SLOVAK FILMS AROUND THE WORLD 2009
In 2008, a Slovak film was presented in the program of the Cannes International Film Festival for the first time after almost 40 years. *Blind Loves* by Juraj Lehotský was not only included in the 40. Directors’ Fortnight selection, but also received the C.I.C.A.E. Award for Art Cinema. From Cannes, *Blind Loves* set off for a successful festival spree around the whole world and collected many further international awards. The success of the film significantly contributed to the increase in the interest for the current Slovak cinematography and helped to place Slovakia among countries whose cinema is worth exploring into more details.

It is a very positive development, that in 2009 new Slovak films were able to continue in the success of 2008. Slovak films were selected for the programs of important international film festival in which they had been missing for many years, and, moreover, gathered further valuable awards to Slovak cinema.

*Soul at Peace* represented Slovakia in the Official Selection Competition of Karlovy Vary IFF after five years of absence, and *Osadné* was awarded the Best Documentary Film at the festival. *Moon Inside You* became one of the most discussed titles of the Locarno IFF’s 20. Critics’ Week as the first Slovak film ever to be selected for the independent festival section. For the first time since 1989, Slovak film was shown in the International Critics’ Week at Venice IFF, namely *Foxes* by the Slovak director Mira Fornay.

The documentary *Cooking History* by Keter Kerekes made it to the nomination list of the European Film Academy Documentary 2009 – PRIX ARTE, received the Golden Hugo Award at Chicago IFF, main Vienna Film Prize at Viennale, and many others. The world premiere of *The Border* by Jaro Vojtek was awarded by one of the latest awards of 2009, Between the Seas – Best East European Documentary Film Award at Jihlava Documentary IFF.

At home, Slovak films have also managed to awaken the interest of the local audiences, and the Top 10 list of Slovak films 1993 – 2009 by attendance shows three new titles in 2009.

There are far more Slovak films, festivals they were selected for and awards they received. This bulletin offers a short overview of the main highlights for Slovak cinema in 2009. Up-to-date and more complex information is available at the website www.aic.sk of the Audiovisual Information Centre of the Slovak Film Institute.

Alexandra Strelková
Slovak Film Institute
THE BORDER
(or. Hranica)
SK ✕️ 2009 ✕️ 35 mm ✕️ col.
✕ 72 min. ✕️ documentary
Director: Jaroslav Vojtek

Premiere: 28. 10. 2009
(Jihlava IFDF)
13. Jihlava International Festival
of Documentary Films 2009,
Czech Republic – see AWARDS
39. Rotterdam IFF 2010,
The Netherlands (confirmed)
www.border.sk

BROKEN PROMISE
(or. Nedodržaný sľub)
SK–CZ–USA ✕️ 2009 ✕️ 35 mm ✕️ col.
✕ 124 min. ✕️ fiction
Director: Jiří Chlumský

Premiere: 25. 4. 2009
(Los Angeles IJFF)
4. Los Angeles Jewish Film Festival
2009, USA – see AWARDS
12. Shanghai IFF 2009, China
29. San Francisco Jewish Film Festival
2009, USA
25. Festroia IFF – Setúbal 2009,
Portugal – see AWARDS
14. Pusan IFF 2009, South Korea
www.nedodrzanyslub.sk

COOKING HISTORY
(or. Ako sa varia dejiny)
AT–SK–CZ ✕️ 2009 ✕️ 35 mm ✕️ col.
✕ 88 min. ✕️ documentary
Director: Peter Kerekes

Premiere: 19. 2. 2009 (SK)
15. Visions du Réel Nyon 2009,
Switzerland
16. International Documentary Film
Festival HotDocs Toronto 2009,
Canada – see AWARDS
45. IFF Chicago 2009, USA
– see AWARDS
47. Viennale – Vienna IFF 2009, Austria
– see AWARDS
52. International Leipzig Festival for
Documentary and Animated Film 2009,
Germany – see AWARDS
www.cookinghistory.net

slovak and coproduction films at international film festivals in 2009
(selection)
FOXES
(Orig. Líštičky)
CZ–SK–IE • 2009 • 35 mm • col.
• 83 min. • fiction
Director: Mira Fornay

HEAVEN, HELL... EARTH
(Orig. Nebo, peklo...zem)
SK–CZ • 2009 • 35 mm • col.
• 95 min. • fiction
Director: Laura Siváková

