

ROCK FILMS with the support of the MINISTRY OF CULTURE
OF THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION and CINÉFONDATION DU FESTIVAL DE CANNES
presents

BITE THE DUST



OFFICIAL SELECTION
OUT OF COMPETITION
FESTIVAL DE CANNES



Director:

Taisia Igumentseva

Screenplay:

Alexandra Golovina

Director of Photography:

Sasha Tananov

Cast:

Sergey Abroskin, Maksim Vitorgan, Yola Sanko,
Yuris Laucinsh, Alina Sergeeva, Dmitry Kulichkov,
Anna Rud, Irina Denisova

Editing:

Ekaterina Shahunova

Wardrobe:

Nadezhda Vasilieva

Producers:

Alexey Uchitel, Kira Saksaganskaya

Production:

Rock Films

Language:

Russian

Runtime:

100 min.

Country:

Russia

Production year:

2013

International sales:

Versatile

SYNOPSIS

Everyone knows everyone else in the tiny village. An elderly herdsman, Vasilich, devotes all his time to taking care of a doe-eyed cow named Candy; lonely Granny Zina curses the government; married women glance enviously at other women's husbands; and the local inventor, Vanya, entertains the children with his ingenious devices. One day, the villagers hear the terrible news on TV that the most powerful solar flare ever has taken place, the effects of which will destroy all of mankind in 24 hours. After recovering from the initial shock, the villagers come up with their own way to bid farewell to life. They decide to throw an end-of-the-world party. Tables are set, pies are baked, and some gather their last courage to make major life decisions. But the end never comes... Instead, things get a bit hot under the collar. The villagers realize that life as they know it is over...



TAISIA IGUMENTSEVA Director

Taisia Igumentseva was born January 10, 1989 in Moscow. She graduated from the orthodox pro-school "Peresvet" and the Moscow Pedagogical High School 1505. She studied German language courses at the Institute Goethe at the Consulate of Germany in Russia.

In 2012 she graduated Russian State University of Cinematography named after S. Gerasimov (VGIK), the documentary workshop Alexey Uchitel, her graduation short film was ROAD TO.



2012 "ROAD TO" by Taisia Igumentseva - Grand Prix in the Cinefondation Programme of the Cannes International Film Festival 2012. Open Russian Film Festival Kinotavr 2012: Future Shorts Award and Special Diploma for Artistic Bravery and Nonconformism; Molodist Kyiv International Film Festival; Competition Programm; 6th Russian Film Festival "Sputnik Over Poland": Competition Programm; Russian Film Festival "Osen": Competition Programm; International Film Schools Festival Poitiers: Grand Prix.



Director's notes:

"One does not need the face the end of the world to rethink his or her live. Live here and now, love and hate - as long as you can - this is what "Bite the Dust" is about.

It is my first feature film and my first little step up the stairs of cinema. As a director, I would like to try different genres. The greatest impact on me as a filmmaker has life itself. Real stories inspire much more than moving pictures on screen.

I wanted to create a light, beautiful, universal story that would be understood all over the world. I was inspired by Russian culture, Russian village life but the idea was to bring it more into the fantasy, artistic universe. I hope that people will watch my movie with an open heart."

TAISIA IGUMENTSEVA



ALEXEY UCHITEL Producer

Currently Alexey Uchitel is working on two new projects as a director: "Break Loose", an adaptation of the novel by Zakhar Prilepin (Russian National Best-seller Award 2008), and "Mathilda Ksessinskaya", a large-scale biopic of the prima-ballerina of the Mariinsky Theatre at the beginning of the XXth century. He is also producing a German-Russian co-production "Comrades" (Rock Films, Cohen Sisters, Schiwago Film GmbH) and other international projects.

Since 2010, Alexey Uchitel is the President of the International Festival for documentary, shorts and animation "Message to Man" in Saint-Petersburg - one of the two major Russian film festivals that has the A-classification by FIAPF.



