

---

SCREENING EMOTIONS presents

# THREE DAYS IN SARAJEVO

MILIANA LENAČ

MARGITA GOSHEVA



**Screenwriter and Director:** Nikolay Todorov  
**Producers:** Poli Angelova and Elena Mosholova  
**Executive Producer:** Adis Djapo / Pro.ba  
**Cinematographer:** Kiril Prodanov  
**Production Designer:** Elena Stoyanova  
**Sound Designer:** Andreas Hildebrandt  
**Composer:** Hristo Namliev

**Title:** Three Days in Sarajevo  
**Year of completion:** 2014  
**Duration:** 50 min  
**Format of shooting:** 35mm  
**Exhibition format:** 35mm print / DCP  
**Sound:** Dolby Digital 5.1  
**Language:** English, Bulgarian, Bosnian  
**Subtitles:** Bulgarian, English

## SYNOPSIS

Despite all in her life looks all right, Margita cannot find her place in the world. She feels a huge emptiness inside her and that bothers her all the time. Anxiety keeps her grasped during the whole time she is awake. Only in her dreams she feels safe and secure. This is another paradox, because in her dreams she visits unknown place and does things that she would normally consider as bad. The mystery of those dreams does not leave her in peace. Looking for some more about their meaning on the internet, she finds another woman, Manca, who has night dreams about the same place and doesn't know why.

The two of them agree to meet in Sarajevo and try to discover what makes them dream about the city.

Wandering in the city and inside their own dreams, they set off on a journey towards the human nature. Going from right and wrong decisions and back again, they discover that want it or not, deep inside one keeps the important things like love, nearness, trust, faith. No matter how small those moments look on the background of the world events, they are the ones that make the man a person and an individual.

## CHARACTERS



### **MARGITA**

Margita is Bulgarian, about the age of 30. Always stylish and elegantly dressed, it seems like nothing is wrong in her life. Still, this is not the truth. In fact, she is a person of high anxiety, who cannot find a place where she can feel well.

Seemingly all is fine with her marriage, too, but she feels kind of emptiness. The only place where she feels comfortable is her dreams.

Margita is an independent and fighting person who looks for challenges. She can go to extremes in order to defend the truth she believes in. She is one of adventurous spirit, but at the same time she strives for the essence and is not satisfied with the surface of things.

What happens in her dreams makes her anxious and calm at the same time. She wants to know why all that happens in her mind, but on the other hand it is her personal world which feels cozy. On one hand she wants to go to Sarajevo and find out why she dreams about the city, but on the other hand she is worried that the travel there will spoil her dream world where she feels so well.

Her curiosity conquers her and she sets off for the adventure body and soul.

Facing a border phase of her life, when she needs to give it the right direction, Margita decides that this is the last chance to find her true self. She feels that in a few years her son will be grown up and she will be just a mother and a wife. The journey is her last opportunity to find her own self.



## **MANCA**

Manca is about 30 years old Slovenian woman. She is always dressed in a simple, but tasteful way. She is shy in her steps through life and her appearance discloses a kind of tenderness, but in fact there is a hidden determination inside her.

Her life seems untidy, with a little girl, whose father lives away and who keeps a complicated relationship with his ex-family. Even if all around her seems to be happening by chance, Manca manages to handle the difficulties of life.

The dreams that she has, in fact make her feel comfortable and give her the sense of security that she is following the right path. Despite that, inside herself she knows she needs to find out why she dreams about Sarajevo and traveling to the city for her turns into a necessity.

As a person who doesn't feel completely well in the material world, Manca relies on her intuition that leads her on the journey.

Meeting the other girl for her is as important as being in the city. Manca knows that both she and Margita have a last chance to stay for a while out of the rules of the world and to seek for something unknown, for their hidden senses. Her intuition tells her that the journey will be a kind of farewell with the childhood and finding out the emotional memories from the yearly years of their life, though their common sense, is actually a way to say goodbye to their inner child. This is a borderline, which one has to cross and will not be the same person anymore.



## **SARAJEVO**

The city of Sarajevo is much more than a background of the story. It brings its own spirit and image. It has its own sensations, secrets and special features.

