

SIMA



CATALOGUE 2014



THE SIMA COLLECTION

SIMA exists to advance global awareness, social justice, human rights, and humanitarian development. We catalyze, promote and exhibit social impact films of excellence that activate, educate, and inspire.

JOIN US IN CATALYZING IMPACT CINEMA WORLDWIDE

The following SIMA FINALISTS and WINNERS are available for screenings year-round.

“The SIMA Collection is a group of award-winning, remarkable, social issue documentaries from around the world that are necessary viewing for anyone concerned with international affairs and human rights issues.” - Andrew McGregor, Founder of The Tiziano Project

“These films exemplify the power of cinema to create social change.” - Jon Fitzgerald, Founder of CineCause

“SIMA is quickly becoming the gold standard for social impact films, and the genre quickly becoming our planet’s truest form of journalism. The content SIMA draws is jaw dropping.” - Trevor Hall, President of Creative Visions Foundation

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A COMMON ENEMY

#0259

Director: Jaime Otero | 2013
Tunisia | Spain | 78 min
Languages: Arabic, French, English
Subtitles: English
Screening Format: DVD

[TRAILER](#) | [AWARDS](#)
[BOOK A SCREENING](#)

A COMMON ENEMY is a political documentary thriller based on the first-ever free elections in Tunisia after the Arab Spring Revolution, seen through the eyes of the protagonists of this historical event. This revolution is now an echo in their minds, as impending changes will rapidly modify the country's society, especially as the victory of Islamic political party EnNahda becomes more and more likely.



A RIVER CHANGES COURSE

#0140-4

Director: Kalyanee Mam | 2013
Cambodia | 83 min
Language: Khmer
Subtitles: English
Screening Formats: DVD, Blu-ray

[TRAILER](#) | [AWARDS](#)
[BOOK A SCREENING](#)

A RIVER CHANGES COURSE captures the stories of three young Cambodians struggling to maintain their traditional way of life while the modern world closes in around them. The once abundant forests and plentiful rivers have fallen victim to land grabbing, deforestation, and dwindling fish stock that rural and indigenous communities heavily depend on to survive. This stunningly photographed documentary is a powerful tribute to the struggles of all families coping with the challenges of a rapidly changing world.



A WORLD NOT OURS

#0108-4

Director: Mahdi Fleifel | 2012

UK | Lebanon | Denmark | UAE | Palestine | 93 min

Languages: Arabic, English

Subtitles: English

Screening Formats: DVD, Blu-ray

[TRAILER](#) | [AWARDS](#)

[BOOK A SCREENING](#)

A WORLD NOT OURS is an intimate and humorous portrait of three generations of exile in the refugee camp of Ein el-Helweh, in southern Lebanon. Based on a wealth of personal recordings, family archives, and historical footage, the film is a sensitive and illuminating study of belonging, friendship and family.



BONSAI PEOPLE - THE VISION OF MUHAMMAD YUNUS

#0082

Director: Holly Mosher | 2011

Bangladesh | 79 min

Languages: Bengali, English

Subtitles: Eng, Spa, Fre, Ger, Ara, Chi, Hin, Ita, Jap, Por, Rus, Tur

Screening Format: DVD, Blu-ray

[TRAILER](#) | [AWARDS](#)

[BOOK A SCREENING](#)

BONSAI PEOPLE celebrates the vision of Nobel Peace Prize winner Muhammad Yunus, a humanitarian visionary who pioneered the micro-credit banking model and social businesses. By unleashing the power of the free market to eliminate poverty, hunger, and inequality, Yunus demonstrates to the world that complex problems sometimes do have simple answers. It's not about hand outs, it's about hand ups.



DOCUMENTARY FEATURES

FUTURE MY LOVE

#0058-4

Director: Maja Borg | 2012
UK | Sweden | 93 min
Language: English
Screening Format: DVD, Blu-ray

[TRAILER | AWARDS](#)
[BOOK A SCREENING](#)

How much freedom are we prepared to give to the ones we love? And how much responsibility are we ready to take for our society? At the brink of losing the idealistic love of her life, Borg explores a radically different economic and social model proposed by 95-year-old futurist Jacque Fresco and poignantly depicts the universal struggle between our heads and hearts in times of big change.



