



Karlovy Vary
International Film Festival
Official Selection – Competition

IT'S NOT THE TIME OF MY LIFE

A FILM BY **SZABOLCS HAJDU**

ERIKA **TANKÓ** ORSOLYA **TÖRÖK-ILLYÉS** SZABOLCS **HAJDU** DOMOKOS **SZABÓ**
LUJZA **HAJDU** ZSIGMOND **HAJDU** IMRE **GELÁNYI** ÁGOTA **SZILÁGYI**

CINEMATOGRAPHY BY FLÓRA **CHILTON** DÁVID **GAJDICS** BETTI **HEJÜSZ** MÁRTON **KISTELEKI**
ÁKOS **K. KOVÁCS** PÉTER **MISKOLCZI** PÉTER **PÁSZTOR** TAMÁS **SIMON** MÁRK **SZALAI**
GÁBOR **SZILÁGYI** GERGELY **TÍMÁR** LEVENTE **TÓTH** AND CSABA **BÁNTÓ**

EDITED BY SZILVIA **PAPP** SOUND BALINT **ZÁNDOKI**

PRODUCER DÁNIEL **HERNER** ANDRÁS **MUHI** GÁBOR **FERENCZY** ZSÓFIA **MUHI**
EXECUTIVE PRODUCER SZABOLCS **HAJDU** ORSOLYA **TÖRÖK-ILLYÉS**

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IT'S NOT THE TIME OF MY LIFE

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Running time: 81 min

In association with
FILMWORKS LTD
LÁTÓKÉP ENSEMBLE
and FOCUSFOX STUDIO

CAST

Ernella

ERIKA TANKÓ

Eszter

ORSOLYA TÖRÖK-ILLYÉS

Farkas

SZABOLCS HAJDU

Albert

DOMOKOS SZABÓ

Laura

LUJZA HAJDU

Brúnó

ZSIGMOND HAJDU

Sanyi

IMRE GELÁNYI

Imola

ÁGOTA SZILÁGYI

CREW

| | |
|---------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Director | SZABOLCS HAJDU |
| Screenwriter | SZABOLCS HAJDU |
| Producers | DÁNIEL HERNER ANDRÁS MUHI GÁBOR FERENCZY ZSÓFIA MUHI |
| Executive Producers | SZABOLCS HAJDU ORSOLYA TÖRÖK-ILLYÉS |
| Editor | SZILVIA PAPP |
| Cinematographers | CSABA BÁNTÓ FLÓRA CHILTON DÁVID GAJDICS BETTI HEJÜSZ MÁRTON KISTELEKI ÁKOS K. KOVÁCS PÉTER MISKOLCZI PÉTER PÁSZTOR TAMÁS SIMON MÁRK SZALAI GÁBOR SZILÁGYI GERGELY TÍMÁR LEVENTE TÓTH |

SYNOPSIS

Eszter, her husband Farkas, and their five-year-old son Bruno are paid an unexpected visit in the middle of the night. Eszter's sister Ernella, her husband Albert and daughter Laura have returned from a year spent in Scotland where, contrary to expectations, they weren't able to settle down. It soon becomes clear that the two families had never really been in tune with one another.

The renowned Hungarian director hails from an impressive generation of filmmaking heavyweights (Mundruczó, Pálfi, Fliegauf) and is probably the least predictable in terms of his formal approach to the given subject matter. Here Hajdu presents an uncompromising, intimate study of two families thrown together by circumstance to temporarily share an unusual apartment; his picture also demonstrates a resolve unencumbered by scruples to get at what are often painful, naked truths about human relationships.

This independent movie, outstanding for its inventive production, precisely delineated characters, and performances that get under the skin, draws faithfully on the work of Cassavetes and Bergman.

DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT

We try to talk about ourselves. Our desires, doubts and concerns, our daily life, family, children and our parents. Perhaps when we talk about ourselves we talk about everyone else as well. We are not special. Our problems are similar. Things are all around us we just need to notice them and unfold the story. On a film, in a letter, in the bus stop or on the phone, the medium does not really matter. Forget formalities, just tell the story as long as we can, while you can. Let's recount the stories to each other about each other.

INTERVIEW WITH SZABOLCS HAJDU

Is It's not the Time of My Life an autobiographical film?

It is as autobiographical as any other art works. I do not feel undying desire to talk constantly about myself, but these are the problems I know the most and able to talk most accurate of as they affect me the most. The idea is that I am just one among many and when I talk about myself I talk about others as well as our problems are familiar. I do not believe that our experiences in relationships or raising kids are very different. These are the most common problems in everyday life we just mirror them in a refined way.

What kind of experience inspired you to start working on this film?

I used to go abroad regularly, also lived there for a bit with my family. We try to find out what makes us feel good or bad about Hungary. When I talked to foreigners who have been to Hungary they were all impressed by the beauty of Budapest as well as how cruel we are to each other. It does not matter if it is on a tram or on the street, but the smallest conflict rapidly gets to an extent where one starts to intimidate or humiliate the other. And this is related to the family level. Then you start looking for the reason: was it always like that or just recently, are we like that as well, if so, why? Are we dissatisfied, frustrated or disappointed? Of course there are many answers as well as different angles.



How does this appear in the film?

We present it through a simple situation: a family returns to Hungary after a year spent in another country. As they have nowhere to go, their relatives accommodates them, therefore, they have to coexist and tolerate each other as they share the same space. We started to investigate these relationships: the 2 families are reflected on each other, no one is happy about their circumstances and obviously they do not even think to blame themselves of their own condition. It actually creates funny and ironic situations that can be found at almost every family.

Are you making films reluctantly now?

Absolutely not. We have just wrapped It's not the Time of My Life and are planning the next one but we do not use the established channels. Moreover, I prefer simple stories but we are not necessarily are on the same page with those who decides about funds. This film is a very simple everyday story, therefore, I do not believe that the screenplay would have won anything on a competition. On the other hand, I wanted to show this small, invisible moment of life because I believe that it can turn into something bigger that everyone can identify.

BIOGRAPHY



SZABOLCS HAJDU

WRITER / DIRECTOR

Szabolcs Hajdu, screenwriter, actor, film and theatre director. Hajdu graduated at the University of Theatre and Film Arts Budapest in 2000 as film director. Since 2003, he has held numerous workshops and masterclasses in acting and directing at various universities and film forums in Hungary, Portugal, Germany and Mexico. His first feature film, *STICKY MATTERS* (2000) won the award for best first film at the Hungarian Film Week, as well as the Special Jury Prize at the Kiev Molodist International Film Festival. His further films, such as *TAMARA* (2004) and *OFF HOLLYWOOD* (2007) were also internationally acclaimed. His 2006 film *WHITE PALMS* premiered at the Festival de Cannes – Quinzaine de Réalisateurs, more received the Special Mention of the jury of the „East of the West- competition” section at the 41 st Karlovy Vary International Film Festival. The film was inspired by the director’s own childhood memories and his brother’s experience as a professional gymnast. *BIBLIOTHEQUE PASCAL* (2010) premiered at the Berlinale and went onto win numerous awards all over the world. Both *WHITE PALMS* and *BIBLIOTHEQUE PASCAL* were selected as the Hungarian entry for the Academy Awards in 2010 and 2011. His latest work, *MIRAGE* was released in 2014 at Toronto International Film Festival.