This is a city split in two. A city that has survived a siege, still bearing the signs of shooting on the facades of its buildings. A city that has Orthodox and Catholic churches and Muslim mosques, and yet the faces of the people look the same way. It is a city where one can feel tranquility and anxiety at the same time.

A city that can be close to you. A place that you can feel as your own.

A city that has its particular spirit, which can be recognized in the eyes of its inhabitants, in the parks, in the steep slopes of the small streets.

A city that you can bear inside yourself.

A city that can keep part of you.

## PRODUCTION

In the beginning our idea was to create a film, which explores the human subconscious and more precisely, the emotions and feelings, the pictures that are left engraved in the human mind, without the person realizing it.

Also, we wanted to explore the connection between the human being and the place. Why is someone feeling comfortable at a certain place and not feeling well at another. And, what connects a person with a city. In other words, we wanted to make a road movie, a film about traveling into the inside, towards the hidden memories and senses.

The script was written for two particular actresses, even the personal name of one of them was kept in the film. Our acquaintance gave us the possibility to build the characters on their emotional inner world.

Despite that the screenplay was based on their individual features, or precisely because of it, the actresses were not informed about the story before the start of the production. The shooting was organized in chronological order and the actresses kept discovering all the details simultaneously with their characters. They were as anxious and unsure of their aim, as their characters.

The film was shot in August 2012, almost entirely in Sarajevo, Bosnia & Herzegovina. The city is the third character in the film, equivalent to the other two.

The locations were authentic places from the city.

*Zittra* hall, now bearing the name of "Juan Antonio Saramanch" has been rebuilt in exactly the same way as it had been constructed for the Olympics in 1984. After its total devastation during the war in former Yugoslavia in 1991, now the hall is restored in its original shape. It is an interesting coincidence that the film will be released in 2014, celebrating 30 years from the Olympic Games in Sarajevo in 1984.

Remains from the bloodshed war in 1991 are the numerous cemeteries of Sarajevo, which are shot in the film. In spite of that, the city has retained its peculiar beauty and is inhabited by young and cheerful people.

The night life of Sarajevo, the way it is presented in the film, is truly authentic. We hope this atmosphere will not change and the bar *so.ba* will stay as underground as it is now – keeping the spirit of freedom.

The crew of the film was a perfect mix of Bulgarians and Bosnians, with an average age of 30. Executive producer of the film was the Bosnian company *pro.ba*, represented by Adis Djapo, who supplied us with a crew of excellent professionals and was extremely supportive during the whole production.

The film was shot on 35mm print and was post-produced in the classical technology without digitalization. The footage was physically cut, then the negative was edited and finally the positive copy for projection was produced.

That was the only consequence of the chosen aesthetics, by which we were looking for a visual representation that can be both poetic and metaphysical in a way. An image, that emphasizes on the texture of the picture and strives to go beyond the seeable and to capture the invisible behind the buildings' war scars and the faces of the actresses.

Driven by the same aesthetical concept, we created a sound atmosphere which gives uneven relief to the situations, revealing their nature.

Our aim was the film to leave an impression in the viewer not as a picture, but as feelings and emotions.

## CAST

Margita	MARGITA GOSHEVA
Manca	MILIANA LENAČ
Taxi driver	SENAD BASIC
Man at the cemetery	DRAGAN SUVAČ

## CREW

Screenwriter and Director	Nikolay Todorov
Producers	Poli Angelova Elena Mosholova
Executive Producer	Adis Djapo / Pro.ba
Cinematographer	Kiril Prodanov
Production Designer	Elena Stoyanova
Sound Designer	Andreas Hildebrandt
Composer	Hristo Namliiev
Second Unit Director	Dimitar Sardjev
1 <sup>st</sup> Assistant Director	Maria Stoyanova
Script Supervisor	Mila Maslarova
Casting	Timka Grahic
Crowd Assistant	Igor Drnda
Production Managers	Adnan Besirovic Ensar Halilovic
Production Coordinator	Malka Alic
Editing	Krystan Pushkarov
Sound Mixer	Predrag Doder
Boom Operator	Predrag Djorda
Sound Effects	Carsten Richter Hanse Warns
Focus Puller	Simeon Kirov
Second Unit Cinematographer	Veselin Hristov
Film Loader	Angel Balakchiyski
Gaffer	Ivaylo Genchev
Best Boy	Todor Todorov
Key Grip	Geogri Georgiev
Make-up Artist	Bistra Kechedzhieva
Security	Reuf Kamencic
Transport Coordinator	Haris Kamencic
Drivers	Rusmir Kamencic Ibrahim Majcic Ilia Iliev Stefcho Sofroniev
Accountant	Emilia Petkova
Titles Design	Emilian Arabadjiev
Laboratory	KCB – Cinelab Bulgaria
Negative Expert	Rossitsa Pavlova
Negative Cutter	Antoaneta Trupcheva
Colorist	Yordanka Dudumova
Color Grading	Todor Todorov

