

250 KM

a short film by Hasmik Movsisyan



DRAMA / ARMENIA / 2023 / RUNNING TIME 22 MIN / SCREENING FORMAT DCP

2023 KRAKOW FILM FESTIVAL – INTERNATIONAL PREMIERE
ONE SHOT INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL – WINNER, BEST ARMENIAN SHORT
ARPA INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL – NOMINEE, BEST SHORT FILM

Golden Apricot International Film Festival 2023 – Official Selection (Armenia)
Armenian Film Festival Australia 2023 – Official Selection (Australia)
Armenian Film Festival AFS 2023 – Official Selection (USA)
Chicago International Children's Film Festival 2023 – Official Selection (USA)
St. Louis International Film Festival 2023 - Official Selection (USA)

Yellowstone International Film Festival – Official Selection (India)
Lloret Negre Film Fest – Official Selection (Spain)
Pomegranate Film Festival – Official Selection (Canada)
Foyle Film Festival - Official Selection (Ireland)

DIRECTOR HASMIK MOVSISYAN IS AVAILABLE FOR ZOOM INTERVIEWS

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SYNOPSIS

As war breaks out, a 14-year-old boy takes charge and drives his family towards safety on a risky 250-kilometer journey to the border.

DIRECTOR'S NOTE BY HASMIK MOVSISYAN

As an Armenian born during the first Artsakh war of independence in 1991, war has always been a haunting presence in my life. However, on September 27th, 2020, war once again erupted, reshaping my reality and that of millions. It transformed from a distant possibility to an immediate threat, invading my existence.

As a filmmaker, I've questioned the portrayal of war in films, where the frontline takes center stage, focusing on intense combat. But what happens when your own home becomes the frontline? How do you navigate the path to safety?

In this short film, I aim to authentically depict the devastating impact of 21st-century warfare, emphasizing the profound burden children in conflict zones must bear. Through the story of Vahe, a 14-year-old boy whose life was forever altered by the brutality of war, I seek to shed light on the unimaginable challenges and harsh realities they face.

By capturing resilience amidst the chaos, I hope to inspire empathy, raise awareness, and spark meaningful conversations about the long-lasting effects of war. Through storytelling, we can bridge borders and cultural boundaries, fostering understanding and compassion for those caught in the crossfire.



CAST

Vahe Sargsyan, Davit Sargsyan, Ruzan Khachatryan, Nrane Sardaryan, Eva Ivanidis, Gisane Arushanyan, Van Voskanyan, Shoushi Gulaghaian, Lena Matevosyan, Nikita Sahakyan, Gisane Sardaryan, Lilit Hayrapetyan, Roman Sahakyan, Gena Arushanyan, Ashot Kartashyan, Armen Karapetyan, Svetlana Avetisyan, Artyom Azaryan

CREW

Directed by: Hasmik Movsisyan
Screenplay by: Hasmik Movsisyan and Armen Karapetyan
Produced by: Hasmik Movsisyan, Lusine Voskanyan, Julia Andersen
Executive Producer: Lilit Movsisyan
Director of Photography: Albert Sargsyan
Composer: Miqayel Voskanyan
Editor: Hrant Varzhapetyan
Co-producers: Miqayel Voskanyan and Diana Avetisyan
Production Design: Tigran Margaryan and Robert Poghosyan
Costume Designer: Hovsanna Vanaturants
Special Effect Supervisor: Arthur Gharibyan
Make-up: Anna Zaryan
First Assistant Director: Diana Avetisyan
Associate Producer: Aram Manukyan
Line Producer: Narek Stepanyan
Coordinating producer: Anna Zakaryan
Script Supervisors: Bagrat Hayksson and Nelly Petrosyan

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BIOGRAPHY OF DIRECTOR, WRITER AND PRODUCER HASMIK MOVSISYAN

Hasmik was born in Yerevan, Armenia, and moved to St. Petersburg, Russia with her family at the age of 11. After graduating from the medical faculty of St. Petersburg State University, she pursued her passion for filmmaking and was accepted into the directing department of Gerasimov Institute of Cinematography (VGIK), studying under the guidance of Alexander and Vladimir Kott and Anna Fenchenko.

During her time at VGIK, Hasmik directed three films - "Apnea" (2019), "Together" (2021), and "Harisa" (2022) - all of which received critical acclaim and won awards at various student film festivals. Her latest film, "250 KM," began as a student project but quickly grew into a fully independent production.

Hasmik's work explores themes of identity, displacement, and survival, often drawing on her personal experiences of growing up in Armenia during times of conflict. Through her films, she seeks to tell authentic and compelling stories that shed light on the human condition in all its complexity and diversity.

