



2022

**POLISH
DOCS
PRO**

**POLISH DOCS PRO DELEGATION
EFM – EUROPEAN FILM MARKET
BERLINALE**

2022

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.

**POLISH
DOCS
PRO**

POLISH DOCS PRO ROUGH CUT PRESENTATIONS

14 FEBRUARY / 15:30–16:30 / ONLINE / ACCESS: ONLINE MARKET BADGE

[MORE INFO HERE](#)

Organized by the Krakow Film Foundation **POLISH DOCS PRO** Rough Cut Showcase at EFM Berlinale presents Polish creative documentary projects at the final stage of the production. It consists of the pitching of 4 projects by talented filmmakers and experienced producers and will be followed by the individual meetings with the decision makers. These projects include:



Boylesque

BY **BOGNA KOWALCZYK**

Lula is an 82-year-old drag queen. Despite his awareness of the inevitability of ageing and, eventually, dying, his energy and positivity are palpable. His life journey takes a new turn as he decides to find love one last time.



Leon

BY **WOJCIECH GOSTOMCZYK**

A performative artist Leon creating his dream project he finds himself in conflict with society and family, including his boyfriend, Manfred Thierry Mugler.



Flight

BY **ANNA ZAKRZEWSKA,
ŁUKASZ RONDUDA**

A story about a spectacular sculpture, documenting not only the artist's dramatic story but also the fate of a divided country after the presidential plane disaster in 2010.



The Fledglings

BY **LIDIA DUDA**

Zosia, Oskar and Kinga – though still fledglings, they must leave their families to learn how to spread their wings.

The presentation is followed by individual meetings with the decision makers in order to find partners, sales agents and international festival premieres. **If you would like to set up a meeting, please send the request to: Katarzyna Wilk, katarzyna@kff.com.pl**

2022

MEMBERS OF THE DELEGATION

PARTICIPANTS / PRODUCERS



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Boylesque

Lula is an 82-year-old drag queen. Despite his awareness of the inevitability of ageing and, eventually, dying, his energy and positivity are palpable. His life journey takes a new turn as he decides to find love one last time.

Even a short gaze into Lula's eyes reveals a volcano of energy, which lies hidden behind his aging body. In 1970s communist Poland, Lula was known for organizing subversive, underground parties. After curfew, in private apartments, he and his ever-growing group of friends felt liberated from the correctness required of everyone in the People's Republic of Poland. Lula had ideas, was a leader.

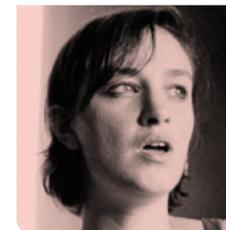
His inner energy and persistence may have saved him from a fate that Maciek, his closest friend, unfortunately met. Maciek's suicide left Lula in pain and mourning. However, knowing that remaining active is the only thing that can save him from growing bitter and stagnant, he decided to move on.

Lula was born in the late 1930s. He was a child during wartime, an openly gay man in communist Poland and an active drag queen in a homophobic country. Now, he is an old man in a youth-oriented world. It seems that he has always been a misfit, yet he managed to survive without becoming a cynic.

In order to get to know himself again and find his place in the world, Lula has to face the way he is perceived by himself and by others. In an attempt to escape loneliness, he visits a friend living in a resort for seniors. It takes a lot of convincing to get her to go out dancing. At the club, Lula discovers that his energy level exceeds that of his peers. Next, he attempts to return to the days of his youth. Him and his new friends, 50 years his junior, visit Berlin to attend a parade. There, balloons and glitter in the air, Lula is rid of all problems, at least for a while. Still, it does not make him feel like himself. His friend

Damian (30) does everything in his power to make Lula feel good, but the generation gap becomes apparent once Lula's body cannot keep up with the youths. Looking for connections and intimacy, Lula embarks on a journey that brings romantic sadness and carefree joy. In the course of the film, he discovers that being a dreamer is both a blessing and a curse.

ENGLISH TITLE: BOYLESQUE
ORIGINAL TITLE: BOYLESQUE
DIRECTOR: BOGNA KOWALCZYK
CINEMATOGRAPHER: MIŁOSZ KASIURA
EDITOR: KRZYSZTOF KOMANDER,
KACPER PLAWGO
PRODUCER: TOMASZ MORAWSKI,
KATARZYNA KUCZYŃSKA
PRODUCTION COMPANY: HAKA FILMS
ESTIMATED RUNNING TIME: 70'
PRODUCTION COUNTRY: POLAND,
CZECH REPUBLIC
LANGUAGE: POLISH
PRODUCTION STAGE: POST-PRODUCTION
SHOOTING PERIOD: JULY 2018 –
JUNE 2020
FILM DELIVERY: MAY 2022
CONFIRMED PARTNERS: BIONAUT,
THE MAZOVIA INSTITUTE OF CULTURE
LOOKING FOR: BROADCASTERS, SALES
AGENT, FESTIVALS, FUNDS
CONTACT / PRODUCER'S E-MAIL:
kasia@hakafilms.com
CONTACT / DIRECTOR'S E-MAIL:
kowalczykbogna@gmail.com



Bogna Kowalczyk

DIRECTOR

Director and animator. In September 2017 she graduated from Animation Department at Lodz Film School. She currently works as creative art director,

director and animator at Warsaw Production. Her work often combines traditional techniques with a modern approach. Since 2009 she has been directing animations and music videos and supported dozens of student productions as animator, CGI expert, script doctor and assistant director. She has worked with Universal, Sony, Netflix and other big commercial companies.



