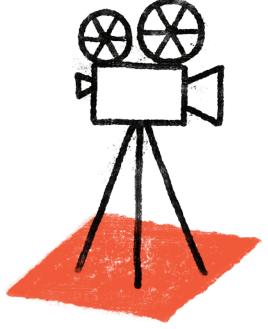
Croatian **Documentaries**

2019





Croatian Audiovisual Centre Hrvatski audiovizualni centar Nova Ves 18 | 10000 Zagreb, hr promotion@havc.hr info@havc.hr | www.havc.hr

Croatian Documentaries 2019



Croatian Audiovisual Centre

Hrvatski audiovizualni centar

Tags & Notes

- Debut Film
- Film focused on women or directed by a woman
- Film with LGBTIQ characters or motifs
- Film suitable for children up to 12 years old
- Film dealing with social issues

- Film produced within a film school or a film academy
- One of the minority co-producers is a Croatian company
- Film funded by the
 Croatian Audiovisual
 Centre through its public
 calls, film incentives
 programme (cash rebate)
 or matching funds

Love Croatian Documentaries

Editor's Notes

Bolstered by the steady support through education, development, and funding, the Croatian film production continues to yield inspiring new talents, keeping the vibrant documentary scene abuzz. As international co-productions thrive, the diversity of ideas and approaches produces films that expand our horizons and challenge our understanding of the world.

So take a look at Croatian documentaries & discover new heart-warming tales and bold perspectives!

The films in this catalogue are mostly the editor's choice. We tried to include all professional productions with the release date in 2019 and some films released in the last half of 2018. Festivals that are mentioned in the credits are chosen by the editors.

Please note that information about the films in this catalogue may still be subject to change.

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Feature Documentaries















The Bay · Zaljev

DIRECTED BY BRUNO PAVIĆ

The Bay covers a one-year cycle that depicts an unusual coexistence of industry, tourism, and the local population in an area consisting of the tourist city centre of Split - the second largest city in Croatia and the surrounding industrial zone.

HR | 9/2019 | 80' | PRODUCED BY Udruga Kazimir udrugakazimir@gmail.com | ivanpericfilm@gmail.com IN POST-PRODUCTION





















The Diary of Diana B.

Dnevnik Diane Budisavljević

DIRECTED BY DANA BUDISAVLIEVIĆ

Deeply troubled by the persecution of Orthodox mothers and children in Nazi-occupied Croatia, an Austrian housewife, Diana Budisavljević, undertakes what is to become one of the largest children rescue campaigns of World War II.

HR, SI, RS | 2019 | 88' | documentary fiction | PRODUCED BY Hulahop (HR) CO-PRODUCED BY This and That Productions (RS), December (SI) info@hulahop.hr | Pula FF 2019

















Factory to the Workers?

DIRECTED BY SRĐAN KOVAČEVIĆ

A documentary film portraying the struggle for survival of ITAS, the only factory in Croatia that was occupied and defended by its workers. Workers speak against the low wages and the situation in the factory. The management board is trying to keep the business afloat and improve the factory that has been performing poorly for several years.

HR | 12/2019 | 75' | PRODUCED BY Fade In | office@fadein.hr sabina.kresic@fadein.hr | IN POST-PRODUCTION



















Footsteps, Family Stories from the Balkans · Njihovim stopama, obiteljske priče s Balkana

DIRECTED BY VLADO BOBAN, MARKO PAVLOVIĆ

A story about eight families from ex-Yugoslavia, eight Olympic greats who passed their life's passion on to their children. These are the stories about world champions and their children's drive to follow in their parents' footsteps.

HR, ES | 2019 | 66' | PRODUCED BY Lot 28 Studio for Olympic Channel mia.pecina@lot28studio.com | Pula FF 2019

































House in 35 Kraljevec Street

Kuća na Kraljevcu 35

DIRECTED BY PERO KVESIĆ

In an exploration of the possibilities of the visual essay genre, the author reflects on the past, life, and books. Dozens of tenants have swept through the house in 35 Kraljevac Street, built half a century ago, including writers, publishers, comic book artists, photographers, and music composers. Is this film an attempt to grasp life and fight against transience and oblivion?

