

Zagreb

THE FILM STAGE



Zagreb
CROATIA





Contents

Zagreb - the stage of the world's film industry	4
Le Procés	18
One Song a Day Takes Mischief Away	20
Fiddler on the Roof	22
Tin Drum	24
The Woman from Sarajevo	26
Sophie's Choice	28
Winds of War	30
Nadia	32
Wallenberg: A Hero's Story	34
Mussolini: The Untold Story	36
The Dirty Dozen	38
Race for the Bomb	40
Armour of God	42
Honor Bound	44
War and Remembrance	46
Twist of Fate	48
Captain America	50
Night of the Fox	52
Plot to Kill Hitler	54
Rosencrantz & Guildenstern Are Dead	56
The Pope Must Die	58
Memories of Midnight	60
The Sands of Time	62
Death Train	64
Night Watch	66
Tales of Mystery and Imagination	68
As a Bad Dream	70
The Fever	72
The Lady Musketeer	74
Ultimate Force	76
The Hunting Party	78
White Lightnin'	80
Hunger II	82
Max Schmelling	84
Anton Chekhov's The Duel	86
Room 304	88

Zagreb

THE STAGE OF THE WORLD'S
FILM INDUSTRY





Zagreb is a photogenic city. Its open face - the facades of buildings and monuments, its architectural but also natural beauties, parks and gardens, as well as its daily life, were the inspiration for the emergence of numerous photo-monographs and film portraits. Its undoubted beauty, developed throughout the centuries both by the imagination and skill of famous architects, the influence of different cultures and climates, and by the special spirit and charm of the locals, all this permanently enchanting the visitors and people passing by to discover - again and again - the simple and marvelous, timeless perspectives.

And not only that. Well-known photographs and meters of film often portrayed Zagreb only from its most picturesque and, after so many years, it can be said - the stereotypical side. Contrary to all the picturesque postcards, mono-



graphs and films, these tourist cards of the city, Zagreb has many other faces, landscapes and panoramas that hardly anyone knows, something that only the sensitive and experienced eye of an individual, often an artist, can discover and recognize, the eye that will see Zagreb as the setting for the most imaginative and, at the same time, most diverse creations.



It is not surprising then that the worldwide film artists recognized Zagreb as the perfect setting for their films, the space offering so many different things in one place, but at the same time authentic, able to

replace with actual images an entire film city. It is not uncommon, not even exaggerated that once the local film experts considered Zagreb as "all the continents in one place" and claimed that "it is not a coincidence that many film industry projects took place exactly here".



The consequence of the above said is that the Zagreb film company Jadran film in the second half of the 20th century owned the largest and most famous film studio in central Europe and the stage on which, along with many local films, a large number of foreign films took place, a total of approximately 150. And not just any films, but also those nominated for the famous Oscar award in numerous categories.



In Zagreb many cult television series were shot. It also does not mean that other, smaller-profile projects, that left more than a quality mark in film history, both from artistic and commercial aspects, were any less technically and professionally demanding. All this Jadran film, through the expertise and professionalism of the local filmmakers, managed to perform for the producers, booking in a golden period an average of more than \$ 5 million per year, which at that time was a very respectable sum.



Naturally, together with the worldwide projects, Zagreb was visited by numerous international film stars - Orson Welles, Richard Burton, Yul Brynner, Meryl Streep, Anita Ekberg, Robert Mitchum, Omar Sharif, Kevin Klein, Tom Selleck, Richard Gere, Franco Nero, Harrison Ford ..., due mainly to the shooting on the locations in Zagreb surroundings, and sometimes even in the surrounding area of other Croatian cities. Almost everyone stayed in the cult Regent Esplanade Hotel and later at the Intercontinental Hotel (now Westin). Both these hotels in the golden age of co-productions always hosted some of the foreign film crews, often several of them in various stages of production.





Of course Zagreb, because of its above-mentioned picturesqueness, diversity and possibilities of metamorphosis, was itself attractive to the world's film-makers. But in the difficult years after World War II these benefits were yet to be discovered, that required more than mere coincidence. The movie industry, despite the artistic pretensions to which one of its parts leans, is primarily a job. And the job, as it is well-known, has its own strict rules, among which the most important one is that the invested must be multiply returned to the investor. To



make this possible it is necessary, in the case of the film industry, to carefully control the production costs., The film producers of the large film industries were of that mind and especially careful. They appeared in Zagreb out of nowhere, attracted by the ideal city settings for their stories. The entire process was moving logically, gradually, but not that slowly.



Right after the Second World War, Europe was a sad place. Many cities and even entire countries were destroyed and devastated, with poverty and deprivation ruling everywhere. Trying to survive, once the richest European nations now started building completely



new foundations. No regard for anything, not even the film art, took place, while a certain celluloid industry was out of the question. But on the other hand, in the United States the film production never ceased, and the post-war capital quickly accumulated the other side of the Atlantic Ocean as well. The sly American producers very quickly calculated that the old continent, because of these circumstances, could be much cheaper for shooting their films. Taking into account that at that time among most the popular film types were large and very expensive historical spectacles, technically demanding and with many extras, the solution was more than evident.



The first studio imposed to the Americans as the ideal solution was the celebrated Italian Cinecittà. This studio quickly filled its postwar reservation book with American projects bringing at that time more than welcome US dollars. However, new circumstances put the Italian filmmakers in an unpleasant situation. Without large budgets available to their American colleagues, they had to turn to more accessible places. The first choice was nearby Croatia, where at that time the shooting costs, according to film historians, amounted to half of those



in their home land or, maybe, in Czechoslovakia where film had already developed.



So, soon after the war, in the late 50's, Croatia became the place for shooting the first foreign films, first Italian and afterwards American as well. These were B productions, often of great biblical themes, such as "David and Goliath," a story adapted from the Old Testament with Orson Welles in the leading role. Although this film became popular in the United States in 1960 (most of the others being shot in our country entirely or partially), were of rather poor quality, especially from today's perspective, and among them there is not a single one, for the history of cinema, with a more important title at all.



And then fate interfered. Already three times mentioned (not by



chance) Orson Welles decided in the early 60's to shoot his new film in Zagreb. The then 45-year-old American film and theater director, actor, screenwriter and producer, whose work included film, theater, television and radio, with already two such film masterpieces like "Citizen Kane" (1941) "The lady from Shanghai" (1947), "The Third Man" (1949) and "A Touch of Evil" (1958), of which the film "Citizen Kane" already had the reputation of the best film ever made (this reputation is kept up to the present day). His distinctive directorial manuscript with a non-linear narrative form, the innovative use of light, especially chiaroscuro, unusual shooting angles, sound techniques taken from the radio, depth of image sharpness and long shots were a sort of revolution in the world of film, especially when it comes to the author's film.



Given all this, it is not at all surprising that his arrival in Zagreb for shooting a good part of his new film "The Process", based on the novel by Franz Kafka, was a super event for the local public, but also a tremendous force for Zagreb's co-production industries.



Moreover, Welles shot Zagreb so masterfully - fitting it in with so much skill with the Kafkaesque story and using the central European atmosphere of the city to the maximum, that all the professionals who have seen this movie seriously incorporated Zagreb into their itinerary of dreamy

film sets, as a stage they will certainly seek to exploit in the future for some of their projects. The domestic filmmakers, however, were delighted with the way Welles used the opportunities and resources of Jadran film, and suddenly it became clear to them that professionally, both with organization and resources, as well as with professional staff, they are able to serve even the most demanding American productions.





Welles, as he himself claimed, was fascinated by Zagreb, as well as with associates with whom he worked there, therefore he returned to Croatia several times (often stayed in Primosten, where the family of his life's companion, actress Oja Kodar whom he met in Zagreb, had a /summer house), and shot here another two (unfinished) films. His love for Zagreb was marked by shooting a short film, "Vienna", where Zagreb's streets, full of buildings and palaces built by the most famous Viennese architects, served as the setting of Vienna.



Besides the fact that at that time it was easier and cheaper to shoot a movie in Croatia, in particular Zagreb, than in any other European country, foreign filmmakers - just like Welles himself - began recognizing the exceptional quality of Zagreb filmmakers, and started including them more and more in their projects. For producers, it was a very lucrative bonus, because for much less money they could count on the top masters of film for most various areas (the Zagreb Academy of Dramatic Art on a regular basis educated a whole generation of graduates of film experts, writers and actors) - from organizers, cinematographers, makeup artist, costume and set designers up to the actors, extras and stuntmen. The most famous among them was the cinematographer Tomislav Pinter, who - after the first co-production projects - often went to work abroad, then Vladimir Tadej, set designer because of whom the foreign producers stopped bringing the experts-set designers from their countries of origin and Branko Lustig, who went in the 80's to Hollywood and proved himself - as a producer of the award winning films like "Gladiator" and "Schindler's list". Today Zagreb is full of film professionals who have learned from these Croatian veterans of film art, but also from the world's film masters that worked in Zagreb.





Precisely the frequent work in co-productions gave Zagreb filmmakers a chance for further education, and soon they began catching up, very quickly and in all the segments, with the highest world standards. In addition, the logistics was great as well. Jadran film, driven by means that suddenly began to arrive from overseas projects, grew into a perfectly organized unit with numerous great and experienced professional filmmakers. If they began learning



the craft from the Italian filmmakers in the 50's, in the forthcoming decades - by working in some of the biggest and most professionally set projects, mainly those by the American producers - they became extreme professionals. Over time, logistics reached the level of

the world's leading film studios so that Jadran film, aside from the experts, had plenty of extras, a team of highly respected stuntmen and its own horse stable, as well as a wide range of set designing elements to easily build an ancient Roman or Greek city, Egyptian or oriental surroundings, that is, all the equipment needed to fully satisfy the most demanding producers and directors.



All the film crews that came to Zagreb pointed out, aside from the beauty and diversity of the city area (the old part and its architecture, the mountain, rivers and woods in its nearby surroundings) and the professionalism of the Jadran film staff, were the incredibly generous hospitality of the locals, great hotel offers, interesting sightseeing during their free time and meals, that all left quite an impression. Directors and film stars as well as the producers, as a rule were provided with the presidential suites and luxurious rooms, and one of the most beautiful city villas - the villa Rebar served for this purpose. The hosts did their best to make the guests feel comfortable in Zagreb, so it is not surprising that the fame regarding the top conditions of the shoot and stay in the capital of Croatia quickly spread throughout the film circles around the world.



The experts of Jadran film were particularly good at finding the most suitable shooting locations. Zagreb is, as we already emphasized, because of its architecture, park, nature and ambience diversity able to offer



authentic film sets, without any or with minimal space adaptation, i.e., without building expensive sets. The leading operatives of Jadran film had the entire catalogs of different locations stored in their minds, they knew every street's uniqueness and image, and because of that they could immediately offer numer-





ous possible authentic sets, according to the producer's and director's requests. Of course, since Zagreb was a typical representative of the central European architecture, it was the best choice for recreating the Austrian, Hungarian, Swiss, Czech, and even some German cities. However, due to the one century old influence of the Mediterranean (Croatia has one of the longest and most beautiful Mediterranean coasts) and eastern cultures, some parts of the city offer a different, for these needs appropriate film sets. In addition, Zagreb can be easily converted into Paris, Moscow, London, Madrid, Berlin ... and many other European cities, and has served as a stage for some film themes from other continents. Furthermore, many different interiors - from the gorgeous palaces, pavilions and hotels up to the old city dwellings, provides incredible opportunities for every film artist, authentic and extremely functional.

