

F+ FEBIOFEST
Bratislava 2024



BRATISLAVA INDUSTRY DAYS

March 18 – 19, 2024

+BID BRATISLAVA
INDUSTRY
DAYS

Table of content

Awards	4
Jury	6
Works in Progress projects	
Anestéza / Anesthesia (fiction – in post-production)	9
dir. Jaro Vojtek / prod. Mátyás Prikler (MPhilms)	
Krásna utópia / Glorious Utopia (documentary – in production)	10
dir. Marek Moučka / prod. Tomáš Gič, Katarína Krnáčová (Silverart)	
Last Minute (animation, short – in development)	11
dir. Ď prod. Joanna Kozuch (plackartnyj)	
Prezidentka / Ms. President (documentary – in post-production)	12
dir. Marek Šulík / prod. Barbara Janišová Feglová (HITCHHIKER Cinema)	
Rauš / Crunk (fiction – in development)	13
dir. Igor Vodráška / prod. Miša Jelenek (ART4)	
Sláva (documentary – in development)	14
dir. Soňa G. Lutherová / prod. Maroš Hečko, Peter Veverka (AZYL Production)	
Sľubujem, budem v pohode / Promise, I'll Be Fine (fiction – in post-production)	15
dir. Katarína Gramatová / prod. Igor Engler (DRYEYE Film)	
Svet stien / World of Walls (documentary – in pre-production)	16
dir. Lucia Kašová / prod. Matej Sotník (guča films)	
Tskaltubo (documentary, mid-length – in post-production)	17
dir. Andrea Kalinová / prod. Monika Lošťáková, Simona Hrušovská (Super film)	
Venuša v retrográde / Venus in Retrograde (fiction, short – in post-production)	18
dir. Štefánia Lovasová / prod. Michaela Kaliská (NINJA FILM)	
Works in Progress Tutor	19
Successful projects previously presented at Bratislava Industry Days	
Program	26



Awards



Best Febio Pitch Award

Sponsored by IFF Febiofest, the main Bratislava Industry Days award is € 3000 cash for the most promising project. The award is decided by an international jury.



Cineuropa Work in Progress Award

One project is awarded the coverage throughout various stages of development and distribution by Cineuropa. The award is decided by Cineuropa correspondent Martin Kudláč.



FILM RESIDENCY

Pop Up Film Residency Visegrad Award

One project is awarded a three-week Karlovy Vary residency in November 2024 for a tailor-made mentoring programme alongside four filmmakers from the Czech Republic, Hungary, Poland, and Ukraine. The award is decided by Matthieu Darras, Pop Up Film Residency director.

Industry Jury



Lina Dinkla

Born in the lowlands of north-western Germany, she moved to Leipzig to study Cultural Studies and Communication and Media Studies, which she completed in 2004. After several stops at various film festivals (including Kurzfilmtage Oberhausen, Berlinale Talent Campus, and Crossing Europe Linz) and as a freelance author, she has been working as Dok Leipzig programme coordinator since 2009. She is head of the Kids Dok Section, and became a member of the selection committee in 2020. She also curates film programmes for other festivals and events. She has two children, a garden, and lives in Leipzig.



Alessandro Gropplero

Alessandro Gropplero has been the head of international relations at the FVG Audiovisual Fund since May 2007. He has planned the fund's international strategy and managed many initiatives, such as When East Meets West Co-production Forum, Ties That Bind Asia Europe Producers Workshop (both supported by the Creative Europe Programme), and Re-Act Co-Development Funding Scheme. He is an EAVE graduate, EAVE Italian national coordinator, and member of the European Film Academy.



Lison Hervé

After graduating in production and several positions in production and sales, Lison Hervé spent four years at Stray Dogs sales agency – first as festival manager and then overseeing sales and acquisitions. She then joined the Les Arcs Film Festival team in 2020, and is now managing Industry Village: an industry event and coproduction market dedicated to European cinema held every December.

Works in Progress

Selected projects



Anestéza Anesthesia

Slovakia | 90 min.
fiction | drama | in post-production

DIRECTOR: Jaro Vojtek

SCREENPLAY: Marek Leščák, Jaro Vojtek

DOP: Tomáš Stanek

EDITOR: Martin Piga

PRODUCER: Mátyás Prikler (MPhilms, SK)

CO-PRODUCER: Radio and Television Slovakia

SUPPORT: Slovak Audiovisual Fund

ESTIMATED BUDGET: € 950 000

EXPECTED RELEASE: October 2024

CONTACT

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Jaro
Vojtek



Mátyás
Prikler

SYNOPSIS

Anesthesiologist David's life changes in an instant when he causes the death of a young boy. He visits where the boy's family lives, and to find forgiveness he takes a spiritual pilgrimage in search for his essence. David confronts his life and faith with the pilgrims and villagers through their stories and moral values. In a tragicomic struggle, he seeks the meaning of the next life. Will he succeed in forgiving himself so that he too can be forgiven?

DIRECTOR'S NOTE

For years I have been drawn to the theme of the relationship with karma, mysticism, and God. I am attracted to the imaginary space between heaven and earth. A faith that both liberates and binds. My films are my concealed self-portrait, and in *Anesthesia* I enquire about the real experience of faith, conscience, and forgiveness. Litmanová village, where apparitions of Virgin Mary appeared for five years, was my opportunity to confront these themes in a feature film with Marek Leščák. We share similar visions of the world I portray in our films. I was intrigued by the varying reactions to the miracle – from fanaticism to indifference, a smorgasbord of feelings amidst magical nature. Marek and I always seek a positive message, and here we identify meaning in forgiveness to find our own freedom.

