





# **OTAR'S DEATH**

Directed by Ioseb "Soso" Bliadze

# **Press Notes**

Karlovy Vary International Film Festival East of the West Competition *World Premiere* 



#### **OTAR'S DEATH TRAILER** - <u>www.yellowaffair.com/otars-death-trailer</u>



# **OTAR'S DEATH**

Directed by Ioseb "Soso" Bliadze

Karlovy Vary International Film Festival East of the West – Competition

#### **Short Synopsis**

Keti (36) and her son Nika (16) find themselves in a precarious situation when Nika kills an old man in a car accident. The victim's family promises to refrain from pressing charges against Nika if he compensates their loss in cash. Within a single day Keti has to raise a large amount of money to prevent her son Nika from being imprisoned. The events come thick and fast. An unexpected turn gives the drama a tragicomical air.

#### **Synopsis**

In a residential tower in Tbilisi and an isolated home on the city's outskirts live two seemingly disparate families. Keti and her teenage son Nika live typical urban existences, busy yet unfulfilled; while miles away, trapped in bucolic boredom, Tamara teaches choir and tends to her elderly father, Otar. Yet fate conspires, and their lives irrevocably entwine, one late summer's night when Nika's car collides with Otar, setting in motion a series of events that will pile as much misery on one family as it will present possibilities for the other.

Made with a keen inventiveness and droll absurdism that belies its tragic subject matter, Otar's Death is a story of modern disillusionments and intertwining lives, and a study of the stunted and the restless in contemporary Georgian society. Giving equal weight to each perspective, debut director loseb "Soso" Bliadze opens an alluring and nonjudgmental window onto some of the lesser-seen places and lesser-seen people of his country's capitol.



# **Production Information**

Directed by: loseb "Soso" Bliadze

Genres: Suspense

Cast: Nutsa Kukhianidze, Iva Kimeridze, Eka Chavleishvili, Achi Makalatia

Written by: Elmar Imanov, Ioseb "Soso" Bliadze

Produced by: Eva Blondiau

Music: Ioseb "Soso" Bliadze, Domas Strupinskas

**Cinematography:** Dimitri Dito, Dekanosidze

Editor: Elmar Imanov

Production Company: Maisis Peri

**Production/Release year:** 2021

Country: Georgia, Germany, Lithuania

Language: Georgian

Duration: 105 min

Subtitled Versions: English Formats: DCP

# <u>Cast</u>

NUTSA KUKHIANIDZE	Keti
IVA KIMERIDZE	Nika
EKA CHAVLEISHVILI	Tamara
ARCHIL MAKALATIA	Oto
TAKI MUMLADZE	Ana
VAKHO CHACHANIDZE	Zaza
MARLEN EGUTIA	Otar



#### DIRECTOR: IOSEB "SOSO" BLIADZE



loseb "Soso" Bliadze was born in Tbilisi, Georgia, 1986. He studied at Tbilisi State University, Faculty of Exact and Natural Sciences, Major in Informatics. He studied also at the Shota Rustaveli Theatre and Film Georgian State University, Faculty of Film and TV, Major in Directing. His graduation film "The most Precious" was shown at many international festivals and won awards in Kazakhstan, Georgia and Slovenia. He directed the short film "Three Steps" which premiered in Rotterdam and Oberhausen and also directed "Tradition" (together with Elmar Imanov) which premiered in Clermont Ferrand and Busan.

#### **DIRECTOR'S NOTE**

This story is inspired by real events that happened to my friend. He had a car accident and an old man died. The old man's family then demanded money from my friend's family. I saw my friend suffering because he had killed a man and gotten his family into trouble. I witnessed his family desperately trying to raise the money and I also met the family of the victim. They had mixed feelings: on the one hand they were sad because their closest relative had died and on the other hand they were happy about the opportunity to receive a large amount of money because of his death.

Time passed and this story kept me thinking. I felt very sorry for my friend because he had killed someone. At the same time, I could understand the family of the old man who had lost someone very close to them and had tried to make their own life a bit better – which is tough in a Georgian village. Coming from a European country with a functioning infrastructure you might only see the bad side of it, the corruption, a family that tries to make money from the death of a family member, a police officer who arranges this deal. But I see two families who are victims of one incident and they are victims of a flawed system in Georgia.

You never know whether you will see your relatives again. This is why I wanted to make a film about it. Besides, – I have to be honest about that –I was not able to help my friend. This is my way to deal with it.

All these characters have a rough live and have to fight to get a bit of love of their other family members. In the end this tragic incident brings them all a bit closer together: the mothers and their sons.



# **International Press**

**Noise Film PR** 

Mirjam Wiekenkamp

mirjam@noisefilmpr.com

+49 176 287 71839

## **Production Company**

Maisis Peri Zubalashvili 44 Tibilisi, Georgia <u>blondiau@colorofmay.com</u>

# **International Sales**

**The Yellow Affair** Korkeavuorenkatu 25 A 1 FI-00130 Helsinki, Finland <u>contact@yellowaffair.com</u>

# (((NOISE)))

**MAISIS PERI** 





## Film und Medien Stiftung NRW







