

WARSA

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WARSAW



HEART
OF EUROPE
INTERNATIONAL
TV FESTIVAL
& FORUM

25-28 SEPTEMBER 2023

FORUM

FLEDGLINGS



WINNER
THE EUROPEAN ASSOCIATION
OF DOCUMENTARIES
Millennium
19th DOCS
AGAINST
GRAVITY

written and directed by LIDIA DUDA direction of photography by WOJCIECH STAROŃ ZUZANNA ZACHARA-HASSAIRI
sound by KRZYSZTOF RIDAN edited by JAKUB ŚLADKOWSKI LIDIA DUDA production manager ANNA BŁAWUT MAZURKIEWICZ
MAŁGORZATA JAKUBOWSKA color correction MAŁGORZATA PTAK ANETA PTAK sound mixing TOYA STUDIOS
producer AUSA Films ANNA BŁAWUT MAZURKIEWICZ co-producers TVP MAŁGORZATA RYDZEWSKA TOMASZ RYCHTER
HANNA TWARDOWSKA-MACHNIO LunaFilm KRZYSZTOF RIDAN Mazovia Institute of Culture Mazovia Warsaw Film Fund General
Director MAGDALENA ULEJCZYK ANNA SPISZ MICHAŁ KOSMAŁA ALEKSANDRA LESZCZYŃSKA
a POLISH FILM INSTITUTE MAZOVIA REGION CITY OF WARSAW co-financed production
partner of the film TOWARZYSTWO OPIEKI NAD OCIEMNIAJĄCYMI STOWARZYSZENIE



TVP

LUNAFILM

MAZOWIECKI
INSTYTUT
KULTURY

MW
FFK

MAZOVIA
WARSAW
FILM FUND

POLISH
FILM
INSTITUTE

Mazowsze



LASKI

Dear Guests,

it is with great pleasure that we welcome you, on behalf of TVP, to the 3rd Heart of Europe International TV Festival and Forum. Since its inaugural edition in November 2022, our Forum has grown both in numbers and spirit, transforming into an in-demand pitching platform and a go-to meeting place for creators, producers and media executives from across Central and Eastern Europe.

This year, we received a record-breaking number of submissions, over 130 in total, a selection of which will be pitched live, here in Warsaw, in the coming days. We have invited an esteemed panel of judges to select the winning pitch in each of the three categories: Feature Film, Series and Documentary. Apart from the pitches sessions, our exciting agenda includes expert panels and talks, presentations and screenings, and - last but not least - plenty of opportunities to connect, exchange ideas, and discuss potential future collaborations.

The Heart of Europe Forum is a one-of-a-kind hub where CEE creativity thrives and local talent is showcased and celebrated. Thank you for joining us.

The Heart of Europe Forum Team

EVENT MAIN VENUES

Festival & Forum Venue:

Moxy Warsaw Praga

Ząbkowska 29, 03-736 Warsaw

Info Desk:

Foyer

14:00 -19:00 Monday

9:00 -17:00 Tuesday

9:00 -17:00 Wednesday

16:00 -22:00 Thursday

CONTACT

Festival:

Karolina Socha Kalinowska

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Lara Adamczyk

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Michalina Jasieniecka

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MONDAY 25 SEPTEMBER

Butelkownia

15:30 - 16:00 official opening of the Festival

16:30 - 17:15 CEE Broadcasters in the Cha(lle)nging World.
From Adaptation to Transformation in Content
and Distribution Strategy - panel

17:30 - 18:00 EBU presentation by Matthew Trustram:
*Co-Production among Public-Service Broadcasters
in Europe: an EBU Perspective*

19:00 - 21:00 film screening

Foyer Ground Floor

21:00 - 23:00 welcome cocktail

TUESDAY 26 SEPTEMBER

Butelkownia

10:30 - 11:00 morning talk with Triin Tramberg

11:00 - 11:30 morning talk with Alba Pérez Puente

Foyer Ground Floor

12:00 - 13:00 lunch

Foyer Ground Floor

13:00 - 14:15 documentary pitching sessions I

Foyer Ground Floor

14:15 - 14:30 coffee break

Butelkownia

14:30 - 15:30 documentary pitching sessions II

16:00 - 16:45 The Heart of CEE Formats - panel

Foyer Ground Floor

16:45 - 17:00 coffee break

Butelkownia

17:00 - 18:15 feature film pitching sessions I

Foyer Ground Floor

18:15 - 18:30 coffee break

Butelkownia

18:30 - 19:30 feature film pitching sessions II

Butelkownia

20:00 - 22:00 film screening

Scena Kottownia

22:00 evening cocktail (by invitation)

WEDNESDAY 27 SEPTEMBER**Butelkownia**

10:00 - 11:00 morning talk with Sanja Božić-Ljubčić

11:00 - 11:30 morning talk with Kateryna Udut

Foyer Ground Floor

12:00 - 13:00 lunch

Butelkownia

13:00 - 14:15 series pitching sessions I

Foyer Ground Floor

14:15 - 14:30 coffee break

Butelkownia

14:30 - 15:30 series pitching sessions II

16:00 - 16:45 The Great Media Showdown: AI vs. Humans
in the Broadcast Battle - panel**Butelkownia**

17:00 - 18:00 Forum Gala (announcement of pitching winners)

L'Osteria Warszawa Koneser

19:00 - 22:00 evening cocktail

THURSDAY 28 SEPTEMBER**Butelkownia**

10:00 - 10:45 From Project to Premiere - panel

Butelkownia

18:00 - 19:00 Heart of Europe Awards Gala

19:00 closing banquet (smart casual)

■ **CEE Broadcasters in the Cha(lle)nging World. From Adaptation to Transformation in Content and Distribution Strategy**

25.09, 16:30 - 17:15

Host:

Mateusz Baran

Panelists:

**Victoria Murovana, Gytis Oganauskas,
Jana Semjonova**

■ **Co-Production among Public-Service Broadcasters in Europe: an EBU Perspective**

25.09, 17:30 - 18:00

Presentation:

Matthew Trustram

■ **Dreams of Debutants and What Public Broadcasters Can Offer To Talent**

26.09, 10:30 - 11:00

Morning talk:

Triin Tramberg

■ **Spain: Opportunities in a Mature Market**

26.09, 11:00 - 11:30

Morning talk:

Alba Pérez Puente

The Heart of CEE Formats

26.09, 16:00 - 16:45

Host:

Stanislav Kimchev

Panelists:

Kristof Dombovary, Aleksandra

Kaźmieruk, Katie Pike

Ukrainian AV Industry Now: Challenges and Cooperation Opportunities

26.09, 11:00 - 11:30

Morning talk:

Kateryna Udut

The Great Media Showdown: AI vs. Humans in the Broadcast Battle

27.09, 16:00 - 16:45

Host:

Sascha Fahrnbach

Panelists:

Jonathan Broughton, Hajdi Cenan,

Yaroslav Lodygin

From Project to Premiere

28.09, 10:00 - 10:45

Host:

Martin Blaney

Panelists:

Dagmara Brodziak, Michat Krzywicki,

Michael Treves, Triin Tramberg

Documentary and Feature Film Studios presents film directed by Krzysztof Zanussi



PERFECT NUMBER

WFDIF Documentary and Feature Film Studios along with Telewizja Polska S.A., Revolver and Nino Film (Italy) and Transax Film Productions Ltd. (Israel) present the film PERFECT NUMBER, production financed by Polish Film Institute
Starring: Andrzej Seweryn, Jan Marczewski, Julia Łabońska, Jan Nowicki i and others
Casting: Paweł Czapir, Konrad Bugaj, Makeup: Karolina Kordek, Hair: Justyna Stolar, Production Designers: Anna Kroczywiec, Joanna Macha, Szymon, Natalia Chładecka, Editor: Miłena Pecher PSM, Line Producer: Andrzej Bęszczak, Director of photography: Piotr Niemyski PSC, SBC,
Produced by: Zdzisław Domagała, Written and Directed by: Krzysztof Zanussi

M. P. P. P.



Co production



Co-financed by



Jury

Jury



25-28 SEPTEMBER 2023



VERONIKA KOVACOVA

EVP International Sales & Acquisitions for CEE, Turkey, Greece, Asia, Middle East
Beta Film

Veronika Kovacova is EVP International Sales & Acquisitions, overseeing CEE, Turkey, Greece, Asia, Middle East, and Africa at Munich-based Beta Film, one of Europe's leading international sales and financing companies in film and television. Since 2012, she has been working in several roles at Beta after starting her career at their Bratislava-based subsidiary Eurokim in 2006. Among others, Veronika Kovacova has been responsible for the acquisition of the high-end crime series *The Pleasure Principle*, the first international television co-production between Central and Eastern European countries on such a great scale, directed by multi-awarded Dariusz Jablonski and sold to, among others, ZDF for ARTE, as well as *Persona*, a Turkish crime thriller series produced by Ay Yapim for Puhu TV, starring Haluk Bilginer, who received the International Emmy® Award for his performance in the series. Her latest projects include *The Silence*, a series based on the critically acclaimed books that uncovered human and weapons trafficking throughout Eastern Europe produced by Drugi plan and HRT in co-production with Beta Film, Star Media, OLL.TV and ZDF/ARTE, and the Ukrainian series *IN HER CAR*, produced by Starlight Media and Gaumont in co-production with France Télévisions and ZDF, which will premiere in 2024. The Bosnian series *I Know Your Soul* by European Film Award winner Jasmila Zbanic will premiere at this year's International Film Festival in Venice.