EDUCATION

1995-2000 University of Theatre and Film, Budapest – Film Director

TUITION EXPERIENCE

2012 Centro de Capacitación Cinematográfica, Mexico City – masterclass film directing
2011-2012 University of Applied Sciences, Budapest – film directing
2011 Deutsche Filmakademie, Ludwigsburg – masterclass film directing
2005, 2007 University of Theatre and Film, Budapest – acting
2005 Avanca Film Forum, Portugal – acting, film directing
2003, 2005, 2015 Filmtett-Duna Múhely Creative Workshop – acting, film directing

SELECTED FILMOGRAPHY

IT'S NOT THE TIME OF MY LIFE

2016, DCP, 81 min, color

World Premiere: 2016 Karlovy Vary International Film Festival – Competition

MIRAGE

2014, 35 mm, 105 min, color

World Premier: 2014 Toronto International Film Festival – Contemporary World Cinema

Festivals

Montreal International Black Film Festival | Haifa International Film Festival | Antalya Golden Orange IFF | Alter-Native Internatoinal Film Festival | Stockholm International Film Festival | Mannheim International Film Festival | Essonne – Cinessonne | Tallinn Black Nights Film Festival | International Film Festival of India, Goa | Marrakech International Film Festival | Palm Springs International Film Festival | Stockfish European Film Festival | Ficunam Film Festival | Sofia IFF | Febiofest - Prague | Cleveland International Film Festival | Uruguay IFF (Montevideo) | Bucharest International Film Festival | Temesvár TIFF | Seattle IFF | Berck-sur-Mer Cinemondes FF | Palics European FF | Kolozsvár IFF | Uherske Hradiste-Summer Film School | Maine IFF - Waterville USA | L'Étrange FF - Párizs | The Brno House of Arts

Project Markets

- Rotterdam International Film Festival – Cinemart
- Paris Cinema – Paris Project
- Sarajevo International Film Festival – CineLin

BIBLIOTHEQUE PASCAL

2010, 35mm, 106 min, color

Hungarian entry for the 2011 Academy Awards' Best Foreign Film

World Premiere: 2010 Berlin International Film Festival -Forum

Awards

- Rouen A l'Est, du nouveau / Grand Prix
- Tiburon International Film Festival / Best Screenplay, Best Cinematography
- Ankara Festival on Wheels / Turkish Film Critics Association's Award
- Budapest Hungarian Film Week / Golden Reel Main Prize, Best Cinematography
- Ostrava Kamera Oko / Main Award to András Nagy
- Sarajevo Film Festival / CICA Award, Cineuropa Award

Festivals

Mar del Plata International Film Festival | Torino Film Festival | Melbourne International Film Festival | Paris Forum des Images | Pusan International Film Festival | Rio de Janeiro IFF | Sarajevo Film Festival | Seville Film Festival | Stockholm International Film Festival | Tallinn Black Nights Film Festival | Warsaw International Film Festival | Ostrava Kamera Oko | Hungarian Film Week | Belgrade International Film Festival | Brussels EuroCine 27 | Chicago EU Film Festival | Cleveland International Film Festival | Minneapolis St. Paul International Film Festival | Palic International Film Festival | Palm Springs International Film Festival | Seattle International Film Festival | Tiburon International Film Festival | Amsterdam Pluk de Nacht | Ankara Festival on Wheels Austin Fantastic Fest | Brussels Festival of European Film | Denver International Film Festival | Granada Young Filmmaker Festival | Istanbul Rendez-Vous | Kiev Molodist International Film Festival | Los Angeles Film Festival ...

WHITE PALMS

2007, 35mm, 100 min, color

Hungarian entry for the 2018 Academy Awards' Best Foreign Film

World Premiere: 2007 Festival de Cannes – Quinzaine de Réalisateurs

Awards

- Budapest Hungarian Film Week – Best Director, Best Cinematography, Best Producer, Best Editor, Gene Moskowitz Prize awarded by the foreign critics, People's Choice via Internet
- Essonne Cinesonne – Grand Prix
- Istanbul Cinema & History Meeting International Film Festival – Best Film
- Karlovy Vary International Film Festival - Special Mention East of the West
- Ljubljana International Film Festival – Fipresci Award
- Trencianske Teplice Art Film Festival – Best Screenplay

