



Bratislava Industry Days

March 21 – 22, 2022



A new name means a new beginning – and new opportunities.

It's been three long years since we last met in Bratislava, and we believe that now it's better to look ahead and build towards the future (since presenting upcoming films is ultimately the core of our program). To make our step into the post-pandemic reality even more symbolic, we have tweaked our name. So from now on, you can call us **Bratislava Industry Days**. After last year's introduction of a cash award for the most promising project, we have added a prize thanks to our partnership with Cineuropa.

We aim to bring new impulses to Slovak cinema, and to showcase Slovak talent to international audiences. On the last pages of last year's catalogue we listed

26 successful projects that had been pitched at our Works in Progress section, and within just 12 months that number had risen to 33. We were delighted to add to the list films that had premiered at Cannes, Venice, Clermont-Ferrand, and Hot Docs. We are confident that the projects presented at this year's edition will follow their success.

Many thanks to all my colleagues who have invested their energy and expertise into making this event happen; many thanks to all our partners for supporting us; and many thanks to all of you for staying with us and being interested in Slovak cinema.

Tomáš Hudák

Head of Bratislava Industry Days

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Awards



Best Febio Pitch Award

Sponsored by IFF Febiofest, Bratislava Industry Days' main prize is € 3 000 for the most promising project. Awarded by an international jury.



Cineuropa Work in Progress Award

One project is awarded coverage throughout the various stages of development and distribution by Cineuropa. Awarded by Martin Kudláč, Cineuropa correspondent.

Industry Jury



Daniela Cölle

Daniela Cölle received her MA and PhD in Film Theory and Critique from the Film and Television Faculty (Academy of Performing Arts) in Bratislava (SK). After her studies, she worked as a film curator and journalist, a European Cultural Society project manager for e-learning film programs, and worked on several independent film productions. She was subsequently CEO of the Filmtopia distribution company (2012 – 2014) and EURIMAGE Representative Deputy for Slovak Republic (2014 – 2016). She has been a co-organizer and artistic director of the Film Festival 4 Elements (SK) since 2010, and was its executive director until 2017. In 2016 she joined Pluto Film.



Rohan Berry Crickmar

Rohan Berry Crickmar is an Edinburgh-based documentary producer. He works with the directors Carla Shah Laroche, Tasos Giapoutzis, and Léa Luiz de Oliveira through his Everything Was Decided in Movement production company. He has also been part of the documentary programming team at Edinburgh IFF for five years, and Cork IFF for four years. He has a particular interest and focus on Eastern and Central European documentary, and is keen to see strong narrative docs and formally innovative features, especially those embracing unusual perspectives and viewpoints.



Joana de Sousa

Joana de Sousa is a programmer and filmmaker. She studied Communication Sciences in Lisbon, and subsequently received a full scholarship to study Documentary Filmmaking at DocNomads: a co-joint master's programme across universities in Portugal, Hungary and Belgium. Since 2011, Joana has been a part of Rabbit Hole – a collective and interdisciplinary artistic platform for creation and experimentation. Between 2010 and 2012 she was a producer at Queer Lisboa – International Queer Film Festival. Her first short film, *Bétail* (2014), was selected and awarded by several international festivals. She has participated as a guest curator, jury member, and speaker at international festivals in Copenhagen, Lisbon, Porto, Recife, Rio de Janeiro, among others. She is currently in the Direction of Doclisboa – International Film Festival.

Works in Progress

Selected projects



Ahoj leto Hello Summer

Slovakia – Czech Republic | 10 min.
animation | comedy | in pre-production

DIRECTORS: Martin Smatana, Veronika Zacharová

SCREENPLAY: Martin Smatana

DOP: Ondřej Nedvěd

EDITOR: Alexander Kashcheev

PRODUCER: Martin Smatana (Studio Bororo, SK)

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

WORKSHOPS & FORUMS: Animation Sans Frontières 2019 – 2020, Berlinale Talents 2020, MIFA Annecy 2020, CEE Animation Forum 2021, Animarkt Stop Motion Forum 2021, Euro Connection 2022

SUPPORT: Slovak Audiovisual Fund, Czech Film Fund

ESTIMATED BUDGET: € 170 000

PRINCIPAL PHOTOGRAPHY: 2022 – 2023

EXPECTED RELEASE: February 2024

CONTACT

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Martin
Smatana

SYNOPSIS

Hello Summer is a short comedy film for children and their parents about a family that expects to have the best summer holiday ever. But instead they end up experiencing a rollercoaster of troubles until they find out what their holiday is really about.

DIRECTOR'S NOTE

The topic of this film comes from my childhood, the annual summer holiday with my parents and brother. Before the holiday, we were always full of expectations and imagined having the best time ever. But usually, as soon as we arrived at our destination, the reality was completely different than expected. We started to argue, we were frustrated, and sometimes we even split and everybody went their own way. But we soon realised that we missed each other. We then met up again, and found some fun activities we enjoyed together. And the holiday was no longer that bad. (Martin Smatana)

ABOUT THE DIRECTOR

Martin Smatana (1991, Slovakia) is a graduate of Animation at FAMU in Prague. His debut short film *Rosso Papavero* (2015) premiered at Berlinale and won 15 international awards. His graduation film *The Kite* (2019) premiered at Berlinale, was selected for the semi-finals of the Student Academy Awards,

included in the Film Collection of MoMA in New York, and won over 50 international awards including the Children Audience Awards in Annecy and Stuttgart. Martin recently released the *A Year of Good News* illustrated book, and for the last two years has been developing the *Hello Summer* short animated film.