IVAN LJUBIČIĆ

Managing Director
Pickbox, Mediatranslations,
Mediavision, NEM

Ivan Ljubičić has developed business strategies, managing sales, marketing, finance, and people across three companies and multiple projects such as Pickbox NOW, Pickbox TV, NEM Dubrovnik and NEM Zagreb. Through the marketing and TV industry agency Mediavision, Ivan Ljubičić has been working on NEM and its program, concept, and organization. Since 2012, he has worked on all ten editions of NEM Dubrovnik and two editions of NEM Zagreb, as well as for clients from other various industries. Ivan's biggest project started in 2013 when he started working on Pickbox NOW, the first SVOD service in the Adria region, which now can be viewed independently through desktop, mobile, tablet or Smart TV applications or through telecom operators in the territory of Croatia, Slovenia, Serbia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Montenegro, North Macedonia, and Bulgaria. Finally, Pickbox TV channel was launched in 2019 and is now available in all of the countries mentioned above. Ivan also manages Mediatranslations, a leading CEE company specialized in subtitling to and from 30 languages.

As an art history graduate (Sorbonne 2013), she first worked as a journalist for the culture-themed channel TVP Kultura. After that, she joined TVP's morning show, where she worked as a reporter. Subsequently, Klara worked as the Content Strategist in the TV Programming Division and the Content Editor for Poland's first English-language channel - TVP World. She was chosen twice to be a jury member for international competitions (Prix Italia 2019, Prix Europa 2021). She is passionate about learning languages and discovering obscure places in and outside her hometown.

**KLARA PIWONI-CIEŚLIŃSKA**

Script Editor for Television
Series & Movies
Polish Television (TVP)

Jevgeni Supin is an Estonian television, film, and theatre producer. His track record includes TV shows and series based on internationally acclaimed formats as well as original non-scripted and scripted shows. Jevgeni established his own production company - Zolba Productions in 2013 and has since brought out several stage plays, feature films, and a drama series. Jevgeni is currently working on various series projects and acts as the manager of TV Beats Forum, the series market of the A-category Tallinn Black Nights Film Festival.

**JEVGENI SUPIN**

Manager of TV Beats Forum
at Tallinn Black Nights
Film Festival

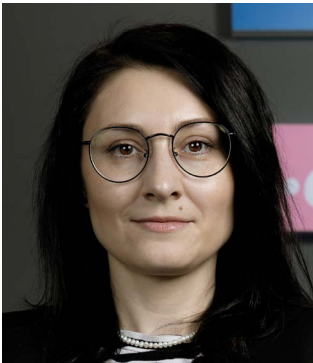


FARUK GÜVEN

Head of TRT Sinema
Turkish Radio Television
Corporation

Having started his career as an assistant producer in 2008 in the News and Sports Department at TRT, Faruk has produced over 100 episodes of news/sport/economy and documentary programs. He got his first master's degree in Business and Finance in Turkey, while his second one was obtained in Los Angeles, where he also directed and produced several short movies. Faruk is also a graduate of the New York Film Academy and holds a Master of Fine Arts degree in Filmmaking. From 2014, he has been working for the TRT Television Department as an Executive Producer, and has completed more than 10 TV movies, miniseries and films in this role. Between 2017-2020 he worked as the Coproduction Manager at TRT and he now continues his career as the Head of TRT Cinema and Coproductions.

For three years, he has served as a juror in the TV Movies/Mini Series category for International Emmy Awards, Rose D'or Awards and many others. He is a member of the European Film Academy and served as a member of the EBU TV Committee for 4 years.



SILVIA STEFANESCU

Program Development
and Strategy Manager
PRO TV

With almost 15 years of experience at the leading TV station in Romania, Silvia has always been passionate about the media industry.

She started her career in research, which allowed her to get a very clear understanding on the business and audience behaviour. Over the years, she managed to enhance her skills and leveraged her expertise in a completely new area: Programming. Developing content strategy, translating audience preferences and needs in actionable solutions and content recommendations, harmonizing program processes across different functions, are just some examples of her responsibilities. Delivering top-notch entertainment to Romanian viewers is part of Silvia's mission at PRO TV.

Since 2011 Triin has worked for Tallinn Black Nights Film Festival. For 10 years she was the program coordinator and now is curating the First Feature Competition. Since 2016 she has been focusing on the industry side of the festival at Industry@Tallinn & Baltic Event, selecting titles for the international Works in Progress and script competition Script Pool, while managing the festival's training program Discovery Campus. On the side, she owns her company Punch Drunk Films, which previously distributed films in Estonia, now focusing on consultation. As of 2023 Triin has joined Nafta Films, one of the leading production companies in Estonia.


TRIIN TRAMBERG

Managing Director
Discovery Campus
First Feature Competition
programmer
Works in Progress & Script
Pool project competition
manager

Editor, producer and screenwriter. He supervised the production of several popular and award-winning TVP series, including *Czas honoru*, *Ojciec Mateusz*, *Filip* or *Performer* (awarded at Berlinale 2015). He is a co-author of screenplays for several cinema films, e.g. *Proceder* (over 700,000 viewers in cinemas, many weeks in the TOP 3 on Netflix). A law graduate, he also studied theatre and Latin American studies. Krzysztof is also a retired DJ and an active basketball player.


KRZYSZTOF TYSZOWIECKI

Commissioning editor,
story editor,
supervising editor
TVP S.A.



VICTORIA YARMOSHCHUK

CEO

FILM.UA Group

Victoria has been working in the media sphere since 2005. She has worked with the FILM.UA Group since its inception, for over 20 years. Before being named CEO of the FILM.UA Group in 2020, Victoria spent 10 years leading the biggest Ukrainian consulting company Media Resources Management (MRM). In 2011, Victoria successfully launched KYIV MEDIA WEEK. In 2016 she became an Executive Director of Ukrainian Motion Picture Association. In 2018, Victoria was an Advisor to the Minister of Culture of Ukraine. In 2019 she was a Coordinator of the Cinema Division of the Humanitarian Policy Development Office of Ukraine. In 2022 Victoria became a Deputy Representative of Ukraine to the Board of Eurimages. She has served as a speaker and moderator of numerous industry events including MIPTV and MIPCOM, NATPE Budapest, Berlinale, Cannes Film Festival and Marché du Film, Toronto International Film Festival, Shanghai International Film Festival, Beijing International Film Festival and others.

Creative producer and director experienced in a wide range of TV production: news, reality shows, entertainment. She has worked internationally for Polish Public Television as producer with focus on documentary storytelling. Participant of many international documentary pitching events.



**AGNIESZKA
BARAŃSKA-CIEŚLAK**
Creative Producer
and Director

Karol Piekarczyk is the Artistic Director of Millennium Docs Against Gravity, the biggest film festival in Poland. With audiences of over 140 000, it is one of the most popular documentary film festivals in the world. Karol has been working with documentary films and film festivals for over 15 years. He graduated from the University of Glasgow with a Master's Degree, with distinction, in Film & TV Studies and in Sociology. Previously, he worked with the WATCH DOCS festival in Warsaw and served as the Artistic Director of the Document Festival in Glasgow. Currently, apart from his role as the Artistic Director at Millennium Docs Against Gravity, he also oversees film distribution, being responsible for releasing, in the last few years, over 35 documentary films in cinemas. He has been a member of juries and a consultant on numerous documentary productions. He is a member of the European Film Academy.



KAROL PIEKARCZYK
Artistic Director
Millennium Docs
Against Gravity



Markéta Štinglová

Manager of International Content Projects Centre
ČT

After graduating from the Film and Television Faculty of Academy of Performing Arts in Prague (FAMU), Marketa worked as an executive producer. In 2001 she joined Czech Television where she was in charge of the cooperation within EBU, fundraising - financing TV projects from EU funds and others. Currently she works as a Manager of the International Content Projects Centre in Czech Television (CT) and is responsible for international cooperation across genres, with a focus on documentaries. She is in charge of cooperation between CT and French-German channel ARTE. She participates in international co-production/pitching forums and acts as a member of international festival juries (Rose d'Or, Banff Festival, Emmy Awards etc.). In 2022, she was re-elected as a member of the Bureau of the EBU Documentary Experts Group, of which she has been a member since 2016.



Michael Treves

Founder, General Manager
JMT Films

Michael Treves, founded JMT Films in 2003 and has been running the company since. JMT Films is involved in the distribution, sales and fundraising for documentary projects and international co-production of unique independent movies. The company represents more than 100 titles, including Award Winning Films such *Hotel Savoy* (*Savoy*) by Zohar Wagner, *Żegnam cię, mój świecie wesoly* (*Goodbye, My Wonderful World*) by Joo Joostberens and *The Long Breakup* by Katya Soldak - aired by several European broadcasters such as ARTE France/Germany. Michael Treves holds a Master of Business Administration (M.B.A) from the Reichman University (IDC Herzliya), Israel, and a diploma in Audiovisual Financing & Commercialization from the Panthéon-Sorbonne University and INA Paris. He has experience of more than 20 years of work with international broadcasting networks. He is invited to Film Festivals and Film Markets as Distributor and Decision Maker and also as Jury Member/Advisor/Curator/Pre-Selector.

Speakers

Speakers



25-28 SEPTEMBER 2023



H O S T

Martin Blaney

After completing a PhD on the relationship between German cinema and television, Martin Blaney moved to live in Germany in 1988. Since then, he has worked for, among others, the Berlinale, Filmfest München, and various initiatives of the European Union's MEDIA Programme. In 1990, he became the correspondent for Germany, Austria and Switzerland at the British trade magazine "Screen International" and has also written for such publications as, "German Films Quarterly", "Kino: German Film", "Film und Medien in NRW – Das Magazin", "Polish Film Industry Magazine" and "Blickpunkt: Film".

In 2000, he became Head of Press & PR for the Berlin production company Road Movies. In addition to his journalistic activities, Dr. Blaney has been a jury member at numerous international film festivals, he also serves as a moderator for various panels at the Berlinale as well as other events throughout Europe.

