

FEATURES



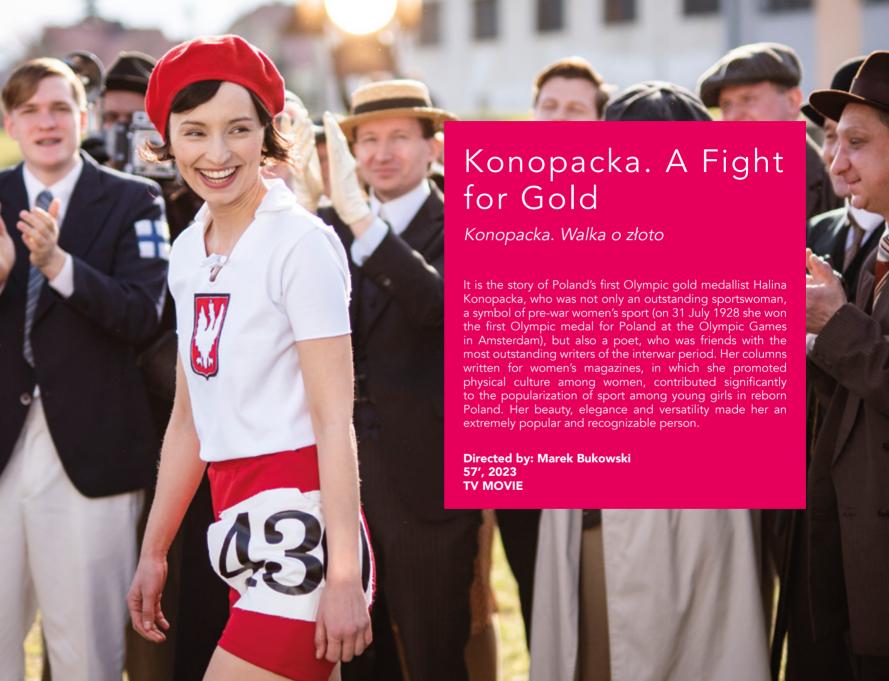














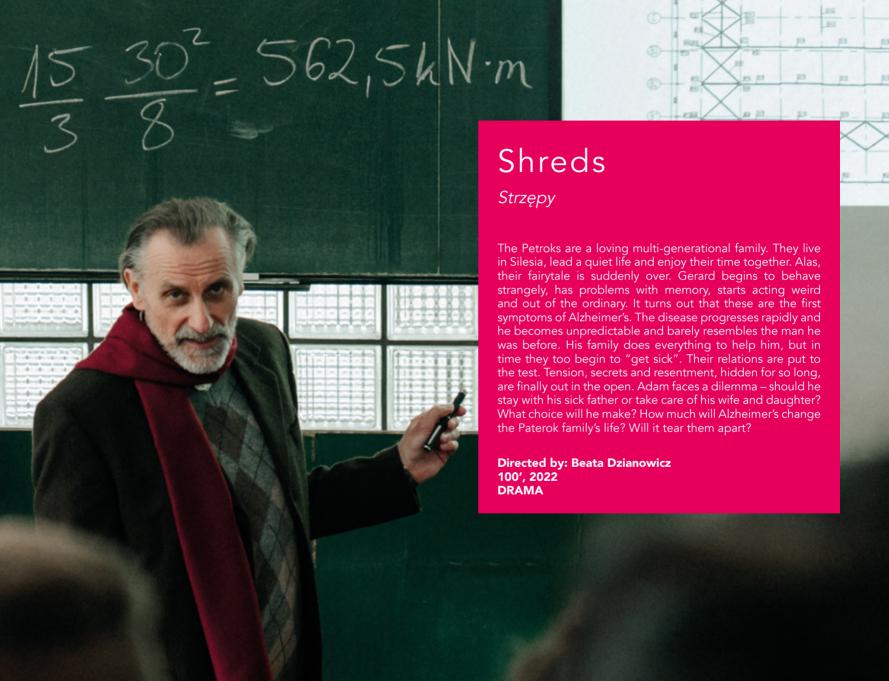


The story of one of the bravest Poles in history and one of WWII most important conspirators. His heroic and sometimes hopeless fight against the two ruthless totalitarianisms of the 20th century, German and Soviet, made communist propaganda want to remove him from the Polish history for nearly 45 years. The film follows the story of a brave conspirator, a loving husband and father, a man who voluntarily agreed to be arrested and transported to Auschwitz. Soon after the end of WWII, Captain Pilecki completed the so-called The Pilecki Report, which is an extraordinary testimony to the German crimes in Auschwitz and the activities of the resistance movement in the camp.