What all the foreign teams shooting in Zagreb especially liked was the relaxed working atmosphere. Unlike most major film studios in the world, and especially those in Hollywood, Zagreb's conditions were more relaxed, intimate and comfortable, but no less professional, something that made many world's filmmakers gladly return. The work and conditions were set on a highly professional level, proven by the fact that at that time American film experts called Jadran film "The European Hollywood".





After Orson Welles, one of the biggest legends that came with his project to Jadran film was Sam Peckinpah who, in his typically violent and brutal war film "Iron Cross" from 1977, used local actors as well. Although a part of the film was not shot exactly in Zagreb, but in its surroundings, however it is interesting that in recreating the story from the Eastern Front he was helped by the army from the city barracks. Those who worked on the set say that, despite the fact that he was constantly drunk (prior to the shoot he threw a great party for the whole film crew, where he was socializing with everyone), Peckinpah did a good job in directing the film, with great help from his assistants, in particular, local film operatives. Those who worked with him say that he adored the Croats, constantly saying that regarding their temper they resemble the Mexicans.



The door to making first class American film projects in Zagreb, was opened and then the German film director Volker Schlöndorff did the same for the rest of the world in 1979. At that time the 40-year-old significant German artist with headquarters in Berlin, came to Zagreb to shoot a film version of Nobel laureate Günter Grass's novel. It was the film "The Tin Drum", his masterpiece that will win an Oscar and The Golden Palm (Palme d'Or) at the Cannes Film Festival. Schlöndorff is known for many adaptations of valuable literary works, providing thus to Zagreb the reputation of the birthplace of esteemed art films.





Thanks to good working conditions, the foreign directors treated domestic actors the same way they did movie stars that came with them. Many still talk about how thrilled they were when assigned a personal driver, makeup artists and costume designers. Zagreb provided movie stars with a pleasant place of stay and work, without all the fuss of the star-system and crazy media attacks. Everybody was relaxed and, during the walk through the city, happily gave autographs to film fans they encountered everywhere.



Once again, Zagreb replaced Hollywood in the early 80's, in a large American production. Namely, Alan J. Pakula, the director already celebrated by the film "Klute," "The Parallax View" and "All the President's Men" and especially appreciated for his contribution to the film type conspiracy thriller, came with his ambitious project called "Sophie's choice" and brought with at that time one of the biggest stars of American film, Meryl Streep. This romantic drama with an exceptionally cruel war story in the background earned Meryl Streep an Oscar, while the film had a total of five nominations for this prestigious award.



That Zagreb is ready to offer the film sets and logistics for large and complex projects, such as television series with more two-hour episodes, was confirmed in the same years, when the Croatian capital was visited by an American team that shot here several parts of a very /challenging mini-series "The Winds of War" (the rest was shot in the United States, Italy, UK and Austria), directed by the famous American director Dana Curtis. The job was done perfectly, the series was received well both with the audience and the critics and five years later, with the same director, the sequel under the name "War and Remembrance" was shot (the rest was shot in the same countries as in the "The Winds of War" with the exception that Switzerland, Canada, Poland and Germany were added to the list). The similar thing will happen with the television series "The Dirty dozen" a few years later.



Zagreb got an entirely new dimension as a stage of the world film in the second half of the 80's, during the shooting of the "Armor of God" by the Hong Kong actor, action choreographer, director, screenwriter, producer and martial arts master Jackie Chan. The film that the actor shot in Zagreb in his early 30's has contributed significantly to Chan's status as a cultural icon, providing at the same time Zagreb and Jadran film a reference for the production of action movies with very complex stunt scenes.



The successful Zagreb film story, constantly growing with new successes, continued until the early 90's, when it suddenly slowed down due to the war of aggression against Croatia. Namely, until then Zagreb, along with the great reputation of Jadran film (in the meantime, the company has grown so much that it had three independent production teams able to work simultaneously on three complex co-productions), the cinematic potential of the city and the professional hospitality, was attractive to the world film industry also because of the security element, one of the essential preconditions of each film project.



But, since Zagreb was outside of the direct war area, foreign film production has never completely stopped. Even during the war years, 1992 and 1993, TV movies were shot, and after the war ended, the activity was continued even stronger in 1995 also with television productions. The world's film industry was definitely back in Zagreb in the new millennium, of course, not even near the extent and the importance of projects as in the golden period of the early 60's until the end of the 80's, but with indications that trend could soon be repeated.



Namely, in the meantime Croatia has joined the negotiations for membership in the European Union and the Accession treaty was signed at the end of



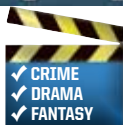
2011, while the full membership begins as of mid 2013. These conditions greatly enhance the possibility of Croatia and Zagreb to become again attractive to the international filmmakers because the country, and especially its capital, has not lost any of that charm that attracted the world's producers and directors half a century ago. In addition, Zagreb today provides many new opportunities for international filmmakers - from new production and postproduction houses up to the highly educated film staff (Zagreb's Academy of Dramatic Arts now has a special department for film production), complete professional logistics and numerous benefits that will be, we believe, quickly discovered and recognized by the foreign producers and directors.



In addition, the city of Zagreb has not even by far exhausted all its possibilities. Indeed, in the past 50 years, the world's film artists have just scratched the surface of the visual potential the city is hiding. Zagreb has still so much that the world's directors and set designers have not yet discovered - from the unique city backyards, buildings, decorations, roofs, balconies and facades, over the nostalgic trams, unique marketplaces and contrast of shabby suburbs compared to the modern districts, up to the slopes of the "city" the mountain Medvednica, its glades and mountain huts. We believe that the charm of the Croatian capital and its numerous and various images will continue for a long period of time, often unknowingly, discovered by the future film audience and fans through the imaginary world of some of the most talented today's and future film artists, and that Zagreb will again become the stage of the world's film industry.



Le Procés (1962)



Director: Orson Welles

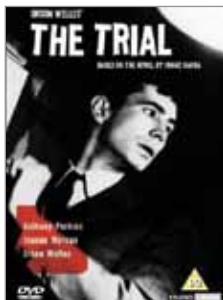
Writers: Franz Kafka (novel), Orson Welles (screenplay)

Stars: Anthony Perkins, Jeanne Moreau, Elsa Martinelli, Romy Schneider

Produced by:

Alexander Salkind

Production Co: Paris-Europa Productions, Hisa-Film, Fin. Cinematografica Italiana



The film is also known by the English title "The Trial" directed by Orson Welles (he wrote the screenplay), based on the extraordinary novel of the same name by the famous Czech writer Franz Kafka.

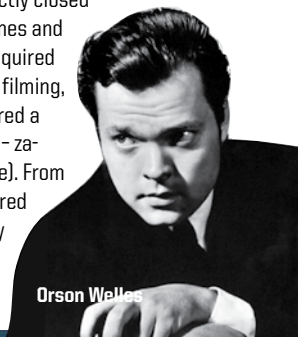
The film begins with Welles narrating Kafka's parable "Before the Law", which follows the scenes designed by Russian artist Alexandre Alexeieff. The famous American actor Anthony Perkins plays Josef K., a bureaucrat who is accused of a never-specified crime while Jeanne Moreau, Romy Schneider, and Elsa Martinelli play women who become involved in various ways in Josef's trial and life.

The film was shot in European countries, and particularly praised for his creative set and filming (especially Welles' characteristic use of angles and sharpness in the shot). Welles himself claimed that it was the best film ever directed, and it is interesting that he himself lent his voice to as many as eleven characters in the film.

Along with the scenes of Josef K.'s office, which were shot at Paris' train station Gare d'Orsay, it is believed that the most impressive ones are those shot at Zagreb's locations. Among them those that stand out in particular are of the legendary town

hotel Esplanade which, since its opening in 1925, has attracted all those who stayed in it with its luxury and beauty. Its halls in the film have been converted into mysterious spaces with high ceilings and strange shadows, while the wide open space of Vukovarska Street, one of the most important streets of Zagreb, takes on an almost eerie dimension. And some other city streets were used for recreating the paranoia of the main character, and one of the most interesting scenes with thousands of uniformed bureaucrats working on their typewriters was shot in one of the pavilions of the Zagreb fair.

In Zagreb, just like everywhere else, Welles had strictly closed sets, because he worked very meticulously on the scenes and the details until they reached perfection, so that he required complete peace and quiet in order to work. During the filming, Orson Welles, who was a passionate gourmet, discovered a well-known specialty from Zagreb's surrounding areas - zagorske strukle (stuffed cheese dumplings from Zagorje). From then on, during his frequent visits to Zagreb, he preferred eating them at the hotel Esplanade, where he regularly stayed.



Orson Welles



Hotel Esplanade



Hotel Esplanade

One Song a Day Takes Mischief Away

(1970 / Tko pjeva zlo ne misli)



Director: Kresimir Golik
Writers: Kresimir Golik,
Vjekoslav Majer
Stars: Franjo Majetic,
Mirjana Bohanec, Relja
Basic, Mia Oremovic,
Tomislav Zganec
Production Co:
Croatia Film



Generally acknowledged as the best Croatian film of all time, "One Song a Day Takes Mischief Away" is the adaptation of the novel by Zagreb's popular author, Vjekoslav Majer. In addition to extremely favorable criticism, the film saw a great commercial success at the time of the premiere, and is today often shown on television.

The story is set in prewar Zagreb (around 1935) and is told through the eyes of a six-year old boy called Perica. The suave Zagreb charmer Mr. Fulir courts Perica's mother Ana during a Sunday picnic, which Perica's father Franjo, a clerk who enjoys drinking and socializing in taverns, at first does not notice. He tries to suggest to Fulir that Perica's Aunt Mina, a well-off spinster, would be an excellent matrimonial catch and invites Fulir to his home, to act as mediator. After several meetings of Ana with Mr. Fulir, Perica's father becomes aware of Fulir's intentions to seduce his wife, and things get complicated.

The film, directed by Kreso Golik, one of Croatian Film's veterans, is a remarkable portrait of bourgeois Zagreb before the Second World War. The clash of the world of urban taverns, where current political issues of the world are solved with bad wine, women and housewives who cook and get carried away by romantic figures of lovers from cheap novels, are a great theme for a fun story full of humor (it is improved by the naive viewpoint of the child narrator).

One of the main roles in the movie is actually played by the city of Zagreb itself with the nostalgic Upper town with a setting of ancient houses, courtyards (the courtyard in Basaricekova street is the central setting of the film), town taverns (above all, the one called Pod starim krovovima (Under the Old Roofs), the Square of St. Mark, with the church of the same name, having the roof decorated with colourful emblems and the gas lights that illuminate the old streets, as well as the idyllic town park of Maksimir with the picturesque pavilion and the charm of Zagreb's old place for outings called Samobor.



Park Maksimir



Town tavern 'Under the Old Roofs'



Samobor

Fiddler on the Roof

(1971)



Director:

Norman Jewison

Writers: **Sholom**

**Aleichem (adaptation),
Joseph Stein (theater
piece)**

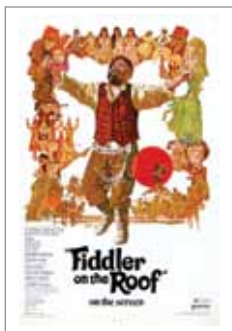
Stars: **Chaim Topol, Nor-
ma Crane, Leonard Frey**

Produced by:

Norman Jewison

Production Co:

**Mirisch Corporation,
The Cartier Productions**



The film adaptation of the homonymous Broadway musical from 1964, set in Tsarist Russia in 1905. The film centers on a Jewish peasant called Tevye, a milkman struggling with everyday problems of life, the limits of Jewish tradition and family adversity (wife and daughters). He lives in Anatevka, which is divided into two parts - the smaller Jewish orthodox and bigger Christian orthodox part. Tevye follows the philosophy that everything is fine as long as no one bothers anyone. Throughout the film, Tevye breaks the "fourth wall" by talking at times to the audience or the heavens (God), for the audience's benefit. A good part of the story is also told in the form of a musical.