HR | 12/2019 | 70' | PRODUCED BY Factum | info@factum.com.hr IN PRODUCTION

ilsland · iOtok

DIRECTED BY MIHA ČELAR

An interactive multimedia project about Mate Dolenc, an ageing Slovenian writer who returns to the island of Biševo after four years to write his final novel. But the island is dying under the onslaught of the booming tourism industry, so Mate teams up with a young couple to save the it.

SI, HR, IT | 2019 | 93' | PRODUCED BY Astral Films (SI) CO-PRODUCED BY Factum (HR), Quasar Multimedia (IT) info@factum.com.hr, miha.celar@gmail.com | ZagrebDox 2019















Little Star Rising

Kuća Male Zvijezde

DIRECTED BY SLAĐANA LUČIĆ

Little Star Rising is a story about a woman who put on her running shoes at the age of 28 and by 30 became the first European woman to compete in the Ironman triathlon wearing a hijab. It tells of one woman's path from a refugee camp to becoming a force of change in her community.

HR, BA | 2019 | 72' / 52' | PRODUCED BY Wolfgang&Dolly (HR) CO-PRODUCED BY Al Jazeera Balkans (BA) | hello@wolfgangdolly.com FINISHED - NOT YET RELEASED

















Neighbors · Susjedi

DIRECTED BY TOMISLAV ŽAJA

An observational documentary about a group of people with mental illness who re-join society after decades spent in isolation. After leaving the institution, they try to piece their shattered lives back together.

HR | 2019 | 74' | PRODUCED BY Gral Film | tzaya@gralfilm.com ZagrebDox 2019

















Obsession Maxo Vanka

Opsesija Vanka

DIRECTED BY BRANKO IVANDA

A series of mysteries and mystical coincidences that cannot be incidental. In the museum archives, an art historian discovers the letters of Maksimilijan Vanka, a long forgotten Croatian painter, and identifies strongly with him. Will his letters meet the historian's high expectations and help her gain insight into the life of the artist who led a very private life?

HR, US | 9/2019 | 52' | PRODUCED BY Ars septima (HR) CO-PRODUCED BY Crows Run Pictures (US) | lidija@ars7.hr IN POST-PRODUCTION



















Once Upon a Youth

O jednoj mladosti

DIRECTED BY IVAN RAMLJAK

Thirteen years after the unexpected death of his once best friend, the filmmaker tries to reconstruct his late friend's life and their friendship, using just the photographs and video material his friend shot back then.

HR | 2019 | 78' | PRODUCED BY Academy of Dramatic Art (Zagreb) matej.merlic@gmail.com | FINISHED - NOT YET RELEASED































Paper Boats Floating into the Fragrant Night · I plove brodovi od papira u neku zanosnu noć

DIRECTED BY BILJANA TUTOROV

The film offers extraordinary insight into the intimacy of the creative process. Darko Rundek, iconic ex-Yugoslav poet and musician, has lived in Paris for the past 25 years, where he sings about man's eternal quest for meaning alongside his Cargo Orchestra composed of immigrants.

RS, FR, SE, HR | 10/2019 | 80' | PRODUCED BY Wake Up Films (RS) Mille et Une (FR) | CO-PRODUCED BY SVT (SE), Factum (HR) info@wakeupfilms.net | IN POST-PRODUCTION

Push - Pull · Povuci - potegni

DIRECTED BY NEVEN HITREC

A family, a nine-year-old, and an inadequate school curriculum - the makings of a divorce and a nervous breakdown. The child's work desk becomes the stage for a tragicomic family drama. Who will be the first to break under the burden of "knowledge"?

