



TPS
TRANSILVANIA
PITCH STOP

TRANSILVANIA PITCH STOP

BOOK OF PROJECTS 2025

 **TIFF.24**

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TRANSILVANIA PITCH STOP

Ten projects in development will be presented to industry professionals (producers, distributors, sales agents, representatives of film funds & more) at the Transilvania Pitch Stop (TPS) this year. The 12th edition of the program includes the presentation of projects in front of potential partners and financiers on June 19th, during Transilvania International Film Festival (June 13 – 22, Cluj-Napoca, Romania).

TPS aims to discover a strong selection of projects from Romania and the countries around Romania destined for European co-production such as: Hungary, Bulgaria, Serbia, Ukraine, Republic of Moldova, Greece, Turkey and Georgia. TPS aims to foster cross-border cooperation especially between the Black Sea countries and other countries invited to be part of the initiative. This year, five projects will benefit from a tailored script consulting provided by script editor & film consultant Christian Routh, while all projects will be coached by the renowned pitching consultant and film producer Agathe Berman prior to their presentation.

The ten projects selected for the 12th edition of Transilvania Pitch Stop 2025 are:

- 1. Under The Crescent Moon (Georgia)**
- 2. Magda (Hungary)**
- 3. Forests Without Wolves (Republic of Moldova)**
- 4. At King's Gate (Romania)**
- 5. Grandparents' Paradise (Romania)**
- 6. Horseshoe (Romania)**
- 7. Kazimir (Romania)**
- 8. Desire (Turkey)**
- 9. Piatramare (Turkey)**
- 10. Christmas Snow (Ukraine)**

UNDER THE CRESCENT MOON

1

Naxeamtavris Sevdá

Directed by **George Todria**

Produced by **George Todria, Miguel Angel Jimenez**

Georgia / Spain

Production Company: **Archanda Films/ Kinoskopik S.L.**

First Film

Thriller / Drama

Financing already in place: 42%

Estimated production costs: 900.000 €

Beginning of production: February 2027

Looking for: Investors and Co-producers

Representatives present at Transilvania Pitch Stop:

George Todria, Director

Contact Details

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George Todria



Miguel Angel Jimenez

UNDER THE CRESCENT MOON

A nefarious war veteran looking for a chance to outrun his criminal debtors, decides to help a girl he saved during the war 30 years prior, stumbling upon a human trafficking ring in the process and setting him on a path to personal redemption.

SYNOPSIS

Zaza, a veteran and a currently down-on-his-luck petty criminal unexpectedly discovers that the girl he saved during the war 30 years prior, is killed under ambiguous circumstances. Deciding to investigate the murder on his own as a favor to the victim's sister and as a means to escape from the felons that are pursuing him, Zaza accidentally uncovers an intricate human trafficking ring between Georgia and Turkey which will set him on a path to personal salvation.

DIRECTOR'S NOTE

Our hero, Zaza, is a war veteran, scarred by past battles and haunted by the atrocities he witnessed. He's investigating the murder of a woman in Adjara, a case that will unknowingly propel him into the role of a reluctant savior. Zaza isn't your typical hero—he's broken, constantly hiding from the world, from emotions, and from the demons of his past. But as the investigation unfolds, he stumbles into a moment of heroism that will challenge everything he thought he knew about himself and the world around him. In this film, there are no clear winners or losers, no absolute good or evil. Every character is a reflection of society—warriors in their own way, fighting battles both seen and unseen.

DIRECTOR'S BIO

George Todria was born in 1982, known for his distinctive storytelling that blends cultural depth with a keen cinematic vision. He pursued his passion for filmmaking internationally, studying in New York before honing his craft at the prestigious N.U.C.T. film school, located within the iconic Cinecittà Studios in Rome, Italy. With experience as an assistant director on various American and European projects, he has directed three short films, including

Lost Village, which was in competition at the Clermont-Ferrand International Short Film Festival and won awards at multiple festivals worldwide. His latest short film, Amaia's Guests, is currently making its way through the festival circuit.

PRODUCER'S NOTE

Born from the raw stories of trafficking survivors, this film dives deep into the often-silenced tragedy of human trafficking in Georgia, a country uniquely positioned between East and West. Its geography makes it a crossroads not only for trade but, tragically, for human lives. Hidden from the world and set against this unsettling reality, the film explores the fate of countless women who, in search of a better life, are ensnared in a web of servitude. Their stories are chillingly familiar—loved ones left behind, unaware, while they vanish without a trace.

PRODUCER'S BIO

Miguel Ángel Jiménez (Madrid, 1979). In 2003 he shot his first short film in 35mm, *Las huellas*, co-produced by Aki Kaurismäki. In 2007 he founded the production company Kinoskopik Film Produktion. His works include the feature films *Ori* (2009), *Chaika* (2012)—both competitors in San Sebastian's New Directors section and *Window to the Sea* starring Emma Suarez. Kinoskopik is an independent production company based in the Basque Country, Spain. Focusing on the development and production of fiction and creative documentary projects that combine artistic integrity with international commercial potential. The company is a member of the Spanish Federation of Associations of Audiovisual Producers (FAPAE).