The most part of the movie was shot in Pinewood Studios in Buckinghamshire English, while most of the exteriors were filmed in Croatia - in Mala Gorica, a town near Petrinja, then in Lekenik, Krasic, in a forest near Daruvar and in Zagreb. Interestingly, enough the musical solo parts in the film were performed by the famous violinist Isaac Stern. The critics consider this film to be one of the best film adaptations of a Broadway musical,

The filming of the "Fiddler on the Roof" represented the beginning of the second phase

of shooting foreign films in Croatia, namely Zagreb, the so-called "golden era of co-production", which will be developed by the end of the 70's, and especially in the 80's. The Zagreb film workers collaborating on this film remember that for the purpose of shooting an entire village was built near Mala Gorica and that at that time in Croatia - for the very first time - a balloon construction (like the ones in which you play tennis), for the needs of shooting, actors' make-up, meals and the like was raised.

Scenes in Zagreb were shot in the Upper Town, Katarinski trg (St. Catherine's Square) to be more precise, especially in front of the 6th High School and St. Catherine's church, a location that "played" St. Petersburg. Although filmed in January, there was no snow, and the script called for just such scenery. Therefore, for the purpose of recreating a winter scene trucks full of white marble dust were brought to the Upper Town, sprinkling it on the tarmac and in all places that appeared in the scenes.



St. Catherine's Square



Tin Drum

(1979 / Die Blechtrommel)



Director:

Volker Schlöndorff

Writers: **Jean-Claude**

Carrière, Günter Grass

Stars: **David Bennent,**

Mario Adorf, Angela

Winkler

Produced by: **Franz Seitz,**

Anatole Dauman

Production Co:

Argos Films, Artémis

Productions, Bioskop

Film



The adaptation of Günter Grass's novel of the same name, directed by German director Volker Schlöndorff, despite the mix of a drama and war film, the style could be classified as a black comedy.

The film opens around 1925 with an event that will change the life of Oskar Matzerath, a very unusual German boy from Danzig (the son of a local merchant). Oskar, who has been adorned with unusually developed intelligence since he was three, receives a tin drum for his birthday. Looking at the world around him at the time of the birth of the prerequisites for the Second World War, he decides never to grow up. He rejects the social order, his tin drum symbolizes his protest against the bourgeois mentality of his own family and neighborhood, which are the form of passive social behavior during the rise of the Nazi movement in Germany. No one pays attention to him so disaster is inevitable...

"Tin Drum" is one of the most successful German films of the 70's and won the Oscar for best foreign language film, and, together with the film "Apocalypse Now", the prestigious Golden Palm (Palme d'Or) at the Cannes Film Festival in 1979.

Part of the film that Schlöndorff filmed in Zagreb required large spaces and army barracks, but in an urban environment, preferably neglected and somewhat eerie. The Zagreb Production experts offered the perfect solution in the western part of the town - the Crnomerec quarter. That part of the town brings together several alumni, urbanized settlements and is situated on the edge of historic Zagreb. The scenes were filmed in the street of the Republic of Austria, next to vast meadows, where that year the windows on the houses were still broken and the facades ruined. In the film, a special role plays the nearby Rudolfova vojarna (Rudolph's barracks), built in 1888, for a long time now used for other purposes and nowadays a protected monument. For the purposes of setting the atmosphere that corresponds with the action, Schlöndorff masterfully used the old neighborhood and its squalor, which even seemed frightening.



Rudolph's barracks

The Woman from Sarajevo (1979)



Director: Vojtjeh Jasny

Stars: Heidelide Weiss,
Rade Serbedzija, Djuro
Utjesanovic

Production Co:

Jadran film, RTV Zagreb,
Telepol München

The film based on the novel of the same name by the Bosnian writer Ivo Andric. The story is dominated by the character of the spinster Rajka Radakovic, which is governed by only one passion, misery. The literary work (translated into many world languages) in a masterful way describes an entire life without love, friendship and concern

for fellow humans, a life without heart, determined by a single message from a dying father, misunderstood and exaggerated, which the film, with quite a lot of skill, transfers on to the screen.

The film was mostly shot in Zagreb. Given the time period of the story the locations were selected in the Upper Town, the

oldest part of Zagreb. It was shot in Opaticka Street, an old and noble street that runs along the former eastern fortification wall, and was named after the nuns of St. Claire, who had a monastery in what is now the museum building at number 20. For the purposes of the film the building next to it, at number 18 (now the Institute of Contemporary History), was chosen for the film.

It was also shot in the nearby Demetrova Street, at one time a very significant and busy Upper Town Street, founded in the 18th and 19th century on the former ramparts. Today it is a quiet and harmonious street where one can always find peace, shade and hidden beauty (it used to be a street with beautiful gardens). For the same purpose the private villa of the Omcikus family on Okrugljak was used, in which many films were shot (both the exterior and the interior).



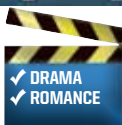


Opaticka Street



Demetrova Street (Croatian Natural History Museum)

Sophie's Choice (1982)



Director: Alan J. Pakula

Writers: William Styron,

Alan J. Pakula

Stars: Meryl Streep,

Kevin Kline, Peter

MacNicol

Production Co:

Incorporated Television

Company (ITC), Keith

Barish Productions



The romantic drama which tells the story of a Polish immigrant called Sophie and her tempestuous lover who share a boarding house with a young writer in Brooklyn, is excellent ground for great actors - Meryl Streep, Kevin Kline and Peter MacNicol. For the director Alan J. Pakula this was a challenging project after the huge success of his previous film "All the President's Men" and an entirely new type of film after having acquired the status of master of the conspiracy thriller. Pakula wrote the screenplay for the eponymous literary work by William Styron.

The film begins with a story about a young immigrant, Sophie, who survived imprisonment in a Nazi concentration camp, and is living with Nathan (Kevin Kline, in his second role on film), a clever, but unstable American Jew of a tempestuous nature obsessed with the Holocaust. The two become friends with String, a young American writer, who has just arrived in New York City and who is the film's narrator. Sophie and Nathan's happiness is endangered by the

ghosts from her past and his obsessions.

It is interesting that William Styron wrote the character of Sophie in his novel with the actress Ursula Andress in mind, but Meryl Streep begged Pakula on her knees (he was thinking of casting Liv Ullman), and managed to win the role. Rightly so, since it won her the Oscar. The critical and extremely emotionally painful scene of the "choice" in which Sophie chooses which of her two children to spare from death, Streep played perfectly in one take and refused to repeat it. It is interesting that for the purposes of the film, Streep learned Polish and German, to have a better accent of the Polish refugee. That role of a career by Meryl Streep was named the third best role of all time by Premiere Magazine.

The film was, apart from the title role, nominated for an Oscar in four categories - Best Cinematography (Néstor Almendros), Best Costume Design (Albert Wolsky), Best Music (Marvin Hamlisch) and Best Writing, Screenplay Based on Material from Another Medium (Pakula). In Zagreb, the scenes in "Sophie's Choice" where the town had to capture the atmosphere of Poland were shot, among others, on Petar Preradovic Square (the statue of the famous Croatian poet stands at the center of the square), an area that locals due to floral stands, traditionally called Flower Square. This picturesque square - created when the block of buildings that were located there until 1897 were destroyed - about 200 meters away from the central town square and for a long time a place for selling flowers, is nowadays a citizen's



Meryl Streep



Passage Oktogon

favorite meeting place with numerous cafes. The film was also shot in nearby Oktogon, the most beautiful passage that connects the Petar Preradovic Square with the longest main street of Zagreb, Ilica. This picturesque shopping passage with shops has a roofed octagonal dome made of stained glass in the middle, by which it got its name.

This film was decisive for the career of Branko Lustig, because shortly after he went to Hollywood and won an Academy Award as producer for the films "Gladiator" and "Schindler's List".

Winds of War

(1983 / TV mini-series)



Director: Dan Curtis

Stars: Robert Mitchum,

Ali MacGraw,

Jan-Michael Vincent

Produced by:

Dan Curtis Productions,

Paramount Television

Production Co:

Jadran Film,

Paramount Television



The epic drama of the famous American novelist Herman Wouk was adapted into the eponymous television mini-series. The plot almost entirely follows the literary work and describes events in the period from March 1939 until the United States entered the Second World War in December of 1941.

The series follows the life of naval officer Victor Henry (Robert Mitchum) sent to Germany during Hitler's rise to power and witness to the gradual escalation of the situation in the state of war and the eruption of war. Like the action in the book, apart from the family life of the Henry and Jastrow family, the series deals with major world events of that era. Adolf Hitler and the entire gallery of German officers, particularly the fictional General von Roon, as the main character, create a comparative plot of the miniseries. In order to ensure greater credibility and a better understanding of the major events and important characters, documentary footage, interwoven with narration, were added to the fictional material.

Interestingly enough, the production company Paramount, to reduce costs, also used the war scenes filmed for some other films, such as the attack on Pearl Harbor in the movie "Tora! Tora Tora!". The series also offers an exceptional rarity - scenes filmed in an authentic British RAF operations center, otherwise very rarely open to the public.

The series (then a huge budget of \$ 35 million) consists of seven episodes in total duration of about 14 hours, and became a first-class sensation on American television and has achieved tremendous success in the world. As a result, five years later its sequel "War and Remembrance" was filmed, again

directed by Dan Curtis.

The series was filmed around the world. Apart from Zagreb it was shot in Germany, the United States, Italy, Britain and Austria, a total of over 400 locations, of which a large part was filmed in Zagreb. According to the testimony of Croatian filmmakers who worked on it, the script had about as many as a thousand pages. Because



Klaiceva Street

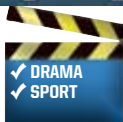


Park Zrinjevac

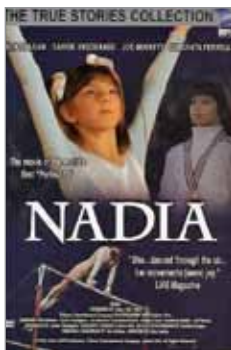
of the many sites and their interdependencies, the shooting was extremely complex.

In Zagreb, the "Winds of War" was shot at multiple locations. The oldest part of Zagreb, the Upper town, offered the charm of medieval streets with numerous ancient houses, palaces and churches from different historical periods, as well as lots of atmosphere (one of the few European cities with gas lighting). The main city park Zrinjevac (part of the Green Horseshoe, a large system of parks and green areas in downtown), with its extremely picturesque, century-old platanus trees, flower gardens, a music pavilion and the palaces surrounding it provide a lot of interesting images, while the monumental buildings of institutions and schools in Savska and Klaićeva Street "played" the role of various government and military headquarters.

