

CENTRAL EUROPEAN CINEMA
STAND NO. 126
EUROPEAN FILM MARKET BERLIN 2011
MARTIN-GROPIUS-BAU

WHAT'S
SLOVAK
IN
BERLIN
10.-20. 2. 2011

>THE HOUSE

>MATCHMAKING MAYOR

>MARKET SCREENINGS

>ACCOMPANYING EVENTS

>SLOVAK FILM NEWS

FORUM AT BERLINALE 2011



ZUZANA LIOVÁ
(*1977, Žilina – Slovakia)



Scriptwriter and director. Studied scriptwriting and script editing at VSMU in Bratislava, Slovakia. Started her career as a script editor, later shot several television documentaries and co-operated on TV series as a scripwriter. In 2005 she shot her first feature film for television – *Silence*, receiving a number of awards.

In 2003 she became the winner of the Tibor Vichta Award, at the the National Screenplay Contest. She also participated at the ScipTeast 2006, winning the main prize of the programme – the Krzysztof Kieslowski Award in 2007 for the screenplay for *The House*. She is a Nipkow Programme graduate and took part at various film workshops in Spain and Poland.



THE HOUSE | DOM

CZ, SK – 2011 – 35 mm – 100 min. – fiction

Director: Zuzana Liová
Cast: Miroslav Krobot, Judit Bárdos, Tatjana Medvecká
World Premiere: 61st Berlinale 2011, Forum
Website: www.thehousefilm.com

The House is the story of love, the clash of two generations, and a longing for freedom.

Contact: Michal Kollar
fogndesirefilms.com
michal@fogndesirefilms.com
+421 905 619 027
www.fogndesirefilms.com

Festivals: John Riley
fogndesirefilms.com
john@fogndesirefilms.com
+420 606 659 725
www.fogndesirefilms.com

International PR: Petr Engliš
tiskove@dumfilm.cz
+420 724 934 243
www.thehousefilm.com

11.02. > 16:45 CineStar 8
12.02. > 13:45 CinemaxX6 (press/market screening)
12.02. > 20:00 Colosseum 1
13.02. > 12:30 Arsenal 1
20.02. > 21:30 Delphi-Filmpalast

INTERVIEW WITH ZUZANA LIOVÁ

> *The screenplay to The House won the the Award for Screenplay in Slovakia in 2003, and a Krzysztof Kieslowski Award in Cannes in 2007. Today, when there's such a great need for good screenplays, yours took nine years to make to the big screen. Why do you think that is?*

I kept going back to the screenplay in the course of six years with shorter or longer intervals. During that time, I made the movie *Silence*, and then I needed a break to recharge my energy, and for a while, I wrote for television. Finally, I got my screenplay to an acceptable shape at the ScipTeast workshop and I started looking for a producer. So, to answer your question – I guess there is a time for everything...

> *Similarly to your Slovak screenwriting colleagues, you also direct your feature debut. Is it something that was planned from the very beginning?*

Yes. When I talked to producers, I made it clear that I wanted to be the film's director.

> *What was it like to work with Miroslav Krobot, who waited over fifty years to be discovered by filmmakers?*

It was great. Mr. Krobot got straight on the wave-length of Imrich; we talked a lot about his character, we analyzed him, and since Mr. Krobot is a theatre director himself, we had deep discussions and he won me over completely. Also, the minimalist acting style that he prefers when he directs on stage was just what I wanted to do with my actors. I think that in Mr. Krobot's performance, Imrich became exactly what he was meant to be – a very strong, dominating man inside, a father sure of his truth, convinced that he's doing the best thing for his daughters and failing to see that he's actually hurting them.

FORUM AT BERLINALE 2011



MAREK URBAN
(*1977, Bratislava – Slovakia)



Documentary filmmaker and producer. Studied at City University and VSMU in Bratislava, Slovakia. In 2004 he founded his production company UN FILM, later in 2008 he founded the company sentimental film.

