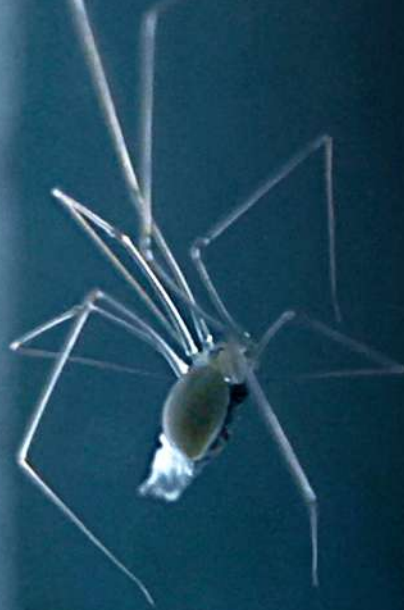


FILM BY OLGA LUCOVNICOVA



NANU TUDOR

(MY UNCLE TUDOR)



DOC
NOMADS
JOINT MASTERS



UNIVERSIDADE
LUSÓFONA



UNIVERSITY OF
THEATRE AND FILM
ARTS BUDAPEST



SCHOOL
OF
ARTS



Erasmus+

With the support of the European Union programme

deAuteurs,

NANU TUDOR

(MY UNCLE TUDOR)

Olga Lucovnicova

Creative Documentary

Production: Belgium, Hungary, Portugal, Moldova

Year: 2020

Spoken languages: Romanian, Russian

Location: Moldova

20 minutes

4K - 16:9

www.olgalucovnicova.com

LOOKTVC@GMAIL.COM

+32 465 815 990





LOGLINE

A poetic journey into the past, where nostalgic memories of a happy childhood are shattered by deep-rooted trauma.

SYNOPSIS

After 20 years of silence, Olga travels back to the house of her great-grandparents, where she spent her childhood. The long-awaited family reunion interferes with her attempts to overcome her childhood fears and confront her uncle, who hid his double personality for decades.

AWARDS

Golden Bear
for Best Short Film
at Berlinale 71st Edition, Germany 2021

Golden Chair
for Best Short Documentary
at Kortfilm Festivalen,
44th Edition, Norway 2021

Best Short Documentary
at Ismailia International Film Festival,
22nd Edition, Egypt 2021

Big Stamp
for Best Short Film
in the regional competition at ZagrebDox,
Croatia 2021

Deframed Prize
at Kurzfilm Festival Hamburg,
37th Edition, Germany

Audience Award
at Go Short
International Short Film Festival Nijmegen
13rd Edition, Netherlands 2021

WildCard Award
for Best Documentary
from Flanders Audiovisual Fund, Belgium 2020

Honorable Mention
at Friss Hús Budapest, Hungary 2021

Honorable Mention
at DocAviv, Israel 2021



Berlinale jury statement: In *Nanu Tudor* (My Uncle Tudor), Olga Lucovnicova leads us through the complexity of unravelling a childhood trauma. While intimate details gradually introduce us to a seemingly idyllic world of innocent nostalgia, her conversation with her Uncle Tudor builds up to expose her childhood horror and his unrepentant denial. Lucovnicova's subtle cinematic gaze circles around her family members with precision. Her personal courage combined with cinematic mastery create a film that is both powerful and emotionally layered.

Kortfilm Festivalen jury statement: The Golden Chair is awarded to a film that is courageously personal, unflinchingly honest, with a radical emotional generosity. A multi-layered reckoning with trauma, and the way it hides in plain sight.

ZagrebDox jury statement: Demonstrating how a short form with the help of strong film elements can talk about some of the biggest problems of our time, the talented and brave young filmmaker from Moldova sent a strong message to the world: sexual abuse of children is one of the biggest social problems of our time we have to face and which we have to solve.

Kurzfilm Festival Hamburg jury statement: Very slowly, almost gently and imperceptibly, she pulls the ground out from under our feet. A disturbing piece of family history told with a rarely seen directness that lingers, *My Uncle Tudor* is an unflinching and courageous gaze into the rarely spoken violence of the familial environment. With simple means, this touching film shows that great cinema is possible even with a small budget.

Flanders Audiovisual Fund (VAF) jury statement: *Nanu Tudor* (My Uncle Tudor) is a film that grabs you by the throat. A deeply traumatic event is portrayed in a very powerful and stylistic way. Based on a very personal experience, the maker calls attention to a universal problem.



DIRECTOR'S NOTE

"Nanu Tudor" is my first personal film.

