



SHORT FILM
competition
FESTIVAL DE CANNES

Axis Media Production & Flama Booking present:

4:15 PM The end of the world

A film by Gabi Virginia Sarga & Catalin Rotaru



Synopsis

A courier takes a hitchhiker on the road. When the hitchhiker warns him that the end of the world is around the corner, the courier labels him as crazy, without knowing this accidental encounter will change his life forever.



It's the very first Romanian independent short movie selected in a Palme d'Or competition

It's a directorial debut as well as the producers' one.

It's for the first time in 25 years when a Romanian short film selected for the Palme d'Or competition has a woman as co-director

It was filmed in 4 days outside Bucharest with little money and a lot of enthusiasm despite all the problems we encounter, including a broken van on our very first filming day.

About the filmmakers



Gabi Virginia Sarga - director and scriptwriter

Born in 1974, Gabi graduated acting for theater dolls at the National University of Theatre and Cinema in Bucharest in 2003. She has an extensive experience as a writer for television shows and soap opera.

She wrote documentaries scripts for major TV stations in Romania.



Catalin Rotaru - director and scriptwriter

Born in 1977, he graduated acting at the National University of Theatre and Cinema in Bucharest in 2003. He has over 10 years of experience as a writer for major TV networks in Romania.

He wrote and directed plays that were successfully played on stage in Bucharest.

This short film marks their directorial debut. They love powerful stories and characters that reveal the struggles of the human soul.

Directors' statement

What if one day you'll meet God? Or maybe someone who pretends to be God? What would you talk about? Would there be anything you would blame Him for? These are the premises from which we began our script.

We sought to tell the story of an encounter between a courier and a hitchhiker in the context of a limit situation: the imminent end of the world. One of the characters claims to be the Son of God. The other believe he is crazy. We think the audience is an active participant in any cinematographic work. The audience adds its own view and makes its own story starting from ours. We wanted to offer it the freedom to choose, to find its own answers. For us, one of the greatest challenge of this film was to show the unseen, to make it feel visible.



About the cast



Alexandru Suci is a 31-years-old actor and composer. He graduated from the National University of Theatre and Cinema in Bucharest in 2008. Since then, he establish himself as a versatile actor, playing various roles both in theater plays, short and feature films. One of his latest roles was in the award-winning film “The Concert.”



Elias Ferkin is a 41-years-old actor born in Constanta, Romania as Elias Ferchin Musuret. He graduated from the National University of Theatre and Cinema in Bucharest in 2003 and since then played numerous roles in films.

He is best known for several films - “7 Seconds”, the American-British-Romanian coproduction “Shadow Man”, “Born to Raise Hell” and “The dying of the light.”

About the crew

Tudor Platon - Cinematographer

At 24-years-old, Tudor established himself as one of the most talented cinematographers in Romanian film market. His most recent filmography includes *"Toate fluviile curg in mare"* (*"All rivers run to the sea"*) selected at Cinefondation 2016 and *"Ocupat"* (*"Occupied"*), that won Best Romanian Film Award at Timishort IFF. He won two consecutive years the Award for Best Cinematography at "CinemaIubit ISFF", a Romanian film festival, and was nominated for *"Young Hope Award"* at "Gopo Awards in 2016," the most prestigious film competition in Romania.

Andrei Iancu – Editor

Born in 1983, Andrei has been working as an editor in the film and advertising industry for almost 10 years. He graduated the National University of Theatre and Cinema in Bucharest and has a PhD on film restoration. He worked with Gabi Virginia Sarga on a soap opera and promised themselves that one day they will make a film together. This film fulfilled their promise.

Stefan Azaharioaie – Sound

Born in 1991, Stefan has a background in music studies and is currently studying The Art of Editing MA at National University of Theatre and Cinema in Bucharest while working as freelancer with Alien Film, Family Film and other production companies. Among his projects – the school film *"Golarii"* (*"The Vagabonds"*), that won the audience award at NexT Film Festival, the independent short film *"Ocupat"* (*"Occupied"*) that won best film at Timishort Film Festival and *"Greieri"* (*"Crickets"*) by Lucian Dan Teodorovici, selected at TIFF 2015.

Mihaela Costache Dunga – First Assistant Director

Born in 1975, Mihaela graduate National University of Theatre and Cinema in Bucharest, and worked as 1st AD for entertainment TV show for many years. Now she is the 1st Production Scheduler for a TV documentary-drama series.

Credits

Cast

Alexandru Suciu – Dan

Elias Ferkin – the hitchhiker

Crew

Directors

Gabi Virginia Sarga & Catalin Rotaru

Scriptwriters

Gabi Virginia Sarga & Catalin Rotaru

Executive Producers

Adina Sadeanu & Alex Tudor Craciun

Cinematographer

Tudor Platon

Film Editor

Andrei Iancu

Sound

Stefan Azaharioaie

First Assistant Director

Mihaela Costache Dunga

Script supervisor

Natalia Volohova Deliu

Color

Lucian Iordan

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