FUTURE OF HOPE

#0026

Director: Henry Bateman | 2010
Iceland | UK | 75 min
Languages: Icelandic, English
Subtitles: English
Screening Format: DVD

[TRAILER | AWARDS](#)
[BOOK A SCREENING](#)

This feature-length documentary film tells the story of a few Icelandic people not afraid to stand out from the crowd, who are taking a different path towards a more sustainable future. Academics, politicians, farmers, scientists and visionaries all demonstrate how the isolated country of Iceland could become not only a testing ground for new technologies but also a completely sustainable ecosystem.



HOLY WATER

#0117-4 [Available to Network Partners Only]

Director: Octavio Guerra | 2013

Costa Rica | Spain | 82 min

Language: Castellano

Subtitles: English

Screening Formats: DVD, Blu-ray

[TRAILER](#) | [AWARDS](#)

[BOOK A SCREENING](#)

In a small village in Costa Rica, the residents of Nicaraguan origin forecast a great drought during the summer months. Mr. Nelson, a schoolteacher, writes a small play relating to the problems. His plan is to make the village aware of the importance of building an aqueduct. Geiner, an eleven-year-old child, believes that the spirits are the only ones that can make rain.



MUGABE, ME & A MILLION TAMPONS

#0199

Director: Karin Stowe | 2012

Zimbabwe | UK | 86 min

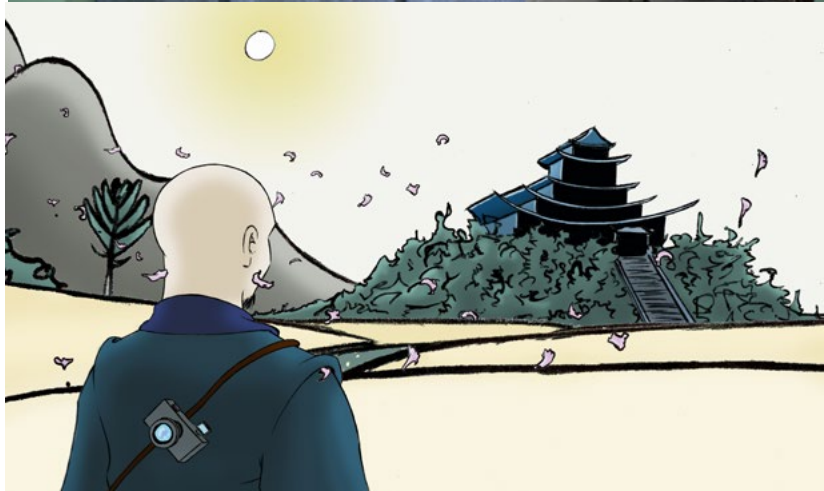
Language: English

Screening Format: DVD

[TRAILER](#) | [AWARDS](#)

[BOOK A SCREENING](#)

MUGABE, ME AND A MILLION TAMPONS is a documentary gonzo odyssey into the darkness of a nation held in fear and torn apart by corruption. Beginning in South Africa, a disillusioned photojournalist is employed to document a charity trying to organize the transportation of women's sanitary aid into Zimbabwe. Discovering people who risk their lives every day to defy Mugabe, he begins to question the media industry and his own ethical stance. The film offers a personal view into the world's greater inability to stop this slow genocide.



ONE DAY AFTER PEACE

#0006-4

Director: Erez Laufer | 2012
Isreal | South Africa | 86 min
Languages: English, Hebrew
Subtitles: English
Screening Formats: DVD, Blu-ray

[TRAILER](#) | [AWARDS](#)
[BOOK A SCREENING](#)

Can the means used to resolve the conflict in South Africa be applied to the Palestinian-Israeli conflict? Born in South Africa during the Apartheid era, Robi attempts to initiate a dialogue with the Palestinian who killed her son while he was serving in the Israeli Army. After facing rejection, she embarks on a journey back to South Africa to learn more about the country's TRC in overcoming years of enmity. Robi's thought-provoking journey leads from a place of deep personal pain to a belief that a better future is possible.



