



THE EARTH IS BLUER AS AN ORANGE

HOW MUCH POWER CAN ART HAVE IN WARTIME?

A DOCUMENTARY FILM BY IRYNA TSILYK

PRESENTED BY ALBATROS COMMUNICOS IN CO-PRODUCTION WITH MOONMAKERS DIRECTED BY IRYNA TSILYK PRODUCED BY ANNA KAPUSTINA & GIEDRĖ ŽICKYTĖ
CINEMATOGRAPHY BY VIACHESLAV TSVIETKOV EDITED BY IVAN BANNIKOV & IRYNA TSILYK LINE PRODUCER LENA YAKOVITSKA ASSOCIATE PRODUCER ANDREJA ČEBATAVICIŪTĖ
ADDITIONAL EDITING DANIELIUS KOKANAUSKIS SOUND DESIGN BY JONAS MAKSVYTIS COLORIST JONAS SUNKLODAS INTERNATIONAL SALES CAT&DOCS

albatrosfilm.com / moonmakers.lt

ALBATROS COMMUNICOS PRODUCTION (UKRAINE)
IN CO-PRODUCTION WITH MOONMAKERS (LITHUANIA)

THE EARTH IS BLUE AS AN ORANGE

by Iryna Tsilyk

World Premiere:



European Premiere:



TRAILER:

<https://vimeo.com/384548607>

For Press Inquires

See-Through Films

Kathleen McInnis

k.mcinnis@see-throughfilms.com

+1.310.733.9805

For Sales Inquires

CAT&DOCS

Catherine Le Clef

cat@catndocs.com

Aleksandra Derewienko

aleksandra@catndocs.com

For Festivals Inquires

Maelle Guenegues

maelle@catndocs.com



LOGLINE

To cope with the daily trauma of living in a war-zone, Anna and her children are making a film together about their life in the most surreal surroundings.

SYNOPSIS

Single mother Anna and her four children live in the front-line war zone of Donbas, Ukraine. While the outside world is made up of bombings and chaos, the family is managing to keep their home as a safe haven, full of life and full of light. Every member of the family has a passion for cinema, motivating them to shoot a film inspired by their own life during a time of war.

The creative process raises the question of what kind of power the magical world of cinema could have during times of disaster. How to picture war through fiction? For Anna and the children, transforming trauma into a work of art is the ultimate way to stay human.



TECHNICAL INFORMATION

Original title: Земля блакитна, ніби апельсин

English title: The Earth Is Blue as an Orange

Film length: 74mn

Countries of production: Ukraine - Lithuania

Year of completion: 2020

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/TheEarthIsBlueAsanOrange>

Director/ Script: Iryna Tsilyk

Cinematographer: Viacheslav Tsvietkov

Editor: Ivan Bannikov - Iryna Tsilyk

Additional Editing: Danielius Kokanauskis

Sound design: Jonas Maksvytis

Color grade: Jonas Sunklodas

Producer: Anna Kapustina / Albatros Comunicos, Ukraine

Producer: Giedrė Žickytė / Moonmakers, Lithuania

International Sales: CAT&Docs

FUNDING INSTITUTIONS:

Ukrainian Film State Agency

Lithuanian Film Centre

IDFA Bertha Fund, supported by Creative Europe MEDIA Program

Baltic to Black Sea Documentary Network (B2B)

Razom for Ukraine

BROADCASTERS:

TVP, Current Time TV



Does art have power during war?

Art does have power – it cracks the ice between us; it facilitates the processing of trauma. It gives witness to all that is funny, joyful and faced with laughter in the midst of remarkable darkness.

--Director Iryna Tsilyk

DIRECTOR'S NOTE

During the last two years my attitude to this film changed many times.

Everything started at a cinema camp for teenagers in Ukraine. Sponsored in part by the cultural and humanitarian initiative, Yellow Bus, the cinema camp opens doors to the parallel world of cinema for kids. The camps sit predominantly in the small towns of the front-line zone in the Donbas region.

I was one of the mentors in the camp in Avdiivka, a town that is located on the line of separation, and is the site of the deadliest fighting in the ongoing War. At our cinema camp, the students wrote a script and filmed it in one week while we listened to the war continuing just outside, every day.

