

2021

CENTRAL EAST
EUROPEAN PANORAMA



POLISH DOCS PRO DELEGATION AT
SUNNY SIDE OF THE DOC 2021



POLISH DOCS PRO DELEGATION AT SUNNY SIDE OF THE DOC 2021

Addressed to film professionals, **Polish Docs PRO** focuses primarily on the wide-ranging promotion of the Polish documentary film industry at international events. It supports filmmakers and producers in developing their projects by facilitating access to markets, pitching forums, and co-production meetings; presenting the projects, production models, and co-production opportunities with Poland; organizing networking meetings; and participating in lectures, panel discussions, workshops, and training sessions.

PROJECTS SELECTED TO THE PITCHING SESSIONS



HISTORY:

The Ultimate Joker,
dir. Krzysztof Dzieciotowski



GLOBAL ISSUES:

Waitergate,
dir. Konrad Szotajski



WILDLIFE:

Jungle Fever. The Race to Save Malaysia's Last Tigers, dir. Paolo Volponi



TALENT HUB:

Girl's Stories,
dir. Aga Borzym

PRODUCERS MEET PRODUCERS – session with Polish participants

22.06, 11.30 – 14.00 (CET)

Vision House | Pinot Films | Silver Frame | Raban Foundation | Movie Mates | Gosia Juszcak | Kazia Productions | Ya Man Studio | Kijora Film | Bees Film House

MEET THE CEE DELEGATION TALK

23.06, 15.15 – 16.30 (CET)

with the participation of **Katarzyna Wilk** / Polish Docs about co-production possibilities with Poland



VISIT POLISH DOCS PRO PAVILLON
MEET POLISH DOCUMENTARY PRODUCERS



POLISH DOCS PRO DELEGATES



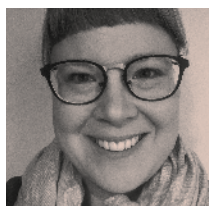
Daria Maślona
SILVER FRAME
d.maslona@silver-frame.com



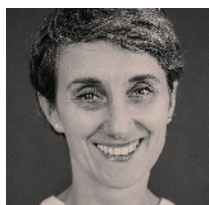
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Agata Jujeczka
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Barbara Orlicz-Szczypta
Polish Docs / Krakow Film
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barbara.orlicz@kff.com.pl



Małgorzata Prociak
ZK STUDIO
gosia@zkstudio.pl



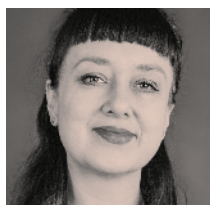
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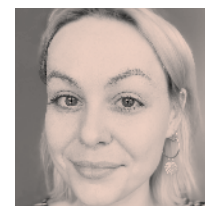
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Ewelina Jasińska
MOVIE MATES
ewelina@moviemates.eu



DIR. **JULIA GROSZEK**

Dreamer from Sally

Against the backdrop of a devastated economy in Zimbabwe, where unemployment is at 90% and hunger is staring people in the eye, Golden, an extra-ordinary guy, thanks to his creativity and inner strength, fights for a better life and tries to pursue his dreams.

Golden (26), an ambitious guy with a good heart, reads *Think and Grow Rich* by Napoleon Hill, and tries to apply the American recipe for success in his native country. He can only wash himself in a bucket and he has scarce access to the Internet on his mobile phone. Inspired by Ice Cube's film *Barber Shop*, Golden opens his own hairdressing salon. Soon after Golden falls in love with Faith, pastor's daughter. They start living together but he needs to pay dowry in order to marry her. Then Golden loses his Barber Shop and his future marriage is in danger. He turns to his ancestors for answers during bira ritual. Will he earn enough money to marry his girlfriend Faith and settle down?

ENGLISH TITLE: DREAMER FROM SALLY
ORIGINAL TITLE: MARZYCIEL Z SALLY
DIRECTOR: JULIA GROSZEK
CINEMATOGRAPHER: MATEUSZ CZUCHNOWSKI
EDITOR: VACAT
PRODUCER: JUSTYNA KLUCZEWSKA
PRODUCTION COMPANY: FUNDACJA RABAN!
ESTIMATED RUNNING TIME: 80'
PRODUCTION COUNTRY: POLAND
LANGUAGE: SHONA, ENGLISH
PRODUCTION STAGE: DEVELOPMENT
SHOOTING PERIOD: MAY 2021 – MARCH 2022
FILM DELIVERY: 2023
TOTAL BUDGET: 180 000 EUR
STILL NEEDED: 157 000 EUR
CONFIRMED PARTNERS: POLISH FILM INSTITUTE (DEVELOPMENT PHASE)
LOOKING FOR: CO-PRODUCERS, FUNDS, SALES AGENT
CONTACT:
PRODUCER'S E-MAIL: JKLUCZEWSKA@FUNDACJARABAN.PL
DIRECTOR'S E-MAIL: JULIAGROSZEK@GMAIL.COM

Julia Groszek DIRECTOR

Director of documentary films, short films and music videos. Graduate of documentary film directing at the Wajda School. She studied audiovisual communication in Malaga (Spain) and holds a Master of Cultural Studies. She made documentaries in Poland, Romania and Jordan, reportages in Burma and Thailand. Her latest documentary, *Arabic Secret*, presented at several international festivals, received awards at Aegean Docs FF in Greece, Human-Doc FF in Warsaw and Ismailia Film Festival in Egypt, among others.



Justyna Kluczewska
PRODUCER

THE RABAN FOUNDATION is a Warsaw – based organization involved in audiovisual production. It specializes in documentaries. The Foundation has made films: *Fugazi – Center of the Universe*, directed by L. Gnoiński; *Kult. Film*, directed by O. Bieniek; and the latest film *Scandal*, directed by B. Paduch. The Foundation has completed projects both independently and in partnership with: the Polish Film Institute, the Mazovian Film Fund, TVP Polish Television, and the Capital City of Warsaw.

