

www.voevodathefilm.com



# **VOEVODA. PRESS KIT.**

### LOGLINE

A tortured mother leaves her child and home and leads a band of rebels inflicting her own justice, while struggling to make it up to the male world of 19th century.

### SHORT SYNOPSIS

Roumena is a tortured mother forced to abandon her child and home, who leads a band of rebels and inflicts her own justice while struggling to make it up to the men's world of 19th century. "Voevoda" means rebel-leader, commander, guardian and tells a true story, based on witness accounts.

## **DIRECTOR'S NOTES**

The film features many nonprofessional actors, the writer/director/producer playing the lead role and her daughter playing the younger Roumena. Through rough and raw cinematic narrative the film strives for authenticity



imposing the question how cruel humans are to the ones who are different. A woman ahead of her time, Roumena pushes relationships beyond the obvious religious, cultural and gender limits.

#### LONG SYNOPSIS

Voevoda (rebel-leader, commander, guardian) tells the true story of Roumena - a mother, forced to abandon her child and home, who leads a band of rebels and inflicts her own justice while struggling to make it up to the men's world of 19th century Ottoman Empire. Based on witness accounts and a short story by Nikolay Haytov. The film features many nonprofessional actors, the writer/director/producer playing the lead role and her daughter playing the younger Roumena. Through rough and raw cinematic narrative the film strives for authenticity imposing the question how cruel humans are to the ones who are different.



# **DIRECTOR'S CV SHORT**

Zornitsa Sophia graduated as Master of Fine Arts, major in painting, later in Film Directing. Her first film is MILA FROM MARS, 16 awards, 60 festivals and a box office hit in Bulgaria. She wrote, directed and produced 3 feature films and 2 documentaries, directed 6 TV series and 1 awarded theater play. VOEVODA is her third feature film as writer, director and producer and first as actress, currently a national box office hit.

# DIRECTOR'S CV LONG

Zornitsa Sophia is Master of Fine Arts, major in painting, specialized in School of Visual Arts, NYC and AU, DC. She exhibited in 65 visual arts events internationally and restored the church in Sofia Male Prison, together with the convicts. Her debut no budget feature "Mila From Mars" (2004) won 16 awards, including Best Film and Special Jury Award at Sarajevo IFF, Best Film, Best Actress and 3 more awards at "Golden Rose", two awards at Mannheim-Heidelberg IFF, screened at 60 festivals including Mar del Plata, Pusan, Goa, New Directors/New, it was Bulgarian submission for Academy Awards and a box office hit nationally. Followed by "Death and All The Way Back" (docu, 2005), "Modus Vivendi" (docu, 2006), "Forecast" (feature, 2009). She directed 18 episodes in 6 TV series in all genres and one awarded theater play. "Voevoda" is Zornitsa Sophia's third feature film as writer, director and producer and first as actress. It's currently a national box office hit with World Premiere in Shanghai IFF and European Premiere in Moscow IFF.

# FILMOGRAPHY

Mila From Mars, feature film, 2004

Death and All The Way Back, documentary, 2005

Modus Vivendi, documentary, 2006

Forecast, feature film, 2009

Voevoda, feature film, 2017



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MQ Pictures with the support of Bulgarian National Film Center in co-production with Focus Media with the support Croatian Audiovisual Centre, in coproduction with Nu Boyana Film, Dream Team Films and with the support of NOVA TV.

Cast: Zornitsa Sophia, Valeri Yordanov, Goran Gunchev, Vladimir Zombori, Leart Dokle, Petar Genkov, Dimitar Selenski and introducing Niki Amrita Nikolay. Director of Photography: Krum Luis-Alirio Rodriguez Edit: Victoria Radoslavova Costume Designer: Marta Mironska Production Designer: Irena Muratova Music: Kayno Yesno Slonce Composer: Darko Markovic Sound: Dubravka Premar, Petar Kralev, Ivo Natzev, Ivan Andreev Producer: Zornitsa Sophia Popgantcheva Co-producers: Irena Markovic, Yariv Lerner, Evtim Miloshev, Gabriel Georgiev, Ivan Spassov, Lubomir Neikov Executive Producers: Mila Kirova and Petar Minchev - Gushtera Writer and Director: Zornitsa Sophia

Official Web site: <a href="https://www.voevodathefilm.com">www.voevodathefilm.com</a> Official Facebook page: <a href="https://www.facebook.com/voevodathefilm">www.voevodathefilm.com</a> Official Facebook page: <a href="https://www.facebook.com/voevodathefilm">www.voevodathefilm.com</a> Official Facebook page: <a href="https://www.facebook.com/voevodathefilm">www.facebook.com/voevodathefilm</a> Official You Tube Channel: <a href="https://www.facebook.com/voevodathefilm">voevodathefilm</a>

## **RELEASE:**

**Theatrical box office hit** in Bulgaria (national release from Jan 2017), Distributor LENTA; **World Premiere:** 20<sup>th</sup> Shanghai International Film Festival, 19<sup>th</sup> June 2017; **International Premiere:** 39<sup>th</sup> Moscow International Film Festival, 26<sup>th</sup> June 2017; **Croatian National premiere:** 64<sup>th</sup> Pula International Film Festival **UK Premiere:** 25<sup>th</sup> Raindance International Film Festival, September 2017 **US Premiere:** CINEQUEST International Film Festival, March 2018 For more festivals and nominations please see the next page.

## PRODUCTION COMPANY, SALES & FESTIVALS:

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# FESTIVALS AND NOMINATIONS:

- 20<sup>th</sup> Shanghai International Film Festival SPECTRUM World Premiere
- 39<sup>th</sup> Moscow International Film Festival- SPECIAL SCREENINGS -International Premiere
- 67<sup>th</sup> Pula International Film Festival– COMPETITION Croatian Premiere
- 25<sup>th</sup> Raindance Independent Film Festival **UK Premiere**
- 35<sup>th</sup> Bulgarian Film Festival Golden Rose COMPETITION
- CINEQUEST International Film Festival COMPETITION US Premiere
- Nomination for Best Film NOVA Cinema and TV Awards
- Nomination for Best actress Zornitsa Sophia NOVA Cinema and TV Awards
- Nomination for Best actor Valeri Yordanov NOVA Cinema and TV Awards
- Nomination for Best actor Goran Gunchev NOVA Cinema and TV Awards
- Nomination for Rising Star for Niki Amrita Nikolay NOVA Cinema and TV Awards
- 22<sup>nd</sup> Sofia International Film Festival BG COMPETITION
- 25<sup>th</sup> Sguardi Altrove International Women's Film Festival, Milan, Italy along with the participation of the director in Round Table about the women directors and the Bulgarian Cinema in the quarters of the European Parliament in Milan.