MAGDA

Magda

2

Directed by: **Lili Laura Tóth**

Produced by **Viktória Dénes, Julianna Ugrin**

Hungary

Production Company: **Éclipse Film**

First Film

Supernatural/Mystery/Period/Historical

Financing already in place: 29,28 % ,

Estimated production costs: 409.583 €

Beginning of production: February 2027

Looking for: Co-producer, Financing, Sales

Representatives present

at Transilvania Pitch Stop:

Lili Laura Tóth, Director

Viktória Dénes, Julianna Ugrin, Producers

Contact Details

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Lili Laura Tóth



Viktória Dénes



Julianna Ugrin

MAGDA

A nun on the run with a supernatural gift returns to her ancestral village. The villagers can't decide if her powers come from the holy realm or from the dark forces of evil.

SYNOPSIS

1850s, somewhere in a secluded Carpathian village. Magda, a mysterious young woman in a nun's habit, returns to her ancestral home to care for a dying relative. Whispers of witchcraft follow her, but as she heals the sick during an epidemic, fear turns to reverence. Her bond with Ábel, the community's beloved teacher, ends in betrayal and murder. Branded a witch, Magda is hunted—until she unleashes a storm that shakes the village. In the calm that follows, she vanishes. Her path becomes a quiet testament to the cost of difference, and the strength to embrace one's true self.

DIRECTOR'S NOTE

"Magda" is a deeply personal story for me — one of isolation, misunderstood power, and the yearning to belong. I've long been drawn to the stark, mysterious world of folk ballads, and this film is my attempt to translate that poetic language into cinema. Witchcraft fascinates me as a projection of collective fear — how young, defiant, marginalized women become scapegoats for a society that fears what it cannot control. Though set in a superstitious past, Magda's journey mirrors a timeless human struggle — alienation, otherness, and the need for acceptance — deeply rooted in our shared Central and Eastern European history, where trauma, resilience, and myth still live beneath the surface.

DIRECTOR'S BIO

Lili Laura Tóth is an emerging director from Budapest, Hungary. After she graduated in 2017 from Eötvös Loránd University's department of film theory and history, she was admitted to the directing class of the University of Theater and Film Arts in Budapest. Her leading teachers and mentors were Ildikó Enyedi and Attila Gigor. Throughout her university years, Lili showcased her versatility by creating several short films, which spanned various genres - be it magical realist drama, coming-of-age dramedy or experimental

documentary. In 2024, she participated in Berlinale's Talents Sarajevo. Magda is her first feature film.

PRODUCER'S NOTE

Set in 1850s Hungary, Magda's story explores timeless human values and emotions – like our connection to strangers and the longing for acceptance –, making it profoundly relevant on a global scale. We are passionate about amplifying the voices of emerging female filmmakers, and our vision includes an international cast and crew to support the film's global appeal and co-financing potential. We are seeking an international co-producer for financing, post-production, and part of the shoot. Our plan-A is to apply with the final script for production support to the National Film Institute and use Hungary's 30% Tax Incentive, but we are open to discussing international financing possibilities. We also plan to apply for Eurimages.

PRODUCER'S BIO

Viktória Dénes graduated as a Producer from the University of Theater and Film Arts, Budapest. A Green Film Lab and Talents Sarajevo alumna, she is dedicated to sustainable production. She joined Éclipse Film in 2022, now developing her debut feature Magda as a producer.

Julianna Ugrin, EFA-nominated producer and founder of Éclipse Film, focuses on creative documentaries. Her films screened at Sundance, IDFA, Locarno, and more. A EURODOC, EAVE, and Producers on the Move alumna, board member of DAE and MADOKÉ.

Éclipse Film is a key hub for Hungarian documentary talent. The company nurtures first-time directors and connects them to the global market. Its award-winning films include *A Woman Captured*, *Easy Lessons*, and *The Next Guardian*.

FORESTS WITHOUT WOLVES

3

Păduri fără lupi

Directed by **Ioane Bobeica**

Produced by **Ioane Bobeica**

Republic of Moldova

Production Company: **Imaginar Pro**

Second Film

Thriller/ Detective

Financing already in place: 42.86%

Estimated production costs: 420.000 €

Beginning of production: August 2025

Looking for: Co-production/ Partnerships

Representatives present at Transilvania Pitch Stop:

Ioane Bobeica, Director/Producer

Ioana Macari, Producer

Contact Details

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Ioane Bobeica

FORESTS WITHOUT WOLVES

The last inhabitant of a ghost village becomes the defender of a stray wolf suspected of murdering a child.