Producer's notes:

"The lack of fine witty comedies is really common nowadays. The graduate of my class in the All-Russian State Institute of Cinematography, young talented filmmaker Taisia Igumentseva has got the rare talent to see joy and humor in the everyday routine. "Bite the Dust" is a bright intellectual comedy made by a person with a good sense of humor."

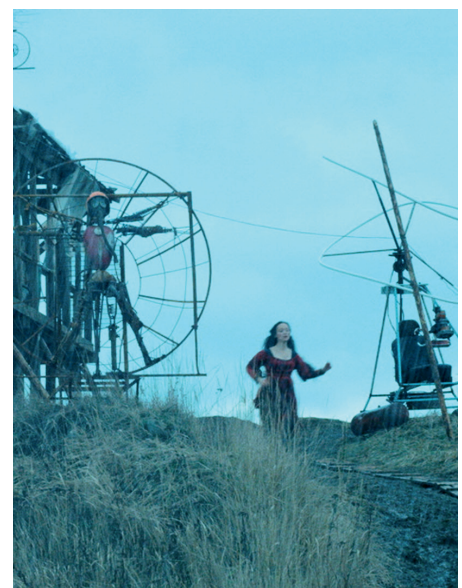
Alexey Uchitel

Director (selected filmography):

- 2013** Break Loose (2013, post-production)
- 2010** The Edge (The Golden Globe 2010: Nomination for the Best Motion Picture, Foreign Film; The Academy Awards Oscar 2010: Long List for the Best Foreign Language Film Nomination; The National Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences of Russia "Golden Eagle" 2011: Best Director),
- 2008** Captive (43rd Karlovy Vary International Film Festival 2008: Best Director; International Film Festival Cottbus 2008: Grand Prix and Dialogue Prize)
- 2005** Dreaming of Space ((Moscow International Film Festival 2005: Best Film; The National Academy Awards Nika 2005: Best Feature Film; The National Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences of Russia "Golden Eagle" 2005: Best Director)

Producer (selected filmography):

- 2010** "To Live" by Yury Bykov
- 2010** "The Edge" by Alexey Uchitel
- 2011** "The Dry Valley" by Alexandra Strelyanaya
- 2012** "I'll Be Around" by Pavel Ruminov
- 2012** "Road To" by Taisia Igumentseva
- 2012** "Friends from France" by Anne Weil, Philippe Kotlarski
- 2012** "The Sea" by Alexandra Strelyanaya
- 2013** "Bite the Dust" by Taisia Igumentseva
- 2013** "The Major" by Yury Bykov



ROCK FILMS

The Rock Films studio was founded by the film director Alexey Uchitel in 1991. It was named after the documentary shot by Uchitel in the Perestroika period in Russia. The studio currently produces both feature and documentary films and gives priority to first time directors a number of whom have created their first feature thanks to Rock Films. During the last 22 years films produced by Rock Films have received more than 60 awards at different film festivals and have been released theatrically both in Russia and internationally.

Uchitel's studio Rock Films is one of the 10 major Russian studios that has the financial support from the Russian Cinema Fund and produces up to 6-7 films a year.



International Sales: **VERSATILE**

135 bd de Sebastopol
75002 Paris, France
t. +33 1 76 21 61 66
f. +33 1 76 21 52 69

Office in Cannes:

42/43 La Croisette, 3rd floor

Violaine Pichon

t. +33 6 27 58 39

vpichon@versatile-films.com

Pape Boye

t. +33 6 27 62 35

pboye@versatile-films.com

Rock Films

Production, development

Olga Aylarova

cell: +33698236313

aylarova@gmail.com

PR and communication

Polina Suprun

cell: +7 926 621 25 46

psuprun.rockfilms@gmail.com

Rock Films thanks its sponsor - Caucasus spring water **ARKHIZ** and the holding company **Visma ARKHIZ** for their generous support.



versatile



www.rockfilms.ru