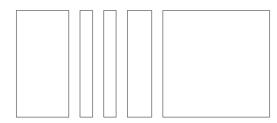


Croatian Films 2009/2010

Feature Films



Croatian Audiovisual Centre

Hrvatski audiovizualni centar

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The New Golden Age: Vision, Talent and Passion

Croatia may be a small country but it has a remarkably vibrant film industry and an impressive wealth of local talent, both in front of the camera and behind the scenes. Our domestically-produced film output has attracted a lot of overseas interest in recent years and what we may lack in terms of general number of films made we more than make up for through the vision, talent and passion of our filmmakers.

Croatian films come in all styles and genres, from art-house films to mainstream movies and family-orientated comedies. They draw on the whole range of human experience and frequently focus on some uncomfortable truths while at the same time showing that, in the end, there is hope for all of us. Stylistic diversity and a high volume of production for such a small country are the two prevailing characteristics of modern Croatian cinema.

The year 2009 was a high point for lovers of Croatian feature films, with a record number of new films on general domestic release, or premiering at the national feature film festival in Pula. Many of these films also made their mark on the international festival circuit. In addition, there was a steady rise in the number of international co-productions with Croatian participation, and an increase in the number of talented Croatian actors appearing in prestigious international feature film productions.

This year, for the first time, a Croatian actress took her place alongside nine other young European actors chosen for the prestigious pan-European initiative "Shooting Stars", which showcases Europe's best young acting talent. The actress in question, Zrinka Cvitešić, is one of the stars in this year's Berlinale official contender, On the Path, directed by Jasmila Žbanić.

Documentary films are enjoying worldwide success at the moment and Croatia is no exception in following this trend. The quantity and quality of documentaries made in Croatia is staggering. Thematically, Croatian documentary makers often share a passion for social justice, while taking diverse and fresh approaches to their subject matter.

We also need to mention short films as they play a vital role in helping aspiring filmmakers to break into the mainstream while also offering more established auteurs a vehicle for getting back to basics and re-examining the very nature of filmmaking. The former proved true for newcomer Goran Odvorčić whose short Ciao Mama appeared in the Official Competition in Cannes in 2009, as well as established filmmakers like Dalibor Matanić whose film Party won numerous festival awards at home and abroad, or Zvonimir Jurić whose short Yellow Moon will be screened in competition as part of this year's prestigious Berlinale Shorts programme. Animation has been a serious art form in Croatia since the 1950's. Today's animators draw on this rich tradition while embracing new digital technologies and enriching contemporary life and culture in the whole region. Their films are reaching new audiences and winning awards at domestic and international festivals, while a feature-length animated film The Rainbow proves that Croatian animation has plenty more surprises in store for everyone.

Croatian experimental films have always had a strong presence on the international scene and many Croatian authors specializing in this art form have earned worldwide recognition. This is partly because experimental film has a venerable history in Croatia dating back to the 1960's and partly because a dedicated film fund has supported the work of experimental filmmakers since 2000. We, at the Croatian Audiovisual Centre are proud to continue to support this important artistic tradition.

Since it first opened its doors in January 2008, the Croatian Audiovisual Centre has been dedicated to fostering talent and creativity. As the main strategic film body in the country, it is our aim to build a sustainable, competitive and innovative audiovisual sector in the country for years to come.

For those of you already familiar with Croatian cinema, this booklet is an invitation to re-discover this distinctive, emotionally charged world. For those of you who are being introduced to Croatian cinema for the very first time, please accept our invitation to explore the art, craft and heart of Croatian filmmaking as we welcome you to the new golden age of Croatian cinema.

In memoriam: Ante Babaja, Zvonimir Berković, Vanja Drach, Emil Glad, Duško Jeričević, Daniel Marušić, Vladimir Puhalo, Vedran Šamanović, Ilija Zovko.

Croatian Audiovisual Center | Hrvatski audiovizualni centar

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2009 | 78' | 35 mm | Colour

Directed by Zvonimir Jurić & Goran Dević

Zvonimir Jurić (1971) graduated from the Zagreb Academy of Dramatic Art in 1999. Since then, he wrote and directed the feature film *The One Who Will Stay Unnoticed* (2003), as well as several acclaimed documentaries (*Willow, The Sky Below Osijek*). His fiction short *Yellow Moon* (2009) was selected for prestigious Berlinale Shorts Programme in 2010.

Goran Dević (1971) graduated from the Zagreb Academy of Dramatic Art where he currently teaches at the Department of TV and Film Directing. A selection of his award-winning documentaries include: *Imported Crows* (2004), *I Have Nothing Nice to Say to You* (2006), *Three* (2008) and *Happy Land* (2009). The Blacks, which he co-wrote and co-directed with Zvonimir Jurić marks his debut as a feature filmmaker.

The Blacks Crnci

War. The truce has been recently signed and the squad known as "The Blacks" needs to be disbanded. Ivo, the squad commander, plans a mission to retrieve the bodies of three of his men from the forest. The surviving members of the squad move into action and find that the enemy they have been searching for is where they least expect – inside themselves. **Cast** Ivo Gregurević, Franjo Dijak, Krešimir Mikić, Rakan Rushaidat, Nikša Butijer, Emir Hadžihafizbegović

Written by Goran Dević & Zvonimir Jurić

Cinematography Branko Linta H.F.S.