ABOUT THE DIRECTOR

Jaroslav Vojtek is a graduate of the Film and Television Faculty at the Academy of Performing Arts in Bratislava, specializing in documentary film directing under the guidance of Professor Dušan Hanák. Since 2006, he has been teaching at the Documentary Film Directing Department. Vojtek is a member of the Slovak Film Academy. His filmography includes acclaimed documentaries such as *The Border* (2009), *My zdes* (2005), and *Paradise on Earth* (2019), and a fiction feature *Children* (2014). *Anesthesia* is his second fiction feature. His diverse portfolio reflects numerous themes from individual and community portraits to reflections on social and human issues.

ABOUT THE PRODUCER & PRODUCTION COMPANY

Mátyás Prikler, a graduate in feature film directing, established the Slovak film company MPhilms in 2005. Prikler has directed films such as *Fine, Thanks* (2013) and *Power* (2023), which premiered at the International Film Festival Rotterdam. MPhilms focuses on feature films, documentaries, and impactful short projects. The company's diverse portfolio includes films like *Fine, Thanks, Slovakia 2.0* (2014), *Children* (dir. Jaro Vojtek, 2014), *Mirage* (dir. Szabolcs Hajdu, 2014), *Paradise on Earth* (dir. Jaro Vojtek, 2019), *Wild Roots* (dir. Hajni Kis, 2021), *Bandits for a Ballad* (dir. Vladimír Morávek, 2022), *Power, Explanation for Everything* (dir. Gábor Reisz, 2023) and TV documentary series *Ex-Prime Ministers* (2018).



Krásna utópia Glorious Utopia

Slovakia | 90 min.
documentary | in production

DIRECTOR & SCREENPLAY & DOP: Marek Moučka

EDITOR: Marek Bihuň

PRODUCERS: Tomáš Gič, Katarína Krnáčová (Silverart, SK)

SUPPORT: Slovak Audiovisual Fund, Creative Europe MEDIA

ESTIMATED BUDGET: € 315 000

PRINCIPAL PHOTOGRAPHY: May 2024

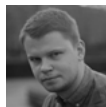
EXPECTED RELEASE: November 2025

CONTACT

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Marek
Moučka



Tomáš
Gič



Katarína
Krnáčová

SYNOPSIS

Glorious Utopia observes the citizens and kings of fictitious micro-states all over the world. While visiting their physical and mental territories, they are confronted with actual social events.

DIRECTOR'S NOTE

We are making a film in a turbulent social and geopolitical period. The topicality of our experience is presented in the film through characters who are seeking an alternative or an escape. The film does not answer the question of what we need countries for, nor does it aim to predict the future. It is rather an anthropological study of people looking for their identity. The visual style also reveals the filmmaker behind the 16mm camera viewfinder. In this way we can confront the protagonists' work, because – just like them – we can create our own country and define our own borders.

ABOUT THE DIRECTOR

Marek Moučka finished his Master's degree in Documentary Filmmaking at the Academy of Performing Arts in Bratislava. His short documentary *In Shallow Water* (2020) won a Special Jury Mention at Beldocs 2021, and was screened at Dok Leipzig. His last short

documentary *Attention All Passengers* (2020) was screened at more than 20 festivals, and won Special Jury Mention at Ethocineca Vienna 2021. He is currently working on his documentary debut *Glorious Utopia*.

ABOUT THE PRODUCERS & PRODUCTION COMPANY

Silverart is a production company focused on feature films and TV series, striving for eco-friendly, sustainable, and gender-balanced film productions on-screen and off-screen. It was founded by producer Katarína Krnáčová, an EAVE graduate, President of the Slovak Film and Television Academy, and a voting member of the EFA. She produced *Little Harbour* (dir. Iveta Grófová, 2017), the Berlinale Crystal Bear winner, German Film Critics winner *Summer Rebels* (dir. Martina Saková, 2020), and the best European Children's Film *How I Learned To Fly* (dir. Radivoje Andrić, 2022). Her latest line-up includes *The Editorial Office* (dir. Roman Bondarchuk) which premiered at Berlinale 2024. Producer Tomáš Gič is working on the post-production of the feature film *Flood* (dir. Martin Gonda), on the development of the feature film *Mína* (dir. Martin Hnát), and the pre-production of *Glorious Utopia*.



Last Minute Last Minute

Slovakia – Czech Republic | 9 min.
animation | in development

DIRECTOR & SCREENPLAY: Joanna Kozuch

DOP: Denisa Buranová

PRODUCER: Joanna Kozuch (plackartnyj, SK)

CO-PRODUCER: Martin Vandas (MAUR film, CZ)

WORKSHOPS & FORUMS: CEE Animation Forum 2023

SUPPORT: Slovak Audiovisual Fund

EXPECTED RELEASE: 2026

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Joanna
Kozuch



Martin
Vandas



Barbora
Budinská

SYNOPSIS

Last minute! Think of that holiday! Wonderful clean beaches! Golden sand, great weather and turquoise blue sea! That's the image of your dream holiday!

But...

Every night the beaches are littered with pieces of clothing, fragments of shipwrecks, and life jackets... Every night hundreds of migrants, people born in a "worse world", people fleeing war or crushing poverty – try to reach Europe.

