

OFFICIAL SELECTION

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TORONTO INTERNATIONAL
FILM FESTIVAL 2026



ARNE GOES TO SPACE

A FILM BY LARS VEGA

LOGLINE

When an alien crash-lands in rural Sweden, two aging brothers take him in. An unlikely friendship begins as they teach him about hunting, moonshine and love. But as one brother's illness worsens, the other is forced to confront the inevitable loss of his brother.

SYNOPSIS

Originally set for Papua New Guinea to learn more about earth, an alien crash-lands in a Swedish forest and ends up with the two aging brothers Arne and Stefan in Norrbotten. The brothers lead a quiet small-town life, concerned with hunting team disputes and Arne's growing illness. Stefan doesn't want a free loathing space man in his home, while Arne welcomes and names the alien Roland. The brothers begin to teach him about the important things in life: moonshine, hunting and the concept of love, but as Arne's illness starts to flare up, Stefan is forced to face the inevitable, a life without his brother.



DIRECTOR'S BIOGRAPHY



LARS VEGA

Born 1989 in Luleå, Sweden

Swedish director and screenwriter. He's a graduate from the National Film School of Denmark and has made several tragicomic short films about life in the countryside. His short films have been selected for numerous film festivals and in 2020 the film *Awaiting Death* (2019) won the Canal+ Award at Clermont-Ferrand. Lars is active as director/writer in both Sweden and Denmark.

DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT

I want to make films about people living in the countryside. Not about the grand and spectacular, but about things that seem insignificant on the surface: a road association, a property boundary, an old grievance, a parked car, or the question of who should actually pay for the gravel on the road.

That is where I find the big emotions.

I am interested in small conflicts between people that, to them, become enormous. People who might never raise their voices in a city, but who, in the countryside, can harbor decades of anger, pride, shame, and a desire for vindication. The mundane becomes dramatic because these people invest their entire lives in it.

My starting point is Brian De Palma's idea that film need not deal with reality in a realistic way, but rather with how film itself has taught us to see.



KEY CAST - BIOGRAPHY

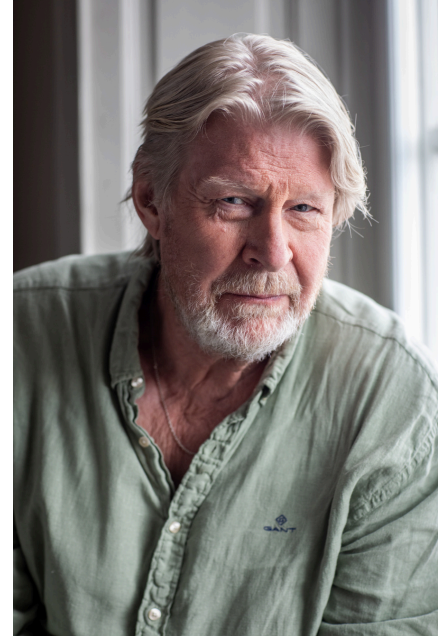
ROLF LASSGÅRD

Born 1955, in Östersund, Sweden

Born in the north of Sweden, Lassgård was trained as an actor in Malmö, in the very south of the country. After graduating in 1978, he had his national breakthrough in the early nineties playing the role of Gunvald Larsson in the Beck film series. He then went on to portray the opera-loving police inspector Kurt Wallander in nine movies until 2007. During the nineties he grew to be one of Sweden's most beloved actors, crowning that decade with *Under the Sun* (2000), which was nominated for an Oscar.

His big international breakthrough was as the title role in *A Man Called Ove* (twice Oscar nominated in 2017) and he then went on to do a small part in Alexander Payne's *Downsizing* (2017). He also played a leading role in Susanne Bier's Oscar nominated *After the Wedding*, co-starring Mads Mikkelsen and Sidse Babette Knutsen.

In *Arne Goes to Space*, Lassgård portrays Stefan, the older brother.