SYNOPSIS

After a stray wolf takes over a ghost village, the last remaining inhabitant, old Luchean, enters a territorial showdown with the wolf. But when the beast becomes suspected of the murder of a child from the neighboring village, the old man realizes that the wolf's appearance is actually concealing a crime, and - like a beast's advocate - begins an independent investigation, but one that surprisingly also leads him down a long-forgotten path from his childhood.

DIRECTOR'S NOTE

"Forests Without Wolves" is a mystical thriller about people who, in an attempt to save their love and beliefs, end up losing their humanity. The story is narrated by an uncle, from a cold and objective perspective, as a meditation on the choice between hate and forgiveness. The movie explores the subjective nature of truth, man's need for meaning and the obsession with perfect death. Aesthetically, it combines Malick's biblical lyricism with the Coen brothers' subtle irony.

DIRECTOR'S BIO

Ioane Bobeica was born on January 20, 1993 in Moldova. He studied film directing in Chisinau.

In 2023 he debuts with the feature film *Tunete*, as co-producer, screenwriter, director and cinematographer.

Ioane Bobeica becomes a laureate of the Ministry of Culture, being named filmmaker of the year. He also received three awards at the Moldovan Filmmakers Gala: Best Actor; Best Actress; and Best Picture.

Internationally, *Tunete* has won various awards and selections. The biggest achievement is the selection at the IFFIGOA Indian Film Festival.

PRODUCER'S NOTE

"Forests Without Wolves" is a detective thriller with shades of folkloric mysticism, combining art-house cinema with mass

appeal. Although the story is set in a familiar area, the movie breaks out of the norm with a performative, atmospheric and unconventional approach. We want a movie that will surprise the local audience, attract the attention of international festivals and, above all, contribute to the definition of an authentic and courageous Moldovan cinematic identity.

**PRODUCTION COMPANY/
PRODUCER’S BIO**

The producing company as well as the producer has no track record as it is a newly founded company. The producer, who is also the director of the movie, is relying on the skills he has gained by learning from the experience of the previous movie, as well as from participating in other sound projects in Moldova.

AT KING'S GATE 4

La poarta craiului

Directed by **Ilinca Straton, Eugen Dediu**

Produced by **Marian Crişan, Eugen Dediu**

Romania

Production Company: **Rova / Creative Intermission**

First Film

Drama, Period/Historical, War

Financing already in place: 33.5%

Estimated production costs: 784.500 €

Beginning of production: October 2026

Looking for: Coproducers, Distribution, Film festivals

Representatives present at Transilvania Pitch Stop:

Ilinca Straton, Director

Eugen Dediu, Director/ Producer

Marian Crişan, Producer

Contact Details

office@rovafilm.ro



Ilinca Straton



Eugen Dediu



Marian Crişan

AT KING'S GATE

In 1916 Transylvania, as the turmoil of The Great War draws near, a widowed teacher tries to escape her abusive step-father, hoping for a better future for her twelve-year-old daughter.

SYNOPSIS

On New Year's 1915, Victoria, a widowed schoolteacher, together with her daughter Petra, returns after a prolonged absence to her parents' home in Șirnea, in order to care for her ailing mother. She immediately comes into conflict with her stepfather, Simion, an aggressive and authoritarian man. Ten months later, after her mother's death and the increasing threat of The Great War reaching their village, Victoria decides to leave once more in the pursuit of a better life. She will have to adapt to a crumbling world in order to survive both Simion's abuse and to carve a better future for Petra.

DIRECTOR'S NOTE

The story of Victoria, a woman with strength, is about determination, and hope in a man's world. She struggles for her daughter's life after losing everything – her husband, her mother, her home. Identity and belonging are defining themes and hope is the characters' engine. Petra, the daughter, feels even more deeply the lack of identity confronting the loss of innocence in a world that is crumbling, suffering a steep maturing that shapes a broad narrative dimension which permits us to study the characters through a "magnifying glass," in their true complexity.

DIRECTOR'S BIO

Eugen Dediu is a graduate of UNATC "I.L. Caragiale", Film and TV Directing, BA, MA and PHD. He has been working in the film industry since 2018, having written and directed several short films which were screened in film festivals such as (Stockholm IFF, Jihlava IDFF, Chelsea IFF, MIFEC etc.). In 2019, he was one of the finalists of the EUandME short film competition and in 2020 & 2021, he was part of Sarajevo Talents at the Sarajevo Film Festival. Ilinca Straton is a screenwriter and director. She graduated from the Faculty of Theatre and Film, Babes-Bolyai University (BA, MA) in Cluj-Napoca. She directed the short film COASTA and has worked as an

Assistant Director, Production Manager and Production Assistant for feature films and short films.

PRODUCER'S NOTE

At King's Gate is the first feature film for Ilinca Straton and Eugen Dediu, a couple of young filmmakers whose short films were recognized at many film festivals.

The original structure of the script and the quality of the writing make us confident in the value of this future film.

