



SOLAR WORLD CINEMA GREEN FILMMAKING WORKSHOP

Solar World Cinema is an international network of mobile solar powered cinemas. Solar Cinema raises awareness on climate change, recycling, energy resources and other green issues through film. It promotes independent cinema as well as the use of sustainable energy.

One of the ongoing programmes is called: **Go Greener Shorts**: a selection of inspiring, fresh, non-moralistic short films that have a green or sustainable message or subject. These short films are screened before each screening. Solar World Cinema believes it is important to inspire people through culture. So not only the Solar Cinema itself is an innovative tool that brings sustainable solutions in people's daily life, but also bringing inspiring content is an important mission. Therefore we programme inspirational and artistic short films in our Go Greener Short Film programme.

Through film screenings but also with customised workshops we like to inspire people around the world. Educational workshops combined with the film screenings makes the impact on remote places even bigger. Children or youngsters participating in the workshops spread a 'green' message to their families and friends inviting them to the film screenings and spreading their freshly acquired knowledge.

Goals:

1. Educate about sustainable energy
2. Inspire people to think about their environment
3. Creating cinematographic talent
4. Create regional content and audiences for independent cinema
5. Bridge international borders through culture and connect audiences through content

In order to reach these goals, we have created different workshops, each adaptable to a different audience and culture.

Go Greener Short Film Course

One of the workshops we have developed is a filmmaking workshop that stimulates young filmmakers to make a green or sustainable short film.

In a 3 or 4 day film workshop students will develop their concept and realise their own Go Greener Short Film. In a practical workshop the students will not only learn about making meaning and creating content but they also learn the practical side of filmmaking. Working on a synopsis, storyboard, camera technique, sound and editing. A crash course with a short film that will be presented and screened later that night.

Besides the practical side of the workshop there is another goal which is creating cultural stories around a green theme. These stories differ per person and per region, but due to the limitations we have set to the workshop they can tell universal stories and are shown all over the world. Each Go Greener Short film is: a maximum of 5 minutes and contains no dialogue, this makes it possible to show the films around the world crossing language barriers.

Set up

Day 1: Introduction on the Solar Cinema and Go Greener Short filmmaking.

Introduction on Sustainable filmmaking. Show some inspirational shorts and discuss them. For example:

[Trash Vortex](#)

[Crazy Peeing Dog](#)

[Unfair](#)

[True Giant](#)

There are also low budget examples that can be shown as an inspiration for the students. For example:

[The bay versus the bag](#)

[The Mouth Revolution](#)

[Can Recycle](#)

Dividing the students in groups:

We divide students in groups of 5 persons selected by their skills. First make an inventarisation on who can do the Editing and Camera as this is the basis of the group. Then try to add the other roles per group (Direction, Production, Sound).

>Per group the students have a short brainstorm about an idea for a short green film: 30 min max. They have to come up with at least 2 ideas. Help the groups think out of the box.

>The groups pitch their best concepts to the group.

>Next step is to explain how to make their concept into a concrete filmplan; you can talk about storyboards, shotlists and production planning. And another good point to discuss is how to make your film Production as green as possible (saving energy etc.)

>Sound: Is an important issue if you make films yourself. You can't use music if you want to screen the films on the big screen due to right clearance.

>Making meaning with shots: talk about Establishing Shot /Close Up / Medium Close Up/ Wide Shot etc.

Day 2: Shooting

Start all together with the groep and give instructions about the workflow: spotlist - logsheet: pre-editing whilst shooting. An important thing to keep in mind for the groups who are starting to film: to keep the limit of material low, otherwise the editing process is going to take a lot of time.

>The groups start filming: Visit the groups regularly during the day to help them along the way.

>End of the day: each group organises their material. Important tip: start loading clips on the computer as soon as possible as this takes a lot of time.

Day 3: Last shots, loading materials, organise editing work.

The different groups will edit their material, help them if they have questions, but it is important that they edit themselves. To learn how to tell a story.

Day 4: Editing and export.

The last day is for final editing and exporting the films. This is followed by the premiere screening of the films with the Solar Cinema. The groups will help with setting up the Solar Cinema and will present their films like a premiere. All students get a handmade diploma.

With this workshop the students get inspired to think differently about their environment themselves and with creating this content they also inspire other audiences around the world to do the same.