Directed by: Krzysztof Łukaszewicz 118', 2023 WAR/HOLOCAUST







SERIES





Gra z cieniem

In the early 1950s, in the People's Republic of Poland, a spy codenamed "Shadow" suddenly disappears. "Shadow" had been providing key information of national interest to British intelligence. Now, both the Polish Security Office and British intelligence are racing to find him. The Minister of Public Security assigns Major Witold Kosek to capture the spy. Much to the dissatisfaction of Colonel Bartman, head of counterintelligence unit, Kosek joins his department. Bartman orders one of his men to find compromising information about Kosek. Meanwhile, in another city, Doctor Helena Bielawska is accused of murdering a high ranking party official who was her patient. Her trial attracts Major Kosek's keen interest. The story blends genres, including crime and spy thriller elements, with psychological drama and action, creating a vibrant cinematic spectacle filled with plot twists.

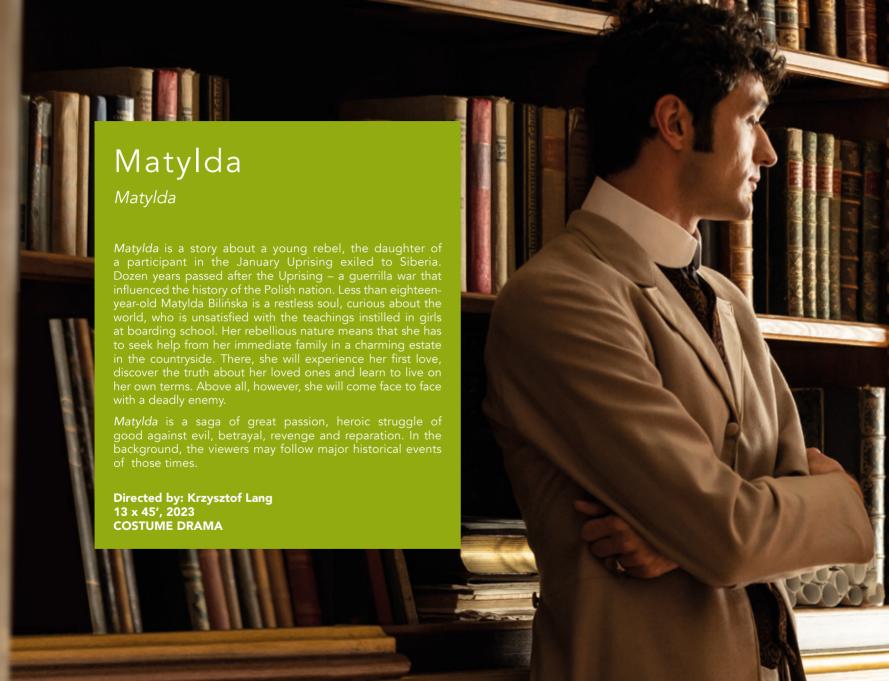
Directed by: Kinga Dębska 13 x 45', 2024 CRIME

















