

THE MOVIES

[The Merger](#) (Mark Grentell) -100 mins



Summary: A former star footballer turned community outcast is persuaded to coach the struggling, local footy team in his small town in Australia. He recruits refugees to revive the team with hilarious results, and ultimately takes his community on a journey of change. Hysterical and deeply moving, this film brings loveable characters and levity to a complex issue.

[Mohamed, the first name](#) (Zairi Malika) – 14 mins



Summary: Mohamed is the most popular name in the world, but it is not always an easy one to carry. For eight - year - old Mohamed, who lives in France, this name poses challenges which have led him to sometimes resent it. Funny and delicate, Mohamed, the First Name explores the stereotypes and biases of Western societies with insight and humour. By looking through the eyes of several different Mohameds, and the reality of their daily lives, the film reveals something of what it means to be a Muslim migrant in today's Europe.

[Salaam B'y](#) (Amar Wala) 20 mins



Summary: Aatif Baskanderi is a Muslim, and he grew up in the remote town of Clarendville, in Newfoundland, Canada. When people hear he was raised as a Muslim in a small Christian community, they often assume he faced racism and discrimination. But Aatif's life was all the contrary. Determined to share his story of love and inclusion, Aatif describes a place that embraced him for who he was, and empowered him to become the man he is today: a proud Muslim Newfoundlander.

[Unbroken paradise](#) (Juan David Romero)- 15 mins



Summary: Unbroken Paradise tells the story of a Syrian refugee of Kurdish descent who fled the civil war in Syria to build his future as an architect in France. The documentary captures the hardships and challenges he has faced, first as a Kurdish minority in Syria and subsequently on his passage through Europe and his integration into France. Unbroken Paradise frames the life of Ramman Ismael, not as one defined by migration, but by his aspirations and humanity.

[Bushfallers](#) (Nils Benjamin Keding)



Summary: In Bushfallers, four young filmmakers embark on a journey to answer a seemingly simple question: Why do Africans choose to migrate to Europe? Guided by the voices of those who left, those who stayed, and those who returned, the directors delve into the aspirations, dreams and realities of the Cameroonian diaspora. The film's strength comes from allowing migrants to tell their own stories, revealing the deep complexities that lie behind the decision to leave, and humanizing all involved.