where about half the population has left to work in the United States, *The Other Side of Immigration* asks why so many Mexicans come to the U.S. and what happens to the families and communities they leave behind. Through an approach that is both subtle and thought-provoking, filmmaker Roy Germano provides a perspective on undocumented immigration rarely witnessed by American eyes, challenging audiences to imagine more creative and effective solutions to the problem.

https://www.imdb.com/title/tt1397086/?ref=ttls_li_tt

Crossing over, Directed by Wayne Kramer

Crossing Over is a multi-character canvas about immigrants of different nationalities struggling to achieve legal status in Los Angeles. The film deals with the border, document fraud, the asylum and green card process, work-site enforcement, naturalization, the office of counter terrorism and the clash of cultures.

https://www.imdb.com/title/tt0924129/?ref=fn_al_tt_1

Which way home, Directed by Rebecca Cammisa

"Which Way Home" is a feature documentary film that follows unaccompanied child migrants, on their journey through Mexico, as they try to reach the United States. We follow children like Olga and Freddy, nine-year old Hondurans, who are desperately trying to reach their parents in the US.; children like Jose, a ten-year old El Salvadoran, who has been abandoned by smugglers and ends up alone in a Mexican detention center; and Kevin, a canny, streetwise fourteen-year old Honduran, whose mother hopes that he will reach the U.S. and send money back to her. These are stories of hope and courage, disappointment and sorrow. They are the children you never hear about; the invisible ones.

https://www.imdb.com/title/tt0489342/?ref=ttls_li_tt

Welcome to Shelbyville, Directed by Kim A. Snyder

Set in America's rural south, on the even of the recent election a town deals with issues of immigrant integration and reckons with its segregated past.

https://www.imdb.com/title/tt1578846/?ref=ttls_li_tt

9500 Liberty, Directed by Eric Byler and Annabel Park

9500 LIBERTY documents the first and likely only 8 weeks in U.S. history where an "Arizona style" immigration law was actually implemented. Prince William County, Virginia becomes ground zero in America's explosive battle over immigration policy when elected officials adopt a law requiring police officers to question people they have "probable cause" to suspect are undocumented immigrants.

https://www.imdb.com/title/tt1450681/?ref=ttls_li_tt

Backyard, Directed by Carlos Carrera

An astonishing fictional account of the unending series of murders of young women in Ciudad Juarez, Mexico, which began in 1996. Most of the victims are low-paid laborers who have been drawn to the town by the possibility of work at American-owned factories. In the film Mexican police officer Blanca Bravo is sent to Ciudad Juarez to investigate and comes to learn realities of these women's lives, as well as the truth about a police force and local power structure embodied by entrepreneur Mickey Santos that has ceased to care.

https://www.imdb.com/title/tt1257579/?ref=ttls_li_tt

Entra Nos, Directed by Gloria La Morte and Paola Mendoza

A story based on facts which offers a fresh take on the issue of new immigrants in the United States. Mariana totes her two children from Colombia to reunite with her husband in Queens, New York. Her life is devastatingly turned around when her husband abandons the family. The woman and her kids have to fend for themselves in a foreign country. Mariana desperately searches for work. In the end, she resourcefully navigates a surprising avenue for making some money, the city's recycling.

https://www.imdb.com/title/tt1212456/?ref=ttls_li_tt

Soul Kitchen, Directed by Fatih Akın

In Hamburg, Zinos has a restaurant serving poor-man's fare; he gets by, but his girlfriend has taken a job in Shanghai, he's hurt his back and can't cook, his feckless brother can be on daily parole from jail only if Zinos employs him (though his brother doesn't want to work), a school acquaintance wants to buy the restaurant property, and the tax authority and health inspector are on his case. Zinos hires a temperamental chef and loses all his customers, signs a power of attorney giving his brother full authority at the restaurant, and buys a ticket to Shanghai. Is this a recipe for disaster?

https://www.imdb.com/title/tt1244668/?ref=nm_fimg_dr_6

California: The Immigration Dilemma (Frontline/World Episode)**Guatemala: In the Shadow of the Raid (Frontline/World Episode)****District 9, Directed by Neill Blomkamp**

In 1982, a massive star ship bearing a bedraggled alien population, nicknamed "The Prawns," appeared over Johannesburg, South Africa. Twenty-eight years later, the initial welcome by the human population has faded. The refugee camp where the aliens were located has deteriorated into a militarized ghetto called District 9, where they are confined and exploited in squalor. In 2010, the munitions corporation, Multi-National United, is contracted to forcibly evict the population with operative Wikus van der Merwe in charge. In this operation, Wikus is exposed to a strange alien chemical and must rely on the help of his only two new 'Prawn' friends.

https://www.imdb.com/title/tt1136608/?ref=nv_sr_1?ref=nv_sr_1

2010**Wir Sitzen im Süden, Directed by Martina Priessner**

What Buelent, Murat, Fatos and Cigdem share are memories of their childhood and youth in Germany. Now all of them live in Istanbul, three against their will. Fatos and Murat were forced to go to Turkey by their parents, Buelent was deported five years ago. Only Cigdem, the young manager with a German passport freely opted for a life in Istanbul. But even after decades in their parents country of origin, the other three have never really managed to make it their home. Instead, they have constructed a surrogate Germany for themselves.

https://www.imdb.com/title/tt1696566/?ref=fn_al_tt_1

Les Mains en L'air, Directed by Romain Goupil

March 22, 2067. At dawn of life, Milana remembers her life, when she was a young Chechen immigrant in Paris, struggling for a better life along with her school friends.

Independent Lens (1999 -) Episode: Lost Souls**How Democracy Works Now, Directed by Michael Camerini and Shari Robertson****A Stone's throw away, Directed by Sbeastian Hiriart**

The story of Jacinto Medina, a young Mexican herder who is bored with his life herding sheep and dreams of moving north. Jacinto decides to leave his life behind and embark upon a personal odyssey when he stumbles upon a mysterious keychain. Will the key chain lead Jacinto to his own paradise or will the journey be all for nothing?

https://www.imdb.com/title/tt1720040/?ref=ttls_li_tt

Sin Pais (Without Country), Directed by Theo Rigby

Nearly twenty years ago, Sam and Elida Mejia escaped Guatemala during a violent civil war and brought their one-year old son to California. They worked hard, raised a family, and lived the American dream. Two years ago, immigration agents stormed the Mejia's house and they have been fighting to stay in the U.S.A. ever since. Sin Pais (Without Country) begins two weeks before Sam and Elida are deported and the family is ripped apart. With intimate access and striking imagery, this short film explores the complexities of the Mejia's new reality of a separated family--parents without their children, and children without their parents.

https://www.imdb.com/title/tt1754499/?ref=ttls_li_tt

Promise and Unrest, Directed by Alan Grossman and Aine O'Brien

Separated from her daughter Gracelle at 7 months, Noemi Barredo left the Philippines for work in Malaysia to support her parents and extended family before arriving in Ireland in 2000. Filmed over a five-year period 'Promise and Unrest' is an intimate portrayal of a migrant woman performing caregiving and long-distance motherhood, while assuming the responsibility of sole provider for her family back in the Philippines. Dublin may be a long way from Noemi's hometown of Babatngon, yet she retains a sharp eye on the welfare of her family, attentive to a range of small businesses she has financed, paying for the education of her daughter and son, medication for her terminally ill father and her sister's nursing degree.

https://www.imdb.com/title/tt1639867/?ref=fn_al_tt_1

Immigrant nation!: The battle for a dream, Directed by Esau Melendez

Immigrant Nation is the story of the modern immigrant rights movement and the struggle of single mother, Elvira Arellano, who fought against her deportation. It tells how organizations, activists, community leaders and individuals came together to oppose bill HR4437 and the anti-immigration forces.

https://www.imdb.com/title/tt1486736/?ref=fn_al_tt_1

Undocumented, Directed by Chris Peckover

A small group of documentary filmmakers chronicle the trials and inequities faced by Mexican undocumented immigrants. When they join a group of families crossing the border to record the experience firsthand, their truck is pulled over and detained. What happens next plunges their group into unimaginable horror.

https://www.imdb.com/title/tt1468381/?ref=ttls_li_tt

The rise and fall of American Dream, Directed by Nash Bhatt

"The Rise and Fall of Their American Dream" revolves around Carlos, Vijay and Mike; three fearless strangers whose relentless pursuit of the fabled "American Dream" coincides. Their fateful meeting forever alters the course of their desperate lives. Carlos illegally migrates from Mexico and is forced to toil for pennies as a mechanic. A greedy Indian motel owner

lures Vijay from India with the promise of riches, but instead enslaves him as a worker. Mike, who is indebted to his mob boss uncle, befriends the two immigrants and their combined courage, ambition, and friendship lead them to the top of a criminal empire. A horrific event causes their monumental rise to come to a crashing halt and forces them to define loyalties.

https://www.imdb.com/title/tt1510876/?ref=ttls_li_tt

Illegal, Directed by Olivier Masset-Depasse

Tania, a young Russian woman who lives illegally in Belgium with her 13-year-old son Ivan. Constantly on her guard, she dreads police checks until the day she is arrested. Mother and son are separated and Tania is placed in a detention center. She will do anything to be reunited with her son but won't manage to avoid threats of deportation.

https://www.imdb.com/title/tt1503777/?ref=fn_al_tt_2

West is west, Directed by Andy De Emmony

Salford, North of England, 1975. The now much diminished, but still claustrophobic and dysfunctional, Khan family continues to struggle for survival. Sajid, the youngest Khan, the runt of the litter, is deep in pubescent crisis under heavy assault both from his father's tyrannical insistence on Pakistani tradition, and from the fierce bullies in the schoolyard. So, in a last, desperate attempt to 'sort him out', his father decides to pack him off to Mrs Khan No 1 and family in the Punjab, the wife and daughters he had abandoned 35 years earlier. It is not long before Ella Khan (Mrs Khan No2) with a small entourage from Salford, England, swiftly follows to sort out the mess, past and present.

https://www.imdb.com/title/tt1441956/?ref=fn_al_tt_1

Los invisibles, Directed by Gael Garcia Bernal and Marc Silver

Northless, Directed by Rigoberto Perezcano

Andres reaches the Mexican border to cross into the United States. There between each attempt, he discovers that Tijuana is a troubled city. As he waits there, Andres is not only confronted with his feelings and what he left behind, but also with those he meets.

https://www.imdb.com/title/tt1331320/?ref=ttls_li_tt

Treasure of the Lisu, Directed by Yan Chun Su and Les Blank

In a mountain village in southwestern China, just south of Tibet, one of the last remaining traditional bearers of the Lisu ethnic group is amid the mountains of new changes seeping into every crevice of their lives. Will their tradition survive?

https://www.imdb.com/title/tt1668068/?ref=fn_al_tt_1

Art of Exile, Directed by Afra Dekie

This film is about three artists, working and living in Amsterdam; Senad Aliç (Ex-Yugoslavia), Hoshyar Saeed (Kurdistan-Iraq) and Jihad Abousleiman (Lebanon). In this film, art is considered as a process of searching, through which emotions and thoughts, past and present get shaped. The work of each of these artists forms the central focus of the film, whereby personality and past of each of these artists is explored.