POLISH DELEGATION AT
SUNNY SIDE OF THE DOC 2021





DIR. AGA BORZYM

Girl's Stories

Story about being on the verge of becoming a teenager.
We observe the world of adolescence, with all its ups and downs,
through the eyes of two guides – 11-year-old Jagoda and 13-years-old Zuzia.

Due to COVID-19 classes are conducted online so Jagoda rarely has direct contact with her classmates. Fortunately, there are sleepovers which Jagoda arranges with her closest friends. She also spends a lot of time with her neighbour, Zuzia and a childhood friend, 12-year-old Kostek. Jagoda and Zuzia like to hang out in the neighbourhood square and talk openly about various topics. They differ a lot. Jagoda loves animals, while Zuzia doesn't like them at all. She prefers contact with other people. Sometimes they argue but it doesn't interfere with their friendship. Together with two other neighbours and Zuzia's younger brother, they form a gang. There is no boss in the gang, every voice is important, though 'it's the girls who are rather alpha'. At school, sex education classes have begun and the first menstruation is discussed as well. The first period can bring a lot of emotions and changes in relationships with family and peers. 'Actually, it would be good to have it over, or maybe better not, because it won't be just once...', the girls wonder. Biology, hormonal changes, pimples and great dilemmas come into their lives. Adults are not always supportive. It will be a documentary for Jagoda and Zuzia's peers, as well as for adults. The protagonists will introduce us to the girl's world that every woman remembers well and every boy will find out a way to finally understand 'it'.

SELECTED TO
TALENT HUB
PITCHING SESSION

POLISH DELEGATION AT
SUNNY SIDE OF THE DOC 2021



ENGLISH TITLE: GIRLS' STORIES
ORIGINAL TITLE: DZIEWCZYŃSKIE HISTORIE
DIRECTOR: AGA BORZYM
CINEMATOGRAPHER: KACHNA BARANIEWICZ
EDITOR: TBC
PRODUCER: MARTA DUŻBABEL, AGNIESZKA ROSTROPOWICZ-RUTKOWSKA
PRODUCTION COMPANY: PINOT FILMS
ESTIMATED RUNNING TIME: 52'
PRODUCTION COUNTRY: POLAND
LANGUAGE: POLISH
PRODUCTION STAGE: DEVELOPMENT
SHOOTING PERIOD: SEPTEMBER 2021 – SEPTEMBER 2022
FILM DELIVERY: SPRING 2023
TOTAL BUDGET: 168 500 EURO
STILL NEEDED: 128 000 EURO
CONFIRMED PARTNERS: CANAL+ POLAND
LOOKING FOR: BROADCASTERS, FUNDS, CO-PRODUCERS
CONTACT:
PRODUCER'S E-MAIL: AROSTROPOWICZ@PINOTFILMS.PL
DIRECTOR'S E-MAIL: AGNIESZKABORZYM@GMAIL.COM

Aga Borzym DIRECTOR

For many years she has been professionally editing and producing short and longer film forms. She works for Kino Polska Television and Stopklatka TV. She graduated from photography department in the Academy of Fine Arts in Poznań and Multimedia Techniques at the Faculty of Mechatronics of the Warsaw University of Technology. Recently she is also involved in animation. Privately, she is a mother of two children.



**Agnieszka
Rostropowicz-Rutkowska**
PRODUCER

PINOT FILMS is a creative production company set up in 2020. It provides professional production service for filmmakers and also supports them with marketing, distribution and promotion packages from the development until the distribution phase. Producers have experience in working with TV series, documentary and fiction films.



DIR. **LILIANA
KOMOROWSKA-GŁĄBCZYŃSKA,
MARIA ZMARZ-KOCZANOWICZ**

Wajda

Wajda is a documentary focusing on the international successes and artistic influence of the Polish Master of the cinema – Andrzej Wajda.

From the time he received the Silver Palm for the film *Kanał* at the Cannes festival in 1957, until his award from the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences for his lifetime achievement Honorary Oscar in 2000. *Kanał* and *Ashes and Diamonds* have become the most important cinematic triumphs of “the Polish Film School” (one of the creators), thus opening the door of Polish cinema to the world as one of the most recognizable Polish filmmakers. In our documentary, we want to find out what kind of Poland foreigners saw in his films. The film will be based on the testimonies of many outstanding filmmakers and film critics – e.g. Martin Scorsese, Nikita Michalkow, Volker Schlöndorff, and his wife’s memories Krystyna Zachwatowicz, an exceptional woman, wife, and artist, one of the closest people in Wajda’s life, often, an anonymous collaborator for the world outside! We want to get the archival materials of Wajda, photos from the sets, his participation in international festivals, and his journal notes from these events, recently discovered new archival material. *Wajda* is a multidimensional film, showing a filmmaker’s career in constant conflict with the authorities and the opportunities he has been given. From the battle for his autonomy in creativity to living under immeasurable stress and pressure from within his country and often abroad. Andrzej Wajda used to say: “A film director must be both a poet and a corporal.” Both of these features perfectly reflect the nature of his work. We shall explore it to the fullest in the film.