Last Minute is not a film about amazing last minute all-inclusive holidays. It is a film about people who (for us) do not exist. About people who are invisible.

DIRECTOR'S NOTE

The idea of *Last Minute* is inspired by the current situation on the Turkish-Greek coast. We watch the story of migrants through the eyes of a young man, an employee of a beach cleaning company. A man who gets up every day at four a.m. and cleans up the remnants of clothes that the sea has washed ashore overnight... In the film, we see what he doesn't see. Or we see what he doesn't want to see. His point of view on this situation is the point of view of the whole world.

With the film, I want to actively contribute to the social discussion of (illegal) migration. Closing eyes and doors is not a solution – that's what I believe. It's just a shame...

ABOUT THE DIRECTOR

Joanna Kozuch is a director, visual artist, and animator. Joanna graduated at the Fine Art Studies of the University of Arts in Poznań and the University of Silesia in Katowice. She also teaches at the Animation Department at the Academy of Performing Arts in Bratislava, where she finished her PhD. studies. Her filmography includes *Game* (2004), *Fongopolis* (2014, winner of the Sun in a Net national film award), *39 Weeks, 6 Days* (2017), *Music Box* (2019, part of the *Happiness Machine* project), and the award-winning *Once There Was a Sea...* (2021, the Academy Awards Long List 2023). She is now working on another short animated film *Last Minute*, and the animated documentary *Once There Was a Town...*

ABOUT THE PRODUCER & PRODUCTION COMPANY

Martin Vandas is the producer and co-producer of eight feature animated films, around 40 short animated films, several documentaries, and TV review programmes. He is a member of the European Film Academy, the Czech Audiovisual Producers' Association, and the Czech Association of Animation film; he's also an expert for the Czech Film Fund, the Slovak Audiovisual Fund, lectures at FAMU in Prague, and participates in the international CEE Animation platform to support the animated film industry in Central and Eastern Europe. A father of three daughters (with a unique wife), runner, book lover, and collector of movie posters.



Prezidentka Ms. President

Slovakia – Czech Republic | 90 min.
documentary | political | in post-production

DIRECTOR & SCREENPLAY: Marek Šulík

DOP: Marek Šulík, Marek Moučka, Martin Jurči

EDITOR: Jana Vlčková

PRODUCER: Barbara Janišová Feglová (HITCHHIKER Cinema, SK)

CO-PRODUCER: Ivo Andrlé (Aerofilms, CZ)

WORKSHOPS & FORUMS: Move It On 2024, Agora Docs 2024,
East Doc Platform 2024

SUPPORT: Slovak Audiovisual Fund, Czech Film Fund

ESTIMATED BUDGET: € 430 000

EXPECTED RELEASE: July 2024

CONTACT

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Marek
Šulík



Barbara
Janišová Feglová

SYNOPSIS

A gentle and progressive-minded woman as the president in a country shaped by a post-socialist legacy and long ruled only by men – what challenges await her? Slovakia's first female president, Zuzana Čaputová, is on a mission to change the world's toxicity through her decency and kindness.

DIRECTOR'S NOTE

Addressing the void in portraying contemporary politics in Slovakia and Central Europe, our film captures the challenges faced by Slovakia's first female president, Zuzana Čaputová. It bridges the gap between politicians and citizens, providing insights into the shaping of public services. The film aims to counter divisive tendencies, foster transparency, and inspire faith in democratic institutions. It serves as a signal that striving for decent participation is essential for bringing about positive change.

ABOUT THE DIRECTOR

Marek Šulík, a documentary film graduate from the Academy of Performing Arts in Bratislava, has made a big impact as the editor of globally-recognized documentaries. Collaborating with renowned directors such as Peter Kerekes, Martin Kollar, Viera Čákanyová, and

Filip Remunda he has contributed to films including *66 Seasons* (2003), *Cooking History* (both dir. P. Kerekes, 2009), *5 October* (dir. M. Kollar, 2016), *FREM* (dir. V. Čákanyová, 2019), and the series *Czech Journal*. Beyond editing, he also crafts his own socially and ethnographically focused films, portraits, and creative documentaries by utilizing archives in innovative ways. Additionally, he has been teaching at the Department of Documentary Filmmaking of his alma mater for many years.

ABOUT THE PRODUCER & PRODUCTION COMPANY

Barbara Janišová Feglová is a graduate of Film Studies at the Academy of Performing Arts in Bratislava. In 2012 she founded HITCHHIKER Cinema, producing original films focused on critical social and cultural issues. In 2018 she won the Slovak national film award for *A Hole in the Head* (dir. Robert Kirchhoff, 2016). She collaborated with emerging documentary filmmakers on their debuts *The Golden Land* (dir. Dominik Jursa, 2020), *The Commune* (dir. Jakub Julény, 2020), and *Lines* (dir. Barbora Sliepková, 2021), which won the Best Documentary Award at the Ji.hlava IDFF 2021. Barbara is currently teaching at the Department of the Documentary Filmmaking at the Academy of Performing Arts.



