

SHORTO FILM MARKET

10th Anniversary | November 24th - 25th, Torino

CALL: Think Outside the Keyframe

Think Outside the Keyframe is an international co-production pitching forum for upcoming animation short films. Selected participants will have five minutes to pitch their project to an audience of film professionals. Short film projects of any animation genre are eligible to participate. Following the pitch session, participants will attend a series of one-to-one meetings with industry professionals scheduled by the ShorTO team.

Think Outside the Keyframe is exclusively dedicated to two categories of applicants: single directors or creative teams composed by a producer and a director, from any country of the world, looking for development or production support in order to realise an animated project.

A diversified panel of Decision-Makers, composed by Italian and International film industry professionals – commissioning editors, buyers, distributors, festival representatives, directors, producers, and film institutions – will be invited to attend and provide feedback to the selected projects.

ELIGIBLE APPLICANTS

Directors or Creative Teams of Director and Author who have already graduated from an animation school, holding an original project for an animated short film;

Production Companies or Creative Producers holding an original animated short film project.

DATE AND PLACE

Think Outside the Keyframe pitches and one-to-ones will take place in Torino, Italy, during ShorTO Film Market 2025, from Monday, November 24th, 2025, to Tuesday, November 25th, 2025.

The selection involves taking part in an online pitching training in November, prior to the market.

SUBMISSIONS

To take part in the selection process of *Think Outside the Keyframe* pitching forum, applicants are required to:

- Register and sign in at <https://shorto.filmchief.com>¹
- Submit a filled online entry form, accessible at this link:

<https://shorto.filmchief.com/submit-work/think-outside-the-keyframe-2025>

Short film projects of any animation genre are eligible to participate. Short film projects in the following formats are accepted: fiction, documentary, hybrid, and one-offs, as well as series pilots.

Projects must be submitted in English. Selected projects will be pitched exclusively in English.

REQUIRED MATERIALS

For all submitters:

- Project synopsis/treatment (max. 3 pages)
- Intention note (max. 1 page)
- Moodboard, layout
- Previews of Concept Art (when available)
- Short bios/profiles of relevant team members (director, writer, producer/production company, animation and talents attached, when applicable)

For production companies:

- Estimated budget and financing plan

For Directors/Creative Teams:

- Motivation letter

¹ If applicants have already been accredited to TSFM from 2017 on, their username and password remain the same, and they can be used to sign in. In case of lost credentials, these can be retrieved directly on the website.

ShorTO selection panel retains sole discretion to accept or reject any project submissions that are deemed incomplete or lacking required materials.

DEADLINES & FEES

The call opens on Wednesday, July 18th, 2025.

Regular deadline: Sunday, August 17th, 2025 at 23:59 CEST. Fee/Regular: 20,00 €

Late deadline: Wednesday, September 10th, 2025 at 23:59 CEST. Fee/Late: 35,00 €

The fee is payable at the end of the submission process via PayPal only.

NOTIFICATION & GRANTS

Applicants will receive a selection or rejection notice via email by mid-October 2025.

All participants are required to travel to Torino to attend on-site *Think Outside the Keyframe* pitch.

ShorTO will provide accommodation for 2 nights, a € 100,00 travel grant and a free accreditation to the market event to a single representative for each selected project.

In case of selection, the participation in the online pitching training and the on-site market event in November is mandatory.

AWARDS

Awards will be communicated further.

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CONTACT

For any further information, please contact info@centrodelcorto.it