POLISH DELEGATION AT
SUNNY SIDE OF THE DOC 2021



ENGLISH TITLE: WAJDA
ORIGINAL TITLE: WAJDA
DIRECTOR: LILIANA KOMOROWSKA-GŁĄBCZYŃSKA,
MARIA ZMARZ-KOCZANOWICZ
CINEMATOGRAPHER: JACEK PETRYCKI
EDITOR: GRAŻYNA GRADOŃ
PRODUCER: DARIA MAŚLONA, STANISŁAW ZABOROWSKI
PRODUCTION COMPANY: SILVER FRAME
ESTIMATED RUNNING TIME: 90’/54’
PRODUCTION COUNTRY: POLAND
LANGUAGE: ENGLISH, POLISH
PRODUCTION STAGE: DEVELOPMENT
SHOOTING PERIOD: MARCH 2022 – MARCH 2023
FILM DELIVERY: END OF 2023
TOTAL BUDGET: 750 000 EURO
STILL NEEDED: 706 500 EURO
CONFIRMED PARTNERS: POLISH FILM INSTITUTE, DOCUMENTARY AND FEATURE
FILM STUDIOS, CANAL+ POLAND
LOOKING FOR: BROADCASTERS (FRANCE, GERMANY), COPRODUCERS (FRANCE,
GERMANY), FUNDS
CONTACT:
PRODUCER’S E-MAIL: D.MASLONA@SILVER-FRAME.COM
DIRECTOR’S E-MAIL: LILIAKOMOROWSKA@GMAIL.COM, MARIA@POST.HOME.PL

Liliana Komorowska-Głąbczyńska DIRECTOR

An actress, director and producer, a founder of production company QueenArt Films. Her last documentary *To My Father* received an audience award in Montreal IFF. She is a member of the Canadian Film and Television Academy.

Maria Zmarz-Koczanowicz DIRECTOR

A screenwriter and a director. In her career she made over 50 documentaries, like: *The Office* (1987), *Generation '89* (2002), *Guczo* (2020) – that was presented and awarded at the festivals around the world.



Daria Maślona
PRODUCER

SILVER FRAME is a production company, founded by Stanisław Zaborowski and Daria Maślona in 2014, based in Warsaw. We are making feature films and documentaries with clear international potential. Our movies were presented at festivals around the world. They received many awards and nominations – including the nomination for Focal Awards 2019 for a documentary *I’m Writing to You My Love* by Magdalena Szymków.



DIR.: ANNA GAWLITA,
TOMASZ WOLSKI

7 Different Sculptures

An incredible story of an artist who lived his life to the fullest, an active member of artistic milieus in three countries: Poland, Brazil and France.

August Zamoyski: Polish aristocrat who abandoned his family fortune to pursue the dream of becoming an artist. Often compared to Michelangelo, amazing sculptor, outstanding athlete, amateur filmmaker, avant-garde dancer, collector of fancy cars, teacher but also a scandalist who got married four times. His life story, full of sudden twists and turns, was a movie script waiting to happen.

The story of artist's life told through his oeuvre, shot in three different countries (Poland, France and Brasil). As a multi-faceted artist, Zamoyski was truly proficient in technical issues and manual labor of creating true art. Cinematography of the film intends to showcase his dedication to working with hard, demanding material, like iron, marble or granite. 7 of many, many works of Zamoyski will be shown as representation of different sides of his artistic personality.

The life of one of the most unique personalities in art history will be shown through original animations by Marcin Podolec, as well as over a 100 hours of archive footage, shot by the artist himself. The sculptor will also stand for his generation, as a survivor of WWI and WWII.

ENGLISH TITLE: 7 DIFFERENT SCULPTURES
ORIGINAL TITLE: 7 RÓŻNYCH RZEŻB
DIRECTOR: TOMASZ WOLSKI, ANNA GAWLITA
CINEMATOGRAPHER: TOMASZ WOLSKI
EDITOR: TOMASZ WOLSKI
PRODUCER: TOMASZ FILIKS
PRODUCTION COMPANY: KIJORA FILM
ESTIMATED RUNNING TIME: 60'
PRODUCTION COUNTRY: POLAND
LANGUAGE: POLISH, ENGLISH, FRENCH, PORTUGUESE
PRODUCTION STAGE: PRE-PRODUCTION
SHOOTING PERIOD: AUGUST–DECEMBER 2021
FILM DELIVERY: SEPTEMBER 2022
TOTAL BUDGET: 120 000 EUR
STILL NEEDED: 20 000 EUR
CONFIRMED PARTNERS: POLISH FILM INSTITUTE, POLISH TELEVISION
LOOKING FOR: BROADCASTERS, FESTIVALS, FUNDS, CO-PRODUCERS
CONTACT:
PRODUCER'S E-MAIL: TOMASZ.FILIKS@GMAIL.COM
DIRECTOR'S E-MAIL: KIJORA@GMAIL.COM

Anna Gawlita & Tomasz Wolski DIRECTORS

They are a Polish filmmaking duo working together from 15 years. Anna Gawlita is an experienced and creative producer who has also channeled her innovative potential into filmmaking. In 2017, together with Tomasz Wolski, she directed a full-length documentary *Festival*. Tomasz Wolski is a director, editor, cameramen of 13 documentaries awarded at many international festivals, such as: *1970* (2021), *An Ordinary Country* (2020), *A Problem* (2020).



Tomasz Filiks
PRODUCER

KIJORA FILM provides a creative space for the development and production of feature films and documentary films alike. We focus on original projects that explore new forms of expression and engage in dialogue with contemporary times. Our productions have won prestigious awards at festivals such as Visions du Réel, Slamdance, Ji.hlava IDFF, Camerimage and Cork FF to name but a few. Kijora Film is also the executive producer and co-producer of short and full-length feature films.

POLISH DELEGATION AT
SUNNY SIDE OF THE DOC 2021





DIR. RITA CIOŁEK

Desert Medicine

Lyndsay Hailey, a 35-year-old sexual abuse survivor, travels to the desert in Arizona to spend five days with a Native American shaman in hopes of healing from her childhood trauma.