<https://www.ethnofest.gr/film/art-of-exile/>

No Country for Young Man, Directed by Sadaf Javdani

Iran has been experiencing a very high rate of "Brain drain" during the last few years. While feeling confused, many Iranian intellectuals and college graduates naturally come to believe that leaving Iran is the ultimate solution to their bewildering situation. However, as soon as they leave, another set of holes emerge in their lives. They have to face whole new sets of

conflicts and deal with a new set of circumstances such as cultural and social shocks, communication barriers, etc. Something like a sense of belonging is still missing. The film explores the contrast between Iranian youth's taste of life and what the country has to offer. It visually demonstrates the contradictory feelings of constant homesickness that this generation is experiencing whether they decide to stay home or leave it. By focusing on the theme of "friendship", the film tries to create more adequate representations of what is happening beneath the surface with the feelings of individuals. The main focus of the film is on a circle of thirteen close friends amongst which there is only one person still left in Iran. Through deep interviews, the film tries to explore how they feel to watch their friends leaving home and what themselves feel after they leave. Among this increasing crowd of youths leaving the country everyday, many have left looking for something that was not clearly defined. They leave hoping and seeking for a better place, and for some kind of security. But security itself is tied with the concept of home. When we leave we feel deported from our first home, from our country, from our childhood, our family and from our authentic self. Despite all that, the number of people leaving Iran still increases every day.

(<https://www.ethnofest.gr/film/no-country-for-young-man/>)

Europaland, Directed by Balz Andrea Alter

The film broaches the issue of the image of Europe of young Cameroonians: Among them Europe is both Heaven on Earth and the derivation of the African misery. The film follows the upcoming Cameroonian Reggae Artist Ottou Ottou André Rodrigue taking the viewer on a trip through the social imagery of Europe as 'whiteman's kontri' (white man's country).

(<https://www.ethnofest.gr/film/europaland/>)

2011

Shun Li and the Poet, Directed by Andrea Serge

A study of the friendship between a Chinese woman and a fisherman who came to Italy from Yugoslavia many years ago, who live in a small city-island in the Veneto lagoon.

(https://www.imdb.com/title/tt2036388/?ref=fn_al_tt_1)

The Cardboard Village, Directed by Ermanno Olmi

When a group of African immigrants builds a cardboard village between the pews of a church soon to be closed, an elderly priest must choose between his calling and his orders.

(https://www.imdb.com/title/tt1774415/?ref=fn_al_tt_1)

Leaving La Floresta, Directed by Caleb Collier and Dan Roge

Leaving La Floresta is a documentary that chronicles the forced displacement of one Colombian family. Abelardo and Olga were farmers in the Colombian countryside, growing crops like yucca, plantains, and cacao (chocolate) to support their family. In 2010, their crops were destroyed by U.S. spray planes that were targeting coca (cocaine) crops. After their crops were destroyed, they took their five children, packed up everything they owned, and journeyed to the city slums in search of work and shelter. This film tells the story of this family and challenges the viewer to think through this U.S. drug policy known as Plan Colombia. This is the story of one family who lost everything and is now searching for a place to call home.

(https://www.imdb.com/title/tt2011097/?ref=ttls_li_tt)

Precious Knowledge, Directed by Ari Palos

Disenfranchised high school seniors become academic warriors and community leaders in Tucson, Arizona's embattled Ethnic Studies classes while state lawmakers attempt to eliminate the program. (https://www.imdb.com/title/tt1855315/?ref=ttls_li_tt)

AbUsed: The Postville Raid, Directed by Luis Argueta

It is at once an epic story of survival, hope, and humble aspirations, of triumph, defeat, and rebirth. The face of immigration is revealed through the gripping personal stories of the individuals, the families, and the town that survived the most brutal, most expensive, and the largest immigration raid in the history of the United States.

https://www.imdb.com/title/tt1737082/?ref=ttls_li_tt

The Harvest (La Cosecha), Directed by U. Roberto Romano

The story of the children who work 12-14 hour days in the fields without the protection of child labor laws. These children are not toiling in the fields in some far away land. They are working in America.

https://www.imdb.com/title/tt1981703/?ref=ttls_li_tt

Almanya: Welcome to Germany, Directed by Yasemin Samdereli

The story of three generations of a Turkish immigrant family.

https://www.imdb.com/title/tt1630027/?ref=fn_al_tt_1

Le Havre, Directed by Aki Kaurismaki

A dock worker in Le Havre hears a human sound inside one of the containers in port, that container which left Gabon three weeks ago and which was supposed to arrive in London five days after its departure from Gabon, which didn't happen. The Le Havre police and French border guards find a still alive group of illegal African immigrants inside. On the sign from one of his elders, a young teen boy among the illegal immigrants manages to escape, news of which hits the local media. The first friendly face that boy, Idrissa, encounters is that of former artist now aged shoeshine Marcel Marx. Marcel decides to help Idrissa by hiding him in his house, news which slowly trickles through his community of friends - most of whom he associates with at his local bar - and neighbors, most who assist Marcel in this task. Marcel goes to great lengths to find out Idrissa's story, which leads to Marcel's further task of trying to get Idrissa to London, his original end destination.

https://www.imdb.com/title/tt1508675/?ref=fn_al_tt_1

A better life, Directed by Chris Weitz

Carlos Galindo is a decent man, a Mexican single parent working as a gardener in California to raise Luis, his fourteen-year-old son, whom Carlos is frightened will drift into local gang culture. Carlos buys a truck for his work with money loaned by his sister but a shifty new employee steals it from him and, though Carlos and Luis track the thief down, he has sold the truck. Father and son bond as they reclaim the vehicle from the pound but Carlos attracts police attention, making his future in America uncertain when it is discovered that he is an illegal immigrant.

https://www.imdb.com/title/tt1554091/?ref=ttls_li_tt

(dis)location – Sampa, Directed by Sarah Shamash

Examining how geography is devised, organized and constantly transformed based on socio-economic factors, this documentary film is about dislocations and displacements in the once chic, architecturally imposing and residentially populated "historic center" of Sao Paulo, Brazil in 2010. The film maps the daily ritual of three workers in this historic location, while encompassing the complex myriad of economic systems that co-exist, define and transform the center's geographic space. It also captures the flux of population density and dispersion that is controlled by the 9-5 work week when the diurnal cycle of this South American metropolis' centre is flooded by a cross section of workers representing various local and global economies, from high-powered multinationals to illegal migrant street vendors, during the workday, and then emptied of its working population by night, the

homeless inhabiting its streets, where many of the abandoned buildings provide places to rest their heads.

(<https://www.ethnofest.gr/film/dis-location-sampa/>)

Healthcare without borders

Healthcare: a right for everyone or a privilege for the chosen few? You migrate to a foreign country in search of a better life. What happens, though, when you're shut out of the public health system of that country when you need it the most? Most illegal immigrants in Greece cannot afford to get examined in a public hospital. They have the right to free healthcare if it is an emergency. The dread of being deported leads them to safer healthcare options, those of the non-governmental organizations.

(<https://www.ethnofest.gr/film/healthcare-without-borders/>)

Laredoans Speak: Voices on Immigration, Directed by Victor A. Martinez and Ryan Schafer

Pepe Serna, our host, and familiar veteran actor takes us through the issues involved in the debate of undocumented immigration. Laredo, Texas has the largest inland (import & export) trade route in the USA, and is located right across the Rio Grande from Nuevo Laredo in Mexico. The combined population of the two Laredos is approximately 750,000. Most residents have family ties between the two cities. Laredoans express their views on undocumented immigration through their unique perspective: directly from the front line. Currently we have over twelve million undocumented immigrants living and working here in the United States; many of them crossed at this border region. Among the topics discussed are the border fence/wall debate, immigration laws, and racism. This documentary strives to make one reexamine their views on the topic of undocumented immigration.

Other Europe, Directed by Rossella Schillaci

What happens to African migrants once they're granted political refugee status? Which challenges will they need to face, and what are their prospects for a decent livelihood in Italy? In Turin, an abandoned clinic has been squatted by more than 200 refugees since December 2008. All of them are legal.

Three emblematic characters guide us through a story that reveals, with its intimate look, a collective history, a symbolic tale about all European countries today, their immigration policies and the changes the social fabric of European cities is undergoing.

(<https://www.ethnofest.gr/film/other-europe-2/>)

Fantome Island, Directed by Sean Gilligan

In 1945, at the age of seven, a young Joe Eggmolese was diagnosed with leprosy. He was immediately removed from his family and home, and transported under police escort over a thousand kilometres to be confined on an island for the treatment of the disease. For the next ten years, a leprosarium for Aboriginal people became his home. An isolated tropical island off the north east coast of Australia became home to a close knit community of indigenous 'lepers' who made the most of their existence as people living on the fringes of the marginalised. Now, as a 73 year-old, Joe reflects on his indelible Fantome years. His incredible, poignant story offers a profound insight into one of Australia's hidden histories.

(https://www.imdb.com/title/tt2008506/?ref=fn_al_tt_1)

Reggae Britannia, Directed by Jeremy Marre

A look at how Jamaican music came to influence British musicians to create their own take on it and the legacy it has left.

(https://www.imdb.com/title/tt2193846/?ref=fn_al_tt_1)

2012**Kuma, Directed by Umut Dađ**

Ayse, a beautiful 19-year-old girl from the Turkish countryside, is chosen to be married to the handsome Hasan, son of formidable and house-proud mother Fatma, who resides in Vienna with her husband and six children. However, what soon becomes apparent is that Ayse is to be second wife to Fatma's husband. This tight-knit family go to great lengths to preserve traditional values and although polygamy is illegal in Austria, Ayse is welcomed with warmth. Yet, her presence in a country whose language and culture is entirely foreign to her immediately marks her as an outsider. As Western societal norms and Muslim religious beliefs draw closer together in an ever diversifying family unit, tensions arise, resulting in an explosive stroke of fate. Umut DaÄY's mature feature debut is a rich tapestry of swirling emotions, suppressed desires, unspoken words and uncomfortable yet pressing social and political questions.

(https://www.imdb.com/title/tt2215215/?ref=fn_al_tt_1)

London Calling: The Modern Babylon, Directed by Julien Temple**Maria del norte, Directed by Luis Antonio Rodriguez**

An ironic story that takes a Border Patrol Agent, Angela Rubio through many obstacles and challenges to avoid Immigration. Angela gets hit on the head by a couple of drug smugglers and is left unconscious. She is helped by an illegal immigrant Don Pablo, who is headed back to Mexico because of lack of work in the U.S. Angela not knowing who she or remembering anything from her past is convinced by Pablo to go back to Mexico. In mist of confusion she thinks she is an Illegal alien. It only gets more confusing when she and Don Pablo cross back to the U.S. in search of a better life and start running from the U.S. Border Patrol.

(https://www.imdb.com/title/tt2412986/?ref=ttls_li_tt)

Women Moving Forward, Directed by Tanja Wol Sorensen

There are more than 500,000 domestic workers living in Spain today. The large majority are migrant women from Latin American countries. Through the stories of three Latin American women living in Barcelona, we get an insight into the reality of being a migrant woman and a domestic worker in Spain today. Through their own words, we learn about their motivations for crossing oceans to live in Catalonia, and why they choose to keep living outside of their native country. Despite the discrimination and abuse they experience, these women are actively trying to improve the rights and conditions for themselves and for others.

