



4FILM
PRESENTS

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BEAUTIFUL BEAUTIFUL

EVENING A FILM BY IVONA JUKA **DAY**





BEAUTIFUL EVENING,
BEAUTIFUL DAY

SHORT SYNOPSIS

Four close friends, Lovro (21), Nenad (20), Stevan (22), and Ivan (20), fought against the Ustashas and Nazis by joining the partisans in WWII.

Sixteen years later, they became renowned filmmakers. In 1957, in Communist Yugoslavia, their sexual orientation raises suspicion, and a communist party loyalist named Emir (52) is assigned to sabotage their careers and lives. The pursuit of freedom becomes a fight for survival for the artists, while Emir's beliefs are challenged.



DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT

Growing up with a family member who was never allowed to “come out” and live in the shadows of his true self, I was inspired to shed light on a dark time in history. Through my extensive research, which included PhD theses on homosexual persecution in communist Yugoslavia, I discovered the remarkable resilience and unwavering strength of those who fought for their right to be different and authentic. Despite the persecution and imprisonment, they never gave up.

This film pays tribute to their courage, but it is also about our power of love to conquer hate and a call for acceptance and understanding in our polarized world.



IVONA JUKA

SCREENWRITER AND DIRECTOR

Ivona Juka is the author of award-winning short films **“Garbage”** and **“Editing”**, which were selected in the Official competition of numerous A festivals in the USA. As a student, she was selected by the **European Film Academy** as one of five European students to make a short film for the awards ceremony in Berlin and presented at the **EFA conference «Cinema of Tomorrow» in Warsaw** as one of the most prosperous young directors in Europe.

Her feature documentary film **“Facing the Day”**, about prisoners in the most strict prison, Lepoglava, has garnered international acclaim. It won the **Grand Prix - Best Film of the Festival at the goEast Film Festival**, Wiesbaden, Germany, and it was the first documentary film that won **Heart of Sarajevo at the Sarajevo Film Festival**. **“Facing the Day”** was in the official competition of numerous

international film festivals, including the **Montreal World Festival, the Sao Paulo International Film Festival, the International Sofia Film Festival, the Calcutta International Film Festival**, and many more. **“Facing the Day”**, success extended beyond the festival circuit with a successful theatrical distribution.

Ivona Juka’s feature fiction film **“You Carry Me”** had its international premiere at the **Karlovy Vary International Film Festival**; it has been invited to more than 20 film festivals worldwide and won 17 international awards. The film was nominated by the **European Film Academy for Best European Film and at the 88th Academy Awards for Best Foreign Language Film**. **“You Carry Me”** was praised by Variety and The Hollywood Reporter, which led **Netflix** to notice the remarkable **“You Carry Me”** and buy worldwide rights.

ANITA JUKA

PRODUCER

Anita Juka produced over 30 films and 20 European co-productions of different genres.

Noted titles include **“Infinity Pool”**, **“Burning Days”**, **“Butterfly Vision”**, and **“You Carry Me”**. **“Infinity Pool”**, directed by Brandon Cronenberg, starring Alexander Skarsgård, Mia Goth, and Cleopatra Coleman. The film received Eurimages support and is distributed by NEON/TOPIC, Universal Studios, and Focus Features. The film premiered at the **Sundance Film Festival 2023** and had its European premiere at the **Berlin International Film Festival 2023**. It was nominated in 11 categories by the Academy of Canadian Cinema & Television at the **Canadian Screen Awards**, including Best Picture and Best Directing. In 2022, two of Anita’s feature fiction films, **“Burning Days”**, directed by Emin Alper, and **“Butterfly Vision”**, directed by Maksym

Nakonechnyi, premiered at the prestigious **Cannes Film Festival 2022 Un Certain Regard**. Both films have been widely recognized internationally and received numerous awards.

“You Carry Me”, directed by Ivona Juka, had its international premiere at the **Karlovy Vary International Film Festival** and has been invited to more than 20 film festivals worldwide. It has been awarded 17 international awards and was nominated for the Best European Film and the official entry for the **88th Academy Awards*** for Best Foreign Language Film. In 2016, **“You Carry Me”** became the first film from Croatia and the whole region to be bought by **Netflix** for worldwide distribution.

Anita Juka served on the European Film Academy’s Executive Board from 2021 to 2022. She is also a member of the EFA, the European Producers Club, and the Producers Guild of America.