Lyndsay Hailey has big dreams. She wants to be an actress, a comedian, a frontwoman for a rock band. But there is one thing that stands between her and stardom: an unhealed trauma. Lyndsay was molested at four years old – an incident she would repress and not recall for another 25 years that nevertheless left her wounded and vulnerable. Hence, predators kept finding her. At 14, she was sexually assaulted by a coach of her diving team. At 25, she was raped by a colleague from an improv class. Despite the healing she has done up to this point, trauma still rules her life. She wakes up every day with the same question: was I molested as a child or did I imagine it? In search for answers, she travels to an Arizona desert to spend five days with don Lorenzo Archuleta (Lench), a Native American shaman. When Lyndsay steps into Lench's world of indigenous storytelling, rituals and ceremonies, she is at first mistrustful, even defiant. She resists his teachings and doesn't want to see things from his perspective. Despite the challenges, Lench trusts his process in breaking through to her. He probes, riddles, confronts. The desert acts as his accomplice. It is a place of magic and mysticism where people are revealed to themselves. A Vietnam veteran, Lench is no stranger to trauma. He spent the last 35 years working with people who battled psychological disorders and physical illnesses. He's often referred to as the last resort – where conventional healing methods fail, his work begins.

POLISH DELEGATION AT
SUNNY SIDE OF THE DOC 2021



ENGLISH TITLE: DESERT MEDICINE
ORIGINAL TITLE: LEKARSTWO PUSTYNI
DIRECTOR: RITA CIOŁEK
CINEMATOGRAPHER: WILLIAM MILLER
EDITOR: CANDICE YOUNG
PRODUCER: RITA CIOŁEK
PRODUCTION COMPANY: KAZIA PRODUCTIONS
ESTIMATED RUNNING TIME: 90'
PRODUCTION COUNTRY: USA
LANGUAGE: ENGLISH
PRODUCTION STAGE: POST-PRODUCTION
SHOOTING PERIOD: FEBRUARY 2016 – AUGUST 2021
FILM DELIVERY: DECEMBER 2021
TOTAL BUDGET: 240 000 EUR
STILL NEEDED: 60 000 EUR
CONFIRMED PARTNERS: –
LOOKING FOR: FINANCING, SALES AGENTS, BROADCASTERS
CONTACT:
PRODUCER'S E-MAIL: RITA@KAZIAPRODUCTIONS.COM
DIRECTOR'S E-MAIL: RITA@KAZIAPRODUCTIONS.COM

Rita Ciolek DIRECTOR

She is an award-winning film director and producer (Jax, Growing Strong). Rita grew up in Poland and immigrated to the US in 1995. She received her Master of Fine Arts in Cinema from the School of Cinematic Arts at DePaul University. She is the founder of Kazia Productions, which has been providing media services to prominent artists and organizations since 2015. Her short films have been screened at film festivals in the US and internationally, and received numerous awards.



Rita Ciolek
PRODUCER

KAZIA PRODUCTIONS is a boutique media production company that specializes in docu-style content with emphasis on human interest and social impact stories that inspire positive change. In 2018, the company was hired to assist with several media projects for Barbra Streisand and Sony Columbia Records. In 2019, the company reached a significant milestone by winning a highly competitive bid to design and build a television studio for PricewaterhouseCoopers in Washington, D.C.





DIR. KONRAD SZOŁAJSKI

Weitergate

A team of independent investigators examine if three waiters could topple Polish government by eavesdropping its ministers? Or was it a conspiracy with the Kremlin in the background?

Meetings of Polish government ministers in a Warsaw restaurant were recorded illegally. Their transcripts were published and the event was called "Waitergate". Private conversations between politicians did not violate the law, but outraged public opinion: important politicians did not show respect to Poland's voters and allies, and often used vulgar language. Critical comments flooded the Polish media. This led to the dismissal of senior officials but did not save the moderate and pro-European ruling party.

All of this happened a year before the parliamentary elections, which were largely influenced by the scandal-induced shift in voter preferences as a result of the scandal. The liberal party lost power, which was taken over by the far-right populist party, which has implemented policy convenient for the Kremlin.

An official investigation of Polish intelligence never brought any tangible results. Recently, journalists have cast a new light on the events. Investigative reporters explored the backstage of the eavesdropping operation and the media campaign which has destroyed Poland's political stability. Following the journalistic investigation we portray those events on the background of worldwide politics

being influenced by Putin. The subject is viable not only for the Polish audience. It is important for viewers in all the countries which are threatened by the phenomenon of hostile, clandestine influence aimed at dismantling the integrity of the democratic world.

SELECTED TO
GLOBAL ISSUES
PITCHING SESSION

POLISH DELEGATION AT
SUNNY SIDE OF THE DOC 2021



ENGLISH TITLE: WAITERGATE
ORIGINAL TITLE: WAITERGATE
DIRECTOR: KONRAD SZOŁAJSKI
CINEMATOGRAPHER: MICHAŁ ŚLUSARCZYK
EDITOR: PAWEŁ KOWALIK
PRODUCER: MAŁGORZATA PROCIAK
PRODUCTION COMPANY: ZK STUDIO
ESTIMATED RUNNING TIME: 75/52'
PRODUCTION COUNTRY: POLAND, NORWAY, CZECH REPUBLIC
LANGUAGE: POLISH, ENGLISH
PRODUCTION STAGE: DEVELOPMENT
SHOOTING PERIOD: SEPTEMBER 2021 – JUNE 2022
FILM DELIVERY: FEBRUARY 2023
TOTAL BUDGET: 287 753 EUR
STILL NEEDED: 211 829 EUR
CONFIRMED PARTNERS: ISME FILM, HYPERMARKET FILM, CREATIVE EUROPE MEDIA, FRITT ORD, SVT, DR, ERR, ALJAZEERA BALKANS
LOOKING FOR: BROADCASTERS, FUNDS
CONTACT:
PRODUCER'S E-MAIL: GOSIA@ZKSTUDIO.PL
DIRECTOR'S E-MAIL: KONRADGT@GMAIL.COM

Konrad Szolajski DIRECTOR

He wrote and directed documentary and fiction films, which were shown in cinema and broadcasted by TV stations and at many Polish and international festivals. He is known for satirical view on contemporary Poland and humorous approach to serious subjects including Polish national complexes and religiosity. In 2005 he launched a new film production company ZK Studio which has produced fiction and documentary films with a strong social hook, aiming at international markets.