Produced by Ankica Jurić Tilić

Production Company Kinorama; in association with HRT / Croatian Radiotelevision

Awards | Festivals

- Sarajevo Film Festival 2009 Competition Programme
- Film Festival Cottbus 2009 FIPRESCI Award; Lubina Special Prize for Best Director
- Author Film Festival 2009 Grand Prix Aleksandar Saša Petrović Award
- Ljubljana International Film Festival 2009 The Kingfisher Award
- CinePécs V. Moveast International Film Festival 2009
 Duna TV Award
- Pula Film Festival 2009 Golden Arena for Best Director; Best Actor in a Supporting Role

Kinorama

Štoosova 25 10 000 Zagreb, Croatia Tel: +385 1 231 67 87 Fax: +385 1 231 67 88 E-mail: ankica@kinorama.hr www.kinorama.hr



22009 | 83' | Video | Colour | Debut Feature

Directed by Zdravko Mustać

Zdravko Mustać (1961) attended the Film School of Cinema Club in Split, Croatia. To this date he has written and directed over 30 short experimental films and documentaries, among which **Bastion** (2007) and **Planktoni** (2005), that were shown at many international film festivals. **Closeness** is his debut feature film.

Closeness Blizine

Two strangers: a man and a woman meet in an elevator. When the elevator gets stuck, irreconciable differences between two protagonists resurface. What follows is a surreal interplay of passion and dreams and a confrontation that evolves into a ruthless fight for survival. Cast Anica Kovačević, Damir Klemenić

Written by Zdravko Mustać

Cinematography Boris Poljak

Produced by Vera Robić-Škarica

Production Company Hrvatski filmski savez / Croatian Film Clubs' Association

Awards | Festivals • Pula Film Festival 2009 – National Competition

Hrvatski filmski savez / Croatian Film Clubs' Association

Tuškanac 1 10 000 Zagreb, Croatia Tel: +385 1 484 87 71 Fax: +385 1 484 87 64 E-mail: vanja@hfs.hr www.hfs.hr



2009 | 90' | 35 mm | Colour | 2nd Feature

Directed by Antonio Nuić

Antonio Nuić (1977) graduated from the Academy of Dramatic Art in Zagreb. His critically acclaimed first feature *All for Free* (2006) won the Golden Arena for Best Film; Best Screenplay and Best Director at the national Pula Film Festival 2006, as well as the Heart of Sarajevo Award for Best Male Leading Role at the Sarajevo Film Festival in 2006.

Donkey Kenjac

www.donkeyfilm.com

It is the summer of 1995, on the eve of the military action that will end the war in Croatia. Boro returns with his wife and son to his native village in Herzegovina to visit his wheelchair-bound brother Petar. It is his first visit home in 8 years. He has fallen out with his father whom he blames for his mother's death. But history is repeating itself: Boro quarrels constantly with his wife, just as his father did before him. Events force Boro to make peace with his father, wife and son. All this, in part, comes to pass, when Boro's uncle brings home an unwanted donkey. **Cast** Nebojša Glogovac, Nataša Janjić, Ljubomir Kiki Kapor, Tonko Lonza

Written by Antonio Nuić

Cinematography Mirko Pivčević

Produced by Boris T. Matić

Production Company Propeler Film; in co-production with MaNuFaktura (Bosnia and Herzegovina); Film and Music Entertainment (United Kingdom); Baš Čelik (Serbia); in association with HRT / Croatian Radiotelevision

Awards | Festivals

- International Film Festival Rotterdam 2010 Official Selection: Bright Future Programme
- Göteborg International Film Festival 2010 Five
 Continents Section
- Sarajevo Film Festival 2009 Competition Programme
- Palm Springs Film Festival 2009 Best Foreign Language Film
- Pula Film Festival 2009 Golden Arena for Best Screenplay; Best Cinematography; Oktavijan Award given by the Croatian Film Critics' Association

Propeler Film

SC, Savska 25 10 000 Zagreb, Croatia Tel: +385 1 482 94 77 Fax: +385 1 459 36 91 E-mail: info@propelerfilm.com www.propelerfilm.com



2009 | 101' | 35 mm | Colour | Debut Feature

Directed by Nikša Sviličić

Nikša Sviličić (1970) graduated from the Academy of Dramatic Art in Zagreb in 1994. He also obtained a degree in journalism and museology. He received a Fulbright Scholarship for his postgraduate studies at the Harvard University and the University of Ohio. *I Believe in Angels* is his debut feature.

I Believe in Angels Vjerujem u anđele

www.vjerujemuandjele.com

This romantic tragicomedy is set on a Croatian island where the local postman has a secret habit: he enjoys reading his fellow islanders' mail. When a mysterious beautiful young woman moves to the island, she disrupts the everyday life of the locals, captures the imagination of many men and forces the postman's secret into the open. **Cast** Dolores Lambaša, Vedran Mlikota, Aljoša Vučković, Mile Kekin, Damir Mihanović Ćubi

Written by Nikša Sviličić

Cinematography Nenad Suvačarov-Lipi

Produced by Nikša Sviličić

Production Company Proactiva; in association with HRT / Croatian Radiotelevision

Awards | Festivals

- Cairo International Film Festival 2009 Official Selection
- Pula Film Festival 2009 Golden Gate of Pula: Audience Award for Best Film

Master Film

Strma ulica 8 10 000 Zagreb, Croatia Tel: +385 98 318 063 E-mail: nenad@master-film.hr www.master-film.hr



2009 | 93' | 35 mm | Colour

Dejan Šorak (1954) graduated from the Academy of Dramatic Art in Zagreb in 1978. He directed several feature films, television films and documentaries, as well as theatrical productions and radio dramas. His award-winning features, *The Time of Warriors* (1991), *Garcia* (1999) and *Two Players from the Bench* (2005) were shown at many international film festivals.