Sanja Božić-Ljubičić

Sanja Božić-Ljubičić graduated in English and Spanish at the University of Zagreb. In 2001 she established Mediatranslations, a company specialized in translation and processing of foreign TV programs. In 2010 she established Mediavision – marketing and TV industry agency. Three years later, Mediavision launched NEM Dubrovnik, also called “TV market with a view”, which focuses on CEE region. In 2019, Mediavision launched NEM Zagreb, an event “all about content creation”.

Sanja’s biggest entrepreneurial venture started in 2014 when she introduced Pickbox NOW, the first SVoD service in Adria region, which now can be viewed independently through desktop, mobile, tablet or Smart TV applications or through telecom operators in the territory of Croatia, Slovenia, Serbia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Montenegro, North Macedonia and Bulgaria. Finally, Pickbox TV channel was launched in 2019 and is now available in all 7 countries.



Jonathan Broughton

Jonathan is a media expert with over a decade of experience as an analyst and consultant. Currently serving as Head of Strategy at the EBU, he possesses a deep understanding of the ever-changing media market and excels in digital broadcasting strategy. As the founder of Workshare Consulting, and Lead Analyst for Media Business Insight, he has launched numerous intelligence products in the media and entertainment sector.

Jonathan spent almost 8 years at IHS Markit, exploring various aspects of the TMT space. His expertise lies in broadcast and online video, media markets, and audience and consumer dynamics.





Hajdi Cenani

Hajdi Cenani is a co-founder & CEO of a deep tech startup airt, which enables companies to analyze their data in motion and predict their end customers' behavior in real-time, even if they don't have in-house AI expertise. A regular speaker and panelist at business conferences on AI and startup topics, she was named among The Top 100 Most Influential Businesswomen in Croatia, nominated for the Veuve Clicquot Business Woman Award, and listed among The Top 100 Most Important STEM Entrepreneurs in Croatia.

Hajdi is also one of the co-founders of PWMN Croatia, the association that promotes equality and gender-balanced leadership, served as the VP of the Croatian AI Association, and now serves as the President of the Croatian Startup Ecosystem Association (Cro Startup). She is also the representative of the Croatian startup ecosystem with the EU and sits on the Board of European Startup Networks.



Kristof Dombovary

Paprika Studios: Head of Non-Fiction & Entertainment CEE
Kristof Dombovary is the leader of the company's non-fiction and entertainment department, overseeing productions of Paprika Studios in 9 countries. He is the Executive Producer of major shiny floor formats such as: *Dancing with the Stars*, *X-Factor*, *The Voice*, *Rising Star*, *Your Face Sounds Familiar*; and reality shows like: *Survivor*, *Paradise Hotel*, *The Farm*, *Big Brother*, *Fish on the Cake*, *Farmer Wants a Wife*, *The Bridge* and many others.

Aleksandra Kaźmieruk

Aleksandra Kaźmieruk is the Head of Worldwide Sales of Films and TV series at Polish Television (TVP), where she has worked for 10 years. During this time, she has led the global distribution of TVP content, managed the sales team, and created the international business development strategy. Before joining TVP, Aleksandra held senior positions within the media industry in all rights acquisitions for Poland in Carisma Entertainment Group and high-profile projects management at FINA. Aleksandra holds an International MBA diploma from Warsaw University of Technology, Business School, and an MA degree in American Studies from the American Studies Centre of Warsaw University.



Yaroslav Lodygin

Yaroslav Lodygin is a Ukrainian producer, director, and screenwriter. He is a member of the European Film Academy. His full-length feature film debut *The Wild Fields* won 5 Ukrainian Film Academy Awards and premiered at Tallinn Film Festival in 2018. He is a former board member of Suspilne, the Ukrainian public broadcaster. He has created and produced a documentary series - *Collapse: How Ukrainians Ruined the Evil Empire*. He is 36 years old.





Victoria Murovana

Victoria Murovana is a Content Producer and Publicity Officer with 10+ years of experience in communications and brand strategy development. In 2020 she joined Suspilne as Head of the newly-formed department of kids and teens content on Digital Platforms. She launched the YouTube Channel Brobaks with four safe animated series for kids of different ages. Since November 2022, Murovana has served as Head of Digital at Suspilne, in charge of strategy, content development and distribution. Her civic engagements include serving as the Board Director of UkraineVolya foundation, the mission of which is to help children during the war.



Gytis Oganauskas

Gytis Oganauskas has thirty years of media experience in radio, online and TV, and is the former deputy editor-in-chief of Lithuania's biggest news portal, DELFI, as well as head of its video department, DELFI TV. Since April 2018, he has been deputy Director-General of Lithuanian National Radio and Television, and is responsible for its content policy.

Alba Pérez Puente

Alba Pérez Puente began her career in The Communication and Image Department at the San Sebastian Festival (2012 - 2016). Since 2014, she has been one of the coordinators of the Enkarzine International Short Film Festival (Bizkaia), overseeing communications. She has also been a part of the selection committee in the animation category.

In 2017 she moved to Sydney (Australia), where she worked as Recording Supervisor and Assistant Project Manager at Appen (Big Data and AI), Communications Coordinator at APA Group and Communications Consultant at Symbol Strategic Communications.

Upon her return to Spain in 2020, Alba moved to Madrid to complete her master's degree and started working at Inside Content as Programme Coordinator at Conecta FICTION & ENTERTAINMENT, where she is responsible for identifying the new trends and needs of a constantly changing TV industry, and designing, and executing a programme accordingly, looking to the future of the sector.



Katie Pike

Katie Pike serves as Director of European Formats, Paramount Global Content Distribution. With more than a decade of experience in the television industry, Pike is responsible for licensing Paramount's vast catalogue of formats to broadcasters and platforms around Europe and Asia, including iconic game shows such as *Jeopardy!* and top tier dramas like *The Good Wife*.

Outside of work Katie can be found cycling around Amsterdam and singing Mariah Carey songs at karaoke





Jana Semjonova

Jana Semjonova is an experienced media professional who has worked in the media industry for more than 20 years, both in commercial and public service media organisations. She studied Journalism and Communications as well as Media and Business Management. She has worked in various positions – starting from news reporter and news presenter on TV, since 2006 at LTV – Latvian Television Public Broadcaster - as commissioning editor, editor-in-chief and as Head of TV programs since 2013. Jana is responsible for the TV Channels strategic policy, quality of content, and policy of commissioning/acquisitions. She has worked as an expert in commissioning, programming, and TV scheduling both in Ukraine and Moldova.



Michael Treves

Michael Treves, founded JMT Films in 2003 and has been running the company since. JMT Films is involved in the distribution, sales and fundraising for documentary projects and international co-production of unique independent movies. The company represents more than 100 titles, including Award Winning Films such: *Hotel Savoy* (*Savoy*) by Zohar Wagner, *Żegnam cię, mój świecie wesoty* (*Goodbye, My Wonderful World*) by Joo Joostberens and *The Long Breakup* by Katya Soldak - aired by several European broadcasters such as ARTE France/Germany. Michael Treves holds a Master of Business Administration (M.B.A) from the Reichman University (IIC Herzliya), Israel, and a diploma in Audiovisual Financing & Commercialization from the Panthéon-Sorbonne University and INA Paris. He has experience of more than 20 years of work with international broadcasting networks. He is invited to Film Festivals and Film Markets as Distributor and Decision Maker and also as Jury Member/Advisor/Curator/Pre-Selector.

Matthew Trustram

Matthew Trustram is the Manager of Television at the European Broadcasting Union (EBU), the world's largest union of public-service broadcasters, based in Geneva, Switzerland. He is responsible for networking, knowledge exchange and co-production services offered to the EBU's member broadcasters, and serves as secretariat to the organizations governing Television Committee, consisting of senior TV management representatives from across Europe.

Prior to joining the EBU in 2010, Matthew worked as radio and digital producer of content for public-service networks in the UK and Switzerland.



Kateryna Udut

Kateryna has been involved in the Ukrainian and global AV content business for 12 years.

From 2020, she has been heading the Kyiv-based media consultancy, Media Resources Management (MRM) which is a part of the FILM.UA Group. The company's mission is to foster the development of the Ukrainian media industry and establish strong connections between the creative sectors of Ukraine and those of other countries worldwide.

MRM's portfolio includes the international forum Kyiv Media Week (since 2011), the B2B news platform MBR.com.ua (Media Business Reports), the international formats competition Small World. Big Ideas, the nationwide contest for socially important content PITCH UA, Canada-Ukraine coproduction meetings and conference #ucancoproduce, among others.

Following Russia's full-scale invasion of Ukraine, Kateryna also took on the role of a co-organizer of the Ukraine Content Club initiative, which unites biggest Ukrainian media groups and creative powerhouses such as FILM.UA Group, 1+1 Media, Starlight Media, and Suspilne Ukraine, all working together towards the industry's better future.





MOTH HUNTING

TVP

Forum Selection 2023

Forum Selection
2023



25-28 SEPTEMBER 2023

31 **Anxiety**
Bulgaria

32 **Bloody Dunes**
Lithuania

33 **Borders**
Slovakia

34 **Cancelled**
Poland

35 **Crypto Queen**
Bulgaria

36 **Frontwards**
Czech Republic

37 **The Heart on Fire**
Ukraine

38 **The Nest Club**
Hungary

39 **The Vespiary**
Ukraine

40 **Winemaker's Daughter**
Moldova

Anxiety

Production Company:
BNT (Bulgarian National Television)

Producer:
Mila Voinikova

Budget Estimate:
932 596 EUR

Presenter:
Mila Voinikova - Producer



Mila Voinikova

Mila Voinikova joined Miramar Film in 2009. She was on the production team of several commercially successful films (Ilian Djevelekov's *Love.net*, 2011; *Omnipresent*, 2017). Mila produced Konstantin Bojanov's *Light Thereafter* (IFF Rotterdam, 2018) and co-produced Katrin Gebbe's *Pelican Blood* (opening of

Orizzonti, 2019). In 2021 Miramar Film created its first TV series *The Portal*. Currently the company has several ongoing projects at different stages of production.