Rauš Crunk

Slovakia – Czech Republic | 85 min.
fiction | art-house thriller | in development

DIRECTOR & SCREENPLAY: Igor Vodráška

DOP: Maroš Žilínčan

PRODUCER: Miša Jelenek (ART4, SK)

CO-PRODUCER: Vojtěch Frič (love.FRAME, CZ)

WORKSHOPS & FORUMS: MIDPOINT Intensive SK 2019 & 2020

SUPPORT: Slovak Audiovisual Fund

ESTIMATED BUDGET: € 896 000

PRINCIPAL PHOTOGRAPHY: November 2024

EXPECTED RELEASE: September 2025

CONTACT

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Igor
Vodráška



Miša
Jelenek

SYNOPSIS

Crunk is about a young university dropout from a small town. After beating up the wrong Neo-Nazi in an injudicious attempt to exact revenge for the rape of a girl he had a crush on, he flees the town. He sets off on a journey where he confronts both his bad conscience and troubled past. He soon learns that he's not alone in feeling that something is wrong with how society is becoming incrementally violent and far right. In search of his personal absolution, he joins an underground Antifa movement where he must face his own dark-self to finally find peace.

DIRECTOR'S NOTE

The film is non-linear – our lead character is seen in three phases of the story. The hero's internal conflict revolves around the contradiction between his guilt and the need to fight evil. By leading viewers into believing that he has been radicalised, and then revealing that appearances can be deceptive, the film helps us understand that radicalization only leads to tragic outcomes. Our art-house approach with a touch of thriller genre is supported by a soundtrack that maps the character's emotional state through several music video sequences.

ABOUT THE DIRECTOR

Igor Vodráška is a Bratislava-based Slovak writer and filmmaker. He focuses on portraying subcultures, and treads a thin line between bizarre realism and pulp. In 2013, he produced the documentary short film *Lost in Poland*. The following year he published his debut novel, *Rauš*. In 2016 he filmed another documentary, *Curanderos*. In 2017, he released his second novel, *Bravo bravo*. Since 2017 he has also been producing music videos for Slovak underground bands such as Wilderness, Cascabell, and Edúv Syn. *Crunk* is the film adaptation of *Rauš*.

ABOUT THE PRODUCER & PRODUCTION COMPANY

Miša Jelenek graduated from the Academy of Performing Arts in Bratislava, Film and TV Faculty, majoring in film production and management. She was line producer and 1st AD on the feature films *Eva Nová* (2015) and *Let There Be Light* (2019), both directed by Marko Škop, and *Nina* (2017), directed by Juraj Lehotský.

ART4 is a Slovak production company headed by Miša and Pavol Jelenek. The company has two divisions: film production; and IT apps/solutions. They are producers of multiple documentary series (mainly for Radio and Television Slovakia), and co-producers of the feature film *Plastic Symphony* (dir. Juraj Lehotský, 2022). ART4 is also developing the film *Blue Helmet*.



Sláva Sláva

Slovakia – Czech Republic – Germany | 80 min.
documentary | arts & culture, society & community | in development

DIRECTOR & SCREENPLAY: Soňa G. Lutherová

DOP: Noro Hudec

EDITOR: Peter Harum

PRODUCERS: Maroš Hečko, Peter Veverka (AZYL Production, SK)

CO-PRODUCER: Karla Stojáková (Filmkolektiv, CZ)

EXECUTIVE PRODUCER: Nataša Ďuričová

ESTIMATED BUDGET: € 267 700

PRINCIPAL PHOTOGRAPHY: Q3 2024 – Q1 2026

EXPECTED RELEASE: 2028

SYNOPSIS

Sláva is an opinionated femme fatale. Self-aware and reflexive. A forty-two-year-old independent artist and cultural nomad who gives her plays a unique character. Her artistic approach differs from her older male colleagues, and art answers all her personal worries and doubts. Or does it?

DIRECTOR'S NOTE

In this film, we will uncover Sláva's different "faces" – similar to the motif of applying/removing masks, as often repeated in Sláva's plays. The idea is not to place her on an artistic pedestal, but rather to introduce her as a complex person, hiding behind the carefully constructed image of a woman-creator-professional. Through the narration, I would like to induce viewers to contemplate these questions: What does it mean to live a meaningful life? What are we willing to sacrifice to achieve our goals? Are our choices autonomous or determined by past decisions? What social and cultural constraints face women in their professional and personal lives?

ABOUT THE DIRECTOR

Soňa G. Lutherová is a documentary filmmaker, social anthropologist, and writer. Her feature documentary debut, *A Happy Man* (2023), delves into the journey of a transgender man. This HBO MAX co-production had its world premiere at Hot Docs in Toronto. She has also authored a children's book on diversity, and works as a researcher at the Institute of Ethnology and Social Anthropology of the Slovak Academy of Sciences.

ABOUT THE PRODUCERS & PRODUCTION COMPANY

AZYL is a leading Slovak production company with a focus on author-driven films and an ongoing commitment to supporting new and emerging filmmakers. Dedicated to harnessing the power of film to change how we see the world and ourselves, AZYL produces films that are both entertaining and thought-provoking.

CONTACT

AZYL Production

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Soňa G.
Lutherová



Maroš
Hečko



Peter
Veverka



Nataša
Ďuričová



Sľubujem, budem v pohode Promise, I'll Be Fine

Slovakia – Czech Republic | 75 min.
fiction | drama | in post-production

DIRECTOR & EDITOR: Katarína Gramatová

SCREENPLAY: Igor Engler, Katarína Gramatová

DOP: Tomáš Kotas

PRODUCER: Igor Engler (DRYEYE Film, SK)

CO-PRODUCERS: Julie Marková Žáčková (NOCHI FILM, CZ),
Radio and Television Slovakia

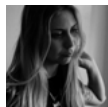
SUPPORT: Slovak Audiovisual Fund, Czech Film Fund,
Košice Region – Terra Incognita

ESTIMATED BUDGET: € 450 000

EXPECTED RELEASE: February 2025

CONTACT

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Katarína
Gramatová



Julie
Marková Žáčková

SYNOPSIS

Promise, I'll Be Fine follows 15-year-old Enrique and his mother, Martina. Enrique hopes for her return home so they can be together, instead of being apart due to her job. Living with his grandmother in a village, Enrique obeys his mother's requests in the hope that they'll save enough money to reunite. When he's not fulfilling her tasks, he enjoys riding mopeds around the village with friends. But everyone in the village knows something that he doesn't. Thanks to his friends, Enrique slowly discovers his mother's true intentions. Enrique is faced with the moral dilemma of either accepting the situation and being with his mother, or holding true to his values and cutting himself off from her abuse.