HR | 2019 | 61'/52' | PRODUCED BY Jaka produkcija info@jakaprodukcija.hr, jurebusic@gmail.com FINISHED - NOT YET RELEASED

















The Pygmalion Effect

Pigmalionov efekt

DIRECTED BY INES PLETIKOS

The Pygmalion effect is a psychological phenomenon that enables people to realize their full potential, based on the expectations of others. This method was used by Ante Kostelić, father and trainer of Janica and Ivica Kostelić, making them Olympic and world champions. This film offers a unique view into the story of a sport aficionado who still considers himself an outsider.

HR | 10/2019 | 97' | PRODUCED BY Interfilm | interfilm@interfilm.hr IN POST-PRODUCTION



















Tales from a Prison Cell · Mesék a zárkából • Priče iz zatvorske ćelije

DIRECTED BY ÁBEL VISKY

A creative documentary about the relationship between fathers in prison and their children. The inmates write fairy tales for their kids, which their children then adapt into films. Fiction generates freedom, in which father and child are once again united.

HU, HR, UK | 7/2019 | 90' | PRODUCED BY Proton Cinema (HU) CO-PRODUCED BY Fade In (HR), Taskovski Films (UK), Arizona MPS (HU) INT'L SALES Taskovski Films | office@protoncinema.hu office@fadein.hr, morana@taskovskifilms.com | IN POST-PRODUCTION

















Ono drugo selo

DIRECTED BY JADRAN BOBAN

A film about a village with two names, two histories, two cemeteries and conflicted memories. Once home to two nationalities, it witnessed wars and exoduses. The tragedies of the 20th century defined it as a paradigm of the vicious circles of mutual injustice and generalization of guilt. Did it have to be that way?

HR | 11/2019 | 94' | PRODUCED BY Fade In | office@fadein.hr IN POST-PRODUCTION





















Tusta

DIRECTED BY ANDREJ KOROVLJEV

A musical biography of Branko Črnac Tusta, the recently departed frontman of the legendary Croatian punk-rock band Kud Idijoti. His unrelenting antifascism made him a "working class hero". However, the band's fight for tolerance, coexistence, and social justice in times when such values were renounced as 'the communist stigma', got their songs banned on most radio stations in the 1990s.

HR, RS, MK | 7/2019 | 109' | PRODUCED BY Factum (HR) CO-PRODUCED BY Wake Up (RS), Zagreb film (HR), Award Film & Video (MK) Linfo@factum.com.hr LIN POST-PRODUCTION

















Unbroken Heroes, Croatian Women in Arms · Heroine Domovinskog rata, Pobjednice

DIRECTED BY IRENA ŠČURIĆ

Many people are crushed by the sufferings of war, where life meets death at every turn. To be able to leave behind that period in life and forge on free of judgment, hate, or depression is a victory in itself. The heroines of the Croatian War of Independence are real life-champions. Their warm and honest insights about life are an inspiration to everyone who experiences life through hardship.

HR | 2019 | 140' | PRODUCED BY Kaos | ivan@kaos.hr | Pula FF 2019

Short Documentaries

















Camino

DIRECTED BY TOMISLAV KRNIĆ

Nine perfect strangers of different nationalities, ages, religions, interests, and desires come together on a pilgrimage on the Way of St. James in Spain. They begin their journeys in different countries and cross distances of almost 800 km over three snow-covered mountains to arrive to Santiago de Compostela in the spring.

HR | 9/2019 | 22' | PRODUCED BY Wolfgang&Dolly INT'L SALES Wolfgang&Dolly | hello@wolfgangdolly.com IN POST-PRODUCTION

















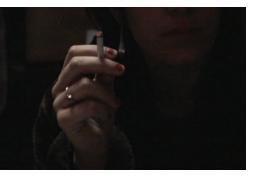


Catstream

DIRECTED BY SUNČICA ANA VELDIĆ

Cat rescue volunteer Mirna Kirin goes to the island of Mljet in an effort to neuter local cats. In only seven days, she catches dozens of cats. Her Don Quixotesque struggle, both with the cats and the islanders, intensifies as they often refuse to collaborate, and her attempts to explain the reasons for her actions cause her a nervous breakdown.

