



<https://filmfreeway.com/VegArtAct>

The Vegan Film Festival VegArtAct is an international film festival in Athens, Greece, organised annually by the VegArtAct team of the FemArtAct social cooperative, around the World Vegan Day, on November 1st.

Our mission is to promote vegan filmmaking and veganism, to join cinema with activism in support of animal rights and in solidarity with the global animal liberation movement.

Our vision is a better world for all living beings.

Join us in advocating for veganism and animal liberation worldwide!

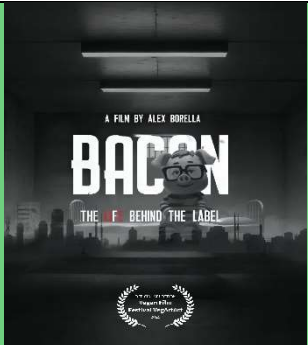
J U R Y

Alexia Tsouni	Eri Skyrgianni	Nikoletta Bitouni
Festival Director and Vegan Activist. Co-founder of the FemArtAct social cooperative. Film Director. Hydrologist Civil Engineer & Water Resources MSc at the National Technical University of Athens.	Artist and Vegan Activist. Fine Arts at the Aristotle University of Thessaloniki. Fine Art Photography at the Department of Photography and Audiovisual Arts at the University of West Attica.	Vegan Activist. Founder of the Vegan Farm in Athens, rescuing animals from fires, floods, and illegal farms since 2022. School of Law at the National and Kapodistrian University of Athens.
		

P R O G R A M M E

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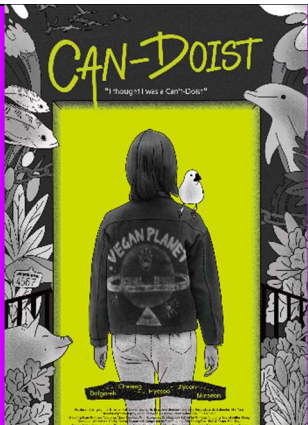
1	BACON (2025)			SHORT Animation	
	Alex Borella		Australia		2:41
BACON – The Life Behind the Label is a thought-provoking animated short film that draws a striking parallel between human imprisonment and the lives of animals trapped inside factory farms. Using bold imagery, the film asks viewers to question the unseen suffering behind everyday products. It challenges audiences to see beyond the label and imagine a more compassionate world.					
2	EMPATH 0.1 (2024)			SHORT	
	Caner Uygur Yildiz		Turkey		2:55
"What is it like to be a non-human animal? Exploring this question, we go on a journey through the eyes of animals. This experimental short film with utopian elements aims to portray an experience of building reality as a result of encounters, intersections, and interactions between human and non-human animals."					
3	EX-TRACT (2025)			SHORT Animation	
	Marcel Barelli		Switzerland		3:04
"When I was a child, I didn't know I was living during a mass extinction." Marcel Barelli Inspired by cine-tracts from the 1960s and animated with water, Ex-tract is a reflection on our memory and the ongoing extinction.					





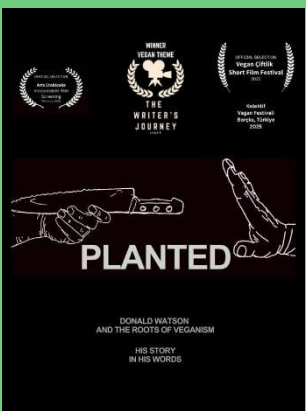


4	CANDO-IST (2025)			FEATURE	
	Yunjeong Park Lee		South Korea		1:19:25
"I thought I was an can'tdo-ist." This documentary follows vegan animal rights activists who have led the Korean animal rights movement for the past decade. Beyond advocating for pets, they fight for the rights of farmed and captive animals, striving for a world where all beings coexist. From rescuing pigs and dolphins to challenging the system, they have built a movement.					