Veronika Zacharová studied graphic design in Uherské Hradiště before turning to animated film. During her studies at UTB Zlín, she made several short animated films, mainly for children. *What Happened at the Zoo* (2015), *What Bears Love* (2015), and her graduate film *House* (2016) were screened and awarded at festivals around the world. She authored Anifilm festival's previous visual and opening video. She works as animator and illustrator at the Krutart animation studio in Prague.

ABOUT THE PRODUCER & PRODUCTION COMPANY

Studio Bororo is a new collective of several creative spirits based in Slovakia, launched in 2019 by animation director Martin Smatana. Besides producing several commercials and documentary films, Studio Bororo is currently developing two animated projects for children – the short *Hello Summer* and the series *Romeo and Tango*.



Dvadsaťsedem Twentyseven

Slovakia – Hungary – Czech Republic | 100 min.
fiction | in development

DIRECTOR & SCREENPLAY: Gregor Valentovič

PRODUCER: Zora Jaurová (MPhilms, SK)

SUPPORT: Slovak Audiovisual Fund

ESTIMATED BUDGET: € 900 000

PRINCIPAL PHOTOGRAPHY: 2023

EXPECTED RELEASE: 2024

CONTACT

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Gregor
Valentovič



Zora
Jaurová

SYNOPSIS

David (27) and his three best friends from high school promised that their friendship would last forever. After Hana gets married, Bažo moves abroad, and Maja falls in love with an adventurous traveller, David finds himself all alone. He is forced to embark on a new journey to find out that his adult life as a queer person might be inherently different than of those who grew up with him. *Twentyseven* is a film about the early-life crisis of the late-twenties, who face the finality of having to grow up, understanding that happiness is not to be pursued, and that home is just a state of mind.

DIRECTOR'S NOTE

Twentyseven is a film about the early-life crisis of the late-twenties who face the finality of having to grow up, understanding that happiness is not to be pursued, and that home is just a state of mind. This quest takes place in Central Europe, on the border between West and East, which is changing at a socially and politically dizzying pace. Themes such as reaching adulthood as a queer, Catholic faith and its forms, relocating for a better job at the expense of family, and the twisted image of identity on social media place the issue of friendship into the HERE and NOW, and turn it into a generational statement.

ABOUT THE DIRECTOR

Born in Bratislava in 1992, Gregor Valentovič graduated from the Academy of Performing Arts where he studied film direction under the guidance of Stanislav Párnický. His short film *Kid* (2019) premiered at the 54th Karlovy Vary IFF 2019. *Twentyseven* is his feature debut, and produced by the Slovak production company MPhilms.

ABOUT THE PRODUCER & PRODUCTION COMPANY

Zora Jaurová is a film producer, cultural and creative industries policy expert, and politician (vice-chairman of the Progressive Slovakia party). She has been involved in EU affairs and cultural policies for several years. She was the co-author and director of Košice – European Capital of Culture 2013. She is the President of the Slovak Creative Industry Forum, and a member of Ateliers du Cinéma Européen. She is a film producer and producing partner at MPhilms – a Slovak film production company.

FILMOGRAPHY: *Slovakia 2.0* (dir. various, 2014), *Ex-Prime Ministers* (dir. various, 2018), *Paradise on Earth* (dir. Jaro Vojtek, 2019), *Wild Roots* (dir. Hajni Kiss, 2021), *Power* (dir. Mátýás Prikler, 2022), *Bandits for a Ballad* (dir. Vladimír Morávek, 2022)



Ema a smrtihlav Ema and the Death's Head

Slovakia – Czech Republic – Hungary | 100 min.
fiction | in production

DIRECTOR: Iveta Grófová

SCREENPLAY: Peter Krištúfek, Iveta Grófová

DOP: Martin Štrba

EDITOR: Martin Malo

PRODUCERS: Zuzana Mistríková (PubRes, SK), Ľubica Orechovská (PubRes, SK)

CO-PRODUCERS: Ondřej Trojan (Total HelpArt T.H.A., CZ), Sára László (Campfilm, HU), Marcell Gerő (Campfilm, HU), Radio and Television Slovakia, Czech Television

SUPPORT: Slovak Audiovisual Fund, Minority Culture Fund (SK), Eurimages

ESTIMATED BUDGET: € 2 087 000

EXPECTED RELEASE: Spring 2023

CONTACT

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Iveta
Grófová



Zuzana
Mistríková

SYNOPSIS

Ema and the Death's Head deals with the precarious border between humanism and the protection of one's own life in situations when one excludes the other. On the Slovak-Hungarian border, Marika Sándorfi is hiding a Jewish boy – Šimon Holan – during the dramatic First Slovak State era. The boy has a special ability to survive thanks to his dreaming and fantasy.