(<https://www.ethnofest.gr/film/women-moving-forward/>)

The Reluctant Fundamentalist, Directed by Mira Nair

A young Pakistani man is chasing corporate success on Wall Street. He finds himself embroiled in a conflict between his American Dream, a hostage crisis, and the enduring call of his family's homeland.

(https://www.imdb.com/title/tt2032557/?ref=fn_al_tt_1)

The Girl, Directed by David Riker

A single mother loses custody of her young son while struggling to make ends meet, but takes control of her own fate after meeting a desperate Mexican girl who lost her mother while sneaking over the border into the U.S. Ashley (Abbie Cornish) is a 20-something mother still reeling from the loss of her son to Social Services when a surprise visit from her truck-driver father presents an opportunity to make some quick cash as a coyote. Having

recently lost her job at a big box store in Austin, she quietly begins smuggling Mexicans over the border in hopes of staying afloat financially.

(https://www.imdb.com/title/tt1127883/?ref=ttls_li_tt)

Border Run, Directed by Gabriela Tagliavini

An American female reporter searches for her missing brother against the backdrop of violence and human smuggling across the US/Mexican border.

(https://www.imdb.com/title/tt2069955/?ref=ttls_li_tt)

When I saw you, Annemarie Jacir

1967. The world is alive with change: brimming with reawakened energy, new styles, music and an infectious sense of hope. In Jordan, a different kind of change is underway as tens of thousands of refugees pour across the border from Palestine. Having been separated from his father in the chaos of war, Tarek, 11, and his mother Ghaydaa, are amongst this latest wave of refugees. Placed in "temporary" refugee camps made up of tents and prefab houses until they would be able to return, they wait, like the generation before them who arrived in 1948. With difficulties adjusting to life in Harir camp and a longing to be reunited with his father, Tarek searches a way out, and discovers a new hope emerging with the times. Eventually his free spirit and curious nature lead him to a group of people on a journey that will change their lives. When I Saw You is the story of people affected by the times around them, in search of something more in their lives. A journey full of adventure, love, humor...

(https://www.imdb.com/title/tt2369543/?ref=fn_al_tt_1)

Violetta: Portrait of a Polish Immigrant in London, Directed by Marta Rabikowska and Matthew Hawkins

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=szkgUbZj1Pg>

Dimitsana: "Moving Towards the New Century..." Directed by Yiannis N. Drinis

The film, which was screened as a work in progress at the 2nd Athens Ethnographic Film Festival, is part of the ethnographic research that took place in Dimitsana (Arcadia), between 2007 and 2011, with its topic of study being the transformations of space and its representations. The various experiences of nativity and belonging, the immigration and the return to the homeland, the new bonds with the village, the emergence of "authenticity", "tradition" and of "mountain rurality" as aesthetic qualities through alternative tourism, as well as the new uses of space in outdoor recreational activities are some aspects of reality that the film is trying to explore.

(<https://www.ethnofest.gr/film/dimitsana-moving-towards-the-new-century/>)

La Niña, Directed by David Riker

A single mother loses custody of her young son while struggling to make ends meet, but takes control of her own fate after meeting a desperate Mexican girl who lost her mother while sneaking over the border into the U.S. Ashley (Abbie Cornish) is a 20-something mother still reeling from the loss of her son to Social Services when a surprise visit from her truck-driver father presents an opportunity to make some quick cash as a coyote. Having recently lost her job at a big box store in Austin, she quietly begins smuggling Mexicans over the border in hopes of staying afloat financially. Then, one night, she crosses paths with a young girl whose mother vanished while crossing a river in the dead of night. Determined not to get involved, Ashley tries in vain to keep a distance from the girl, but eventually finds her conscience stirred by the innocent child's plight. Over the next few days Ashley joins the frightened child in attempting to locate her missing mother.

https://www.imdb.com/title/tt1127883/?ref=fn_al_tt_2

Home again, Directed by Sudz Sutherland

Three Jamaicans, who are deported from the U.S., Canada, and England, must make their way in a land that they are not familiar with.

https://www.imdb.com/title/tt2121286/?ref=fn_al_tt_4

Frontera, Directed by Lacey Dorn

Faced with financial ruin and an idle husband, Louise turns to the Texan border's burgeoning narcotics trade for help. Increasingly ensnared, she struggles to keep separate a God-fearing community and a godless employer. Her changing behavior piques the suspicion of Mary Catherine, her conservative childhood friend. When Mary Catherine digs too deep, she endangers all involved.

https://www.imdb.com/title/tt2359065/?ref=ttls_li_tt

BorderLine, Directed by Daniel Sekulich

BorderLine explores the aftermath of the 9/11 terrorist attacks as experienced by ordinary people living and working along the Canada-U.S. border. The film follows award-winning documentary filmmaker and journalist Daniel Sekulich as he treks across North America from the Atlantic to the Pacific on both sides of the international line. Sekulich and his intrepid crew seek out an assortment of characters along their journey and describe how their lives have been altered by 9/11. They encounter fishermen, shop owners, truckers, Native leaders, immigrants, border officials, former RCMP officers, and anyone else with a story to tell. BorderLine takes viewers on a scenic and thought-provoking, cross-country journey that reveals the ever changing relationship between Canada and the United States in the post 9/11 era.

https://www.imdb.com/title/tt2217924/?ref=ttls_li_tt

They came to America, Directed by Dennis M. Lynch

A documentary that explores the human and financial costs of illegal immigration.

https://www.imdb.com/title/tt2304997/?ref=ttls_li_tt

2013

Stop-Over, Directed by Kaveh Bakhtiari

In the course of living long months with a group of Iranian illegals in Athens, the director examines this radical choice of pursuing a better life through the most perilous of possibilities: clandestinely.

https://www.imdb.com/title/tt2901760/?ref=fn_al_tt_1

The Immigrant, Directed by James Gray

1921. In search of a new start and the American dream, Ewa Cybulska and her sister Magda sail to New York from their native Poland. When they reach Ellis Island, doctors discover that Magda is ill, and the two women are separated. Ewa is released onto the mean streets of Manhattan while her sister is quarantined. Alone, with nowhere to turn and desperate to reunite with Magda, she quickly falls prey to Bruno, a charming but wicked man who takes her in and forces her into prostitution. And then one day, Ewa encounters Bruno's cousin, the debonair magician Orlando. He sweeps Ewa off her feet and quickly becomes her only chance to escape the nightmare in which she finds herself.

https://www.imdb.com/title/tt1951181/?ref=fn_al_tt_1

Behind the Wheel, Directed by Elisa Laker

With many families in Tajikistan increasingly turning to migration as an answer to their financial hardship, "Behind the Wheel" serves as an inquiry into the challenges this phenomenon can present for those who stay behind. It explores the moral and emotional turmoil of Nigora, an Uzbek woman whose traditional life of being a housewife is turned upside down after her migrant husband fails to send back enough money and she finds out he has been having an affair. No longer able to rely on her husband, Nigora defies prevailing gender norms and sets to work fixing car tyres.

[\(https://www.ethnofest.gr/film/behind-the-wheel/\)](https://www.ethnofest.gr/film/behind-the-wheel/)

A life suspended, Directed by Kazuyo Minamide

In 2005, Shimul left his rural village in Bangladesh for Athens. Soon after he arrived, however, Greece was hit by the economic crisis, and opportunities for work disappeared. The actual situation of being an overseas worker in Greece was very different to what he imagined in Bangladesh. Eight years have already passed. In his village, the woman he promised to marry is waiting. Despite his dreams of success, Shimul is struggling in his life abroad. Where will his life go in future? How do his families in the village regard his situation? This ethnographic film shows a young overseas migrant from the perspectives of both his situation in Athens and that of his family in rural Bangladesh.

[\(https://www.ethnofest.gr/film/a-life-suspended/\)](https://www.ethnofest.gr/film/a-life-suspended/)

Julia, Directed by Pedro Branco

For more than a century, many Romani communities have settled in the interior of Portugal, abandoning their traditional nomadic lifestyle for a permanent residence around the region's rural villages and small cities. Julia is the matriarch of one of the three communities living in the urban-area of the city of Abrantes, leader of a household of 15 and of the only community to live inside the city. In this film that combines photography and video, the Matriarch revisits some episodes of her life while approaching how Romani traditions and lifestyle try to adjust to the present days, increasingly distant from a closed, restricted past.

[\(https://www.ethnofest.gr/film/julia/\)](https://www.ethnofest.gr/film/julia/)

La Jaula de Oro, Directed by Diego Quemada-Diez

Juan, Sara, and Samuel, three teenagers from the slums of Guatemala, travel to the United States in search of a better life. On their journey through Mexico, they meet Chauk, an Indian from Chiapas who doesn't speak Spanish. Traveling together in freight trains and walking on railroad tracks, they soon have to face an odyssey that will change their lives forever.

https://www.imdb.com/title/tt2042583/?ref=fn_al_tt_2

Immigration the Unpardonable Sin, Directed by Andrew Mwangi

Immigration 'the unpardonable sin' is a full feature documentary film conceived in order to explore current issues in the United States Immigration process both from a personal awareness and community wide experience. The film provides a revealing perspective of the immigration debate told from professionals working in the immigration field and from a representative subset of the general public. The film presents various challenges involved in navigating today's immigration system and honest, balanced, and informative views on what ought to be done to resolve the broken United States Immigration system.

https://www.imdb.com/title/tt3528148/?ref=fn_al_tt_1

Into the Fire - The Hidden Victims of Austerity in Greece, directed by Kate Mara and Guy Smallman

Into the Fire is an investigative documentary looking at the situation of refugees and migrants in Greece, in the face of severe austerity measures and rising racism. Refugees flee their home countries on the search for safety. Due to its land border with Turkey, Greece is one of the main entry gates into Europe. Once they have entered Europe, European legislation prevents them from moving on to other European countries. In Greece however, refugees are faced with deficiencies in the asylum procedure and appalling detention and living conditions. Without housing, legal papers or support, they are faced with increasing and often violent racism. Attacks do not only target refugees, but any foreigner, including immigrants who have been in Greece for years. In spite of incendiary propaganda by the extreme right party Golden Dawn and a surge of murderous attacks, state and police seem unwilling to address the issue. Allegations of police sympathizing with Golden Dawn are an open secret.

[\(https://www.imdb.com/title/tt3066220/\)](https://www.imdb.com/title/tt3066220/)

Whitewashed, Unmasking the World of Whiteness

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rdaF_h06YX4

White Tribe

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=b30juWbP_TU

Buen Dia, Ramon, Directed by Jorge Ramirez Suarez

A beloved box office hit in Mexico, BUEN DÍA, RAMÓN (GOOD DAY, RAMON) tells the heartwarming story of a young man from a small Mexican town who travels to Germany to find work to support his family and becomes stranded without shelter or money. He struggles to survive on the streets until he meets Ruth, a lonely senior citizen with whom he develops an astonishing and touching friendship that transcends borders and prejudices.