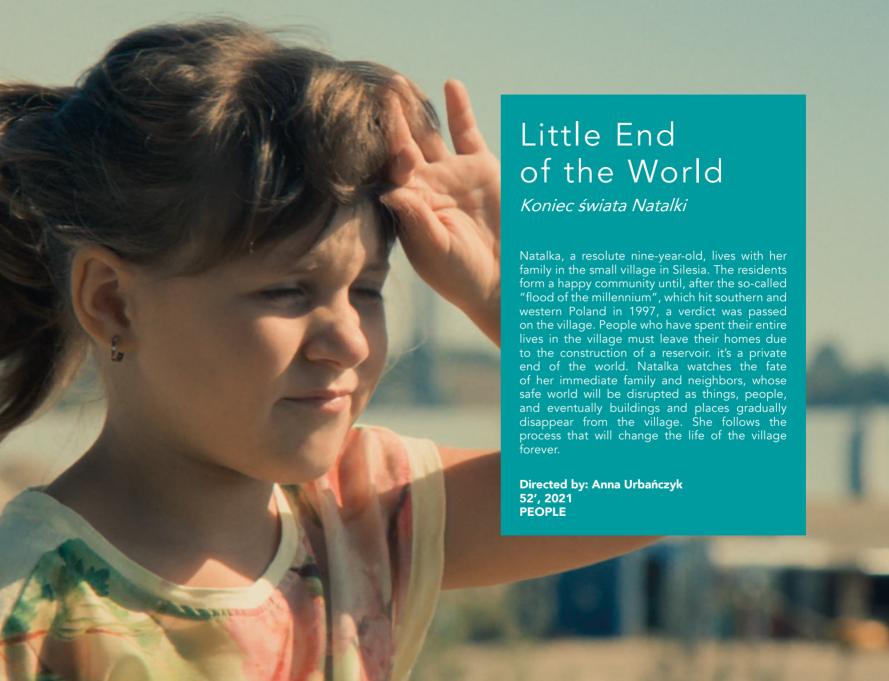
Dewajtis

This film is an adaptation of one of Maria Rodziewiczówna's best-known novels of manners. This seven-episode series tells a story about love, honour and family, intertwined with the lives of people from lower and higher social classes whose lives changed after the January Uprising. Marek Czertwan is faced with a new duty imposed on him by his dying father – he has to take additional care of the estate left by his father's lost friend, insurgent magnate Kazimierz Orwid. How will Marek cope with the new situation? Will he succumb to the charms of Irena, the rightful heir to the manor? The ideals of the characters are put to a difficult test, and their desires come into conflict with the duties imposed by their family. Dewajtis, a primeval oak tree, casts its soothing shadow over the heads of those who in its shade are looking for an escape from the hardships of everyday life. The tree becomes a majestic symbol of this intergenerational community.

Directed by: Filip Zylber 7 x 45', 2023 DRAMA



DOCS



Are You There?

Jesteś tu?

Edward Gil Deskur - musician and DJ - is a prominent figure in Krakow's music and art community. Born with congenital glaucoma, Edward has been blind in one eye for his entire life and is now facing the prospect of complete blindness. As he prepares for this new reality, he is learning to walk with a cane and read Braille. He is also helped by an artificial intelligence - Alexa. The man establishes with the Al persona an increasingly deep relationship, as Alexa's voice accompanies him every day. These interactions reveal disturbing visions of the future related to the relationship between man and machine.

Directed by: Xawery Deskur 47', 2023 PEOPLE











8. Day of Khamsin

8 dzień Chamsinu

Marek Hłasko — writer, rebel, carouser — was dubbed the "Polish James Dean" for his resemblance to the actor and the "Polish Boris Pasternak" for his exceptional prose. Escaping the tumultuous political climate in Poland, he arrives in Israel in the late 1950s. The land and its people become his inspiration, but also a curse and a trap of sorts. A multi-story, hypnotic and trance-like document, that captures the harsh reality beneath the surface of a young, idealized country, as observed through Hlasko's sharp, documentary-like vision.

Documentary intertwines Hlasko's personal experiences with literature, featuring unique archival footage and street photography.

Directed by: Zvika Gregory Portnoy 78', 2023 HISTORY/PEOPLE





The Commandment of Love: The Story of the Ulma Family

Przykazanie miłości. Historia rodziny Ulmów z Markowej

The film chronicles the tragic tale of a Polish family who paid the ultimate price for rescuing Jews during World War II. Józefa and Wiktoria Ulma, along with their seven children, were executed by the Germans for hiding Jews in their home during the Holocaust. In 1995, Wiktoria and Józef Ulma were posthumously honored as Righteous Among the Nations, and in 2010, Polish President Lech Kaczyński awarded them the Commander's Cross of the Order of Polonia Restituta. In September 2023, the Catholic Church beatified the family.

