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# Ten of the Best Short Films of the Year So Far

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From visceral, dreamlike headliners to black and white silent shorts, these are the films breaking from the mainstream in 2017



Horse Boobs (Film still)

Text [Carmen Gray](#)

**Short films** rarely get the breadth of attention they deserve, but aficionados know which festivals to hit up as the sun signals summer for some of the freshest, most innovative cinema around;

Oberhausen to Happyland and Vienna Shorts. Our highlights from those to watch for in the months ahead, below.

## 1. Horse Boobs (above)

Oberhausen had a brilliant festival trailer this year featuring heavily made-up, sequinned performers with frozen smiles, and it was made by Hamburg-born, Vienna-based filmmaker Katrina Daschner, who loves to explore burlesque imagery and erotic subversion in her work. Her latest short Horse Boobs, the fifth part of a series based on Viennese provocateur Arthur Schnitzler's Dream Story (which was also the inspiration for Stanley Kubrick's Eyes Wide Shut) screened at the festival as well. As its title intimates it merges body parts and accoutrements of horses and performing humans replete with saddlery and masks in an odd, visually disorienting and amusingly absurdist manner.

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