

2023

POLISH
DOCS
PRO

POLISH DOCS PRO
AT IDFA INDUSTRY
PROJECTS & DELEGATION INFO

2023

POLISH DOCS PRO – addressed to film professionals, the project 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 SHOWCASE

MONDAY / 13 NOVEMBER / 14.00–15.00

THE PLEINFOYER, INTERNATIONAAL THEATER AMSTERDAM (ITA)

POLISH DOCS PRO SHOWCASE presents Polish creative documentary projects in progress. It consists of the pitching of the projects and is followed by the individual meetings with the decision makers. These projects include:



Eastern Trees

dir.: Agnieszka Zwiefka,
prod.: Zofia Kujawska,
Agnieszka Zwiefka (Chilli
Productions)



Go&See

dir.: Julia Kuzka,
prod.: Małgorzata Małtysa,
Karolina Gałuba (Furia Film)



Hasan's Joy

dir.: Natalia Pietsch,
Grzegorz Piekarski,
prod.: Katarzyna Kostecka
(Larmo)



Superhumans

dir.: Małgorzata Szumowska,
prod.: Małgorzata Szumowska,
Klaudia Śmieja, Małgorzata
Kozioł (Nowhere Films)

2023

The delegation consists of the producers representing production companies: Larmo, Nowhere Films, Furia Film and Chilli Productions. The key event is the showcase presenting four the most interesting Polish creative documentary projects in progress. The session is followed by individual meetings with the decision makers.

The delegation is organized by the Krakow Film Foundation as a part of Polish Docs PRO project 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. It is co-financed from the state budget from the funds of the Minister of Culture and National Heritage of the Republic of Poland.

POLISH DOCS PRO DELEGATION



Katarzyna Kostecka

PRODUCER

LARMO

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Małgorzata Małysa

PRODUCER

FURIA FILM

malgorzata.malysa@furiafilm.pl

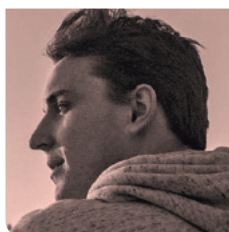


Małgorzata Koziol

PRODUCER

NOWHERE FILMS

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Grzegorz Piekarski

DIRECTOR



Zofia Kujawska

PRODUCER

CHILLI PRODUCTIONS

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Agnieszka Zwiefka

DIRECTOR, PRODUCER

CHILLI PRODUCTIONS

zwiefka@chilliproductions.com

DELEGATION ORGANISERS



Katarzyna Wilk

DELEGATION ORGANISER

KFF INDUSTRY /
KFF SALES & PROMOTION

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Eastern Trees

After her mom's tragic death on the Polish-Belarusian border a 16-year-old Kurdish girl Runa has to become a mother for her 4 younger brothers. A partially animated coming-of-age story in the times of a global refugee crisis.

When her mother freezes to death in the forest on the Polish-Belarusian border, a 16-year-old Kurdish girl Runa has to quickly grow up to take care of her 4 younger brothers and helpless, depressed father. The family deals with trauma in a refugee camp and tries to establish a new life in increasingly nationalistic Poland. Runa's greatest fear is being forced to return to Iraq, where Kurds face the threat of ISIS. She wants to live like her newfound European friends and become a lawyer. But just as her dream of going back to school comes true, another threat appears – the threat of deportation. Runa's escape from everyday problems is a sketchbook filled with drawings that express what she feels. Gradually, her drawings come to life. The film is a partially animated coming of age story in the times of the global refugee crisis.



**POLISH DOCS PRO
DELEGATION AT
IDFA INDUSTRY 2023**

ENGLISH TITLE: EASTERN TREES
ORIGINAL TITLE: EASTERN TREES
DIRECTOR: AGNIESZKA ZWIEFKA
DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY:

KACPER CZUBAK

EDITOR: MICHAŁ BUCZEK

PRODUCER: ZOFIA KUJAWSKA,
AGNIESZKA ZWIEFKA

PRODUCTION COMPANY: CHILLI
PRODUCTIONS

ESTIMATED RUNNING TIME: 82'

