What’s Slovak in Trieste?

Slovak films at 30th Trieste Film Festival
18 – 25 January 2019

Slovak delegation and projects at WHEN EAST MEETS WEST
20 – 22 January 2019
SLOVAK FILM INSTITUTE AND SLOVAK FILM COMMISSION JOIN FORCES TO PROMOTE SLOVAKIA AT INTERNATIONAL FILM MARKETS.

EUROPEAN FILM MARKET, BERLINALE 2019
[ 7 — 15 FEBRUARY 2019 ]

MARCHÉ DU FILM, FESTIVAL DE CANNES 2019
[ 14 — 23 MAY 2019 ]
What’s Slovak at WHEN EAST MEETS WEST 2019?
WEMW 2019 East & West Focus
Central Eastern Europe: Czech Republic, Poland, Slovakia, Ukraine
Benelux: Belgium, Luxembourg, The Netherlands

IN THE SPOTLIGHT: BENELUX + CENTRAL EASTERN EUROPE funding landscape
Fund representatives from this year’s spotlight territories will be giving a comprehensive insight into current trends in their film industries and specific issues being addressed by the filmmaking community.
Panel session moderated by Martin Blaney (Screen International)

CO-PRODUCING BETWEEN BENELUX AND CENTRAL EASTERN EUROPE
Case studies moderated by Ilann Girard (OLFFI)
- A Certain Kind of Silence (d. Michal Hogenauer)
  Negativ Film Productions (CZ), Circe Films (NL), Tasse Film (LV)
- The Line (d. Peter Bebjak)
  Wandal Production (SK), Garnet International Media Group (UA)

January 20 » 15:30 - 18:30 » Starhotel Savoia Excelsior Palace

WEMW 2019 co-production market

VICTIM
OBEŤ

SK - CZ - UA 90 MIN.
DRAMA IN DEVELOPMENT
DIRECTOR: Michal Blaško (feature debut)
PRODUCER: Jakub Viktorín / nutprodukcia (SK)
CO-PRODUCTION: nutprodukce (CZ), ESSE Production House (UA)
FINANCIAL SUPPORT: Slovak Audiovisual Fund, Creative Europe, Czech Film Fund
EXPECTED RELEASE: 2020

PRESENTATION:
January 21 » 09:30 - 13:30
» Starhotels Savoia Excelsior Palace

Irina (40) is a single mother, a Ukrainian living in a small Czech town. One night, her teenage son Igor claims that he was assaulted by three young Roma men. Irina demands justice, and is met with great solidarity by her new society. Until she spots inconsistencies in her son’s account.

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Slovak delegation at WEMW 2019

Juraj Krasnohorský
– ARTICHOKE

ARTICHOKE is a Slovak production company founded in 2010 by Juraj Krasnohorský and Henrieta Cvangová, focusing on the production of feature, documentary and animation films for cinema and TV with an added artistic value. The company is currently in production of feature animation film *White Plastic Sky* (d. Tibor Bánočzi, Sarolta Szabó) co-produced with Hungary and France, stop-motion animation feature for children *Of Unwanted Things and People* (d. David Súkup, Ivana Laučíková, Leon Vidmar, Agata Gorządęk), co-produced with Czech Republic, Poland and Slovenia, and documentary feature by French director André Bonzel *Et j’aime à la fureur*, co-produced with France and HBO Europe and supported by Eurimages. Producer Juraj Krasnohorský is a MAIA and EAVE graduate and co-director of the MEDIA-supported training programme CEE Animation Workshop.

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Peter Badač
– BFILM

Peter Badač graduated in film production at the Academy of Performing Arts (VŠMU) in Bratislava and FAMU in Prague. He founded BFILM in 2010, film production company working with art-house fiction, animation and TV series operating both in Slovakia and Czech Republic. BFILM focuses on remarkable artistic quality and innovative approaches, working with carefully selected directorial talent, and is now one of the leading companies on the Slovak film market with 3 award-winning features and 7 shorts that competed in Cannes, Annecy, Berlin and Locarno, and were screened in Rotterdam, Karlovy Vary and other festivals, winning many awards. In 2018, Peter was a Producer on the Move at Festival de Cannes. Currently, he teaches at FAMU and VŠMU. He is a member of Slovak Film and Television Academy and European Film Academy.