The film shares the story of the Ulma family and their Jewish neighbors through the voices of their descendants and representatives from the village of Markowa, where the tragic events unfolded. Its strengths lie in the use of archival photographs, some taken by Józef Ulma himself, and dramatized scenes that vividly depict the family's daily life.

Directed by: Marta Pietrasiewicz, Piotr Kuciński 57', 2023 HISTORY



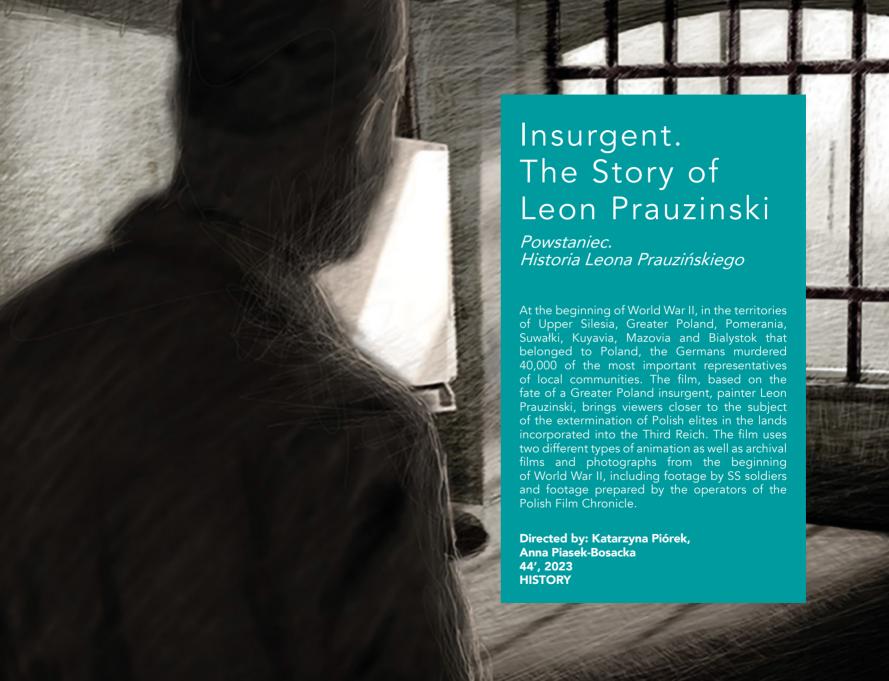


The Brotherhood of Unknown Soldiers

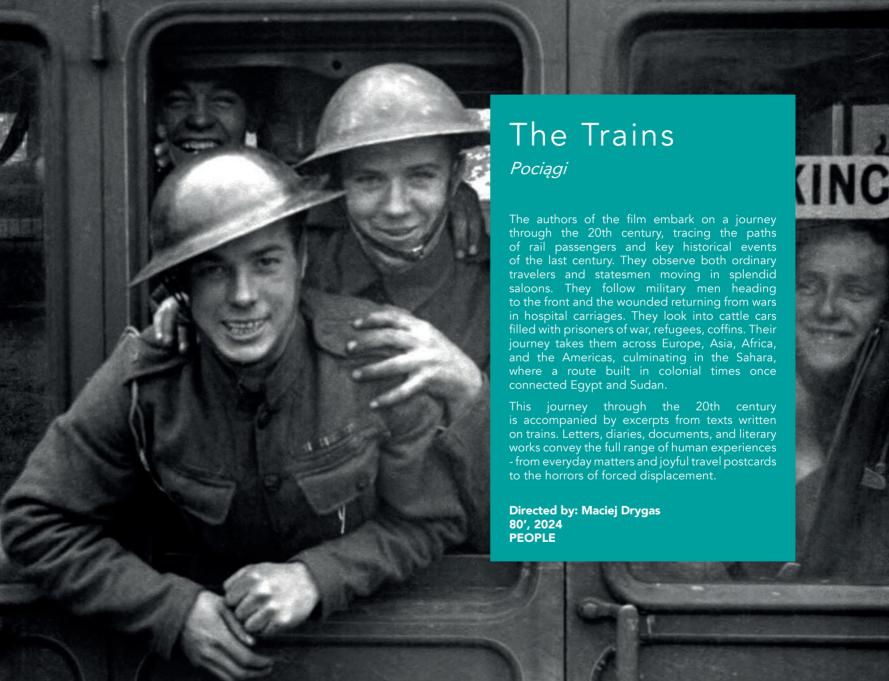
Kompania nieznanych

1st Armoured Division, so called 'Black Devils', commanded by General Stanislaw Maczek, was one of the most renowned military units of World War II. Thanks to its efforts, France broke free from German occupation. The soldiers from the unit, buried anonymously far from their homeland, are now set to be identified. Researchers from the Polish Genetic Base of Victims of Totalitarianism are heading to Normandy to exhume the remains of 27 Polish soldiers and restore their identities. The research process involves not only scientists and prosecutors but also historians and consular services. As the genetic research unfolds, viewers will also learn about the history of 'Black Devils', a unit that, fighting alongside the Allies, liberated cities in France, the Netherlands, and Belgium, and relentlessly pursued the fleeing Nazis.