HR | 8/2019 | 20' | PRODUCED BY Dinaridi Film tena@dinaridi.com, dinaridi@dinaridi.com | IN POST-PRODUCTION















Closing Time - Fajront

DIRECTED BY DAVID LUŠIČIĆ

This short, atmospheric documentary follows a segment of night life in Zagreb through a testimony of attempted rape. The story covers the events that took place at a bar, where one night a few people stayed after closing time to finish their drinks.

HR | 2019 | 13'34" | PRODUCED BY Zebra Creative Network, Academy of Dramatic Art (Zagreb) | david@zebra.com.hr | ZagrebDox 2019



















Currents · Strujanja

DIRECTED BY KATERINA DUDA

The plants are the only ones left in a vacant business building. In this large, once lavish space, the gardener still takes care of the plants that have become part of its architecture, and prepares the ones in pots for relocation. Apart from the gardener, a single fireman watches over the empty building, doing rounds and maintenance for no one.

HR | 2019 | 16' | PRODUCED BY Restart / Restart Laboratory CO-PRODUCED BY GMK | INT'L SALES Restart | vanja@restarted.hr tibor@restarted.hr | Mediterranean FF Split 2019

















Do You Go Out?

Izlazite li vanka?

DIRECTED BY INES JOKOŠ

Amidst the hustle and bustle of the crowded city walls, Mile and Jela are alone. They share good days as well as the bad ones. Had they only met earlier, they could have shared their youth, but old age can also be sweet when there is someone to share it with.

HR | 2019 | 30' | PRODUCED BY 15 Art | hrvoje.osvadic@15art.hr marta.uzarevic@gmail.com | FINISHED - NOT YET RELEASED

















Doctor, I'm Going to My Grave Doktorice, pem v' grobeka

DIRECTED BY NIKOLINA BARIĆ

The director follows her mother's small GP practice and her struggle in the failing Croatian health system. With steady increase in the number of patients and available doctors in the system in steady decline, everybody is reaching their breaking point.

HR | 9/2019 | 40' | PRODUCED BY Nikolina Barić j.d.o.o. nikolina.film@gmail.com | IN POST-PRODUCTION















Donkey Music · Tovareća

DIRECTED BY KAROLINA MALINOWSKA

Every summer on a distant Croatian island, a parade of young men occupies the village for several days. While they blow the ox horns and strike up rhythm with metal iron bars, we sail with them through hell and dive with them into the sea, only to re-emerge among the living in the parade's grand finale.

HR | 8/2019 | 15' | PRODUCED BY Filmaparat hello@filmaparat.com | IN POST-PRODUCTION



















The Dormitory · Prenoćište

DIRECTED BY MATE UGRIN

Migrant shipyard workers on the Adriatic coast spend their daily routine in their dormitory. In the evening, one of them visits a nearby town.

DE, HR | 2019 | 11' | PRODUCED BY Berlin University of the Arts (DE) CO-PRODUCED BY Dinaridi film (HR) | tena@dinaridi.com mateugrin@gmail.com | FINISHED - NOT YET RELEASED















The End of Darkness

Na kraju tame

DIRECTED BY RANKO PAUKOVIĆ

We follow Sakiba, one of the last female mine workers in Breza. As she turns 50, she qualifies for retirement. When she resurfaces for the final time and closes the defining chapter of her life, does she leave a part of herself behind? The End of Darkness explores what it means to be a miner at the end of the fossil fuel era. and to be a woman in contemporary Bosnia.

HR, BA, NL | 2018 | 27' | PRODUCED BY Spiritus Movens Production (HR) CO-PRODUCED BY AI Jazeera Balkans (BA), Windmill Film (NL) zdenka@spiritus-movens.hr | ZagrebDox 2019

















Hands of Ours · Ruke naše

DIRECTED BY AIDA VIDAN

Hands of Ours is an homage to the craftsmanship of a self-sufficient lifestyle that depicts the hands of an elderly couple on a Croatian island as they engage in traditional daily activities.