Małgorzata Prociak
PRODUCER

ZK STUDIO was established in 2005. Our studio is involved in a wide range of activity concerning both film and television production destined for international audiences. We cooperate with producers and broadcasters from all over the world such as HBO Europe, SVT, DR, NRK, TG4, SBS, YLE, MDR. Our projects were supported by the Polish Film Institute, CNC, Creative Europe MEDIA and Tribeca Documentary Fund. We specialize in creative documentaries and feature films with a strong social hook.



DIR. KRZYSZTOF DZIĘCIOŁOWSKI

The Ultimate Joker

Meet *The Ultimate Joker* who gave us political spin, fake news and polarising politics long before Donald Trump, Andrzej Duda and Jair Bolsonaro were an itch in their daddies' pants.

A spokesman of the communist government in the 1980ties, Jerzy Urban, has now chosen the Internet to take on nationalism and the clerical right in no uncertain terms, proving himself an unlikely and controversial ally in the fight for the liberal order. Urban is the ultimate spinner, a devil and a poison dwarf of communism. After being prominent in the public space over seven decades, he's as active as ever in challenging authority and bringing to light hard truths, not least by pranking and provoking his youngest and most active audience. The film will use Urban's online world to pose contemporary questions like who do we trust in a world of competing truth sand narratives? Are there any limits to free speech? How does Facebook/YT change the way we engage with politics? The story is centered on how Urban – the oldest Youtuber in Poland – is using what he learned as the former head of the communist propaganda machine and taking it up a gear to become an Internet sensation among the young generation entering political life. He engages with hundreds of thousands of fans – and enemies – through his social media presence, all with his usual flair and thick-skinned, unwavering focus. In satirical and shocking short video commentaries he gets to the heart of the issues that truly matter today. The Ultimate Joker is a feature documentary film where Urban's online presence becomes a trigger for a conversation reflecting the modern, digital era. We focus on the man himself, his relentless creativity, his ability to survive the twists and turns of fate, and his capacity for constant self-re-invention. We have exclusive access to Urban and his private family archive of photographs and documents.

SELECTED TO
HISTORY
PITCHING SESSION

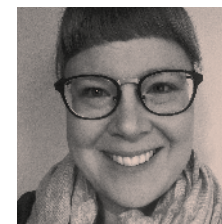
POLISH DELEGATION AT
SUNNY SIDE OF THE DOC 2021



ENGLISH TITLE: THE ULTIMATE JOKER
ORIGINAL TITLE: THE ULTIMATE JOKER
DIRECTOR: KRZYSZTOF DZIĘCIOŁOWSKI
CINEMATOGRAPHER: PAWEŁ BANASIAK
EDITOR: VACAT
PRODUCER: AGATA JUJECZKA
PRODUCTION COMPANY: VISION HOUSE PRODUCTIONS
ESTIMATED RUNNING TIME: 90'/52'
PRODUCTION COUNTRY: POLAND
LANGUAGE: POLISH
PRODUCTION STAGE: DEVELOPMENT
SHOOTING PERIOD: AUGUST 2019 – APRIL 2022
FILM DELIVERY: FEBRUARY 2023
TOTAL BUDGET: 480 000 EUR
STILL NEEDED: 480 000 EUR
CONFIRMED PARTNERS: –
LOOKING FOR: BROADCASTERS, FINANCIERS, CO-PRODUCERS
CONTACT:
PRODUCER'S E-MAIL: AJ@VISIONHOUSE.EU
DIRECTOR'S E-MAIL: KDZ@VISIONHOUSE.EU

Krzysztof Dzięciołowski DIRECTOR

He is a filmmaker and journalist, founder and partner at VisionHouse Productions in Poland. His experience encompasses work on documentaries, entertainment shows, current affairs and news. He regularly cooperates with the BBC, AlJazeera English, Discovery Channel, TVP, Euronews, DR, NHK, SVT, and many others. Journalist Fellow at the Reuters Institute, Oxford University. He made documentary films *Chopin Reloaded* for BBC/TVP (2010), *Did they really find a Gold Train* for Discovery (2016), *Omar. How not to be different* for Al Jazeera Documentary Channel (2020).



Agata Jujeczka
PRODUCER

VISION HOUSE PRODUCTIONS over 20 years Vision House Productions have gained the trust of partners such as BBC, Discovery, AlJazeera, TVP, CNN, Arte and worked with a range of personalities like Greta Thunberg, Bear Grylls, Jerry Springer or Lisa Kudrow to name a few. VHP is one of the leading Polish production companies with experience in filming and providing production services in places such as prisons, military posts, shipyards, nuclear plants, national parks, medieval castles, studios, the war zone in Ukraine. VHP makes films with international partners with the help of cultural institutions in Poland.





DIR. PAWEŁ HEJBUDZKI

Base 13

Children's karting is a high-risk sport. Extremely young children sit behind the wheels of go-karts speeding at 80 km/h (50 mph). Although the chance for success is small, the pressure is enormous.

Base 13 is a documentary about ambition and dreams in the world of children's kart racing.

