



Presents

GLORY (SLAVA)

A film by Kristina Grozeva and Petar Valchanov

"Sharply executed, superbly performed." – Jordan Mintzer, *The Hollywood Reporter*



**Bulgaria, Greece / 2016 / Drama / Bulgarian with English Subtitles
101 min / 1.85 : 1 / 5.1 and 2.0**

Press Contacts:

NY: Adam Walker | Film Forum | (212) 627-2035 | adam@filmforum.org
Genevieve Villaflor | (212) 941-7744 x215 | genevieve@filmmovement.com

Film Movement Bookings Contacts:

Clemence Taillandier | Theatrical | (212) 941-7744 x301 | theatrical@filmmovement.com
Maxwell Wolkin | Festivals | (212) 941-7744 x211 | maxwell@filmmovement.com

Assets:

<http://www.filmmovement.com/filmcatalog/index.asp?MerchandiseID=538>

Trailer: TBD

Frank Capra by way of Bulgaria. When a disheveled railroad worker discovers fistfuls of money on some rural train tracks, he turns over the dough to the police. The grateful authorities reward him with a televised ceremony and a new wristwatch to replace his old one (a family heirloom). But the glitzy new watch stops working and the smarmy, workaholic publicist for the Ministry of Transport can't seem to find his old one. The man's nonstop efforts to get his beloved old watch back wreak havoc on her efforts to use the heart-warming story of an honest good Samaritan to distract public attention from a burgeoning corruption scandal. A simple premise deepens into an incisive portrait of a bureaucracy riven with cynicism, and a government happy to swallow its most idealistic citizens whole. From the directors, and starring the lead actors, of THE LESSON, which Film Forum opened in 2014. – Mike Maggiore, Programmer, Film Forum

SYNOPSIS

Tsanko Petrov, a railroad linesman, finds millions in cash on the train tracks. He decides to turn the entire amount over to the police, for which the state rewards him with a new wristwatch that soon stops working. Meanwhile, Julia Staikova head of the PR department of the corrupt Ministry of Transport, loses Petrov's old watch, a family relic. Tsanko's humble reality collides with a bureaucratic and media-obsessed professional world, as he desperately struggles to recover both his old watch and his dignity.

LOGLINE

A good deed and a missing watch morally entangle the lives of a railroad worker and a workaholic PR executive.

SELECTED PRESS

*"Sometimes a simple premise leads to deep results. Such is the case with "GLORY" ("Slava"), Buglarian directors Kristina Grozeva and Petar Valchanov's stirring...feature, which plays like a parable that keeps expanding its themes." – Eric Kohn, **Indiewire***

*"Kristina Grozeva and Petar Valchanov have a rare ability to make gripping, politically charged drama that is entirely accessible." – Allan Hunter, **Screen Daily***

*"Shot with flexible naturalism . . . the film quietly builds to a feeling of inexorable disaster, guided by terrific performances as well as spot-on editing." – Jay Weissberg, **Variety***

*"GLORY conveys the distance between the corrupt authorities and the hardworking employees of the state superbly." – Stefan Dobroiu, **Cineuropa***

CREDITS

CAST

Stefan Denolyubov	Tzanko Petrov
Margita Gosheva	Julia Staykova
Ana Bratoeva	Ani
Nadejda Bratoeva	The Secretary
Nikola Dodov	Fuel Thief #1
Stanislav Ganchev	Misho
Mira Iskarova	Galya
Milko Lazarov	Kiril Kolev
Hristofor Nedkov	Porter
Dimitar Sardzhev	Cameraman
Ivan Savov	Minister Kanchev
Tanya Shahova	Pepa
Dr. Georgi Stamenov	Himself
Deyan Statulov	Ivan
Decho Taralezhkov	Krasi
Georgy Damajnov	Old Inspector
Kitodar Todorov	Valeri
Nikolay Todorov	Young Inspector
Ventsislav Konstantinov	Fuel Thief #2
Stefan Todorov	Fuel Thief #3
Ralitsa Petrova	Police

CREW

Directors	Petar Valchanov
	Kristina Grozeva
Producers	Kristina Grozeva (Abraxas Film)
	Konstantina Stavrianou (Graal Films)
Screenplay	Kristina Grozeva
	Petar Valchanov
	Decho Taralezhkov
Photography	Krum Rodriguez
Production Design	Vanina Geleva
Editing	Petar Valchanov
Costumes	Kristina Tomova
Sound	Ivan Andreev
Music	Hristo Namliiev

DIRECTORS' BIOS - Kristina Grozeva & Petar Valchanov

Kristina Grozeva graduated from the Sofia State University and for a while worked as a journalist for Bulgarian TV, before she decided to enroll at the National Academy for Theater and Film Arts (Sofia, Bulgaria), where she studied film directing. Her student short films won several awards at international student film festivals, among them Best Fiction Debut at the Bulgarian Film Academy Awards 2008 for BIRDS OF HEAVEN; Special mention of the jury of the International Student Film Festival, Casablanca, Morocco 2009; and Special mention of the jury of the Media School International Film Festival, Lodz 2009. She also won the best short film under 10 minutes from the International Student Film Festival in Montevideo, Uruguay, and The Best Film of International One-Minute Film Festival-FILMINUTE, UK, 2007 for GAME.



