

**Citizen Saint**  
**Just Before**  
**Pinocchio**  
*And The Water Of Life*  
**Round Trip**  
**Whispers**  
**of War**

**Tallinn**  
**Black Nights**  
**Goes To Cannes**

Saturday July 10th 2021  
Palais K. 2.15 pm to 4.15 pm



# Citizen Saint / Mokalake Tsmindani

Directed by: Tinatin Kajrishvili

Produced by: Lasha Khalvashi, Denis Vaslin, Boris Chouchkov

Country of production: Georgia, France, Bulgaria

## The Director:

Tinatin Kajrishvili was born in Tbilisi, Georgia in 1978. In 2001 she graduated from the State Theatre and Film University of Georgia with the qualification of Film Director. 2018

“Horizon” (feature film) 105min, Georgia – Sweden. 2014

“Brides” (feature film) 93 min, Georgia – France. Her films premiered at Berlinale Panorama.

## The Production Company:

Lasha Khalvashi was born in Georgia. From 2006 he worked in different fields of the creative industry. “ARTIZM” was established in 2013. Focuses on emerging talents and international co-productions. “Horizon” (Georgia, Sweden/ 2018). “Neighbors” (Georgia, Macedonia/ 2018). “Scary Mother” (Georgia, Estonia/2017).

## The Film:

Beso (55), takes care of the crucified Saint’s statue on the main square of the miners’ town. Miners worship the statue, they believe saint protects them. Building of huge temple around the statue is ongoing. Mari (40) organizes the construction. She initiates renovation of the sculpture and moves it to local museum. Unexpectedly the statue from the cross disappears. Whole town searching the statue. Meanwhile Beso finds the Stranger, considers he is a tourist. Later he understands that stranger is the saint who become alive. Huge construction on the main square collapses, leaving miners in despair. They consider that this is the sign, alive Saint can’t protect them anymore, and are afraid to go into the mines. Miners demand crucifixion of the Saint as alive men cannot protect them anymore

## Contact in Cannes:

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# Just Before / Накануне

Directed by: Alisa Erokhina

Produced by: Denis Kovalevsky, Anna Shalashina, Salt Film Studio (Russia), WISH Media (Russia), Les Steppes Productions (France) with the support of the Russian Ministry of culture and KINOPRIME Foundation

Country of production: Russia, France

## **The Director:**

Alisa participated at Generation Campus before entering Saint-Petersburg State University of Culture and Arts to become a documentary director. She also received training at CLAS, Alexander Sokurov's workshop. Her last short film RABBITS IN THE HEADLIGHTS premiered at Artdocfest. The film was highly praised by the media and traveled to over 20 festivals. "Just Before" is Alisa's debut feature.

## **The Production Company:**

Salt Studio is known for its successful partnership with Russian new generation independent directors as well as its genre films for a wide audience. BETRAYAL by Kirill Serebrennikov was selected for Venice Film Festival in 2012. Among the Studio's latest projects are THE PENCIL by Natalya Nazarova, and ALBATROS, a documentary feature, co-produced with France with the support of the CNC.

## **The Film:**

Anna (35) can't let go of Oleg (40) the relationship with whom lasted for 10 years. She broke his family where he already had a son, but she could not hold him. He married a new woman. But one chance encounter rekindles their affair. Max (15) lives with his divorced mother who provides beauty services at home. Max despises her and seeks meetings with his father. Max's father often has urgent business, their meetings fall through. His father's name is Oleg. Anna invades Oleg's life again and threatens to destroy his second family. Max stalks Anna and decides to kill her. In the end, Max rings Anna's doorbell with a gun clenched in his pocket. She invites him to come in. This is when their first and final conversation occurs and reveals the truth about both of them.

**Contact in Cannes: Anna Shalashina**  
**shalashinanna@gmail.com**

# Round Trip / *Aller/Retour*

Directed by: Dorothee Van den Berghe

Produced by: Bert Hamelinck & Dimitri Verbeeck & Helena Vlogaert (Caviar)

Country of production: Belgium

## **The Director:**

Dorothee van den Berghe (1968) studied sculpture and film at Sint-Lucas Academy in Brussels. After making several short films and TV movies, Dorothee completed her first feature film 'Meisje' in 2002. Hereafter she became one of the most active female directors in Flanders - working on shorts, commercials, documentaries and 2 more award winning feature films ('My Queen Karo', 'Rosie & Moussa').

## **The Production Company:**

Established in 2005, Caviar is an entertainment company with offices in Los Angeles, Brussels, London, Paris, and Amsterdam. Our global network of producers, writers, directors and photographers continues to grow annually, as does the breadth of our work. Most recently, Caviar produced the Academy Awards two-time Oscar winning film SOUND OF METAL (2019), writer/director Darius Marder's directorial debut, which premiered in 2019 Toronto International Film Festival.