Katarzyna Kuczyńska

PRODUCER

HAKA FILMS is a production company focused on artistic productions as well as commercial content. Its goal is to produce deep, moving

documentaries with protagonists of flesh and blood as well as thrilling fiction films based on amazing scripts and produced with highest care. The company currently has 3 documentaries in production: *Lili* by Sylwia Rosak, *Boylesque* by Bogna Kowalczyk and *One for the Team* by Katarzyna Wiśniowska. Haka Films is also a co-producer of Alisa Kovalenko's documentary film *Expedition 49*.



Flight

A story about a spectacular sculpture, documenting not only the artist's dramatic story but also the fate of a divided country after the presidential plane disaster in 2010.

During the 58th Venice Biennale, artist Roman Stańczak literally turned a luxury airplane inside out. The recording of his creative process is the starting point for the story of the dramatic fate of an artist who has been living in limbo, excluded from the world of art for many years. As he returns to that realm, almost immediately he designs a sculpture for the most important artistic event in the world. In the 1990s Roman Stańczak was one of the most promising young artists in Poland. Following the fall of communism, his works contested the emerging culture of consumerism and capitalism. In his controversial performances, he balanced on the thin line between life and death. The artist's self-destructive tendencies, which appeared in his art, also dominated his life. Stańczak plunged into alcoholism and experienced homelessness. The art world was busy with 'new', younger talent and forgot about the artist for some time but a chance meeting with a friend from the Fine Arts Academy turned Stańczak's fate around – he got a job that would help him deal with the demons of the past. *Flight* is a polyphonic narrative depicting the artist, his internal conflicts, and recovery. It is a film collage that combines his performances, private archives, contemporary recordings, and conversations with people who know him. One of the film's directors is Łukasz Ronduda – an artist awarded at the Berlinale (2015) and winner of the Golden Lions at the Polish Film Festival in Gdynia in 2021.

ENGLISH TITLE: FLIGHT
ORIGINAL TITLE: LOT
DIRECTOR: ANNA ZAKRZEWSKA,
ŁUKASZ RONDUDA
CINEMATOGRAPHER: NICOLAS VILLEGAS
EDITOR: NIKODEM CHABIOR
PRODUCER: ANNA GAWLITA
PRODUCTION COMPANY: KIJORA FILM
ESTIMATED RUNNING TIME: 70'
PRODUCTION COUNTRY: POLAND
LANGUAGE: POLISH
PRODUCTION STAGE: POST-PRODUCTION
SHOOTING PERIOD: 2019–2021
FILM DELIVERY: 2022

CONFIRMED PARTNERS: POLISH FILM
INSTITUTE, ZACHĘTA – NATIONAL GALLERY
OF ART, FINA, TVP POLISH TELEVISION
LOOKING FOR: BROADCASTERS, SALES
AGENT, FESTIVALS
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rondudalukasz@gmail.com



Anna Zakrzewska

DIRECTOR

Film and television director and screenwriter. In 2011, her film *KwieKulik* about the legendary artistic duo was awarded at the Krakow Film Festival. She is also the co-author of the documentary about Alina Szapocznikow *Every Touch Leaves a Trace* and many short intimate portraits of most important Polish artists. Her films have been shown at festivals and art galleries in Poland and abroad.



Łukasz Ronduda

DIRECTOR

Director, scriptwriter and curator of modern art. His 2015 debut *The Performer* was screened at the Berlinale and won the Think: Film Award for its 'creative use of the medium to grasp and reflect geopolitical contexts artistically.' In 2017 his *A Heart of Love* had a premiere at Berlinale and Rotterdam Film Festival. His latests feature *Fears* inspired by life and work of Daniel Rycharski won Golden Lion at Festival of Polish Films in Gdynia.



Anna Gawlita

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.



Leon

A performative artist Leon rejects limits between art and life. Creating his dream project he finds himself in conflict with society and family, including his boyfriend, Manfred Thierry Mugler.

A bald guy in his 60's paints his naked body in red, runs around the streets in silver high heel shoes or walks along the beach dressed in colorful feathers, making weird loud noises. His name is Leon and he is one of the most famous and radical performative artists. He's inspired by drag queens, cabaret, rituals and he introduces these forms of expression to everyday life. For him there are no limits between art and life. We meet Leon when his career seems to have faded away, he feels useless and lost. So he decides to create his last big show *Opus Magnum* to feel appreciated again. Being truthful to his art puts Leon in conflict with his loved ones. As a fragile, sensitive person, Leon cares deeply for his father and son, but at the same time is not able to adjust to the norms of society. The only person who seems to understand him is Manfred Thierry Mugler, famous fashion designer, and his boyfriend. Mugler is drawn by Leon's creativity and bravery in exceeding artistic limits. They have been in a tender relationship for the last 6 years but even they have their ups and downs due to economical inequalities. Leon is completely dependent on Manfred's money and it doesn't go well with his need for freedom. When things go wrong, Leon jumps into the dark hole of alcohol and numbness. And what can go more wrong than the sudden and unexpected death of his beloved Manfred. Leon is not only an intimate portrait of a troubled artist but also a film about passion, love, facing darkness and bravery to live on your own terms. And above all, about learning to accept one's failures.

