



Karlovy Vary  
International Film Festival  
East of the West – Competition

MAIKEN SCHMIDT

HENDRIK TOOMPERE JR

TIIT LILLEORG

# THE END OF THE CHAIN

Directed by Priit Pääsuke

ALEXANDRA FILM

LUXFILM

FILMIVABRIK 

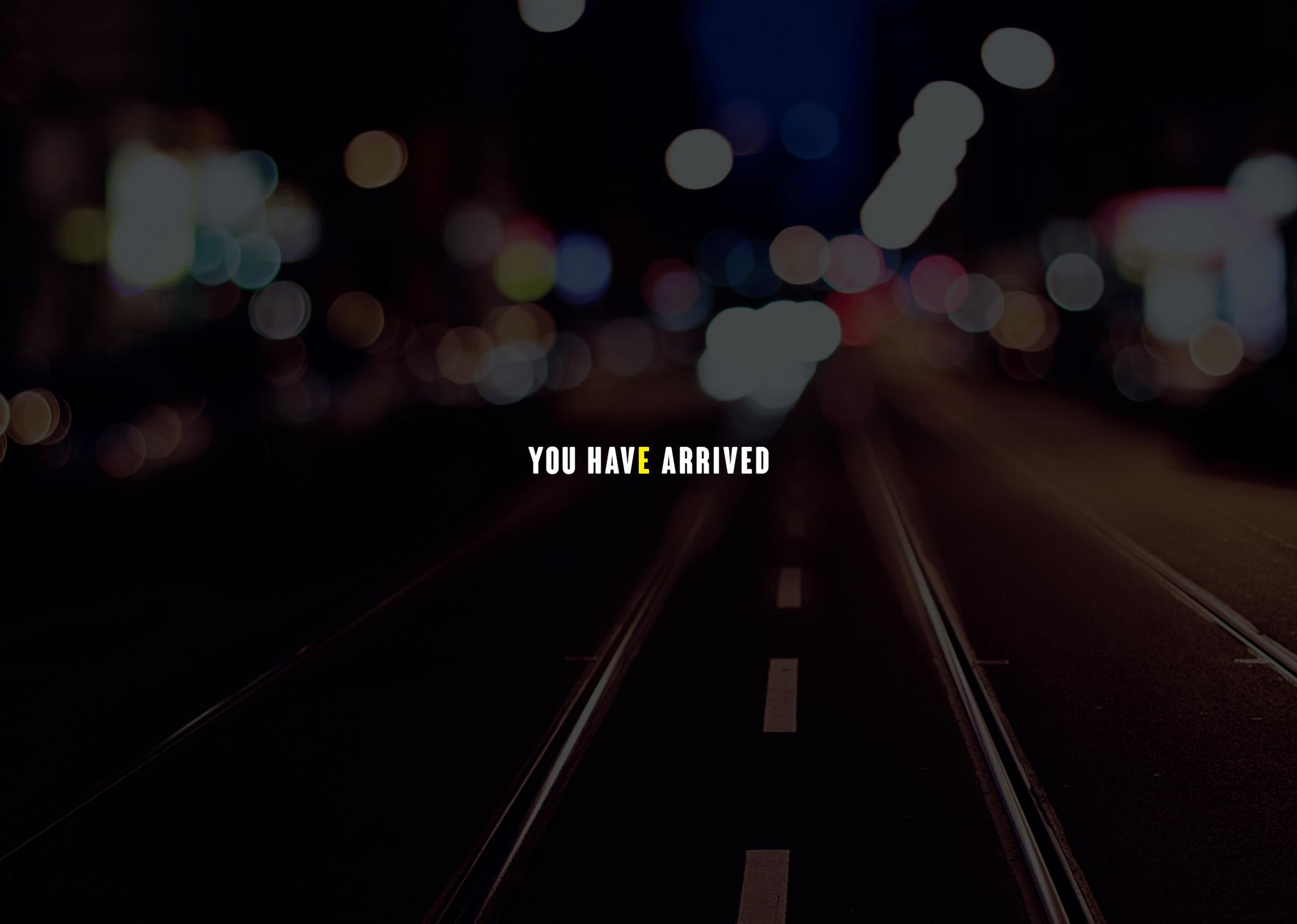
ANGEL FILMS 

CINEUNIT 

Eesti Filmi Instituut 

EESTI KULTUURKAPITAL 

VAATA FILMI 

A dark, atmospheric photograph of a road at night. The road is the central focus, with a dashed white line down the middle and solid white lines on the sides. The background is filled with out-of-focus, colorful bokeh lights in shades of blue, white, yellow, and red, suggesting a city skyline or traffic lights. The overall mood is mysterious and celebratory.

**YOU HAVE ARRIVED**

A secluded fast food joint next to an empty parking lot, where it's good to go, because nobody recognizes you there. On a rainy autumnal day, people show up one after the other – all of them on the verge of a breakdown - or perhaps a breakthrough? The main character, Waitress, sees and absorbs it all. One by one - through their personal drama - the clients push the Waitress towards her own edge.

**The End of The Chain** tells a story of people in the middle of a crisis - both in their souls and in the world around them. It is a film about the wish to find an anchor in life and the need to feel understood and approved. Deep topics are spiced up with smart and nuanced humor.

**The End of The Chain** is based on a theatre play by an Estonian Oxford philosophy, political sciences and economics graduate Paavo Piik and born out of our curiosity for this post-dramatic material carrying a strong statement about the contemporary urban life.