Directed by: Paweł Domański 46', 2023 HISTORY









Surgeons

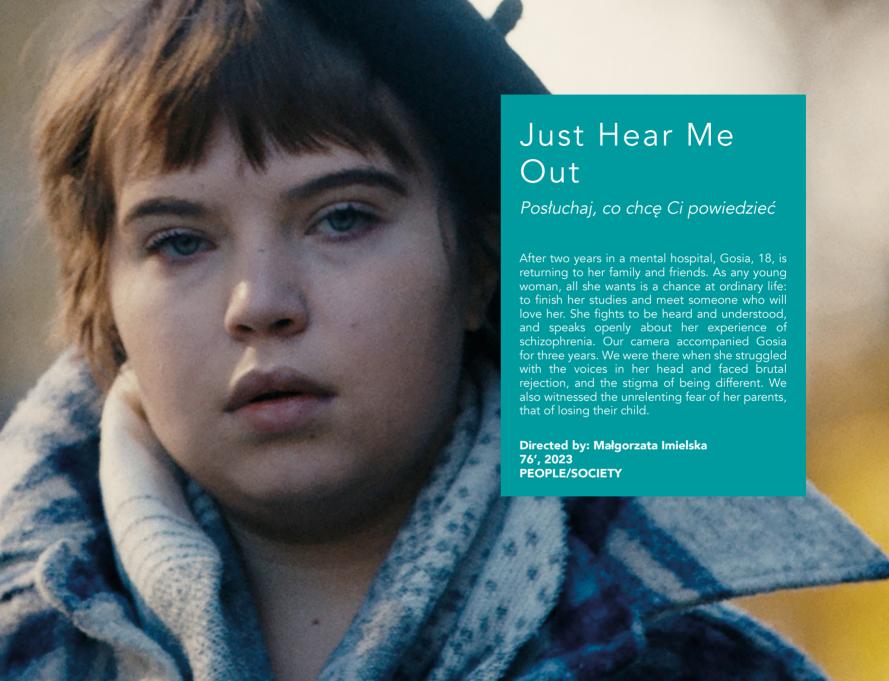
Chirurdzy

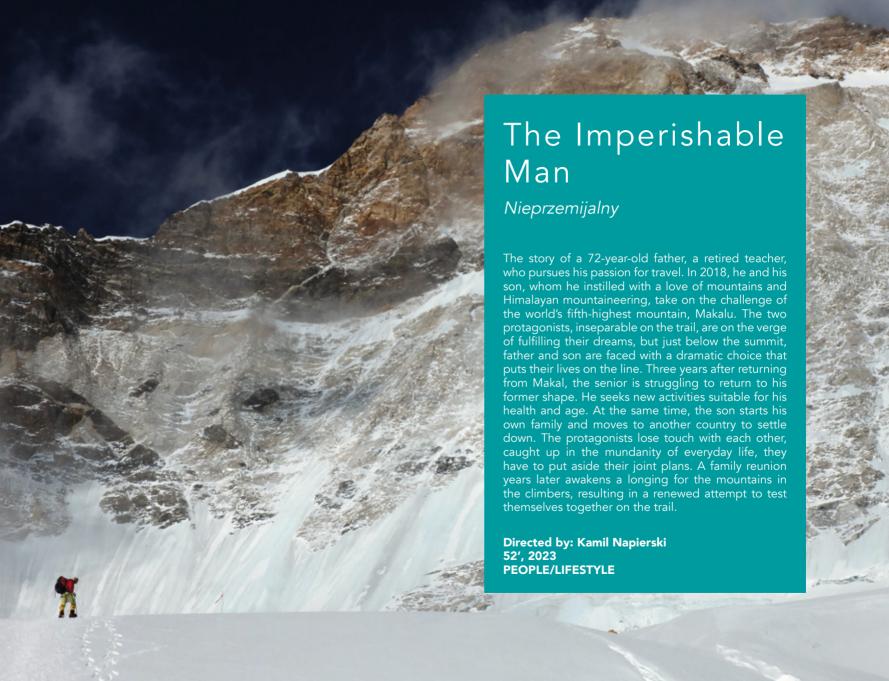
Surgeons is a documentary series presenting the daily work of surgeons from the National Medical Institute of the Ministry of the Interior and Administration (PIM MSWiA) in Warsaw. The series introduces the profiles of outstanding Polish surgeons. Each episode is a separate story about a different specialist and a different medical case.

To a large extent, the series *Surgeons* is about human stories – of both doctors and patients, their daily struggle, fatigue, but also happiness. The series will look at surgeons not only from a professional perspective, or the one of treatment process, but will also look into their private lives. Viewers will find out who they are, what they are interested in outside of work and what gives them motivation to the day-to-day operations.

Directed by: Piotr Poraj Poleski, Alicja Chmielewska 10 x 46', 2023 PEOPLE









When the Wind Becomes Silent

Kiedy umilknie wiatr

The film tells the story of the extraordinary rivalry between two javelin throwers - Janusz Sidło from Poland and Egil Danielsen, a Norwegian. Their duels in the 1950s attracted crowds to the stadiums. The most important of them took place during the XVI Olympic Games in Melbourne, the final of which turned out to be one of the most unexpected in the history of sport. During the competition, the Pole achieves an extraordinary result which puts him in first place. However, just before the end of the competition, he decides to help his main rival. This unexpected behaviour deprives him of the Olympic