

PROJECT SELECTION 2026

The East-West co-production market connecting cottbus is shaping up for edition number 28, presenting a predominantly female-led line-up.

Running from 4-6 November 2026 during FilmFestival Cottbus, connecting cottbus (coco) readies its upcoming event with a selection of projects from the wider Eastern Europe, chosen out of a record high number of promising submissions. We are especially proud that 63 percent of the line-up is helmed by female directors.

The projects in our 2026 line-up originate from 17 countries. The cocoPITCH selection (projects in development) offers debut films alongside new work by established filmmakers like Andrei Cretulescu, Agnieszka Zwiefka and Onur Saylak. Crime comedy, melancholic horror, magical realism, coming-of-age no matter how old you are - the selection offers a variety of tones and genres, as well as encounters with train-hoppers, the Virgin Mary and a truck-load of tortoises.

Our cocoWIP selection of works in progress features brand-new projects in post-production, featuring lovers in the apocalypse, MMA fighters, a dominatrix freezing her eggs, and female kinship in various forms and guises.

All selected filmmakers take part in our cocoLAB in-depth feedback sessions with industry experts and their projects compete for a variety of awards, while all participants can join networking events and a framework programme on current co-production topics. Since coco's inception in 1999, well over half of the projects presented have been completed, with almost 70 percent of those premiering at an A-list festival and achieving international distribution.

Producers, sales agents, commissioning editors and other industry representatives active in East-West European co-production can apply to attend without a project until 6 October.

CONTACT

info@connecting-cottbus.de | www.connecting-cottbus.de
press: presse@connecting-cottbus.de

[linkedin.com/company/connecting-cottbus](https://www.linkedin.com/company/connecting-cottbus) | [fb.com/connectingcottbus](https://www.facebook.com/connectingcottbus) | [instagram.com/connectingcottbus](https://www.instagram.com/connectingcottbus)



cocoPITCH Projects 2026:

ADEM AND THE OTHERS | Türkiye | dir: Onur Saylak
prod: Kerem Çatay, Ay Yapım | Nadir Öperli & İrem Akbal, Liman Film

AVENTURA | Romania | dir: Andrei Cretulescu
prod: Carmen Rizac, Avanpost Media | Codruta Cretulescu, Kinosseur Productions

CARGO TO THE SOUTH | Croatia | dir: Veno Mušinić
prod: Aleksandar Arsovski, Wolfgang & Dolly

NO PLACE FOR ME IN HEAVEN | Czech Republic | dir: Viktorie Novotná
prod: Lara Stoilova & Eva Váchová, Bratři

PURPLE SUN | Kazakhstan | dir: Dana Alimjanova
prod: Aruzhan Dossymkozha, Art East Films & Julia Kim-von Den Driesch

MIDPOINT coco Award
REMINISCENCE | Ukraine | dir: Anastasiia Tykha
prod: Darya Bassel, Moon Man

SOMETHING WILD | Hungary/Ireland | dir: Zsuzsanna Konrad
prod: Patricia D'Intino, Good Kids | Maya Korn, MHK Productions |
Lili Horvát & Dóra Csernátony, Poste Restante

SVETLANA | Estonia | dir: Vera Pirogova
prod: Evelin Penttilä & Kristen Aigro, Stellar Film

TERESA | Poland | dir: Jan Bujnowski
prod: Marcin Malatynski, Studio Filmowe Indeks