In the Land of Wonders U zemlji čudesa

The story, which moves between rural Bosnia and Zagreb, begins in the Bosnian wasteland, where NATO troops carry out their military training and a girl named Alica collects old grenade shell fragments with her uncle. He trades fragments illegally and hides the illicit goods in his niece's room. The story is set in the ironically named "land of wonders": a ravaged landscape, contaminated by war, suffering, fear and depleted uranium. This "wonderland" serves as a backdrop for a unique anti-fairytale, drawing on a diverse range of storytelling traditions. **Cast** Franjo Kuhar, Marija Stjepanović, Dora Lipovčan, Borko Perić

Written by Dejan Šorak

Cinematography Vjekoslav Vrdoljak

Produced by Ivan Maloča

Production Company Interfilm; in association with Tivoli -Filmproductions Ltd. (Hungary), HRT / Croatian Radiotelevision

Awards | Festivals • Mediterranean Film Days Heidelberg 2010

- Montpellier International Méditerranean Film Festival 2009 - Official Competition
- CinePécs V. Moveast International Film Festival 2009
- Pula Film Festival 2009 Golden Arena for Best Actress in a Supporting Role

Interfilm

Nova ves 45/2 10 000 Zagreb, Croatia Tel: +385 1 466 72 90 Fax: +385 1 466 70 22 E-mail: interfilm@interfilm.hr www.interfilm.hr

Directed by Dejan Šorak



2009 | 89' | 35 mm | Colour | Debut Feature

Directed by Pavo Marinković

Pavo Marinković (1967) graduated from the Academy of Dramatic Art in Zagreb. He currently works as a playwright, television and film scriptwriter. In 2001, he wrote the screenplay for Dražen Žarković's feature film **Go, Yellow!**. Together with Žarković, he co-directed **Tressette** - a Story of an Island (2006), which screened at more than 30 international film festivals winning 6 awards altogether. Love Life of a Gentle Coward is his first feature film.

Love Life of a Gentle Coward

Ljubavni život domobrana

Saša is an unsuccesful writer who works as a restarurant critic. His life starts to change when he meets and falls in love with lnes who works in a private sports centre. However, things get complicated when he writes a bad review for the restaurant owned by a well-connected man. To get his life in order, Saša has to face up to all of his character flaws. **Cast** Nenad Cvetko, Dijana Vidušin, Siniša Popović, Jan Budar, Zoran Čubrilo

Written by Pavo Marinković

Cinematography Vedran Šamanović

Produced by Jozo Patljak

Production Company Alka Film; in association with HRT / Croatian Radiotelevision

Awards | Festivals

- Kerala International Film Festival 2009 World Cinema
- Pula Film Festival 2009 Golden Arena for Best Actress in a Leading Role
- Cinequest San Jose Film Festival 2010

Alka Film

Dedići 21 10 000 Zagreb, Croatia Tel: +385 1 467 41 85 Fax: +385 1 467 41 85 E-mail: patljak.jozo@zg.t-com.hr www.alka-film.hr



2009 | 80' | 35 mm | Colour

Directed by Neven Hitrec

Neven Hitrec (1967) graduated from the Academy of Dramatic Art in Zagreb. His previous two feature films: *Madonna* (1999) and *Sleep Sweet, My Darling* (2005), as well as several short documentaries, were screened internationally and have received numerous awards.

The Man Under the Table Čovjek ispod stola

Welcome to the microcosmic world of a street market on the outskirts of Zagreb. All human life is there: traders, thieves, prostitutes, self-appointed security guards and other lost souls. We meet Groš, a young man with learning difficulties, who sleeps under a market stall at night; Suri, a petty loan shark; his girlfriend Lidija, an unhappy salesgirl and a host of other characters, each with their unique ideas or passions. We follow the tragicomic, mutually intertwined mini dramas of each character, as they fight to save the marketplace itself, when city planners threaten to destroy it. **Cast** Luka Petrušić, Jelena Lopatić, Marija Škaričić, Damir Lončar, Višnja Babić

Written by Hrvoje Hitrec, Vjekoslav Domini

Cinematography Stanko Herceg H.F.S.

Produced by Ivan Maloča

Production Company Interfilm; in association with HRT / Croatian Radiotelevision

Interfilm

Nova ves 45/2 10 000 Zagreb, Croatia Tel: +385 1 466 72 90 Fax: +385 1 466 70 22 E-mail: interfilm@interfilm.hr www.interfilm.hr



2009 | 85' | 35 mm | Colour

Directed by Branko Schmidt

Branko Schmidt (1957) graduated from the Academy of Dramatic Art in Zagreb. His rich career boasts seven award-winning feature films screened at the international film festivals around the world, among which the most memorable: *Sokol Did Not Love Him* (1988), *Christmas in Vienna* (1997), *Queen of the Night* (2001), *The Melon Route* (2006), and a feature length documentary *Bad Blue Boys* (2007).

Metastases Metastaze

Metastases depicts the lives of a young generation who grew up during the Croatian Homeland War and the subsequent postwar years. It explores their struggle to adapt to the new rules of merciless capitalism. The story follows 4 friends and begins when one of them, a former drug addict, returns home after 3 years at a rehabilitation centre. **Cast** Rene Bitorajac, Franjo Dijak, Rakan Rushaidat, Robert Ugrina

Written by Ognjen Sviličić; based on a novel by Ivo Balenović

Cinematography Dragan Ruljančić

Produced by Stanislav Babić

Production Company Telefilm; in association with HRT / Croatian Radiotelevision, Refresh Production (Bosnia and Herzegovina), Lux film (Serbia)

Awards | Festivals

- Pusan International Film Festival 2009 World Cinema Selection
- Tallinn Black Nights Film Festival 2009
- Moscow International Film Festival 2009 –
 Perspectives Competition Program
- Pula Film Festival 2009 Golden Arena for Best Film; Best Actor in a Leading Role

Telefilm

A. Vramca 4 10 000 Zagreb, Croatia Tel: +385 1 481 88 43 Fax: +385 1 481 88 39 E-mail: telefilm@telefilm.hr



2009 | 110' | 35 mm | Colour, B&W

Zagreb Stories

Zagrebačke priče

The Zagreb Stories is a feature length omnibus film consisting of nine stories by different authors. The city's neighbourhoods serve as the main inspiration and backdrop for each story.