[\(https://www.imdb.com/title/tt2876428/\)](https://www.imdb.com/title/tt2876428/)

Leaving Greece, Directed by Anna Brass

In 2008, Afghan teenagers Hossein, Reza and Kaka flee their homeland for Europe, hoping to find freedom and peace. They happen to arrive in Greece, but Greece is at the dawn of the economic crisis and soon it becomes clear that they cannot stay. However, they cannot leave either, since Greece's frontiers are some of the best monitored in the continent. Yet the three friends keep trying to leave Greece in order to reach another European country and to pass through a legal asylum procedure. This is an undertaking that puts at risk not only their friendship, but also their lives. A film about friendship – and the contradictory European refugee policy.

https://www.imdb.com/title/tt3347180/?ref=fn_al_tt_1

Day of hope, Directed by Hitte Haarlov Johnsen

Harouna is stranded in the coastal town of Noaudhibou in Mauretania. He has left his girlfriend and newborn in Mali to search for a safe haven for the three of them. In Italy, a group of asylum seekers live in a prison-like centre, uncertain about their futures. In Copenhagen we meet Austin. He has reached the promised land, but is forced to roam the streets in search for money for his family in Nigeria. This is the story of people who risk their lives in the hope of creating a dignified life for themselves and their loved ones.

[\(https://www.ethnofest.gr/film/days-of-hope/\)](https://www.ethnofest.gr/film/days-of-hope/)

Descending with Angels, Directed by Christian Suhr

Islamic exorcism or psychiatric medication? 'Descending with Angels' is a research-based film, which presents us with two highly different solutions to the same problem: namely Danish Muslims who are possessed by invisible spirits, called jinn.

https://www.imdb.com/title/tt3632596/?ref=fn_al_tt_1

Stationed, Directed by Stefania Giannikou

A group of young Africans decide to leave their homes in an effort to secure a better life in Europe. We meet them 'stationed' in an abandoned train wagon in Athens, Greece, reconsidering their decision and still dreaming.

https://www.imdb.com/title/tt2731318/?ref=fn_al_tt_2

Lisa Limone and Maroc Orange: A Rapid Love Story, Directed by Mait Laas

This 3D animated opera deals in a socially critical manner with the topic of illegal immigrants fleeing from Africa to Europe and it is also a story of impossible love between orange boy Maroc, a singing boat refugee, and lemon girl Lisa, who collects singing seashells and dreams about love. Maroc is the brave hero-type, bound by prejudice and poverty. Lisa is the daughter of a rich businessman and tomato ketchup plantation owner.

A Half Century in Germany (Alamanya Alamanya), Directed by Semra Güzel Korver

Folk singer Metin Türköz, rap singer Çağlar Budaklı, and M.A. student Ceren Koç. Three German Turks, three different perceptions of Germany, three different life stories. Their ideas on immigration, identity, language, multiculturalism, and integration. The "Germany Germany" documentary was shot in remembrance of the 50th year of the migrant workers agreement that was signed on October 30th 1961 in Germany. It presents important parts of the lives of Turkish peoples living in Germany. These parts are taken in the axes of integration, the most oft-debated subjects today, like belonging, economy, media, and education.

<https://www.dailymotion.com/video/xy37dp>

Va' pensiero, storie ambulanti, Directed by Dagmawi Yimer

A documentary looking at the issues to do with itinerant migration from Africa to Italy. It mainly focuses upon the 2011 Florence racial attacks upon African migrants working in the markets of Florence. Through the eyes of survivors Mor Sougou and Cheikh Mbengue Italian attitudes toward migration are scrutinised. Also, Senegalese griot Mohamed Ba reflects upon his own experiences of integration in the aftermath of a knife attack in his adopted home city of Milan.

https://www.imdb.com/title/tt4205180/?ref=fn_al_tt_1

2014**On the Bride's Side, Directed by Antonio Augugliaro, Gabriele del Grande Khalid Soliman al Nassiry**

A Palestinian poet and an Italian journalist meet five Palestinians and Syrians in Milan who entered Europe via the Italian island of Lampedusa after fleeing the war in Syria. They decide to help them complete their journey to Sweden, and hopefully avoid getting themselves arrested as traffickers, by faking a wedding. With a Palestinian friend dressed up as the bride and a dozen or so Italian and Syrian friends as wedding guests, they cross halfway over Europe on a four-day journey of three thousand kilometres.

https://www.imdb.com/title/tt4076818/?ref=fn_al_tt_1

Annemin Şarkısı, Directed by Erol Mintaş

Nigar (Zübeyde Ronahi) is not accustomed to living in the big city of Istanbul and longs to return to her village in Southeastern Turkey from where she was supposedly forced to leave after the incidents of ethnic clashes in 90s. Her son Ali (Feyyaz Duman), on the other hand, has pretty much settled in the city and works ironically as a teacher of Turkish language as a Kurd. Will Nigar be able to convince Ali to take her back to their village?

https://www.imdb.com/title/tt3982854/?ref=fn_al_tt_1

The Cut, Directed by Fatih Akın

This film is based on the Armenian Genocide in the Ottoman Empire 1915, which resulted in the forced migration and diaspora of the Armenian minority. One day a young family man, Nazaret Manoogian, gets deported by the Turkish authorities together with all the other Armenian men from his native village of Mardin. He becomes a forced laborer and only survives the mass murder by chance and an act of kindness, but loses his family, speech and faith. One night the devastated Nazaret learns that his daughters may still be alive and didn't die like his wife from starvation, violence or rape on death marches. Nazaret goes on a quest to find them and travels from his small village through the Mesopotamian deserts to the sea, always looking for clues that might lead him to his children. Nazaret's epic journey will take him from Asia to America, from the end to a new beginning.

https://www.imdb.com/title/tt2245171/?ref=nm_fimg_dr_4

The town they could not give away, Directed by Simon Bahceli

Even after 40 years, the Turkish Cypriot refugees struggle to feel at home in Morphou. Didem, born after ethnic partition, wants the town returned to its former Greek Cypriot inhabitants as a peace offering. Others, like the nationalist mayor- with his penchant for flags and modernization projects- vow to keep it forever.

<https://www.ethnofest.gr/film/the-town-they-couldnt-give-away/>

Borderless, Directed by Ahmed Albakri

The filmmaker tells his personal story towards defining freedom, a concept that is still obscure for over four million Palestinians living under the Israeli occupation. The story projects a surrealistic approach to showcase Northern Cyprus as an example to realize how simple surroundings can always connect Palestinians to the confinement of their reality. It is mainly a projection of an intense yearning for circumventing the constraints of occupation and breaking the manacles. Articulating this embedded desire for claiming a sense of freedom for Palestinians is akin to finding the missing piece in the puzzle of freedom, as Nelson Mandela once said: "We know too well that our freedom is incomplete without the freedom of the Palestinians."

<https://www.ethnofest.gr/film/borderless/>

The Hidden World of Britain's Immigrants, Directed by John O'Kane**Paddington, Directed by Paul King**

A young Peruvian bear with a passion for all things British travels to London in search of a home. Finding himself lost and alone at Paddington Station, he begins to realize that city life is not all he had imagined - until he meets the kind Brown family, who read the label around his neck ('Please look after this bear. Thank you.') and offer him a temporary haven. It looks as though his luck has changed until this rarest of bears catches the eye of a museum taxidermist.

https://www.imdb.com/title/tt1109624/?ref=fn_al_tt_1

Llévate Mis Amores, Directed by Arturo Gonzalez Villasenor

An intimate insight into the Patronas, a group of Mexican women who, every day since 1995, make food and toss it -still warm- to the migrants who travel atop the freight train The Beast as it makes its way to the U.S. This documentary is a personal diary that draws a border between the life they were given, and the life they chose. A brave and remarkable example of love and solidarity that contrasts with the violence of one of the cruellest stretches in the world for undocumented travellers.

https://www.imdb.com/title/tt4022534/?ref=fn_al_tt_1

Napps – Memoire of an invisible man, Directed by Tami Liberman

This film tells the story of Mr. X, but his identity, and his face, are never revealed in it. Mr. X is a West-African refugee living in Berlin without a work permit. As his exposure might put him in danger, he is the one holding the camera instead of appearing in front of it. Mr. X shoots the landscapes and people of Berlin to tell stories about the refugee camp in Italy, about his grandmother in West Africa, about his acquaintance with African drug dealers from Görlitzer Park, and about the relationship between him, his legal status and his camera.

https://www.imdb.com/title/tt4094318/?ref=fn_al_tt_1

What life is like here, Directed by Marlene Wynants

Jasmina, Toplica and Claudia live in an informal settlement on the outskirts of Belgrade. Like other Roma families in the neighboring shacks, they live in extreme poverty as a result of discrimination and exclusion. Through experiences of migration and deportation to and from Germany, Jasmina lives separated from her parents and brothers. This film looks into the struggles of making a living on the margins of society. It also explores how the protagonists remember life in Western Europe and hope to go back there in the near future. Jasmina's and Tony's everyday life is permeated by thoughts of escaping, migrating and providing Jasmina's daughter with a better prospect of life.

<https://www.ethnofest.gr/film/what-life-is-like-here/>

Evaporating Borders, Directed by Iva Radivojevic

Evaporating Borders is a visual essay on displacement and the search for identity. Told through a series of vignettes portraying the lives of political migrants on the island of Cyprus, the film explores global restrictive practices on migrating populations.

https://www.imdb.com/title/tt3395792/?ref=fn_al_tt_1

Document: Hoyerswerda| Frontex, Directed by Thomas Kaske

Four migrants from Mozambique provide eyewitness testimony about the racially motivated attacks that took place in Hoyerswerda, Saxony, in 1991. Their report is read to accompany archive shots, obtained directly in the streets of German city, which are shown in one half of the frame. The other half contains drone surveillance footage obtained by Frontex, the agency responsible for protecting the European Union's borders.

https://www.imdb.com/title/tt5132786/?ref=fn_al_tt_1

Haraka Baraka: Movement is Blessing, Directed by Lana Askari

After having lived in the Netherlands for over 20 years, the director's parents, Gulzar and Shwan, decide to return back to Kurdistan, their homeland. Escaping the Iraqi regime as refugees in the early 90s, they became part of the larger Kurdish Diaspora who resettled in Europe. In the recent decade, Iraqi Kurdistan has developed into a regional safe-haven. However, with current tensions around the threat of the Islamic State (IS), the social and political landscape in the Middle East is changing drastically. In "Haraka Baraka", the

director follows her parents' return to their homeland whilst addressing the renegotiation of belonging, temporality and future during a (seemingly) timeless crisis.

(<https://www.ethnofest.gr/film/haraka-baraka-movement-is-a-blessing/>)

2015

British born Chinese, Directed by Andy Lawrence and Elena Barabantseva

The film is about Daniel and Kevin, two school boys born to Chinese migrants and living in Manchester. It engages their everyday struggles of reconciling their Britishness with Chineseness through their experiences at school, as volunteers at a community centre, and at home. The film uses an ethical approach driven by dialogue and close involvement with the film's subjects to understand the vulnerabilities through which the boys navigate their place in the British society. It not only uncovers new dimensions to understanding the ways the subjects experience their lifeworlds, but also seeks to reduce the epistemic violence of dominant visual forms of representation.