Upcoming projects of BFILM are: *Heart of a Tower* (d. Peter Budinský, SK-CZ-BE, animation feature in development), *Virgin in the Underground* (d. Viliam Vadnal, SK-FR, tragicomedy/film noir in development), *The Nightsiren* (d. Tereza Nvotová, CZ-SK, drama in development), and *Martin and the Forest Secret* (d. Petr Oukropec, CZ-SK, youth film in post-production); Apart from feature films, Peter is also developing animated short films *The End* by Dávid Štumpf, Michaela Mihályiová (2019, SK-CZ) and *Once There Was A Sea* (2020, SK-PL) by Joanna Kožuch.
Rastislav Šesták established D.N.A. together with Peter Bebjak in 2001. Receiving valuable experience in television and commercial production, the company started producing independent arthouse short films *Darkroom* (2007, SK) and *voices* (2007, SK) directed by Peter Bebjak, which received attention and critical acclaim and were successful at the international festival circuit. Since 2007, the company produces artistically challenging feature films and has established strong relationships with young filmmaking talents, who are willing to cross the borders of genre and explore new narrative structures. With director Peter Bebjak, the company has produced melodrama *Apricot Island* (2007, SK), first Slovak horror *EVIL* (2007, SK), and psychological drama *The Cleaner* (2007, SK), all of which were presented at international film festivals world-wide and received awards. TV series *JUSTICE* (d. Peter Bebjak, 2017, CZ) won the Czech Lion Award for Best Television Film or Miniseries in 2018.

Upcoming projects of D.N.A. are: *The Report* (d. Peter Bebjak, SK-CZ-PL, drama in production) and *Emil* (d. Peter Bebjak, SK, comedy-drama in pre-production).

Katarína Tomková established kaleidoscope by Katarína Tomková, an EAVE Producers Workshop 2016 and SOFA 2015 graduate. It is providing the service of associate and delegate producing, co-producing and consultancy aimed at the international film industry. The film projects kaleidoscope aims at are mostly of an arthouse or cross-over genre, strong local and personal stories with a universal impact and a potential to become European co-productions or typical festival titles.

At the moment, Katarína is closely collaborating with Punk-chart films, for which she associate produced *5 October* (d. Martin Kollar, 2016, SK-CZ, world premiere at IFF Rotterdam) and co-produced *Hotel Sunrise* (d. Mária Rumanová, 2016, SK, world premiere at IDFA). She served as producer on the recently successful *Nina* by Juraj Lehotský (2017, SK-CZ, world premiere at Karlovy Vary IFF, Toronto IFF, FIPRESCI Award at Warsaw FF, Bronze Pyramid at Cairo IFF, Best Film at Neisse FF, Black Nights Tallinn IFF).

She is involved, among others, in *Little Moscow* (d. Grímur Hákonarson, IS-CZ-SK, creative documentary in post-production), *The Disciple* (d. Ivan Ostrohoovský, SK-RO-CZ-IE, drama in post-production), presented at connecting cottbus, Les Arcs FF - Works in Progress, and Arras Days - CNC Award for Best Project. She also presented upcoming documentary *A Long Day* by Pavol Pekarčík (SK, observational documentary in post-production) at Docu Talents from the East at Karlovy Vary IFF and Meeting Point Vilnius, where it received the Vilnius Goes to Cannes award, granted in collaboration with Marché du Film.
nutprodukcia focuses mainly on synergic Slovak-Czech projects that have an ambition to penetrate onto the European film market. More importantly, nutprodukcia strives to become a platform for young, talented filmmakers. After the successful co-production of Agnieszka Holland’s film Spoor (2017, PL-DE-SE-CZ-SK, Silver Bear Alfred Bauer Prize at Berlin IFF), and documentary Circus Rwanda (d. Michal Varga, 2018, CZ-SK, world premiere at Karlovy Vary IFF), nutprodukcia now works on several projects of young directors: By a Sharp Knife, feature debut by Teodor Kuhn, (expected release 2019, SK-CZ), short animation Eco Terro by Matúš Vizár, feature animation in development Tony, Shelly & Genius by Filip Pošivač, and also develops feature debut by Michal Blaško Victim, (SK-CZ-UA), which will be presented at the WEMW co-production market.