A Slap in the Face | Šamar

Directed by Nebojša Slijepčević Cast Ivan Komušar, Mijo Takač, Saša Maglai, Damir Železnik- Piko

Film by Goran Odvorčić and Matija Kluković for Asja

Jovanović and Andrea Rumenjak | Film Gorana Odvorčića i Matije Klukovića za Asju Jovanović i Andreu Rumenjak Directed by Goran Odvorčić & Matija Kluković Cast Asja Jovanović, Andrea Rumenjak

Špansko the Continent | Špansko kontinent Directed by Ivan Sikavica Cast Filip Lozić, Filip Detelić, Slaven Španović, Ivan Bošnjak

Recycling | Recikliranje Directed by Branko Ištvančić Cast Slaven Knezović, Ana Maras, Asim Ugljen, Erol Neziri

Yellow Moon | Žuti mjesec Directed by Zvonimir Jurić Cast Lana Barić, Marija Škaričić

The Smartest Neighbourhood in the State | Najpametnije

naselje u državi Directed by Ivan Ramljak & Marko Škobalj Cast Ivan Žada, Zlatko Burić Kićo, Ivan Džaja, Ivan Krželj

Game Over

Directed by Dario Pleić Cast Frano Mašković, Ivana Roščić, Aldin Omerović, Zrinka Cvitešić

Bill Collector | Inkasator

Directed by Igor Mirković Cast Marija Kohn, Pero Kvrgić, Inge Appelt, Filip Karabelj, Kruno Belko

Channel | Kanal Directed by Zoran Sudar Cast Adnan Roma, Ivana Seferović, Danko Ljuština, Suzana Nikolić, Dušan Bućan

Produced by Boris T. Matić
Production Company Propeler Film

Propeler Film

SC, Savska 25 10 000 Zagreb, Croatia Tel: +385 1 482 94 77 Fax: +385 1 459 36 91 E-mail: info@propelerfilm.com www.propelerfilm.com

Co-productions 2009

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2009 | 108' | 35 mm | Colour

Directed by Melissa de Raaf & Razvan Radulescu

Melissa de Raaf (1976) is a Dutch filmmaker, currently studying at the Hochschule für gestaltung in Karlsruhe, Germany.

Razvan Radulescu (1969) is an acclaimed Romanian writer whose screenplays include the award-winning and critically acclaimed films: *Stuff and Dough* by Cristi Puiu (2001), *Niki and Flo* by Luican Pintilie (2003), *The Paper Will Be Blue* by Radu Muntean (2006). Razvan is best known for his screenplay for internationally acclaimed film *The Death of Mr Lazarescu* by Cristi Puiu (2005).

First of All, Felicia Felicia, inainte de toate | Prije svega, Felicia

www.feliciafilmul.ro

A forty-year-old Felicia has been visiting her parents in Bucharest for a week and today will fly home to the Netherlands, where she has lived for many years. Getting to the airport in company of her disingenuous, controlling mother turns out to be a challenge. When she misses check-in by a few minutes, unyielding airline employees do nothing to help her. Mother and daughter are left to navigate the no-man's land of the airport while circling land mines in their relationship. Cast Ozana Ocanea, Ileana Cernat, Vasile Menzel Written by Melissa de Raaf & Razvan Radulescu

Cinematography Tudor Lucaciu

Produced by Ada Solomon

Production Company Hi Film Productions (Romania); in co-production with Unlimited (France), ARTE (France), FraKas Productions (Belgium), Kinorama (Croatia)

Awards | Festivals

- Sarajevo Film Festival 2009 Competition Programme
- Estoril Film Festival 2009 Cineuropa Award
- Festival International du Film Francophone de Namur 2009 - Special Recognition

Sales The Match Factory

Balthasar str. 79-81 50 670 Cologne, Germany Tel: +49 221 539 709-0 Fax: +49 221 539 709-10 E-mail: info@matchfactory.de www.matchfactory.de

HiFilm Productions

149, Traian st, 024043 Bucharest, Romania Tel: + 4021 252 48 67 Fax: + 4021 252 48 67 E-mail: office@hifilm.ro www.hifilm.ro

Kinorama

Štoosova 25 10 000 Zagreb, Croatia Tel: + 385 1 231 67 87 Fax: +385 1 231 67 88 E-mail: ankica@kinorama.hr www.kinorama.hr



2009 | 100' | 35 mm | Colour | 2nd Feature

Directed by Jasmila Žbanić

Jasmila Žbanić (1974) is a film director from Bosnia and Herzegovina and a graduate of the Academy of Fine Arts in Sarajevo. She started her directing career upon founding an artists' association in Sarajevo called "Deblokada" in 1997, directing shorts and documentaries. Her debut feature film *Grbavica/In the Land of My Dreams* (2006) was awarded The Golden Bear in Berlin in 2006. This film has been sold to more than 45 territories world-wide and has enjoyed a huge critical acclaim and success on the international film festivals' circuit since.