gold medal. The film will focus on recreating the circumstances that led to what many historians call 'the most beautiful example of fair play in the history of the Olympic Games'. It is not only a story of sport competition at the highest world level, but also a portrait of Europe divided by the Iron Curtain. Thanks to the use of unique archives. the director not only shows the atmosphere of those times but also the influence of money, great politics and social pressure on athletes.

Directed by: Mateusz Gołębiewski 60', 2023 PEOPLE/HISTORY













Still Human?

Czy jeszcze człowiek

The stories of two people become an opportunity for discussion between doctors from Poland and around the world, supporters and opponents of the procedures used today to adjudicate brain death. In 2003, 11-yearold Agnieszka suffered a brain injury after falling from a horse. Despite pressure and contrary to procedures and applicable law, her parents did not consent to the declaration of brain death and the commencement of the transplantation procedure. Today, Agnieszka is an independent, adult graduate. On the other hand Łukasz, who is in his twenties now, is living with his parents and using a wheelchair, lost consciousness at the age of 19 as a result of a car accident and there was no contact with him for many months. Also in this case, the parents did not believe that their son would remain in vegetative state. Prominent specialists are trying to find out whether the tragic mistakes are the result of medical errors and procedural violations or if the concept of brain death is based on assumptions of a worldview nature that do not have sufficient proof in science.