DIRECTOR'S NOTE

A historical drama set during the wartime Slovak State. The current version of the script for *Ema and the Death's Head* explores several traumatic episodes from Slovak history, which our society has yet to fully reckon with. It begins by depicting the expulsion of Czech elites from Slovakia, and the subsequent purging of Jewish residents from the country. This is accompanied by rising tensions between the Hungarian minority and Slovak nationalists, which, right after the war, led to the forced resettlement of Hungarians (in the first wave) to the Czech Sudetenland.

ABOUT THE DIRECTOR

Iveta Grofova's feature debut *Made in Ash* (2012) internationally premiered at Karlovy Vary IFF East of the West competition, and was selected as the Slovak entry for Best Foreign Language Film at

the Oscars. Grofova's second film, *Little Harbour*, premiered at the 2017 Berlinale – winning the Crystal Bear for the Best Film in the Generation Kplus section. At the Sun in a Net Awards – the Slovak National Film Awards – the film won best screenplay, cinematography, and art direction; the film was also awarded the Grand Prix at Tallinn Black Nights Festival, Best Film – Golden Silk Road Feature Film of the Year, China, etc.

ABOUT THE PRODUCER & PRODUCTION COMPANY

Founded in 1993, Zuzana Mistríková and Ľubica Orechovská are the main producers of PubRes. The company produces fiction, animation, and documentary short films, feature films, TV series, and children's TV shows.

SELECTED FILMOGRAPHY: *The Teacher* (dir. Jan Hřebejk, 2016, Karlovy Vary IFF); *The Lust For Power* (dir. Tereza Nvotová, 2017, IDFF Ji.hlava, EFA Documentary Selection 2018); *Insect* (dir. Jan Švankmajer, 2018, IFF Rotterdam); *Alchemical Furnace* (dir. Jan Daňhel, Adam Olša, 2020, IFF Rotterdam), *The Painted Bird* (dir. Václav Marhoul, 2019, Venice IFF, Oscar shortlisted, EFA nominated), *Reconstruction of the Occupation* (dir. Jan Šikl, 2021, Karlovy Vary IFF).



Invalid Invalid

Slovakia – Czech Republic | 90 min.
fiction | satirical action comedy | in post-production

DIRECTOR: Jonáš Karásek

SCREENPLAY: Tomáš Dušička

DOP: Tomáš Juriček

EDITOR: Matej Beneš

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

CO-PRODUCERS: Radio and Television Slovakia, HomeMedia (SK), Cinemart (CZ)

SUPPORT: Slovak Audiovisual Fund

ESTIMATED BUDGET: € 1 079 947

EXPECTED RELEASE: June 2022

CONTACT

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Jonáš
Karásek



Peter
Veverka

SYNOPSIS

It's 1998 and Laco, a short-tempered museum janitor, knows that he's finally gone too far when he tosses his teenage son's beloved stereo system out of their third floor window. In an effort to make it up to his son and wife, he tries to buy a replacement, but instead falls prey to a gang of local thugs. Laco ends up paralyzed and in a wheelchair with his family and body shattered, alone and spiraling. Up to the moment when he meets Gabo, a kind-hearted Roma who helps Laco see things with a new perspective. Revenge is sweet when Laco takes justice into his hands, but the true victory is conquering his anger and winning back his family with the help of his new friend.

DIRECTOR'S NOTE

I intend to make a smart yet accessible black comedy with a great cadence of funny situations and memorable lines, with three-dimensional, believable characters and an attractive, engagingly told story. The film is set in a small town in the late 1990s, serving as a small European country's scale model. We examine some of the hot topics of the era, which unfortunately have mostly persisted to this day, such as corruption, organized crime, complicated family relationships, generational gaps, and racism. *Invalid* is a story about a man for whom the extreme impact of his actions paradoxically helps him to realize his issues and the real values of friendship and family that he has overlooked all his life.

ABOUT THE DIRECTOR

Jonáš Karásek studied at the Academy of Fine Arts in Bratislava and worked for many years in advertising as an art director. As a commercial director, he directed over 150 spots for international and national clients, winning a number of significant national and major international awards: Filip 2009 – The award for personal contribution to Slovak creativity, Grand Prix at the National Award Golden Nail, Golden Drum, New York Festivals, Epica Winner multiple times). Filmography: *Amnesty* (2019), *The Swan* (2017, short), *The Game* (2017, part of *The Fear* anthology), *My Uprising* (2014), *The Candidate* (2013)

ABOUT THE PRODUCER & PRODUCTION COMPANY

Peter Veverka graduated from the Film and TV Faculty of the Academy of Performing Arts in Bratislava and from the American Film Institute. He worked as a creative executive and producer for the LA-based production company Point Road, under a deal with 20th Century Fox Studios. In 2018 he commenced a partnership with the Slovak production company Azyl, working on developing European content aimed at a global audience. His latest films were *Amnesty* (2019) by Jonáš Karásek and *One of These Days* (2020) by Bastian Günther. Azyl Production began as a major producer of Slovak short films in 2005 – 2012. After the success of its first feature film *The Candidate* (dir. Jonáš Karásek, 2013), it expanded into producing theatrical features, documentaries, as well as TV and online content. Azyl focuses on working with debut and second-time directors.