(<https://www.ethnofest.gr/film/british-born-chinese/>)

Islam's Wedding... and Other Bedouin Stories form Naqab, Directed by Yannis Kanakis

Islam, who is getting married at an "advanced" age (25), and other Arab Bedouins from the South of Israel, attempt to give shape to viable compromises between their semi-nomadic past and their nearly-ghettoised present. Palestinian struggle and Israeli citizenship, Islam and freedom (but also... WhatsApp), collective identity and personal quests, all mingle and clash in an uncertain path to the future.

(<https://www.ethnofest.gr/film/islams-wedding-and-other-bedouin-stories-form-naqab/>)

No money no problem, Directed by Iaria Monfroni, Annemiek Prins, Loukas Koubouris

The film portrays some of the bazaar shops in the area of Psirri, which traditionally used to be owned by locals but the situation seems to have changed in the last few years. The filmmakers wanted to look into the people and the objects surrounding these shops, and they took the way the shop owners relate to the antique objects in the shops as a point of departure for learning more about their work experiences in times of social and economical crisis. Through some customers' narratives we understand more about these shops and the objects themselves. In addition, the film wants to capture the migrant's work experience by specifically focusing on their relationship with the objects in the shop. In doing so, it tries to address larger questions about how they, as entrepreneurs, experience the economic crisis and how this affects their expectations for the future.

(<https://www.ethnofest.gr/film/no-money-no-problem/>)

Kipaki of Tsmadou, Directed by Fotini Gouseti and Caroline Bertram

Kipaki Tsamadou (Small Garden in Tsamadou Str.) is a squat. The space emerged where the ruins of a house used to be. The film explores the notion of public space in the context of the current economic, social and political conditions in Athens, Greece. Located in Exarchia, this garden is linked to the Steki Metanaston, a migrants' social centre in which locals and migrants create networks in order to find ways to improve their lives and contribute to society. During their assemblies they address social and political issues, while they often get involved in activism and the Anti-racist Movement.

(<https://www.ethnofest.gr/film/kipaki-of-tsamadou/>)

Dough, Directed by John Goldschmidt

Safa Habimana, a Muslim immigrant in Britain who struggles to make ends meet, hopes that she and her troubled teenage son, Ayyash, will reunite with her husband one day.

However, with lots of time on his hands, Ayyash will soon find the police on his doorstep-- and as a result--his desperate mother will need to take some drastic measures. So, without delay, Safa sets up an appointment with Nat, her Jewish boss and the neighbourhood's baker, to beg him to take her son as an apprentice. Of course, new beginnings are usually hard at first; but, little by little, as Nat's business starts to flourish thanks to a revolutionary recipe, a strong bond will develop between them. But, do they know that problems are just around the corner?

(<https://www.imdb.com/title/tt1517471/>)

Desierto, Directed by Jonas Cuarón

A group of Mexican emigrants attempts to cross the Mexican-US border. What begins as a hopeful journey becomes a harrowing, bloody and primal fight for survival when a deranged, rifle-toting vigilante and his loyal Belgian Malinois dog chase the group of unarmed men and women through the treacherous borderland. In the harsh, unforgiving desert terrain, the odds are stacked firmly against them as they discover there's nowhere to hide from the unrelenting, merciless killer.

(https://www.imdb.com/title/tt3147312/?ref =ttls_li tt)

Dheepan, Directed by Jacques Audiard

Dheepan is a Tamil freedom fighter, a Tiger. In Sri Lanka, the Civil War is reaching its end, and defeat is near. Dheepan decides to flee, taking with him two strangers - a woman and a little girl - hoping that they will make it easier for him to claim asylum in Europe. Arriving in Paris, the 'family' moves from one temporary home to another until Dheepan finds work as the caretaker of a run-down housing block in the suburbs. He works to build a new life and a real home for his 'wife' and his 'daughter', but the daily violence he confronts quickly reopens his war wounds, and Dheepan is forced to reconnect with his warrior's instincts to protect the people he hopes will become his true family.

(https://www.imdb.com/title/tt4082068/?ref =fn_al tt_1)

Mediterranea, Directed by Jonas Carpignano

Two men make the dangerous journey from Africa to Italy for a better life, but then face hostility and violence in this shocking look at the life-and-death struggle of refugees.

(<https://www.imdb.com/title/tt3486542/>)

Speak Out, Directed by Mirja Brand, Simon A. Frey and Valentini Sampethai

What is it like to live and work in a society of constant changes but yet not feeling part of it? Set in today's Greece, the film tells the story of Punjabi migrants who settled in Athens 10 to 15 years ago. Through the scope of two working spaces in an Athenian neighborhood the film shows different issues they face such as the current economical situation, practicing their faith or their hopes about the future. These working spaces become more than just places for business: they are means to create a sense of community for people who moved away from their families to find a better life for themselves and to support the ones they left behind.

(<https://www.ethnofest.gr/film/speak-out/>)

Riverbanks, Directed by Panos Karkanevatos

John is an introvert young soldier serving as a minesweeper in Evros. When he meets Chryssa, a woman passing immigrants from borders between Greece and Turkey, he will try to convince her run away and start a new life.

(https://www.imdb.com/title/tt4424316/?ref =fn_al tt_1)

Cartel Land, Directed by Matthew Heineman

A physician in Michoacán, Mexico leads a citizen uprising against the drug cartel that has wreaked havoc on the region for years. Across the U.S. border, a veteran heads a paramilitary group working to prevent Mexico's drug wars from entering U.S. territory.

(https://www.imdb.com/title/tt4126304/?ref=fn_al_tt_1)

Persisting Dreams, Directed by Come Ledesert

Toni is a fisherman in Lampedusa. He sees men, women and children arriving from other continents. Who are these migrants traveling by sea on an island at Europe's doors, departing again as soon as they can if they haven't perished on their way? Through his testimony, intercut by animation that take him on a journey as forced witness, this documentary invites us to question our perception of migrants in Europe – between our tenacious fantasies, Toni's reality and the persisting dreams of migrants.

(<https://www.ethnofest.gr/film/persisting-dreams/>)

Before the wave, Directed by Molly Willows

This lyrical short documentary featuring a captivating community of indigenous stateless Moken sea nomads who live off the coast of Burma and Thailand. Today living as a ragtag community of ocean-frolicking outliers, the vibrant community fully survived the Boxing Day Tsunami ten years ago. This poetic film explores their disappearing aquatic lifestyle and shifting spirituality largely due to Christian missionaries who arrived to "save" the Moken after the fatal wave. The film's intimate moments induce awe, as well as reflections about broader contemporary issues like globalisation, modern-day religiosity, and our fragile environment. The film carries the audience away to some magical place, where certainty and hope melt with the burning sun, yet never fully cease.

(<https://www.ethnofest.gr/film/before-the-wave/>)

Road of a migrant, Directed by Olena Fedyuk

The film follows an annual 10-day- long walking Pilgrimage dedicated to and organized by Ukrainian labour migrants and their families. During 260 km of walk, the Pilgrims spread the word of their experiences abroad and try to reconnect with their families, estranged through the years of migration. They fight the guilt and the sense of blame for migration, and, against the evermore crumbling trust in the Ukrainian state, attempt to organize through the only existing for them institution, the Church. The film speaks of the controversial rise of the Church institution in a post-soviet state, as a force preoccupied not only with the spiritual, but also with the social and the political.

(<https://www.ethnofest.gr/film/road-of-a-migrant/>)

My name is Prosfygika, Directed by Daiana Tzvetko, Jiahui Zeng and Nickolaos Papadimitriou

This story follows the 79-year old Chrisoula, who has spent all her life in the Refugee Houses of Prosfygika in Athens. Through her memories, dreams and hopes we are going on a journey through the history of modern Greece, rising up questions about human relations, modern society and its future. As a witness of the Greek Civil War in the 40s and the 10-year long institutional struggle of the neighborhood against the government's wish to demolish the area, Chrisoula unravels the impact of historical time on her personal life and memories, and shows us the development of reality at a place in time.

(<https://www.ethnofest.gr/film/my-name-is-prosfygika/>)

Nobel Nak Dah, Directed by Emily Hong, Miasarah Lai and Mariangela Mihai

The film offers an intimate view into the lives of three refugee women from Burma, whose migratory paths cross in Thailand and eventually meet when they resettle to central New

York. Drawing upon methods of feminist oral history and ethno-fiction, the film traces glimmers of subjectivity that complicate any singular narrative of the refugee experience. As camera movements follow the textures of everyday life and work, a weave of sensorial fragments immerse audiences in women's narratives of self, place, and belonging.

(<https://www.ethnofest.gr/film/nobel-nok-dah/>)

The land of Udehe, Directed by Ivan Golovnev

The history of ethnographic cinema in Russia is full of great names, heroic pathways, and classic films. The pioneers of the genre –the ethnographer Vladimir Arsenyev and the filmmaker Aleksandr Litvinov– made a series

of films about peoples of the Far East in the 1920–30s (“Forest People”, “Tumgu”, “Chzou”, etc.). The “Land of Udehe” filmed in the places of Arsenyev’s and Litvinov’s cinematic expeditions 80 years later. This film, as the modern cine-research of the traditional culture of Udehe, takes us into the spiritual world of this ethnic community/indigenous people of the Far East of Russia. According to the census of 2010, their population dropped to 1,490 souls...

(<https://www.ethnofest.gr/film/the-land-of-udehe/>)

Transition Blu, Directed by Dorothea Braun

Brenner/Brennero: an ancient village on an ancient path between north and south embodies in its geography the opposing desires between those who are passing by and those who are forced to stay. Stuck between an outsized shopping mall, forested mountains and windy highways, this shrinking, lost village on the invisible borderline between Italy and Austria seems facing an eternal time of change and elusiveness. This strong influence of changing, the violence of the surrounding nature and the passing of male passengers are constantly shaping this place's aura of absurdity and sadness.

(<https://www.ethnofest.gr/film/transition-blu/>)

Kingdom of Shadows, Directed by Bernardo Ruiz

Bernardo Ruiz takes an unflinching look at the human cost of the U.S.-Mexico drug war through the perspectives of three unlikely individuals.

([https://www.imdb.com/title/tt3785740/?ref =ttls_li tt](https://www.imdb.com/title/tt3785740/?ref =ttls_li_tt))

2016

The Ethos of City Plaza, Directed by Konstantinos Tsaras, Yağmur Koçak and Leopold Helbich

On May 22nd, 2016, activists and refugees took over the abandoned Hotel City Plaza in the centre of Athens. As a reaction against the EU-Turkey deal, which was passed exactly one month earlier, they established a community where refugees can live in a self-organized manner. City Plaza is now the home of more than 400 people, most of which are stuck in political and physical limbo in Greece due to the Dublin agreement and the EU-Turkey deal. City Plaza does not collaborate with the state or NGO's. It is supported by various grass-root solidarity movements throughout Greece and Europe. The outspoken aim of the community is to provide an example to the authorities on how basic-democratic organization can work on an all-inclusive and non-hierarchical level.