We discover it through the story of 9-year-old Mateusz and his family. The family is the concern of all the side plots directly connected to the main plot. Mateusz has been driving go-karts for a few years. His father is upset when the boy finishes races as one of the last. Racing is his way of turning the gentle boy into a 'real man'. Mateusz has strong support from his mother Emilia and his younger brother Oliwier, who is beginning to race as well. Mateusz's friend Zosia is his peer. She wants to race against the best. Her father — a former kart racer and kick-boxer, an ambitious, but lost man — believes in his daughter and reinforces her desire for rivalry. He can't afford to keep the girl playing the expensive sport though. He also has to go to jail for his past sins. We accompany Mateusz while he changes his coach. Now, he will race alongside talented kids who impress him very much.

Through Mateusz we learn their individual stories. To everyone's surprise Mateusz's racing skills improve. During the course of the film, we observe our protagonists at the end of the 2020 season and throughout the 2021 season. Zosia's dream of going back to kart racing leads through electric go-kart competitions. Mateusz mostly seeks his father's approval. If he succeeds on the track, he will fulfill the father's expectations. If he fails, he may still recover the last few moments of his childhood.

POLISH DELEGATION AT
SUNNY SIDE OF THE DOC 2021



ENGLISH TITLE: BASE 13
ORIGINAL TITLE: 13 BAZA
DIRECTOR: PAWEŁ HEJBUDZKI
DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY: MICHAŁ MODLINGER
PRODUCER: WOJCIECH KARUBIN
PRODUCTION COMPANY: MOVIE MATES
ESTIMATED RUNNING TIME: 80'
PRODUCTION COUNTRY: POLAND
LANGUAGE: POLISH
PRODUCTION STAGE: SHOOTING
SHOOTING PERIOD: AUGUST 2020 – DECEMBER 2021
FILM DELIVERY: MAY 2022
TOTAL BUDGET: 170 000 EUR
STILL NEEDED: 137 000 EUR
CONFIRMED PARTNERS: TELEWIZJA POLSKA S.A.
LOOKING FOR: CO-PRODUCERS, FINANCING, FESTIVALS, BROADCASTERS
CONTACT: +48 501159828
PRODUCER'S E-MAIL: WOJTEK@MOVIEMATES.EU
DIRECTOR'S E-MAIL: PAWEŁ.HEJBUDZKI@GMAIL.COM

Paweł Hejbudzki DIRECTOR

Graduated from film directing at the Warsaw Film School. In 2006 his short documentary *State of Mind* won the Independent Cinema Competition at the 11th Lato Filmów FF. His graduation film – the short feature *Charon* – won the Grand Prix for Best Short Film at the 40th Gdynia Film Festival in 2015. In 2020 he made his full-length documentary debut with *Say Yes or No* that premiered during the 17th Millennium Docs Against Gravity.



Wojciech Karubin
PRODUCER



Ewelina Jasińska
PRODUCER

MOVIE MATES is a Warsaw based studio that produces documentary films and TV series combining artistic value with attractive narratives. Established in 2012, the company possesses its own production and (partially) postproduction equipment, which allows it to develop top level film projects. Movie Mates also works in film distribution, mostly among airlines and through VOD.



ENGLISH TITLE: ABOU'S JOURNEY
ORIGINAL TITLE: PODRÓŻ ABOU
DIRECTOR: GOSIA JUSZCZAK
DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY: TBC
PRODUCER: GOSIA JUSZCZAK
ESTIMATED RUNNING TIME: 52'/70'
PRODUCTION COUNTRY: POLAND
LANGUAGE: ENGLISH, SPANISH, WOLOF
PRODUCTION STAGE: DEVELOPMENT
SHOOTING PERIOD: JUNE 2021 – JANUARY 2023
FILM DELIVERY: JULY 2024
TOTAL BUDGET: 130 000 EUR
STILL NEEDED: 100 000 EUR
CONFIRMED PARTNERS: —
LOOKING FOR: CO-PRODUCER, FINANCING, DISTRIBUTION
CONTACT: +48 694022640
PRODUCER'S E-MAIL: GOSIAPAULINAJUSZCZAK@GMAIL.COM
DIRECTOR'S E-MAIL: GOSIAPAULINAJUSZCZAK@GMAIL.COM

DIR. **GOSIA JUSZCZAK**

Abou's Journey

A fisherman from Gambia, migrates to Europe in a desperate move to provide for his family. But his daughter Mariama is threatened with genital mutilation. Will he manage to protect her from afar?

Abou, a fisherman from The Gambia and father to six-year-old Mariama, loses his livelihood as Chinese investors plunder the country's coast. After nine days at sea in an overcrowded canoe, Abou barely reaches Spain. The illusion of paradise Europe slowly fades away as the kafkaesque administrative process unfolds. Taken from one migrant center to another, with no possibility to work, Abou starts losing hope. After all, he risked his life to take his family out of poverty — a responsibility each Gambian son carries on his shoulders. But what really keeps him going is his daughter Mariama. And Abou bares a painful conflict inside. To secure her education and wellbeing, he had to leave her behind in the Gambia, while Mariama is threatened with female genital mutilation — a practice the girl's mother wants to perpetuate and one that Abou fiercely opposes. Abou's journey is threefold: it starts with his life-risking journey to Spain, then his journey of building a new life in Europe, and finally a journey of finding ways to protect his daughter. To do this, he will engage in the fight against the practice of FGM within his own migrant community in Spain. Although turmoiled inside, Abou likes to make people laugh and fights obstacles with humor. Will creativity win over impotence and despair? Will he manage to bring his daughter to Spain? A bitter-sweet tale of resilience that takes a global story to a very personal level.