Project Synopsis:

We all have demons inside us, but how willing are we to reach out for help?

Psychological drama series which takes place at the Center for Psychological Help, created by 50-year-old Dr. Manov – a psychoanalyst and psychotherapist with international recognition, and his wife Dr. Yassenova, aged 44 – specialist in child and adolescent counselling, and therapy. We follow the stories of people who seek psychotherapeutic help from the two experts. Each episode has three main segments – the sessions in each practice and the relationship between the estranged husband and wife.

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Bloody Dunes

Production Company:
Magic Film

Screenwriter:
Andrius Lekavicius

Director:
Andrius Lekavicius

Producer:
Aurimas Pukevicius

Budget Estimate:
2 000 000 EUR

Presenter:
Andrius Lekavicius
- Writer, Director



Andrius Lekavicius

Andrius Lekavicius was born in 1984 in Vilnius, Lithuania. He is a versatile media storyteller, known for directing high-end commercial and non-commercial audiovisual productions. Lekavicius has successfully directed documentary features and docuseries that have captivated a wide audience with their

compelling narratives. He is an alumni of Berlinale Talents and IDFAcademy.

Project Synopsis:

The traces left behind by a missing prom queen lead her friend to the border of Kaliningrad, Russia and towards the signs of an organ trafficking network, but the lost girl is not the one who needs saving.

In *Bloody Dunes* rebellious high school girls skip their prom's afterparty for an adventure with older kitesurfers on the enigmatic Curonian Peninsula. Amid the thrill, they witness shadowy figures hauling body bags towards the Kaliningrad border. After Nastia's near-drowning and mysterious hospital disappearance, the group uncovers a sinister organ trafficking network. Tension rises as they confront danger and deceit, fighting not just for their friend but their survival.

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Borders

Production Company:
DNA Production

Screenwriter:
Jakub Režný

Producer:
**Rastislav Šesták,
Veronika Slámová**

Budget Estimate:
8 000 000 EUR

Presenter:
**Jakub Režný -
Screenwriter;
Veronika Slámová
- Producer
(Czech Television)**



Jakub Režný

Jakub Režný holds an M.A. in dramaturgy from the Janáček Academy of Arts Brno and works as a screenwriter, dramaturg and director. He is an experienced writer and dramaturg of scripted as well as documentary formats for cinema and television. In his work, Jakub specializes in projects, which

draw on historical facts and research. He is best known for the television film *Dukla 61* and the documentary *Black Gold*.

Veronika Slámová

Veronika Slámová finished her studies at Prague Film School (FAMU) in 2001. In the 1990s and 2000s, she mainly worked on foreign feature productions filmed in Prague, such as: *The Brothers Grimm*, *A Knight's Tale*, and *Hart's War*. In 2013, she took a job at Czech Television as Executive Producer producing documentaries and later also live broadcasts of concerts and performing arts. In 2017, she became the Head of Production of Drama. Recently, she became Creative Producer of fiction and non-fiction formats.

Project Synopsis:

When the Cold War divides the world into the East and the West, two brothers have to determine the fate of their family. The Czech-German border area is one of the first battlefields of the Cold War. In the middle of it, two brothers - Franta and Vojta - stand against each other. One helps to build the Iron Curtain, the other tries to break through it. *Borders* is a story of a ruthless hunt in which one brother pursues the other in an attempt to save the only thing they have left: their family.

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Cancelled

Production Company:
Parasite Films

Screenwriter:
Joanna Priwieziencew

Producer:
Katia Priwieziencew

Budget Estimate:
150 000 USD per episode

Presenter:
Katia Priwieziencew
- Producer



Katia Priwieziencew

Katia Priwieziencew is a producer of the 2022 feature film *Alpha Male*, which had its world premiere at a class-A film festival, the 52' IFFI. The movie won Best Film Award at the Cinequest San Jose Film Festival and was screened at numerous prestigious genre cinema festivals, including Fantaspoa

in Brazil - the largest genre cinema festival in Latin America.

Alpha Male had cinema distribution in several countries, including the Netherlands, Belgium, Norway, and Brazil.

In Poland, it was available on Canal+ and Netflix.

Katia has collaborated with TFP (Fake Fiance) and Akson Studio (among others: *Not with Me S1 2022*, *Not with Me S2 2023*

- directing). Pablo Cruz of the prestigious El Studio acquired the rights to the series she created, titled *Marea Alta*, which premiered in the fall of 2022 on the Univision platform. From 2010 to 2018, she co-developed the Amondo Films Foundation. In 2023, her series *The Bug* received a development grant from the MEDIA Creative Europe program.

Together with Maciek Maciantowicz of Dynamo Films, Katia is currently producing a PISF-funded feature film - *Off Balance*, directed by Korek Bojanowski.

Project Synopsis:

After the leaking of scandalous videos, cancelled celebrity Laura is forced into exile. Advised by her agent, she flees to her native small town to redeem herself by living among every-day humans who – until now – have only existed in the comment section of her instagram account. To regain relevance, she clumsily tries to integrate into the community, resulting in comical social catastrophes. Facing the challenges of real life, she reconnects with her past, her sister, and her ex. When her true intentions are exposed, Laura realizes everything she has been missing: being accepted for who she is, a sense of belonging in a community, and true love.

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Crypto Queen

Production Company:
Midwest Ltd.

Screenwriter:
Jesper Bernt

Producer:
Gabriel Georgiev

Budget Estimate:
4 800 000 EUR

Presenter:
Gabriel Georgiev
- Producer, Creator;
Jesper Bernt - Writer



Gabriel Georgiev

Gabriel Georgiev was born on December 20th, 1976 in Sofia, Bulgaria. He is a producer and production manager, known for *The Expendables 2* (2012), *Conan the Barbarian* (2011) and *The Black Dahlia* (2006).

Jesper Bernt

Jesper Bernt is a Danish screenwriter, director and author. He has written the international TV-series *Below the Surface II* and *The Team II*. He has written and directed the film *Black Coffee & Vinyl*, which won the Danish Robert in 2013. He has a master-class education in Screenwriting from the Danish Film School, and a Master's Degree in Literature and Visual Communication. He was born in Copenhagen in 1970.

Project Synopsis:

An idolised female entrepreneur vanishes after scamming the whole world and gets away with several billion dollars, leaving raging investors, the FBI, the Interpol, and the Russian mob futilely chasing her. Then, a female desk agent gets on the trail of the fugitive who is now the world's most wanted woman: the CryptoQueen.

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Frontwards

Production Company:
ČT (Czech TV)

Screenwriter:
Lukáš Sigmund

Director:
Michal Kollár

Producer:
Michal Kollár

Budget Estimate:
4 091 000 EUR

Presenter:
Michal Kollár
- Director, Producer;
Lukáš Sigmund
- Screenwriter



Michal Kollár

Michal Kollár is a Slovak director-producer, born in 1978 in Bratislava. He is an active member of ANP (Slovak Association of Independent Producers), a member of ACE (Ateliér du Cinéma Européen) and an alumni of all of the main EAVE workshops (European Audiovisual Entrepreneurs).

In 2001 he graduated from the Comenius University Faculty of Management, with a master's degree in HRM and in 2006 he obtained a master's degree from the Academy of Performing Arts Bratislava in film and TV editing. To this date Kollár has produced and co-produced 14 feature films and two well-received miniseries. He has directed three feature films, among them the local smash hit thriller *The Red Captain* (2016) and the recent comedy *Villa Lucia* (2023), both of which he also co-wrote. He authored the thriller miniseries *Ultimatum* (2022), which met with record viewership and was sold to many international territories. He has several projects in active development and pre-production, among them the original miniseries *Frontwards*.

Lukáš Sigmund

Lukáš Sigmund was born in 1983 in Bratislava. He is a DFFB Serial Eyes and EWC alumni. In 2008 he graduated from the Academy of Performing Arts Bratislava, receiving an MA in screenwriting and dramaturgy. He is the vice president of the Slovak Screenwriters Association ASSA. Sigmund co-wrote the comedy feature film *Villa Lucia* (2023) and the miniseries *Ultimatum* (2022). Currently he is developing his original miniseries *Frontwards*.

Project Synopsis:

A rational homicide detective Kamila keeps finding the body of the same person over and over again – a young man named Richard. Only Kamila sees the repetition and the more she's finding out who he is, the more connections between Richard and her family resurface. In order to protect her loved ones and her sanity, the woman must dig deeper into the mystery. Against her will, the series of uncanny murders leads to an investigation into Kamila's own consciousness, memory, and soul.

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The Heart on Fire

Production Company:
FILM.UA Group

Screenwriter:
Arkadii Nepytyaliuk

Director:
Arkadii Nepytyaliuk

Producer:
Olesia Lukyanenko

Budget Estimate:
1 500 000 EUR

Presenter:
Arkadii Nepytyaliuk
- Director, Scriptwriter;
Olesia Lukyanenko
- Producer



Arkadii Nepytyaliuk

Arkadii Nepytyaliuk is a well-known Ukrainian film director and scriptwriter. His films are distinguished by his unique ability to find the extraordinary in everyday life, a sensitive sense of humor, and a joy in working with actors. His work includes the 2020 drama series *There Will Be People* and the 2023

feature film *Lesson of Tolerance*.

Olesia Lukyanenko

Olesia Lukyanenko is a creative producer. Olesia has been working at one of the biggest Ukrainian studios, Film. UA, for many years, dedicating herself to the development of high-end drama series. Her work includes the drama series *Papa Den*, *Hide and Seek* and *There will Be People* as well as the 2023 documentary *Media at War*.

Project Synopsis:

This is the story of two sisters from a wealthy Polish landowning family who, amidst the turmoil of war, uprisings, and revolutions of the early 20th century, took different paths.