On the Path Na putu

Luna and Amar, orphans of the Bosnian conflict, share a happy and loving relationship. They are trying to leave the painful past behind and they hope to create a family. Amar, an air traffic controller, has an alcohol problem: one day he is caught drinking at work and gets suspended. Everything changes when Amar meets an old war buddy by chance: his friend is now a strict but contented Muslim. At first, Amar resists his friend's offer of spiritual advice, but he changes his view after hearing a sermon in a mosque. Amar's new-found faith will tear this relationship with Luna apart. **Cast** Zrinka Cvitešić, Leon Lučev, Ermin Bravo, Nina Violić, Izudin Bajrović, Mirjana Karanović

Written by Jasmila Žbanić

Cinematography Christine A. Maier

Produced by Damir Ibrahimović, Bruno Wagner, Barbara Albert, Karl Baumgartner, Leon Lučev

Production Company Deblokada Production; in co-production with Coop99 (Austria), Pola Pandora (Germany), Produkcija Živa (Croatia) Awards | Festivals • Berlin International Film Festival 2010 - Official Competition

Sales The Match Factory

Balthasar str. 79-81 50 670 Cologne, Germany Tel: +49 221 539 709-0 Fax: +49 221 539 709-10 E-mail: info@matchfactory.de www.matchfactory.de

Deblokada Production

Kranjčevićeva 43 71 000 Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina Tel: +387 33 668 559 Fax: +385 1 466 21 00 E-mail: deblok@bih.net.ba www.deblokada.ba

Produkcija Živa

Heinzlova 47 10 000 Zagreb, Croatia Tel: +385 1 466 21 00 Fax: +385 1 466 21 00 ziva.produkcija@gmail.com



2009 | 87' | 35 mm | Colour

Directed by Damjan Kozole

Damjan Kozole (1964) is one of the most prominent Slovenian film directors. His feature film **Spare Parts** (2003) premiered in Official Competition of the Berlin International Film Festival and has subsequently won several awards and been released theatrically in around 15 states, including UK and USA. Since then, he directed feature films **Labour Equals Freedom** (2004) and **Forever** (2008) that premiered at International Film Festival Rotterdam.

The Slovenian Girl Slovenka

www.slovenka.si

Alexandra, a 23-year-old student from a broken home, is about to start writing her thesis. Nobody close to her is aware that Alexandra runs personal ads under the nickname "The Slovenian Girl" and that prostitution is her secret source of income. Alexandra, who is very good at manipulating people, is an accomplished liar and a petty thief who hates her mother. **Cast** Nina Ivanišin, Peter Musevski, Primož Pirnat, Maruša Kink, Uroš Furst, Aljoša Kovačič, Dejan Spasić, Andrej Murenc

Written by Damjan Kozole, Ognjen Sviličić, Matevž Luzar

Cinematography Aleš Belak

Production Company Vertigo / Emotionfilm; in co-production with 4 Film (Croatia), Neue Mediopolis Film (Germany), Filmska kuća Baš Čelik (Serbia), Krug Films (Macedonia)

Awards | Festivals

- International Film Festival Rotterdam 2010 Official Selection: Spectrum Programme
- Toronto International Film Festival 2009 -Contemporary World Cinema Programme
- Montreal Festival du Nouveau Cinèma 2009 International Panorama Programme
- Sarajevo Film Festival 2009 Competition Program
- London Raindance Film Festival 2009 United States Of Europe Programme

Vertigo / Emotionfilm

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4 Film

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2009 | 114' | 35 mm | Colour

Directed by Ivona Juka, Ines Tanović, Marija Džidževa, Hanna Slak, Ana Maria Rossi

Ivona Juka (Croatia) is a scriptwriter and director. Her award-winning creative documentary *Facing The Day* (2006) enjoyed a very successful theatrical run both in Croatia and in Macedonia. She is also the author of the award-winning shorts *Garbage* (2004) and *Editing* (2006), selected and awarded at numerous international film festivals.

Some Other Stories Neke druge priče

Five stories directed by five female directors from five Balkan countries, challenging five preconceived ideas and posing some uncomfortable questions.

Croatia: Do we sometimes play God? Serbia: Is it really possible to forgive? Macedonia: Imposture? Bosnia and Herzegovina: Is there such a thing as identity? Slovenia: What about the consumerism and shallowness of our time? **Cast** Nera Stipičević, Goran Bogdan, Nataša Ninković, Sergej Trifunović, Feđa Štukan, Nina Violić, Iva Zendelska, Lucija Šerbedžija

Written by Ivona Juka, Ines Tanović, Gjorche Stavreski, Hanna Slak, Ana Maria Rossi

Cinematography Mario Oljača, Erol Zubčević, Dejan Dimeski, Sven Pepeonik, Radoslav Vladić

Produced by Anita Juka, Tomi Salkovski, Alem Babić, Nenad Dukić, Dunja Klemenc, Ian W. Davis

Production Company 4 Film.; in co-production with Dokument Sarajevo (Bosnia and Herzegovina), Skopje Film Studio (Macedonia), Studio Maj (Slovenia), See Film Pro (Serbia)

4 Film

Bauerova 6 10 000 Zagreb, Croatia Tel: +385 1 482 87 74 Fax: +385 1 482 87 75 E-mail: office@4film.hr www.4film.hr

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2010 | 87' | 35 mm | Colour

Directed by Ognjen Sviličić

Ognjen Sviličić (1971) is a graduate of the Academy of Dramatic Art in Zagreb. In 1999 he directed his debut film *Wish I Were a Shark*. His subsequent feature films, *Sorry for Kung Fu* (2004) and *Armin* (2007) both had world premieres at the Berlin International Film Festival, as part of the Forum programme. Both films have been shown since at over 40 international film festivals, reaping numerous awards. A wellrenowned film and television scriptwriter and highly esteemed script editor and consultant, Ognjen also works as well as a screenwriting tutor the Zagreb Academy of Dramatic Art.