DIRECTOR'S NOTE

When I first visited this area in Slovakia, aptly referred to as Hungry Valley, my curiosity was piqued by the aimless lives and reliance on state support. How could fulfillment be found in such lives? Growing up here limits perspectives. And Eño, our troubled hero, also faces exploitation from his mother. Despite the presumption that mothers put their kids first, some instead prioritize their own prosperity – even at their child's expense. This reality isn't exclusive to Slovakia, it resonates around the globe.

ABOUT THE DIRECTOR

Katarína Gramatová, a rising talent in film, stands out as both a director and film editor. Having recently completed her film editing studies at the Academy of Performing Arts in Bratislava, she's swiftly drawing attention. Her debut short film, *Cherries* (2019) – which showcased her storytelling skills – was awarded a Special Mention at the Zlin Film Festival. She also excels in editing, working on diverse projects such as commercials for Oppo, Jagermeister, and Puma. With a versatile palette of skills, Gramatová played a key role in Stromae's *Santé* music video (55 million+ YouTube views), which highlights her dedication and compelling position as a promising director.

ABOUT THE PRODUCER & PRODUCTION COMPANY

Igor Engler, founder of DRYEYE Film, studied at the University of the Arts in London and is pursuing production studies at the National Film and Television School. DRYEYE Film co-produced *The Shift* (dir. Jaro Vojtek) in 2022. With his brother, Igor successfully produces Warner Bros.-licensed Harry Potter film concerts, which sold over 18 000 tickets in just two years. His journey blends education and real-world success in the dynamic film industry.



Svet stien World of Walls

Slovakia – Czech Republic – Belgium – South Africa | 80 min.
documentary | in pre-production

DIRECTOR & SCREENPLAY: Lucia Kašová

DOP: Martin Jurči

EDITOR: Filip De Pina

PRODUCER: Matej Sotník (guča films, SK)

CO-PRODUCERS: Wanda Kaprálová, Klára Mamojková (Claw, CZ),
Kristian Van der Heyden (Harald House, BE)

WORKSHOPS & FORUMS: East Doc Platform 2023, CEDOC Market 2023,
Emerging Producers 2024, Fipadoc Biarritz 2024 – Producers
Meet Producers

SUPPORT: Slovak Audiovisual Fund, Czech Film Fund,
Creative Europe MEDIA

ESTIMATED BUDGET: € 450 000

EXPECTED RELEASE: November 2025

CONTACT

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Lucia
Kašová



Matej
Sotník

SYNOPSIS

To evoke and imagine the near future, *World of Walls* is set in an environment of extreme social divisions and escalating climate crisis. The story takes place in an unspecified country that is being destroyed by ongoing environmental disasters, located in today's South Africa. The rich are living inside strictly protected luxury estates with secure infrastructure, while the rest of the world survives on scarce resources. People knew these catastrophes were coming, but ignored the fact. The dystopian reality is revealed through the eyes of Lorraine and Elizabeth, with each girl living on opposite sides of the wall.

DIRECTOR'S NOTE

It is likely that the South African model of economic segregation will soon spread to the rest of the world, with natural resource scarcities and civil unrest becoming the norm. The protagonists of our film are people rooted in their own home environment, where they face real problems in their daily lives: lack of energy, lack of drinking water, high crime rates. Our film works with already existing scientific assumptions of ecological crises, which it materialises by assembling fragments of South Africa's present and from them composing a picture of a foreseeable future.

ABOUT THE DIRECTOR

Lucia Kašová is an independent documentary director with a focus on questions of freedom, equality, and strong character-driven stories. Her feature-length debut *The Sailor* (2021) premiered at Hot Docs, won the Grand Prix as best feature documentary at Academy Award-qualifying Flickers' Rhode Island IFF, and travelled to many international film festivals. Lucia's short *Orchestra From the Land of Silence* (2020), portraying Afghanistan's all female orchestra, toured schools in Germany and Slovakia and has been screened at over 40 festivals worldwide.

ABOUT THE PRODUCER & PRODUCTION COMPANY

Matej Sotník is a producer at guča films and the creative director at Film Expanded distribution company. He is the producer of *Notes from Eremocene* by director Viera Čákanyová, which had its world premiere at Berlinale 2023. He is currently (co-)producing six feature-length international co-productions in various stages. He is alumnus of Emerging Producers 2024, MIDPOINT Series Launch, MFI Doc Lab, IDFAcademy, and co-founder of the Slovak Documentary Film Association. guča films is an independent Bratislava-based production company. Its films have been screened and awarded at festivals such as Berlinale, Sheffield Dok/Fest, RIDM, Ji.hlava IDFF, Zagreb Dox, etc.