PRODUCTION COUNTRY: POLAND,
GERMANY, DENMARK

LANGUAGE: KURDISH, POLISH, ENGLISH

PRODUCTION STAGE: ROUGH CUT

SHOOTING PERIOD: NOVEMBER 2021 –
OCTOBER 2023

FILM DELIVERY: 2024

TOTAL BUDGET: 327 600 EUR

STILL NEEDED: 55 000 EUR

CONFIRMED PARTNERS: MA.JA.DE. GMBH,

SWR/ARTE, HELSINKI FOUNDATION FOR

HUMAN RIGHTS, LOWER SILESIA FILM

FUND, LODZ FILM FUND, GDANSK FILM

FUND, MX35, NO PROBLEMO MUSIC

LOOKING FOR: SALES AGENT, FESTIVALS,
DISTRIBUTION

CONTACT / PRODUCER'S E-MAIL:

z.kujawska@gmail.com

CONTACT / DIRECTOR'S E-MAIL:

zwiefka@chilliproductions.com



Agnieszka Zwiefka

DIRECTOR

An award-winning filmmaker. Her films *The Queen of Silence* (2014) and *Scars* (2020) were screened at festivals worldwide. In her films she balances between

reality and fantasy, creating hybrids that cross the border between documentary and fiction. Member of European Film Academy (EFA). Alumna of workshops Dok.Incubator, ScripTeast, Nipkow Programme and Berlinale Talents as well as Meryl Streep's and Nicole Kidman's The Writers Lab.



Zofia Kujawska

PRODUCER

CHILLI PRODUCTIONS

is a documentary film production company founded by Agnieszka Zwiefka in 2010. Chilli Productions is the Polish producer of documentary

films *The Queen of Silence* (2014) and *Scars* (2020) – films awarded at festivals worldwide, as well as co-producer of the films *Vika!* (2023) and *Albert Cinema* (2013). Currently, it is developing the documentary film *Words We Never Say* in co-production with Spain, as well as *Eastern Trees* in co-production with Denmark and Germany.



Go&See

Go&See is a story about sisterhood and family bonds. About tightening and loosening them so that they are not broken.

We follow two sisters. For the younger one (Hania), her trip to Japan is her first step into independence and the adult world, putting up her boundaries and learning about herself. It's an entry into an exciting new world that she has only heard about. Hania doesn't think about the consequences. She doesn't understand that her parents' resistance, supported by her older sister, is not aimed at destroying her dreams, but is only out of concern for her.

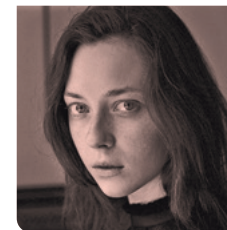
Her older sister (Weronika), whose modelling career was unexpectedly ended when she became pregnant, has decided to make a home with her husband in London. She doesn't feel comfortable there, and not just because of pregnancy ailments: it has become apparent that, for a former model living out of suitcases for years, having constancy and stability is crucial. Weronika misses her family and feels that the bond between them has loosened over the years of her absence. The door to the world she has lived in for the past years, to a career has closed irretrievably, and the door to a new life, a new home, a new family – is still closed.



**POLISH DOCS PRO
DELEGATION AT
IDFA INDUSTRY 2023**

ENGLISH TITLE: GO&SEE
ORIGINAL TITLE: GO&SEE
DIRECTOR: JULIA KUZKA
DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY:
AGNIESZKA KOKOWSKA
EDITOR: YAKIV KOMARYNSKY
PRODUCER: MAŁGORZATA MAŁYSA
PRODUCTION COMPANY: FURIA FILM
ESTIMATED RUNNING TIME: 50'
PRODUCTION COUNTRY: POLAND
LANGUAGE: POLISH
PRODUCTION STAGE: PRODUCTION
FILM DELIVERY: FEBRUARY 2024
TOTAL BUDGET: 200 000 EUR
STILL NEEDED: 100 000 EUR
CONFIRMED PARTNERS: CANAL+
(CO-PRODUCER), COLOROFFON
(POST PRODUCTION), AGAINST GRAVITY
(POLISH DISTRIBUTOR)
LOOKING FOR: FINANCING

CONTACT / PRODUCER'S E-MAIL:
malgorzata.malysa@furiafilm.pl
CONTACT / DIRECTOR'S E-MAIL:
juliakuzka@gmail.com



Julia Kuzka
DIRECTOR

Film director, actress, model and music and film therapist. Graduated from the Doc Development course, Warsaw Film School and State School of Music. Her work in film industry begun in 2011 at first as actress working with Polish best directors (Jan P. Matuszyński, Leszek Dawid, Łukasz Grzegorzek, Jan Komasa). As a model she worked all over the world for the biggest brands and magazines. She already directed shorts and commercials. *Go&See* is her feature debut.