Directed by: Mirosław Bork 50', 2023 PEOPLE/SOCIETY



Marek Biliński – Life is Music

Marek Biliński – Życie jest muzyką

The film recounts the story of the life and creative activity of Marek Biliński, a pioneer of Polish electronic music. The musician celebrated his seventieth birthday in 2023, so it was a perfect moment to present his extensive artistic career. Biliński graduated from the Academy of Music in Poznań, but instead of working at the philharmonic, he chose the uncertain fortunes of a rocker. Fascinated by electronic instruments, he decided to devote himself to searching for new sounds. In the 1980s, he began a solo career, quickly becoming a key figure in the new music scene. During his extensive artistic career, Marek Biliński created multimedia performances, performed at philharmonic houses and open-air venues in front of an audience of many thousands, was a lecturer at the Kuwait Music Academy, and also created the jingle for the most popular TV game show, Koło Fortuny. The film also tells the story of post-war Poland. Using archival materials, the director presents the settlement in the Recovered Territories, the successful propaganda of Edward Gierek's era, the phenomenon of the Jarocin festival or the times of "free" trade in the 1990s.

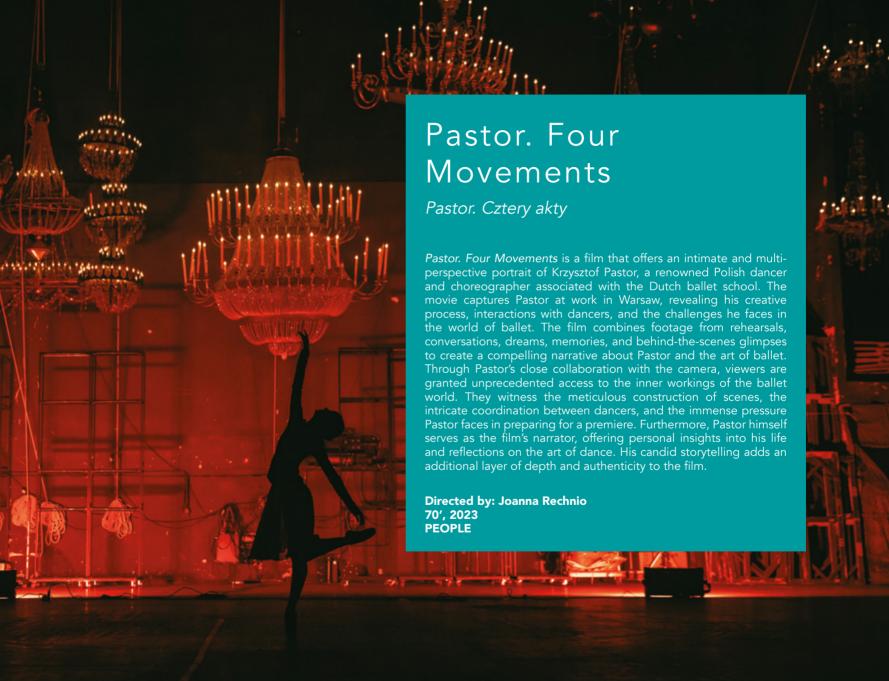
Directed by: Grzegorz Brzozowicz 57', 2023 CULTURE/MUSIC