Tskaltubo Tskaltubo

Slovakia | 40 min.
documentary | in post-production

DIRECTOR & SCREENPLAY: Andrea Kalinová

DOP: Radka Šišuláková, Andrea Kalinová

EDITOR: Barbora Búbelová

PRODUCERS: Monika Lošťáková, Simona Hrušovská (Super film, SK)

SUPPORT: Slovak Audiovisual Fund

ESTIMATED BUDGET: € 75 000

EXPECTED RELEASE: Autumn 2024

SYNOPSIS

Tskaltubo was the most famous spa during the Soviet Union era. After this country's collapse and the subsequent war between Abkhazia and Georgia, the spa became the territory's largest refugee camp (approximately 6 000 people). After 30 years, the government decided to make Tskaltubo a famous resort again, and thus moved most of the displaced people to a new housing estate in the suburbs. The film follows the last residents of one of the sanatoriums who opted to stay there for as long as possible. Despite the trying conditions, they created a new home there and became a family.

DIRECTOR'S NOTE

The basis of the film lies in the conflict between past and present, whilst its main element is the timelessness in which many of the protagonists live. The film's tempo is slow and calm to reflect both spa life and the lives of those stuck in it. The film asks questions that are universal for anyone who had to involuntarily leave home. Can someone be reconciled to loss of home and displacement? What is home?

ABOUT THE DIRECTOR

Andrea Kalinová studied photography and new media at the Academy of Fine Arts and Design in Bratislava. Her graduation film *The Secret of One Swimming Pool* (2006) is a mockumentary exploring the never finished swimming pool above the tram tunnel in Bratislava. Andrea is a part of the art group NGO *Opustená (re)kreácia / Abandoned (re) creation*, which works on the restoration of the abandoned *Machnáč* sanatorium in Trenčianske Teplice. *Machnáč* also played a starring role in her film *Off Season* (2018).

ABOUT THE PRODUCERS & PRODUCTION COMPANY

Super film, founded in 2015, is an independent Bratislava-based production company. Super film is mainly focused on animated and educational film projects for children and young adults, and documentary films. The company is currently expanding its portfolio with interesting co-production projects, including feature fiction films.

CONTACT

Super film
www.superfilm.me
info@superfilm.me
+421 907 120 906



Andrea
Kalinová



Monika
Lošťáková



Venuša v retrográde Venus in Retrograde

Slovakia | 15 min.
fiction | social drama, coming of age | in post-production

DIRECTOR & SCREENPLAY: Štefánia Lovasová

DOP: Michaela Hošková

EDITOR: Marek Bihuň

PRODUCER: Michaela Kaliská (NINJA FILM, SK)

WORKSHOPS & FORUMS: Ji.hlava New Visions Co-production
Market 2022, Elbe Dock Film Inn Producers Workshop 2023

SUPPORT: Slovak Audiovisual Fund

ESTIMATED BUDGET: € 36 000

EXPECTED RELEASE: 2024

CONTACT

NINJA FILM
m.kaliska@gmail.com
+421 917 640 496



Štefánia
Lovasová



Michaela
Kaliská

SYNOPSIS

Video footage shot by two sisters portrays their escape from the real world through their phone while living with their mother, who is escaping the same world but with the help of alcohol. Their nice memories are interwoven with the family's struggles.

DIRECTOR'S NOTE

17-year-old Aňa wants to capture on video everything beautiful and amusing around her. So does her little sister Maťa. By subconsciously distancing from the world and looking at every moment in their lives through the phone, they show us the relationship with their mother, who – due to alcohol – seems to also distance from everything. Phone videos are cut in this fiction short film that builds a powerful story of sisters dealing with their mother's addiction. Experimenting with the "found footage" form enables us to look into Aňa's and Maťa's heads in an innovative way. Their filmed shots, framing, moods, and moments show us how they really feel: screaming, singing, crying...

ABOUT THE DIRECTOR

Štefánia Lovasová is a young female director based in Bratislava and London. Her shorts have been premiered at several international festivals, including Premiers Plans Angers and CaFoscari Short Film Festival Venice. She finished

her Master's degree in fiction film directing at the Academy of Performing Arts in Bratislava. She is currently studying at the National Film and Television School, London. Her focus is on films about children and young adults who are dealing with social problems. She experiments with the form, and seeks a new film language that will speak for the upcoming generations who use audiovisual media in their everyday lives.

ABOUT THE PRODUCER & PRODUCTION COMPANY

Michaela Kaliská is a Bratislava-based producer. She completed her Master's degree at the Film and Television Faculty of the Academy of Performing Arts in Bratislava. She also spent one semester at FAMU in Prague. In 2019 – 2022 she was the executive producer of three short documentary films shot in Slovakia, the UK, and Turkey within the EU CHIEF European research project. She worked as a PR assistant at Nová Cvernovka cultural centre (Bratislava), and as a production manager at the established MPhिल्ms production company. In 2021 she co-founded the Bratislava-based NINJA FILM production company with director Martina Buchelová – they aim to give space to young voices and bolder audiovisual approaches in cinema. They are currently finishing their feature debut *Lover, Not a Fighter* (dir. Martina Buchelová) and the short film *Venus in Retrograde*.