Sisters Tina and Ada grow up in Crimea in the family of a wealthy Polish landowner. When the Revolution starts, the youngest Tina – a person who has always been keen on the Ukrainian language and culture - joins the Ukrainian army, choosing the rigorous path of a warrior. The elder Ada, being more pragmatic and devoted to her family, stays at home, collaborating with the Bolsheviks. Eventually, the two meet in battle: Tina as a sergeant in the Ukrainian forces and Ada as a commissar in the Red Army.

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The Nest Club

Production Company:
Moviebar Productions

Screenwriter:
Bojána Papp

Director:
Ferenc Török

Producer:
Esther Turan

Budget Estimate:
9 997 000 EUR

Presenter:
Esther Turan - Producer;
Bojána Papp - Writer



Bojána Papp

Bojána Papp is a film dramaturg. She has worked as a director, producer, and creative producer for various television and radio programs. She has received the Hungarian Film Critics Award twice and has taught at various documentary workshops, including DocNomads. Currently,

she serves as the Head of Departments for Television MA and Scriptwriting MA at the Budapest Metropolitan University. She studied at the Hungarian Department of ELTE (1993-2001) and then at the Department of Cinematography of the University of Theatre and Film Arts (1996- 2001). She is a founding member and organizer of the Open Film Festival (1997-).

Esther Turan

Esther Turan is a distinguished filmmaker and a founding member of Moviebar Productions, an award-winning film production company with operations in Budapest and Los Angeles. With a background in directing and a notable alumni of the University of Theatre and Film Arts, Esther plays a pivotal role in the creative process of all Moviebar projects. Esther produced the horror feature *The Reckoning*, directed by Neil Marshall, which received the Best Horror Feature Award at the Berlin Independent Film Festival. She co-produced the *The Cobblers' Lot* sequence of *The Field Guide to Evil*, horror anthology by Peter Strickland, and *Eld & Lågor (Swoon)*, directed by Mans Marling and Björn Stein. She is a member of the European Producers Club.

Project Synopsis:

A young and talented Christian-born singer becomes the star of the Nest Artists Club in Budapest and discovers her courage against the growing fascism in the Hungary of the 1940s. Imagine a series where the brave and determined protagonist of *The Queen's Gambit* moves into the glamorous world of the *Cotton Club*, *Miss Arizona*, or *Lili Marleen* during the era of *Babylon Berlin* and *Transatlantic*. Welcome to *The Nest Club!*

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The Vespiary

Production Company:
UNITED HEROES

Screenwriter:
Thomas Theiner

Producer:
**Egor Olesov,
Pavlo Cherepin**

Budget Estimate:
500 000 EUR per episode

Presenter:
**Pavlo Cherepin - Producer;
Thomas Theiner - Writer**



Pavlo Cherepin

Pavlo Cherepin is an award winning Ukrainian producer, director and creator of non-scripted formats with 20+ years of experience in the industry. He is known for sports and current affairs documentaries, action reality shows and interactive edutainment films. He is a co-creator of non-scripted

shows, *Scarman* and *Supermatch*, as well as producer and director of documentaries: *Special Atmosphere*, *The Line of Attack*, *Five Finals*, *Inside Ukraine* and *Cyberwar 2022*.

Thomas Theiner

Thomas Theiner studied Film Production in San Francisco, and History and Economics in Austria. After serving in the Italian Army's Alpine Ranger Corps, he moved to Kyiv for work reasons. Thomas is an expert on NATO Cold War forces and defense strategy, Western weapons technology, military operational art, and East-West intelligence operations. He resides in Italy and is often interviewed as an expert on topics related to the current Ukrainian-Russian war and Western weapon deliveries to Ukraine.

Project Synopsis:

Dive into the world of espionage, where a trio of heroes from Britain, Poland, and Norway unite against the Russian sleeper agent network. They will battle to save Europe from a silent invasion.

A British intelligence officer, a female Polish military officer, a young Norwegian economic analyst - all three catch a glimpse of the deadly Russian agent network operating in Europe. Russian intelligence increases its efforts to split European political and economic institutions. As the protagonists start their investigation, they must put their suspicions aside and work together. Whichever side triumphs in this lethal struggle will define the fate of Europe for the next century.

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Winemaker's Daughter

Production Company:
Shepherd Company

Producer:
Sergiu Scobioala

Budget Estimate:
1 150 000 USD

Presenter:
Sergiu Scobioala - Producer



Sergiu Scobioala

Sergiu Scobioala is a graduate of the First School of Television from Kyiv, Ukraine and a specialty TV director. He has worked as a TV Producer for 12 years. He has produced over 15 TV formats, 2 TV series and 2 documentaries. He was nominated with a documentary film *On The Way to War*, in the category

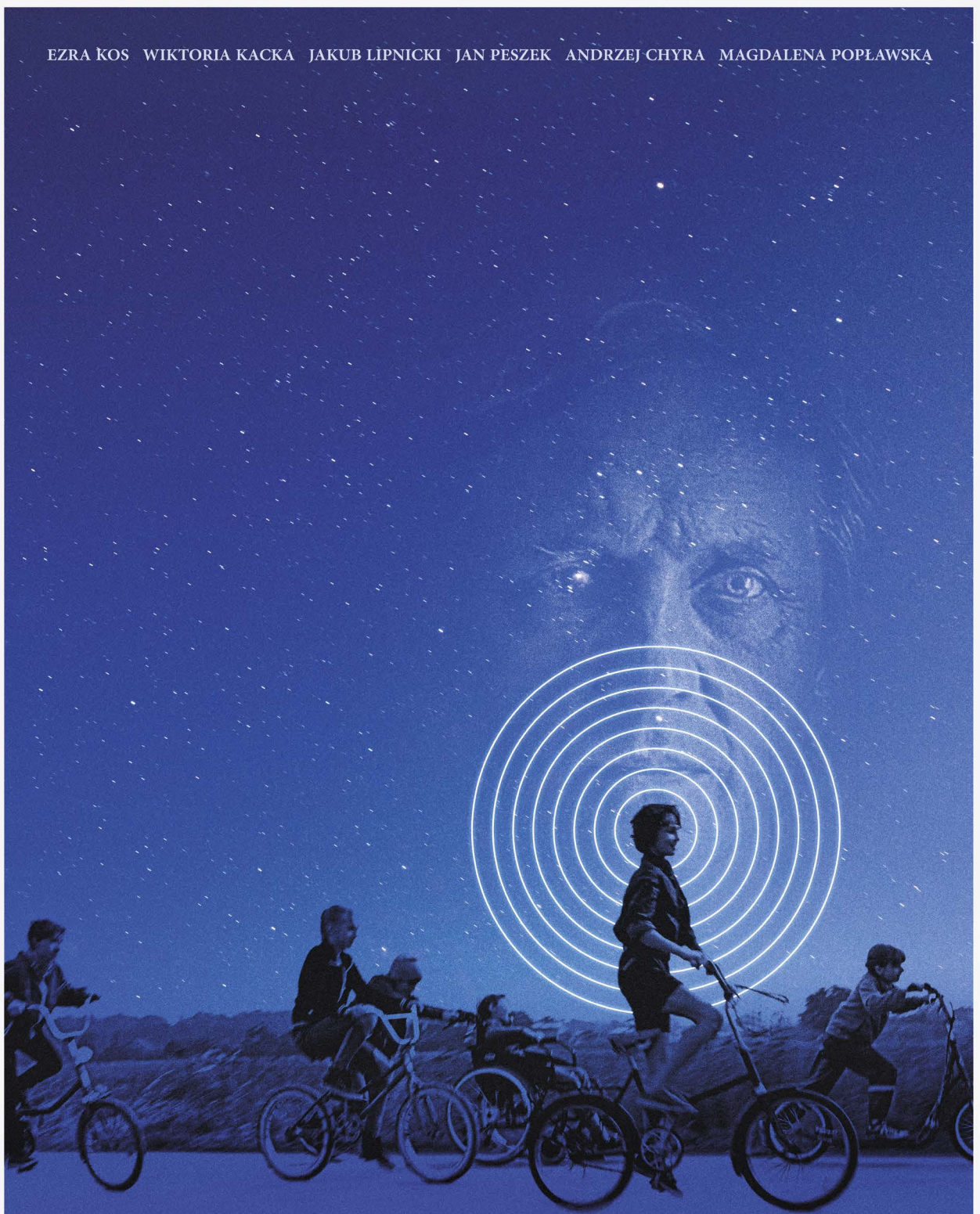
C EU SOON at MIA 2022 in Rome, Italy. He was the representative of Moldova Film Industry at the Tashkent Film Festival 2022. In 2023 he made his feature debut with *The Power of Probability*.

Project Synopsis:

A Parisian lawyer inherits her father's Moldovan winery, but must navigate conflicting interests and a new way of life in the picturesque countryside. A gripping drama of family and legacy. Catrine, a successful lawyer in Paris, returns to Moldova after her father's death and learns that she has inherited his vineyard estate worth millions. As she tries to deal with the estate and the winery, she faces resistance from the locals and must confront the painful memories of her past. When Catrine decides to sell the estate and return to Paris, the woman realizes that someone has stolen her identity papers and bank cards, leaving her stranded in her homeland.