Katedrála The Cathedral

Slovakia – Great Britain | 85 min.
documentary | biographical | in post-production

DIRECTOR: Denis Dobrovoda

SCREENPLAY: Denis Dobrovoda, Matthew Bremner

DOP: Gonzalo Hernández-Vallejo Fernández, Israel Seoane

EDITOR: Ona Bartroli, Denis Dobrovoda

PRODUCERS: Denis Dobrovoda (Kolsa Films SK, SK), Matthew Bremner (Kolsa Films SK, SK)

WORKSHOPS & FORUMS: dok.incubator SK 2021, DOCNYC Only in New York 2021

SUPPORT: ScreenCraft Film Fund

EXPECTED RELEASE: June 2022

CONTACT

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Denis
Dobrovoda



Matthew
Bremner

SYNOPSIS

In his twenties, Justo Gallego was expelled from a monastery. After suffering from a bout of depression, he decided to devote the rest of his life to God. He did this by selling his family's land and spending the next six decades building a Sagrada Familia-size cathedral. He achieved this with no help, no architectural knowledge, and by using only recycled materials. But structural and legal complications led to the cathedral being declared illegal. Now at the age of 95 and with his health deteriorating, Justo's desire to live is withering and the future of the cathedral and his legacy is in danger...

DIRECTOR'S NOTE

The film rests on three main pillars. Firstly, our present day footage with Justo that includes him working, interacting with us, and explaining his views on the cathedral's future, his life, and religion. Secondly, we make extensive use of archive footage which shows the building's progression and the uniqueness of the process and its creator. Finally, the present day visual narrative of the cathedral is based on high-quality Steadicam and drone footage of the building, which shows its splendour and vastness.

ABOUT THE DIRECTOR

Denis Dobrovoda is a London-based Slovakian director whose films include the award-winning short *Savage* (2019), which was screened at multiple Oscar-qualifying festivals and broadcast on the BBC; and *Apparition* (2016) which was screened at 40 film festivals across all continents and received 12 awards. He has directed and shot TV programmes for ITV2 and Channel 4, and his TV documentary *They Never Came Back* (2020) was broadcast on RTVS last year.

ABOUT THE PRODUCER & PRODUCTION COMPANY

Matthew Bremner is a Scottish journalist and producer. His work has appeared in The FT, BBC, LA Times, The Economist, Bloomberg, and The Guardian. In 2019 Bloomberg nominated him for the American National Magazine Award. He is also working as a co-producer on *Blow Up* about the drug trade on Sao Miguel island, and has had the rights to his pieces optioned by JJ Abrams such as *Stowaway* in a deal with Warner Bros studios.

Kolsa Films SK is a Bratislava-based company founded by Denis Dobrovoda and Matthew Bremner, it's the main production company behind *The Cathedral*.



Milovník, nie bojovník Lover, Not a Fighter

Slovakia – Czech Republic | 90 min.
fiction | romantic tragicomedy | in pre-production

DIRECTOR & SCREENPLAY: Martina Buchelová

DOP: Adam Mach

EDITOR: Katarína Pavelková

PRODUCERS: Michaela Kaliská (NINJA film, SK),
Erika Paulinská (NINJA film, SK)

CO-PRODUCER: Julie Žáčková (Unit and Sofa, CZ)

SUPPORT: Slovak Audiovisual Fund

ESTIMATED BUDGET: € 405 000

PRINCIPAL PHOTOGRAPHY: March – April 2023

EXPECTED RELEASE: January 2024

CONTACT

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Martina
Buchelová



Michaela
Kaliská

SYNOPSIS

Lover, Not a Fighter is a desperate, funny, and cute love story about 20-year-old Andrej – who lives at his Grandma's apartment and tries not to climb high trees when drunk because then he cannot get down safely – and Miša – who doesn't want to live in a nuclear shelter where her family plans to move.

DIRECTOR'S NOTE

We want to playfully and urgently tell the story of a contemporary melodramatic love between two young people who have to deal with themselves as well as complicated and chaotic reality. Hope for a happy ending seems absurd, but their love for one another, for close ones, for the world, and for themselves helps them continue.

ABOUT THE DIRECTOR

Martina Buchelová graduated in Film and TV Directing at the Film and Television Faculty of Academy of Performing Arts in Bratislava in 2018. She spent one year at FAMU in Prague through the Erasmus programme, and also has a Bachelor degree in Cultural Studies from Comenius University in Bratislava. Her bachelor short film *Magic Moments* premiered at Toronto IFF in 2017. In 2015 she was selected for the Future Frames programme at Karlovy Vary IFF with her

short film *Green Line*. She was awarded the prestigious Young Talents prize by the Tatra Banka Foundation in 2018 for directing *Magic Moments*. Since 2019 she has co-directed three youth-focused documentaries in Rimavská Sobota (Slovakia), Coventry (UK), and Istanbul (Turkey) as part of the EU CHIEF project.

ABOUT THE PRODUCER & PRODUCTION COMPANY

Michaela Kaliská finished her Master's degree at the Film and TV Faculty of the Academy of Performing Arts in Bratislava, Department of Production and Distribution in 2021. She also studied at FAMU in Prague for one semester. Apart from short films, TV spots and a few commercials, she worked as an executive producer of three documentary films for the EU CHIEF European Union project. She works as head of production for NEXT: the advanced and experimental music festival. She is a co-founder of the new NINJA film production company, and is currently developing her feature debut *Lover, Not a Fighter*.