PRODUCTION COMPANY/ PRODUCER'S BIO

ROVA FILM is based in Bucharest, Romania and was started by film director Marian Crisan in 2005. He produced the short films PORTRET DE FAMILIE (Best Romanian Short, UCIN, 2007) and THE AMATEUR (Best short at L'Alternativa Barcelona 2008). In 2015, the company produced the first feature film ORIZONT, directed by Marian Crisan, in competition at Tallin IFF, the documentary feature film "THE SOVIET GARDEN", directed by Dragos Turea, Sarajevo IFF, 2019, "BERLINER/THE CAMPAIGN" in Competition of Moscow IFF, 2020 and "WARBOY" released in 2023.

GRANDPARENTS' PARADISE 5

Raiul bunicilor

Directed by **Alex Țibu, Șerban Racovițeanu**

Produced by **Diana Păroiu, Maximilian Liford**

Romania

Production Company: **Visual Walkabout**

First Film

Comedy/ Drama

Financing already in place: 24.92%

Estimated production costs: 1.346.500 €

Beginning of production: October 2027

Looking for: Co-Producers, Co-Financiers, Sales Agents

Representatives present

at Transilvania Pitch Stop:

Alex Țibu, Director

Șerban Racovițeanu, Director

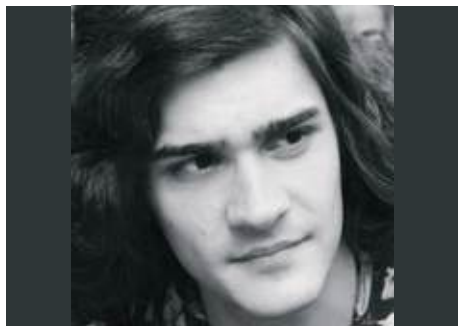
Maximilian Liford, Producer

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Alex Țibu



Șerban Racovițeanu



Maximilian Liford

GRANDPARENTS' PARADISE

After a friend's death, three quirky seniors break free from their retirement home with the help of a grandson, embarking on a hilarious and heartfelt journey of rediscovery and healing.

SYNOPSIS

After their buddy kicks the bucket, Violeta, Marian and Georgeta say “screw it” to bingo and break out of Grandparents’ Paradise, their retirement home situated in the heart of Romania. With Violeta’s TikTok-addicted grandson Andrei tagging along, and filming everything, they hit the road for a trip no filter can fix. What follows is a ride full of unexpected detours—horny truck drivers, brawling drunks, and social media fame. And a ticking clock – with the manager of the retirement home and Georgeta’s son on their tail, trying to cut their trip short. Along the way, they rediscover “la joie de vivre”, confront their past, and embrace a future they never thought possible. It’s time for these old-timers to show everyone they’re not done yet!

DIRECTOR’S NOTE

A Romanian road movie with wrinkles and soul. Inspired by an 84-year-old grandma who had a heart attack and didn’t tell anyone for four days. That moment made us realize: aging isn’t defeat — it’s defiance. “Grandparents’ Paradise” is our way of saying: aging isn’t the end. It’s the sequel. We invite you on a ride filled with comedic chaos, nostalgia, frictions between characters with super strong personalities, and bold choices. If “Thelma & Louise” had dinner with “Last Vegas” and cried a little — that’s our film. Funny, raw, and real. Because joy has no expiration date. Let’s stop and smell the roses!

DIRECTOR’S BIO

Alex Țibu and Șerban Racovițeanu are Romanian writer-directors and film graduates of UNATC Bucharest. Alex has recently graduated the Serial Eyes Berlin postgraduate programme for series writers and also works as a video editor, while Șerban directs music videos and commercials. Their work spans fiction, documentary, and genre storytelling, with selections at festivals like Curtas Vila do Conde, Pula IFF, and TIFF Cluj. They are co-writers and co-directors of “Grandparents’ Paradise”, currently in

financing at Visual Walkabout, and are also developing their thriller series "Traffic", at PRO TV, Romania's largest private broadcaster.

PRODUCER'S NOTE

It takes courage to come to terms with the past, but it's possible to reshape one's present and future. That's what we'll show with this bittersweet comedy-drama. Through their journey, our protagonists make peace with their past and gain a brighter outlook on life. They defy the conventional image of "elderly" as passive or out-of-touch. "Grandparents' Paradise" highlights the generational clash—where old-school wisdom meets modern social media—offering a unique, humorous take on how the older generation and Gen Z can learn from each other. It celebrates friendship, love, family, courage, laughter, changes in perspective and authentic connection, proving that no one is ever "done" with life.

PRODUCTION COMPANY/ PRODUCER'S BIO

Visual Walkabout is a Bucharest-based production company, working on daring auteur-driven features and high-end TV series. It is run by Romanian UK-educated producer Diana Păroiu. Diana's credits include *Mammalia* (d. Sebastian Mihăilescu, Berlinale Forum '23), *The Distance Between Me and Me* (d. Mona Nicoară & Dana Bunescu, Romanian Gopo Award for Best Documentary 2020), *Return to Seoul* (d. Davy Chou, Cannes Un Certain Regard '22) and *Families Like Ours* (Oscar-winning d. Thomas Vinterberg, Venice '24). Maximilian Liford is a Moldovan-Romanian producer, alumnus of UNATC Bucharest with a BA in directing and a MA in production. In university, Max produced festival shorts and worked on a DE-RO feature with the DFFB film school in Berlin.