Gosia Juszcak

DIRECTOR & PRODUCER

An independent producer and film director based in Poland and Spain. She is mostly focused on documentaries with a social angle, but also music videos and other productions. Her latest documentary production, Stolen Fish, was ranked by 'VICE Magazine' as one of the 10 most recommended and radical films to see at Sheffield Doc/Fest. The film received a special mention at the Afrykamera Film Festival.

POLISH DELEGATION AT
SUNNY SIDE OF THE DOC 2021





DIR. PAWEŁ CHORZĘPA

Father and Son

The story of a fatherson relationship during the Dakar Rally, where the son fights for the highest position and the father – his coach – for the son to survive this murderous race.

The movie is a story of the relation between the father and the son, recorded during the 14-day competition of one of the most important and most dangerous rallies in the world, the Dakar rally. However, Dakar is only a context. Everything happens in the backstage: at the bivouac from which Konrad Dąbrowski, a 19 year old competitor starts off and where he finishes every day. Also there, his father, Marek Dąbrowski, a threetime runner up in offroad rallies, waits for him all the time. For Konrad this is first start in such a big rally. He is the youngest participant in the history of the raid. His father, who is his coach, is terrified by the thought that his son may have an accident. He tries to emotionally prepare the boy in the way that the accident would be avoided, to drive as slowly as possible. The goal is simply — not getting an impressive place, but to pass the rally. The twoweek fight, consisting of the sleep deprivation and manyhour concentration, makes the participants exhausted, thanks to which their true nature is revealed.

ENGLISH TITLE: FATHER AND SON
ORIGINAL TITLE: OJCIEC I SYN
DIRECTOR: PAWEŁ CHORZĘPA
DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY: PAWEŁ CHORZĘPA
EDITOR: KATARZYNA ORZECZOWSKA
PRODUCER: JOANNA DOBRZAŃSKA
PRODUCTION COMPANY: BEES FILM HOUSE
ESTIMATED RUNNING TIME: 41'
PRODUCTION COUNTRY: POLAND
LANGUAGE: POLISH, ENGLISH
PRODUCTION STAGE: EDITING
SHOOTING PERIOD: JANUARY 2021
FILM DELIVERY: MARCH 2022
TOTAL BUDGET: 140 000 EUR
STILL NEEDED: 70 000 EUR
CONFIRMED PARTNERS: TELEWIZJA POLSKA S.A.
LOOKING FOR: FESTIVALS, SALES AGENT, BROADCASTERS
CONTACT: +48 604166922
PRODUCER'S E-MAIL: BEESFILMHOUSE@GMAIL.COM
DIRECTOR'S E-MAIL: PAWELPIOTRCHORZEPA@GMAIL.COM

Paweł Chorzępa DIRECTOR

Director and cinematographer. Director of cinematography for documentary and feature films directed by M. Minorowicz, M. Pawluczuk, A. Elbanowska, P. Stasik, L. Duda, M. Bochniak. His debut midlength documentary *Sonny* had its premiere at IDFA Film Festival (2019) and then won many international and national awards (among others: Krakow Film Festival, MiradasDoc, Verzio International HumanRights FF, Młodzi i Film FF, Gdańsk Doc Film, Solanin, Off Cinema).



Joanna Dobrzańska
PRODUCER

BEES FILM HOUSE company was established in 2019 out of the need for film director and cinematographer Paweł Chorzępa and producer Joanna Dobrzańska to create documentary films. The first project realized by the company as an executive producer is the mid-length documentary *Sonny* by Paweł Chorzępa. Currently working on four documentary projects: a full-length documentaries *Gobi* and *Debut*, short-length documentary *The Tuner* and mid-length documentary *Father and Son*.

POLISH DELEGATION AT
SUNNY SIDE OF THE DOC 2021





DIR. **WERONIKA MLCZEWSKA**

Child of Dust

Sang is an unwanted kid from the Vietnam war. After a life of discrimination, miraculously he finds his father. Before they meet, Sang wants to mend his broken bonds with his kids to change his karma. Finding his father was an unattainable dream for 54 year old Sang.

As an Amerasian, child of a Vietnamese woman and an American soldier, he was pushed to the bottom of the social hierarchy. In a country where having a father is a minimum requirement to have a status and respect, Sang suffered from poverty and persecution. Despite this, he managed to meet a woman who loved him. With Lan he started a family, but their life is far from easy. Still living on the edge of poverty, they believe that the 'curse' of the Sang family haunts them. One day, Sang finds out that his 75-year-old father Nelson lives in distant New York.

Suddenly, Sang finds a sense of belonging and his own identity. Their first meeting via Skype leaves no doubt that while Nelson sympathises with Sang, the situation is not comfortable for him at all. He confesses that the relationship with Sang's mother was a fling, saving him from the darkness of war and that the Vietnamese still appear to him as his greatest enemies after all these years. Sang doesn't seem to hear this and nurtures his adoration for his father. Nelson invites Sang to the US. Prolonging visa process gives Sang time to sort out his issues in order to finally reverse his life's curse. Following his wife's advice, he decides to ease karma and repair relationship with his daughters. Sang embarks on a journey to become a better father to his children, before he meets his own father. Will this be the path to a new and happy life?