Co-producer of recent Slovak productions and co-productions, such as *Music* (dir. Juraj Nvota, 2007), *Small Celebrations* (dir. Zdeněk Tyc, 2008), the short *Ilja* (dir. Ivan Ostrochovský, 2009) and recently, the documentary film *Matchmaking Mayor* (dir. Erika Hníková, 2010). He also produced and directed short documentaries and music videos.



MATCHMAKING MAYOR
NESVATBOV

CZ, SK – 2010 – DCP – 72 min. – documentary

Director: Erika Hníková
World Premiere: 14th Jihlava International Documentary Film Festival
Website: www.nesvatbov.cz

A situational documentary film about a village mayor trying to match local people in their thirties who are still single.

Contact: Jiří Konečný
endorfilm.com
jiri@endorfilm.cz
+420 602 358 373
www.endorfilm.cz

Sales: Jarmila Outratová
Outcome.com
jarmila@outcome.cz
+420 776 066 165
www.outcome.cz

12.02. > 16:30 Delphi-Filmpalast
13.02. > 16:00 CinemaxX6 (press/market screening)
13.02. > 20:00 Colosseum 1
15.02. > 15:00 Arsenal 1
20.02. > 22:00 CineStar 8

INTERVIEW WITH THE SLOVAK
CO-PRODUCER – MAREK URBAN

> *The title of your movie translates into English is "No Wedding Village". How and when did you discover the village where the young do not feel like marrying or finding a partner?*

Originally, the movie was called "*Weddings According to the Mayor*" and was supposed to be a film about a mayor who has the recipe for the present-day phenomenon of singles. But as it usually happens with documentaries reality is the best screenwriter and our "*Wedding Village*" became "*No Wedding Village*", despite all the mayor's efforts.

> *In the past few years, Slovak documentaries have been very successful. Has it made any impact on the situation of raising money in Slovakia?*

Of course, it is easier to promote the future project of a director who is already known for the quality of his work or who has been recognized at film festivals. But we should keep in mind that most of these award-winning films were author films. And you try to finish such a film at all costs, regardless of the future profit or lack of it. But, even if you are a "filmo-throptist", you cannot keep up that attitude forever. Raising money for movies is difficult even in countries with well-functioning film industry and market, and it is more difficult in a small country, which is still searching for optimal means of financing.

> *What projects are you planning next?*

Right now we are in pre-production for the feature "*My Name Is Goat*", which is to be set in Slovakia, the Czech Republic, Germany, and possibly France. We are also producing two shorter films, and several projects are in development. Besides film projects, we are preparing a series of workshops for Slovak documakers.

MARKET SCREENINGS



3 SEASONS IN HELL
3 SEZÓNY V PEKLE

CZ,DE, SK – 2009 – 35 mm – 110 min. – fiction

Director: Tomáš Mašín
Cast: Kryštof Hádek, Karolina Gruszka, Jan Kraus, Martin Huba, Luboš Kostelný, Táňa Pauhofová
Intl. Premiere: 45th Karlovy Vary International Film Festival

Ivan Heinz, a handsome dandy, a witty provocateur, has just turned nineteen. The script was inspired by the life of one of the most famed figures of the Czechoslovak literary scene – Egon Bondy [1930 – 2007].

Contact: Miira Paasilinna
The Yellow Affair
miira@yellowaffair.com
+46 76 199 3166
www.yellowaffair.com

10.2. > 17:30 CinemaxX Studio 14

THE HOUSE

see festival screenings

MATCHMAKING MAYOR

see festival screenings

CONTACT

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SLOVAK FILM INSTITUTE

Slovak Film Archive – National Cinematographic Centre – seat of MEDIA Desk Slovak Republic film archive – library – publishing house – owner of producer's rights to Slovak films made in 1895-1991 – film promotion – member of FIAF and EFP

Representatives in Berlin 2011:

Peter Dubecký – General Manager
Alexandra Strelková, Katarína Tomková – National Cinematographic Centre

Slovak Film Institute
Slovenský filmový ústav
Grösslingová 32
811 09 Bratislava
Slovak Republic

tel: +421 2 5710 1503
fax: +421 2 5296 3461
e-mail: sfu@sfu.sk

www.sfu.sk | www.aic.sk



SLOVAK FILM NEWS

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ACCOMPANYING EVENTS

CINEMA TOTAL 4 – CALLING NEIGHBOURS

Focus: Hungary, Austria, Romania, Serbia, Slovakia

From February 12 to 16, 2011 at Collegium Hungaricum Berlin (CHB) the event-series Cinema Total will be opening its doors to producers, directors and actors during Berlinale. Cinema Total's Fourth Edition (CT4) is calling film professionals from Hungary and all its neighbouring countries to participate in unique events and to meet German and other international producers.