HORSESHOE

6

Copitele calului

Directed by **Lucia Chicoș**

Produced by **Velvet Moraru**

Romania

Production Company: **ICON Production**

First Film

Drama

Financing already in place: 71%

Estimated production costs: 1.302.326 €

Beginning of production: July to September 2026

Looking for: Co-producers, Distributors

Representatives present at Transilvania Pitch Stop:

Lucia Chicoș, Director

Dan Lupu, Executive Producer

Contact Details

danlupu@iconfilm.ro



Dan Lupu



Lucia Chicoș



Velvet Moraru

HORSESHOE

Marta lives in a world of children - she teaches primary school and writes children's books. But when she gets pregnant at 40, she faces a tough, unexpected decision about becoming a mother herself.

SYNOPSIS

Marta, a 40-year-old primary school teacher and children's book author, accidentally gets pregnant by Raul, a younger man who is affectionate and playful but immature. Their unstable relationship is complicated by Raul's mother, Adriana, the school principal, who even offers to pay for Marta's abortion. As Marta faces pressures from family, friends, and a troubled new student, her doubts deepen. Surrounded by models of motherhood marked by struggle and disconnection, and despite the sense that life pushes her toward parenthood, Marta makes a quiet but final decision: not to become a mother.

DIRECTOR'S NOTE

Horseshoe is a tender, bittersweet portrait of a woman caught between generations, expectations, and unresolved childhoods — her own and others'. The film explores a world where no one seems to have fully grown up, least of all the adults. As Marta navigates an unexpected pregnancy, she is surrounded by overwhelmed mothers, absent fathers and adults stretched thin, with little of the patience and gentleness that children so vitally need in order to learn that the world is, essentially, a safe place. Despite its themes, the film resists melodrama, embracing humor and emotional nuance instead. We want Horseshoe to be a vibrant, spontaneous, and lively film, and to resonate deeply with those still learning how to take up space in the world.

DIRECTOR'S BIO

Lucia Chicoș (born 1998) is an emerging Romanian film director, currently developing her debut feature, "Horseshoe", written by Lavinia Braniște. A graduate of UNATC Bucharest (BA, MA in Film Directing, followed by a PhD), her work has already received international attention. Her short fiction film "Contraindications" won 3rd Prize in Cinéfondation (La Cinéf) at the 2020 Cannes Film Festival. She later directed the two fiction shorts "There Will

Come Soft Rains” and “Berliner Kindl”, the latter receiving a Special Mention of the Jury at TIFF in 2023. Her documentary work includes the short “Our Daily Work” (Ji.hlava IDFF 2020) and the feature-length “Where I Am Now”, co-directed with Alexandra Diaconu, and selected at IDFA in 2022.

PRODUCER’S NOTE

The script by Lavinia Braniște, one of Romania’s most important contemporary authors, caught my attention through its relevant themes: motherhood, the mother-daughter bond, absent fathers, transgenerational trauma, urban alienation, the uncertain hopes of the 30+ generation. I suggested the project to director Lucia Chicoș, whose short films I had followed with great interest, since her nuanced perspective, quiet humor, and emotional candour mirror the tone of Lavinia’s writing, making me confident in their creative partnership. With the support of the Romanian Film Center and private partners through the national levy system, we have already secured 70% of the budget and are now seeking international co-producers to complete the budget.

PRODUCTION COMPANY/ PRODUCER’S BIO

Establishing herself as one of the first independent producers in post-socialist Romania, Velvet Moraru founded ICON Production in early 1990s, a film company focused on art cinema production and on supporting first-time directors and projects with a strong social and political profile. She gained experience as executive producer for more than 80 documentaries and feature films alongside directors such as Tudor Giurgiu, Radu Muntean and Alexandru Solomon. Velvet Moraru is the producer behind several films that have screened in festivals such as Cannes, Locarno, Rome and Tallinn: Exam (2003), The Autobiography of Nicolae Ceausescu (2010), Quod Erat Demonstrandum (2013), Charleston (2017), Poppy Field (2020), Internal Zero (2025).