2 Sunny Days 2 sunčana dana

Martina and Peter, a married couple who are growing apart, come to the Croatian coast to reconcile their differences and recapture the closeness they once shared. However, they are about to experience a vacation that is anything but quiet and intimate. Instead, they are embroiled in tension, arguments and emotional isolations, with Martina flirting with a handsome tour guide, and Peter's nerves increasingly on edge. All this turmoil ultimately draws them into a life-or-death situation. **Cast** Maya Sansa, Bristol Pomeroy, Sylvia Kristel, Leon Lučev, Christian Marin

Written by Ognjen Sviličić

Cinematography Vedran Šamanović

Produced by Damir Terešak

Production Company Maxima Film; in co-production with Kinoelektron (France)

Maxima Film

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2010 | 85' | 35 mm | Colour | Debut Feature

Directed by Danilo Šerbedžija

Danilo Šerbedžija (1971) pursued his film studies at The School of Film, Ohio University of Athens, Ohio. He has a number of documentaries, award-winning shorts and music videos under his belt, as well as a fair number of TV sitcoms. **72 Days** is his first feature film boasting a strong ensemble cast composed of some of the biggest ex-Yugoslav screen stars and some of the most promising Croatian acting talent.

72 Days 72 dana

The American pension of Grandpa Đurađ is paid to his widow Neđa and is the only source of income for the Paripović family. When Neđa suddenly dies their very existence is threatened and the head of the family devises a cunning plan. **Cast** Rade Šerbedžija, Krešimir Mikić, Bogdan Diklić, Živko Anočić, Mira Banjac

Written by Danilo Šerbedžija

Cinematography Sasha Rendulic

Produced by Ivan Maloča

Production Company Interfilm; in co-production with HRT / Croatian Radiotelevision, Vans (Serbia), Lijeni Film (Croatia)

Interfilm

Nova ves 45/2 10 000 Zagreb, Croatia Tel: +385 1 466 72 90 Fax: +385 1 466 70 22 E-mail: interfilm@interfilm.hr www.interfilm.hr



2010 | 100' | 35 mm | Colour | **Debut Feature**

Directed by Ivan-Goran Vitez

Ivan-Goran Vitez is best known as a director of the provocative short *The Death of the Seals* (2000), awarded at Zagreb Film Festival in 2005 and as a director of the controversial and never publically screened documentary *Small Hands* (2001), a candid look at the national film festival in Pula. *Forest Creatures* is his debut feature.

Forest Creatures Šuma summarum

A young Dutchman Rinus Jongbloed, the new boss of a Croatian marketing agency, has organized a teambuilding weekend of rafting and paintball for his employees. On the very first day, while the team is rafting, a tragic incident occurs. As the night approaches everyone realizes that the lives of the survivors will never be the same again. **Cast** Vilim Matula, Hana Hegedušić, Nataša Dangubić, Ljubiša Savanović

Written by Ivan-Goran Vitez

Cinamatography Tamara Cesarec

Produced by Ankica Jurić Tilić

Production Company Kinorama

Kinorama

Štoosova 25 10 000 Zagreb, Croatia Tel: +385 1 231 67 87 Fax: +385 1 231 67 88 E-mail: ankica@kinorama.hr www.kinorama.hr



2010 | 89' | 35mm | Colour

Directed by Rajko Grlić

Rajko Grlić (1947) graduated from FAMU (Film and TV School of Academy of Performing Arts) in Prague, in 1971. His second feature film **Bravo Maestro** (1978) was shown in Official Competition in Cannes in 1978. Some of his subsequent features **The Melody Haunts My Reverie / You Love Only Once** (0981), **In the Jaws of Life** (1985), **Charuga** (1991), **Josephine** (2001) and **Border Post** (2006), have enjoyed the world-wide theatrical release, and have received numerous awards at prestigious international film festivals. Rajko Grlić is an Ohio Eminent Scholar in Film at Ohio University in Athens, Ohio and the Artistic Director of Motovun Film Festival, Croatia.

Just Between Us Neka ostane među nama

A naughty, indiscreet comedy of manners set in Zagreb. Erotic passions are running high bellow the respectable surface of the middle-class life. We follow the stories of 2 brothers and their respective spouses and lovers – as well as children who don't know who their real fathers are. **Cast** Miki Manojlović, Bojan Navojec, Ksenija Marinković, Daria Lorenci, Nataša Dorčić, Nina Ivanišin, Živko Anočić, Krešimir Mikić, Helena Buljan, Nikola Črček

Written by Rajko Grlić, Ante Tomić

Cinematography Slobodan Trninić H.F.S.

Produced by Igor A. Nola

Production Company Mainframe Production; in co-production with NP7 (Croatia), Studio Maj (Slovenia), Yodi (Serbia); in association with Eurimages

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Mainframe Production

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2010 | 90' | 35 mm | Colour

Directed by Dalibor Matanić

Dalibor Matanić (1975) studied film and television directing at the Academy of Dramatic Art in Zagreb. His films have won awards at national and international film festivals, among which 5 internationally acclaimed and awarded features *The Cashier Wants to Go to the Seaside* (2000), *Fine Dead Girls* (2002), *100 Minutes of Glory* (2005), *I Love You* (2006) and *Kino Lika* (2008). His two shorts *The Drought* (2002) and *Party* (2009), first two films in an omnibus 6/6, were shown respectivelly in official selection of Directors' Fornight (2003) and Critics' Week (2009) and subsequently screened and awarded at over 50 international film festivals.

Mother of Asphalt Majka asfalta

Mare is aware that her marriage with Janko is falling to pieces. At one point, her husband, frustrated by his own inability to mend their relationship, lashes out and hits her. She leaves him, taking their young son with her. While Janko slowly realizes the error of his ways, Mare and her son find comfort in the company of a lonely security guard. Cast Marija Škaričić, Janko Popović-Volarić, Krešimir Mikić Written by Dalibor Matanić, Tomislav Zajec Cinematography Branko Linta H.F.S.