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EZRA KOS WIKTORIA KACKA JAKUB LIPNICKI JAN PESZEK ANDRZEJ CHYRA MAGDALENA POPLAWSKA



A film by PIOTR STASIK

FILM FOR ALIENS

TELEMARK presents in co-production with TELEWIZJA POLSKA, SILESIA FILM INSTITUTE, LOWER SILESIAN FILM CENTRE
MAZOVIA INSTITUTE OF CULTURE, KRAKOW FESTIVAL OFFICE, ECI ŁÓDŹ, MX35, HELIOGRAF, POLISH FILM INSTITUTE co-financed production
production manager PIOTR SMIECHOWSKI production coordinator ZUZANNA OLBINSKA director of photography NICOLÁS VILLEGAS H., ADFC, PSC PIOTR STASIK sound designer MICHAŁ KOSTERKIEWICZ JR
MICHAŁ KOSTERKIEWICZ ANNA ROK JAN BOGUSZEWSKI editor ULA KLIMEK-PIĄTEK production designer DAWID WOJTECKI written by PIOTR STASIK LUKASZ CZAPSKI
producers ANNA KĘPIŃSKA PGP MACIEJ KUBICKI PGP directed by PIOTR STASIK

TELEMARK

TVP

Wrocławskie
Dziękuję

Studio
Film

Dziękuję
Film
Commission

DCF

MW

MAZOWIECKI
WARSZAWSKI
INSTITUTE OF CULTURE

kbf:

MAŁOPOLSKA

Kraków

MAŁOPOLSKA

50

MAŁOPOLSKA

heliograf

POLISH
FILM
INSTITUTE

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King of Tenors

Production Company:
UNSIN STUDIO

Screenwriter:
Marek Bielecki

Director:
Gerwazy Reguła

Producer:
**Paweł Józwiak-Rodan,
Marta Rybacka**

Budget Estimate:
4 500 000 EUR

Presenter:
**Paweł Józwiak-Rodan
- Executive Producer;
Gerwazy Reguła - Director**



Gerwazy Reguła

Gerwazy Reguła was born on July 22, 1969 in Chorzów. He is a Polish director and screenwriter. He graduated from the Academy of Economics, Management and Marketing (1994) and completed postgraduate studies in Directing (1997). He was a judge in the program *Become a Movie Star*. He received the Special

Jury Prize at the 6th Festival of Baltic Debut Films in Swietogorsk, and won the 3rd Prize in the Polish edition of the Hartley-Merrill International Screenwriting Competition for the script *Krasnal* (2001). Reguła was awarded the 1st prize in a competition organized by the magazine "Film" for the treatment of a feature film for the text *Strajk, seks i krasnoludki* (2001).

Paweł Józwiak-Rodan

Paweł Józwiak-Rodan is an experienced filmmaker, producer, director, and game developer. He has won awards for his documentary film *Mom, Dad, God and Satan*. He also directed the short feature film *Eight9*, which won the UNIFEST Audience Award in Madrid and was selected for the competition section of the East End Film Festival in London. He has additional skills in editing, computer graphics, game design, animation, and VR films and games. Józwiak-Rodan founded the production studio UNSIN STUDIO, where he produced the film *God and Lunaparks Warriors*. He is currently working on a personal documentary film titled *Grandma, Volhynia, Siberia and Me* about his grandmother, who was deported from Volhynia to Siberia during the war. He has also worked in the gamedev industry since 2019, mainly as a creative producer and director.

Project Synopsis:

From Warsaw to Hollywood, the film explores the life of opera star Jan Kiepura who captured the hearts of millions with his music, leaving a lasting legacy.

King of Tenors follows the artist from his early days in the Polish capital to his successful career in Vienna, Hollywood, and New York. Along the way, he faces conflicts with colleagues, engages in secret conversations with officials during World War II, and experiences romance. Kiepura's sudden death leaves the audience wondering about his unfulfilled potential. The film ends with a holographic duet between Kiepura and Elvis Presley.

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Landfill People

Production Company:
Lietuvos idėjų forumas

Producer:
Erikas Kundreckas

Budget Estimate:
5 000 000 EUR

Presenter:
Erikas Kundreckas
- **Producer;**
Povilas Skaisgirys
- **Executive Producer**



Erikas Kundreckas

Erikas Kundreckas is a Lithuanian producer, script-writer, founder of TV program, TV series, documentary and feature film production company 4ROOM (Lietuvos idėjų forumas). He has 16 years' of experience in the TV and film industry and more than 25 years' experience in the entertainment

industry. His long-term TV series *Summer of Naisiai*, won the national Silver Crane award for the best TV movie of the year. Erikas Kundreckas has created and produced dozens of popular TV series, shows and films. He is also a communication and marketing specialist, and a member of the Lithuanian journalist union.

Povilas Skaisgirys

Povilas Skaisgirys is a Lithuanian film and TV producer. He has been part of the industry for more than 15 years. He has created such projects as: the movie *The Family*, the multi-series TV movie *Landfill People*, the movie *Own, Strange, Beloved*, the multi-series TV movie *The Mole*, the movie *Condemn. The Novel of City Kaunas*, the movie *Condemn. Seaside Jazz*, the movie *Women Lie Better. Christine*, the movie *Women Lie Better. Robert*, the movie *The second Wave*; a series of films from the Reproductive documentation *People Who Created Lithuania*, the movie *How to Bring Her Back in Seven Days*, the multi-series TV film *The Price of Freedom. Volunteers* and the multi-series TV movie *Price of Freedom. Guerillas*.

Project Synopsis:

The film tells the story of two kids who escaped an orphanage and started a new life in a landfill. It's 1993 – the dawn of Lithuanian independence.

Affected by the violence in their orphanage, twelve-year-old Matas and nine-year-old Gustė decide to run away. After getting into the first car that comes along - a garbage truck - the young runaways find themselves in the largest landfill in Lithuania.

Matas, an intelligent boy beyond his years, creates a new identity for himself and Gustė: they are now a brother and a sister named Saukos.

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The Last Blue Summer

Production Company:
FILM.UA Group

Screenwriter:
Pedro Lopes

Producer:
**Jorge Marecos Duarte,
Kateryna Vyshnevska,
Olesia Lukyanenko
- Co-Producer**

Budget Estimate:
1 000 000 EUR

Presenter:
**Olesia Lukyanenko
- Co-Producer;
Pedro Lopes - Writer**



Olesia Lukyanenko

Olesia Lukyanenko is a Ukrainian producer with almost 15 years of experience in development and producing, mostly focusing on production of high-end TV dramas. Olesya's recent credits include the documentary project *Media at War*, the historical drama *There Will Be People*,

the criminal drama *Hide and Seek* (the break-out Ukrainian TV series selected by MIPTV Drama Buyers' Summit, Serie Series, MIA, Black Nights FF, Göteborg FF, etc.), the feature film *Felix Austria* (as a script-consultant) and more.

Pedro Lopes

Pedro Lopes is an Emmy Award-winning Portuguese scriptwriter with a vast curriculum in TV and cinema, including short/feature films, series and primetime telenovelas. He co-authored the series *Auga Seca*, available on HBO, and is the author of *Glória*, the first Portuguese Netflix original, winner of the Golden Globe for Best Fiction Project. He is the author of the TV adaptation of the best-seller *Codex 632*, produced for Globoplay and RTP, also taking on the role of showrunner for the series.

Project Synopsis:

A widow tries to regain the joy of living, with the help of a boy who has fled the Ukrainian war and is forced to grow up before his time. The story has two protagonists. Alice has become a widow and lost her way. Vasily is a boy she knows who used to come to Portugal, to Alice's house, under the Blue Summer program. The aim of the scheme was to provide children who lived in areas still affected by radiation with two months of vacation in Portugal. But now the summer is far from being blue. Vasily sees his life transformed into a single, endless winter, when war breaks out in his country and he is forced to flee, taking refuge in Portugal.

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Me - Greta

Director:

Miranda Namicheishvili

Budget Estimate:

500 000 EUR

Presenter:

**Miranda Namicheishvili
- Director**



Miranda Namicheishvili

Miranda Namicheishvili was born on May 4th, 1993 in Tbilisi, Georgia.

She was accepted in the Shota Rustaveli Theatre and Film Tbilisi State University. Her bachelor's diploma film was shown in 2016 at Cannes, as part of the Short Film Corner. She participated in the project Creative Mind Group as

a film director in 2019. In the same year she had masterclasses and training in Hollywood. Her master's diploma film *The Load* won the prize for the best short at the Tbilisi International Film Festival 2021.

Project Synopsis:

The film is about the life of Maiko Mumladze, a 29-year-old divorced single mother of two. One day while browsing the internet for job offers she sees an advertisement – a private finance group is announcing a vacancy for the position of an officer for problematic loans. Maiko is accepted without a problem, but her salary will depend on how successful she is. Before she starts, the girl is warned of the stress she will have to endure on the job. Maiko will be under constant psychological pressure and will face many difficulties.

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Ukraine Is the Capital of Everything

Production Company:
Family Production

Screenwriter:
Tonia Noyabrova

Director:
Tonia Noyabrova

Producer:
Anastasia Bukovskaya

Budget Estimate:
2 200 000 EUR

Presenter:
Tonia Noyabrova
- Writer, Director



Antonina Noiabrova
(Tonia Noyabrova)

Tonia Noyabrova (Antonina Noiabrova) is a 39-year-old screenwriter and producer from Kiev, Ukraine. She studied directing at the Kiev National University of Culture and Art. Her debut short film *Independence Day* (2012) which she produced, wrote and directed was recognized

as the Best Short Movie at the Odesa International Film Festival and Molodist Film Festival. Noyabrova's first feature *Hero Of My Time* (2018) won her the Best Director award at the Odesa International Film Festival. Her latest feature *Do You Love Me?* was selected for Berlinale Panorama and received the main prize at the OFF CAMERA Film Festival in Poland.

Project Synopsis:

A 65-year-old playwright is faced with a dramatic choice - to start a potentially happy new life in emigration or to fight for freedom and return home to Ukraine, where he once was happy. Playwright Grigory miraculously escapes from occupied Kherson at the beginning of the war. He finds himself on the outskirts of Berlin, in a refugee camp. Realizing that no one wants to stop the terrible war raging on in his country, he accepts the challenge and decides to use the only weapon at his disposal - art. He believes in the power of words and plans to write an outstanding play about the war in order to put a stop to it.