Production company Peter Kerekes was established in 1998 by Peter Kerekes, who works as producer, director and consultant. The company’s main focus is to produce creative documentaries with international potential. Currently, Peter is co-producing films with producers from the United Kingdom, Austria, Italy, Czech Republic, Croatia, Poland, Hungary, and Bulgaria. The company also regularly cooperates with Radio and Television Slovakia (RTVS) and Czech Television (ČT).


Katarína Krnáčová
– Silverart

Katarína Krnáčová is an Ex Oriente 2009 and an EAVE 2015 graduate. She was Slovak Producer on the Move at 70th Festival de Cannes. Within the production company MPhilms she worked on short film Thanks, Fine (d. Máté Prikler, 2009, SK, world premiere at Festival de Cannes - Cinéfondation), followed by fiction features Fine, Thanks (d. Máté Prikler, 2013, SK-HU, world premiere at IFF Rotterdam) and Slovakia 2.0 (2014, SK, 10 stories by 10 directors). She worked on development and pre-production of fiction feature My Dog Killer (d. Mira Fornay, 2013, SK-CZ, Tiger award at IFF Rotterdam and Slovak Academy Awards contender). In 2017, Katarína released her most recent feature Little Harbour (d. Iveta Grófová, SK-CZ) that was awarded with Crystal Bear at Berlin IFF and many other awards around the world.


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Wanda Adamík Hrycová
– Wandal Production

Wandal Production was established in 2007. Wanda Adamík Hrycová, company’s owner, has more than 20 years of experience in TV, film and theatre production, she produced 14 world known theatre musicals (e.g. Hello, Dolly!, The Birdcage, HAIR, Hamlet, Cleopatra, etc.), big TV shows (Pop Idol, The Voice, Strictly Come Dancing), TV fiction series and TV entertainment shows. Wandal Production focuses mainly on feature film and TV production. Furthermore, the company also participates as minority co-producer in strongly appealing international projects.

Recent films of Wandal Production: My Unknown Soldier (d. Anna Kryvenko, 2018, CZ-LV-SK, experimental documentary), The Line (d. Peter Bebjak, 2017, SK-UA, drama, world premiere and Best Director Award at Karlovy Vary IFF, 6 Slovak national film awards The Sun in a Net, and many more), Colette (d. Milan Cieslar, 2013, CZ-SK-NL, historical drama).

Upcoming projects are: Oligarch (d. Jonáš Karásek, SK, thriller in development), The Slavs (d. Peter Bebjak, Michal Blaško, Taras Dron, SK-UA, historical TV drama series in pre-production) and Hrdoba (d. Tamara Šimončíková Heribanová, SK, documentary in development).

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The Slovak Audiovisual Fund (AVF), operating since 2010, is the main public funding institution for the Slovak audiovisual culture and industry. The aim of the Fund is to support the entire film value chain - development, production, distribution and promotion of audiovisual works, cinemas, festivals, research, training activities, innovations and technologies. The Slovak Audiovisual Fund offers a 20% cash rebate of certified private expenses spent for film or TV production in the Slovak Republic.

Slovak Audiovisual Fund has launched its new organisational unit, the Slovak Film Commission (SFC), in order to promote Slovakia and its regions as a "film-friendly country" with the aim to become a more attractive and accessible partner for foreign film productions or domestic investors. Connecting professionals and providing expert guidance, the SFC is here for anyone seeking to create audiovisual content in Slovakia, whether it be a feature, a documentary, animation, TV series or a commercial.