I have been studying cinema since 2011 and used to make documentary film portraits of other people. There I loved to reveal the depths of the complex psychology of people, their drama and their inner world. At one point, I began to feel that I was asking my protagonists too much. I had never been in their place in front of my camera. I thought it was dishonest.

So, I decided to make a film about my biggest pain - childhood memories that I had kept secret for decades.

In my film, I tried to tell that contrary to the stereotype, children are more often traumatized by close people, than strangers. These are people whom parents trust, such as relatives, friends, teachers. Parents teach their children to trust and obey these people, who, sometimes, may have dual personalities. Therefore, in addition to respecting adults, the child must be taught to resist them and question their actions in specific cases.

These messages are the hidden subtext of my film, where I show my ideal and loving family, in which there is a man, at first glance, exemplary, but with a hidden pervert and abusive identity.

Over the years, I have accumulated many questions for this person, whom I call "nanu" - a title given in Moldova to people who participated in the baptism of a child in a church. But I didn't have enough courage to ask these questions in person. In addition, my memories were fragmented and I no longer knew what was true and what was fiction. But I realized that my silence gives power to his immoral side of personality.

Like millions of people who have faced abusive adult behaviour in childhood, I was silent for the sake of my family and myself. But, the worst crimes in this world are committed with the tacit consent of the ignorant and coward people. So, if as a child I was too vulnerable to confront my "Nanu Tudor", then as an adult I had no moral right to remain silent anymore.



BIOGRAPHY

Olga Lucovnicova is a Moldovan filmmaker based in Belgium.

She studied cinematography for six years at the Academy of Music, Theater and Fine Arts of Moldova, and two years documentary film directing at DocNomads, an Erasmus Mundus Joint Master Program, delivered by a consortium of three prominent European universities across Portugal, Hungary and Belgium.

As a filmmaker, Olga is particularly interested in stories, which can generate social changes and create a platform for discussion. Her filming style combines observational cinema with poetic elements, where the key factors are the human emotions and feelings. Her aim is to bring people closer to people, through sincerity, empathy and compassion.

Studying 6 years of camera operating and 2 years of documentary film directing, Olga has a full spectrum of technical knowledge to make an author film and stay privately with the protagonist, to capture real and true emotions of the confession. Despite this, she also enjoys working in a team and has a huge multicultural working experience. Olga speaks fluent Romanian, Russian, English and has basic knowledge of French, Spanish and Latvian.

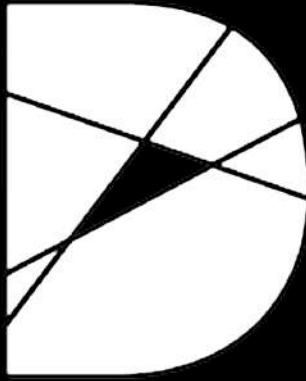
FILMOGRAPHY

Nu E Sfârșitul / It's Not The End - 13 min - 2019

Valurile Pustiului / The Desert Waver - 20 min - 2018

Nu Am, Moarte, Cu Tine Nimic / I Do Not Hate You, Death - 13 min - 2015

O Crenguță De Scoruș / One Little Rowan Branch - 9 min - 2013



**DOC
NOMADS**
JOINT MASTERS

PRODUCTION COMPANY - DOC NOMADS

DOC NOMADS is an Erasmus Mundus Joint Master Degree in Documentary Filmmaking delivered by a consortium of three prominent European universities across three countries: Portugal, Hungary and Belgium.

In each edition, about twenty-four students from all around the world follow a mobility track from Lisbon to Brussels, via Budapest. In doing so, students are immersed within different cultural environments, learning how to make use of their abilities outside their usual social contexts.

Taught entirely in English and taking a practical approach, DOC NOMADS' unique curriculum and supportive faculty aims at expanding students' skills and creativity, while providing an integrated training that combines a focus on the arts with contemporary practices in film production.

Directing is essentially learnt through making films out in the real world. Students are asked to confront the aesthetic and practical challenges generated by the actual process of filmmaking and in doing so develop their critical thinking skill; gain autonomy in multifarious disciplines; and build - throughout the course - their own repertoire of formal approaches.

DOC NOMADS Master Course is sponsored and supervised by the EACEA - Education, Audiovisual and Culture Executive Agency of the European Commission.

www.docnomads.eu

victor.candeias@gmail.com



www.olgalucovnicova.com

LOOKTVC@GMAIL.COM

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