OUT OF THE DARKNESS

#0038

Director: Stefano Levi | 2011
Nepal | Germany | 82 min
Languages: Nepali, English
Subtitles: English
Screening Formats: DVD, Blu-ray

[TRAILER](#) | [AWARDS](#)
[BOOK A SCREENING](#)

Nepalese surgeon Dr. Sanduk Ruit, his American colleague Dr. Geoff Tabin, and their team of local assistants hike with an entire hospital on porter's backs to the very remote highlands of Nepal's Northeast. For 25 USD and 5 min per operation, they restore sight to cataract blinded people in the most remote and inaccessible areas on Earth. This simple and inexpensive surgical procedure is not only life-changing for those affected by cataract, but also influences the economic structure of these remote communities which are dependent on the well being of the family.



DOCUMENTARY FEATURES

PROJECT WILD THING

#0062-4

Director: David Bond | 2013

UK | 79 min

Language: English

Subtitles: English

Screening Format: DVD

[TRAILER | AWARDS](#)

[BOOK A SCREENING](#)

David Bond is a filmmaker and a father. Things have really changed since he was a kid. His children are hooked on screens and don't want to go outdoors. Determined to get them up and out, David appoints himself as the Marketing Director for Nature. With the help of branding and outdoor experts, he develops and launches a nationwide marketing campaign to get British children outside. PROJECT WILD THING is the hilarious, real-life story of one man's determination to get children out and into the ultimate, free wonder-product: nature.



STEALING AFRICA

#0009-4

Director: Christopher Guldbrandsen | 2012

Zambia | USA | UK | Switzerland | 58 min

Language: English

Subtitles: English

Screening Format: DVD

[TRAILER | AWARDS](#)

[BOOK A SCREENING](#)

Zambia has the third largest copper reserves in the world, but 60% of the population lives on less than \$1 a day. Ruschlikon is a village in Switzerland with a very low tax rate and very wealthy residents. It receives more tax than it can use thanks to one resident, Ivan Glasenberg, CEO of Glencore, whose copper mines in Zambia are generating huge profits.



THE RUNNER

#0080-4

Director: Saeed Taji Farouky | 2013
UK | France | Ireland | Western Sahara | 94 min
Languages: French, Hassaniya, Arabic, Spanish
Subtitles: English, Spanish
Screening Format: DVD

[TRAILER | AWARDS](#)
[BOOK A SCREENING](#)

THE RUNNER is the story of a champion long-distance runner whose journey transformed him from being an athlete to becoming a symbol of the national liberation movement. Salah Ameidan is willing to risk his life, his career, his family and his nationality to run for Western Sahara, a country that doesn't exist.



THE SHEBABS OF YARMOUK

#0130-4 [Available to Network Partners Only]

Director: Axel Salvatori-Sinz | 2012
France | Syria | 78 min
Language: Arabic
Subtitles: English
Screening Format: DVD

[TRAILER | AWARDS](#)
[BOOK A SCREENING](#)

The Shebabs have made up a small group of boys & girls since they were teens. Now on the eve of adulthood, they have a genuine thirst for life and for absolute, while all being confronted to intricate situations. Between the need for freedom and sticking to the group, between longing for revolt and the prospect of a well-ordered life, choices are hard to make; even more so if you're a Palestinian refugee in the camp of Yarmouk in Syria.



THE STATE OF INSANITY

#0039-4

Director: Francesco Cordio | 2013

Italy | 72 min

Language: Italian

Subtitles: English

Screening Formats: DVD, Blu-ray

[TRAILER](#) | [AWARDS](#)

[BOOK A SCREENING](#)

In Italy there are 6 OPG, commonly called criminal asylums, in which about 1500 people are locked up. The first-person account of an actor, ex-inmate in one of these hospitals, is intertwined with scenes filmed, without prior notice, in these places that have been “forgotten” about even by the State.



THE WELL - WATER VOICES FROM ETHIOPIA

#0090

Directors: Paolo Barberi & Riccardo Russo | 2011

Ethiopia | Italy | 56 min

Languages: Oromo, English

Subtitles: English, French, Spanish

Screening Formats: DVD, Blu-ray

[TRAILER](#) | [AWARDS](#)

[BOOK A SCREENING](#)

This is the Horn of Africa, a region of the world that is periodically shocked by terrible droughts. Each year to prepare for the coming drought, Borana herders will gather their livestock and walk for days to the dry Oromia Lowlands (South of Ethiopia) to retrieve water from their secular astonishing “singing” wells. Chronicling their life during a whole dry season, the film reveals a unique traditional water management system that regards what available water there is as the property and right of everyone, without any money being exchanged.