KAZIMIR

Kazimir

7

Directed by **Dorian Boguță**

Produced by **Cristina Badea, Andrei Boncea**

Romania

Production Companies: **Adenium Film / Frame Film**

Second Film

Horror

Financing already in place: 25%

Estimated production costs: 1.090.000 €

Beginning of production: October 2026

Looking for: Co-producers, Sales, Distribution

Representatives present at Transilvania Pitch Stop:

Cristina Badea, Producer

Contact Details

cristina.badea@adeniumfilm.ro



Dorian Boguță



Cristina Badea



Andrei Boncea

KAZIMIR

*Struck by a mysterious fever,
24 yo Samira seeks healing in
a remote village where survival
means facing a monstrous force
and confronting her painful past
and need for forgiveness.*

SYNOPSIS

After collapsing from a mysterious fever, 24-year-old Samira sets out with friends to find Kazimir, a priest said to heal the sick. In a remote village, they're hunted by a monster. Friends vanish or die, and a villager warns them Kazimir transforms under the full moon. Left alone, Samira takes refuge in an abandoned building. Samira's final confrontation with Kazimir reveals the fact that he is neither the healing priest, nor the killing monster, but he is actually Samira's father and the building itself is a chilling reflection of her buried guilt and unresolved trauma.

DIRECTOR'S NOTE

The story unfolds across three completely different worlds - one realistic, one dreamlike, and one that belongs to an entirely different dimension, the purgatory. Visually, the realistic world will be approached in a minimalist key, staying as close to truth as possible.

Moving into the protagonist's dreamlike universe we will take the viewer in a forgotten, archaic world that is difficult to place in time and space.

In the third dimension, all references to reality will be distorted. We will enter an abstract space, a subjective creation of the author, where the audience will be immersed solely through the lens of their own perceptions.

DIRECTOR'S BIO

Dorian Boguță is a Moldovan-born Romanian actor and director, born in 1971 in Chișinău. He began his acting career as an actor in 1984 and has appeared in over thirty films. In 2009, he made his directorial debut with the short film "10", followed by "From now on" (2012), which won several awards, including Best Romanian Short Film. His first feature film, "The Trace" (2019), was selected in several festivals including Cottbus Film Festival and Namur International Festival and earned the Gopo Award for Best Screenplay in 2021.

PRODUCER'S NOTE

The script tells a story about confronting one's deepest fears, the need for forgiveness, and the painful realization that sometimes the evil we try to control can manifest through those we love. This film stands out by blending the thriller-horror genre with an intimate drama about family trauma, while also offering a unique perspective on the clash between religion, science, and the inexplicable.

We believe the film has strong potential to resonate both locally and internationally, thanks to its emotional depth, universal themes, and bold genre approach. Its mix of cultural specificity and psychological complexity gives it wide appeal across diverse audiences.

PRODUCTION COMPANY/ PRODUCER'S BIO

With a formal education in Political Sciences, CRISTINA BADEA has a background in business and content development research and founded Adenium Film in 2015.

Through Adenium, Cristina produced and co-produced several projects, among which the documentary feature „Caliu: nothing else, what else could I do?“, dir. Simona Constantin, selected at Krakow IFF 2025, the fiction feature „SBCRDF“, dir. Iura Luncasu, selected at Transylvania IFF in 2023, the short fiction „Empiric“, dir. Ioana Turcan, selected in over 25 film festivals, the fiction TV series „TRIPLUSEC“ dir. Letitia Rosculeț, broadcast by ProTV and the documentary feature „The Man Who Went Looking for Freedom“, RO-NL coproduction, dir. Duco Tellegen, broadcast by BBC World News.

DESIRE

Heva

8

Directed by **Nuray Kayacan Sünbül**

Produced by **Nuray Kayacan Sünbül, Andrea Taschler, George Ovashvili**

Turkey

Production Companies: **Ahmetk Film - Turkey / Mirage Film - Hungary / Wagannet Film - Georgia**

First Film

Drama

Financing already in place: 40%

Estimated production costs: 850.000 €

Beginning of production: October – December 2026

Looking for: International co-producers, Gap financing, Sales agent and distribution support, Post-production partners, Broadcaster interest (TV or platform pre-buys), Festival strategy support, Networking and market exposure

Representatives present
at Transilvania Pitch Stop:
Nuray Kayacan Sünbül, Director/Producer
Andrea Taschler, Producer

Contact Details

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taschler@miragefilm.hu



Andrea Taschler



Nuray Kayacan Sünbül



George Ovashvili

DESIRE

Yakup, who married Zeynep, whom he thinks will not attract the attention of men to avoid experiencing the pain of betrayal again, gets caught between his feelings and pride when his ex-wife returns.

SYNOPSIS

Yakup earns a living by gathering reeds in Lake Eber and guiding hunters. When a hunter becomes involved with his wife Gülizar, they flee the village. Yakup, refusing revenge, chooses to protect his children from trauma. Isolated and overwhelmed, he marries Zeynep an older woman who doesn't speak Turkish to avoid betrayal again. Retreating into solitude, he leaves home responsibilities to her. The children blame Zeynep, but over time, her patience and compassion win them over. One day, Gülizar returns full of remorse. Yakup is caught between his emotions and his pride.