Nadia (1984 / TV film)



Director: Alan Cooke
Writer: Jim McGinn
Stars: Simon Adams,
Bozidar Alic, Cintija
Asperger, Marcia
Frederick
Production Co:
Jadran Film, Tribune
Entertainment



A television film based on true events, tells the story of the Romanian gymnast Nadia Comaneci, her childhood and the beginnings of practicing gymnastics, until a single triumph at the summer Olympics in Montreal in 1976 (three gold medals and a very rare perfect 10 score for training). One of the best gymnasts of all time, she won another two gold medals at the Olympic Games in Moscow in 1980.

The film begins with scenes from her childhood and the story of how a talented young gymnast, Nadia Elena Comaneci, was discovered by Belye Karolyi, a Romanian gymnastics coach of Hungarian origins. The culmination of the story is the tremendous success of 14-year old Nadia at the Olympic Games in Montreal in 1976. In the team-part of the competition, Nadia received a winning score of 10.0 for her exercise on the double level cross bar, which happened for the first time in the history of the modern Olympic Games (the grade boards did not even provide space for double digits). During the same Olympic Games Nadia won another six perfect score grades.

The film vividly depicts what a difficult sport gymnastics is and how much effort an athlete needs to make to achieve top results. The critics evaluated the film as "an inspiring and realistic view of gymnastics and of Nadia Comaneci."

In Zagreb, the film was shot in the Great and the Small Hall of the Sports Hall, until recently the largest town gym (today it is the multi-purpose Arena), the Hall of the Gymnastics club Zagreb on Marshal Tito Square and the Hall of the Faculty of Kinesiology while the exteriors were shot in Maksimir, the large park with trees and lakes in the eastern part of the town and in the cemetery Mirogoj, one of the most beautiful in Europe, which is a true oasis for lovers of walks in green areas, with special architectural and artistic values and historical significance.



Arena Zagreb



Cemetery Mirogoj

Wallenberg: A Hero's Story

(1985 / TV film)



Director:

Lamont Johnson

Writers:

Thurston B. Clarke (book), Gerald Green

Stars:

Richard Chamberlain, Alice Krige and Kenneth Colley

Produced by:

Richard Irving, Lamont Johnson (co-producer), Phillip Levitan (co-producer)

Production Co:

Dick Berg Stonehenge Productions, Paramount Television



This is a television film by the American television network NBC, with Richard Chamberlain in the role of Raoul Wallenberg, a Swedish diplomat who saved the lives of thousands of Hungarian Jews from the Holocaust.

The highly acclaimed biographical drama, based on real events, follows the man who made a rescue plan for saving from certain death more than 120.000 people, right before the eyes of the Nazi Colonel Adolf Eichmann during World War II. Shortly after his plan came true, Wallenberg disappeared without trace behind the Russian front line.

The film was nominated for nine Emmy awards, winning four of them. Beside Richard Chamberlain, for whom it was one of the numerous Emmy Awards, the award also went

to the director Lamont Johnson (Outstanding Directing in a Limited Series or a Special), costume supervisor Tommy Welsh (Outstanding Achievement in Costuming), editor Paul LaMastra (Outstanding Film Editing for a Limited Series or a Special) and supervising sound editor Jeff Clarke (Outstanding Film sound Editing for a Limited Series or a Special).

In the film Zagreb easily took on the role of Budapest, using some of the most picturesque parts of the town. The popular Flower Square (actually called the Petar Preradovic Square) with numerous stalls for selling flowers is a very photogenic place. The square is bordered by the palaces and buildings, mostly built in the second half of the 19th century, according to the designs





Western Rail Station

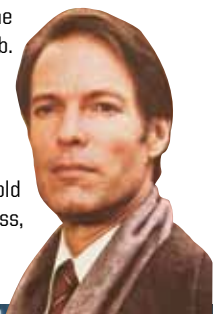


Museum Gvozdanovic

of some of the leading Viennese architects. Zagreb's first railway station (originally called the South, afterwards the Sava and finally Western Station), built in 1862, with its location in a former industrial-military town quarter Crnomerec provided somewhat eerie atmosphere of war psychosis, while the Museum Gvozdanovic, a unique ambiance collection in the Visoka street no. 8 perfectly played a representative residential space that, thanks to its arrangement, illustrates the culture of living and residing of the central European upper class in the late 19th century and in the early decades of the 20th century. In the same part of town, as a setting served also the Opaticka street, one of the oldest and finest streets of Zagreb. Almost all the buildings in that street are very well preserved, representing a living record of the

past centuries. In the northern part of Zagreb, the war image was also perfectly achieved thanks to the scenes filmed in an old military hospital in Salata, the residential area of the upper class, known for its sports-recreational centre.

Richard Chamberlain



Mussolini: The Untold Story

(1985 / TV mini-series)



Director:

William A. Graham

Writer:

Stirling Silliphant

Stars: **Spencer Chandler,**

George C. Scott,

Lee Grant

Production Co:

Triangle Productions



Telelevision miniseries, with a total duration of seven hours, based on the memories of Vittorio Mussolini, the oldest son of the Italian dictator Benito Mussolini. The series begins in 1922, with Mussolini (George C. Scott) gathering the power by using his militia i.e., the Blackshirts (Blackshirts militia). Promoting himself as the reincarnation of Caesar, il Duce was gaining popularity among

people, culminating during the Italian occupation of Abyssinia (Ethiopia) in 1935. At the Munich Conference in 1938, Mussolini stood for peace, but also joined forces with Hitler and dragged his country into the World War II. Everything led to the fall of Mussolini and his regime as well as the collapse of the country and its complete humiliation on the world political scene.

The series was nominated for two Emmy awards, and the critics held it quite credible, but they also said that it didn't have an adequate distribution. Mussolini's role is generally recognized as George C. Scott's best role ever.

The series is almost entirely filmed in Jadran film studios, and for several short exterior scenes Zagreb "played" the role of several Italian and German cities, as well as the role of Munich. In fact Zagreb, thanks to its architecture, has always been attractive to international film producers and directors, as its streets and buildings can easily be used for scenes that take place in any larger central European town, many German towns, as well as in some other cities in the Slavic countries, especially Poland.





City Coffee House



City Coffee House



George C. Scott

The Dirty Dozen

(1987 & 1988 / TV series)



Director:

Lee H. Katzin

Writers:

Mark Rodgers, Nunnally Johnson, Lukas Heller

Stars: **Telly Savalas, Ernest Borgnine, Vince Edwards, Hunt Block**

Production Co:

Jadran Film, MGM/UA Television



The television film series, conceived as sequels to the famous film made by the director Robert Aldrich of the same name from 1967, filmed in England with the participation of all star cast (Lee Marvin, Ernest Borgnine, Robert Webber, Donald Sutherland, Jim Brown, John Cassavetes, Charles Bronson, Telly Savalas). The series had three episodes, the first one, titled "The Dirty Dozen: Next Mission (aka "The Dirty Dozen 2 ") filmed in 1985 (directed by Andrew V. McLaglen, with two stars from the original film, Lee Marvin and Ernest Borgnine). The other two sequels that were shot in Zagreb as well, appeared in 1987 and 1988 as "The Dirty Dozen: The Deadly Mission" (aka "The Dirty Dozen 3") and "The Dirty Dozen: The Fatal Mission" (aka "The Dirty Dozen 4"). These two films were made by a new director (Lee H. Katzin), Lee Marvin was replaced with Telly Savalas (as a new character, Major Wright) who - in the original film from 1967 - played the character Archer Maggott (dies in that film), and Ernest Borgnine, the only actor left over from the original..

In the first sequel of the film series, Major Reisman "volunteers" to lead another mission as the commander of the soldier-prisoners (convicted army soldiers), sentenced to death or long-term sentences. This time, their mission is to kill a Nazi general who plans to assassinate Hitler. The second sequel brings new adventures of Major Wright (Telly Savalas once again) and the task of destroying the nerve gas factory (nerve gas), before the Nazis succeed in using it against the Allies. In the last, third sequel (the fourth sequel, if we don't count the original film), a team of soldier-convicts is given the assignment to stop, at any price, the establishment of the Fourth Reich.

For the purposes of these two sequels, filmed in the Jadran film co-production, Zagreb offered some of its most monumental buildings, above all a beautiful Art Nouveau building of the Croatian State Archives, situated on the western part of the Zelena potkova (Green Horseshoe, a system of parks in the Zagreb downtown, in the form of an angular letter U, in its main part made according to the idea of the Zagreb urban planner Milan Lenuzzi, the town's engineer since 1882). The building was originally built for the National and University Library, while its interior is luxuriously decorated. The films set designers also liked the impressive building of the Gliptoteka (Glyptotheque)



Glyptothek

of the Croatian Academy of Arts and Sciences in the ancient Medvedgradska street. As ideal for the needs of a war film has proven to be the Brezovica castle near the town, built in the middle of the 18th century by Josip Kazimir Draskovic and decorated by frescoes on the seven-year war in which he participated. The spacious green areas with picturesque images of the castle represented a great stage for the action scenes of the convicts' military team.



Race for the Bomb

(1987 / TV mini-series)



Director:

**Jean-François Delassus,
Allan Eastman**

Writers:

**Jean-François Delassus
(story), Tony Sheer**

Stars: **Miki Manojlovic,
Jean-Paul Mue**

Production Co: **Astral Film
Enterprises, CBC,
Jadran Film**



The dramatization of the so-called Manhattan Project that resulted - at the end of World War II - with the production of atomic bomb.

The series follows the development of the project - from the initial phase of scientific discovery that led to the creation of the atomic bomb (Leo Szilard's discovery on the power stored within the atom), over the struggle between the leaders of the scientific project, J. Robert Oppenheimer and the project's military commanding officer/captain, general Leslie Groves, up to the beginning of the arm's race.

The characters of Leo Szilard, Werner Heisenberg (founder of quantum mechanics and the head of the German atomic bomb project) and others provide the depth of the whole story. Unlike the romantic American films, "Fat Man and Little Boy" and "Enola Gay" or incomplete "Day One" and a pretty good "Hiroshima", what we have here is a detailed elaboration of the Manhattan Project and by far the best achievement on this topic.

In the complex production of several companies Jadran Film took part as well, and Zagreb is shown in

the film within a large range of different locations. One of the most important was the Mazuranic Square, one of the three squares of the western part of Lenuzzi's or so-called Green Horseshoe. From one side the square is decorated by the back sides of former singing society Kolo building and the central building of the former Hrvatski Sokol (Croatian Sokol, now the Academy of Dramatic Art), while from the other side, a small flower park brings the image of the Art Nouveau building of the Croatian State Archives (built in 1913 by the famous architect Rudolf Lubinsky), with luxuriously decorated interior, appearing in the series as well (especially symbolic remarkable shots with the roof ornaments in the form of a green owl, symbolizing wisdom). An important role was played by the buildings of the Faculty of Chemical Engineering and Technology at the nearby Marulic Square that, in addition to the exterior, also appeared as interior with their laboratories and classrooms. A completely different atmosphere was offered by the town lake and bathing area Bundek near the river Sava. A place created in 1960 by digging gravel for the construction of New Zagreb settlements has become a popular summer resort, but until the mid-80's, when the series was filmed, it was abandoned and eerie that both the director and cinematographer well used (now Bundek is an arranged lake with a beautiful pebble beach, walking paths with benches and rich green areas). That Zagreb can offer interiors that can fit in any action film, is also confirmed by the scenes filmed in the old Omcikus Villa in Okrugljak (in private ownership).