Petar Valchanov was born in 1982 in Plovdiv. He graduated art school in his home town in 2000, before moving to Sofia to study film directing at the National Academy for Theater and Film Arts, where he graduated in 2002. His first short film SHOCK was in the student program at Karlovy Vary Film Festival 2001, while his subsequent shorts – RESURRECTION, CAPTURED and FAMILY THERAPY – have been shown around the world and recognized with several awards. Valchanov directed the documentary PARABLE OF LIFE (2009) and the TV movie FORCED LANDING (2010) together with Kristina Grozeva, which marked the beginning of a permanent collaboration.

Grozeva and Valchanov's short film JUMP was nominated for the European Film Awards 2013 at Clermont – Ferrand, making it the first Bulgarian short ever nominated for the EFA. JUMP won the Grand Prix at Brussels SFF 2013; the Excellence Award for Best Picture at Busan; and was awarded Best Short Film by the Bulgarian Film Academy in 2013, among others. THE LESSON is their feature debut, which won multiple awards at San Sebastian, Tokyo, Warsaw, Thessaloniki, Gothenburg, Transylvania, Sofia and many others.

Directors' Filmography

JUMP – short (2012)

THE LESSON – 2014

- Best Film & Audience Award at the Sofia International Film Festival
- New Directors Award Winner at the San Sebastian International Film Festival
- Ingmar Berman Award Winner at the Göteborg Film Festival
- Special Jury Prize at the Tokyo International Film Festival
- Best Actress Winner at the Angers European First Film Festival
- Best Screenplay at the Thessaloniki Film Festival
- Best Direction & Best Performance at the Transylvania International Film Festival

Directors' Statement

Years ago, a poor railroad linesman in Bulgaria found a bag full of cash spilled on the rails and handed it over to the police right away. The government tried to make a hero out of him, but this incident brought the linesman ill-fame rather than glory – his townsfolk proclaimed him a total jerk for giving the money back. In the process of researching our story, we came upon a deeply moving interview with the prototype of our hero. The interview ended like this: “If I happen to find a huge amount of money again, I’ll just walk on by. Let somebody else find it, let them take it or give it to the police. I don’t want to have anything to do with it.” It was these words that became our main creative impulse and stirred our imagination into building a tragicomedy of the absurd.

Biography of Margita Gosheva – “Julia Staykova”

Margita Gosheva studied acting for Drama Theater at The National Academy for Theater and Film Arts (NATFA), Sofia, Bulgaria. For years she has been a Member of Sfumato Theater Laboratory Artistic Group. In theater she is best known for her performance as Paulina in Shakespeare’s WINTER’S TALE; Lisa in Dostoevsky’s BROTHERS KARAMAZOVI; Nina Zarechnaya in Chechov’s SEAGULL; Una in



David Harrower’s BLACKBIRD, as well as in the international co-productions; RUSSENHÜHN by Dimitar Dinev; WUK Bühne, Vienna, Austria; and FAUST EXHAUSTED, a co-production of Germany, Luxembourg, Switzerland and Romania.

Her film credits include: GLORY by Kristina Grozeva and Petar Valchanov, THE LIGHT THEREAFTER by Konstantin Bozhanov, THREE DAYS IN SARAJEVO by Nikolay Todorov, as well as the award-winning film THE LESSON by Kristina Grozeva and Petar Valchanov; short films and TV series.

For her main character performance in the Bulgarian-Greek film production THE LESSON, she won seven International awards from festivals in France, Brazil, Lithuania, Romania, India, and Bulgaria.

Biography of Stefan Denolyubov – “Tzanko Petrov”

Stefan Denolyubov studied acting for Drama Theater at The National Academy for Theater and Film Arts (NATFA), Sofia, Bulgaria. He worked in “Stoyan Bachvarov” Theater, Varna, and in Satirical Theater, Sofia. His film credits include: GLORY by Kristina Grozeva and Petar Valchanov, as well as the award-winning film THE LESSON by Kristina Grozeva and Petar Valchanov, JUMP (short fiction) by Kristina Grozeva and Petar Valchanov, “WHILE AYA WAS SLEEPING” by Tsvetodar Markov (for this performance, he won Golden Rose for best actor), short films and TV series.

FESTIVALS

Locarno Film Festival – Nominated, Golden Leopard for Best Film

Avventura Film Festival (Croatia) – Grand Prix & Best Actor Award

Vancouver International Film Festival

Hamptons International Film Festival – Winner, Golden Starfish Best Narrative Feature Film

Chicago International Film Festival

Virginia Film Festival

Gijón International Film Festival – Winner, Best Feature Film, Best Screenplay and Critic's Choice Prize

Les Arcs European Film Festival – Winner, Best Film

Golden Rose Bulgarian Feature Film Festival – Winner, Special Award of the City of Varna, Best Screenwriter, Best Cinematographer

KineNova International Film Festival (Macedonia) – Winner, Best Film



About Film Movement

Celebrating its 15th year in 2017, Film Movement is a North American distributor of award-winning independent and foreign films based in New York City. Film Movement has released more than 250 feature films and shorts culled from prestigious film festivals worldwide, and last year it had its first Academy Award-nominated film, THEEB. Film Movement's theatrical distribution strategy has evolved to include promising American independent films, documentaries, and an even stronger slate of foreign art house titles. In 2015, Film Movement launched its reissue label Film Movement Classics, featuring new restorations released theatrically as well as on Blu-ray and DVD, including films by such noted directors as Eric Rohmer, Peter Greenaway, Bille August, Marleen Gorris, Takeshi Kitano and Ettore Scola. For more information, please visit www.filmmovement.com.