## **The Film:**

Truck driver Erika catches a transmigrant (Idy) jumping from hiding in her truck. The confrontation that follows escalates to such an extent that Erika has no choice but to save Idy's life and take him back on board very reluctantly. Since Idy was injured in his foot, and she feels some responsibility for it, they have to rely on each other during their trip to southern Spain. *Aller / Retour* is a warm buddy road movie about the unexpected friendship of these 2 lonely people looking for their place in this globalized world.

**Contact in Cannes: Helena Vlogaert**  
**helena.vlogaert@caviar.tv**

# Whispers of War / *Stille Post*

Directed by: Florian Hoffmann

Produced by: Alexander Wadouh, Roxana Richters,  
Chromosom Film, Deutsche Film- und Fernsehakademie  
Berlin

Country of production: Germany

## **The Director:**

Florian Hoffmann was born in Berlin in 1987. He studied directing at the film school DFFB. In 2015 Florian was in the Kurdish area when a curfew was imposed on the city of Cizre. He concentrated his research findings in WHISPERS OF WAR – his first feature film. I DON'T CARE DOESN'T COUNT, 2017, Director, Documentary, 45 min. ARLETTE. COURAGE IS A MUSCLE, 2015, Director, Documentary, 84 min.

## **The Production Company:**

Chromosom Film was founded in 2006 and is based in Berlin. We focus on national and international fiction and documentary films with a political attitude and zeitgeist. The success of Jan-Ole Gerster's OH BOY (6x German Film Award Winner) and the international festival feedback for Gabrielle Brady's ISLAND OF THE HUNGRY GHOSTS pave the way for courageous films with a strong own voice and attitude.

## **The Film:**

Khalil is a primary school teacher and lives with his journalist girlfriend Leyla in Berlin. When she shows him war videos from his hometown, the Kurdish town of Cizre, Khalil's orderly life starts to slip out of his hands: he recognizes his sister, who was declared dead years ago, in the amateur footage. The Kurdish community offers their help to find her, if Khalil finds a way of getting the war videos into the German news. But other conflicts have a higher news value. Only when Khalil and Leyla decide to manipulate the videos, they finally get the media attention: news reports and political debates pick up speed. But when the conflict reaches Khalil's school class, he realizes that it is no longer just a question of winning attention, but of protecting his own life in Berlin.

**Contact in Cannes: Roxana Richters**  
**roxana@chromosom-film.de**

# Pinocchio and the Water of Life

Directed by: Viktor Lakisov

Produced by: Vsevolod Zorin, Paul Marshal, Mark De Carlo,  
Asymmetric Studios OÜ, Dick Lizzardo Productions, Inc.

Country of production: Estonia, USA, Russia

## **The Director:**

Viktor Lakisov has supervised, animated and created VFX for over 30 major motion pictures, from 2019's The Mystery of Dragon Seal: Journey to China, starring Jackie Chan and Arnold Schwarzenegger to 2007's Mr. Magorium's Wonder Emporium, starring Dustin Hoffman. In 2007 he founded full service post-production studio which has developed into leading visual effects and 3D animation studio.

## **The Production Company:**

Vsevolod Zorin has produced and written full-length 3D animation movie "Quakerz". He has produced several visual effects parts in movies including "Union of Salvation" and "Robo". He is Executive Producer in 3D animation full-length movie "Pinocchio and the Water of Life". Vsevolod Zorin is co-owner of internationally leading VFX and 3D-animation company Asymmetric Studios.

## **The Film:**

Funny and adventurous, our cast of memorable characters come to life as Pinocchio, and his cranky sidekick, Coot the talking bottle, stop villainous Major Faustino – the puppeteer who's enslaved Pinocchio and his marionette pals- from occupying the town's new theater and forcing them to perform murderous shows. A mystery man of the East appears in Genova's town square and learns lonely Carlo's wish: A son of his own. Later that night, with just a single drop of Aqua Vita, Dr.Wushi transforms Carlo's most cherished carving.. into a living marionette: Pinocchio. Pinocchio longs to give life to other puppets, to unchain them and give them freedom! To find Aqua Vita, Pinocchio must disappear into an angry volcano, out-fight the Fire Triplets, and befriend a tribe of feral adventures.

**Contact in Cannes: Lilian Krantsiveer**  
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Our first ever Goes To Cannes selection shows how wide an international reach Tallinn Black Nights has. These are all special projects with creative teams and strong track records. We can't wait to introduce them to the world at the Marché du Film this July.

# Triin Tramberg

International Works-in-Progress Manager  
Tallinn Black Nights FF