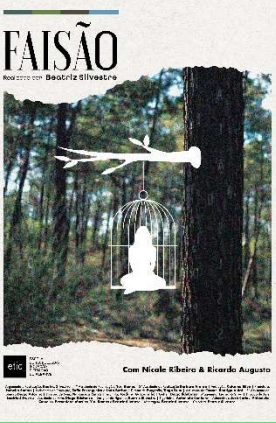
19:40 - 19:50 SHORT BREAK

5	CHICKEN WARDROBE (2025)			SHORT		
	Simon Dickel		Germany		5:23	
Anne designs clothes for chickens in need.						
6	SPLITTED ROCK (2025)			SHORT		
	Salim Ensafi		Iran		13:33	
A teenage shepherd boy named Reza plans to sacrifice his favorite sheep, Barfi, inside a rock crevice so that he can achieve his only wish, which is to get his grandmother well. However, this situation is very difficult for him and hinders his work because he is very dependent on Barfi, his sheep.						
7	THE NATURE GIRL (2024)			SHORT		
	Paul Charisse Quinton Luccas Matteo Maximilian		USA		9:33	
The Nature Girl is a story of a brave and courageous young Girl, abandoned by her parents at an early age, who ends up living on the streets in urban chaos. Her spirit is tested as she saves lost and injured animals with acts of heartfelt kindness to brazen rescues. She risks it all to save those that may be harmed. The Nature Girl is a story of purpose, compassion and a deep connection to the sacredness of Nature and its fragile animal life during a time of climate crisis.						
8	HERACLITUS CREOLE (2024)			SHORT		
	Luis Montero		Cuba		15:52	
"The Sierra can only be appreciated as a whole". Thus begins Heráclito criollo, a reflection on the ways of inhabiting what man understands as "the natural". He questions the imposition of human temporality on the different temporalities of animals and plants, questioning the existence of the forest as a whole. And how this imposition leads to human uprooting and animal exploitation.						

9	PLANTED - DONALD WATSON AND THE ROOTS OF VEGANISM (2025)			SHORT Animation	
	Francesco Bori		Canada UK		13:21
Donald Watson died 20 years ago. This touching short animation, for the first time in history, exposes the fascinating origins story of the Englishman who started the vegan movement and planted seeds of ethics in us all.					

10	I'M TRYING (2025)			FEATURETTE	
	Raymond Cruzzola		Canada		33:32
I'm Trying is a powerful portrait of Regan Russell — an animal rights activist killed in 2020 during a peaceful protest outside a slaughterhouse — and the ongoing fight for justice she inspired. Told through intimate interviews with her parents and closest friends, the film reveals who Regan was beyond the headlines: a model, a mentor, a lifelong defender of animals, and a deeply compassionate force in the lives of those around her. As her best friend Katherine puts it, "Everyone needs a Regan in their life." While the driver who struck and killed Regan was fined just \$2,000, her father reflects: "Instead of justice for Regan, I think we're going to see justice by Regan." The film follows activists carrying on her work through the Plant-Based Treaty campaign — a global effort not only to end animal exploitation, but to reduce the devastating impact animal agriculture has on the planet. By pushing for institutional menu changes in hospitals, schools, workplaces, and public services, they show how every meal can be an act of resistance and restoration. At its core, I'm Trying is about grief, love, and the enduring power of one person's will to make the world more just — and how we can all keep trying.					    

2 1 : 2 0 - 2 1 : 3 0 S H O R T B R E A K

11	PHEASANT (2024)			SHORT Student	
	Beatriz Martins Silvestre		Portugal		5:49
"Pheasant" is a metaphor that relates the female figure to the life predestined for a pheasant, a bird coveted by hunters for its exotic appearance. The narrative reveals an allegory of the abuse suffered by many women around the world. An injustice that continues to be perpetrated throughout the centuries, represented by a species of bird that also endures a life of exploitation and mistreatment.					
					
12	VEGAN ALCHEMIST (2025) – Premiere!			SHORT Student	
	Eugenia Maragou		Greece		13:45
Vegan “alchemist”, former drug addict, member of a collective vegan restaurant, personal trainer, or just Zannis. The camera follows his path in everyday activities, trying to explore how he sees life today and what it means to be vegan... And that's how a Master's dissertation in Cultural and Cinema studies becomes an observational documentary.					
					
13	BLOODY THURSDAY (2025) – Premiere!			SHORT	
	Evangelos Vlachakis		Greece		4:41
Once upon a time, in the previous millennium, there was a very cruel custom on planet Earth, in a country called Hellas. Once a year, always on a Thursday, the bipedal beings of the human species massively slaughtered, roasted over a fire, and voraciously ate other beings of the animal species, mainly quadrupeds, but also bipeds. But back in the distant 2025, on that Thursday, February 20, something happened that had never happened before.					
					

14	FOR THE LIVES OF OTHERS (2024)			FEATURE	
	Yama Rauff		Afghanistan Denmark Iceland		1:20:00
In a country that prides itself on democracy, a group of peaceful activists, known for chalking messages and holding signs, faces a terrifying escalation: repression so severe that their right to speak freely becomes their last, desperate stand.					
					