The programme of CT4 consists of the Sunday's Brunch, the Filmpolitical Round Table, True Stories event, Books at Sundown event, the Pitch Stop, the Cottbus Lounge and the Opening and Closing Party.

Slovakia will participate at the following programme:

TRUE STORIES

Screenwriting in Eastern Europe

True Stories is an event that examines the current state of writing for the screen, using examples of films from the region. Last year's participants included Florin Serban (winner of the Silver Bear 2010 for *If I Want to Whistle I Whistle*) and Jasmila Zbanić (winner of the Golden Bear in 2006 for *Grbavica*). ScriptEAST is a partner of the event, it will take place **on Monday, February 14, at 15:00**.

Slovak participant: **Zuzana Liová** (for details see front page of this newsletter)

> For more information see: www.hungaricum.de/cinematotal

PITCH STOP

Pitch Stop is a new and original format, an alternative pitch session, which has more in common with project case studies than classical pitch competitions. The event will take place **on Wednesday, February 16, at 15:00**.

PIARGY

Director: Lukáš Hanulák
Producer: Lukáš Hanulák / BigBangCreative

Antichrist Reborn is a thought about human suffering. It is based on the novel Piargy by a Slovak author František Švantner (1921 - 1950) and tries to answer three main questions of life: What is suffering? Why is it present in the world? What approach to take towards dealing with it?

Contact: **BigBangCreative**
contact@bigbangcreative.eu
+421 915 819 350
www.bigbangcreative.eu

SLOVAK FILM NEWS

WHAT WAS SLOVAK AT SUNDANCE 2011

Academy Award-winning director Kevin Macdonald (*State of Play*, *Last King of Scotland*, *Touching the Void*) has completed the making of *Life in a Day*, a documentary film capturing life around the world in a single day - July 24, 2010. Drawing from 4.500 hours of footage sent in from 192 countries, the film was produced by Ridley Scott's Scott Free UK in partnership with YouTube.

Contributors whose submissions were chosen are credited as co-directors and twenty-six of them had been invited to attend the world premiere of the film on January 27, 2011 as part of the Sundance Film Festival. The invited co-directors included Marek Mackovič, the director, scriptwriter and producer of the Slovak footage coming from his upcoming film *Okwhan Yoon*.

Okwhan Yoon, directed by Marek Mackovič and Dušan Milko, tells the story of a Korean lawyer who has been cycling the world for nine years to fight for freedom and inspired people to reconsider their fast and busy lifestyles. The film is scheduled for release in autumn 2012.

> For more information see: www.sundance.org, www.youtube.com/lifeinaday, www.okhwan.com

SLOVAK AUDIOVISUAL FUND AFTER A YEAR OF FUNCTION

In 2010, the new Slovak Audiovisual Fund was launched, replacing the grant program of the Ministry of Culture - the previous system of state film support, raising over € 7.3 million (compared to the annual average of € 4.5 million by the grant program in previous years).

2011 deadlines:

- > **January 31:** production, festivals, events, research, publishing, education;
- > **March 31:** development, distribution, research, publishing, education, digitization of cinemas;
- > **September 30:** development, production, distribution, festivals, events, digitization of cinemas;
- > **permanent call** (January 1 – September 30): stipends for scriptwriting, research and education, grants for international presentation of audiovisual works.