(<https://www.ethnofest.gr/film/the-ethos-of-city-plaza/>)

Joyous are the eyes that see you, Directed by Karen Waltrop

The main protagonists are two young women who have been best friends since their early years at the local public school; a Sunni Muslim of Palestinian origin, and a Shia Muslim of Kurdish-Iranian origin. We see the former with her daughter, who is then kidnapped. We follow the latter to Dubai to meet her love, and to Iran to visit family. By necessity, the film

reveals and conceals simultaneously, as the young women prefer to leave things ambivalent for good reasons. The movement – hareket – of the young women dictates the form of the film. All of their performances and surfaces are treated as equally true, real, and contextual – as aspects of the person and the interaction.

<https://www.ethnofest.gr/film/joyous-are-the-eyes-that-see-you/>

Chosen people, Directed by Qihui Wu

Responding to racism and historical erasure, the African diaspora has developed a multitude of tactics for mitigating the oppressive ideological conditions, such as advocating self-sufficiency and race pride. Among them, the Hebrew Israelite church identifies the African diaspora as the lineal descendants of ancient Israelites, because they believe that the enslavement of ancient Israelites in Egypt prophesies the Atlantic slave trade. Through the daily activity of the churchgoers in a Hebrew Israelite church, The Israel of God, in the south side of Chicago, the film “Chosen People” provides a poignant and subtle mediation on relations among history, memory and identity.

<https://www.ethnofest.gr/film/chosen-people/>

Welcome to the Hartmanns', Directed by Simon Verhoeven

The recently retired teacher Angelika decides, against her skeptical husband Richard's will, to take in a refugee. Soon afterward, the young Nigerian Diallo moves into the Hartmann home, and a whirlwind of complications ensue. These events not only disrupt the lives of Angelika and Richard's adult children Philip and Sophie; they also put their own marriage as well as Diallo's chances of integration to the test. Despite all the chaos, hope prevails that the family will recover its stability, confidence, and peace - like the rest of Germany.

<https://www.imdb.com/title/tt5500148/>

Fire at Sea, Directed by Gianfranco Rosi

Situated some 200km off Italy's southern coast, Lampedusa has hit world headlines in recent years as the first port of call for hundreds of thousands of African and Middle Eastern migrants hoping to make a new life in Europe. Rosi spent months living on the Mediterranean island, capturing its history, culture and the current everyday reality of its 6,000-strong local population as hundreds of migrants land on its shores on a weekly basis. The resulting documentary focuses on 12-year-old Samuele, a local boy who loves to hunt with his slingshot and spend time on land even though he hails from a culture steeped in the sea.

https://www.imdb.com/title/tt3652526/?ref=fn_al_tt_1

Stranger in Paradise, Directed by Guido Hendrikx

In a classroom newly arrived refugees learn a lesson about multifarious Europe. Operating at the intersection of fiction and documentary, Stranger in Paradise reflects on the power relations between Europeans and refugees in a candid fashion.

https://www.imdb.com/title/tt6253688/?ref=fn_al_tt_1

The Good Postman, Directed by Tonislav Hristov

A small and stubborn Bulgarian village facing the Turkish border has been resisting foreign invaders since the times of the Roman and Ottoman Empires. Now its electorate of 38 elderly Bulgarians is deciding on future of Europe. The Great Gate, as the village has been called for centuries because of its location on the doorsteps of the former Ottoman Empire, has found itself in the middle of European crisis, as at night asylum seekers sneak across the border causing fear and unrest. Once again the sleepy and forgotten village has become the most important secret loophole of Europe. Postman Ivan has a new political vision. He decides to run for mayor to bring the dying village to life by welcoming refugees.

His opponents want either to close their eyes or close down the border and reintroduce communism. Busy on the campaign trail while delivering the mail, Ivan soon learns that while good intentions are not enough, even the smallest deeds matter.

(https://www.imdb.com/title/tt6254144/?ref=fn_al_tt_1)

Parting, Directed by Navid Mahmoudi

Two young Afghans, Fereshteh and Nabi, are in love, but Fereshteh has to follow her parents and leave Afghanistan to find refuge in Iran. Nabi decides to illegally cross the border, find Fereshteh and take her through Turkey towards Europe and a better life.

(https://www.imdb.com/title/tt5742306/?ref=fn_al_tt_1)

Underground, Directed by Julie Hoj Thomsen

Ali came to Denmark in 2011 to seek asylum. After two and a half years in asylum camps his case was rejected, and since then he has lived “underground” as an undocumented migrant in Copenhagen. The film explores Ali’s experience of life as an “illegal migrant” in Denmark. It deals with the conditions of “rightlessness” and “deportability” and how these conditions influence Ali’s general experience of time, place and belonging. Because of the threat of deportation Ali’s face and identity is not shown in the film, and the story is carried by Ali’s voice and images of Copenhagen city.

(<https://www.ethnofest.gr/film/underground/>)

We must be dreaming, Directed by David Bert Joris Dhert

Follow three people of Rio de Janeiro in the years running up to the 2014 FIFA World Cup Brazil and the 2016 Rio Olympic Games. Urutau, an indigenous chief, tries to maintain to the city’s last piece of indigenous ground located right next to the Maracanã sports stadium; Katja, a single mother, turns into a protest photographer as social discontentment rises; and Pélé, a street artist and impersonator of the eponymous soccer player is well on his way to improve his life during the World Cup. Along the years, we discover the impact of the two major sports events of the planet on these people’s lives.

(https://www.imdb.com/title/tt5725230/?ref=fn_al_tt_1)

When are you in the sea, where can you hide? Directed by Ann-Kathrine Kværnø and Jack Ryan Jones

The film follows two fishermen from the Greek village Skala Sikamineas, on the island of Lesbos, who were nominated for the Nobel Peace Prize for their efforts in saving people crossing the waters from Turkey to Greece. Filmed during the period of relative calm, in May 2016, and structured around everyday practices of these two fishermen, the film explores their experiences of frequently rescuing those attempting to cross the same waters they navigate daily for their work. These memories are intertwined with an observational approach to contemporary fishing practices, exploring how previous experiences of rupture in daily life continue to inflect and give meaning to these fisherman’s relationship to the sea.

Huayi, Directed by Yuebai Liu and Matteo Primiterra

Huáyì is a collection of *appunti* that attempts to give voice to a new generation of Italians, young Chinese that grew up in different Italian contexts and forced to confront the question of self and identity. The film captures fragments of stories that tell us of young men and women stuck between three worlds: one to which their parents belonged to, Italy in which they grew up and contemporary China, which they struggle to understand.

(<https://www.ethnofest.gr/film/huayi/>)

Shingal, where are you?, Directed by Angelos Rallis and Hans Ulrich Goessi

In 2014, the Yazidis, a persecuted minority in Iraq, were driven from their ancestral land by ISIS during a campaign of genocide in which more than 3,000 women and children were kidnapped. Caught in raw, sweeping cinematography, *Shingal: Where are You* weaves together the dramatic stories of the remaining young boys and their families, relegated to an abandoned coal mine on the Turkish border and longing for their lost home. In this poignant and beautifully executed documentary, we witness one family's desperate fight to buy back their daughter from ISIS, negotiating on the cell phone through various middlemen.

Sensational African Collection, Directed by Fidelia S. Ametewee, Camille Giraut and Sofia Poulia

This film, *Sensational African Collection* is about two African hair salons in Athens, Greece. After sharing different ideas and point of views on the theoretical and ethical questions of cultural appropriation, the film shifted focus to the aesthetics of the African hairstyles and the interaction between customers and their hairdressers. It explores the interrelations between individuals and the atmosphere in these female spaces; the film also shows one dimension of female labour migration in Athens. The film incorporated experimental shots and observations on the ordinary and daily lifestyles of women in the hair salons.

(<https://www.ethnofest.gr/film/sensational-african-collection/>)

Going Illegal, a border diary, Directed by Anna Wilma Xilakis

In the winter of 2015 the world faced the biggest refugee crisis since WW II. People escaping war, persecution and poverty reached Idomeni, the Greek-FYROM border that became a symbol of Europe's excluding character. The ethnographic film *Going Illegal, a border Diary*, an outcome of a politically engaged ethnographic research, depicts the crisis through the actions of a transnational activist network that was formed alongside local initiatives in response to Europe's harshening Immigration policies. Aiming to help those rejected at the frontier, who often faced detention and deportation, the network advocated the right to freedom of movement as a fundamental human right, challenging notions such as legality, illegality, borders and nation- states.

(<https://www.ethnofest.gr/film/going-illegal-a-border-diary/>)

In Between (Bar Bahar), Directed by Maysaloun Hamoud

Three Palestinian women living in an apartment in Tel Aviv try to find a balance between traditional and modern culture.

(https://www.imdb.com/title/tt5974388/?ref =fn_al_tt_1)

Those Who Jump, Directed by Estephan Wagner, Moritz Siebert and Abou Bakar Sidibe

Mount Gurugu overlooks the Spanish enclave of Melilla on northern Africa's Mediterranean coast. The European Union and Africa are separated here by a high-security border facility consisting of three fences. Refugees, mostly from the sub-Saharan region, live in the tree-covered foothills, from where they try to cross the land border between Morocco and Spain. One of them is Abou Bakar Sidibé from Mali, who in *Les Sauteurs* is both the protagonist and the one doing the documenting.

(https://www.imdb.com/title/tt5490380/?ref =fn_al_tt_1)

Delta, Back to Shores, Directed by Charlie Petersmann

The sea...On one shore, Ibrahim, a young Senegalese man living illegally in Tangier is dreading his passage over to Europe. On the other shore, Agostinho, a fisherman for over forty years, has to depart to join his family in Holland. Two stories of migration, whose similarities reveal the need and difficulty of finding one's place in a world in state of crisis.

(<https://www.imdb.com/title/tt5884910/>)

Bushfallers: A Journey of Chasing Dreams, Directed by Nils Benjamin Keding

Two filmmakers from Cameroon and two from Germany try to find out why so many Africans want to migrate to Europe. What motivates them? What are their dreams? And what is the reality in Europe and in Africa like? "Bushfallers - A Journey of Chasing Dreams" starts in Germany and finds its end in Cameroon.

(<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7RRFX2OEnaE>)

The Kitchen of Las Patronas, Directed by Javier Garcia

Story about a group of women better known as 'The Bosses' in its process of transformation and empowerment, through their work in the field of human rights with Central American migrants crossing Mexico on the freight train bound for the US.

(<https://www.imdb.com/title/tt6277782/>)

Apricot Groves, Directed by Pouria Heidary Qureh

Aram, the Iranian Armenian youth who has immigrated to the US in childhood returns to Armenia for the first time to propose to an Armenian girlfriend Aram met and lived with in the US. Aram sees many cultural, religious, and national differences on the one day trip, but harder obstacles are ahead.

(<https://www.imdb.com/title/tt4726166/>)

2017**For a Son, Directed by Suranga Deshapriya Katugampala**

Sunita, a middle-aged Sri Lankan woman, lives with her teenage son on the outskirts of a northern Italian city where she works as a caregiver. The relationship between mother and son is fraught with tension and silence. Having grown up in Italy, the boy is a cultural hybrid his mother struggles to understand, as she fights to live in a country to which she does not want to belong.

