

David Kinsela, Director of the film «Love Letters from the Children Prison»

THEY CALLED ME «THE GUARDIAN ANGEL»

One would expect me to be, in some way, used to such stories and such scenes. I was born in Belfast, the history of which is in many aspect similar to the one of Serbia. We have had a war, my whole life I've been getting news about people killed, looking at people crying, taking photographs of corpses on the street... In Northern Ireland, misery is so widespread that when a photographer returns from a funeral, they usually ask him whether he had, by any chance, caught any tears... That cinicism, which means people don't care about each other anymore, has forced me to decide, upon leaving for Norway, that I would be looking for a positive side to everything I do. I have worked in the biggest newspaper there and they nicknamed me *The Guardian Angel*. In everything I took photos of I was finding traces of humanity. I just refused to make a "black movie." I tried to find something with which the viewers could identify themselves with. These are the foundations everything I do must rely on: life stories, love... In my view, the sole purpose of the film "Love Letters from the Children Prison" is to find something positive in that story. It is because of that I have changed it three times.

The award for the documentary of the year I was awarded last week is confirmation that I have achieved that. In the justification of the award it says that they had chosen my film because, irrespective of it being shocking, in involved a romantic love story distinguishing it from other depressive films. And also because humanity in it had prevailed over pain.

My experiences with this film are that usually after the projection there are no questions, because everyone's so shocked that they need time to recover. It has been shown on many festivals, it's being distributed in Spain, Italy, Norway... No one comes out from the cinema with a smile after having seen it. It is understandable, for in my film is about children explaining how they killed people...

Andre Kotu, Selector of the Ottawa Film Festival

I INTEND TO DO THE SELECTOR'S WORK IN BELGRADE TOO

In this country, if I understood correctly, there are very few authors involved into animated films. To a certain extent this is understandable, because it's a complicated job requiring considerable resources. In Canada there are quite a few funds and state institutions which are financially assisting the authors of animated films. It is necessary if one wants to have creative results.

I am interested in the program that includes animated films by Serbian authors.

I hope I will have the opportunity to meet some of them.

I intend to do the selector's work in Belgrade too and to chose films that will be screened on the Ottawa Festival.

THE CONTEMPORARY CANADIAN ANIMATION WILL BE PRESENTED TODAY AT 16H IN THE BELGRADE CULTURAL CENTRE

THE ANIMATED FILM DEPARTMENT !!!

Gianalberto Bendazzi, a film critic, professor and animation historian, member of the jury, will give on Friday, April 14th at 17h on the Belgrade Faculty of Applied Arts, a Master Class about contemporary trends in modern international animation. After the Master Class, our guest from Italy shall cut the ribbon with multicolored scissors thus proclaiming the new Animation Department on the Faculty of Applied Arts opened. The founder and the head of the department shall be professor Rastko Ciric.