EMIR HADŽIHAFIZBEGOVIĆ

EMIR SERVAR

Emir Hadžihafizbegović, in his 25 years of active work in theatre, film, and television across Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Serbia, and European co-productions, has portrayed a diverse range of notable roles. His versatility is evident in his award-winning performance in the movie **'These Are The Rules'** by Ognjen Sviličić, for which he won the **Venice Horizons Award for Best Actor at the Venice Film Festival**. This role also earned him the best actor award at the **Stockholm Film Festival, Pula Film Festival, and FEST International Film Festival**. His previous awards include **Best Actor at the Durban International Film Festival** for his role in 'Armin' by Ognjen Sviličić, and the **Golden**

Arena at the Pula Film Festival. He also won the award for Best Supporting Actor in **'The Border Post'** by Rajko Grlić at the Pula Film Festival.

He also played in the feature films that were awarded at international film festivals, and these are some of them: **GOLDEN PALM** at the **Cannes Film Festival** for the film **"When Father was away on Bussines"** by Emir Kusturica, 1985., **GOLDEN BEAR** at the **Berlin Film Festival** for the film **"Grbavica"** by Jasmila Zbanic, 2007., **GOLDEN TIGER** at the **Rotterdam Film Festival** for the film **"Summer in the Golden Walley"** by Srdjan Vuletic, 2004. and **SILVER LEOPARD** at the **Locarno Film Festival** for the film **"Fuse"** by Pjer Zalica, 2003.



DADO ĆOSIĆ

LOVRO HORVAT

Dado Ćosić is a permanent member of the ZKM theatre ensemble, one of the most prestigious theatres in Croatia. He also acts in classical theatre plays at the **Dubrovnik Summer Festival** and in the Ulysses Theater, as well as modern theatre plays at the &TD Theater. He collaborated with acclaimed stage directors from all over Europe, including Paolo Magelli, Janusz Kica, Jernej Lorenci, Grzegorz Jarzyna, and Árpád Schilling.

He won theatre awards for various roles in plays, including the **Croatian Actors Society Award for Best Actor** and the **Ardallion Award** for his role in Eichmann in Jerusalem.

Dado Ćosić won an award at the **Pula Film Festival** for Best Supporting Actor in **“The High Sun”** by Dalibor Matanić, a movie that was presented at the Cannes Film Festival in the Un Certain Regard program.





4FILM

4Film has produced over 30 films and 20 European co-productions across various genres, including feature fiction, creative feature documentaries, and mini-TV series. 4Film's movies have been successfully distributed theatrically, on VOD and television in 190 countries worldwide. Many of them have received awards and have been screened at numerous festivals across the globe.

Some of company's notable titles include **"INFINITY POOL"** (2023) by Brandon Cronenberg, starring Alexander Skarsgard and Mia Goth (screened at Sundance FF 23 and Berlinale FF 23); **"BURNING DAYS"** (2022) by Emin Alper, a co-production with Turkey, France, Germany, Netherlands, and Greece (premiered at Cannes Film Festival 2022 - Un Certain Regard); **"BUTTERFLY VISION"** (2022) by Maksym Nakonechnyi, a co-production with Ukraine, Czech Republic, and Sweden (premiered at **Cannes Film Festival 2022 - Un Certain Regard**); **"YOU CARRY ME"** (2016) by Ivona Juka (screened at **Karlovy Vary IFF, Santa Barbara IFF, Cleveland FF**, and was Croatia's entry for the **88th Academy Awards Best Foreign Language Film**, also the first Croatian film available on Netflix); and **"SLOVENIAN GIRL"** by Damjan Kozole (screened at Toronto IFF, Raindance FF, and Warsaw FF).



COLLABORATION

WITH FORMOSSA GROUP
AND PICTURE SHOP

The “**Beautiful Evening, Beautiful Day**” post-production was expertly handled at two top industry facilities, **Picture Shop and Formosa Group**. Director Ivona Juka collaborated with **Michael Brook, Jane Tattersall**, and **Lou Solakofski**. **Michael Brook**, the award-winning composer, made a score for the film. The sound design was led by the award-winning Jane Tattersall, known for her work

on projects such as **The Handmaid’s Tale**. The final mix was orchestrated by the legendary Canadian sound mixer Lou Solakofski, who has won an **Emmy Award** for his work. This collaboration resulted in a post-production process that elevates “**Beautiful Evening, Beautiful Day**” to new heights, ensuring audiences’ captivating and immersive experiences.



BEAUTIFUL BEAUTIFUL

EVENING A FILM BY IVONA JUKA **DAY**

FILM



Regional
audiovisual
centre



Filming
in Croatia



Creative
Europe
MEDIA



TELEFILM
CANADA

Canada



ONTARIO
CREATIF

Ontario



Ministry of
Culture and
Heritage