Works in Progress

Tutor



Gabriele Brunnenmeyer

Gabriele Brunnenmeyer is a script mentor, pitching coach, and project consultant. She ran the MEDIA Antenna Berlin-Brandenburg and has developed industry events including Connecting Cottbus, the IDM Film Conference Incontri, and MDM's Meet Your Neighbour in Leipzig. Alongside consulting on script development, packaging, and pitching for individual projects, she consults for several European training programmes such as HerArts FilmLab, MIDPOINT Feature Launch, Cutting Edge Talent Camp, Baltic Pitching Forum, Euro Connection Clermont-Ferrand, Cannes Court Métrage, AKM, Berlinale Talents & Sarajevo Talents, etc.

Successful projects previously presented at

BRATISLAVA INDUSTRY DAYS

Of the films presented at BID Works in Progress since 2016, 58 have been completed and many enjoyed a successful festival and distribution run.

Ako som sa stala partizánkou /

How I Became a Partisan

SK – CZ | dir. Vera Lacková | prod. Media Voice
BID 2019 | WP: goEast Wiesbaden 2021

Amnestie / Amnesty

SK – CZ | dir. Jonáš Karásek | prod. AZYL Production
BID 2019 | WP: 2019

Architekt drsnej poetiky / Architect of Brutal Poetry

SK – CZ – BR | dir. Ladislav Kaboš | prod. EDIT Studio
BID 2021 | WP: IFF Cinematik Piešťany 2021

Backstage

SK – CZ | dir. Andrea Sedláčková | prod. ARINA
BID 2016 | WP: Zlín IFF 2018

Bolo raz jedno more... / Once There Was a Sea...

SK – PL | dir. Joanna Koźuch | prod. BFILM
BID 2017 | IP: Clermont-Ferrand ISFF 2022

Cenzorka / IO7 Mothers

SK – CZ – UA | dir. Peter Kerekes | prod. Punkchart films
BID 2016 | WP: Venice IFF 2021

Cesta do nemožna / The Impossible Voyage

SK – CZ | dir. Noro Držiak | prod. MEDIA FILM (SK),
KABOS Film & Media (CZ) | BID 2019 | WP: 2019

Čiara / The Line

SK – UA | dir. Peter Bebjak | prod. Wandal Production
BID 2017 | WP: Karlovy Vary IFF 2017

Čiary / Lines

SK | dir. Barbora Sliepková | prod. HITCHHIKER Cinema
BID 2018 | WP: Jihlava IDFF 2021

Dežo Hoffmann – fotograf Beatles / Dezo

Hoffmann – Photographer of The Beatles

SK – CZ | dir. Patrik Lančarič | prod. Trigon Production
BID 2016 | WP: 2022

Diera v hlave / A Hole in the Head

SK – CZ | dir. Robert Kirchhoff | prod. HITCHHIKER Cinema
BID 2016 | WP: Ji.hlava IDFF 2016

Divoké bytosti / Wild Beasts

SK – CZ | dir. Marta Prokopová, Michal Blaško
prod. Super film (SK), MAUR film (CZ)
BID 2017 | IP: Uppsala Short FF 2020

Dobrá smrt' / The Good Death

SK – CZ – FR – DE – AT | dir. Tomáš Krupa | prod. Hailstone
BID 2017 | WP: Ji.hlava IDFF 2018

Et j'aime à la fureur / Flickering Ghosts of Loves Gone By

FR | dir. André Bonzel | prod. Les films du poisson (FR)
BID 2016 | WP: Festival de Cannes 2021

Fantasy

SK | dir. Samuel Vičan, Anastasia Hoppanová
prod. BeOnMind | BID 2020 | WP: 2024

Hluché dni / Silent Days

SK – CZ | dir. Pavol Pekarčík | prod. partizanfilm
BID 2017 | WP: Karlovy Vary IFF 2019

Hotel Úsvit / Sunrise Hotel

SK | dir. Mária Rumanová | prod. Punkchart films
BID 2016 | WP: IDFA 2016

Invalid

SK – CZ | dir. Jonáš Karásek | prod. AZYL Production
BID 2022 | WP: 2023

Katedrála / The Cathedral

SK | dir. Denis Dobrovoda | prod. Kolsa Films SK
BID 2022 | WP: Krakow FF 2022

Kid

SK | dir. Gregor Valentovič | prod. FTF VŠMU, ARTICHOKE
BID 2018 | WP: Karlovy Vary IFF 2019

Letní rebeli / Summer Rebels

SK – DE | dir. Martina Saková | prod. Silverart (SK),
PROJECTOR23 (DE) | BID 2016 | WP: BIKY Busan 2020

Loli paradička

SK | dir. Richard Staviarsky, Vít Staviarsky
prod. STAVIARSKY | BID 2018 | WP: Art Film Fest Košice 2019

Malá ríša / Little Kingdom

SK – IS | dir. Peter Magát | prod. FilmFrame
BID 2019 | WP: 2019

Moc / Power

SK – HU – CZ | dir. Mátyás Prikler | prod. MPhilms
BID 2021 | WP: IFF Rotterdam 2023

Nech je svetlo / Let There Be Light

SK – CZ | dir. Marko Škop | prod. ARTILERIA
BID 2018 | WP: Karlovy Vary IFF 2019

Neviditeľná / Unseen

SK | dir. Maia Martinjak | prod. ARINA
BID 2020 | WP: CPH:DOX 2020

Nina

SK – CZ | dir. Juraj Lehotský | prod. Punkchart films
BID 2017 | WP: Karlovy Vary IFF 2017

Obeť / Victim

SK – CZ – DE | dir. Michal Blaško | prod. nutprodukcia
BID 2020 | WP: Venice IFF 2022