HR, US | 2019 | 11' | PRODUCED BY Solentia Productions (US) solentiaproductions@gmail.com | SEEfest LA 2019

















If Only Dreams Came True

Da je meni ono što mi nije

DIRECTED BY VIŠNJA SKORIN

A peculiar 50-year-old woman is fired from her job at a TV station. Unable to find a new job, she decides to fulfil her dream and finally achieve her fifteen minutes of fame as a singer.

HR | 6/2019 | 55'/52' | PRODUCED BY 3D2D Animatori | 3d2d@3d2d.hr visnja.skorin@gmail.com | IN POST-PRODUCTION



















In the Name of the Republic of Croatia · U ime Republike Hrvatske

DIRECTED BY GORAN DEVIĆ

When Marko Francišković attempts to present a radical political programme, his activism clashes with a harsh reality. From a man determined to make a change, Marko is turned into an object, deprived of his freedom and forced into a mental institution. When he is finally declared healthy and released, he avoids politics at all costs. He has been successfully cured, it turns out.

HR | 2019 | 34' | PRODUCED BY 15 Art | hrvoje.osvadic@15art.hr ISFF Oberhausen 2019

















Ivan's game · Ivanova igra

DIRECTED BY TOMISLAV ŽAJA

Ivan's Game tells the life story of Ivan Gudelj, one of the greatest Croatian football players of all time. We follow his meteoric rise and the sudden ending of his career, when it was at its peak. We see him overcome a severe illness, the death of his wife, and other ordeals. How can you turn around the result of a game you've already lost? Is there a life after football?

HR | 10/2019 | 52' | PRODUCED BY Gral Film | CO-PRODUCED BY T-Film tzaya@gralfilm.com | IN POST-PRODUCTION

















Lessons on Humanity

Pouke o čovječnosti

DIRECTED BY BRANKO IŠTVANČIĆ

Pakrac veterans, working with some of the medical personnel of the Pakrac hospital, saved around 300 patients from certain death in a 1991 humanitarian evacuation. Most of the patients were Serbs from the hospital's psychiatry ward. The people who helped in the evacuation were presented with the Charter of Heroes of Humanity.

HR | 2019 | 50' | PRODUCED BY Artizana artizana.zagreb@gmail.com | Pula FF 2019















A Man and a Tree

Čovjek i drvo

DIRECTED BY DALIBOR PLATENIK

This is a story about Vladimir Dimić Joda, a man from the centre of Zagreb, who devotes his days to trees. More than 30 years ago, he got an idea to start planting trees and until not so long ago he had been doing it incognito. Vladimir has planted more than 450 trees. He speaks to them, waters them, and takes care of them, thus repaying his debt to Mother Earth.

HR | 2019 | 43' | PRODUCED BY Eureka video dalibor.platenik@gmail.com | Subversive FF 2019

















May Your Soul Rest Insured

Za let si dušo sigurna

DIRECTED BY ANTE MITROVIĆ

The film follows the daily routine of five officials at a funeral company as they go about their business and communicate with their clients in a nonchalant atmosphere. It aims to lay bare the mediatory relationship between contemporary society and our deceased, led by the market law of supply and demand.

HR | 7/2019 | 30' | PRODUCED BY Academy of Dramatic Art (Zagreb) suzyerba@gmail.com, antemit@gmail.com | IN POST-PRODUCTION

















Microcassette — A Redundant **Detective Story** · Mikrokazeta

- jedna suvišna detektivska priča
- DIRECTED BY IGOR BEZINOVIĆ. IVANA PIPAL

A close study of a discarded object serves as a tribute to chance and imagination. When Zoki uncovers a microcassette among the garbage heaps of a big landfill on the island of Lošini, he tries to unravel the story behind it.

HR, RS | 8/2019 | 25' | PRODUCED BY Bonobostudio (HR) CO-PRODUCED BY Teorija na delu (RS) | INT'L SALES Bonobostudio vanja@bonobostudio.hr | IN POST-PRODUCTION



















One of Us · Jedna od nas

DIRECTED BY ĐURO GAVRAN

The film follows the reactions of a community to a disclosure about childhood sexual abuse. It centers around a high school reunion. As former classmates talk about work, children, school jokes, and past mischief, the conversations turn to those who did not come to the reunion, one of whom had made a shocking confession.