DIRECTOR'S NOTE

HEVA is rooted in a true story that revealed itself to me during a documentary shoot, where I met Asya a woman marked by deep trauma but radiating resilience. Her journey, and Sefer's painful choice to marry not for love but for survival, exposed the unseen emotional tremors behind familiar societal fractures: betrayal, shame, and the quiet strength of endurance. What moved me most was the human cost of one person's mistake the cascading effect on lives, dignity, and the fragile balance between tradition and personal will. This film is my attempt to capture that raw truth: how people, in their quiet suffering and resistance, shape the very soul of society. HEVA is a meditation on what remains after the collapse of love, family, and trust. It reflects the deep emotional fractures that mark both individuals and communities. Avoiding spectacle, the film confronts the human truths behind violence and injustice with sincerity and restraint. At its core, it is a story of dignity: the quiet resistance of women who refuse to give in to despair, and the perseverance of men who, though broken, try to hold together what remains.

DIRECTOR'S BIO

Nuray Kayacan Sünbül is an Istanbul-based filmmaker with a background in sociology

and screenwriting. Between 2018 and 2024, she directed a series of award-winning documentaries including *The Left Behind*, *Bishwa İtema*, *Mercy "Journey to Despair"*, *Node*, *Blood and Sweat: A Champion's Story* and *Spiritual Guide*. Her debut feature film project *Heva/Desire* was awarded First Film Production Support by the Turkish Ministry of Culture and Tourism in 2024. She currently serves as a producer and director at TRT, Turkey's national public broadcaster.

PRODUCER'S NOTE

HEVA / DESIRE offers both a powerful character-driven drama and a profound reflection on social disintegration. While adding emotional depth to a familiar story, the film invites the audience not only to witness, but also to question. Grounded in true events, it allows viewers to identify with the characters on a deeply personal level. Themes such as female agency, family dynamics, conscience, and fate carry resonance beyond their cultural context. This project blends artistic ambition with strong international festival and distribution potential. As the producing team, our aim is to bring HEVA to a global audience and highlight its universal emotional reach through a story that speaks to shared human truths.

PRODUCTION COMPANY/ PRODUCER'S BIO

Nuray Kayacan Sünbül is a director and producer at TRT. She has directed award-winning films that have been screened at national and international festivals. Andrea Taschler, founder of Mirage Film Studio in Budapest, is an EAVE graduate and a Producers on the Move alumna. She has produced several international co-productions, including *Genesis* and *That Trip We Took with Dad*, and focuses on daring, auteur-driven cinema.

George Ovashvili is a Georgian director whose films, such as *Corn Island* and *The Other Bank*, have won over 50 international awards and were shortlisted for the Oscars and European Film Awards. Together, they form a strong creative and production alliance rooted in diverse regional voices and global cinematic vision.

PIATRAMARE

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Piatramare

Directed by **Gökçe Erdem**

Produced by **İpek Erden**

Turkey

Production Company: **Vayka Film**

First Film

Drama, Coming-of-age

Financing already in place: 55%

Estimated production costs: 600.000 €

Beginning of production: October 2026

Looking for: Co-producers, financing

Representatives present at Transilvania Pitch Stop:

Gökçe Erdem, Director

İpek Erden, Producer

Contact Details

info@vaykafilm.com



Gökçe Erdem



İpek Erden

PIATRAMARE

In Piatramare, personal home movies in early 2000s Turkey chronicle the women in a family as they each near a turning point in their lives amidst the country's changing backdrop.

SYNOPSIS

Piatramare chronicles a family's days during the 2001 economic crisis in Turkey. It begins with a ski trip to Romania, where news of the crisis unsettles parents Oya and Orhan. Back in Turkey, the strain worsens, leading to the collapse of their marriage. Over the next year, the film follows the emotional journey of the three women in the family: Oya redefines herself post-separation, Esra prepares to study abroad, and Derya, upset by Esra's departure, films their lives to hold onto their final moments together.

DIRECTOR'S NOTE

Piatramare's story is deeply personal. Growing up in Istanbul in the 90s and 00s, I began filmmaking by obsessively recording my family on a camcorder. These home videos, while seemingly innocent, evoke complex emotions. The film reflects my journey into womanhood during Turkey's early 2000s—a time often seen as the twilight of secularism—amidst personal and societal shifts. It questions the nostalgic lens I apply to the past, especially a pre-Erdoğan, upper-middle-class urban life. Shot on a VHS-C camera, the film adopts a raw, home-video style to reveal and interrogate my own melancholic longing and the unstable present I once tried to hold onto.

DIRECTOR'S BIO

Gökçe Erdem is a Toronto-based writer and director originating from Istanbul, Turkey. She holds a BFA in Film, Video & Integrated Media from Emily Carr University of Art & Design. Her works have been supported by the Canada, Ontario, Toronto Arts Councils and the Turkish Ministry of Culture. She was one of the selected directors to participate in the 2018 Locarno Filmmakers Academy; also an alumna of the Talents Sarajevo (2014), Reykjavik Talent Lab (2014), RIDM Talent Lab (2019) and Istanbul Film Festival's Meetings on the Bridge (2024). After premiering at the Sarajevo Film Festival,

Gökçe's short film, *Titanyum*, has screened at film festivals internationally and won awards.