Academy of Dramatic Art



Lake Bundek

Armour of God

(1987 / orig. title: Long xiong hu di)



Director:

Jackie Chan

Writers:

Jackie Chan, John Sheppard (story), Tony Sheer

Stars:

Jackie Chan, Alan Tam, Rosamund Kwan

Produced by:

Leonard Ho, Chua Lam

Production Co:

Golden Harvest Company, Golden Way Films Ltd., Jadran Film



A Hong Kong action movie with martial arts, directed and starred by Jackie Chan, a versatile film master (actor, action choreographer, filmmaker, comedian, director, producer, martial artist, screenwriter, entrepreneur, singer and stunt performer) and for these types of movies. The film contains Chan's usual repertoire - kung-fu, comedy and stunt scenes, a sort of Eastern version of the Indiana Jones films.

In this film, Jackie Chan plays former singer Asaian Hawk, the seeker of the missing treasure, whose ex-girlfriend has been kidnapped by the members of a notorious cult. Her guardian, an old friend of his, asks him for help, just like the kidnapers have foreseen... This is where the

numerous action scenes with lots of humor start.

The beginning and the end of this film are full of attractive action scenes. At the time it was shown, it made record profits in Hong Kong and was one Chan's biggest local success (received good reviews as well).

During filming, one stuntman injured his spine, while Jackie Chan suffered an injury as well. The scene in which he bounced from one wall to the tree, he missed the branch, fell to the ground, hit his head on the rock and almost died. The stuntmen were carrying him on a stretcher for half an hour to the road where the ambulance was waiting. He spent two days in the hospital, after which he continued filming, but for some time the main character was spared of the breakneck scenes. Chan was very pleased with Zagreb actors and stuntmen, so the actor Bozidar Smiljanic had roles in two more films by the Hong Kong master.

The largest part of the film was shot in Zagreb in the summer, and only smaller



Freedom Bridge

parts elsewhere in Croatia, Austrian Graz and Slovenia (Predjama and Postojna). The largest job was the one by the whole stunt crew of Jadran film in Zagreb. The most picturesque scenes were filmed at the old Zagreb market Dolac, only a hundred meters away from the main town square. Developed on the place of the former town settlement of the same name, this picturesque market with a large outdoor selling terrace, regularly visited by the tourists, was opened in a long time ago in 1930 and represents a unique tourist attraction. Jackie Chan imagined that exactly in this market, in a speed chase scene motorcycles flying through the air over the heads of the sellers of fruits and vegetables. The cars were, however, in this film flying over the Most slobode (Freedom Bridge), the centrally situated bridge in a series of those over the river Sava connecting the old and new part of Zagreb. In addition to these places, filming in Zagreb took place also in the Upper Town (on the hill providing a lovely view of the entire town), the oldest part of Zagreb (defined by fortifications from 13th century), a maze of narrow streets that even today have their medieval charm mostly because of old buildings, palaces, churches and gas lights illuminating it in the night. Some scenes were filmed in Trnje, traditionally a working-class town quarter, with many then dilapidated houses, in the place of the - at that time still unfinished - building of the Croatian Radio television.



Market Dolac

Honor Bound

(1988 / Red End)



Director:

Jeannot Szwarc

Writers:

**Steven L. Thompson
(novel), Aiken Woodruff
(screenplay)**

Stars: **Tom Skerritt,**

**George Dzundza, Relja
Basic, Gabrielle Lazure,
Tibor Belitza**

Production Co:

Jadran Film, TCA



In this intense thriller, an American sergeant Max Young goes to East Berlin to help the MLM (Military Liaison Mission) service, whose mission is to oversee the disassembly of the Soviet nuclear weapons in East Germany. Lieutenant Young is assigned to Colonel Cahill, MLM's top intelligence officer, as his driver. When the radio link between the Soviet high command and Wursen base is suddenly cut off, Cahill and Lieutenant Colonel Young are sent in a reconnaissance mission around the mentioned base. After a night spent in a cold forest that surrounds Wursen, daylight reveals a lot more than what lieutenant Young could have ever imagined...

The film is based on a true story by American Lt. Colonel Arthur D. Nicholson, which took place on March 24th, 1985, when he was on an assignment in the Soviet area for the military training Ludwigslust in East Germany.

The critics reviewed the film, which was shot in Zagreb, as interesting, mostly due to the background in the actual story. The plot is full of impressive car chases, for which Zagreb stuntmen were particularly commended. As Jadran film until 1988 had grown into one of Europe's

top movie studios, producers left a good part of the casting to the local hosts, so lot of Zagreb actors had roles in the film.

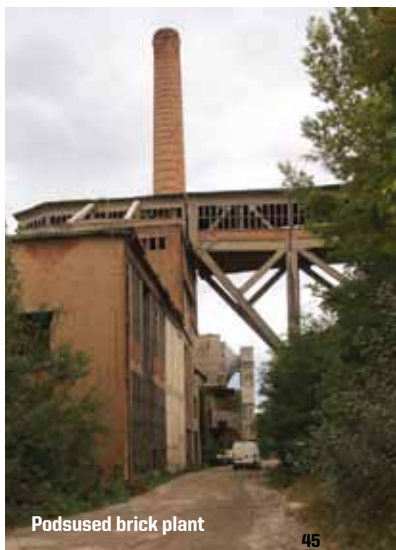
The film was shot in the Upper Town, the oldest part of the town, situated on a hill above the present downtown. A special role was given to the Upper Town's Jezuitski trg (Jesuit Square), an impressive space with a fountain and the building Klovicevi dvori (Klovic's Palace), a former Jesuit monastery complex (1654), now a museum for special exhibitions. The film was shot downtown in Dezmanov prolaz (Dezman passage), that connects the main street (Ilica) with Tuskanac park and for the action scenes a demolished brick plant in the western suburb of Zagreb called Podsused, a quarry in the 70-odd kilometers away place called Ivanec and Bukevje village near Velika Gorica (a town on the southern border of Zagreb) were used.



Jesuit Square



Dezman passage



Podused brick plant

War and Remembrance

(1988 / TV mini-series)



Director:

Dan Curtis

Writers: **Dan Curtis,
Earl W. Wallace**

Stars:

**Robert Mitchum, Jane
Seymour, Hart Bochner,
Jane Seymour, Sharon
Stone, John Gilgoud**

Production Co:

**Dan Curtis Productions,
ABC Circle Films, Jadran
Film**



The American mini-series based on Herman Wouk's novel of the same name, was actually the sequel of the successful series called "The Winds of War" and continues the story about the extended families Henry and Jastrow, starting from December 1941 until August 1945. As Herman Wouk was pleased with the adaptation of "The Winds of War", he allowed Dan Curtis to adapt and continue the story.

The series begins with the continuation of the Henry family saga after the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor and U.S. entry into war. For Victor Henry (Robert Mitchum), the commander of the war cruiser, it means the possibility of entering the Admiralty. Meanwhile, Victor has a problem with a failed marriage and a love affair with the daughter of a British radio news reporter. Victor's son Byron is equally successful in his career as a submarine officer while his wife and son, being Jews, end up in German captivity. Through the stories of several other characters, such as Professor Aaron Jastrow, maritime pilot Warren Henry and the aristocratic German General Armin von Roon, the series evolves into a comprehensive and fascinating story of the Second World War.

The series is extremely important for the way it



Museum Mimara



presented the Holocaust. Curtis first requested the producers to promise that all the horror and brutality of the massacre would be shown without any censorship, and the team also obtained permission to shoot on the location in Auschwitz.

The series, broadcast on ABC television network in 12 episodes (a total of about 30 hours), was very successful, despite the fact that several major characters from "The Winds of War" were interpreted by different actors. The series earned 15 Emmy Award nominations, of which it won one for Outstanding Miniseries, Outstanding Achievement in Special Visual Effects and Outstanding Editing for a Miniseries or a Special - Single Camera Production. The nominated actors were John Gielgud, Jane Seymour, and Polly Bergen. John Gielgud and Barry Bostwick won the Golden Globe awards for their roles.

"War and Remembrance" was filmed in France, Italy, Austria, Switzerland, Germany, England, Poland, the United States and Croatia, with over 30 thousand extras in Europe and more than 11 000 in the United States. Many of the European locations again came down to Zagreb. Specifically, the Zagreb film experts had done such a good job on the "Winds of War" that they were again entrusted much of the work.

Before the very start of filming, to the formerly used town sites the Museum Mimara - opened in 1987 in the impressive building of the former Gymnasium (Secondary school) - was added. The museum keeps the donation of the collector Ante Topic Mimara to the town of Zagreb and contains 3750 works from various cultures and civilizations.

More scenes, which required the scenery of old European cities, were filmed in the Upper town (plenty of streets with picturesque ancient houses, palaces and churches from different historical periods).

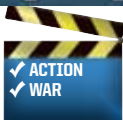
The Croatian film worker Branko Lustig, a former concentration camp prisoner,

was the producer of the series.



Jane Seymour

Twist of Fate



(1989 / TV mini-series orig. title: Pursuit)

Director: Ian Sharp

Writers: Robert L. Fish
(book), Jules Schwerin
(story)

Stars: Ben Cross, Jakob
Baron, Geoffrey Bateman,
Branko Blace, Veronica
Hamel

Production Co: Columbia
Pictures Television,
Harlech Television (HTV),
Jadran Film



The television film begins with a fictional attempt to assassinate Hitler. For the purposes of the conspiracy, one of Hitler's trusty SS officers, Lt. Col. Helmut von Schreuder, thanks to plastic surgery and fake identification papers, hides as a Jew in a concentration camp. After the camp is liberated, he immigrates to Palestine and joins the Zionist movement in the fight for Israel. Twenty-five years later, he is living as an Israeli hero and general in the Israeli army. However, the illegal SS organization ODESSA reveals his identity and orders him to return to fight for the Third Reich.

The critics have favorably reviewed the mini-series, and it has a special, almost cult-like status among fans of a crime and war films. In particular, the masterful direction of Ian Sharp is mentioned, who skillfully manages to draw the viewer into the story. The series has an interesting and intriguing plot, and the script was written with a good deal of drama, romance and espionage elements. Film critics point out that it has a unique plot in the world of films about the Second World War and that the series could even be watched several times.

Some of the more memorable scenes in the movie were filmed in Zagreb, with the participation of many Croatian actors. In the town itself the filming took place in the former Export drvo pavilion (Zrinjevac), and the buildings surrounding Mazuranic Square, one of the three large squares in the western wing of the so-called Green Horseshoe (a system of parks and green areas in downtown, designed by the official town planner Lenuzzi in the second half of the 19th century) served the director Ian Sharp especially well. The square is full of nice houses overlooking the spacious park, while its northern side is characterized by impressive buildings of the former singing society Kolo and former Croatian Sokol, now the Academy of Dramatic Arts. Like many other crews who came to Zagreb to make films from the World War II period, this film crew did not fail to take advantage of the impressive Art Nouveau building of the Croatian State Archives (built in 1913, signed by the famous architect Rudolf Lubinsky). In front of the facade of the building an elongated park stretches out, allowing great images from a distance, zooming and driving at a right angle towards the impressive facade. This building had the role of significant civil and military headquarters in many films, and its, according to the total design principles, luxuriously decorated interior (the works of top artists and craftsmen of the 19th century) was often used for the purposes of filming.