NINJA film is a newly-established (2020) Bratislava-based film production company, co-founded by producer Michaela Kaliská and director Martina Buchelová. They aim to give space to young creators and bolder approaches in filmmaking.



Musíme prežiť We Have to Survive

Slovakia – France – Austria | 90 min.
documentary | in production

DIRECTOR & SCREENPLAY: Tomáš Krupa

DOP: Ondřej Szollos, Martin Čech

EDITOR: Peter Kudlička

PRODUCER: Tomáš Krupa (Hailstone, SK)

CO-PRODUCERS: Christian Popp (Yuzu Productions, FR), Arash T. Riahi (Golden Girls Filmproduction, AT), Radio and Television Slovakia, ARTE G.E.I.E. (FR), PULS4 (AT)

SALES AGENT: Taskovski Films

WORKSHOPS & FORUMS: Fipadoc Biarritz – International Pitches 2021, WEMW Co-Pro Forum 2021, East Doc Platform – East Doc Market 2021

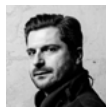
SUPPORT: Slovak Audiovisual Fund, Creative Europe – Media

ESTIMATED BUDGET: € 713 000

EXPECTED RELEASE: February 2025

CONTACT

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Tomáš
Krupa

SYNOPSIS

Mankind is unlikely to stop climate change, but it can adapt to the new, harsher conditions. The human stories-driven *We Have to Survive* documentary takes us on a journey to the four corners of the planet. There we meet men and women who have already had to change their lifestyles and customs in order to survive and continue to live where they were born and raised. The process of adaptation to climate change's impacts the protagonists go through is the basis of the film's narrative.

DIRECTOR'S NOTE

Heat, drought, desertification, and flooding are the four dominant characteristics of global climate change. I decided to follow these four cardinal directions, and uncover four stories that individually and collectively reveal the global extinction threat we face – and solutions. We follow a lead character in each location as a story of social context and also defined by other characters and their abilities to collaborate in a community. The four stories will be edited in parallel, showing the world is much more connected than we think.

ABOUT THE DIRECTOR

Tomáš Krupa (1983) is a film director and producer based in Bratislava, Slovakia. He graduated in 2009 from the Documentary Film Department at the Academy of Arts in Slovakia. In 2013 he established the Hailstone production company. His latest feature documentary *The Good Death* (2018) is an international co-production between Slovakia, France, Austria, and the Czech Republic. The film received multiple international awards including The Sun in a Net 2020 from the Slovak Film and Television Academy. He was selected among 18 young promising talents in the Emerging Producers 2020 programme presented at Ji.hlava IDFF and Berlinale.

ABOUT THE PRODUCER & PRODUCTION COMPANY

Hailstone is a Slovakia-based production company, which since 2013 has focused on independent films about society, current affairs, social issues, and portraits. Our previous releases successfully collaborated with European TV broadcasters such as ARTE, Czech Television, Radio and Television Slovakia. In 2020 we won The Sun in a Net, the Slovak national film award.



Oči plné piesku Gritty Eyes

Slovakia – Czech Republic | 30 min.
fiction | coming-of-age drama | in production

DIRECTOR & SCREENPLAY: Juraj Janiš

DOP: Filip Marek

EDITOR: Marek Kráľovský

PRODUCER: Barbara Janišová Feglová (HITCHHIKER Cinema, SK)

CO-PRODUCERS: Júlíe Žáčková (Unit and Sofa, CZ), Zuzana Balkóová
(Radio and Television Slovakia)

SUPPORT: Slovak Audiovisual Fund, Czech Film Fund

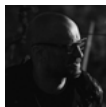
ESTIMATED BUDGET: € 220 000

PRINCIPAL PHOTOGRAPHY: March 2022

EXPECTED RELEASE: February 2023

CONTACT

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Juraj
Janiš



Barbara
Janišová Feglová

SYNOPSIS

When a fifteen-year-old boy from a broken home gets sucked into a burglary that goes terribly wrong, he is brutally forced to reconsider just who he can really trust before it's too late.

DIRECTOR'S NOTE

I believe in the healing power of a story. That's why I regard the making of a film about poverty and its consequences as my contribution to the society in which I live. But the story of *Gritty Eyes* is also my expression of the belief that people always have a choice to change for the better, no matter how bad the cards are dealt against them by life. As much as my film might feature elements of social commentary, it is above all a personal drama, a coming-of-age story concerning a fraction of human experience that keeps reappearing throughout the history of mankind.

ABOUT THE DIRECTOR

Juraj Janiš is an award-winning director of commercials. He studied photography in the Czech Republic and has a degree in film studies from De Montfort University in the UK. Apart from numerous local creative awards, he won silver at the esteemed international

Epica Awards, silver at the ADC Europe Awards, and was twice a finalist at the New York Advertising Festival. Juraj is now developing the feature length *Gabriel* documentary film about transgender youth in Slovakia. *Gritty Eyes* is Juraj's first directorial step into longer format narrative live-action film.

ABOUT THE PRODUCER & PRODUCTION COMPANY

Barbara Janišová Feglová is a graduate in Film Theory and Criticism from the Academy of Performing Arts, Bratislava, Slovakia. In 2012 she founded HITCHHIKER Cinema, where she develops and produces creative documentaries and feature films that reflect social and cultural issues in the Central European region. She produced the internationally-awarded documentary *A Hole in the Head* (2016) by Robert Kirchhoff, and the winning Ji.hlava IDFF 2021 film – *Lines* by Barbora Sliepková. Barbara was one of the Emerging Producers 2018 at the Jihlava Festival. She teaches at the Academy of Performing Arts in Bratislava.