DOCUMENTARY FEATURES

SIMA

THIS IS WHAT DEMOCRACY LOOKS LIKE

#0140

Director: Elina Foteinou | 2013

Germany | 46 min

Languages: English, German

Subtitles: English

Screening Format: DVD

[TRAILER](#) | [AWARDS](#)

[BOOK A SCREENING](#)

Is there a more rigorous critique of the way Western societies work than strangers from all over the world gathering and trying to reinvent ways of communicating and functioning creatively and collectively without hierarchy and exploitation? **THIS IS WHAT DEMOCRACY LOOKS LIKE** explores the successes and problems of a direct democratic process using the Occupy Berlin Biennale project as an example.



THREE MOMENTS, A SHOUT

#0123-4

Director: Cecilia Barriga | 2013

Chile | Spain | USA | 96 min

Languages: English, Spanish

Subtitles: Spanish

Screening Format: DVD

[TRAILER](#) | [AWARDS](#)

[BOOK A SCREENING](#)

A powerful visual voyage following three moments of "Occupy," the global revolution: the Occupy Movement in Madrid, on Wall Street and finally, at a school in Santiago, Chile.



TOUGH BOND

#0014-4

Directors: Anneliese Vandenberg & Austin Peck | 2013

USA | Kenya | 84 min

Languages: English, Swahili

Subtitles: English

Screening Format: DVD

[TRAILER](#) | [AWARDS](#)

[BOOK A SCREENING](#)

There is a new tribe in Kenya called "Survivors" and they are easily identified by the bottle pressed against their lips. This fiercely loyal gang of children exists in the margins of an urban wilderness, huffing glue to endure the hell of street life. Following 4 kids over three years, TOUGH BOND delivers an alarming portrait of life in modern day Kenya.



WE ARE POETS

#0024-4

Director: Alex Ramseyer-Bache | 2012

UK | 81 min

Language: English

Screening Format: DVD

[TRAILER](#) | [AWARDS](#)

[BOOK A SCREENING](#)

In the age of Facebook and digital communication, a remarkable group of British teenagers have chosen to define themselves through one of the most ancient and potent, forms of expression out there - the spoken poem. WE ARE POETS presents a moving and poignant story of youth, art and freedom of expression, as it intimately follows six young poets from youth literary group, Leeds Young Authors.



AFTER THE FALL: HIV GROWS UP

#0059-4

Director: Frederick Taylor | 2012

USA | Romania | 40 min

Language: English

Screening Format: DVD

[TRAILER](#) | [AWARDS](#)

[BOOK A SCREENING](#)

In 1989, as Communism fell across Eastern Europe, doctors and nurses in Romania quickly discovered they were dealing with a grand epidemic of pediatric AIDS in their hospitals and institutions. This film offers an intimate portrait of some of the survivors- heroes with inspiring stories that demonstrate triumph in the face of remarkable challenges.



AT HOME, IN BEDS, AND IN THE STREET

#0117-4

Director: Liz Miller | 2013

Canada | Nicaragua | 36 min

Language: Spanish

Subtitles: English

Screening Formats: Blu-ray, DVD

[TRAILER](#) | [AWARDS](#)

[BOOK A SCREENING](#)

From a small country with a revolutionary history, comes a compelling TV drama with a big vision. This documentary follows an inspiring Nicaraguan women's rights group, Puntos de Encuentro, as it works to end sexual violence at home, in beds, and in the street through a powerful blend of mainstream media and grassroots organizing.



BASEBALL IN THE TIME OF CHOLERA

#0151

Directors: David Darg & Bryn Mooser | 2012

Haiti | Canada | 28 min

Languages: English, French, Spanish

Subtitles: English

Screening Formats: DVD, Blu-ray

[TRAILER](#) | [AWARDS](#)

[BOOK A SCREENING](#)

BASEBALL IN THE TIME OF CHOLERA is a powerful insight into the tragedy and scandal of Haiti's Cholera epidemic through the eyes of a young baseball player.