Croatian State Archives



Mazuranic Square

Captain America (1990)



Director: Albert Pyun
Writers: Joe Simon,
Jack Kirby
Stars: Matt Salinger,
Ronny Cox, Ned Beatty
Produced by: Menahem
Golan, Stan Lee, Joseph
Calamari, Tom Karnowski
Production Co:
21st Century Film
Corporation, Jadran Film,
Marvel Enterprises



A film about a super-hero of the same name, based on the character of Captain America comic book series from the Marvel Comics publishing house, but in many places considerably deviating from the comic book story. During the World War II, the character of Steve Rogers, a patriotic American soldier, undergoes a series of experiments to eventually become the new super soldier, "Captain America". He goes to Germany in order to prevent rocket attacks planned by the Nazi villain Red Skull. Then Captain America is frozen for decades, only to be revived again in the 90's. In the meantime, Red Skull has changed his identity and plans to kidnap the American president. The task of the super-hero is to save the president of the United States from the criminal group that does not support his policies on environmental protection.

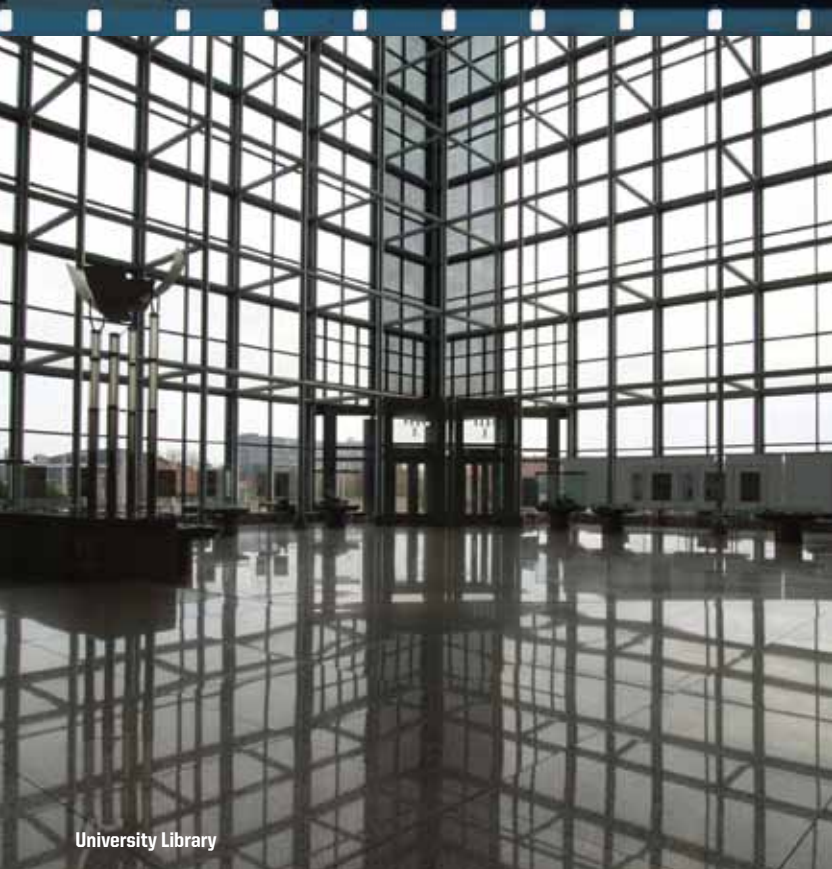
The intention of the producers was to show the film in the summer of 1990, in honor of the 50th anniversary of the comic book "Captain America", but that deadline was missed. Between the fall of 1990 to winter 1991 the screening of the film was announced several times, but it remained

unscreened for two whole years, after which in 1992 it went directly to video-distribution and cable television in the United States. The world's movie theaters screened it to a limited extent.

The film was poorly received by the critics mainly due to the fact that, although the theme and sci-fi format make this possible, it is not appropriate for children because of the initial scene in pre-war Italy, in Italian with subtitles in English, with the machine-gun massacre that follows.

It is interesting that on July 19th 2011, three days before the screening of the new big-budget adaptation of the film, "Captain America: The First Avenger", the MGM company announced the availability of the original from 1990 on DVD in the Limited Edition Collection, in order to profit from the popularity of the new version of which considerable success is expected. This edition, which now has the status of a curiosity, appeared in stores in autumn 2011, and was enthusiastically received by collectors of science fiction films.

Parts of the scenes were filmed in the unfinished building of the new National and University Library in Zagreb (completed in 1995). Then net area of the Library of 36.478 feet (44.432 m gross) and the stone-glass facade of this stand-alone building of contemporary design will undoubtedly attract the attention of many filmmakers in the future.



University Library



University Library

Night of the Fox

(1990 / TV film)



Director: Charles Jarrott
Writers: Bennett Cohen,
Jack Higgins
Stars: George Peppard,
Michael York, John Mills
Production Co: GMT
Productions, TFI



A television film based on the novel of the same name by Jack Higgins (co-signer of the script), in which an American officer - during World War II - on the landing craft participates in the Allied landings in Normandy. His boat, carrying the Allies' invasion plans, is attacked and sinks and he finds himself on the Jersey Islands, which is under the German occupation. The Allies forge a plan to rescue him, by sending the British SOE (Special Operations Executive) agent, who presents himself as an SD (Special Duty) Officer...

It is one of those movies that constantly keep the viewer in suspense. The story literally follows Jack Higgins' novel, critics find the role played by George Peppard (best known as Audrey Hepburn's partner in the film "Breakfast at Tiffany's") to be one of his best ever.

The scenes filmed in Zagreb were at the Airport Lucko (official name: Air port Lucko), 11 kilometers from downtown, near the Lucko settlement. In the period between WW II and 1959 it served as the Zagreb airport (before the construction of the Zagreb Airport Pleso) and, since 1959, its official operator is Aero Club Zagreb. Until 2000, the 94th Air Force Base Lucko (which has ceased to exist) of the Croatian Air Force had its headquarters exactly at Lucko Airport. Today, Lucko holds only military transport helicopters. Some interiors were filmed in the old private villa Omcikus, which had already served production designers more

times for local films and co-productions (Zagreb has many villas suitable for interior and exterior filming of space that can fit into any kind of action film, i.e. in most different time periods).



Villa Omcikus



Plot to Kill Hitler

(1990 / TV film)



Director:

Lawrence Schiller

Writer: **Steven Elkins**

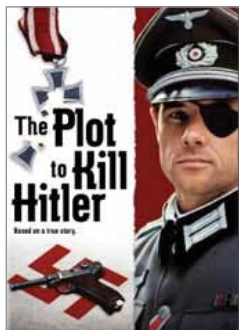
Stars: **Brad Davis,
Madolyn Smith Osborne,
Ian Richardson**

Produced by:

Alfred R. Kelman

Production Co:

**Jadran Film, Warner
Bros. Television**



A television film that deals with the plot of German officers to kill Hitler, construed on July 20th, 1944. Brad Davis plays the role of Colonel Claus Schenk (Graf von Stauffenberg), who places the bomb in a conference room of Führer's headquarters in East Prussia. The film is a reconstruction of a historical attempt by highly ranked German officers to carry out the assassination of Adolf Hitler and take control of the German government, with the ultimate goal of handing it over to the Allies.

Only by chance does Hitler survive the explosion, and with rapid action by the SS, most of the officers involved were arrested and executed.

The film was shot in the United States and in Zagreb, which was given the role of all exteriors and many interiors. The central role plays the attractive Art Nouveau building of the Croatian State Archives, situated in the western arm of the Green Horseshoe (a system of parks in the Zagreb downtown, in the form of an angular letter U), originally built for the National and University Library. The building's interior offers great images, since it is luxuriously decorated by the total

design principles with works of top artists and craftsmen of the 19th century. Some of the scenes in the movie were filmed in Zagreb in Meduliceva Street (downtown), full of typical urban houses from the 20's and 30's of the 20th century, with only occasional atmospheric, run-down example of several centuries old architecture, and which can convincingly "play" any Central European or most German towns.

The street was selected because at the time of the filming it was one of the few less busy streets in the downtown. Since many of Zagreb's schools in Downtown are visually significant buildings, they are suitable for "movie roles" as the headquarters of State institutions. In this film, the monumental building of the elementary school Isidor Krsnjavi, in Krsnjavoga Street no. 2, situated practically across the street from the Westin Hotel (the base of many film crews who came to film in Zagreb) and the already mentioned building of the Croatian State Archives were selected. For the same reasons (architectural resemblance and the same neighborhood), the building of the 1st Gymnasium in the nearby Klaićeva Street was selected for filming.



Elementary school Isidor Krsnjavi



Rosencrantz & Guildenstern Are Dead (1990)



Director: Tom Stoppard

Writer: Tom Stoppard

Stars:

**Gary Oldman, Tim Roth,
Richard Dreyfuss**

Produced by:

Alfred R. Kelman

Production Co:

**Brandenberg, WNET
Channel 13 New York**



The film was written and directed by the famous British playwright Tom Stoppard (born as Tomáš Straußler), based on the absurd existential tragicomedy (written in 1966 for the Edinburgh Fringe Festival). The same as the drama, the film follows two minor characters from Shakespeare's play "Hamlet," Rosencrantz and Guildenstern, travelling to the castle of Elsinore by order of the King of Denmark. Along the way they meet a group of musicians, and upon arrival they are trying to discover what is troubling Prince Hamlet. In doing so, they are not aware of their scripted lives and inability to influence or change them.

The leading roles are those of Gary Oldman as Rosencrantz and Tim Roth as Guildenstern, even though the action has many characters, among which are these two as well, and often it is not known which is which. From famous actors, a greater role in the film is the one of Richard Dreyfuss. This is Stoppard's debut as a film director (until the present day, his only film directing).

The critics of the film were generally positive with the only remark that the material is more appropriate for the stage than for the film (what's fun in the theater, in the form of a realistic film, especially because of the avalanche of dialogues, can be tedious). The film won the Golden Lion at the Venice Film Festival and the award Fantasporto for directing (Director's Week Award). Gary Oldman was nominated in 1991 for an Independent Spirit Award in the category of a leading male actor.

The largest part of the film was shot in the Jadran Film studio in Zagreb (interior), while the exteriors were filmed in Maksimir, the old and large town park with trees and lakes, especially by the Upper Lake. The rest of the film was shot in a castle in Brezice (in Slovenia, about 40 kilometers from the Zagreb downtown).



Tim Roth & Gary Oldman



Park Maksimir



Park Maksimir



Richard Dreyfuss



The Pope Must Die



(1991/ U.S. alternate title: The Pope Must Diet)

Director:

Peter Richardson

Writers:

Peter Richardson,

Pete Richens

Stars: **Robbie Coltrane,**

Alex Rocco, Adrian

Edmondson

Produced by: **Stephen**

Wooley, Bob Weinstein,

Harvey Weinstein,

Michael White

Production Co:

British Screen

Productions, Channel

Four Films, Michael

White Productions

Comedy with the popular British actor Robbie Coltrane, with the director Peter Richardson playing one of the roles as well, whose story is based on the comic premise that the Vatican is actually controlled by the Mafia. The film begins with the death of the previous Pope and the successful efforts of mob's tame cardinal (Alex Rocco) to have the College of Cardinals select as the new pope a Mob's candidate Albin. Unfortunately, the Secretary of the College of Cardinals has bad hearing and by mistake announces a good hearted priest of the similar name, Albinizi (Robby Coltrane) the new Pope. As the plot develops, the new Pope demands to see the Vatican accounts and discovers the gun-smuggling and stolen merchandise operations, and confronts the Mob, who decide that the Pope must die...