**Original title:** Ketilõpp

**Genre:** drama-comedy

**Duration:** 81 min

**Language:** Estonian, Russian

**Subtitles:** English

**Screening format:** DCP / color

**Aspect ratio:** 2.39:1

**Sound:** 5.1

**Production country:** Estonia

**Year of production:** 2017

**Domestic release:** 20 October 2017

**Local distributor:** Vaata Filmi

**World premiere:** Karlovy Vary IFF 2017 - East of The West Competition Program

**Director:** Priit Pääsuke

**Main cast:** Maiken Schmidt, Hendrik Toompere jr

**Screenwriter:** Paavo Piik

**Cinematographer:** Meelis Veeremets ESC

**Production & Costume Designer:** Eugen Tamberg

**Composer:** Rainer Jancis, Ann Reimann

**Editors:** Priit Pääsuke, Margo Siimon, Valter

Nõmm, Meel Paliale

**Sound Designer:** Ann Reimann

**Producer:** Marianne Ostrat

[www.facebook.com/ketilopp](https://www.facebook.com/ketilopp)

**Download hi-resolution photos:**

<https://www.dropbox.com/sh/q7it7buhdbok5vq/AABchfcKvSeAoWvblruuEkura?dl=0>

## CAST



### MAIKEN SCHMIDT

**Maiken Schmidt** (b. 1985) is an Estonian actress and a dancer. She graduated from the Tallinn University with a BA in choreography in 2006 and from the Drama School of Estonian Academy of Music and Theatre in 2012. Since 2012 she works in Tallinn City Theatre as an actress. **The End of The Chain** is Maiken's debut feature in a leading role. She will play one of the leading roles in upcoming Estonian epic drama **Truth and Justice** by Tanel Toom, to be released in 2019.



### HENDRIK TOOMPERE JR

**Hendrik Toompere jr** (b. 1986) is an Estonian actor and theatre director. He graduated from the Drama School of Estonian Academy of Music and Theatre in 2010 and since then works as a actor and director in the Estonian Drama Theatre. **The End of The Chain** is Hendrik's fifth feature film - in 2016 he played the lead in **The Days That Confused** by Triin Ruumet, that won the Jury Prize of Karlovy Vary IFF East of The West Competition program.