Małgorzata Małysa
PRODUCER

FURIA FILM production company is run by graduates of the Program for Creative Producers at the Wajda School. Producers and production managers with experience in both feature films and documentaries Małgorzata Małysa and Karolina Galuba.



Hasan's Joy

How to remain calm in the face of impending disaster? The answer is 'keyf' – the Middle Eastern art of taking pleasure in being 'here and now.'

New Hasankeyf is a desert utopia town built by the Turkish government and intended for 700 families. Singles were not given estates here. All residents are equal by definition, which is why they received identical houses during the lottery.

They have identical playgrounds and identical small backyards that haven't had time to grow plants yet. In the name of modernity, they were ordered to sell their animals, so they no longer deal with the hard work of shepherds but live on the compensation granted to them for moving here. Two kilometers away, deep under the water, there are ruins of Old Hasankeyf, an ancient town with a 10,000-year history of settlement which was flooded due to the construction of the dam at

Ilisu on the Tigris River. On the roof of a sunken house, Arabic barber Burak is fishing with his deaf father. Nearby, Rengin, a young Kurdish guide, swims on one of the noisy tourist ships. We go back with her to the times when she lived with her big family in a small house carved in the rock and surrounded by sheep, and when Burak ran a barbershop together with his father in the historic center of the town. When were the people of Hasankeyf the most happy? The period of moving was the time of total destruction of the town. Many ordinary buildings had to be demolished to create space for transport of the historic monuments. It was also surprisingly the moment when the residents have been maintaining their dignity and peace. Will they be able to maintain the same joy in their perfect new town?



**POLISH DOCS PRO
DELEGATION AT
IDFA INDUSTRY 2023**

ENGLISH TITLE: HASAN'S JOY
ORIGINAL TITLE: RADOŚĆ HASANA
DIRECTOR: NATALIA PIETSCH,
GRZEGORZ PIEKARSKI
DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY:
NATALIA PIETSCH, GRZEGORZ PIEKARSKI
EDITOR: ALAN ZEJER
PRODUCER: KATARZYNA KOSTECKA
PRODUCTION COMPANY: LARMO
ESTIMATED RUNNING TIME: 63'72"
PRODUCTION COUNTRY: POLAND
LANGUAGE: TURKISH, ARABIC, KURDISH
(SUBTITLED TO ENGLISH)
PRODUCTION STAGE: POST PRODUCTION,
ROUGH CUT STAGE
FILM DELIVERY: MAY 2024
TOTAL BUDGET: 110 000 EUR
STILL NEEDED: 30 000 EUR
CONFIRMED PARTNERS: POLISH FILM
INSTITUTE, POLISH NATIONAL TELEVISION
LOOKING FOR: SALES AGENT,
BROADCASTER, FESTIVALS

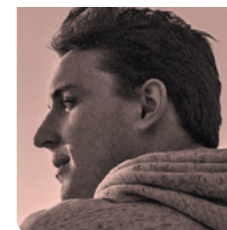
CONTACT / PRODUCER'S E-MAIL:
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CONTACT / DIRECTOR'S E-MAIL:
gr.piekarski@gmail.com,
ntl.pietsch@gmail.com



Natalia Pietsch
DIRECTOR

Director, cinematographer, screenwriter. A graduate of Krzysztof Kieślowski Film School and Academy of Fine Arts in Katowice. A scholarship holder of the Munk Studio's First Documentary program. Her documentary debut *Euphoria* was screened at major Polish film festivals, including the Krakow Film Festival and Warsaw Film Festival. She received awards for best cinematography in films: *I've Got Something for You Too* at Kustendorf and *The Frog King* at the Autumn in Voronet Festival.



Grzegorz Piekarski
DIRECTOR

Director, screenwriter, photographer. A graduate of Krzysztof Kieślowski Film School and Master of Science in Mechatronics at Warsaw University of Technology. He is a Scholarship holder of the 'Młoda Polska' programme of the Ministry of Culture and National Heritage. His most recent feature film *The Slave* was screened at many Polish film festivals, including the Gdynia Festival, Warsaw Film Festival and Camerimage.



