Internationale Filmfestspiele Berlin

Die Blutgräfin (*The Blood Countess*)
by Ulrike Ottinger | with Isabelle Huppert, Birgit Minichmayr, Thomas Schubert, Lars Eidinger, André Jung
Austria / Luxembourg / Germany 2026
Berlinale Special Gala | World premiere | German audio description offered
The Blood Countess and her maid embark on a quest for the red elixir of life and a book that threatens the vampire realm. Hot on their heels are a police inspector, two vampirologists, a vegetarian nephew and his therapist.

Good Luck, Have Fun, Don't Die
by Gore Verbinski | with Sam Rockwell, Juno Temple, Haley Lu Richardson, Zazie Beetz, Michael Peña
Germany / USA 2025
Berlinale Special Gala | European premiere | English audio description offered
A man from the future enters a diner in Los Angeles. He has to recruit exactly the right combination of people from the customers present for a nighttime mission to save the world.

Heysel 85
by Teodora Ana Mihai | with Violet Braeckman, Matteo Simoni, Josse De Pauw, Fabrizio Rongione, Paolo Calabresi
Belgium / Netherlands / Germany 2026
Berlinale Special Gala | World premiere
When violence erupts before the 1985 European Cup Final at Brussels' Heysel Stadium, killing 39 people, the mayor's daughter and a journalist are drawn into the heart of the tragedy, caught between professional duty, family loyalty and moral responsibility.

House of Yang
by Stefanie Ren (Creator, Showrunner), Mia Spengler (Director) | with Elisa Hofmann, Purnima Grätz, Andrea Guo, Emma Bading, Vladimir Burlakov
Germany 2026
Berlinale Special Series | World premiere | German audio description offered | Series
In 1949, a girl disappears from an isolated house in the Black Forest. Fifty years later, another girl disappears. Now, in the present, the ghosts of the past step out of the shadows once more in this six-part mystery series.

La casa de los espíritus (*The House of the Spirits*)
by Francisca Alegría (Showrunner, Director), Fernanda Urrejola (Showrunner), Andrés Wood (Showrunner, Director) | with Alfonso Herrera, Dolores Fonzi, Nicole Wallace, Fernanda Castillo, Antonia Zegers
Chile 2026
Berlinale Special Series | World premiere | Series
Based on Isabel Allende's book, "The House of the Spirits", the series follows three generations of the revolutionary and resilient Trueba women through a remote and conservative South American nation of upheaval, disaster and magic.

Lord of the Flies
by Marc Munden (Director) | with Winston Sawyers, Lox Pratt, David McKenna, Ike Talbut
United Kingdom 2026
Berlinale Special Series | European premiere | Series
Innocence descends into savagery when a group of English schoolboys become desert island castaways in the first television adaptation of William Golding's landmark dystopian classic.

Mint
by Charlotte Regan (Creator, Director) | with Emma Laird, Ben Coyle-Larner, Sam Riley, Laura Fraser, Lindsay Duncan
United Kingdom 2026
Berlinale Special Series | World premiere | Series
A love story about a crime family. And not your usual gangster series – no shootouts or drug deals. Instead, the story is told through the eyes (and the imagination) of the family's daughter, who is desperately searching for love.

Monster Pabrik Rambut (*Sleep No More*)
by Edwin | with Rachel Amanda, Lutesha, Iqbaal Ramadhan, Didik Nini Thowok, Sal Priadi
Indonesia / Singapore / Japan / Germany / France 2026
Berlinale Special Midnight | World premiere
The world is forcing humans into excessive work. For the sake of the future and their loved ones, they sacrifice sleep to keep on working. It is at this moment that a dark figure appears and takes possession of their bodies.

No Good Men
by Shahrbanoo Sadat | with Shahrbanoo Sadat, Anwar Hashimi, Liam Hussaini, Yasin Negah, Torkan Omari
Germany / France / Norway / Denmark / Afghanistan 2026
Berlinale Special Gala | World premiere | Berlinale Opening Film
Naru, the only camerawoman at Kabul TV, is convinced there are no good men in Afghanistan. But when a reporter takes her on an assignment just before the Taliban's return, sparks fly between them – and she begins to question this belief.