2 3 : 1 5 - 2 3 : 4 5 A W A R D S C E R E M O N Y

1) Best Feature Film VegArtAct 2025

Awarded by Alexia Tsouni, Jury member,
President of the FemArtAct social cooperative

2) Best Featurette Film VegArtAct 2025

Awarded by Alexandra Stergiou
Actress & Vegan Activist

3) Best Short Film VegArtAct 2025

Awarded by Kostas Gonianakis,
Member of the Board of Directors
of Vegan Life NGO

4) Best Student Film VegArtAct 2025

Awarded by Eri Skyrgianni, Jury member,
Artist & Vegan Activist

5) Best Greek Film VegArtAct 2025

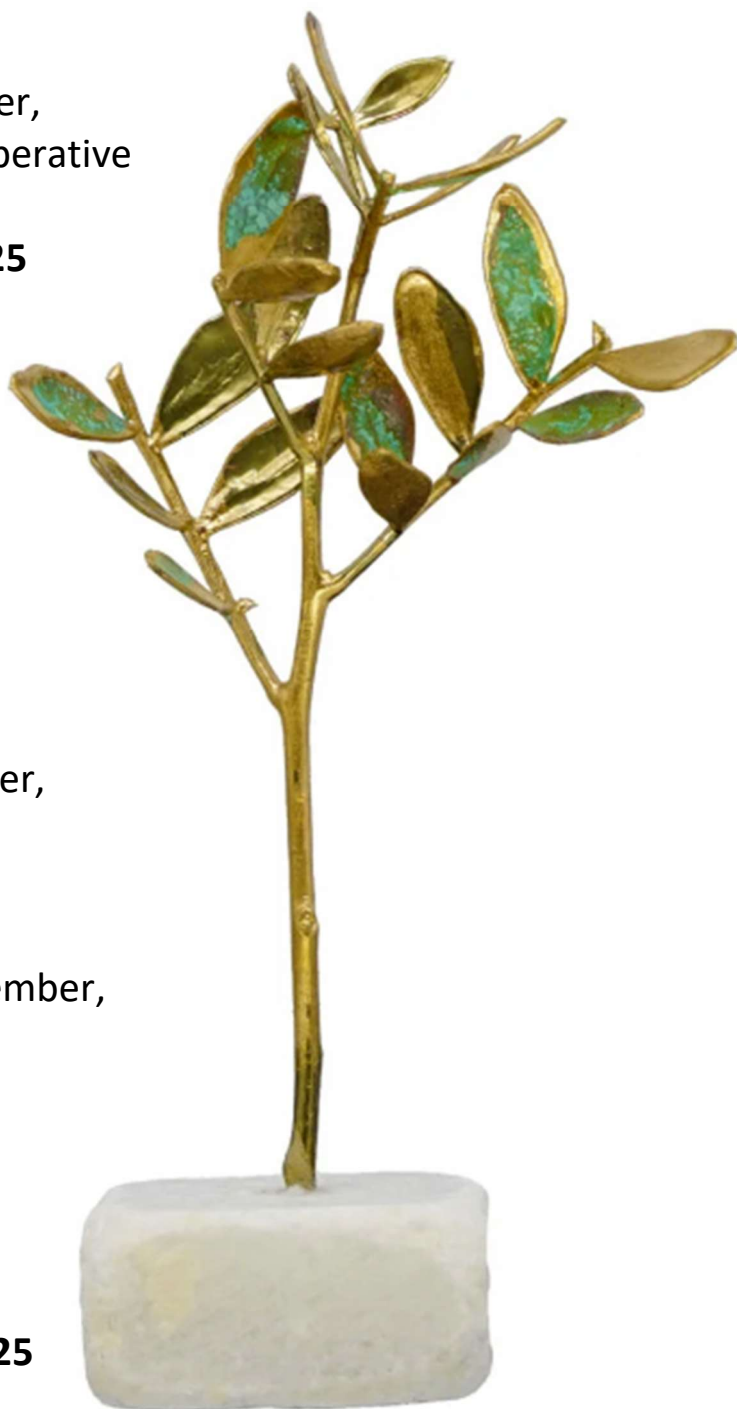
Awarded by Nikoletta Bitouni, Jury member,
Founder of the Vegan Farm in Athens

6) Audience Award VegArtAct 2025

Awarded by Georgia Angelopoulou,
Vegan Activist

7) Honorable Mentions VegArtAct 2025

Awarded by Anastasia Vaitopoulou,
Vegan Journalist & Manos Englezos, Vegan Chef



S P E C I A L T H A N K S

Vegan Çiftlik Short Film Festival, Foça, İzmir, Turkey
International Vegan Film Festival, Toronto, Canada