Katarzyna KostECKa
PRODUCER

LARMO is focused on working with young, up-and-coming filmmakers. The company was founded by Katarzyna KostECKa and Kinga Tasarek, who have been actively working in the film industry for many years in positions such as producer (lead or line), production manager, and production coordinator. Currently, the company is producing its first feature film, financed by the Polish Film Institute – *Dead Before Dawn* by Dawid Krępski, with a premiere planned for the autumn of 2024. Ultimately, we aim to concentrate on international collaboration, mainly with European partners, in creating genre cinema with significant artistic potential, and in producing both fiction and documentary films.



Superhumans

In the midst of the ongoing Russian invasion of Ukraine, *Superhumans* unveils the war's tragic consequences, contrasting its brutality with the resilience of humanity.

The Russian invasion of Ukraine has been ongoing for almost two years now. It is predicted that as a result of the armed conflict, hundreds of thousands of people will become disabled. *Superhumans* endeavors to reveal the heart-wrenching consequences of war, laying bare its unrelenting cruelty and the indelible marks it leaves behind. Within this visually captivating cinematic narrative, we are invited to witness the stories of those who have borne the brunt of war's merciless toll. These include the stories of courageous and resilient women who have endured disfigurement, the brave patients of the Superhumans hospital, and the war-weary veterans who, through the extraordinary care and unwavering dedication of medical professionals, are slowly and courageously reclaiming their paths towards normalcy. *Superhumans* is not just a documentary; it is a powerful and emotionally charged narrative that invites us to contemplate the strength of humanity when confronted by the harshest of realities, ultimately demonstrating the enduring power of hope and the healing touch of compassion.



**POLISH DOCS PRO
DELEGATION AT
IDFA INDUSTRY 2023**

ENGLISH TITLE: SUPERHUMANS
ORIGINAL TITLE: SUPERHUMANS
DIRECTOR: MAŁGORZATA SZUMOWSKA
DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY:
MICHAŁ ENGLERT
EDITOR: JACEK DROSIO
PRODUCER: MAŁGORZATA SZUMOWSKA,
KLAUDIA ŚMIEJA-ROSTWOROWSKA,
MAŁGORZATA KOZIOŁ
PRODUCTION COMPANY: NOWHERE FILMS
ESTIMATED RUNNING TIME: 72'
PRODUCTION COUNTRY: POLAND
LANGUAGE: POLISH, UKRAINIAN
PRODUCTION STAGE: IN PRODUCTION
SHOOTING PERIOD: WINTER-SPRING 2024
FILM DELIVERY: DECEMBER 2024
TOTAL BUDGET: 630 000 EUR
STILL NEEDED: 70 000 EUR
CONFIRMED PARTNERS: MADANTS FILMS,
POLISH FILM INSTITUTE, MODERATOR,
CANAL PLUS
LOOKING FOR: WORLD SALES

CONTACT / PRODUCER'S E-MAIL:
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Małgorzata Szumowska
DIRECTOR

One of the most prominent Polish directors of today, Małgorzata Szumowska was born in Kraków in 1973. She's been directing, writing and producing feature and documentary films and has received numerous awards at international film festivals including Locarno, Sundance, Toronto. She directed *Elles* (2011) with Juliette Binoche, and *Infinite Storm* (2022) with Naomi Watts. In 2015, the Berlinale awarded her the Best Director Silver Bear for *Body* and in 2018 distinguished *Mug* with the Grand Jury Prize. Two of her recent feature films, *Never Gonna Snow Again* (2020) and *Woman of...* (2023), co-directed with Michał Englert have been selected for the International Venice Film Festival.



Małgorzata Koziół
PRODUCER

NOWHERE FILMS is a Warsaw-based production company, founded in 2013 aiming to produce films with potential for distribution and international festival access.

2023

www.polishdocs.pl

ORGANISED BY



CO-FINANCED BY

Ministry of Culture and National Heritage
Republic of Poland

CO-FINANCED FROM THE STATE BUDGET,
FROM THE FUNDS OF THE MINISTER
OF CULTURE AND NATIONAL HERITAGE