Ravalear (*Ravalear: Not For Sale*)
by Pol Rodríguez (Creator, Director), Isaki Lacuesta (Director) | with Enric Auquer Sardà, María Rodríguez Soto, Sergi López, Quim Ávila, Francesc Orella
Spain 2026
Berlinale Special Series | World premiere | Series
In Barcelona's El Raval neighbourhood, the family-run restaurant "Can Mosques" faces eviction after an investment fund buys the building. The family's fight to survive escalates, pushing them to cross any and all boundaries.

Saccharine
by Natalie Erika James | with Midori Francis, Danielle Macdonald, Madeleine Madden, Robert Taylor, Showko Showfukutei
Australia 2025
Berlinale Special Midnight | European premiere
Hana, a lovelorn medical student, becomes terrorised by a sinister force after taking part in an obscure weight-loss craze: eating human ashes.

The Ballad of Judas Priest
by Sam Dunn, Tom Morello | with Rob Halford, K.K. Downing, Glenn Tipton, Ian Hill, Scott Travis
USA 2026
Berlinale Special Midnight | World premiere | Documentary form
The Ballad of Judas Priest follows heavy metal pioneers Judas Priest and their half-century journey from working-class origins in England to their recent induction into the Rock & Roll Hall of Fame.

The Only Living Pickpocket in New York
by Noah Segan | with John Turturro, Steve Buscemi, Giancarlo Esposito, Will Price, Tatiana Maslany
USA 2026
Berlinale Special Gala | International premiere
Harry is an ageing pickpocket struggling in a changed New York City. When he unwittingly steals a valuable USB stick, he finds himself in a race against time to return the loot or face the rage of a vengeful crime family.

The Story of Documentary Film
by Mark Cousins (Director)
United Kingdom 2026
Berlinale Special Series | Documentary form | European premiere (episode 1) | World premiere (episodes 2-4) | Series
From Mark Cousins (*The Story of Film*) comes a definitive history of documentary: tracing the evolution of the genre across time, encompassing landmark works and hidden treasures, while revealing how the form has helped us to see and make sense of our world.

The Testament of Ann Lee
by Mona Fastvold | with Amanda Seyfried, Lewis Pullman, Thomasin McKenzie, Matthew Beard, Christopher Abbott
USA / United Kingdom 2025
Berlinale Special Gala | German premiere
The extraordinary true legend of Ann Lee, founder of the Shakers, who preached gender and social equality. Revered by her followers, her rapturous quest to build a utopia comes to life through song and movement.

The Weight
by Padraic McKinley | with Ethan Hawke, Russell Crowe, Julia Jones, Austin Amelio, Avi Nash
Germany / USA 2026
Berlinale Special Gala | European premiere | Debut film
Oregon, 1933. Samuel Murphy is torn from his daughter and sent to a brutal work camp. Warden Clancy tempts him with early release if he smuggles gold through the deadly wilderness. How far will Murphy go to see his child again?

TUTU
by Sam Pollard
United Kingdom 2026
Berlinale Special Presentation | World premiere | Documentary form
Through never-before-seen archival footage and first-hand accounts of those who knew him best, the film traces Archbishop Desmond Tutu's rise as the voice of the oppressed, guided by faith, hope and an understanding of the power of forgiveness.

Un hijo propio (*A Child of My Own*)
by Maite Alberdi | with Ana Celeste, Armando Espitia, Ángeles Cruz, Mayra Sérbulo Cortés, Luisa Guzmán
Mexico 2026
Berlinale Special Presentation | World premiere | Documentary form
The profound desire to become a mother and pressure from her surroundings drive Alejandra to fake a pregnancy. What begins as a simple lie turns into a complex charade and unleashes a media scandal that makes it impossible for her to continue the pretence.

WAX & GOLD
by Ruth Beckermann
Austria / Italy 2026
Berlinale Special Presentation | World premiere | Documentary form
Opened at the end of the 1960s by Emperor Haile Selassie, Hilton Addis Ababa stands today as a grand hotel, much like any other. From this vantage point, Ruth Beckermann explores Ethiopia’s past and present, interweaving fact and fiction.

Who Killed Alex Odeh?
by Jason Osder, William Lafi Youmans
USA 2026
Berlinale Special Presentation | International premiere | Documentary form
The assassination of a beloved Palestinian American activist in Southern California ignites a 40-year quest for justice that uncovers the roots of a dangerous political movement that still thrives today.