BIG DAMAGE

#0078

Director: David Fedele | 2011

Papua New Guinea | Australia | 40 min

Language: English

Subtitles: English

Screening Format: DVD

[TRAILER](#) | [AWARDS](#)

[BOOK A SCREENING](#)

BIG DAMAGE reveals the human face of logging in Papua New Guinea. It is a tale of exploitation and broken promises, where local people are treated as second-rate citizens in their own country by Malaysian logging companies and corrupt politicians. Customary landowners are forced into signing documents they don't understand, for the promise of "development" – fresh water, health and education, but these essential services are rarely provided. Instead, their traditional hunting grounds are destroyed, waterways polluted, and their way of life ruined forever.



BIRTH IS A DREAM - MATERNITY IN AFRICA

#0109

Director: Paulo Patruno | 2012
DR Congo | Malawi | Uganda | 15 min
Language: English
Subtitles: English
Screening Format: DVD

[TRAILER](#) | [AWARDS](#)
[BOOK A SCREENING](#)

Every year in Sub-Saharan Africa 200,000 mothers die from complications of pregnancy and childbirth. A great many of these deaths are preventable, when women have access to quality prevention, diagnostic, and treatment services. BIRTH IS A DREAM aims to document and raise awareness about the maternity crisis in Sub-Saharan Africa.



DANCING THE REVOLUTION

#0222

Directors: Vaida Blazyte & Mara Cavalli | 2011
Tanzania | 20 min
Languages: English, Swahili
Subtitles: English
Screening Format: DVD

[TRAILER](#) | [AWARDS](#)
[BOOK A SCREENING](#)

A glance into the lives of “colorless” African artists in Tanzania fighting against stigmatization and killings of people with albinism through performing arts. In recent years, Tanzania became infamous for a number of tragic cases of Albinos murders which were caused by a false belief that certain body parts of Albinos transmit magical powers. The Albinos Revolution Cultural Troupe, which was formed in 2000, organizes musical and theatre performances at conferences, cultural events and campaigns to raise awareness and fight prejudice against Albinos.



E-WASTELAND

#0063

Director: David Fedele | 2012

Ghana | Australia | 20 min

Language: English

Subtitles: English

Screening Format: DVD

[TRAILER | AWARDS](#)

[BOOK A SCREENING](#)

Have you ever wondered what happens to your electronics at the end of their life? Almost 50 million tons of e-waste (electronic waste) is generated worldwide every year. A large volume of second-hand and condemned electronic goods arrive in developing countries from the “developed” world, with a significant quantity exported illegally as “second hand goods”. Without dialogue or narration, E-WASTELAND presents a visual portrait of unregulated e-waste recycling in Ghana, West Africa, where electronics are not seen for what they once were, but rather for what they have become.



MINERITA

#0103-4

Director: Raul De la Fuente | 2013

Spain | Bolivia | 27 min

Language: Spanish

Subtitles: English

Screening Formats: DVD, Blu-ray

[TRAILER | AWARDS](#)

[BOOK A SCREENING](#)

Cerro Rico in Potosí (Bolivia) is a lawless territory, characterized by brutal violence. The miners risk their lives every day, digging for silver and zinc in crumbling galleries. The ones that survive think they're entitled to anything and everything. That's when they go on the hunt... for women. MINERITA is the story of three women—Lucía (40), Ivone (16) and Abigail (17)—who work as night watch women in the mines, struggling to survive in an inhuman inferno. Their only weapon is their courage...and dynamite.



THE SOUND BARRIER

#0027-4 [Available to Network Partners Only]

Directors: Thibault Dufour & Philip Drouin | 2013

Burkina Faso | France | USA | 23 min

Languages: English, French

Subtitles: English

Screening Format: DVD

[TRAILER | AWARDS](#)

[BOOK A SCREENING](#)

A mosquito-repellent soap that prevents malaria, straw bricks made out of agricultural residues for more sustainable housing, a biodigester made out of recycled plastic to create bio-gas for rural populations. The film follows 3 innovative social business ideas from students in Africa to take on major challenges faced by their continent. As they compete with hundreds of projects from around the world, one project starts to demonstrate that it just might have what it takes to make it all the way; a step towards international recognition that could mean a symbolic victory for the African youth.