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Waltzing Matilda

Production Company:

VIRUSfilm

Screenwriter:

Nataša Slavíková

- Co-Writer

Producer:

Vít Janeček - Co-Producer

Budget Estimate:

1 100 000 EUR

Presenter:

Nataša Slavíková - Delegate

Producer, Co-Writer;

Vít Janeček - Co-Producer



Nataša Slavíková

Nataša Slavíková (born 1962) has been actively involved in the film and television industry since 1999. She has co-produced and co-written over 350 films and programs for television. Her work includes 60 episodes of the environmentally-themed series *Green Game* for youngsters, 30 episodes of

Medicine for the 21st Century, 180 episodes of *The Thirteens Chamber*, which uncovers hidden secrets about well-known individuals, and 19 episodes of the award-winning *Alternative Culture* series called *Elsa*. *Waltzing Matilda* marks her debut as a co-writer and producer for a full-length feature film. She has also recently served as a board member of the Czech Film Fund.

Vít Janeček

Vít Janeček (born 1970) is a graduate of the School of Philosophy and FAMU. In the 1990s, he curated historical retrospectives at the Karlovy Vary IFF, programmed various venues and wrote on cinema. He taught for nearly 20 years at FAMU, where he established one department and developed several international programs. His creative work often delves into societal and political dimensions. *Ivetka and the Mountains* earned one of the main awards at Ji.hlava in 2008. Since 2014, he has been producing films through D1film in Prague, and in 2019 he co-founded VIRUSfilm in Bratislava with his wife, Zuzana Piusi. Additionally, since 2023, they have been running Prague's central Atlas cinema in collaboration with several other filmmakers.

Project Synopsis:

Illness is not only a complication of life but also an opportunity to embark on a journey of healing in a broader sense. The withdrawn, emotionally torn executor Karel does not get along with his extroverted and bohemian mother – 75-year-old Matilda – and only due to a strong sense of duty does he visit her regularly. On the other hand, 18-year-old Pavel, who comes across as irresponsible and flunky, despises his father's profession. The relationship between all three is strained, but an unexpected turn of events brings them together. Matilda develops Alzheimer's disease, loses her apartment and Karel has to take her in...

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Why God Doesn't Play with Time

Production Company:
DEvisioners Warsaw

Director:
**Michał Krzywicki,
Dagmara Brodziak**

Budget Estimate:
1 000 000 EUR

Presenter:
**Dagmara Brodziak
- Co-Director, Creative
Producer;
Michał Krzywicki
- Co-Director**



Michał Krzywicki and Dagmara Brodziak

Michał Krzywicki and Dagmara Brodziak - the creative duo DEvisioners, dedicated to creating genre films.

Dagmara is an actress, screenwriter, and creative producer. Michał is an actor, director, screenwriter, and producer. They are graduates of the Warsaw Film School.

They have two feature films to their credit: *Diversion End*, a neo-noir thriller produced in France and the USA – recipient of the Jantar Młodzi i Film 2017 award, and *The Day I Found a Girl in the Trash*, a sci-fi drama - winner of the main sci-fi film award at the CINEQUEST festival in the USA and Best Feature Film at the Fanta Festival in Rome.

Project Synopsis:

Imagine you could spend one more day with a person you loved very much who passed away. Would you be ready to meet them again?

World-renowned but weary and professionally burnt-out photographer is visiting Bangkok. Unexpectedly, she gets a chance to spend an extra day with her tragically deceased fiancé, the loss of whom she has not been able to come to terms with since his passing. The meeting is meant to help her say goodbye, forgive herself, and possibly rediscover a love for life. However, the woman is unaware that the reunion will come at a high cost.

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Among Giants

Production Company:
UNITED HEROES

Producer:
**Stanisław Dziedzic
(Co-Producer),
Pavlo Cherepin**

Budget Estimate:
650 000 EUR

Presenter:
**Stanisław Dziedzic
- Co-Producer;
Pavlo Cherepin
- Producer**



Stanisław Dziedzic

Stanisław Dziedzic has worked in the film industry for over twenty years. Educated in the United States and Poland, Staszek has achieved success as a producer of full-length feature films, shorts, and animated films. After working for many years in Los Angeles, he returned to

Poland in 1993 to work at the Warsaw Documentary & Feature Film Studio. In 1997 he joined Procter & Gamble and was responsible for overseeing all European commercial productions. In 2007 Staszek founded Film Produkcja Ltd. to specialize in feature films, animated films and TV content. Under Staszek's leadership as producer and CEO, Film Produkcja has grown into one of the largest production houses currently operating in Poland.

Pavlo Cherepin

Pavlo Cherepin is an award winning Ukrainian producer, director and creator of non-scripted formats with 20+ years of experience in the industry. He is known for sports and current affairs documentaries, action reality shows and interactive edutainment films. He is a co-creator of non-scripted shows: *Scarman* and *Supermatch*, as well as producer and director of documentaries: *Special Atmosphere*, *The Line of Attack*, *Five Finals*, *Inside Ukraine* and *Cyberwar 2022*.

Project Synopsis:

The untold story of the rivalry and friendship shared by two of the greatest mountaineers in history - Reinhold Messner and Jerzy Kukuczka. In the 1980s South Tyrolean Messner and Pole Kukuczka were locked in a race to be the first man to reach all the fourteen eight-thousanders – the highest peaks in the world. Both men submitted without supplemental oxygen, often alone, and even in winter. These feats were deemed impossible until they succeeded. But the cost was unimaginable: Messner lost his brother and two friends while Kukuczka said goodbye to two companions before ultimately losing his own life.

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Animals of The East

Production Company:
Admiral Films

Director:
Andrej Kolenčik

Producer:
Andrej Kolenčik

Budget Estimate:
160 000 EUR

Presenter:
**Andrej Kolenčik - Director,
Producer**



Andrej Kolenčik

Andrej Kolenčik is a film director and visual artist. He currently works as a director and producer of feature, documentary and animated films in his own company Admiral Films. In 2014 he was selected for the Berlinale Talents programme. The films he has directed have been selected

for hundreds of international film festivals and have also won dozens of awards abroad (e.g. the Golden Egg at the Kustendorf Film Festival), as well as at home ("Slovak Oscar" Sun in the Net Award).

Project Synopsis:

A documentary about the love and unbreakable friendship between animals and humans.

Blanka has been rescuing animals since she was a little girl. Once, she shared her bed with an orphaned lamb and took an abused cow to her family's backyard without hesitation. Blanka has managed to infect other children from the neighbourhood with her enthusiasm, founded an animal sanctuary, and started a small revolution.

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Behind the Eyes

Director:

**Andrada Popan-Dorca,
Ana Preda**

Budget Estimate:

70 000 EUR

Presenter:

**Andrada Popan-Dorca
- Co-Director**



Andrada Popan-Dorca

Andrada Popan-Dorca is a Romanian filmmaker and user experience designer with an MA in TV Documentary Production from Salford University, UK. She has made short films on various topics, from cemeteries and the love of cinema, to LGBTQ issues and aging. She is particularly interested in social

documentaries that can create change. Amongst others, she was awarded a One World Media Student Funding bursary for a short documentary set in Vietnam.

Project Synopsis:

Razvan is a visually impaired young athlete and climbing instructor. His dream is to become a paraclimbing world champion. He is not far from achieving his goal - he's already won silver medals in several international competitions. Razvan can only see a little under 1%, but the more intense his physical training gets, the higher the risk of total loss of vision. He is aware of the danger, but nonetheless continues to push on.

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Being Benovsky

Production Company:
Vision House Productions

Producer:
Łukasz Bluszcz

Budget Estimate:
190 000 EUR

Presenter:
Łukasz Bluszcz - Producer



Łukasz Bluszcz

Łukasz Bluszcz is a director, producer and co-owner of Vision House Productions. He works with major global networks, such as: BBC, Discovery Channel, Al Jazeera English or NHK. He produces entertainment series as well as films on the political, cultural and social situation in Poland.

He has produced a number of highly acclaimed TV series such as *Sanatorium of Love* (TVP – awarded at MIPTV Cannes and NAPTE Budapest) or *Station Bieszczady* (Discovery Channel). In 2017 he directed *The Tipping Point* – the first Polish feature documentary on climate change, awarded at Docs Against Gravity. Bluszcz wrote documentaries for BBC World and Al Jazeera. He is a member of the Aspen Young Leaders Network.

Project Synopsis:

Small-town enthusiasts fascinated by the figure of the 18th century traveler Maurice Benovsky plan a trip to Madagascar in order to learn more about their hero, but also to experience a journey into their inner selves. The film looks at Benovsky in a light, humorous way. We want to observe our present-day characters and discover what 18th century ideals mean for them, and what sort of gap they fill. *Being Benovsky* is a historical comedy with cinematic re-enactments and visualizations of sea, tropics and frosty lands. It combines elements of an educational film with an artistic documentary about a living, extremely interesting group of people.

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Bitter Sugar

Production Company:
Radium Films

Director:
Ana Barjadze

Producer:
Irina Gelashvili

Budget Estimate:
117 000 EUR

Presenter:
Irina Gelashvili - Producer



Irina Gelashvili

Irina Gelashvili, a new powerhouse in the industry, is the producer and founder of Radium Films - a production company uniting talented individuals from Georgia. Based in Tbilisi, she is currently pursuing a Ph.D. at the Georgian TAFU. In her brief career, she has been at IDFA, CPH: DOX,

DocLisboa, BelDocs, etc., pitching projects. Irina was part of B2B Doc, Cinedoc, Eave Change, Close Up and EuroDoc engagements.

With unwavering dedication, Irina continues to make a profound impact in the world of filmmaking.