At the end of the session, one of the camp teenagers invited my Director of Photography, Viacheslav Tsvietkov, our sound engineer Iryna Okhota, and myself to her family home in Krasnohorivka, in the "red zone" aka the front line.

I immediately fell in love with this family, their home and their world. I turned to Viacheslav and said, "I have a strong feeling we could make a movie here".

For years, working as a poet, I used to come to Donbas, in the front line zone. My husband was a soldier in The Armed Forces of Ukraine. My previous films also covered women fighting during war ("Tayra" and "Kid" in the cinema-almanac "Invisible Battalion," about women in combat during war). So, Avdiivka was not new to me.

However, when the cinema camp kids were being shown scenes from Bertolucci's "The Last Emperor", and shelling was going on right outside but not one of them paid any attention to the sounds -- that was new, that I didn't expect.

These same kids, when they were choosing locations to film in for their script, chose nearby mine fields. There they were, kids dancing close to minefields, full of life.

It was the same with the family in Krasnohorivka. Because being a civilian in war is surreal enough, but to have gotten used to war is something else completely. What was for me, as a war "tourist", quite surreal, was for them simply daily life.

The first thing we saw in Krasnohorivka was what a brave and funny family they were, in the midst of war. That's the first film I thought I was making.

Then, in workshops and labs across Europe as I started to show rough cuts and raw footage, it was repeatedly mentioned that it was the film within the film that was something quite special. When the family had decided to make the short film, some kind of surreal journey had unexpectedly begun for all of us.

When the family sat down to interview each other, we experienced a deep emotional shift. I had the feeling some masks were coming off. We all, the family and film team, started to trust each other in this private world we shared. It gave me a huge feeling of responsibility for both the film and the family.

The title, THE EARTH IS BLUE AS AN ORANGE, is a quote from a poem about love between a man and woman, but it is also about things that could not be combined together and yet are. We have felt this way throughout our journey of this film.

Anna, the mother, is at the core of the story; she is the real director. She is the one who will choose how her children get through this. At one point I had thought this was a film about kids, but quite late I realized I was wrong – it was really about her.

Anna is the leader of the family; the father is out of sight because there is nothing to show, he has no impact on the family. It's as Anna says, "I am the father and the mother". She is so strong, and has such amazing emotional power she convinces you everything will be okay.

«I've realized recently that I try to convey the same themes in so much of my work, that of home as a safe haven. You can see this most clearly in one of my short fiction films called «Home»— You can kill the person, but not their sense of home, not the sense of it they have in their heart.

I've come to the conclusion I also have war trauma – everything I do in my creative work over the last 6 years has to do with this war.

I choose to use "family" in my films as a stand-in for "identity". Effectively, I'm doing the same thing as my characters – we film to escape.



IRYNA TSILYK

Writer/Director IRYNA TSILYK graduated from Kyiv National University of Theatre, Cinematography and Television named by Karpenko-Kary in TV directing in 2005. Her previous short fiction and documentary films were presented and awarded at various international film festivals. In addition, Tsilyk has been working as a writer. Some of her works have been translated into various languages and presented at different international literary festivals.

FILMOGRAPHY

Documentary short films “Tayra” (10’) and “Kid” (15’) for the cinema-almanac «Invisible Battalion» (2017);
Fiction short film «Home» (12’, 2016);
Fiction short film «Commemoration» (24’, 2012);
Fiction short film «Blue Hour» (10’, 2008).

“When we were shooting the last scene of the film (the “premiere scene”), we had a very special, and again, very surreal moment. I was watching the film of my characters together with the viewers, and there were the sounds of shelling in their film. And then I came out to the corridor for a while and I heard the real sounds of shelling from outside. It is something really ordinary for this town. You can hear these sounds almost every night there. But that was a very special moment when I realized that sounds from the film and sounds from reality have crossed over each other. It is the same with our lives and my life, too. I’m the filmmaker and I come to Donbas to make my films, yes. But at the same time, I feel deeply connected with this region and their way of living. And I am asking myself – where is that thin line between art and reality? And I still don’t have any answers.”