Oči plné piesku / Gritty Eyes

SK – CZ | dir. Juraj Janiš | prod. HITCHHIKER Cinema
BID 2022 | WP: 2023

Ochádzania / Leaving to Remain

SK – GB – CZ | dir. Mira Erdevicki | prod. PubRes
BID 2021 | WP: Ji.hlava IDFF 2022

Olympijský medzičas / Olympic Halftime

CZ – SK – GR – HK | dir. Haruna Honcoop
prod. Dífilm (CZ) | SK co-prod. VIRUSfilm | BID 2020
WP: Ji.hlava IDFF 2023

Ostrým nožom / By a Sharp Knife

SK – CZ | dir. Teodor Kuhn | prod. nutprodukcia
BID 2016 | IP: Shanghai IFF 2019

Piargy / The Ballad of Piargy

SK – CZ – MK | dir. Ivo Trajkov | prod. ARINA
BID 2017 | IP: FF Cottbus 2022

Pivnica / The Cellar

SK – RU – CZ | dir. Igor Vološin | prod. FURIA FILM
BID 2017 | IP: Busan IFF 2018

Plastic Symphony

SK – PL – CZ | dir. Juraj Lehotský | prod. ARYTMIA
BID 2021 | WP: Tallinn Black Nights 2022

Po sezóne / Off Season

SK | dir. Andrea Kalinová | prod. Archimera
BID 2018 | WP: IFF Cinematik Piešťany 2018

Pozor, padá SNG! / Hanging Without Walls

SK | dir. Jana Durajová, Lena Kušnieriková
prod. PubRes | BID 2023 | IP: Thessaloniki IDFF 2024

Prázdna množina / No Elements

SK | dir. Barbara Vojtášková | prod. FTF VŠMU
BID 2022 | WP: Doclisboa 2022

22

Raj na zemi / Paradise on Earth

SK | dir. Jaro Vojtek | prod. MPhिल्ms
BID 2018 | WP: Ji.hlava IDFF 2019

Redaktsiya / The Editorial Office

UA – DE – SK – CZ | dir. Roman Bondarchuk |
prod. Moon Man (UA) | SK co-prod. Silverart | BID 2023
WP: Berlinale 2024

Samorast (O sliepkach a ľudoch) / Maverick (Of Hen and Men)

SK | dir. Peter Hoferica | prod. FTF VŠMU
BID 2021 | WP: 2021

Si aj to, čo si nepamätáš / Purple Is a Nice Color

SK | dir. Dorothea Vlnová | prod. FTF VŠMU
BID 2020 | WP: 2021

Skutok sa stal / Never Happened

SK – CZ | dir. Barbora Berezňáková | prod. LEON Productions
BID 2018 | IP: Warsaw FF 2019

Slúžka / The Chambermaid

SK – CZ | dir. Mariana Čengel Solčianská | prod. Bright Sight
Pictures | BID 2017 | WP: Tallinn Black Nights 2022

Služobníci / Servants

SK – RO – CZ – IE | dir. Ivan Ostrochovský
prod. Punkchart films | BID 2016 | WP: Berlinale 2020

Spoons

SK | dir. Jana Smokoňová | prod. Teren production
BID 2018 | WP: 2019

Správa / The Auschwitz Report

SK – CZ – DE | dir. Peter Bebjak | prod. D.N.A.
BID 2018 | WP: 2020

Strigov

SK | dir. Barbora Berezňáková | prod. Známa firma
BID 2021 | WP: Docavin 2022

Šťastný človek / A Happy Man

SK – CZ | dir. Soňa G. Lutherová | prod. AZYL Production
BID 2021 | WP: Hot Docs Toronto 2023

The Sailor

SK | dir. Lucia Kašová | prod. TOXPRO
BID 2019 | WP: Hot Docs Toronto 2021

Ticho na poli / Homeland of Silence

SK | dir. Štefánia Lovasová | prod. FTF VŠMU
BID 2019 | WP: 2022

To ta monarchia / King Bee

SK | dir. Vladislava Sárkány | prod. sarkany
BID 2019 | WP: IDFF One World Slovakia 2020

Tvojazem / Journey to Yourland

SK – BE – CZ | dir. Peter Budinský | prod. BFILM
BID 2017 | WP: Zlín FF 2022

Učiteľka / The Teacher

SK – CZ | dir. Jan Hřebejk | prod. PubRes
BID 2016 | WP: Karlovy Vary IFF 2016

Územie fantázie / Territory of Imagination

SK | dir. Paula Malářová | prod. CinePunkt
BID 2020 | WP: Beldocs 2023

Villa Lucia

SK – CZ | dir. Michal Kollár | prod. KFS production
BID 2018 | WP: 2023

Vulturii din Taga / The Eagles from Taga

RO – SK | dir. Adina Popescu, Iulian Manuel Ghervas
prod. WE ARE BASCA (RO) | SK co-prod. LEON Productions
BID 2019 | WP: 2022

Zošalieť / Unbalanced

SK – CZ | dir. Zuzana Piusi | prod. VIRUSfilm
BID 2021 | WP: Tallinn Black Nights 2022

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Program

March 18

Works in Progress presentation

10:00 | Slovak National Gallery

Networking lunch

12:00 | Café Opera

Individual meetings

14:00 | Hotel Danubia Gate

Industry drink with Ji.hlava IDFF

17:30 | KafeHaus Lumière



Awards Ceremony & screening of Dry Season

18:30 | Cinema Lumière

Afterparty with karaoke

22:00 | Temný Ost Block