BIOGRAPHY OF PRODUCER LUSINE VOSKANYAN

Lusine Voskanyan is a producer, artist manager, and marketing specialist who has been working in the Armenian music industry for over 13 years. After earning a Master's degree in Marketing from the Armenian State University of Economics, Lusine pursued her passion for music and developed her skills in band management, creative entrepreneurship, art direction, market research, and music marketing.

She is the co-founder of Oberton Production and Oberton Records, the first specialized multi-genre record label in Armenia. Voskanyan is also a co-founder of the Association of Independent Music of Armenia (AIMA) and has been a member of the Music Managers Forum of Armenia since 2019.

Her dedication to her craft has resulted in successful collaborations with artists and industry professionals, making her a valuable addition to any production team.

BIOGRAPHY OF PRODUCER JULIA ANDERSEN

Julia Andersen is a film producer and writer who was born and raised in Moscow and is currently based in New York. She graduated from Columbia University in 2014 with a BA in Film Studies, where she developed her passion for storytelling and gained valuable skills in film production.

Throughout her career, Julia has gained extensive experience in the film industry through her work with various organizations, including Rooftop Films, Film at Lincoln Center (formerly known as the Film Society of Lincoln Center), Magnolia Pictures, and Susan Norget Film Promotion. She has focused on publicity and distribution, developing valuable insights into various aspects of the industry.

Most recently, Julia has produced two short films, "Crossing the Blue" and "250 KM," demonstrating her skills as a producer. She is committed to creating work that inspires and entertains audiences while also pushing boundaries and exploring new ideas.

BIOGRAPHY OF EXECUTIVE PRODUCER LILIT MOVSISYAN

Lilit Movsisyan is an esteemed educator with a deep commitment to her profession. Over the years, she has dedicated her expertise to teaching in both Yerevan and St. Petersburg, leaving a lasting impact on the students she has guided.

Throughout her career, Lilit has actively engaged in various school projects, demonstrating her passion for fostering a dynamic and enriching learning environment. Her dedication to education extends beyond the classroom, as she has taken on the role of producer for two significant works.

Lilit played a crucial role in the production of "250 KM," directed by the talented filmmaker Hasmik Movsisyan. This compelling film, based on real events that transpired in the fall of 2020, highlights Lilit's commitment as a true patriot and

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teacher. Her involvement on set and her invaluable contributions in organizing the production of "250 KM" exemplify her dedication to creating meaningful and thought-provoking artistic works.

Lilit Movsisyan's unwavering passion for education and her active involvement in the film industry showcase her multifaceted talents and unwavering commitment to making a difference in both academic and creative realms.

BIOGRAPHY OF CINEMATOGRAPHER ALBERT SARGSYAN

Albert Sargsyan embarked on his cinematic journey in 2006 when he enrolled in the Department of Cinematography at the Yerevan State Institute of Theatre and Cinema. After successfully obtaining his bachelor's degree, he furthered his education by pursuing a master's degree in the same department, which he accomplished with honors.

Throughout his academic years, Albert actively engaged in various film projects, lending his cinematography skills to notable works such as "Old Clocks," "Vernissage," "Early Spring," and others. His contributions to these productions were met with acclaim and recognition at numerous student film festivals. After graduating, Albert continued to work as a cinematographer, shooting both documentary and fiction films. One of them is the film "250 km," directed by Hasmik Movsisyan.

BIOGRAPHY OF COMPOSER MIQAYEL VOSKANYAN

Miqayel Voskanyan is a renowned Armenian tar player, improvisational musician, composer, songwriter, and producer. He brings traditional Armenian music to the world with a modern twist, pushing the boundaries of folk music and creating innovative compositions.

In 2011, Miqayel founded the instrumental folk-jazz band, MVF Band. With MVF Band, he has released two albums and showcased Armenian modern folk-jazz in various parts of the world, from Europe to the Middle East, and from North America to Asia. In 2019, Miqayel founded Oberton Production, which specializes in audio production and the promotion of Armenian artists.

He has composed the music for Armine Anda's "Song of Flying Leaves," Elena Arshakyan's "Our Village," Lilit Altunyan's "When I'm Sad," and Hasmik Movsisyan's "250km." He is also the author of additional music for Michael Goorjian's "Amerikatsi".

BIOGRAPHY OF EDITOR HRANT VARZHAPETYAN

Hrant Varzhapetyan is a talented filmmaker from Yerevan, Armenia. In 2022, he successfully completed his studies in the directing department of The Gerasimov Institute of Cinematography, widely known as VGIK, under the guidance of esteemed directors A.K. Kott, V.K. Kott, and A.V. Fenchenko. Driven by a profound passion for storytelling, Hrant has directed five remarkable short films, each based on original scripts. His keen eye for capturing compelling narratives and his ability to bring them to life on screen have garnered attention and praise.

In addition to his short films, Hrant demonstrated his versatility as a director and co-author of the script for the captivating series "Friendzone." This project further showcased his creative vision and ability to engage audiences with compelling storytelling.

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Social Media Links:

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