Pokiaľ ja žijem Fakir

Slovakia | 90 min.
documentary | portrait | in pre-production

DIRECTOR: Roman Ďuriš

SCREENPLAY: Roman Ďuriš, Michaela Hošková

DOP: Michaela Hošková

PRODUCERS: Simona Bago Móciková (Bright Sight Pictures, SK), Radka Babincová (Bright Sight Pictures SK)

WORKSHOPS & FORUMS: Dox in Vitro 2020, goEast East-West Talent Lab 2021, Ex Oriente Film 2021

SUPPORT: Slovak Audiovisual Fund

ESTIMATED BUDGET: € 172 000

PRINCIPAL PHOTOGRAPHY: June 2022 – November 2022

EXPECTED RELEASE: September 2023

CONTACT

Bright Sight Pictures
www.brightsight.sk
hello@brightsight.sk
+421 910 325 680



Roman
Ďuriš



Simona
Bago Móciková

SYNOPSIS

The feature documentary *Fakir* tells the story of a young man from a marginalized community who tries to gain better control of his life and helps make his family whole again. 23-year-old Romani Dalibor's seen and survived more than any of us can even imagine. To escape his traumatic past, Dalibor hides in a travelling circus. Fascinated by the magic of circus artistry, he finds a creative way that helps him overcome his inner pain.

DIRECTOR'S NOTE

Fakir is a psychological portrait of a boy from a dysfunctional family who dreams of becoming a fakir in the circus. The film focuses on overcoming the traumas that cause problems in his personal relationships and disrupt his inner integrity. As the traumas affect his psyche and also his memory, I opted to reflect on this specific feature by not telling the story chronologically. The past intersects with the present, and the viewer will better understand Dalibor's inner world: what he's struggling with and what he considers most important in life.

ABOUT THE DIRECTOR

Roman Ďuriš graduated in 2018 from Film and TV Directing at the Film and Television Faculty of the Academy of Performing Arts in Bratislava. His graduation movie *Something Is Happening* (2019) world premiered at the 41st Cairo International Film Festival in the Cinema of Tomorrow competition. He is currently preparing his first documentary feature *Fakir* about Dalibor, a young Romani boy who wants to become a circus performer.

ABOUT THE PRODUCER & PRODUCTION COMPANY

Simona Bago Móciková is co-founder of the Bright Sight Pictures production company. Currently, she's working on the postproduction of the *Avalanche of Love* romantic comedy (dir. Jakub Machala, to be released in May 2022), the period historical drama *The Chambermaid* (dir. Mariana Čengel Solčanská, to be released in October 2022), pre-production of the *Fakir* documentary portrait, and the development of the series *Little Big League* (dir. Jakub Machala). Simona's goal is to cultivate artistic freedom while maintaining commercial sensibility and engaging audiences with socially-responsible marketing that makes a difference.



Prázdná množina No Elements

Slovakia | 20 – 25 min.
documentary | experimental | in post-production

DIRECTOR: Barbara Vojtašáková

SCREENPLAY: Barbara Vojtašáková, Ema Nemčovičová

DOP: Hugo Činčala

EDITOR: Petra Vrbová

PRODUCER: Patrícia Alexia Pošová (FTF VŠMU, SK)

SUPPORT: Slovak Audiovisual Fund

ESTIMATED BUDGET: € 7 665

EXPECTED RELEASE: May 2022

CONTACT

Academy of Performing Arts –
Film and TV Faculty (FTF VŠMU)
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+421 2 5930 3577



Barbara
Vojtašáková



Patrícia Alexia
Pošová

SYNOPSIS

No Elements is an audiovisual dialogue between two young people. Four years after their break-up, they reflect on their relationship. They were reunited because of the joint film footage, and Michal's desire to return to filming. The film comprises the mood board of Piešťany town, and the voiceovers of Michal and Tereza. We gradually discover the main reason for their breakup, and whether it's possible not to feel emotions. Will one of them complete the project and turn documentary observations into a film with a story?

DIRECTOR'S NOTE

For the last few years, I have been trying to "learn to feel emotions". A while ago, I had something called Alexithymia - a personality trait that strongly affects the ability to understand and feel emotions. Its main feature is an inability to distinguish between feelings and bodily sensations. An interview with a friend (Michal) convinced me to return to this topic through the story of his past relationship.

ABOUT THE DIRECTOR

Barbara Vojtašáková studies Direction of Documentary Film at the Academy of Performing Arts in Bratislava. She was attended Lodz Film School as an Erasmus student. Her film *The Princess Diary* (2020) was screened at the Summer Film School Uherské Hradiště; her film *The Next Stop Is* (2021) was screened and made with the co-production of One World Film Festival. She writes poetry and teaches piano.