---Director, Iryna Tsilyk

CREW BIOGRAPHIES

VIACHESLAV TSVIETKOV Cinematographer

Viacheslav Tsvietkov (1984) was born in Ukrainka city in Ukraine. Graduated from Kyiv National University of Culture and Arts as D.O.P. in 2011. He used to shoot documentaries and feature films since 2013. He is a member of the European Film Academy.

Filmography:

- * "Mariupolis" documentary 2016 year, 90 min., director Mantas Kvedaravicius, DOP Viacheslav Tsvietkov and Vadim Ilkov. World premiere at Berlinale 2016 in Panorama program.
- * "Petro The Cimbalist" documentary 2014-2017 year, 80 min., director Ielizaveta Smith, DOP Viacheslav Tsvietkov and Khrystyna Lizogub.
- * "Kholodnyi Yar" documentary 2016 year 90 min., director Alina Gorlova, DOP Oleksyi Kuchma and Viacheslav Tsvietkov.
- * "Brama" feature movie, 90 min, 2017 year. director Volodymyr Tykhyy, DOP Viacheslav Tsvietkov. World premiere at Black Nights Film Festival in Tallinn.
- * "Parthenon" feature movie, 119 min, 2019 year. Director Mantas Kvedaravicius, DOP Viacheslav Tsvietkov. World Premiere at Venice International Film Critics' Week.
- * "Solitude" 2019. Short fiction film, 28 min. Director Ielizaveta Smith, DOP Viacheslav Tsvietkov. World premiere at Odessa IFF (Ukraine).
- * "Between two wars» documentary full-length film, work in progress. Director Alina Gorlova, DOP Viacheslav Tsvietkov. The project was presented at If/Then pitch at CPH:DoX (Copenhagen), Warscape pitch at DocuDays (Kyiv), Co-Pro Market at DokLeipzig.
- * "The Earth Is Blue As an Orange» documentary film, 74'. Director Iryna Tsilyk, DOP Viacheslav Tsvietkov.

IVAN BANNIKOV Editor

Ivan Bannikov (1989) is Ukrainian film editor working in documentary and fiction. In 2018, he won the award of "Best Film Editor" by Ukrainian Film Academy. His latest credits include "When The Trees Fall" full-length feature film, (dir. Marysia Nikitiuk) which was nominated for Best First Feature Award in Berlin International Film Festival 2018 as well as New Talent Grand PIX at CPH PIX 2018. The participant of different workshops for documentary filmmakers and editors, such as Dok.Incubator, B2B Doc rough cut workshop and others.

Filmography:

- * Ten Seconds (2016 Ukraine), 69'. Documentary film by Yuliia Hontaruk;
- * When The Trees Fall (2018, Ukraine, Poland), 88'. Feature film by Marysia Nikitiuk;
- * Call Sign «Banderas» (2018 Ukraine), 113'. Feature film by Zaza Buadze;
- * Beshoot (2019 Ukraine), 120'. Feature film by Ivan Tymchenko;
- * Uljanenko uncensored (2019 Ukraine), 90'. Documentary film by Yulia Shashkova;
- * The Earth Is Blue As an Orange (2020, Ukraine, Lithuania), 73'. Documentary film by Iryna Tsilyk.

JONAS MAKSVYTIS

Sound design

Jonas Maksvytis is an award - winning Lithuanian sound designer. During his career that started in 2003, he worked on more than 50 projects from all over Europe including short, feature, documentary films. Jonas has received 4 national "Silver Crane" awards for the best sound designer work.

ANNA KAPUSTINA

Producer / Albatros Comunicos, Ukraine

Anna Kapustina is a producer based in Kyiv, Ukraine and the founder of the production company ALBATROS COMMUNICOS. In 2003 - 2014 she had been producing commercials, TV programs and international reality-shows. Since 2014 she is the producer of the Ukrainian cinematographic community "#BABYLON`13" and NGO "HERO.UA". Selected participant at IDFAcademy Summer School, Dok.Incubator and B2BDoc. Her latest documentary The First Company was awarded with Docudays Audience Award and recognized as the Best Ukrainian Documentary.