Produced by Ankica Jurić Tilić

Production Company Kinorama; in association with HRT / Croatian Radiotelevision

Awards | Festivals

 Thessaloniki International Film Festival 2009 / Balkan Film Fund - Script Development Award
 Sarajevo Film Festival – CineLink

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Fashion Tension

Visoka modna napetost

Production Company Zona sova

Directed by Filip Šovagović

In pre-production | 2nd Feature Zona Sova

Mesnička 14 10 000 Zagreb, Croatia Tel: +385 1 485 11 45 E-mail: filip.sovagovic@zg.htnet.hr

This satire paraphrases a Biblical story about Noah and the Ark. It all starts on the hottest day of the summer when a renowned Italian fashion designer Giancarlo Mazukel comes to a small island with his companion and muse - a male fashion model called Teo Andreo. They intend to settle on the island for good that, of course, leads to a head-on collision between two utterly different worlds

Filip Šovagović (1966) studied at the Academy of Dramatic Art in Zagreb. He has directed and wrote numerous plays that have been translated and staged throughout the world from Buenos Aires to Bombay. He acted in more than 40 films and in numerous theatre plays. His debut feature was Pušća Bistra (2005).

Young Koko has just moved with his parents from the idyllic countryside

to a big city. There, with help of his neighbour and friend, he investigates

a mysterious case of a dead old man who used to live in his flat and has,

it seems, begun to re-appear as a ghost. Koko and the Ghosts is a family

Daniel Kušan (1975) studied at the Academy of Dramatic Art in Zagreb. Since 1998 he has

worked as a film and TV director. Besides making several TV series, short films and a TV

film based on a popular Croatian series of young-adult novels.

feature film, he has also worked in theatre and published several short stories.

Directed by Daniel Kušan

In pre-production | Debut Feature

Directed by Daniel Kušan

Written by Daniel Kušan, Ivan Kušan

Production Company Kinorama

Kinorama Štoosova 25 10 000 Zagreb, Croatia Tel: +385 1 231 67 87 Produced by Ankica Jurić Tilić

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Jadran Film Debut Feature

Caruso

Caruso

Oporovečka 12, Written by Borislav Vujčić 10 040 Zagreb, Croatia Produced by Vinko Grubišić Tel: +385 1 292 80 00

Fax: +385 1 285 13 94 E-mail: info@jadran-film.com www.jadran-film.com

Directed by

Lordan Zafranović

Production Company Jadran Film

A humble sweeper believes that he is possessed by the spirit of the late, great Enrico Caruso, the world-famous Italian opera singer. Caruso is a nostalgic, bittersweet comedy about a tragicomic figure, set in an Adriatic coastal town, on the eve of WWII.

Lordan Zafranović (1944) is an acclaimed Croatian film director. He graduated from FAMU (Film and TV School of Academy of Performing Arts) in Prague, in 1981. Zafranović started directing in the early 1960's and his films include Chronicle of a Crime (1973) and Passion According to Matthew (1975), Occupation in 26 Pictures (1978) shown in Official Competition in Cannes in 1979, The Fall of Italy (1981) and Evening Bells (1986). He also made documentaries that include The Decline of the Century: Testament L.Z (1994) and a feature film in Czech Republic called *Revenge* (1995).

Directed by Mladen Dizdar

Corvus Film

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Children of the Fall Djeca jeseni

Written by Zvonimir Munivrana

Produced by Zvonimir Munivrana Production Company Corvus Film; in co-production with Arsmedia (Slovenia)

Marko's wife disappeared in a mountaineering expedition three years ago. He now lives alone with their daughter and is visited frequently by a mutual family friend. A forensic technician himself, Marko is facing a dilemma: to continue seeking evidence that proves his wife is still alive or to move on and embrace new life without her. But Marko knows much more about the whereabouts of his wife than he lets on.

Mladen Dizdar (1976) is a director, cameraman, photographer and steadicam operator. In 1996 he enrolled at the Academy of Dramatic Art in Zagreb. He made commercial films and continues to work as an independent cameraman for numerous domestic and international TV houses.

Koko and the Ghosts Koko i duhovi

Directed by Kotlovina **Tomislav Radić** Kotlovina

In post-production Korugva

Zajčeva 31 Cast Melita Jurišić, Mirela Brekalo, Suzana Nikolić, Igor Kovač Written by Tomislav Radić Fax: +385 1 243 13 39 Produced by Tomislav Radić E-mail: korugva@zg.t-com.hr Production Company Korugva

Cinematography Vedran Šamanović A forty-something widow from Australia comes to Croatia for the first

time after she left as a little girl. She wants to visit her 2 elder sisters and get to know her extended family. She embarks on a clandestine relationship with her sister's stepson who is 20 years younger than her. No matter how hard they try, the couple cannot hide their relationship forever.

Tomislav Radić (1940) graduated from the Academy of Dramatic Art in Zagreb in 1973. He directed numerous theatre plays, as well as over forty television documentaries and programmes. From 1977 to 1997, he was a tutor at the Academy of Dramatic Art in Zagreb, Department of Acting. His internationally awarded feature films include The Living Truth (1971), The Harbour (1973), What Iva Recorded on October 21st, 2003 (2005) and Three Stories About Sleeplessness (2008).

Directed by Branko Ivanda

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Lea and Dariia Lea i Darija

Ars Septima In pre-production

> Written by Branko Ivanda Produced by Lidija Ivanda Production Company ArsSeptima; in association with HRT / Croatian Radiotelevision

This biographical film is based on the true story of Lea Deutch and Darija Gasteiger, the stars of a famous children's show in the Croatian National Theatre during WWII. Lea, nicknamed "The Croatian Shirley Temple" is an immensely popular and talented actress and dancer. Her chief rival is the theatre's other big rising star, Darija. Lea is Jewish, while Darija is of German descent.