ENGLISH TITLE: LEON
ORIGINAL TITLE: LEON
DIRECTOR: WOJCIECH GOSTOMCZYK
DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY: MARCIN SAUTER
EDITOR: KATARZYNA ORZECZOWSKA
PRODUCER: WOJCIECH GOSTOMCZYK
CREATIVE PRODUCER: ANNA STYLIŃSKA
PRODUCTION COMPANY: METRAGE STUDIO
ESTIMATED RUNNING TIME: 54/80'
PRODUCTION COUNTRY: POLAND
LANGUAGE: POLISH, ENGLISH
PRODUCTION STAGE: EDITING
SHOOTING PERIOD: MAY 2019 – MARCH 2021
FILM DELIVERY: FEBRUARY 2022
CONFIRMED PARTNERS: CITY OF BYDGOSZCZ, SOPOT AND GDAŃSK
LOOKING FOR: CO-PRODUCERS, SALES, BROADCASTERS
CONTACT / PRODUCER'S E-MAIL: stylowa@gmail.com
CONTACT / DIRECTOR'S E-MAIL: wojciech.gostomczyk@metrage.pl



Wojciech Gostomczyk

DIRECTOR, PRODUCER

Wojciech is a CEO of Metrage Studio, which is a producer of fiction films, including latest Wojtek Smarzowski's movies (*Kler*, *The Wedding Day 2*) and co-producer of Agnieszka's *Holland Charlatan*. Wojciech's background is in business: he is a co-founder and president of the company *Domena.pl*, operating on the Polish market for 15 years. He graduated from Warsaw Film School where he directed short films. *Leon* will be his directing debut.



Anna Stylińska

CREATIVE PRODUCER

METRAGE STUDIO

sets itself ambitious goals and implements them. The company produces and co-produces fiction and documentary films. Metrage Studio is a combination of the business experience of the founders, an efficient organization derived from the success of the Internet advertising industry and the highest quality of film art, which is embodied in the professional path of Wojtek Smarzowski and Janusz Hetman.



The Fledglings

Zosia, Oskar and Kinga – though still fledglings, they must leave their families to learn how to spread their wings.

Full of fantasy and strong character Zosia, insecure, vulnerable Oskar, independent but shy Kinga – these are first-graders entering a boarding school for blind and visually impaired children. They are like fledglings. Too young to leave their family home. In such difficult moments like separation from their parents, and then isolation related to the pandemic, they try to help each other... This is a film about the life lesson of 'flying'.

ENGLISH TITLE: THE FLEDGLINGS
ORIGINAL TITLE: PISKLAKI
DIRECTOR: LIDIA DUDA
CINEMATOGRAPHER: WOJCIECH STAROŃ
EDITOR: JAKUB ŚLADKOWSKI
PRODUCER: ANNA BŁAWUT-
-MAZURKIEWICZ
PRODUCTION COMPANY: AURA FILMS
ESTIMATED RUNNING TIME: 85'
PRODUCTION COUNTRY: POLAND
LANGUAGE: POLISH
PRODUCTION STAGE: COMPLETED
SHOOTING PERIOD: –
FILM DELIVERY: SPRING 2022
CONFIRMED PARTNERS: TVP
LOOKING FOR: FESTIVALS, SALES,
BROADCASTERS
CONTACT / PRODUCER'S E-MAIL:
ania.blawut@gmail.com



Lidia Duda

DIRECTOR

Screenwriter and documentary film director. Her achievements include a number of important documentaries. Twice she received the Grand Prix at the Krakow Film Festival

for her film *Hercules* (2005) and *Entangled* (2012). Grand Prix winner, among others: in Chicago, New York, Huston, Istanbul, Mexico, Moscow, Banff, Canton, Prague. Duda is a Grand Press laureate for *At Us in Pietrasze*. She has worked as an independent artist for several years. Member of the Association of Polish Filmmakers, Polish Academy of Film and Polish Documentary Film Directors Guild.



**Agnieszka
Rostropowicz-
-Rutkowska**

PRODUCER'S REPRESENTATIVE

AURA FILMS is a Polish production company focusing on high quality films. We are dedicated to socially engaged

films with distinctive voice and authentic language. We produce our own film projects as well as engage in international co-productions. Our latest film *The Day of Chocolate* premiered at PÖFF Tallinn Black Nights.

2022

www.polishdocs.pl



Ministry of
Culture
and National
Heritage of the
Republic
of Poland

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