Filmography:

2020: «The Earth Is Blue as an Orange» by Iryna Tsilyk - Feature documentary

2018: «The First Company» by Yaroslav Pilunskyi, Yulia Shashkova, Yuriy Gruzinov - Feature documentary

2016: «Ten Seconds» by Yulia Hontaruk - Feature documentary

2016: «Volunteers Of War» by Yulia Shashkova - short documentay

2015: «Still alive» by Yulia Hontaruk - Feature documentary

2015: «Brother» by Yulia Hontaruk - short documentay

2015: «Kozak» by Yulia Hontaruk - short documentay

GIEDRĖ ŽICKYTĖ

Producer / Moonmakers, Lithuania

Giedrė Žickytė is a documentary film director and producer based in Vilnius, Lithuania and the founder of the production company, MOONMAKERS. Her films have been selected at numerous international film festivals including IDFA, DokLeipzig, Hot Docs, Rotterdam IFF, among others, winning over 20 international awards and distributed theatrically. I'M NOT FROM HERE (co-directed with M.Alberdi, Chile) was nominated at the 2016 European Film Academy Awards. In 2015, her feature documentary MASTER AND TATYANA was awarded Best Director, Best Documentary, Best Cinematography, and Best Editing at the Lithuanian Film Academy Awards.

FILM END CREDITS

THE EARTH IS BLUE AS AN ORANGE

with

GANNA GLADKA
MYROSLAVA TROFYMCHUK
ANASTASIIA TROFYMCHUK
VLADYSLAV TROFYMCHUK
STANISLAV GLADKY
OLENA GLADKA
OLGA GLADKA
DANYLO DYDENKO

director IRYNA TSILYK

cinematographer VIACHESLAV TSVIETKOV

producers ANNA KAPUSTINA, GIEDRĖ ŽICKYTĖ

editors IVAN BANNIKOV, IRYNA TSILYK
additional editor DANIELIUS KOKANAUSKIS

line producer LENA YAKOVITSKA
associate producer ANDRĚJA ČEBATAVIČIŪTĖ
production assistant YANA YUZHANINA

sound designer JONAS MAKSVYTIS
sound engineers IRYNA OKHOTA, MYKHAILO NIKOLAIEV
sound mixers IVETA MACEVIČIŪTĖ, JULIUS GRIGELIONIS

colorist JONAS SUNKLODAS
post production supervisor AUSTĚJA GAPUTYTĖ
DCP mastering MARIUS STEPONĖNAS
post production assistants PAULIUS ZAVADSKIS, DOMINYKAS KILČIAUSKAS

publicist KATHLEEN MCINNIS
title design MAŽVYDĖ KOKANAUSKIENĖ
poster design LINA YAKOBCHUK
subtitles and translation JULIJA MATULYTĖ, KATERYNA POPRAVKA
additional translation VAIDA MATIJOŠKAITĖ
proofreading GEORGE MYERS
transcriptions VYTAUTAS STAKUTIS

lawyer (LT) VILIJ VIEŠŪNAITĖ
accounting (UA) TAISIJA DANYLOVSKA
accounting (LT) ANETA RIMKUTĖ
auditor (UA) VALYA DESHKO
auditor (LT) DANA TAMULEVIČIŪTĖ

commissioning editors CURRENT TIME TV
KENAN ALIYEV
NATALIA ARSHAVSKAYA

commissioning editor TVP
TOMASZ PIECHAL

special thanks to

project "YELLOW BUS"
RESIDENTS of KRASNOHORIVKA town in Marinka district,
Donetsk region (Ukraine)
THE ARMED FORCES of Ukraine
MILITARY-CIVIL ADMINISTRATION of Krasnohorivka
Krasnohorivka SCHOOL OF ARTS
Krasnohorivka SECONDARY SCHOOL №2
KYIV NATIONAL UNIVERSITY of CULTURE and ARTS

we kindly thank cinematographer YURI GRUZYNOV who provided us with the
footage for the introductory scene of night shelling that took place in May 2017