## ABOUT THE DIRECTOR

### BIOGRAPHY

Nikolay Todorov was born in 1979 in Sofia. Graduated film directing from the National Academy of Theatre and Film Arts "Krastio Sarafov" in 2006, in the class of prof. Georgi Djulgerov. His diploma film "The Minutes After" has received several international prizes and many selections at festivals abroad. Awarded with the Jameson award for Best Bulgarian short at Sofia Film Fest and award of the festival at Cork Film Festival, Ireland.

### FILMOGRAPHY

2014            **THREE DAYS IN SARAJEVO**

2007            **THE MINUTES AFTER**

#### AWARDS:

JAMESON AWARD – Best Short Film – Sofia IFF,  
AWARD OF THE FESTIVAL – Cork Film Festival, Ireland  
BEST BULGARIAN FILM – Filmini Film Festival  
GRAN PRIX – Student Film Festival EARLY BIRD  
SECOND AWARD – Pentedatilo Film Festival, Italy  
AWARD FOR THE BEST TECHNOLOGICAL INTERPRETATION from PVTS (Prague's Scientific and Technological Society) – Pisek, Czech Republic

#### Festival selections:

Drama, Greece; Bilbao, Spain; Barcelona, Spain; Montecatini, Italy; Tel Aviv, Israel; Tehran, Iran; Talin, Estonia; Tbilisi, Georgia; Bucarest, Romania; River Run FF – Winston-Salem, USA; Kustendorf FF – Mokra Gora, Serbia etc.

## ABOUT THE CAST

### MARGITA GOSHEVA

#### BIOGRAPHY

Graduated from the National Academy of Theatre and Film Arts “Krastio Sarafov”. Margita takes part in theatre projects in Bulgaria and abroad. In the recent years she has been working with the theatre company of *Theatre- Laboratory Sfumato*.

#### FILMOGRAPHY

2014 – THE LESSON , dir. Petar Valchanov and Kristina Grozeva (in postproduction)  
2013 – WHERE IS MAGI (TV), dir. Petar Valchanov  
2007 – 34 (short), dir. Lubomir Mladenov  
2006 – INVESTIGATION, dir. Igljika Trifonova  
2002 – EMIGRANTS , dir. Ludmil Todorov and Ivaylo Hristov

### MILIANA LENAK

#### BIOGRAPHY

Graduated from acting for drama and puppet theatre at the Theatre and Film Academy “Kr. Sarafov” in Sofia, Bulgaria, in 2000. In 2008 Miliana Lenak co-founded **Buden Teatar** (Awaken Theatre) an NGO working with the aim of creating vibrant and active independent theatre scene in Macedonia. In Buden Teatar Miliana works as artistic director, but also takes part in their own productions as an actress and theatre director.

In 2012 she created the first puppet theatre festival in Macedonia, FENER.

#### FILMOGRAPHY

2011 – I AM YOU, dir. Petar Popzlatev  
2011 – THE MAN WITH A STRANGE HABITS (short ), dir. Vardan Tozija  
2008 – CONFUSION (TV), dir. Darijan Pejovski  
2007 – PENELOPE , dir. Benn Ferris  
2002 – DOES IT HURT, dir. Aneta Lesnikovska  
2005 – ALEF (short), dir. Borjan Zafirovski



**CONTACTS:**

ELENA MOSHOLOVA

SCREENING EMOTIONS

Fillip Totyo str. 40, Sofia 1510, Bulgaria  
cell. +359 898 390713,  
mail: [office@screeningemotions.com](mailto:office@screeningemotions.com)