Project Synopsis:

Three brothers living in a dying industrial town in Georgia struggle to cope with a life of independence as their parents have been forced to go abroad in search of work. 19-year-old Nika, 16-year-old Gika, and 11-year-old Levan find solace in video calls with their mother, who earns her living in Italy, working as a carer for an elderly woman. Separated by screens, they navigate life alone after the town's main factory shuts down. With their absent parents living in different countries, the family is forced to adapt to the new reality of online parenthood. Brothers' story reflects the universal struggle of migrant family separation and the challenges that arise as the boys wait for their parents' return, and dream of a brighter future.

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Dakar Sistaz

Production Company:

Frame Films

Producer:

Zuzana Kučerová

Presenter:

Zuzana Kučerová - Producer



Zuzana Kučerová

Zuzana Kučerová produced the feature-length documentary *Vote for Kibera* (FIPADOC, Audience Award at Ji.hlava IDFF, a Special Jury Prize at One World in Bratislava), the documentary *Wolves at the Borders* (Visions du Reel, FIPADOC, Special Mention at Ji.hlava IDFF, Anthropology and

Environment Award at Jean Rouch Film Festival) and Marek Naprstek`s short animated film *Ant Hill* (BAFICI, Anibar, Special Mention at Animafest Zagreb etc.). She co-produced the documentary *The Killing of a Journalist* (Hot Docs, Karlovy Vary IFF, Audience Award at One World IFF etc.). Apart from producing, she works for the International Festival of Animated Films ANIFILM.

Project Synopsis:

Teenage twins Aliyyah and Yasmeen Koloc are race car drivers in the male-dominated motorsport world. Their fame keeps growing, their brand is established, they have hundreds of thousands of followers on social media and they continue to win race after race. Their next goal is the toughest competition of them all – the Dakar Rally. But what happens when the sisters` paths begin to diverge as they reach adulthood? How will this affect the “big Dakar race” they are heading towards, their careers and, most importantly, their relationship with each other?

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Leonard Cohen Behind the Iron Curtain

Production Company:
Silver Frame

Producer:
Stanisław Zaborowski

Budget Estimate:
259 764 EUR

Presenter:
Stanisław Zaborowski
- Producer



Stanisław Zaborowski

Producer and co-owner of Silver Frame production house. He graduated from Andrzej Wajda's Film School and also studied at the University of Warsaw. From 2007 to 2012 he worked at Polish Television – Poland's public broadcaster, TVN and Polish Radio. He graduated from the e-learning course

Digital Storytelling at the University of Birmingham. He served as Chairman of the Young Producers Section at KIPA from 2019 to 2022. Stanisław was honoured with the Emerging Producer title in 2019. He is a Vice President of the Board of the National Chamber of Audiovisual Producers. He also produces and co-produces documentary and feature movies. One of his most important and successful short features is *60 Kilos of Nothing* (dir. Piotr Domalewski). It was awarded at the Triest Film Festival, Cottbus Film Festival and Gdynia Film Festival. In 2018 he worked on his debut documentary *Occupation 1968* in co-production with Péter Kerekes. In 2019 he became a Polish representative at the Emerging Producers workshop and IDFA Academy in Amsterdam as well as Locarno Match Me. He is a graduate of the KIPA Finance Lab and IDFA Academy, member of the working group for Green Film in Poland. Since 2021, he has served as the Eurimages Expert in the Council of Europe. Since 2023, he has been a member of the European Film Academy.

Project Synopsis:

A documentary film based on previously unseen archival footage from US television, telling the story of Leonard Cohen's concert in Poland in 1985 and the impact that his music had on the fall of communism. *Leonard Cohen: Behind the Iron Curtain* will present events and stories, linking contemporary figures and places, against a backdrop of photographs from the artist's concerts and scenes of life in this communist country of the 1970s and 1980s.

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Scent Trail

Production Company:
D1film

Director:
Zuzana Piussi

Producer:
Vít Janeček

Budget Estimate:
163 000 EUR

Presenter:
Zuzana Piussi - Director;
Vít Janeček - Producer



Zuzana Piussi

Zuzana Piussi (born 1971) is a renowned Slovak documentary filmmaker who was originally involved as an authorial actor in the legendary Bratislava alternative theatre Stoka in the 1990s. Since 2001, she has often created socially critical and political films. Her prosecution following the release of

Disease of the *Third Power* (2011), which focused on corruption in the judiciary system, was halted due to international pressure. Some of her other films have sparked extensive societal debate. *From Fico to Fico* (2013) was prevented from being screened in multiplex cinemas. Her fiction debut, *The Unbalanced*, premiered at the Black Nights IFF in 2022 and has since been touring various festivals.

Vít Janeček

Vít Janeček (born 1970) graduated from the School of Philosophy (Charles Uni) and FAMU. In the 1990s, he was writing on cinema and curated historical retrospectives at the Karlovy Vary IFF and programmed various other venues. He taught for nearly 20 years at FAMU, where he established one department and developed several international programs. His creative work often delves into societal and political dimensions. *Ivetka and the Mountains* earned one of the main awards at Ji.hlava in 2008. Since 2014, he has been producing films through D1film in Prague, and in 2019 he co-founded VIRUSfilm in Bratislava with his wife, Zuzana Piussi.

Project Synopsis:

In the post-communist world, the “scent trail” method, initially a weapon of political oppression, evolves into a controversial crime-solving tool... This significant law enforcement technique, commonly used in ex-communist states, involves a dog that incriminates the culprit. Originating from the ex-GDR, it was used by the police on dissenters. In some countries, the “scent trail” alone is considered sufficient evidence for a conviction, despite the growing objections of the scientific community regarding the validity of the method.

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The Socialist Woman

Production Company:
Moviebar Productions

Director:
Bojána Papp

Producer:
Esther Turan

Budget Estimate:
400 000 EUR

Presenter:
**Bojána Papp - Co-Director;
Esther Turan - Producer**



Esther Turan

Esther Turan is a distinguished filmmaker and a founding member of Moviebar Productions, an award-winning film production company with operations in Budapest and Los Angeles. With a background in directing and a notable alumni of the University of Theatre and Film Arts, Esther plays

a pivotal role in the creative process of all Moviebar projects. Esther produced the horror feature *The Reckoning*, directed by Neil Marshall, which received the Best Horror Feature Award at the Berlin Independent Film Festival. She co-produced the *The Cobblers' Lot* sequence of *The Field Guide to Evil*, horror anthology by Peter Strickland, and *Eld & Lågor (Swoon)*, directed by Mans Marlind and Björn Stein. She is a member of the European Producers Club.

Bojána Papp

Bojána Papp is a film dramaturg. She has worked as a director, producer, and creative producer for various television and radio programs. She has received the Hungarian Film Critics Award twice and has taught at various documentary workshops, including DocNomads. Currently, she serves as the Head of Departments for Television MA and Scriptwriting MA at the Budapest Metropolitan University. She studied at the Hungarian Department of ELTE (1993-2001) and then at the Department of Cinematography of the University of Theatre and Film Arts (1996- 2001). She is a founding member and organizer of the Open Film Festival (1997-).

Project Synopsis:

By showing the history of women's clothes and fashion of the communist era, our documentary series aims to answer the question: what was it like to be a woman behind the Iron Curtain? In the course of the series, we present an iconic fashion show held in a studio, showcasing the garments that defined the four decades of socialism. We also feature the stories of women who wore these clothes. During the preparations for the fashion show, along with situational interviews conducted with influential figures of the era, we bring to life the experiences of girls and women in Eastern European countries between 1949 and 1989 through an abundance of archival footage.

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The World of Władysław Horodecki

Production Company:

UP-Hub

Director:

Roman Brovko

Producer:

**Kateryna Gaiduk - Producer;
Roman Brovko - Director,
Author, Co-Producer**

Budget Estimate:

120 000 EUR

Presenter:

**Roman Brovko - Director,
Author, Co-Producer;
Kateryna Gaiduk - Producer**



Roman Brovko

Roman Brovko was born in 1983 in Kiev, Ukraine. He is a director of films and series with 23 years of experience. His creative achievements include: 14 TV series, 1 full-length feature film, 12 short films, 5 TV projects. He is a winner of international film festivals. He has received awards in the categories:

Best Feature Film, Best Director's Work, Best Debut Film, Best Comedy, Audience Award' and others. Brovko is a graduate of the Kyiv State University of Theater, Film & TV as well as the Wajda School. He is a scholarship holder of Polish government programs.

Kateryna Gaiduk

Kateryna Gaiduk was born 1988 in Kyiv, Ukraine. She is a producer of films & series with 7 years of experience as well as the Head of Sales Department. Her creative achievements include: more than 15 TV series & movies, 5 full-length feature films, 1 TV project. She is a graduate of the Kyiv National Taras Shevchenko University, Faculty of Sociology & Psychology. Gaiduk has co-organized the script & creative laboratory on the basis of UP-HUB company. She is a member of the European Producers Club.

Project Synopsis:

The success story of an architect who outstripped Antoni Gaudi and formed a unique architectural style. Today, Ukrainians, Poles, and Iranians consider his work as their cultural heritage. The Horodecki family, belonging to the noble Kornicz dynasty, was deprived of all privileges for their struggle against Russia. Despite this, Władysław Horodecki achieved great success, becoming one of the most famous Polish-Ukrainian architects and leaving behind numerous masterpieces. From poverty to extraordinary triumph, his life was full of adventures and trials, and his achievements left a clear mark on the architecture of the 19th and 20th century.

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THE LAST GENERATION

SCREENPLAY AND DIRECTED BY ANETA NOWICKA

THE COAL'S DAUGHTER

TRAFIK FILM PRESENTS A PISF AND TVP S.A. PRODUCTION 'THE COAL'S DAUGHTER' FILM
MUSIC BY MAX RICHTER EDITED BY MACIEJ WALENTOWSKI SOUND DESIGN BY FRANCISZEK KOZŁOWSKI
COLOR GRADING BY ANNA SUJKA DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY TOMASZ WÓJNICZKA



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