POLISH DELEGATION AT
SUNNY SIDE OF THE DOC 2021



ENGLISH TITLE: CHILD OF DUST
ORIGINAL TITLE: DZIECKO Z PYŁU
DIRECTOR: WERONIKA MLCZEWSKA
DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY: TBC
EDITOR: TBC
PRODUCER: WERONIKA MLCZEWSKA, MIKAEL LYPINSKI
PRODUCTION COMPANY: YA MAN STUDIO
ESTIMATED RUNNING TIME: 72'
PRODUCTION COUNTRY: POLAND
LANGUAGE: VIETNAMESE, ENGLISH
PRODUCTION STAGE: DEVELOPMENT
SHOOTING PERIOD: JANUARY 2021 – MARCH 2022
FILM DELIVERY: JANUARY 2023
TOTAL BUDGET: 213 013 EUR
STILL NEEDED: 128 445 EUR
CONFIRMED PARTNERS: AGAINST GRAVITY, TVP
LOOKING FOR: BROADCASTERS, FINANCING, SALES AGENTS
CONTACT:
PRODUCER'S E-MAIL: W.MLCZEWSKA@GMAIL.COM, KASIA@HAKAFILMS.COM
DIRECTOR'S E-MAIL: W.MLCZEWSKA@GMAIL.COM

Weronika Mliczewska DIRECTOR

Director, producer, photographer, traveler. She directed documentaries like *Speechless in Japan* (2016), *Long Way* (2017) and *Catalonian Dream* (2020) that she also produced. Apart from the film experience, her track record is based on her work as a photographer. Using her anthropological education, she travels all over the world documenting rituals and everyday life of people from the most remote corners of the globe.



Weronika Mliczewska
PRODUCER

YA MAN STUDIO continues the work of its predecessor of the same name, which productions include documentaries by Weronika Mliczewska: *Catalan Dream* filmed in Spain, *Speechless in Japan* or a short film titled *The Cycle* shot in the USA. The co-founder of the company is Mikael Lypinski who has credits as producer of *Desert Coffee* and *Unpaved*. The company's profile includes films dealing with cultural diversity, forgotten voices and minorities.



DIR. PAOLO VOLPONI

The Tiger Spirit. The Race to Save Malaysia's Last Tigers

A biologist-filmmaker couple postpone their research to join the battle being fought for Malaysia's last tigers. Will their documentary improve the chances of local people to save tigers?

An Orang Asli from a local tribe, ranger of Malaysia's Royal Belum State Park, Mazlan, traverses the jungle tracking poachers. The terrifying roar of a tiger entangled in snares makes him freeze motionless. The shot ends abruptly, but the animal's agonised growl remains. Deep in the Malaysian rainforest a scientific expedition of a filmmaker and biologist from Poland, husband and wife, is crushed by a scene of a dying animal trapped in snares. Struck, the couple decides to postpone their studies to make a film about the battle being fought against poachers who are killing the last Malayan tigers (only 150 remain in the wild). The European couple teams up with park rangers who have been fighting poachers for years: Mazlan, leader of a rescue mission to save a tiger entangled in snares, who has dedicated his life to saving these animals and his friend Zamrud, the team's guide through local culture. Biologist Marta investigates the poaching drama which takes her along poachers' tracks in the tropical rainforest, through the illegal trade of animal body parts and to a highly secure prison. Filmmaker Paolo tries to capture the first ever image of a wild Malayan tiger in the impenetrable jungle with the use of 4K custom-made camera traps. Will their documentary improve the chances of local people to save tigers and raise awareness about the battle being fought?

POLISH DELEGATION AT
SUNNY SIDE OF THE DOC 2021



ENGLISH TITLE: THE TIGER SPIRIT. THE RACE TO SAVE MALAYSIA'S LAST TIGERS

ORIGINAL TITLE: DUSZA TYGRYSA. WALKA O OSTATNIE TYGRYSY MALAJSKIE

DIRECTOR: PAOLO VOLPONI

CINEMATOGRAPHER: PAOLO VOLPONI

EDITOR: VACANCY

PRODUCER: PAOLO VOLPONI

PRODUCTION COMPANY: CLEARWING FOUNDATION FOR BIODIVERSITY

ESTIMATED RUNNING TIME: 52'/90'

PRODUCTION COUNTRY: POLAND

LANGUAGE: POLISH, ENGLISH

PRODUCTION STAGE: PRODUCTION

SHOOTING PERIOD: FEBRUARY 2022 – OCTOBER 2022

FILM DELIVERY: SPRING 2023

TOTAL BUDGET: 294 000 EUR

STILL NEEDED: 100 000 EUR

CONFIRMED PARTNERS: POLISH FILM INSTITUTE (POLAND), PLANTZANIA SDN BHD (MALAYSIA), PERAK STATE PARKS CORPORATION (MALAYSIA)

LOOKING FOR: COPRODUCTION MONEY TO COMPLETE THE FILM BUDGET

CONTACT: PRODUCER'S E-MAIL: PVOLPONI68@GMAIL.COM

DIRECTOR'S E-MAIL: PVOLPONI68@GMAIL.COM

Paolo Volponi DIRECTOR

He started his career as a photographer for National Geographic Poland. He switched to filmmaking (writing, filming and directing his own films) for the sake of showing his own point of view. As director, cameraman, editor, coproducer Paolo fulfilled: *Last European Wild Horses* – Mention for Artistic Approach 32nd IWFF Montana; *The Gods of the Mountains* (RAI3) – winner at Scanno Festival Italy 2011; *The Vistula River* (TVP1); *Biebrza – the European Amazon* (TVP1); *Marta in the Jungle* (FokusTV).



Paolo Volponi
PRODUCER

CLEARWING FOUNDATION – a new NGO with a fresh approach to raising awareness about nature conservation through film production, research and education campaigns. In 2020 we gained funding from Polish Film Institute for *The Tiger Spirit. The Race to Save Malaysia's Last Tigers* (development and production stages).



POLISH DOCS PRO AT SUNNY SIDE OF THE DOC 2021
IS ORGANIZED WITH THE FINANCIAL SUPPORT OF THE POLISH FILM INSTITUTE AND
THE MINISTRY OF CULTURE, NATIONAL HERITAGE AND SPORT OF THE REPUBLIC OF POLAND