### IN SUPPORTING ROLES:

**Jürgen Liik** (November), **Evelin Võigemast** (The Man Who Looks Like Me), **Tiit Lilleorg** (The Secret Society of Souptown), **Ott Aardam** (The Secret Society of Souptown, Names in Marble, The Days That Confused), **Ester Kuntu**, **Ilya Nartov**, **Katariina Tamm**, **Piret Krumm**, **Hendrik Kalmet**, **Priit Pius** and comedian **Mattias Naan**.

## CREW



Director

### PRIIT PÄÄSUKE

**Priit Pääsuke** (b. 1975) graduated from the Tallinn University with BA in film directing in 2005. Currently he is graduating from the MA program of theatre and film directing at the Drama School of Estonian Academy of Music and Theatre. Priit's short fiction **Black Peter** (2008) premiered at the 38th Tampere Film Festival, participated at 22 film festivals and won 11 prizes; in 2015 he premiered the feature length documentary **Impromptu**. In May 2017 Priit's theatre directing debut - **Riverside Drive** by Woody Allen - premiered at a recently opened indie-theatre Kelm in Tallinn. **The End of The Chain** is Priit's fiction feature debut.



Screenwriter

### PAAVO PIIK

**Paavo Piik** (b. 1983) is an Estonian poet, theatre writer and director, active in Tallinn City Theatre and Kinoteater. In 2006 he graduated from Oxford University in philosophy, political sciences and economics and in 2012 with a BA in dramaturgy from the Drama School of Estonian Academy of Music and Theatre. **The End of The Chain** is the first feature film based on Paavo's works - a theatre play with the same title.



Producer

### MARIANNE OSTRAT

**Marianne Ostrat** (b. 1983) is an Estonian film and animation producer with a MFA from Baltic Film and Media School, graduate of EAVE European Producers Workshop 2013; the founder, partner and creative producer of Alexandra Film and Fork Film Animation Studio. **The End of The Chain** is her feature film debut after co-producing EFA nominated animated short **Amalimbo** (Venice IFF 2016).



Cinematographer & ESC

### MEELIS VEEREMETS

**Meelis Veeremets, ESC** (b. 1983) is an Estonian cinematographer. In 2006 he graduated with a BA in film and video from Tallinn University and attended the Film Arts MA program at Baltic Film and Media School from 2006 till 2009. **The End of The Chain** is Meelis' third feature film and second collaboration with director Priit Pääsuke after the successful short **Black Peter** from 2008.



Production & Costume Designer

### EUGEN TAMBERG

**Eugen Tamberg** (b. 1954) is a well established Estonian production and costume designer, who has worked on numerous film, TV and theatre productions such as **Names in Marble** by Elmo Nüganen (2002) and **Purge** by Antti Jokinen (2012). Eugen Tamberg created the main location of **The End of The Chain** - the burger joint - from scratch into an empty glass interior.

## PRODUCTION COMPANY

**Alexandra Film** is established and ran by creative producer Marianne Ostrat and produces short, feature and documentary films with compelling and human stories, that aim to touch, shake and inspire the audiences around the world. In 2009 Alexandra Film released a medium-length drama **Strays** by Sutharsan Bala, that received four special mentions at it's first three festivals (The Norwegian Short Film Festival, Nordisk Panorama New Nordic Voices, Sleepwalkers Student and Short Film Festival) and was altogether selected to 14 international film festivals. In 2017 Alexandra Film will release it's first feature, **The End of The Chain** by Priit Pääsuke and a short fiction **Helen's Birthday** by Tanno Mee (world sales: Premium Films). In addition, Alexandra Film co-produces a feature documentary **Constructing Albert** by Laura Collado and Jim Loomis from Barcelona-based Trueday Films (world sales: Wide House), also to be released in 2017.

Co-producers: Luxfilm, Filmivabrik, Angel Films, Cineunit, 1Agentuur, Dansu

Production support: The Cultural Endowment of Estonia

Distribution support: Estonian Film Institute

Marianne Ostrat

+372 5233577

marianne@alexandrafilm.ee

Priit Pääsuke

+372 55595847

priitpaasuke@gmail.com

ALEXANDRA FILM