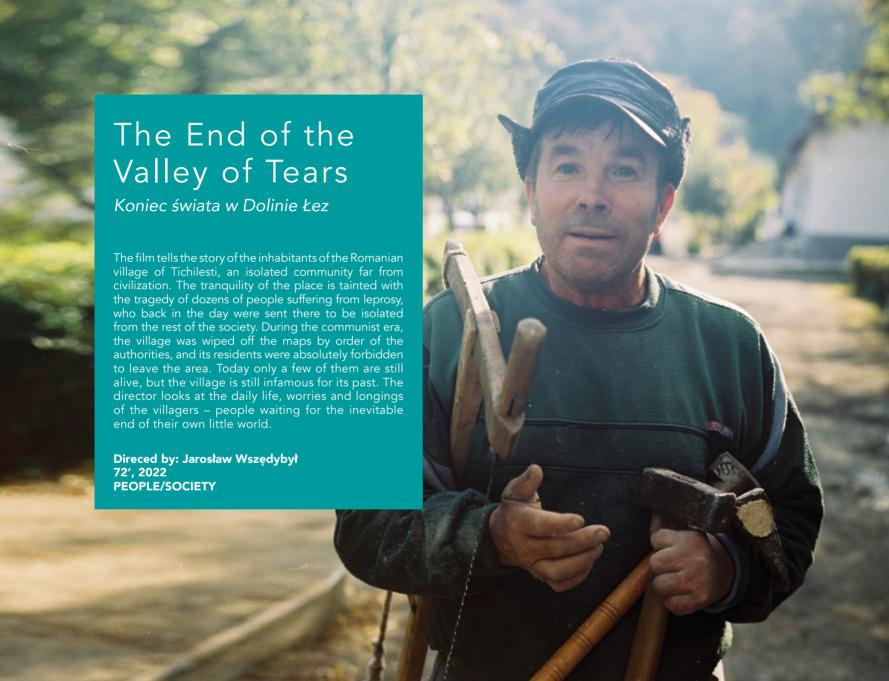














Divine Mercy's Big Bang

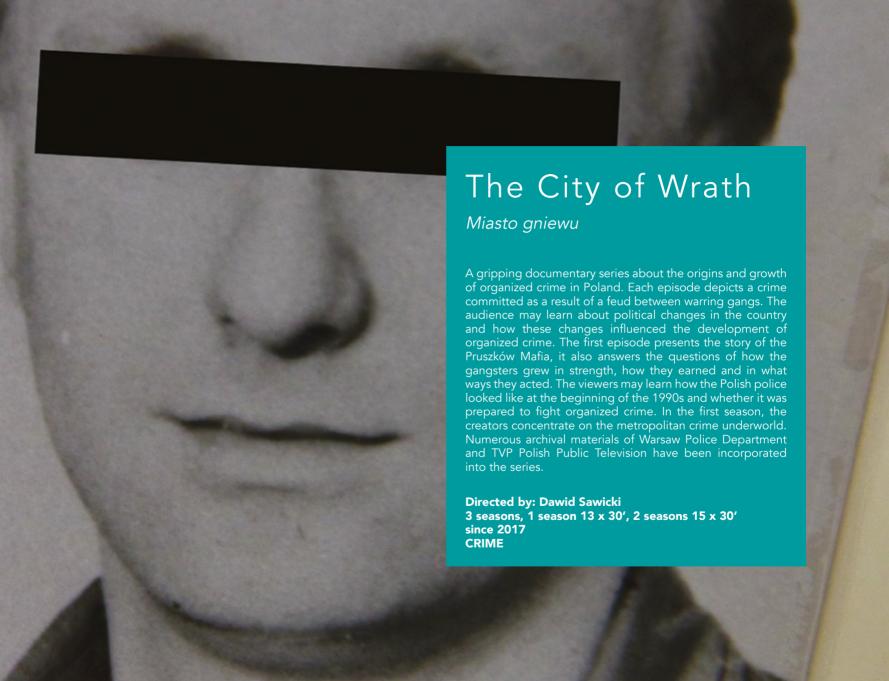
Big Bang Bożego Miłosierdzia

A documentary telling the story of how the cult of Divine Mercy in a very short period of time became the most rapidly developing and spreading Catholic cult in the world. The film constitutes a remarkable testimony to the work of God's grace in people's lives. It focuses not only on Faustina Kowalska and the worshippers of Divine Mercy but also invites all viewers on a sort of pilgrimage following the footsteps of God, who chooses what is small, what is humble and what is insignificant in the eyes of the world, in order to accomplish a work that encompasses the entire world.

Directed by: Grzegorz Górny 72', 2023 RELIGION









Córy węgla

Oliwia, a young woman in her twenties, is persuaded by her mother to start a blue-collar job in the local coalmine. In joining one of the harshest industries, she follows the longstanding family tradition. Aside from its physical demands, the job requires Oliwia to hold her own in a traditionally male environment. Choosing her future path, the young woman is torn between mordernity, represented by her sister, and the tradition Oliwia's mother urges her to keep up. The story centers around Oliwia's dilemma, evoking the impending nature of what is inescapable in her life and the burden of knowing that she may well belong to the last generation working in the coalmine industry. The film is crafted in the style of a novel, with its inevitable sequence of seasons, accompanied by the music of Max Richter. The coalmine and its workers are elevated to the role of the film's secondary protagonist, visually reminiscent of a 19th century setting.

Directed by: Aneta Nowicka 52', 2023 PEOPLE



CHILDREN







FORMATS





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