thank you

YAROSLAV PILUNSKYI, ALEX SHIRIAEFF, ANDREA PRENGHYOVA, STEPHAN KRUMBIEGEL,
GRANT KEIR, PER K KIRKEGAARD, ISABEL ARRATE FERNANDEZ, MELANIE DE VOCHT, FELICIE
CRIJNS, SIGRID DYEKJÆR, BRIGID OSHEA, JOELLE ALEXIS, MONIKA FRAN CZAK, TUE STEEN
MÜLLER, PHIL JANDALY, VIKTOR NORDENSKIOLD, ANASTASIA KIRILOVA, ULDIS CEKULIS,
SRDJAN FINK, AUDREY MAURION, HILLA MEDALIA, KAROLINA LIDIN, MEIKE STATEMA, PAWEL
LOZINSKI, ALIONA VAN DER HORST, GEMA JUAREZ ALLEN, NIELS PAGH ANDERSEN, JESPER
OSMUND, KATJA DRINGENBERG, PYLYP ILLIENKO, ALEX SZALAT, ANDREA LACIAKOVA, GAN-
NA ULIURA, TOMAS POTO CNY, KASPER LYKKE SCHULTZ, DARYA BASSEL, MAX NAKONECHNY,
YULIA MATVIENKO, MATHIAS NOSCHIS, JOANNA SOLECKA, FREDDY NEUMANN, ANNA
BELYAEVA, SERHIY FARTOVYI, DMYTRO MIROSHNYCHENKO, VALERIY SCHETY NIN, ANDRII
KHLIVNIUK, OLEG ABRAMYCHEV, EGOR SKALYGA, TETIANA MASLOVA, ANATOLII KHYMY-
CH, EDUARD TIMLIN, YEVHEN KOVALENKO, OLEKSIY SERIK, DARIA PRYVALOVA, ROLANDAS
KVIETKAUSKAS, ALGIMANTAS PUIPA, IEVA NORVILIENĖ, AUKSĖ KANCEREVIČIŪTĖ, SERGIY
CHABANNYY, ANNA GUDY MENKO, KATERINA KUROVSKAYA, DMYTRO TSAPKO, OLEKSANDRA
LUNINA, MARIA LEBOVKA, OKSANA KOSYK, NATELLA DUBASHIDZE, OLEKSANDRA LADYGINA,
VOLODYMYR USYK, ANDRIY NOGA, OLEKSANDRA BRATYSHCHENKO, MARYNA TKACHENKO,
IGOR KARPENKO, VASYL YAVTUSHENKO, VITALIY ROZYNKO, MICHAEL MASLOBOISHCHYKOV,
SNIEGUOLĖ JASELIŪNĖ, HOTEL ART CITY INN VILNIUS, HAIRDRESSING SALON SEDU IN KYIV,
GIEDRIUS KAZLAUSKAS, XENA DEZERA, LIUBOMYR DEZERA, AGNIESZKA BALICKA, MARTA
DUZBABEL, ANATOLII RYBAK, ZANE BALCUS, EITVYDAS BAJARŪNAS, NATALI DAPKIENĖ SA-
MEROVA, SERGIY NERETIN, MAKSYM PONOMARCHUK, ZDENEK BLAHA, RADYSLAV MALIAR-
CHUK, NATALIA GONTARENKO, OLEKSII PROKOPENKO, LYUBA SHIPOVICH, INNA VERTSA-
NOVA, POLINA TOROPCHYNOVA, OLENA MYKHATSKA, ARTEM CHEH, ANDRII CHEREDNYK

the title of the film is a quote from the poem "THE EARTH IS BLUE LIKE AN ORANGE" by PAUL ELUARD

archival footage

excerpt from "MAN WITH A MOVIE CAMERA" by DZYGA VERTOV
excerpts from «2014», a short film by MYROSLAVA TROFYMCHUK, ANNA GLADKA
and ANASTASIIA TROFYMCHUK

music

"SILENT MOVIES DRAMATIC" by DOUG FRANTZ (BMI), published by SOUNDS INCREDIBLE (SOCAN)
etude by CARL CZERNY (op. 740, no. 41, minor), performed by MYROSLAVA TROFYMCHUK

"HELLO" by ADELE, music by ADELE and GREG KURSTIN, performed by ANASTASIIA
TROFYMCHUK

"VIDIRVATYS VID ZEMLI" by N. MOGYLEVSKA, music by S. PIDKAURA, N. LEI
"KYM MY BULY" by "BOOMBOX", lyrics by A. KHLYVNIUK, music by A. KHLYVNIUK &
A. SAMOJLO

"HALLELUJAH" by LEONARD COHEN, music by LEONARD COHEN, performed by ANASTASIIA
TROFYMCHUK