> For more information see: *Slovak Films 09-11* and www.avf.sk



Type of project	Number of applications	Total required amount (in €)	Number of supported projects	Total amount of grants (in €)
Feature films	116	28 422 667	41	3 684 470
Documentaries	133	6 954 798	65	710 582
Animation films	19	1 869 348	9	295 000
Children films	21	1 998 473	10	546 000
Other (school films, experimental, short debuts)	35	617 824	26	191 578
Distribution	68	974 494	37	290 900
Festivals, events, promotion	66	2 734 362	49	796 500
Education, research, publishing	35	667 235	23	216 500
Cinema digitization	15	750 704	5	170 000
TOTAL	508	44 909 905	265	6 901 530

Distribution of support from the Slovak Audiovisual Fund in 2010

SLOVAK FILM SOFTWARE CONQUERS HOLLYWOOD

Vlado Struhár started off as a video assist operator during the shooting of *The Peacemaker* in Bratislava. "I really had to record everything on VHS cassettes and I had to write down the codes of a particular shot on the cassette," Struhár recalls the early beginnings of the process. The arrival of computers digitized the video assist system. A lot of new products were introduced to the market. One of them was QTAKE invented by Vlado Struhár.

"The problem, of course, is that in the US they didn't believe at first that a software from some place called Slovakia could be cutting edge. They really care about support. But I'm a perfectionist and I try to solve any problems right away. They often called me at 3 a.m. from Hawaii saying 'Johnny Depp is standing here in front of the camera and it's not working!'. I had to find an American distributor and it helped magically.

It wasn't just 'some' Slovak software anymore, it came with the guarantee of a prestigious company," Struhár explains how he conquered Hollywood.

And what is so unique about QTAKE? „Unlike other hardware solutions, our software has the advantage of an instant usage of the video assist shots. It means that you need no transcriptions and conversions, it saves a lot of time. You can actually export the whole material for the editor and the editor doesn't have to wait anymore," Struhár explains.

3D cinema was revolutionary in terms of technology. Almost a half of QTAKE clients produce 3D films. The successful software is recently used in the production of the fourth part of the *Pirates of the Caribbean* by Rob Marshall featuring Johnny Depp, Geoffrey Rush and Penélope Cruz, and *Hugo Cabret* by Martin Scorsese starring Jude Law, Ben Kingsley and Chloe Moretz. It is already ordered for the making of *The Hobbit* by Peter Jackson and the the latest *Chronicles of Narnia*.

CATALOGUES ON SLOVAK FILMS



SLOVAK FILMS 09 – 11

Catalogue: general info on the Slovak Republic, full-length films 2009 – 2011, upcoming Slovak films, selected shorts 2009 – 2010
Slovak Film Guide: awards to Slovak films, film productions made in Slovakia, facts and figures, financial support, address book.

Released in January 2011

> the catalogue is available at the Central European Cinema Stand No. 126, Martin-Gropius-Bau
> online version of the catalogue and all the previously published catalogues available at www.aic.sk

SCRIPTEAST 2010

ScriptEAST is a year-long program for experienced scriptwriters in Central and Eastern Europe consisting of 3 stationary and 2 online sessions, focusing not only on developing but also promoting the scripts.

THE TOWN OF OTOL | MESTO OTOL

Scriptwriters: Laura Síváková, Bíba Bohinská
Producer: Patrik Pašš, TRIGON PRODUCTION

A restoration artist, Eva, comes to the town of Otol, located somewhere in Russia, to restore an Orthodox chapel. Upon her arrival she learns that her employer is a cruel oligarch who rules over the whole city. As Eva uncovers the layers of a precious wall painting, she is also discovering the heritage of the country's violent past. Is she going to be able to escape the town of Otol, or is she going to become its victim?

Contact: **TRIGON PRODUCTION, s.r.o.**
trigon@trigon-production.sk
+421-2-4445 8477,
+421-2-4445 6673
www.trigon-production.sk

Previous Slovak participants at ScriptEAST:

2009: **Zuzana Belková** (*Polystyrene*)
2006: **Zuzana Liová** (*The House* – winner of the Krzysztof Kieslowski Award, premiered at Berlinale 2011, Forum)

> For more information see: www.scripTEAST.pl