(https://www.imdb.com/title/tt5895238/?ref=fn_al_tt_1)

Human Flow, Directed by Ai Weiwei

Over 65 million people around the world have been forced from their homes to escape famine, climate change and war in the greatest human displacement since World War II. Human Flow, an epic film journey led by the internationally renowned artist Ai Weiwei, gives a powerful visual expression to this massive human migration. The documentary elucidates both the staggering scale of the refugee crisis and its profoundly personal human impact. Captured over the course of an eventful year in 23 countries, the film follows a chain of urgent human stories that stretches across the globe in countries including Afghanistan, Bangladesh, France, Greece, Germany, Iraq, Israel, Italy, Kenya, Mexico, and Turkey.

(https://www.imdb.com/title/tt6573444/?ref=fn_al_tt_1)

The Other Side of Hope, Directed by Aki Kaurismaki

Khaled, syrian refugee stows away on a freighter to Helsinki. Meanwhile, Wikström is a traveling salesman who wins big at a poker table and buys himself a restaurant with the

proceeds. When the authorities turn down his application for asylum, Khaled is forced underground and Wikström finds him sleeping in the yard behind his restaurant. He offers him a job and a roof over his head and, for a while, they form a Utopian union with the restaurant's waitress, the chef and his dog.

(https://www.imdb.com/title/tt5222918/?ref_=fn_al_tt_1)

A camp is a wall in a forest, Directed by Anna Knappe and Amir Jan

A camp is a place where mohajers live in a state of waiting. Mohajers are asylum seekers, refugees, and other migrants in precarious situations and their camps are reception centers, detention centers, and temporary shelters. Camps are often located in remote areas, effectively isolating the individuals living in them. They are facilities for storing humans, full of invisible walls, and windows to remind people that the world they can see through them is out of their reach.

(<https://www.ethnofest.gr/film/camp-wall-forest/>)

Unimaginable dreams, Directed by Marzia Jamili

Written and directed by Marzia Jamili, a Hazara refugee now living in Sweden, Unimaginable Dreams is an auto-ethnographic essay film that traces Marzia's last days in Athens, Greece. Blending documentary and fiction, Marzia casts her best friends to recreate magically real versions of her dearest memories of Athens as she delivers a cutting address to Afghanistan, in which she tells the sea about her broken homeland. Unimaginable Dreams is the first production by the Melissa Network's Film Club, a collaborative program co-founded by Dove Barbanel and Brittany Nugent, that challenges hegemonic representations of migrant women by empowering members to reclaim the gaze and create narratives of their own. A creative group of women from Afghanistan, Iran, Syria, Iraq, Nigeria, Kenya and Ethiopia share diverse perspectives to analyze their favorite movies, learn filmmaking skills and collaborate on original productions that add urgent personal nuance and depth to migration storytelling.

(<https://www.ethnofest.gr/film/unimaginable-dreams/>)

Sand and blood, Directed by Matthias Krepp and Angelika Spangel

Social networks allow refugees to follow the actions and crimes happening in their countries in real time. "Sand and Blood" is a montage of amateur videos from various online platforms, narrated by refugees now living in Austria. This formal approach offers a new and intimate perspective on Syria and Iraq's recent history: a montage of haunting images of devastation, fear, and hatred. It gives the viewer the opportunity to ask questions which go beyond newspaper headlines. Every character is given the chance to explain his own personal viewpoint, without judgement. "Sand and Blood" weaves these stories together in a dark and moving tapestry that ultimately forces the viewer to question the very nature of good and evil, victim and perpetrator.

(<https://www.ethnofest.gr/film/sand-and-blood/>)

Feeling of a home, Directed by Io Chaviara and Michalis Kastanidis

In 2016, an old lady from Idomeni, a small Greek village on the Greek-Macedonian border, remembers stories about locals who crossed the borderline and never came back. At the same time, the border is sealed closing the route to thousands of refugees trying to reach Northern Europe, and a settlement of 15.000 people has been built right next to the village. While the old lady's narrations reconstruct the History of the border, some Palestinians from Syria living in the settlement, decide to set up a kindergarten instead of just passively wait for the border to open. In this way, they create relationships that allow them to exist in the present, to envision the future and to create conditions that bring them closer to a feeling of a home.

(<https://www.ethnofest.gr/film/feeling-of-a-home/>)

Trinity, a culture of compassion, Directed by Diane Agatha, Despoina Kalogianni and Kitty Ka Wai Chan

The documentary followed three girls who were volunteering in the Catholic NGO called "Heart Home" in Athens, Greece. Alongside the daily religious practices, the three girls, Adele, Klaudia and Roky, aimed to serve the people who are suffering, lonely and poor, such as homeless people and refugee kids. With different personal background, they reflected upon their relations with the people they served. Through engaging in the Catholic movement, they hoped to bring presence and compassion to these people in order to show the caring and love little by little. Such culture of compassion, to serve the people wholeheartedly, intertwined with their spiritual life, eventually leading to their contemplation of the real presence of the God.

(<https://www.ethnofest.gr/film/trinity-a-culture-of-compassion/>)

A Season in France, Directed by Mahamat-Saleh Haroun

An African high school teacher flees his war-torn country for France, where he falls in love with a Frenchwoman who offers a roof for him and his family.

(https://www.imdb.com/title/tt7177156/?ref=fn_al_tt_1)

Strange daughter, Directed Stephan Lacant

Lena (17) meets 19-year-old Farid, a young Muslim. She has a clear-cut attitude towards his culture and religion: utter rejection. Despite their differences - or perhaps because of them - they fall in love. When Lena unexpectedly gets pregnant the two of them must make a pledge to each other and their child. Hannah, Lena's mother, sees red, realizing this means her daughter will be expected to marry a Muslim man - unfathomable both to her and to Farid's family. A couple destined to be together stuck between worlds, traditions, religion, contradictions and prejudices.

(https://www.imdb.com/title/tt4746254/?ref=fn_al_tt_1)

The Escape, Director: Kenan Kavut

On the verge of losing his mind because of high fever and an overwhelming feeling of guilt over an accidental death, a Syrian immigrant stranded at the Turkish-Greek border is saved by a Turkish woman who lives with her husband close to the border.

(<https://mubi.com/films/the-escape-2017-kenan-kavut>)

Beyond words, Directed by Urszula Antoniak

A young Polish-born, Berlin-based lawyer working on refugee cases is unexpectedly reunited with his father, who is his only tie left with his homeland.

(https://www.imdb.com/title/tt6100122/?ref=fn_al_tt_1)

Pure hearts, Directed by Roberto de Paolis

Agnese and Stefano are profoundly different. She is only seventeen, lives with her mother (a harsh but devoted woman and a regular church-goer) and is about to take a vow of chastity to last until marriage. He is a 25 year old man, with a violent temper and a difficult past behind, who works as a warden in a car park that borders with a gypsy camp. Their unexpected meeting engenders a sentiment of purity, made of little stolen moments and mutual help. But when they make love for the first time, Agnese's illusion of purity is shattered. She experiences a deep sense of betrayal towards her ideals, which leads her to take an extreme decision in the hope of erasing her sin.

(https://www.imdb.com/title/tt5929226/?ref=fn_al_tt_1)

In the Fade, Directed by Fatih Akin

Katja's (Diane Kruger) had met Turkish-born Kurdish Nuri Sekerci (Numan Acar) when she bought hashish from him during her student days. They got married when he was still in prison, although their parents were against the marriage. Since her son Rocco (Rafael Santana) is born, Nuri is no longer working as a drug dealer, because he studied business administration in prison and now runs a translation and tax office in Hamburg. One day Rocco and Nuri are killed by a nail bomb, which was deposited in front of the office. This has shredded everything. Because her husband was in prison for drug possession, the police investigated in the red light district. The investigators do not see that the tracks point in a completely different direction. Then they happen to be the real killers on the net. The main suspects are the neo-Nazi spouses André (Ulrich Brandhoff) and Edda Möller (Hanna Hilsdorf). But the trial is developing differently than Katja had hoped.

(https://www.imdb.com/title/tt5723272/?ref=nm_film_dr_2)

Father, Directed by Arshad Khan

Multiple-award-winning filmmaker Arshad Khan examines his troubled relationship with his devout, Pakistani, Muslim father Abu. Using family archives and movies, Khan explores his struggle with his identity and compares it to his parents attempts to fit into Canada. The film tells a deeply personal story which has universal resonance.

(<https://www.imdb.com/title/tt6085926/>)

Love me not, Directed by Alexandros Avranas

A couple hires a young migrant to be their surrogate mother and moves her to their beautiful villa. While the man is away for work, the woman and the girl start to bond and enjoy the couple's wealthy way of life. But behind her forced cheerfulness, the woman seems more and more depressed. After a confrontation with the girl, she goes for a drive. The same night, her husband gets a call: his wife is dead, her burned body was found in her wrecked car.

(https://www.imdb.com/title/tt6280810/?ref=fn_al_tt_2)

A walk on the tightrope, Directed by Sandra Budesheim and Sabine Zimmer

In the asylum procedure in Germany, applicants and case officers meet on only one single occasion – at the personal interview. A decision is then made about who stays and who has to leave.

(<https://www.newdocs.de/a-walk-on-the-tightrope/>)

Birds are singing in Kigali, Directed by Doanna Kos-Krauze, Krzysztof Krauze

In 1994 Rwanda, a Polish woman ornithologist saves a Tutsi girl from certain death. After a few years they both revisit Africa on an emotional journey full of painful memories.

Dođu yakası, Directed by Harun Durmuş**The Big Sick, Directed by Michael Showalter**

Kumail (Kumail Nanjiani), in the middle of becoming a budding stand-up comedian, meets Emily (Zoe Kazan). Meanwhile, a sudden illness sets in forcing Emily to be put into a medically-induced coma. Kumail must navigate being a comedian, dealing with tragic illness, and placating his family's desire to let them fix him up with a spouse, while contemplating and figuring out who he really is and what he truly believes.

https://www.imdb.com/title/tt5462602/?ref=fn_al_tt_1

Lögndagen, Directed by Yaghoob Keshavarz

Iranian couple Leily and Mahyar move to Sweden so that Leily can pursue her graduate degree. With the culture shock and the language barrier, Mahyar finds himself struggling to find work with his engineering background and settles for a newspaper delivery job. Leily is thriving in her studies but realizes the changes are taking a toll on their relationship. The conflict builds to a fever pitch around something seemingly trivial. Meatballs, Facebook, and misunderstandings can change the course of their relationship, but will it survive?

<https://www.imdb.com/title/tt6335582/>

2018

Transit, Directed by Christian Petzold

A man attempting to escape Nazi-occupied France falls in love with the wife of a dead author whose identity he has assumed.

https://www.imdb.com/title/tt6675244/?ref=fn_al_tt_1

Together apart, Directed by Maren Wickwire

When Guil Ann arrives on the Mediterranean island Cyprus to join her mother as domestic worker, the women reunite for the first time in over a decade. Joining the global workforce of Filipinas abroad, Carren spent most of her adult life apart from her children. Only months later, unexpected events lead to Carren's deportation and challenge both women to confront their precarious dreams for togetherness and a better future.