Festivals

Toronto International Film Festival | Pusan International Film Festival | Vancouver EU Film Festival | Budapest Hungarian Film Week | Transilvania International Film Festival | Copenhagen CPH:PIX | Karlovy Vary International

Film Festival | Seattle International Film Festival | Los Angeles AFI Fest | Bangkok International Film Festival | Warsaw International Film Festival | Luxembourg CinÉast | Les Arcs European Film Festival | Cabourg Film Festival | Alès Film Festival | Genova Festival Nuovo Cinema Europa | Kaunas International Film Festival | Palic International Film Festival | Plzen Finale | Rio de Janeiro IFF | Saint-Petersburg Festival of Festivals | Trieste Film Festival | Vukovar Film Festival | Almaty Eurasia | L'Autre Cinema | Bratislava International Film Festival | Cottbus FilmFestival | Essonne Cinesonne | Istanbul Cinema & History Meeting | Ljubljana International Film Festival | Munich Film Festival | Rouen A l'Est du nouveau | Seville Film Festival | Thessaloniki International Film Festival | Trencianske Teplice Art Film Festival

OFF HOLLYWOOD

2007, 16mm, 76 min, color

Festivals

Edinburgh International Film Festival: „Director's Showcase” | Transilvania International Film Festival | Palic International Film Festival | Budapest Hungarian Film Week

TAMARA

2004, 35mm, 75 min, color

Awards

- Avanca Film Festival – Cinema Prize
- Budapest Hungarian Film Week – Special Prize for Best Production Design

Festivals

Mar del Plata International Film Festival | Roma Film Festival | Budapest Hungarian Film Week | Tallinn Black Nights Film Festival | Shanghai International Film Festival | Koszalin Debut Film Festival | San Francisco International Film Festival | Vilnius International Film Festival | Leeuwarden Noordelijk Film Festival | Avanca Film Festival

STICKY MATTERS

2000, 35mm, 100 min, color

Awards

- Budapest Hungarian Film Week – Best First Film Director, Best Editor
- Kiev Molodist International Film Festival – Special Prize of the Jury

Festivals

Rotterdam International Film Festival | Saint-Petersburg Festival of Festivals | Montevideo International Film Festival of Uruguay | Palic International Film Festival | Prague Febifest | Budapest Hungarian Film Week | Kiev Molodist | Tallinn Black Nights Film Festival

CAST

ORSOLYA TÖRÖK-ILLYÉS

(ESZTER)

Orsolya Török Illyés was born in 1977 in Tirgu-Mures (Marosvásárhely, Romania) of Hungarian origins. She graduated from the Tirgu-Mures University of Arts in 2000. From 1999 as a member of the Tamási Áron Theatre Co., Sf. Gheorghe (Romania), she has appeared in several stage productions and worked in Budapest theatres as well. The Transborder Hungarian Theatres Meeting awarded Most Promising Talent Prize for her artistic achievement in 2001. Her career on the big screen began with Szabolcs Hajdu's critically acclaimed feature debut, *Sticky Matters* in 2000 and it was followed by several leading roles in Hungarian feature films. She played the leading role in *Bibliothèque Pascal*, an outstanding hit on the festival circuit, which was Hungary's official entry for the Best Foreign Language Film's Oscar® in 2010. In 2011 she has been awarded Best Actress for *Bibliothèque Pascal*, by the Hungarian Film Critics Association. Her most recent work is Szabolcs Hajdu's upcoming feature, *It's Not The Time Of My Life*.



