

Guest of the Festival

Matais Gejskes, Director of "50 cents".

Why do you make short films? Don't you want to make a full featured movie?

- I just love that format. To date I have made about ten films. I started in 1996. My first film lasted 25 minutes, and the following ones were getting increasingly shorter... On the street I "watch" my films on every day basis. I had the same dilemma as my heroin. Those ideas and situations one should use for film. I don't ma in the Netherlands. And you must be, so to speak, a politician, and to please everyone. You should listen to other people's "suggestions" about which actress you should hire, which car your main character should drive because of the sponsors...

It's hard in the Netherlands to justify the money you have spent for making a film. There are a mere 16 million people speaking your language, which means that only them (and probably even less) will get to see your film. That in turn means that you will not make monies from cinema distribution. In that case, you have to look for sponsors, scrap and bow to TV stations for a year in order to have them help you. You need three years to prepare a full featured film. It's a lot of time in my view. And I don't like compromises. I don't want to hire an actress because the producer wants me to, but because I think she's the proper fit. That said, it's unlikely I will ever make a full featured movie.

Jozeb Jahvliani, Director of "My First Love'
Love Will Save the World

Jozeb Jahvliani, Director and Actor has studied on the Faculty for Physical Culture and the Film and Theatre Institute. He has acted in more than 50 films and he is also a world and European wrestling champion. His film was made in 2004 and the topic is universal - love.

- Do you know what kind of love this is? My hero likes to drive a bike and my film speaks about that love of his. With the scenario for this film I have applied for a competition the topic of which was love and I won the first prize. On this movie I have worked with my brother Badri.

How did you come to the idea of making this film?

I don't know if you are aware that I am also an actor. In the former Soviet Union we had a remarkable director, Tingiy Abuladze. In the first part of his trilogy "Repentance" I played the main role. I am telling you this because while shooting this film, the scenario for this film came to my mind. When I told Abuladze about it, he told me: "what are you waiting for? Write it down!". And I did. That's how this scenario came to life. Since then, until the moment when we won the competition for this film, many years have passed. Love has won! We have made the film.

With my brother I am working on a full featured film, the shooting of which is already in the works.

I hope that we will finish that new film by the end of the year.

53. The "Shorts" has Begun.

The projection of Zelimir Zilnik's "Europe over the Fence" has officially last night in Dom Omladine marked the official opening of the 53rd Festival of Documentary and Short Film. The "Shorts" was opened by director Boro Draskovic, while this year's laureate of the Life Achievement Award, professor Vladimir Petric has greeted the public with an amusing video message.