PRODUCER'S NOTE

I've been following Gökçe Erdem's work through her short films. She has a distinct way of portraying her characters' emotions and relationships. *Piatramare* follows a family's moments over a year with a home-video style and varied techniques. We're in late development, revising the script with consultant GüleNGül Altıntaş, while also completing financing and seeking co-producers and sales partners. It's a co-production between three countries, mainly Turkey and Canada. We've received national/regional support from Canada and development/first feature support from Turkey's Ministry of Culture. Most will be shot in Turkey, with a part in Romania—we're looking for a co-producer, especially for that segment.

PRODUCTION COMPANY/ PRODUCER'S BIO

Vayka Film was founded in 2018 in Istanbul by İpek Erden, who has been active in the film industry since 2010. She studied Business at Koç University and the London School of Economics. She has worked on international and local productions including *Tinker Tailor Soldier Spy*, *Ali and Nino*, *Hakan: The Protector*, and *Love 101*. She founded Vayka Film to produce features, documentaries, and series. She was the line producer of *Aftersun* (2022), which won the Critics' Week Jury Prize at Cannes. Her latest production, *Nothing In Its Place* (2024), won Best Director and Best Art Director at the Adana Golden Boll Film Festival. She is an alum of Sarajevo Talents (2020) and EAVE Producers Workshop (2023). She is a member of the European Film Academy.

CHRISTMAS SNOW

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НА РІЗДВО ОБІЦЯЮТЬ СНІГ

Directed by **Oleksandra Teslenko**

Produced by **Serhii Demydov, Oleksandra Teslenko, Ruslan Teslenko**
Ukraine

Production Company: **Bulava Production/ Contrabas Video Production**

First Film

Family, Adventure, Comedy

Financing already in place: 80%

Estimated production costs: 633.000 €

Beginning of production: December - February 2026

Looking for: Distribution, Co-producer, Investors, Sales agencies.

Representatives present
at Transilvania Pitch Stop:
Oleksandra Teslenko, Director/ Producer
Ruslan Teslenko, Producer

Contact Details

contrabasvideo@gmail.com



Ruslan Teslenko



Oleksandra Teslenko



Serhii Demydov

CHRISTMAS SNOW

A ten-year-old boy's Christmas wish is to win the place of the soloist in the choir. But he meets a girl who has wished for the same victory for herself.

SYNOPSIS

This is a story about a young boy, Sashko, who sings in a choir and is preparing for a Christmas concert. One member of the choir will be chosen as a soloist. Sashko has a dream—to adopt a dog from a shelter. His Mom promises to buy him a dog if he becomes a soloist. Then he meets a girl Solia who also wants to be a soloist in the choir. Sol's father is a Ukrainian military man, he promised to return from the war when the first snow falls. They compete against each other to become the choir's top singer, and in the end they become friends.

DIRECTOR'S NOTE

"Christmas snow": My vision for this film is to portray the resilience and vibrant spirit of Ukraine, discovering moments of hope and magic even amidst wartime. Told through the eyes of determined children, Sashko and Solia, the narrative explores universal themes of dreams, perseverance, and the power of connection. I aim for a visual style that contrasts the reality of air raid sirens and shelters with the warmth of family, friendship, and unexpected wonders. The film balances humor, quirky characters, and genuine emotion. It's a story about finding joy and light when darkness threatens, proving that the song of the human spirit cannot be silenced

DIRECTOR'S BIO

Director, producer, mother, and project manager in the field of audiovisual arts, founder of the film company «Contrabas Video Production», which led to the establishment of a separate direction - the film school for children and adults «Contrabas Movie School» (Dnipro city).

PRODUCER'S NOTE

"Christmas snow": A heartwarming Christmas tale from Ukraine. Amidst wartime challenges, determined Sashko competes for a coveted concert solo. His motivation? To secure permission to

adopt a beloved shelter dog. Facing fierce rivalry from gifted Solia and eccentric judges, Sashko finds his true artistic voice. When air raid sirens disrupt their performance, the children and community exemplify resilience, moving the concert underground. This film blends humor, family dynamics, and winter magic into a moving testament to hope, dreams, and connection amidst adversity.

PRODUCTION COMPANY/ PRODUCER'S BIO

Contrabas video production – full-cycle advertising and film production, podcasts. We have our own cinema pavilion, equipment park, film school for children and adults. We work throughout Ukraine and abroad.

Serhii Demydov (BULAVA PRODUCTION)
Producer of television series and feature films. Working in the film industry since 2006.

Produced over 30 films and series Puppies (2025) - IMDb, Dwie siostry (2024) - IMDb, Bucha (2023) - IMDb, Citizens at War: A Year in Ukraine (TV Series 2023–) - IMDb, Koza Nostra (2022) - IMDb, There Will Be People (TV Mini Series 2020) - IMDb, Viddana (2020) - IMDb, Mr. Jones (2019) - IMDb



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