SUNFLOWER SEEDS

#0076-4

Director: Antonis Tolakis | 2013

Greece | 32 min

Languages: Farsi, Greek

Subtitles: English

Screening Formats: DVD, Blu-ray

[TRAILER | AWARDS](#)

[BOOK A SCREENING](#)

"I've been here about two years, and it feels like twenty have passed." Among a group of children surviving on the streets of Athens is Sayid, a twelve-year old boy, who works all day selling sunflower seeds in the city's suburban parks. He wants to leave for Northern Europe to go to school and to have a decent job when he grows up. But how fast does a child grow? Sayid is trapped in Greece, a country plagued by a financial crisis, increasing unemployment, rampant xenophobia, and racist violence.



THE LITTLE GUERRILLA GIRL

#0055-4

Director: Giancarlo Bocchi | 2013

Italy | Burma | 42 min

Languages: English, Burmese

Subtitles: English

Screening Format: DVD

[TRAILER](#) | [AWARDS](#)

[BOOK A SCREENING](#)

For the last seventy years, the Karen, one of the most important ethnic minorities in Burma, have been fighting for their freedom, first against the Japanese and immediately afterwards against the military regime in power. In the longest armed resistance in contemporary history, fought in an impenetrable territory covered in a hostile jungle between Thailand and the Andaman Sea, the Karen women fight on the front line for the independence of their people.



THROUGH THE FIRE

#0033-4

Director: Eunice Lau | 2013

Somalia | 39 min

Languages: English, Somali

Subtitles: English

Screening Formats: DVD, Blu-ray

[TRAILER](#) | [AWARDS](#)

[BOOK A SCREENING](#)

For two decades, Nobel Peace Prize Nominee Dr. Hawa Abdi has been a beacon of hope for 90,000 Somalis who found refuge on her farm during the conflict. At age 19, Ilwad Elman returned to war-torn Mogadishu to continue the work of her father by running rehabilitation programs for child soldiers. After witnessing the destruction of her homeland, Edna Adan returned to Hargeisa to build the University Hospital of Somaliland. THROUGH THE FIRE shows how three remarkable women helped hold their country together during its darkest hour.



THE UPRISING

#0062-4

Director: Nicol Ragland | 2011

USA | 8 min

Language: English

Screening Format: DVD

[TRAILER](#) | [AWARDS](#)

[BOOK A SCREENING](#)

From black panthers to young philosophers, to Hasidic Jews, to journalists, to musicians, to CEOs, to the homeless, to kids with I-Pads, to ex- Wall Street members shouting 'I don't think it's the people that are the problem, it's the system and these bad incentives.' We were all the same and instantaneously in solidarity and conversation towards change. All of us had ideologies but what blanketed the air most was that all of us were at work for each other in a two acre plot of land in the midst of the concrete jungle we call New York.



TWO GIRLS AGAINST THE RAIN

#0055

Director: Sopheak Sao | 2012

Cambodia | 11 min

Languages: English, Khmer

Subtitles: English

Screening Format: DVD

[TRAILER](#) | [AWARDS](#)

[BOOK A SCREENING](#)

A true story about two women struggling hard for their love. Soth Yun (57) and Sem Eang (58) met during the genocidal Khmer Rouge regime when coincidence led them to live in the same mobile unit. More than two million people died during the Khmer Rouge, Soth and Sem survived. Today the lesbian couple lives in a village in the Takeo province in southern Cambodia where they've endured a long fight for respect by fellow villagers and their family. Their fight continues as they wish for the right to marry.



WOMEN OF FUKUSHIMA

#0028

Director: Paul Johannessen | 2012

Japan | 27 min

Languages: English, Japanese

Subtitles: English, French, German

Screening Format: DVD

[TRAILER](#) | [AWARDS](#)

[BOOK A SCREENING](#)

Six Japanese women offer brutally honest views on the state of the clean-up, the cover-ups, and untruths since the nuclear accident in Fukushima, and how it has affected their lives, homes, and families.



WHEN THE TIME COMES

#0195-4

Director: Charles Gay | 2012

France | Kenya | USA | 13 min

Language: Samburu

Subtitles: English

Screening Format: Blu-Ray

[TRAILER](#) | [AWARDS](#)

[BOOK A SCREENING](#)

Shot among the Samburu semi-nomadic tribe of Kenya, *WHEN THE TIME COMES* portrays its relation to the ancestral and controversial practice that is female circumcision (Female Genital Cutting) and highlights the inter-generational debate that is taking place in their communities, allowing girls and women to fight for their rights, with the support of many men.



BOOK A SCREENING
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