MOON INSIDE YOU
(Orig. Mesiac v nás)
ES–SK–FR • 2009 • HDV • col.
• 75 min. • documentary
Director: Diana Fabiánová

Premiere: 9. 9. 2009 (Venice IFF)
66. Venice IFF 2009 – 24. International Critics’ Week, Italy
14. Pusan IFF 2009, South Korea
25. Warsaw IFF 2009, Poland
19. Film Festival Cottbus 2009, Germany – see AWARDS
20. IFF Stockholm 2009, Sweden

www.listicky.cz

Premiere: 16. 4. 2009 (SK)
33. Montreal World Film Festival 2009, Canada
40. Goa IFF 2009, India
7. Chennai IFF 2009, India
www.nebopeklozem.sk

Premiere: 8. 3. 2009 (ARTE),
13. 8. 2009 (Locarno IFF)
62. Locarno IFF 2009 – 20. Critics’ Week, Switzerland
33. World Film Festival Montreal 2009, Canada
3. Gotham Screen IFF New York 2009, USA – see AWARDS
45. Chicago IFF 2009, USA
22. IDFA Amsterdam 2009, The Netherlands
www.mooninsideyou.com
MY HUSBAND’S WOMEN
(Orig. Ženy môjho muža)
>> 85 min. >> fiction
Director: Ivan Vojnár

Premiere: 13. 6. 2009 (Shanghai IFF)
12. Shanghai IFF 2009, China
17. Art Film Fest IFF – Trenčianske Teplice / Trenčín 2009, Slovakia
44. Karlovy Vary IFF 2009, Czech Republic

www.zenymojhomuza.sk

OSADNÉ
(Orig. Osadné)
SK–CZ >> 2009 >> 35 MM >> col.
>> 65 min. >> documentary
Director: Marko Škop

Premiere: 7. 7. 2009
(Karlovy Vary IFF)
44. Karlovy Vary IFF 2009, Czech Republic – see AWARDS
25. Warsaw IFF 2009, Poland
53. Times BFI London Film Festival 2009, Great Britain – see AWARDS
52. International Leipzig Festival for Documentary and Animated Film 2009, Germany
22. IDFA Amsterdam 2009, The Netherlands

www.osadne.com

SOUL AT PEACE
(Orig. Pokoj v duši)
SK >> 2009 >> 35 MM >> col.
>> 97 min. >> fiction
Director: Vladimír Balko

Premiere: 29. 1. 2009 (SK)
44. Karlovy Vary IFF 2009, Czech Republic
11. Film Festival Mumbai 2009, India
19. Film Festival Cottbus 2009, Germany

www.pokojvdusi.sk
3 SEASONS IN HELL  
(Orig. 3 sezóny v pekle)  
CZ–SK << 2009 << 35 mm << col.  
>> 110 min. << fiction  
Director: Tomáš Mašín  
Premiere: 26. 11. 2009 (CZ)  
www.3sezonyvpekle.cz

IN THE ATTIC: WHO HAS A BIRTHDAY TODAY?  
(Orig. Na povale alebo kto má dnes narodeniny)  
>> 74 min. << animation  
Director: Jiří Barta  
Premiere: 4. 3. 2009 (CZ)  
www.oko-film.cz

T.M.A.  
(Orig.: T.M.A.)  
CZ–SK << 2009 << 35 mm << col.  
>> 90 min. << fiction  
Director: Juraj Herz  
Premiere: 7. 7. 2009  
(Karlovy Vary IFF)  
www.tma-film.cz

JÁNOŠÍK. A TRUE STORY  
(Orig. Jánošík. Pravdivá história)  
PL–SK–CZ–HU << 2009 << 35 mm  
>> col. << 137 min. << fiction  
Director: Agnieszka Holland, Kasia Adamik  
Premiere: 10. 9. 2009 (SK)  
www.janosik-film.sk

UNKNOWN HOUR  
(Orig. Hodinu nevíš)  
CZ–SK << 2009 << 35 mm << col.  
>> 95 min. << fiction  
Director: Dan Svátek  
Premiere: 27. 8. 2009 (CZ)  
www.hodinunevies.sk

BRATISLAVAfilm  
(Orig. BRATISLAVAfilm)  
SK << 2009 << 35 mm << col. << 78 min.  
>> fiction  
Director: Jakub Kroner  
(Art Film Fest IFF)  
www.bratislavafilm.sk

