

Leeds INDIs Film Festival 2023 - Officer Comments



| Title | Synopsis provided by the Applicant | Applicant's Recommended Rating | Licensing Officer Comments |
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| Moja Vesna | After her mother's sudden death, ten-year-old Moja becomes the unexpected grown-up of her fragmented family, trying to bring her troubled older sister Vesna and distant father together. | PG | <p>Several uses of bad language in short period at 16:07.</p> <p>Use of bad language at 25:53.</p> <p>Short scene of attempted self-harm at 41:40.</p> <p>Use of strong bad language at 50:51, 56:05, 56:30, 59:53</p> <p>Frequent use of bad language throughout the feature with several instances of strong bad language. Officers feel that a 12/12A or 15 rating would be more appropriate.</p> |
| The Land of Sacha | 18-year-old school graduate Sasha is indecisive to choose painting as his profession. He does not want to let down his mother, who wants him to make a safe career choice. The meeting with his father, whom Sasha never knew, complicates things even more. But when Sasha meets an unusual girl Zhenia, he has no other choice but to grow up. | PG | <p>An instance of moderate bad language at 50:44 and another one at 51:01.</p> <p>Use of strong bad language at 53:42 and 1:01:10.</p> <p>Brief and discreetly portrayed sex scene at 1:10:44.</p> <p>Given the above, officers feel that a 12/12A or 15 rating would be more appropriate.</p> |
| Balaban | Stealing a prized falcon to help fund their dream of moving to Paris, two Kazakh teenagers come of age as they embark on a journey of liberation. | 15 | <p>Members' attention is drawn to a sustained scene starting at 1:00:16, which involves threat and violence, and a scene at 1:10:09 which involves the main characters fighting.</p> <p>At 1:17:27 the main character contemplates self-harm.</p> <p>Short but strong scenes of violence at 1:26:14 and 1:32:32.</p> |

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| | | | Officers feel that the scenes mentioned could be considered in keeping with BBFC classification guidelines for a 15 certificate. |
| Before I Change My Mind | 1987: While the other students wonder if new kid Robin is a boy or a girl, Robin forges a complicated bond with the school bully, making increasingly dangerous choices to fit in. | 15 | A strong theme of bullying throughout the feature, with brief scenes of violence. Two instances viewed of underage drinking. The content is in keeping with the promoter's suggested 15 rating when considered in accordance with the BBFC classification guidelines. |
| Cherry | Cherry, a driftless young woman discovers she is ten weeks pregnant and has only 24 hours to make a consequential decision. | 15 | No concerns with the applicant's recommended rating. |
| Shabu | Shooting the breeze, Shabu (14) hangs around the Peperklip, a striking residential complex in Rotterdam's Feijenoord neighbourhood. This Rotterdammer with Surinamese roots knows everyone here, and thinks he's already a star. | PG | An instance of strong bad language at 18:26. An instance of strong bad language at 20:44, followed by an elevator floor covered in what appears to be blood. Due to the above, officer feel a 12/12A would be more appropriate given the BBFC classification guidelines in relation to language. |
| Kind Hearts | The entrancing love story of Billie and Lucas, a young Brussels couple. The film paints a candid portrait of the formative but also uncertain facets of every (first) love. | 15 | Occasional use of strong bad language. No concerns with the promoter's recommended 15 rating. |
| Full of Grace | Sister Marina, a very unorthodox nun, is sent during the summer of 1994 to El Parral, a boarding school for boys threatened to be closed soon. Even though the kids welcome Marina with all kinds of pranks, they will, little by little, become something very close to the family they never had. | 12A | Screeener expired and replacement link unavailable. |

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| Sonne | In a moment of ordinary madness, three girlfriends decide to shoot a burqa music video. | 15 | <p>At 29:29 graphic scenes which appear to be a media video of an animal (pig) being killed.</p> <p>Few instances of strong bad language.</p> <p>Members are advised to view the scene at 29:29 in accordance with the BBFC classification guidelines on violence, which read as follows:</p> <p><i>Violence may be strong but should not dwell on the infliction of pain or injury. The strongest gory images are unlikely to be acceptable. Strong sadistic violence is also unlikely to be acceptable.</i></p> |
| Spare Keys | Seeking to escape the chaotic atmosphere of her family, Sophie, 14, introduces herself to Jade's, a friend who's gone on vacation for the summer. But in the beautiful and vast apartment she thought deserted for all July, she runs into Stephane, 22, the older brother of her friend. Stéphane shows understanding, and to the extent that it does not bother him, authorises her to return to take refuge there when she wants... | 12A | <p>A mother is aggressive towards her son at 1:04, including hitting him on the head off camera. This could be considered moderate violence in keeping with a 12A certificate.</p> <p>Several uses of strong bad language at 11:40</p> <p>Scene of nudity, but not in a sexual context at 19:39.</p> <p>Number of instances of both moderate and strong bad language at 56:45.</p> <p>Several instances of the 15 year old main character drinking alcohol and smoking cigarettes throughout the feature.</p> <p>Officers viewing the film consider a 12A rating, as suggested by the promoter, would be appropriate.</p> |
| Talia's Journey | Talia is a 19 year old Belgian girl, with Senegalese roots, visiting her country of origin for the first time. She starts off in Dakar, in the luxurious villa of her cousin's family, hoping to meet her grandmother. But her grandmother is nowhere to be found and | PG | <p>Brief scenes of moderate violence and civil unrest at 18:50, without detail and likely justified by its context.</p> <p>Officers have no concerns with the promoter's recommended PG rating.</p> |

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| | <p>the villa quickly becomes a “golden prison”. Until she meets Malika, a mysterious bird street seller.</p> | | |
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