ABOUT THE PRODUCER & PRODUCTION COMPANY

Patrícia Alexia Pošová is *No Elements'* production manager. Last year, she graduated from the Production and Distribution Department at the Film and Television Faculty, Academy of Performing Arts in Bratislava. During her studies, she was responsible for the production of several fiction ("M", dir. Gabriela Gažová, 2018) and documentary films (*Layers of Helga Hošková's Memory*, dir. Alexandra Szakálová-Frančeková, 2018). She also has experience in music and film festival production (IFF Febiofest, Visegrad Film Forum, Fest Anča, Festival Azyl, Jazz Days, Pohoda).



Vtáčnik The Bird Hill

Slovakia – Czech Republic | 70 min.
documentary | in production

DIRECTOR & SCREENPLAY: Eva Křížková

DOP: Martin Jurčí, Tomáš Hulík

EDITOR: Andrea Culková

PRODUCER: Silvia Panáková (Dayhey, SK)

CO-PRODUCER: Jarmila Poláková (Film & Sociologie, CZ)

SUPPORT: Slovak Audiovisual Fund

ESTIMATED BUDGET: € 99 200

EXPECTED RELEASE: April 2023

CONTACT

Dayhey
eva.krizkova@gmail.com
+421 907 626 627



Eva
Křížková



Silvia
Panáková

SYNOPSIS

Fragments of residents' local stories in the distinctly-named Bird Hill district are mixed with current ornithological research and reflections on the bird community. The director and old settlers' views are mixed with the birds' view. So research about the oldest living species on Earth pushes a local urban problem to the global philosophical level: what does our behaviour, settlement, and coexistence say about the future of our species? Will pragmatism or imagination help humanity survive on this planet?

DIRECTOR'S NOTE

We don't aim to create a perfect film illusion, but rather to transform some scientific knowledge into an artistic film form: an ultraviolet vision of birds, *Symphony of Birds* (a symphonic composition by Hollis Taylor), recordings of industrial disturbances, and neighbourhood birds singing, etc. *The Bird Hill* follows in the footsteps of Elo Havetta and the New Wave to lend the contemporary digital-asphalt world a bit of poetry, as a counterpoint to the seemingly reportage-like topic of real estate development and urbanism. An impact campaign in urban planning participation is also planned.

ABOUT THE DIRECTOR

Eva Křížková is a film publicist, documentary film distributor, and current executive director of the International Festival of Documentary Films One World in Bratislava. In 2016, she won the national My Street Films competition of short films with the short documentary *The Bird Hill, or The Film about the Developer*. In 2018, she took part in a directing workshop with Béla Tarr in Lisbon, where under his supervision she made *The Fight* short documentary. *The Bird Hill* is her feature-length debut.

ABOUT THE PRODUCER & PRODUCTION COMPANY

Silvia Panáková is an independent film producer. After graduating in production and management at the Academy of Performing Arts in Bratislava in 2003, she co-founded DAYHEY in 2008. Silvia is a member of the Slovak Film and Television Academy, the European Film Academy, and the ACE Producers network; she is also an alumna of Producers on the Move and the Emerging Producers programme. Silvia has produced or co-produced around 20 feature and documentary films with Czech Republic, Hungary, Bulgaria, Netherlands, Macedonia, Iran, Germany and other countries.



Michaela Sabo

Michaela studied at VŠMU (Slovakia), DAMU (Czech Republic) and UCLA (Los Angeles). In 2014, Michaela moved to Berlin to be part of the Serial Eyes program, an intensive 8-month post-graduate course on TV writing and show running based in Berlin. Michaela found her network during the studies and is currently living in Berlin. Michaela was part of the EPI European TV Drama Series Lab in the year 2013.

Apart from her own work as a freelance writer and creative producer (five TV series already aired, several feature film and TV series projects in different stages of development or production), Michaela is also working as a pitching trainer (Sarajevo Film Festival, Serial Eyes – DFFB, Series Mania – Writers Campus, MIDPOINT workshops, Odessa International Film festival, Antalya Film Forum, Tallinn Black Nights, etc.).

In cooperation with

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CHARACTER
FILM DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION

Discussion

Enviro platforma na Slovensku a podpora udržateľného nakrúcania z AVF a SFA / Enviro Platform in Slovakia and support for Sustainable Filmmaking from the Slovak Audiovisual Fund and the Slovak Film Commission

(v slovenčine / in Slovak)

EURECA (Európska environmentálna kalkulačka) je pilotnou aktivitou v rámci európskeho projektu Green Screen, ktorej cieľom je vyvinúť jednotnú európsku uhlíkovú kalkulačku pre audiovizuálny priemysel. EURECA umožní zmerať uhlíkovú stopu audiovizuálnych produkcií, zvýšiť povedomie tvorcov o vplyve ich činností na životné prostredie a pomôcť im pri plánovaní nakrúcania.

Slovensko patrí k priekopníkom udržateľného nakrúcania na úrovni štátnych fondov, ktorým sa podarilo presadiť prvky udržateľnosti aj do grantového riadenia Audiovizuálneho fondu (AVF). V rámci pilotného roku 2022 počíta AVF s aktívnou podporou vzdelávania environmentálnych konzultantov, ktorí budú pripravovať, monitorovať a vykazovať výsledky znižovania uhlíkovej stopy na jednotlivých projektoch, ktoré dostanú podporu z AVF. Slovenskí producenti žiadajúci o podporu AVF, ktorí sa rozhodnú svoje projekty produkovať s dodržiavaním princípov udržateľnosti,

tak budú môcť požiadať aj o príspevok na certifikovaného ekokonzultanta. Ekokonzultant nielenže nastaví podmienky udržateľnosti na natáčanie, ale jeho úlohou bude aj merať uhlíkovú stopu projektu, zbierať ďalšie dáta a vypracovať záverečnú správu. AVF, prípadne Slovenská filmová agentúra (SFA) či samí producenti tak budú môcť ďalej motivovať ďalších filmárov na všetkých úrovniach pomocou príkladov dobrej praxe, osvedčených praktík či overených dodávateľov.