Ukrainian folk song "IN THE GROVE BY THE DANUBE", performed by family
GLADKI-TROFYMCHUK

Austrian folk song "THE CUCKOO", performed by STANISLAV GLADKYI
musical improvisation for the final credits by STANISLAV GLADKYI

the film has been shot in KRASNOHORIVKA, KURAKHOVE, AVDIIVKA (Donetsk region)
and KYIV

the film has been developed with the support of DOK.INCUBATOR workshop 2019

the film has been developed at
B2B DOC workshops 2017-2019
IDFAcademy Summer School 2018

the project of the film has been presented at
B2B DOC pitchings at DOCUDAYS UA 2018, 2019
OIFF FORUM 2018
BALTIC SEA FORUM FOR DOCUMENTARIES 2018
CO-PRO MARKET DOK LEIPZIG 2018
B2B Doc pitching at TEMPO DOCUMENTARY FESTIVAL 2019
EAST DOC PLATFORM 2019
PARIS DOC work-in-progress 2019
NORDISK PANORAMA FORUM 2019
with the support of
UKRAINIAN STATE FILM AGENCY
LITHUANIAN FILM CENTRE
IDFA BERTHA FUND supported by CREATIVE EUROPE MEDIA PROGRAM
TVP
CURRENT TIME
B2B DOC

the title of the film is a quote from the poem "THE EARTH IS BLUE LIKE AN ORANGE" by PAUL ELUARD

archival footage

excerpt from "MAN WITH A MOVIE CAMERA" by DZYGA VERTOV
excerpts from «2014», a short film by MYROSLAVA TROFYMCHUK, ANNA GLADKA
and ANASTASIIA TROFYMCHUK

music

"SILENT MOVIES DRAMATIC" by DOUG FRANTZ (BMI), published by SOUNDS INCREDIBLE (SOCAN)
etude by CARL CZERNY (op. 740, no. 41, minor), performed by MYROSLAVA TROFYMCHUK
"HELLO" by ADELE, music by ADELE and GREG KURSTIN, performed by ANASTASIIA
TROFYMCHUK

"VIDIRVATYS VID ZEMLI" by N. MOGYLEVSKA, music by S. PIDKAURA, N. LEI
"KYM MY BULY" by "BOOMBOX", lyrics by A. KHLYVNIUK, music by A. KHLYVNIUK &
A. SAMOJLO

"HALLELUJAH" by LEONARD COHEN, music by LEONARD COHEN, performed by ANASTASIIA
TROFYMCHUK

Ukrainian folk song "IN THE GROVE BY THE DANUBE", performed by family
GLADKI-TROFYMCHUK

Austrian folk song "THE CUCKOO", performed by STANISLAV GLADKYI
musical improvisation for the final credits by STANISLAV GLADKYI

the film has been shot in KRASNOHORIVKA, KURAKHOVE, AVDIIVKA (Donetsk region)
and KYIV

the film has been developed with the support of DOK.INCUBATOR workshop 2019

the film has been developed at
B2B DOC workshops 2017-2019
IDFAcademy Summer School 2018

the project of the film has been presented at
B2B DOC pitchings at DOCUDAYS UA 2018, 2019
OIFF FORUM 2018
BALTIC SEA FORUM FOR DOCUMENTARIES 2018
CO-PRO MARKET DOK LEIPZIG 2018
B2B Doc pitching at TEMPO DOCUMENTARY FESTIVAL 2019
EAST DOC PLATFORM 2019
PARIS DOC work-in-progress 2019
NORDISK PANORAMA FORUM 2019
with the support of
UKRAINIAN STATE FILM AGENCY
LITHUANIAN FILM CENTRE
IDFA BERTHA FUND supported by CREATIVE EUROPE MEDIA PROGRAM
TVP
CURRENT TIME TV
B2B DOC
RAZOM FOR UKRAINE

with the technical support of
PATRIOT, PROPELLER, TABOR

image post production
MADSTONE

sound post production
UPRECORDS

law firm
TRINITI

international sales
CAT & DOCS

ALBATROS COMMUNICOS UKRAINE

in co-production with
MOONMAKERS

The copyright of Albatros Comunicos Ukraine
The copyright of Moonmakers
The copyright of Ukrainian State Film Agency

2020