MOSQUITOES’ TANGO  
(Orig. Tango s komáromi)  
SK–CZ << 2009 << 35 mm << col.  
>> 97 min. << fiction  
Director: Miloslav Luther  
Premiere: 22. 1. 2009 (SK)  
www.tangoskomarmi.sk

for more information see the catalogue Slovak Films 07-09 and www.aic.sk
AWARDS 2009

European Film Awards

Cooking History (orig. Ako sa varia dejiny, dir. P. Kerekes, AT–SK–CZ) – nomination for European Film Academy Documentary 2009 – PRIX ARTE

Soul at Peace (orig. Pokoj v duši, dir. V. Balko, SK) – Slovak nomination for the EFA Award for Best Film

Tobruk (dir. V. Marhoul, CZ–SK) – selection for EFA Award for Best European Film 2009

Academy Award (Oscar)

Broken Promise (orig. Nedodržaný sľub, dir. J. Chlumský, SK–CZ–USA) – national nomination in the category Foreign Language Film

Czech Lion

16. annual film award of the Czech Film and Television Academy

Tobruk (dir. V. Marhoul, CZ–SK) – Best Cinematography, Best Music, Best Sound

Bathory (dir. J. Jakubisko, SK–CZ–UK–HU) – Best Artistic Act, Most Successful Film

FESTIVALS AND AWARDS 2009

presentation of Slovak and coproduction films at important international film festival and awards granted in 2009

Rotterdam IFF

Blind Loves (orig. Slepé lásky, dir. J. Lehotský, SK)

HotDocs Toronto


Los Angeles Jewish Film Festival

Broken Promise (orig. Nedodržaný sľub, dir. J. Chlumský, SK–CZ–USA) – Audience Award for Best Narrative Feature

Karlovy Vary IFF

Boxer and Death (orig. Boxer a smrť, dir. P. Solan, SK)

Broken Promise (orig. Nedodržaný sľub, dir. J. Chlumský, SK–CZ–USA)

Cooking History (orig. Ako sa varia dejiny, dir. P. Kerekes, AT–SK–CZ)

English Strawberries (orig. Anglické jahody, dir. V. Drha, CZ–SK–UA)

My Husband’s Women (orig. Ženy môjho muža, dir. I. Vojnár, SK–CZ–HU)

Soul at Peace (orig. Pokoj v duši, dir. V. Balko, SK)

T.M.A. (r. J. Herz, CZ–SK)

Tobruk (r. V. Marhoul, CZ–SK)

Locarno IFF – 20. Critics’ Week


Montreal World Film Festival

Heaven, Hell... Earth (orig. Nebo, peklo... zem, dir. L. Siváková, SK–CZ)

25. Festroia IFF – Setúbal
> Broken Promise (orig. Nedodržaný sľub, dir. J. Chlumský, SK–CZ–USA) – Silver Dolphin Best Actor (Samuel Spišák)

25. Warsaw IFF
> Broken Promise (orig. Nedodržaný sľub, dir. J. Chlumský, SK–CZ–USA)
> Foxes (orig. Líštičky, dir. M. Fornay, CZ–SK–IE)

45. Chicago IFF
> Cooking History (orig. Ako sa varia dejiny, dir. P. Kerekes, AT–SK–CZ) – Golden Hugo in Docufest Competition

53. Times BFI London Film Festival
> Osadné (orig. Osadné, dir. M. Škop, SK–CZ) – Nomination for the Grierson Award

52. International Leipzig Festival for Documentary and Animated Film
> Cooking History (orig. Ako sa varia dejiny, dir. P. Kerekes, AT–SK–CZ) – FIPRESCI Award
> Osadné (orig. Osadné, dir. M. Škop, SK–CZ)

47. Viennale – Vienna IFF
> Broken Promise (orig. Nedodržaný sľub, dir. J. Chlumský, SK–CZ–USA) – Vienna Film Prize – Main Award for Documentary Film

3. Memorimage IFF
> Broken Promise (orig. Nedodržaný sľub, dir. J. Chlumský, SK–CZ–USA) – Memorimage Award to the Best Production
> Cooking History (orig. Ako sa varia dejiny, dir. P. Kerekes, AT–SK–CZ)