Branko Ivanda (1941) has been a film director for over 30 years: his work includes television feature films and dramas, musicals and documentary shows, as well as theatre productions. In addition, he writes screenplays and essays and occasionally directs commercials. He has directed 4 theatrical feature films: Gravity, or Fantastic Youth of Boris Horvat the Clerk (1968), Court Marshal (1979), A Crime in School (1982) and The Horseman (2003). His television and big-screen feature films have been shown at many domestic and international festivals.

The Little Gipsy Witch Directed by Tomislav Žaia

Duh babe llonke

In pre-production | Debut Feature Formula Film

Written by Irena Krčelić Produced by Boris Dmitrović Production Company Formula Film

The Little Gypsy Witch is a children's film that portrays the everyday life of an urban Roma family living on the outskirts of a big city, as seen through the eyes of the main protagonist, a 9 year-old Roma girl Manusha. The film's genre can be described as a combination of comedy and fantasy with elements of a musical.

Tomislav Žaja (1967) is a graduate of the FAMU (Film and TV School of Academy of Perfoming Arts) in Prague. In 1995 he set up his production company Gral Film through which he produced and co-produced mainly documentaries, but also two feature films. He has written screenplays and has more than thirty documentary films under his belt. As well as two screen adaptation of hit theatre plays.

Directed by Hrvoje Hribar

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Pace kojeg je pojelo more

FIZ Production In pre-production

Pantovčak 5 10 000 Zagreb, Croatia Tel: +385 1 482 35 15 Fax: +385 1 482 35 15 E-mail: hrvoje.hribar@gmail.com

Written by Hrvoje Hribar Produced by Hrvoje Hribar Production Company Fiz Production; in association with HRT / Croatian Radiotelevision

The Man Swallowed by the Sea

The island of Vis may look like heaven on earth, but for Pacifico "Pace" Fiamengo, a local fisherman, it's a free market hell on earth - a place where unresolved conflicts rage around a plot of unsold real estate. In the waters surrounding the island, strange fish keep appearing, while smugglers, refugees, cruisers and pleasure yachts all float aimlessly around.

Hrvoje Hribar (1962) in 2005 made his most successful film to date What Is a Man Without a Mustache (2005), based on the novel by Ante Tomić, which he wrote, directed and produced. He also produced, directed and wrote the script for 2 documentaries The World Is Big (1999) and Once There Was a Man (2001), as well as his first feature film Tranquilizer Gun (1997). In addition, he is the director of award-winning short film Between Zaghul and Zaharias (1994).

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Directed by Night Boats Igor Mirković Noćni brodovi

Studio dim llica 159/2 10 000 Zagreb, Croatia Tel: +385 1 390 62 77 Fax: +385 1 390 62 78 E-mail: darija@dim.hr www.dim.hr

In pre-production | Debut Feature

Written by Igor Mirković, Elvis Bošnjak Produced by Darija Kulenović Gudan, Marina Andree Škop Production Company Studio dim www.nightboats.com

Awards | Festivals

 Film Festival Cottbus 2009 – Conecting Cottbus - The Best Pitch Award Danica certainly isn't Juliet and Jakov certainly isn't Romeo. Yet, everyone is against their love. So they decide to run away. Danica is 75 and Jakov is 80. It's the same old story about forbidden love, but here love is the way to fight death, to escape the inevitable.

Igor Mirković (1965) is a television journalist and director and an award-winning author of television shows and documentaries. Some of his documentaries include L.A. Unfinished (2008), Happy Child (2003) and Who Wants to be a President? (2001) which he codirected with Rajko Grlić. He also directed a short film Waste (2008).

In pre-production | Debut Feature Kinorama

The Shot

Hitac

Written by Neven Orhel, Mislav Brumec, Robert Orhel Produced by Ankica Jurić Tilić Production Copmany Kinorama

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Directed by

Robert Orhel

Ivan and Anita are a young couple happily planning their future together. They are not aware Anita's mother accidentally killed Ivan's father. When Anita finds out the truth, she tells Ivan. She is aware that Ivan misses his father and is afraid that his feelings for her will change. Will he invariably think of the loss of his father when he looks at her? Anita starts to doubt Ivan's love for her and their future together.

Robert Orhel (1975) studied at the Academy of Dramatic Art in Zagreb. He directed TV series Mammoth, Good Intentions and Theatre at Home and also short films Fly, Fly, Sunny Side of The Saturday and At 4 O'clock.

Directed by Ivona Juka

The Other

Drugi

4 Film Bauerova 6 10 000 Zagreb, Croatia Tel: +385 1 482 87 74 Fax: +385 1 482 87 75 E-mail: office@4film.hr www.4film.hr In pre-production | Debut Feature Written by Ivona Juka Produced by Anita Juka

Emotionfilm

Kersnikova 6 Ljubljana, Slovenia Tel: +386 1 430 35 31 Fax: +386 1 430 35 30 E-mail: info@emotionfilm.si www.emotionfilm.si

Production Company 4 Film; in co-production with Emotionfilm (Slovenia) A gallery of characters has gathered at the wrap party for a popular TV soap. While they all scorn the programme they are working on, they are all playing their parts in a real-life soap of their own: a drama that is

sometimes funny, sometimes sad but always recognizably true to life.

Ivona Juka is a scriptwriter and director. Her feature documentary Facing The Day (2006) had a very successful theatrical run in Croatia and in Macedonia. She is the author of award-winning short films Garbage (2004) and Editing (2006), selected and awarded at numerous international film festivals