HR | 10/2019 | 52' | PRODUCED BY Pipser | info@pipser.hr IN POST-PRODUCTION

















Osjekana

DIRECTED BY IVICA ŠUTO

Osijek has long been the cultural centre of eastern Croatia, even in war time. But the city seems to have lost its culture along the way. What happened to that pre-war vibe and the people who used to be the pillars of Osijek's cultural scene? The film explores this loss of identity as seen by the man who was always part of it, and is still trying to be.

HR | 9/2019 | 20' | PRODUCED BY U SVOM filmu barbara@usvomfilmu.hr | IN POST-PRODUCTION

















Oxygen Nitrogen

Kisik dušik

DIRECTED BY DAMIR ČUČIĆ

There were scripts, elaborations, and shooting materials, but some films simply never saw their completion. Oxygen Nitrogen is a composition made up of 11 unfinished films. It is an experiment with the remains of filmed material and the reamains of life, in which the lead character takes over the identity of others.

HR | 2019 | 45' | PRODUCED BY Gate film | kradljivac.konja@gmail.com FINISHED - NOT YET RELEASED















Peaceful Glide - Tihi let

DIRECTED BY SANDI NOVAK

White-headed griffon vultures are the only surviving species of griffons in Croatia, inhabiting the Kvarner islands of the North Adriatic. Griffons that survive their first flight emigrate that same year. After four years they return, a feat that only one in every ten griffons accomplishes. Their only natural enemy is man, who is also their only chance at survival.

HR | 2019 | 50' | PRODUCED BY Vizije S.F.T. | tom@vizije.hr FINISHED - NOT YET RELEASED

















The Rex Will Sail In

Doplovit će Rex

DIRECTED BY JOSIP LUKIĆ

Marina's (40) month-long vacation is nearing its end, after which she leaves for another six months to work on a cruiser as a housekeeping supervisor. As the separation from her children is getting closer, Marina grows increasingly anxious.

HR | 2019 | 35' | PRODUCED BY Academy of Dramatic Art (Zagreb) marin.leo.jankovic@gmail.com | ZagrebDox 2019















Serenade to the Wind

Serenada vjetru

DIRECTED BY SANELA BAJRIĆ

In 1937, the opera La Serenata al Vento, composed by Aldo Finzi, won a contest held by La Scala in Milan. But Finzi was a Jew, and racial laws were to be enacted in a few months, so the contest was nullified. Aldo Finzi passed away without seeing his opera on stage. Seventy-five years after the contest, it is finally brought to life.

HR, IT | 2019 | 56' | PRODUCED BY Imago 21 | info@imago21.org FINISHED - NOT YET RELEASED



















Hipokritovi sinovi

DIRECTED BY ANTON MEZULIĆ

The film shows one of the most important battles of Croatian society. After more than 20 years, there is still no consensus on the role of the Church within the social order of the country. Education remains one of the most important battlefronts.

HR | 2019 | 19'30" | PRODUCED BY Blank radionice@blankzg.hr, anton.mezulic@gmail.com FINISHED - NOT YET RELEASED



Tijat

DIRECTED BY ZLATKO KRILIĆ

The Tijat, built in 1955, is the oldest passenger ship on the Adriatic. The film is conceived as a portrait of the Tijat as shown through the rich vistas it provides and the melodies that surround it. *Tijat* is an interview with the ship through the four seasons.

HR | 9/2019 | 30' | PRODUCED BY Manevar | anaradecic@manevar.hr



Zoza

DIRECTED BY DINO TOPOLNJAK

Zoran Zorčec Zoza graduated in agronomy at the age of fifty, ten days after surviving a stroke. He sells eggs and apples on the market and receives social assistance. He recites the poem 'Letter to Mother' by Sergei Yesenin without pausing.



HR | 8/2019 | 45' | PRODUCED BY Focus Media | irena@focusmedia.hr

Impressum

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