13. Jihlava Documentary IFF
> The Border (orig. Hranica, dir. J. Vojtek, SK) – Between the Seas – Best East European Documentary Film Award

19. Cottbus Film Festival
> Foxes (orig. Líštičky, dir. M. Fornay, CZ–SK–IE) – DIALOGUE Prize for Intercultural Communication
> Soul at Peace (orig. Pokoj v duši, dir. V. Balko, SK)

52. International Leipzig Festival for Documentary and Animated Film

for more information see: www.aic.sk
## Top 10 Slovak Films 2009

as of October 31st by admission

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Country of Origin</th>
<th>Release</th>
<th>Admission</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2. Soul at Peace</td>
<td>SK</td>
<td>29. 01. 09</td>
<td>116 777</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. BRATISLAVAfilm</td>
<td>SK</td>
<td>30. 07. 09</td>
<td>59 804</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. The Great Thaw</td>
<td>CZ–SK</td>
<td>26. 02. 09</td>
<td>43 148</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Mosquitoes’ Tango</td>
<td>SK–CZ</td>
<td>22. 01. 09</td>
<td>40 613</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7. Heaven, Hell,... Earth</td>
<td>SK–CZ</td>
<td>16. 04. 09</td>
<td>13 059</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8. My Husband’s Women</td>
<td>SK–CZ–HU</td>
<td>25. 06. 09</td>
<td>12 219</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9. Osadné</td>
<td>SK–CZ</td>
<td>03. 09. 09</td>
<td>8 028</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10. Bathory</td>
<td>SK–CZ–UK–HU</td>
<td>10. 07. 08</td>
<td>5 544*</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* – 432 155 admissions since release

**Remark:** Only Slovak films and majority co-productions

**Source:** Union of Film Distributors of the Slovak Republic
**TOP 10 SLOVAK REPUBLIC 2009**

as of October 31st by admission

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TITLE</th>
<th>COUNTRY OF ORIGIN</th>
<th>RELEASE DATE</th>
<th>ADMISSION</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Ice Age: Dawn of the Dinosaurs</td>
<td>USA</td>
<td>02. 07. 09</td>
<td>392 350*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Angels &amp; Demons</td>
<td>USA</td>
<td>14. 05. 09</td>
<td>131 900</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Soul at Peace</td>
<td>SK</td>
<td>29. 01. 09</td>
<td>116 777</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6. Fly Me to the Moon</td>
<td>BE–USA</td>
<td>15. 01. 09</td>
<td>107 560</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7. Shameless</td>
<td>CZ</td>
<td>05. 02. 09</td>
<td>93 470</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8. Twilight</td>
<td>USA</td>
<td>15. 01. 09</td>
<td>86 318</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9. The Hangover</td>
<td>USA</td>
<td>02. 07. 09</td>
<td>69 034</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10. Hannah Montana: The Movie</td>
<td>USA</td>
<td>18. 06. 09</td>
<td>66 812</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* – there of 82 938 viewers of 3D version

**Source:** Union of Film Distributors of the Slovak Republic
### Top 10 Slovak Films 1993 – 2009

As of October 31st by admission

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Country of Origin</th>
<th>Release</th>
<th>Admission</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bathory</td>
<td>SK–CZ–UK–HU</td>
<td>10. 07. 08</td>
<td>432 155</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Fountain for Suzanne 2</td>
<td>SK</td>
<td>18. 06. 93</td>
<td>343 206</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Soul at Peace</td>
<td>SK</td>
<td>29. 01. 09</td>
<td>116 777</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Fountain for Suzanne 3</td>
<td>SK</td>
<td>26. 08. 99</td>
<td>112 353</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Suzanne</td>
<td>SK</td>
<td>14. 09. 96</td>
<td>98 324</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>...Crying for the Moon</td>
<td>SK</td>
<td>28. 04. 95</td>
<td>76 771</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Passionate Kiss</td>
<td>SK–CZ</td>
<td>28. 01. 95</td>
<td>64 124</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BRATISLAVAfilm</td>
<td>SK</td>
<td>30. 07. 09</td>
<td>59 804</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>On the Beautiful, Blue Danube</td>
<td>SK</td>
<td>03. 06. 94</td>
<td>57 006</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Remark:** Only Slovak films and majority co-productions

**Source:** Union of Film Distributors of the Slovak Republic