Zuzana Bieliková zo SFA predstaví kalkulačku EURECA a možnosti jej využitia v rámci slovenskej audiovizuálnej tvorby a Martin Šmatlák, riaditeľ AVF, predstaví podporné mechanizmy environmentálneho nakrúcania. Projektová manažérka Marta Kuchynková z Asociácie producentů v audiovizii priblíži nástroje a príklady z praxe greenfilming v Českej republike.

V spolupráci so Slovenskou filmovou agentúrou.

Around the World with your Short Film

Student short films from Slovakia are regularly shown at prestigious international festivals, and interest in the professional production of short films is also increasing. Short films help young filmmakers establish themselves in the world of cinema, and are also an independent artform. Alexandra Gabrižová (Disco Sailing), Adriana Belešová (Ji.hlava IDFF), Lea Pagáčová (Slovak Film Institute), and Michał Hudzikowski (Studio Munka) will discuss the place of short films – both student and professional – on the festival circuit, the importance of premiere status for (student) short films, the advantages of personally visiting festivals, and the training/networking platforms available to young filmmakers.

In partnership with Disco Sailing.

Discussion

Successful projects previously presented at **Bratislava Industry Days**

Of the films presented at BID Works in Progress since 2016, 33 have been completed and many enjoyed a successful festival and distribution run.

Ak 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: Cinematik IFF 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 Kożuch | 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

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 smrť / 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

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

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, Víto 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

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 Martiniak | prod. ARINA
BID 2020 | WP: CPH:DOX 2020

Nina

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

Ostrým nožom / By a Sharp Knife

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

Pivnica / The Cellar

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

Po sezóne / Off Season

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

Raj na zemi / Paradise on Earth

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

Skutok sa stal / Never Happened

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

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

The Sailor

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

To ta monarchia / King Bee

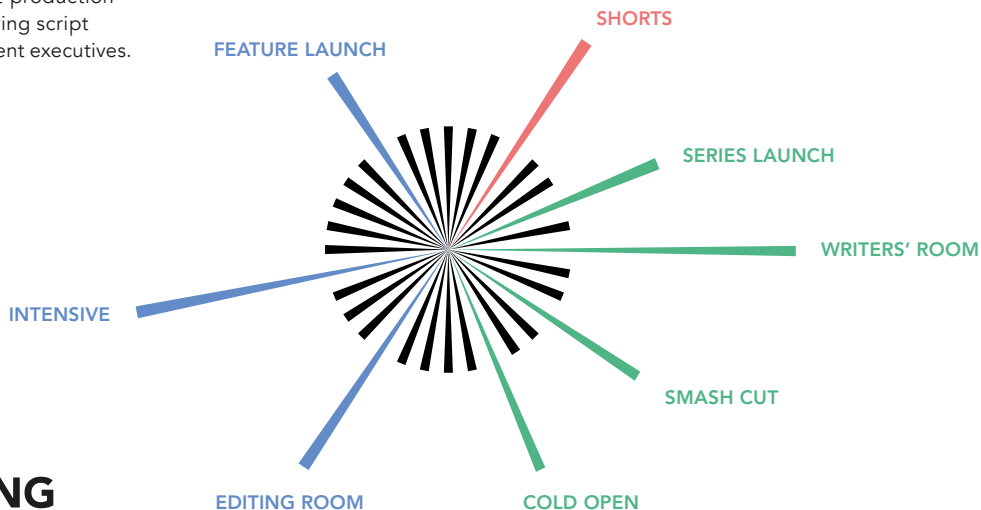
SK | dir. Vladislava Šárková | prod. sarkany
BID 2019 | WP: IDFF One World Slovakia 2020

Učiteľka / The Teacher

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

MIDPOINT Institute is an international audiovisual training and networking institution organizing a wide range of programs focused on script and project development, post-production and the education of aspiring script consultants and development executives.

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www.midpoint-institute.eu

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GRAPHIC DESIGN: Milan Stolár, www.intuitio.studio

PROOFREADING: Darren Chastney

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Program

March 21

Works in Progress presentation

11:00 | Lumière Cinema K1

Networking lunch

12:30 | Bistro St. Germain

Individual meetings

14:00 | Lumière Cinema | KafeHaus Barzzuz

Awards Ceremony & screening of Occupation

20:00 | Lumière Cinema K1

March 22

Enviro platforma na Slovensku a podpora udržateľného nakrúcania z AVF a SFA

Enviro Platform in Slovakia and support for Sustainable Filmmaking
from the Slovak Audiovisual Fund and the Slovak Film Commission

(V SLOVENČINE / IN SLOVAK)

10:00 | Lumière Cinema K2

Around the World with your Short Film

11:30 | Lumière Cinema K2