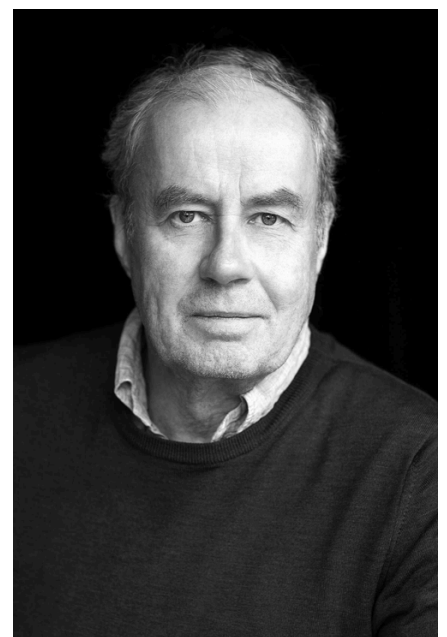
LENNART JÄHKEL

Born 1956 in Piteå, Sweden

Just like Lassgård, Lennart Jähkel was trained as an actor in Malmö and he's equally beloved by Swedish audiences. Jähkel has alternated between humoristic and dramatic roles and has also performed in many plays on Sweden's national scenes.

In Oscar-nominated *As it is in Heaven* (2004), he played the supporting role of Arne, and in *Arne Goes to Space*, he plays the title role with the same name.

Jähkel and Lassgård's last time working together was in the film *The Hunters* (1996), where they also played brothers, and this is the first time they reunite since then.



KEY CAST - BIOGRAPHY

KIRAN SHAH MBE

Born 1956 in Nairobi, Kenya

Actor and stuntman Kiran Shah is an industry legend. Listed in the Guinness Book of World Records as the world's smallest stuntman (126 cm/4 ft 2in).

His career started in the 70's, doing scale stuntwork for Superman (1978) and since then has worked on legendary franchises including The Lord of the Rings, The Hobbit, Star Wars, Harry Potter, The Chronicles of Narnia and Indiana Jones. In The Chronicles of Narnia: The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe (2005), he played the dwarf Ginarrbrik and in Lord of the Rings he did scale work as stand-in for the hobbits.

Shah has performed in several Oscar winning films, such as Titanic (1997), Braveheart (1995) and Raiders of the Lost Ark (1981). He was awarded the MBE (Member of the Order of the British Empire) in the 2024 King's Birthday Honours List for his services to the film industry.

In Arne Goes to Space, Shah portrays the alien Roland.



PRODUCER'S BIOGRAPHY

ANETTE BRANTIN

Born 1978 in Örkelljunga, Sweden

Swedish producer and graduate from the Swedish Institute of Dramatic Art. Mainly focused on TV drama, and has produced some of Sweden's most successful comedy series in the 2000s. Co-founder of production company Alba Film.

TECHNICAL INFO

TITLE: ARNE GOES TO SPACE

ORIGINAL TITLE: ARNE GOES TO SPACE

GENRE: DRAMEDY

PRODUCTION YEAR: 2026

COUNTRY OF ORIGIN: SWEDEN

SHOOTING LOCATIONS: NORRBOTTEN, SWEDEN

LANGUAGE SPOKEN: SWEDEN

RUNNING TIME: 101 MIN

SHOT ON: DIGITAL

FRAME RATE: 25

SCREEN RATIO: 16:9

FORMAT: DCP

SOUND FORMAT: 5.1

PRODUCTION COMPANY: NEXIKO DRAMA AB

DIRECTED BY: LARS VEGA

WRITTEN BY: LARS VEGA, THEODOR ÖSTERBERG

PRODUCER: ANETTE BRANTIN

CINEMATOGRAPHY: CHRISTIAN KARLSEN

PRODUCTION DESIGNER: LENA P. CEDERLUND

EDITOR: CECILIE DAMSGAARD

SOUND: CHRISTOFFER DEMBY

COMPOSER: MARIA MARTINE JAGD

EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS: LARS BECKUNG, PETRA MÅHL

CAST

STEFAN: ROLF LASSGÅRD

ARNE: LENNART JÄHKEL

ROLAND: KIRAN SHAH

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