The film is based on one of conspiracy theories related to the actual figure of the Pope John Paul I (Albino Luciani, died in 1978). After numerous protests of Roman Catholics in the United States, the title of the film had to be - for distribution in that country - changed by adding a single letter, to "The Pope Must Diet." On some promotional material the new title had the last letter "T" in the shape of the cross.

The main filming locations in Zagreb were the building of the Privredna banka (Economy Bank) in Oktogon, extremely picturesque closed passage that connects the Petar Preradovic Square with the main street Ilica. This trading passage with many

shops has in the middle a roofed octagonal dome made of stained glass, by which it got its name. The film was also shot in the Art Pavilion (a bit more to the south from the main town park Zrinjevac), an extremely impressive building from 1898 namely, the oldest art gallery in South Eastern Europe (built and decorated by the top craftsmen in Zagreb at that time, solely for the exhibition purposes). The same happened with the Secession building of the Croatian State Archives, which in addition offers a nice facade and luxuriously decorated interior. Especially convenient for the story was Kaptol, the former church centre of the old Zagreb (bishop's town), the large courtyard with neo-Gothic cathedral built in 1902, dominating over the town's image, with extremely picturesque interior and two towers, both 105 meters high (in the 60's the cathedral was on the 26th place of the world's tallest buildings).





Art Pavilion



Passage Oktogon



Cathedral

Memories of Midnight

(1991 / TV mini-series)



Director:

Gary Nelson

Writers:

Richard Hack, Sidney Sheldon

Stars:

Jane Seymour, Omar Sharif, Theodore Bikel

Produced by:

Standards of Time



Sidney Sheldon's novel of the same name, adapted into two-part mini-series, has a story that is actually the continuation of Sheldon's novel "The Other Side of Midnight" and faithful copy of the literary template. However, the link with the previous book, also with a film version, is lost because the story is set in the modern times rather than in the period immediately after the World War II, during which the original story took place.

The series was filmed at several locations in Zagreb. Many interiors were filmed at the legendary town's hotel Esplanade (today The Regent Esplanade), one of the most elegant Zagreb's buildings and one of the most beautiful Central European hotels, built in 1925 for the elite travelers of Orient Express. Namely, Zagreb was one of the luxury train stations ("the last civilized station before exotic prairies," as the hotel was advertised) that ran between Paris and Istanbul. The hotel entrance, with watches showing, along with Zagreb's time, the time in the world's major

metropolises, luxurious wooden entrance doors, marble staircase, the famous Emerald hall and elegant rooms were the perfect setting for the camera. The same atmosphere was provided both exteriors and interiors of the houses in the old Zagreb's park Tuskanac, a prestigious residential area, known for its beautiful green areas and luxurious urban villas of various ages. However, most of the film was shot in the building and the garden, i.e, in the entire complex of the Presidential Palace, situated in an elegant residential neighborhood Pantovcak. The villa, previously known as the "Vila Zagorje", was built in 1964 and served as the Zagreb's residence of Josip Broz Tito. A year after filming a series, the villa became the official residence of the Croatian President.



Park Tuskanac



Presidential Palace



Hotel Esplanade

The Sands of Time

(1992 / TV film)



Director:

Gary Nelson

Writers: **Sidney Sheldon,
Richard Hack**

Stars:

**Deborah Raffin, Michael
Nouri, Amanda Plummer**

Production Co:

**Dove Audio, Warner Bros.
Television**



Hotel Esplanade



Television film shot based on the Sidney Sheldon's novel of the same name from 1988. Bestseller, which was almost literally copied onto film, follows the adventures of four women who must leave the security of a monastery in Spain and engage in a world full of threats, violence and passion, as well as the two men, fighting each other to the death.

The film was in its large part shot in Zagreb and, like it was for the adaptation of another novel by Sidney Sheldon (*Memories of Midnight*), among the major sites the film used the Esplanade hotel (today the Regent Esplanade), which at the time of its opening has been described

as a "magnificent, amazingly beautiful hotel, whose arrangement can be measured with the most modern hotels of Paris, Nice, Monte Carlo ...".

The hotel is today one of the most elegant buildings that Zagreb has and one of the most beautiful Central European hotels. The hotel was originally foreseen for the travelers of the legendary luxurious Orient Express than run between Paris and Istanbul. In the film, the impressive marble hotel entrance and staircase as well as the elegant salons "play" the Swiss interiors, but also some Spanish ones. A large part of the film was shot in the building and the garden of the complex of the Presidential Palace, situated in an elegant residential neighborhood Pantovcak.

The former residence of Josip Broz Tito that, one year after filming a series, became the official residence of the Croatian President, was used as a setting for several scenes that take place in different spaces. The producers decided to include the hotel Esplanade and the villa on Pantovcak after seeing how photogenic these buildings are in the adaptation of the above mentioned film "*Memories of Midnight*".



Hotel Esplanade

Death Train (1993 / TV film)



Director:

David Jackson

Writer:

David Jackson

Stars: **Pierce Brosnan,**

Patrick Stewart,

Alexandra Paul

Produced by:

Yorkshire International

Films Ltd., J&M

Entertainment, British

Lion Film Corporation



tags of the Slovenian police on). Overridden are some geographical and factual details. "Tirano tunnel" between Italy and Switzerland, for instance, does not exist, although the place Tirano really exists, as well as the railroad passing through it (the narrow-gauge mountain railroad). Similarly, in the European railways system there is no central dispatching service, because it would require a very complex operation of thousands of dispatchers (in the film two dispatchers are shown).

In Zagreb, the film was shot in the Upper Town, the oldest part of town. Set design and director found that part of the town (as well as many before and after them) very attractive due to the authenticity of a medieval settlement - old streets, squares, houses, palaces and churches, as well as due to the unique atmosphere of that part of the town. The Upper town can easily "play" an old European urban centre, and it is also very favorable for shooting due to the limited traffic. The film most impressively used the Jesuit Square, a picturesque spot with a fountain, dominated by the museum's building (Klovicevi dvori), a former Jesuit monastery complex, built by the Zagreb architect Antun Macetti between 1641 and 1654.

The TV movie also known under the title "Detonator" brings one of the earliest roles of Pierce Brosnan. Along with the main actors, there are several well-known names - Christopher Lee, Patrick Stewart, Ted Levine and Alexandra Paul. The scenario is based on the Alistair MacNeil's novel of the same name, based on the screenplay by the author of a similar name, Alistair MacLean.

The film begins with the German scientist helping a former Soviet general construct two atomic bombs, one of which gets into the hands of an American mercenary. He travels across Europe in the abducted freight train. Malcolm Philpott, a member of UNACO (United Nations Anti-Crime Organization), is assigned to form a team of selected agents from all around the world (one of them is a special forces soldier Michael "Mike" Graham, played by Pierce Brosnan) that, at any cost, must try to stop the "death train".

The film was shot mainly in Slovenia and Zagreb, and reviewed as a watchable action film of B production. Due to limited resources, the production has not bothered with the details (the "terrorist's" helicopter, for example, has regular



Klovic's Palace



Night Watch

(1995 / TV Film)



Director:

David Jackson

Writers:

Alistair MacLean (story),

Alistair MacNeill (novel)

Stars: **Pierce Brosnan,**

Alexandra Paul, William Devane

Produced by:

Boris Dmitrovic, Mike

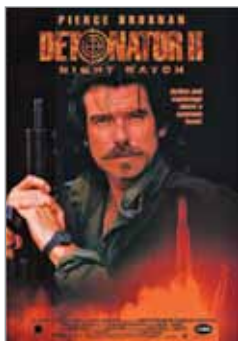
Mihalic, Peter Snell

Production Co:

J&M Entertainment,

British Lion Film

Corporation, Jadran Film



A television movie on the spy theme, also known under the title "Detonator II", which is actually a sequel to the action thriller "Death Train", with Pierce Brosnan in the leading role ("Death Train" pushed him into the limelight).

The film begins with a scene in which the UN agents Mike Graham (Pierce Brosnan) and Sabrina Carver (Alexandra Paul) have been chosen to investigate the theft of the famous paintings, the Rembrandt's Night Watch. Their boss, Nick Caldwell, sends them to follow a trail that leads them from Amsterdam to Hong Kong and not only brings them to the source of the organized theft of art works and workshops for their falsification, but also to the very technologically advanced methods of fraud, used by Martin Schraeder and his Korean accomplice Mao Yixin.

Although the film can be watched separately, the critics say the first part of the Detonator ("Death Train") should be watched, for easier understanding of the UN agency's work and better understanding of the main characters.

Almost all the critics take note that the film was probably made in the form of the James Bond series. Thanks to his role in this and previous film, Brosnan will be offered the leading role in the James Bond series (played from 1995 till 2004).

The film was shot in the United States, Great Britain, Hungary and Croatia. In Zagreb, the shooting took place at several locations. As in the previous film, due to the picturesque and authentic antiquity, the Upper town, the oldest part of Zagreb, was chosen, mostly for the needs of scenes taking place in old European towns (large/great selection of old streets, squares, houses, palaces and churches). One of the locations was also the Museum of Arts and Crafts, one of the town's most monumental buildings, situated in one of three squares of the Green Horseshoe. The building was built in 1882 as the Crafts school (one of the best of its kind in Central Europe) founded by Hermann Bollé, a German builder and the man most responsible for raising the Croatian construction, which is in Zagreb took a number of restaurants and striking new buildings. The entire building, in- and outside, is full of masterpieces /masterworks of Zagreb construction craftsmen - carpenters, masons, painters, sculptors and other experts... Some scenes were shot in a modern building of the nearby Intercontinental Hotel (today Westin), a usual headquarters of foreign film crews shooting in Zagreb.



Museum of Arts and Crafts



Hotel Westin

Tales of Mystery and Imagination

(1995 / TV series)



Director: Various

Writers: Various

Stars: Christopher Lee

Production Co.:

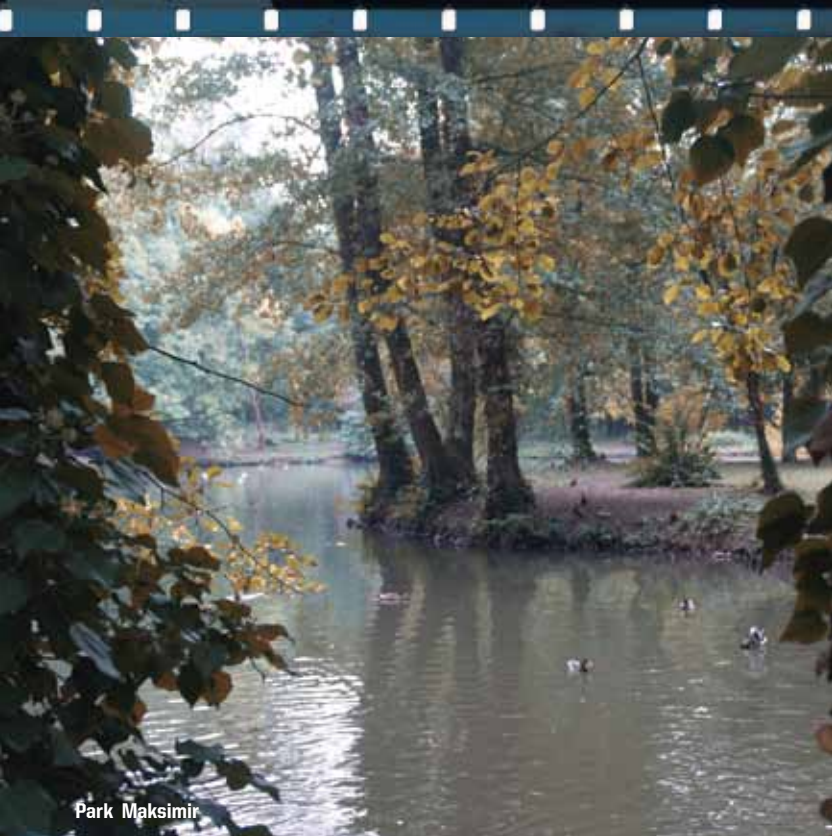
**Dark Film Productions,
Jadran Film**



A television series based on the idea of the anthology series "Mystery and Imagination" from 1968, made as a number of 60-minute horror stories, using texts of Victorian authors such as Robert Louis Stevenson, Edgar Allan Poe, M.R. James, Algernon, Sheridan Le Fanu and others. The series was later renamed into "Tales of Mystery and Imagination" (produced by the Thames Television) and included a 75-minute teleplays "Dracula," "Frankenstein" and similar popular tales of horror. This series, filmed in 1995 in South Africa and Croatia, is a modern kind of sequel to the aforementioned two and deals with the same repertoire of classic horror tales, especially those by Edgar Allan Poe ("Tales of Mystery and Imagination" is the usual term for a total work of American writer Edgar Allan Poe, because of his first anthology which brought together the stories of tense action).

