

Before Father Gets Back Press Kit



A film written & directed by Mari Gulbiani
75 minutes. Georgia/France/ Germany. HD. 16:9
Georgian (with English subtitles)
© Nushi Film (Georgia), LuFilms (France) TV78 (France),
in cooperation with Filmpunkt (Germany)

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World premiere @ Sheffield Doc/Fest 2018

GENERAL INFORMATION

Title:	Before Father Gets Back
Original title:	Sanam Mama Dabrundeba (Georgian)
Genre:	Documentary
Languages:	Georgian ()
Subtitles:	English
Duration:	75
Production year	2018
Format:	HD. 16:9
Sound:	Stereo
Director:	Mari Gulbiani (Georgia)
Editing:	Nina Graafland (Holland)
Cinematography:	Mari Gulbiani Nik Voigt Toto Kotetishvili
Sound design:	Matthias Weber
Original music:	Levan Mizandari
Producers:	Tekla Machavariani, Aleksandre Shervashidze (Georgia), Laurence Uebersfeld (France)
In Cooperation with:	Filmpunkt/ Stefan Tolz (Germany)
With the support of:	The Georgian National Film Center / Angoa/ Procirep Sociétés des
With the participation of:	Centre National du cinéma et de l'image animée

LOGLINE & SYNOPSIS

Logline

Many films have described the Jihadists and their violence, but none have given a voice to the families left behind.

Two girls are growing up in a valley where the outside world of radical Islamization tries to keep them down when they want to express themselves and explore the world.

Synopsis

In a darkened classroom, the white cracked walls serve as a movie screen. We are in a remote mountain village of Georgia. The light from the projector breaks the darkness: the kids' first cinematic experience is about to begin. Among them are Iman and Eva, two Muslim girls for whom the experience becomes a turning point and inspires them to take the camera and start filming their daily lives. The girls are growing up in a valley infested by radicalism, where most people are living in a constant fear of their relatives sacrificing their lives in the name of God.

THE DIRECTOR'S NOTE

I went to the Pankisi Gorge two years ago, believing films can transform reality. While teaching cinema in Pankisi's schools, I understood there was an important, yet untold, story: the lives of the daughters, wives and mothers of men turned jihadists and who left their villages. so, I took my camera and started to observe.

To tell the story I will use mosaic storytelling, where small stories and details will create whole film. Slowly as I did once, audience will enter the reality of the Pankisian people.

Very soon, I made a decision to give the camera Iman and Eva, so they could have their voice in this film. Cinema is the tool, which helps them to understand their lives and express themselves. When they are holding camera they feel free and confident.

The film consists of three layers: the first layer is Iman and Eva's story, their background, mostly defined through their fathers abroad and their families. The second layer is their friendship and the third one is the story of the Pankisi region itself.

My experience in the Pankisi Gorge has showed me that the local situation is at a crossroad. Which path will the new generation choose?

BIOGRAPHY & FILMOGRAPHY OF MARI GULBIANI

Mari Gulbiani is a Georgian film director and screenplay writer. After finishing her education in philology (1989-1994) at the Tbilisi State University, she studied film directing at the Theatre and Film State University from 2001 to 2006. She then fine-tuned her experience at the Parisian film school 'Ateliers Varan' from 2006 until 2010 to become a fully-fledged documentary film director. She has worked in the culture department of the main Georgian public TV station (TV1) in the years 1997-1999, and the program department of TV9 in 1999-2003. She founded the producing company Midifilm in 2007. From 2013, she worked for the Noosfera Foundation in the context of the 'Documentary Monday' project and in the program department of the documentary film festival CineDoc Tbilisi. She also worked for CineDoc Young as a section coordinator. In 2012, she coordinated the EFA Young Audience Award in Tbilisi.

FILMOGRAPHY:

2013 - „I am at home, you are on the way“ – feature fiction film, in development

2013 - “The shelter” full length documentary, in development–
screenplay writer, director and cinematographer;

2011-2012 – „Green Yarn“, documentary film series, Georgian public broadcasting TV

2011 – „High Above the clouds“, Documentary

2008 – Trilogy „The Door“, „The window“, „The music in the window“ – Short feature – screenplay writer and director

2006 - “City of Blind” (“Hey, Kesane, Kesane”) short doc – screenplay writer and Director, cinematographer

2006 - “Khorumi” - short feature – screenplay writer and director

2004. - “Green Apples” - short feature – screenplay writer and director

PRODUCERS

NUSHI FILM was founded in 2015 as a production company focusing on creative documentary, feature and short fiction genres. Since then, the company has won grants from the Georgian National Film Center several times and has co-produced films with European countries. Created in 2007, **LuFilms** is a Paris-based production company focusing on international projects. Its primary purpose is to serve as a development vehicle for projects written or co-written by authors around the world reflecting original points of view.

Its existence reflects a long history of collaboration between directors and producers who have worked together in wide range of different formats – from Channel 4 documentary to arthouse feature films – for over 15 years.

Filmpunkt is based in Cologne, Germany. Since 2004, the focus of production is feature documentaries and high-end TV documentaries ('The Search for Happiness', a TV series co-produced with WDR/ARD being one of the best-sold German doc series worldwide). The company received awards like the Lola (German National Film Award), BAFTA Scotland, Grimme, Prix Semaine de La Critique (Locarno), Golden Gate (San Francisco) among others.

"Before Father Gets Back" is co-produced by the French broadcaster **TV78**.



LuFilms



PRODUCTION DETAILS & PARTNERS

"Before Father Gets Back" has been supported and financed by the Georgian National Film Center, Angoa and

Procirep Sociétés des. The film has been made in association with **Stout&Smits** (Netherlands) .

"Before Father Gets Back" is also supported by the Centre National du cinéma et de l'image animée.

This film was developed in the frame of the Eurasiadoc scriptwriting residency in Tskaltubo in 2016 organized by Opyodoc and Docmonde, and made as part of the Lumière of Eurasia collection.

"Before Father Gets Back" was part of the East Doc Platform of Prague, Czech Republic (2017), to the When East Meets West, to the Last Stop Trieste section to the Trieste Film Festival, Italy (2017-2018), to the CineDOC-Tbilisi and Caucadoc pitching PitchDoc.

This film has been developed with the support of the dok.incubator workshop 2017



dok.incubator



Stout&Smits



DISTRIBUTION

"Before Father Gest Back" is distributed by the sales company Syndicado:

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Poster