SELECTED FILMOGRAPHY

It's Not The Time Of My Life | Ernelláék Farkaséknál | 2016 | Szabolcs Hajdu

Mirage | Délibáb | 2014 | Szabolcs Hajdu | Hungary

From Love with Best Intentions | Din dragoste cu cele mai bune intentii | 2011 | Adrian Sitaru | Romania-France

Bibliothèque Pascal | 2010 | Szabolcs Hajdu | Hungary-Germany

Mama (short) | 2009 | Géza M. Tóth (Oscar® nominee) | Hungary

Off Hollywood | 2007 | Szabolcs Hajdu | Hungary

Tamara | 2004 | Szabolcs Hajdu | Hungary-Germany

St. Ivan's Day | Szent Iván napja | 2003 | Zsolt Meskó | Hungary

Sticky Matters | Macerás ügyek | 2000 | Szabolcs Hajdu | Hungary

ERIKA TANKÓ

(ERNELLA)

Erika Tankó was born in Lunca de Jos (Gyimesközéplak, Romania). After graduating from Tirgu-Mures University of Arts in 2004 she became the member of Hungarian State Theatre in Timisoara. Since 2010 she has been a permanent member of the independent Maladype Theater in Budapest. The company developed a unique language and methodology that is not only understood by its artists but also by its ever growing audience. Their approach focuses on an intensive and continuous relationship between the artist and audience allowing open communication by facilitating public rehearsals.

SELECTED FILMOGRAPHY

It's Not The Time Of My Life | Ernelláék Farkaséknál | 2016 | Szabolcs Hajdu

Tabula rasa | 2015 | Sándor Csoma | Hungary

Boszorkánykör | 2009 | Dezső Zsigmond | Hungary



DOMOKOS SZABÓ

(ALBERT)

Domokos Szabó was born in 1975 in Debrecen. He was the member of Alföld Children's Theatre from the age of 10 together with Szabolcs Hajdu, participating in thousands of successful and award-winning performances with the company. He has been the founding member of the legendary Hólyagcikusz Company and the performances are the mix of chamber opera, circus, musical drama and visual theatre consists of unusual musical instruments. His film career started as the leading actor in Szabolcs Hajdu's Necropolis in 1998. It followed other Hajdu features such as Sticky Matters and Tamara that participated at many festivals around the world.

SELECTED FILMOGRAPHY

Most of the Souls that Live Here | Az itt élő lelkek nagy része | 2015 | Igor and Ivan Buharov

Weekend | Víkend | 2015 | Áron Máttyássy | Hungary

Off Hollywood | 2007 | Szabolcs Hajdu | Hungary

Tamara | 2003 | Szabolcs Hajdu | Hungary

Chico | 2001 | Ibolya Fekete | Hungary

Sticky Matters | Macerás ügyek | 2000 | Szabolcs Hajdu | Hungary

Necropolis | 1998 | Szabolcs Hajdu | Hungary



PRODUCERS

DÁNIEL HERNER

Dániel Herner was born in 1975 in Szeged, Hungary. He is a producer known for **Napozz Holddal – A Kispálfilm** (2010).

ANDRÁS MUHI

András Muhi was born in 1956 in Budapest, Hungary. He is a producer known for **The World is Big and Salvation Lurks Around the Corner** (2008), **Womb** (2010) and **The Investigator** (2008).

GÁBOR FERENCZY

Gábor Ferenczy is a producer known for **S.O.S. Love** (2011), **Mirage** (2014), **Corn Island** (2014), **No Man's Island** (2014) and **To Lay Tímea Hajnal** (2014).

ZSÓFIA MUHI

Zsófia Muhi was born in 1993 in Budapest, Hungary. She is a casting director and producer, known for **Lily Lane** (2016), **Brasils** (2016) and **On Soul and Body** (2016).

PRODUCTION COMPANIES

FILMWORKS

Contact: Dániel Herner
ceo@filmworks.hu
+36 70 363 5561

filmworks



LÁTÓKÉP ENSEMBLE

Contact: Szabolcs Hajdu
latokep@gmail.com

LÁTÓKÉP
-ensemble

FOCUSFOX

Contact: Gábor Ferenczy
gferenczy@focusfox.hu
+36 30 944 7000

FOCUSFOX

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BIG BANG MEDIA

Press contact: Judit Andrassy
judit.andrassy@bigbangmedia.eu
+36 30 508 6973

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