Slovak Film Institute (SFI), established in 1963, member of FIAF and European Film Promotion, is the sole national institution in the field of cinematography in Slovakia. It consists of the National Film Archive, the Digital Restoration Centre and the National Cinematographic Centre. The National Film Archive preserves and protects national cinematographic heritage and makes it available for the public. At the same time, SFI handles producers rights to Slovak films produced by Slovak national studios until 1997.

The National Cinematographic Centre (NCC) is a national film promotion centre, promoting Slovak films and filmmakers internationally. It provides complex information services about Slovak cinema and organizes film events in Slovakia and abroad.
You have a long-standing history with Trieste Film Festival. Four years ago, Velvet Terrorists vied in the documentary competition. In 2017, Wishing on a Star won the CNC Development Award at When East Meets West. This year, not only you are a part of the Slovak delegation at WEMW, you are also one of the jury members of the co-production forum. What do you think of the Festival and WEMW?

I was in Trieste for the first time in 2010, when I introduced Cooking History and my wife her short animated film Stones. The festival, as well as the city were a very nice and welcoming experience for us. I keep coming back ever since, either with a film, or for WEMW.

Wishing on a Star is a Slovak-Italian-Austrian documentary-comedy about a peculiar astrologist who offers to her clients a simple but effective way of changing their destiny by taking a special trip on the day of their birthday. How did winning the main prize at WEMW help the project and how did it develop further since then?

It helped a lot. People from Arte, Yle, The Guardian, and various important film festivals showed interest in the project and approached us at WEMW. It wasn’t only a big help for the production side of the project, but the very positive feedback helped the film to gain self confidence as well. It is a very challenging and expensive project, but after the pitching and the positive reactions everything went “quite” smoothly.

Slovakia has the honor to be one of the East & West double focus spotlight regions this year, together with Czech Republic, Poland and Ukraine for Central Eastern Europe, as well as Belgium, Luxembourg and the Netherlands for the Benelux region. You have worked with some of these countries before. Do you see a potential for collaboration between these regions? What are your expectations?

I’ve seen many great projects from Poland, Hungary, Austria and Lithuania in the past years, so there surely is potential. I hope this year will be just as interesting and rich as the past ones. I have no specific expectations, I like to be surprised.

This year, the Festival celebrates its 30th anniversary, which is a very important date for many European countries including Slovakia - the 30th anniversary of the Fall of Communism. You were 15 years old back then. How did you experience these turbulent times as an adolescent and how did this personal experience influence your later work as filmmaker?

My father was a film director. As a child, I didn’t want to become one when I saw how he was struggling because of his work. I grew up during the normalization. I remember my father coming home devastated one night when the approval committee didn’t want to approve his film about Slovak ballads, saying the film was too sad. My father tried to explain to them that ballads are a genre with a sad ending, without success. The situation changed after 1989, when I was finishing high school and so I decided to study directing nevertheless. But sometimes I feel just like my father felt back then - I come home, open a bottle of beer and groan about incompetent people who have comments on my film. But I have a big advantage compared to him. If I don’t get the required financial support in Slovakia, I can still try to get it in Czech Republic, Austria, Italy, France, Brazil.

Can you tell us shortly, what films you are working on at the moment and what we can look out for in 2019?

In January, I’m shooting Wishing on a Star in Italy, project that started it’s road at the pitching session in Trieste in 2017. The film is about women searching for happiness, a fortune teller and surprising journeys. The film has a Hungarian director, a Slovak DoP, an Austrian co-producer and an Italian scriptwriter. The story is set in Italy as well. A typical co-production of the former Austro-Hungarian Monarchy, that couldn’t have started off anywhere else than in Trieste. Apart from that I’m working on another female topic – Slovak-Czech-Ukrainian co-production Censor, set in the female prison in Odessa.