<https://vimeo.com/242478823?ref=fb-share>

Araf, Directed by Didem Pekün

Araf is a road movie and diary of a ghostly character, Nayia, who travels between Mostar, Sarajevo and Srebrenica. The film is guided by her diary notes, which merge with the myth of Daedalus and Icarus - Icarus being the name given to the winner of a bridge diving competition in Mostar. The story of Icarus and Daedalus is symbolic of man's over-ambition and inevitable failure. But Nayia also sees the optimism of such a leap, braveness of diving into the unknown in this era of radical instability. Araf thus traces these paradoxes - that of terror and standstill, the friction between displacement and permanence.

https://www.imdb.com/title/tt8698346/?ref=nm_knf_t1

Capernaum, Directed by Nadine Labaki

Capernaüm ("Chaos") tells the story of Zain (Zain al-Rafeea), a Lebanese boy who sues his parents for the "crime" of giving him life. The film follows Zain as he journeys from gutsy, streetwise child to hardened 12-year-old "adult" fleeing his negligent parents, surviving through his wits on the streets, where he meets Ethiopian migrant worker Rahil, who provides him with shelter and food, as Zein takes care of her baby son Yonas in return. Zein later gets jailed for committing a violent crime, and finally seeks justice in a courtroom.

https://www.imdb.com/title/tt8267604/?ref=fn_al_tt_1

It was tomorrow, Directed by Alexandra D'Onofrio

Ali, Mahmoud and Mohamed are three Egyptian men who lived in Italy without documents for almost ten years. Suddenly thanks to an amnesty they finally manage to legalise their status and their future is re-inhabited by possibilities. As part of their need to rediscover their dreams and hopes, they decide to take the journey back to the first places of arrival, where they disembarked from the boats that had brought them as teenagers to Italy after

crossing the Mediterranean. The film follows them back to the emblematic places of the past, where memories are intertwined with fantasies about what could be, or could have been, their possible new life. Collaborative documentary filmmaking is accompanied by creative narrative processes such as theatre, storytelling, photography and participatory animation.

(https://www.imdb.com/title/tt7334906/?ref=fn_al_tt_1)

Passenger, Directed by Arjang Ormani

Asef is a young Afghan refugee who left his country in search a safer life conditions. He arrived in Greece in 2016 and was moved to the refugee camps in Athens, Piraeus port and then to Eleniko. During this period, he struggles several times to cross into Western Europe. Few months later, Asef meets Arjang Omrani and after a while they decided to make a diary film about Asef's everyday life in Greece and his attempts to flee to other countries. Asef was coached by Arjang Omrani during the film process in which he was learning about ideas of filming, montage and storytelling. Using his own mobile phone Asef manages to collect his video diaries that lasted for the next eight months. While showing his surroundings, Asef gives insightful portraits of Eleniko refugee camp, Victoria park in Athens, where he goes to contact the smugglers. Also his experiences in Patra, in the abandoned wood factory where he was sheltering, and the port where he tries to hide under the trucks that are waiting to embark on ferries to go to Italy. The young Afghan refugee not only shows the foreign places of passage but also he reflects upon his motivations of getting into this journey and the constraints and difficulties he has gone through. "Why can't I have a normal life!" speaks out Asef from the rooftop of a deserted wood factory. He talks about his dreams and desires while questioning the universal injustice in people's life conditions.

(<https://www.ethnofest.gr/film/passager/>)

Unsettling, Directed by Iris Zaki

Tekoa is a trendy hippie colony for Israeli settlers on the West Bank, where none of the controversial residents want to speak to the media. From the moment director Iris Zaki arrives from Tel-Aviv to the settlement, tension fills the air. She sets up a small pop-up film studio in the middle of the small town, and stays put for over one month in order to meet the local settlers face to face. A simple intervention, which creates a complex chain of reactions from those who eventually agree to talk to her. From a woman who in the middle of an interview admits to being a fascist, to another who has survived a knife attack by a young Palestinian – and has forgiven him. "Unsettling" is made by Iris Zaki alone as a social experiment that highlights the contrasts and contradictions of the settlers' self-perception, but which does so in something as rare as an active conversation with them. A conceptual ploy that places Zaki's film in the field between artistic practice and political activism, and which reaches beyond blind criticism.

(https://www.imdb.com/title/tt8507344/?ref=fn_al_tt_1)

Ston metro, Great Dance at Vlasti-Kozai, Directed by Silas Michalakas

In the middle of August Vlatsiotes from everywhere gather to their place of origin and set up the Great Dance in the meadows. A meeting that connects the memory of the community with the present bonds of its members and signifies their own annual circle.

(<https://www.ethnofest.gr/film/στον-μέτρο-τρανός-χορός-στη-βλάστη-κ/>)

Central Airport THF, Directed by Karim Ainouz

Berlin's Tempelhof Airport was opened in 1923 and, under Adolf Hitler, extended to become the world's largest airport which was finally closed in 2008. But even today Tempelhof Airport remains a place of arrivals and departures being used simultaneously as a refugee shelter and a leisure park for the inhabitants of Berlin. A historically unique moment for a

portrait of this city within a city, but also of a European society in a state of emergency, caught between crisis and utopia.

(https://www.imdb.com/title/tt7037544/?ref=fn_al_tt_1)

Not just football, Directed by Paolo Casalis

<http://www.notjustfootball.org>

STYX, Directed by Wolfgang Fischer

"Styx" depicts the transformation of a strong woman torn from her contented world during a sailing trip. When she becomes the only person to come to the aid of a group of refugees shipwrecked on the high seas, she is shown the limits of her importance and of the empathy of her cultural milieu. She is left slipping impotently from one nightmare to the next, and by the end she is forced to recognize that there is no way to counter the cruelties of real life. Only chance can save her.

(https://www.imdb.com/title/tt5942864/?ref=fn_al_tt_1)

And Breathe Normally, Directed by Isold Uggadottir

Two women's lives will intersect while trapped in circumstances unforeseen. Between a struggling Icelandic mother and an asylum seeker from Guinea-Bissau, a delicate bond will form as both strategize to get their lives back on track.

(https://www.imdb.com/title/tt6776106/?ref=fn_al_tt_1)

Gurs, History and Memory, Directed by Veronica Saenz Gimenez

Gurs is more than a place. Gurs was a refugee camp constructed to house Spanish Republicans, a camp which was soon converted into a prison camp. Touching document of oral history, recognition to whom suffered the brutality and a wake up call to the present.

(<https://www.imdb.com/title/tt8417750/>)

Parçalar, Director: Rojda Akbayır

The documentary Fragments is the story of a journey that the director took in order to piece together her personal history, to confront her family, and settle old scores with her father. The documentary examines the notions of family, immigration, and confrontation. In this emotional journey, the director faces not only her own past but also the recent history of Turkey.

(https://www.imdb.com/title/tt9449826/?ref=nm_knf_t1)

I am Rohingya: A Genocide in Four Acts, Directed by Yusuf Zine

I Am Rohingya: A Genocide in Four Acts is a powerful documentary that chronicles the journey of fourteen Rohingya youth who take to the stage in order to depict their families' harrowing escape from Burma. With no prior acting experience, the decision to re-enact the stories of their people becomes a courageous act of resistance, demonstrating to the world that they will not be erased, and they will not be silenced.

(<https://www.iamrohingyafilm.com/about>)

Matangi/Maya / M.I.A, Directed by Steve Loveridge

Drawn from a never-before-seen cache of personal footage spanning decades, this is an intimate portrait of the Sri Lankan artist and musician who continues to shatter conventions.

(https://www.imdb.com/title/tt3041550/?ref=fn_al_tt_1)

The Guest Aleppo to Istanbul, Directed by Andaç Haznedaroğlu

Eight-year old girl Lena who has lost her family members in a war wends her way with her little sister and their neighbour Meryem and other immigrants.

(https://www.imdb.com/title/tt5554314/?ref=fn_al_tt_1)

Seeds of All Things, Directed by Yehuda Sharim

Amid the backdrop of a contentious presidential election, a health clinic in Southwest Houston is run by and for immigrants and refugees. A family from Iran is bound by love as they build a new home in the city's most diverse neighborhood.

(https://www.imdb.com/title/tt8545232/?ref=fn_al_tt_1)

TV Series**Roots (1977)**

A saga of African-American life, based on Alex Haley's family history. Kunta Kinte is abducted from his African village, sold into slavery, and taken to America. He makes several escape attempts until he is finally caught and maimed. He marries Bell, his plantation's cook, and they have a daughter, Kizzy, who is eventually sold away from them. Kizzy has a son by her new master, and the boy grows up to become Chicken George. He's a legendary cock fighter who leads his family into freedom. Throughout the series, the family observes notable events in U.S. history, such as the Revolutionary and Civil Wars, slave uprisings, and emancipation.

The Mansions of America (1981)

Epic miniseries about a proud Irish farmer who migrates to America, tired of English repression and the Great Famine. He works hard and even meets the Englishwoman he once loved. The couple reunites. Then the American Civil War breaks out.

Bordertown (1989–1991)

The adventures of the inhabitants of a western town that straddles the Canadian-American border.

(https://www.imdb.com/title/tt0096551/?ref=ttls_li_tt)

I Married Dora (1987–1988)

A widowed white collar professional marries his Hispanic housekeeper so she will not be deported. They had to do everything to keep everyone from discovering the truth.

(https://www.imdb.com/title/tt0092377/?ref=fn_al_tt_1)

What a country (1986–1987)

26 episodes of this syndicated show were produced in 1986 to 1987 debuting in September 1986. Taylor Brown teaches a night school course to recent immigrants trying to pass the citizenship test. The class consists of Nikolai, a Russian taxi driver; Laslo, a retired Hungarian doctor; Ali, a Pakistani; Robert the son of a deposed African king; Maria, the housekeeper working for a rich Beverly Hills family; Victor, a Hispanic in love with maria; and Yung Hi, a shy Chinese woman. Joan Courtney was the principal of the school in the first year but was replaced by Bud McPherson early in 1987.

(https://www.imdb.com/title/tt0090543/?ref=ttls_li_tt)

Borderline (2015–)

The leader of the Diaz cartel goes missing, his troubled son Jerry takes charge and as he changes the way his father did business a DEA agent works to bring down the cartel not knowing what he got himself into.

https://www.imdb.com/title/tt3314242/?ref=ttls_li_tt

The Mysterious Immigrant (2019 -)

Latino Americans (2013-)

Chronicles the rich and varied history and experiences of Latinos, who have helped shape the United States over the last 500-plus years and have become, with more than 50 million people, the largest minority group in the U.S.

https://www.imdb.com/title/tt2631534/?ref=fn_al_tt_1

The Border (2008-2010)

This TV series is a fast-paced, hard-driving series set in Toronto in a paranoid post 9/11 world concerned with one topic - The Border, with its security crises, terrorist infiltrations, cross-border police actions, and trafficking in everything from enriched uranium to abducted children.

https://www.imdb.com/title/tt0896527/?ref=fn_al_tt_2

Make Bradford British (2012 -)

Also:

Global Migration Film Festival by International Organization for Migration:

<https://www.iom.int/global-migration-film-festival>

<http://www.migrantcinema.net/films/>