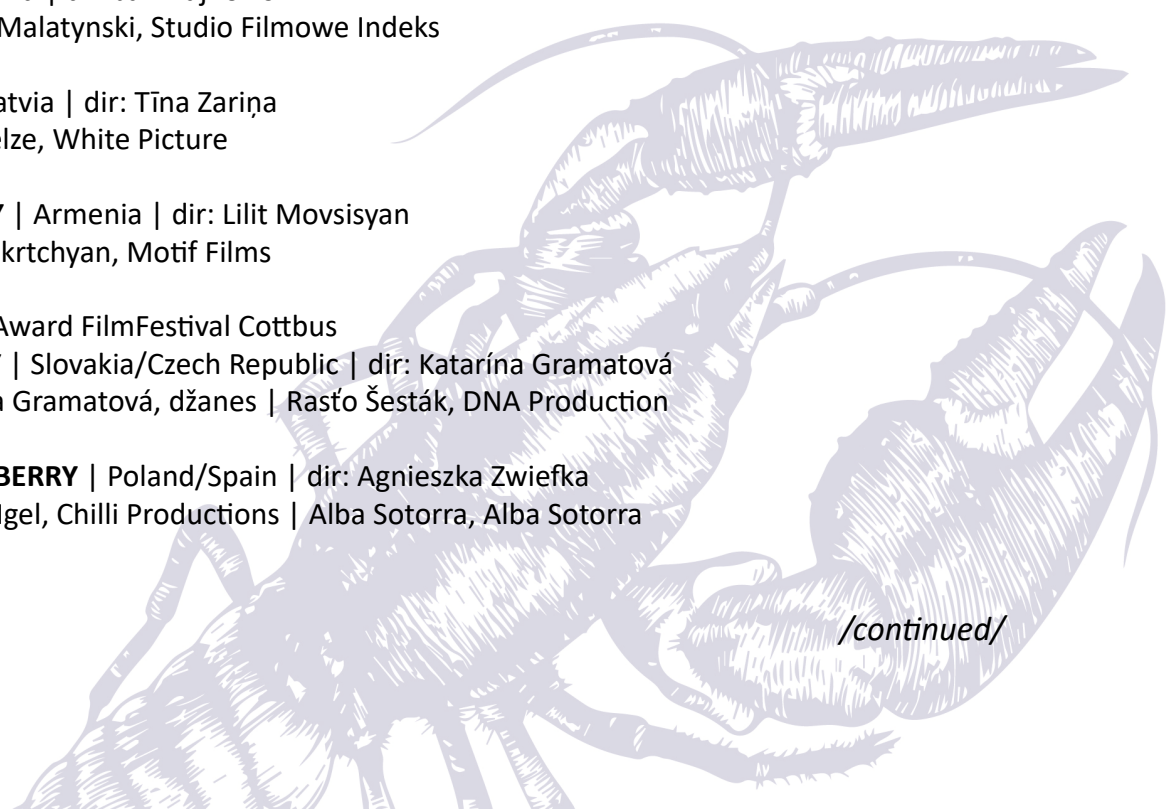
TONGUES | Latvia | dir: Tīna Zariņa
prod: Alise Gelze, White Picture

VIRGIN MARY | Armenia | dir: Lilit Movsisyan
prod: Inesa Mkrtchyan, Motif Films

Special Pitch Award FilmFestival Cottbus
WHITE GYPSY | Slovakia/Czech Republic | dir: Katarína Gramatová
prod: Katarína Gramatová, džanes | Rasťo Šesták, DNA Production

WILD GOOSEBERRY | Poland/Spain | dir: Agnieszka Zwiefka
prod: Izabela Igel, Chilli Productions | Alba Sotorra, Alba Sotorra

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cocoWIP Projects 2026:

HORSES | Slovenia | dir: Jernej Kastelec
prod: Ida Weiss, Bela Film

INTEREST | Slovakia/Czech Republic | dir: Hana Hančinová
prod: Katarína Tomková & Ivan Ostrochovský, escadra |
Tomáš Michálek & Martina Netíková, Cinémotif Films

MADAM | Czech Republic | dir: Barbora Chalupova
prod: Eva Rejc & Pavla Klimesova, Helium Film

PIVOT | Türkiye/Greece | dir: Melisa Önel
prod: Alara Hamamcioğlu Bayraktar, Vigo Film | Konstantina Stavrianou & Rena
Vougioukalou, Graal

SWITCHED STANCE | Hungary | dir: Dániel Füzes
prod: Ádám Farkas & Zoltán Mártonffy, CineSuper | Marcell Szy, Forcodes

THIS IS IT, THE APOCALYPSE | Türkiye/France | dir: Balahan Gürel
prod: Okan Üzey, Kalavara Film | Solal Coutard, Collective Cinema | Aysun Karaman,
Rename Media

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