Favorite food: Peach dumplings from my grandmother

One word that describes you best: Calm

A film you could watch million times over: Celebration in the Botanical Garden (d. Elo Havetta, 1969)
SLOVAK FILMS AT 30th TRIESTE FILM FESTIVAL
A book by a former SS officer detailing his time and deeds in Slovakia falls into the hands of the interpreter, Ali Ungár. He realises that the SS officer is responsible for the death of his parents. He travels to Vienna but, in place of the killer, he finds only his son, Georg, a former teacher who has distanced himself from his father’s past throughout his life. However, the interpreter’s visit awakens his interest and he decides to find out who his father actually was.

This film was financially supported by

**FEATURE COMPETITION**

**THE INTERPRETER**

**TLMOČNÍK**

**SK • CZ • AT 2018  113 MIN.  ROAD MOVIE**

**DIRECTOR:** Martin Šulík  
**SCREENPLAY:** Marek Leščák, Martin Šulík  
**DOP:** Martin Štrba  
**CAST:** Peter Simonischek, Jiří Menzel, Zuzana Mauréry, Attila Mokos  
**PRODUCTION:** Titanic (SK), IN Film Praha (CZ), coop99 Filmproduktion (AT), Radio and Television Slovakia (SK), Czech Television (CZ)

**WORLD PREMIERE:** 68th Berlin IFF

**SCREENING:**  
January 19 » 20:00 » Teatro Rossetti

**CONTACT:**  
SLOVAK PRODUCER » Titanic, sulikm@chello.sk  
FESTIVALS » Celluloid Dreams, Pascale Ramonda, pascale@pascaleramonda.com  
SALES » Celluloid Dreams, Hengameh Panahi, +33 1 49 70 03 70, info@celluloid-dreams.com, www.celluloid-dreams.com
DOCUMENTARY COMPETITION

OCCUPATION 1968
OKUPÁCIA 1968

SK · CZ · BG · PL · HU  2018  130 MIN.
CREATIVE DOCUMENTARY

DIRECTORS & SCREENPLAY: Evdokia Moskvina, Linda Dombrovszky, Maria Elisa Scheidt, Magda Szymków, Stephan Komandarev
DOP: Jakub Halousek, Ákos Nyoszoli, Zuzanna Kernbach, Vesselin Hristov, Moritz Tessendorf
CAST: Jurij Michailovič Jermakov, Lev Nikolaevič Gorelov, Maria Michailovna Ponomareva, Ilja Lvovič Smolokovsky, Sándor Oszlánczi, Irena Oratowska, Tadeusz Oratowski, Klaus Auerswald, Reinhard Bohse, Laura Hempel, Petar Nikolov

PRODUCTION: Peter Kerekes (SK), Hypermarket Film (CZ), Agitprop (BG), Silver Frame (PL), ELF Pictures (HU)

WORLD PREMIERE: 18th goEast FF

SCREENING:
January 20 » 20:00 » Teatro Rossetti

Documentary about the Occupation, as seen through the eyes of occupiers. Five countries from within the Warsaw Pact occupied Czechoslovakia in 1968. 50 years later, 5 directors from these 5 countries are going to shoot 5 short films about the invasion from the perspectives of people who played the part of occupiers.

This film was financially supported by

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FESTIVALS & SALES » Slingshot films
Manuela Buono, manuela@slingshotfilms.it
www.slingshotfilms.it
A film about (local) patriotism, tourism and emigration. The girl has lived in a gray, isolated country, enclosed by a huge wall. She has never travelled anywhere, but all her life she has been dreaming of leaving forever for a perfect world called Abroad.

This film was financially supported by

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BAŠ ČELIK, Jelena Mitrović
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occupant as soviet military, *My Unknown Soldier* shows how history destroys the lives of ordinary people.

This film was financially supported by

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SLOVAK PRODUCER » Wandal Production
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Analog Vision » michal@analog.vision

The story of two friends, comedian Pepe and soldier Prengel, takes place right after the end of WW II. Finding a treasure of Jewish gold turns them into an inseparable couple, later joined by Ester, a Jewish girl returning from a concentration camp. Thus, brought together by chance, each of the three homeless people in their very own ways tries to fulfill their dreams of happiness.

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