The main link of the series is its host, the famous actor Christopher Lee, selected primarily because of his role as Count Dracula in the movies from the 50's and 60's. The series is considered as Lee's "lost series," because it was aired extremely rarely (many years after the production) and exclusively on American television (Horror Network and, partially, ABC).

Critics often say that too little effort was invested into the series and emphasize that its only value represent the well selected and shot locations, of which a good portion refers to those shot in Zagreb. In accordance with the subject, it was logical to select the Upper Town, the oldest part of Zagreb that, with its medieval atmosphere and a number of ancient streets, squares, old houses, palaces and churches can have a romantic and at the same time spooky image, especially if shot well, for example, during the autumn rains and fog. To the time period of the story also well served the Gvozdanovic Museum, a unique ambiance collection in the Visoka Street no. 8. Its representative residential space that, illustrates the culture of living and residing of the central European upper class in the late 19th century. For mysterious exteriors filled with horror, the directors and set designers chose Maksimir, a large town park with trees and lakes, which - in night scenes - was the perfect stage for horrifying events.



Park Maksimir



Gvozdanic Museum

Like a Bad Dream

(2003 / orig. title: Kako los son)



Director:

Antonio Mitreski

Writer: **Dejan Dukovski**

Stars: **Loris Curci,**

Robert Englund, Tamara

Garbajs, Predrag - Miki

Manojlovic, Ertan Saban

Produced by: **Vladimir**

Anastasia, Antonio

Mitreski, Igor Nola

Production Co:

Gama Studio, Horizont

Film, Loris Curci



Film made in the Macedonian-British-Croatian co-production is a theatrical adaptation of the drama of the Macedonian playwright Dejan Dukovski.

The film deals with the fate of a handful of ordinary people in the postwar period. Frustrated by their environment, unspecified life and captured in the war traumas, they are trying to delete a part of their lives they see as a bad dream.

"Like a Bad Dream" was nominated in 2003 for the Grand Prix des Amériques at the Montréal World Film Festival.

Except in Macedonia, the movie was filmed in Croatia, where the selected locations were already used for several times and in different ways. Because of the simplicity and cost-cutting mode, it was mostly filmed on the Marulic Square (named after a famous Croatian writers of the early Renaissance), situated in the western arm of the Green, i.e., Lenuzzi's horseshoe. This square full of green areas offered as well a setting consisting of the surrounding town houses with beautiful architecture, as well as two large buildings. The first one is many times used Secession building of the Croatian State Archives. Another significant building, also useful in so many ways for the film is the of the Faculty of Chemical Engineering and Technology, situated perpendicular to the Archives' building and about twenty

feet away from it. Additional scenes were shot at Zagreb's central market Dolac (from 1930). Always attractive because of its picturesqueness, particularly the large sunny terrace with stalls for selling fruit and vegetables, this market represents a unique tourist attraction. The shooting took place in Varsavska Street in downtown as well, very suitable because one half of it is a pedestrian zone, then in the Upper Town, the oldest part of the town, always a welcome for filmmakers when they need ancient streets and buildings and in Radiceva Street, an old, steep street (also closed for traffic) paved with stone blocks and with houses built mostly in the 19th century but - due to its dilapidated state and patina - looking much older.



Radiceva Street



The Fever

(2004 / TV Film)



Director:

Carlo Gabriel Nero

Writers: **Wallace Shawn**

Stars: **Vanessa Redgrave, Cameron D'Angelo, Kiera D'Angelo**

Produced by: **Jason Blum**

Production Co:

HBO Films, Home Box Office (HBO)



Television film, based on the writer/actor Wallace Shawn's drama from 1990, a psychological drama that tells the story of a woman who turns to politics, without insight into world events. It is interesting that in the film, in minor roles, appear the famous actors Angelina Jolie and Joely Richardson (daughter of Vanessa Redgrave and Tony Richardson) and the director Michael Moore (Oscar-winner for documentary film).

The story follows the existential crisis of urban sophisticated woman who becomes aware of the nature of contemporary world politics, economic exploitation and vapid consumerism around her. A series of events leads her visit an unnamed third world country on an exotic location somewhere in Eastern Europe, where the entire economy and the population relies on the tourism industry. While enjoying the new tastes and everything else the country offers, with the help of a journalist (Michael Moore) she becomes painfully aware of the reality behind the beautiful facade.

The film was nominated for the Grand Prix at the International Film Festival in Bratislava in

2003, and Vanessa Redgrave for Outstanding Performance by a Female Actor in a Television Movie or Miniseries at the Screen Actors Guild Awards in 2008.

The film was mostly filmed in North Wales, while in Zagreb for the atmospheric scenery the ancient streets and squares of the Upper Town were used, especially the Museum Klovic's Palace situated on a picturesque Ilirski trg (Illyrian Square) and funicular, one of the Zagreb's tourist attractions (designed in 1888 and put into permanent operation in 1893), connecting the Down Town- with the Upper Town. The shooting took place in the Down Town as well - in Petrinjska Street, one of the oldest town's street and Gunduliceva Street (in downtown, with a beautiful building of the Croatian Music Institute). Again, the Art Nouveau building of the Croatian State Archives, but one of rarely used appearing in the film marked the Josip Juraj Strossmayer's Gallery in main town park Zrinjevac which, besides being situated in a monumental building of the Croatian Academy of Arts and Sciences (with beautiful atrium), exhibits in ten halls numerous works of European painting schools from XIV to XIX century. Particularly impressive scenes were filmed in the park on King Tomislav Square, attractive for its flower beds and a central fountain, as well as with the setting full of palaces and, mostly, the surrounding Art Nouveau buildings.



Funicular



King Tomislav Square



Croatian Academy of Arts and Sciences



Park Zrinjevac



Vanessa Redgrave



Illyrian Square

The Lady Musketeer



(2004 / TV film orig. title: La Femme Musketeer)

Director:

Steve Boyum

Writer:

Sandra Weintraub

Stars: **Gérard Depardieu,**

Michael York, Nastassja

Kinski

Production Co:

Drotcroft Limited,

Hallmark Entertainment,

Larry Levinson

Productions



A television film shot for the Hallmark Channel, where the legend of Jacques D'Artagnan and the rough, noisy and boastful musketeers gets a gender-beating update being processed for the female leading role. Although the

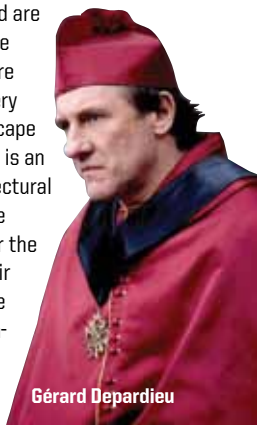


Michael York

best days of the legendary Musketeer D'Artagnan (Michael York) may be well behind him, he has schooled his daughter Valentine (Susie Amy) well in the sword. Now it is time for Valentine to go into action on her own. With her father's sword and a letter of recommendation by the Commander Finot, the ambitious young novice sets out to seek her luck in Paris. Although not yet appointed a Musketeer, Valentine wants to prove herself at any cost and accepts the deadly and dangerous mission of rescuing the bride-to-be of the King Louis XIV from the hands of fearsome kidnapers. In performing the task, she has teamed with the

sons of legendary musketeers who rode along with her father.

Although the film was not too favorably reviewed, the critics especially praised the cinematography work in this film. Highly praised are the picturesque landscapes shot in the small, Istrian village Draguc (Croatia) surrounded by ramparts. Some scenes were shot in Zagreb as well. The scenes shot at the main cemetery Mirogoj particularly contributed to the beauty of the landscape in this film. One of the most beautiful European cemeteries is an oasis for lovers of walks in the green, with a special architectural and artistic values and historical significance. For the same purpose as ideal has proven to be the Brezovica castle near the town, built in the middle of the 18th century by Josip Kazimir Draskovic. The spacious green areas surrounding the castle provide extremely picturesque images, which is the cinematographer of the film brilliantly used.



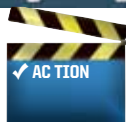
Gérard Depardieu



Cemetery Miragoj



Ultimate Force (2005)



Director:

Mark Burson

Writer:

Mark Burson

Stars:

**Mirko "Cro Cop" Filipovic,
Ruza Madarevic, Igor
Galo**

Produced by:

**Rafael Primorac, Mirko
„Cro Cop“ Filipovic**

Production Co:

Arramis Films



An action film starring kickboxing/MMA superstar Mirko Filipovic in the role of a tough war veteran. The film was playing in Croatian cinemas, while in the United States and a larger part of the world it was released directly as a video edition.

The film begins by sending an agent Axon Ray, heavily decorated war hero and former police officer, on a rehabilitation island called "Gulag 7". This precedes a story about an extremely dangerous mission on which he was sent, developed by a secret government organization. Trained in martial arts and familiar with the latest high-tech weapons, Ray (on the secret mission under the name "Sphinx") is a member of the SATO's (State Anti-Terrorist Organization) sanction division, a clandestine organization of assassins under the direct control of SIN (State Intelligence Network). During the assassination mission Sphinx fails. Normally, the state deals with such failures very easily - by executing the executioner. But, since Sphinx is a top class assassin, his controller Janus decides to postpone his execution and sends him to the aforementioned rehabilitation island Gulag 7, where Sphinx has to face 5 opponents - other government operatives sent to the island for various reasons...

Although most critics declared the film mandatory only for the most addictive fans of Mirko "Cro Cop" Filipovic, Patrick Vuong from the Black Belt Magazine positively reviewed the film and praised the "excellent cinematography and action scenes of the Cro Cop" and puts it on the same level with the film "The Bourne Supremacy".

For the appraised cinematography contribute greatly also the Zagreb locations where the movie was filmed. The picturesque Upper Town, the raised oldest part of Zagreb, again confirmed its supremacy when it comes to old urban perspective. With its old buildings, streets and squares, it provided the great settings' atmosphere, the same way like the central town park Zrinjevac (part of the Green Horseshoe, a large system of parks and green areas in downtown) with the ancient plane trees, flower beds, music pavilion and surrounding palaces offers directors and cinematographers exceptional images. The shooting took place also in Gunduliceva street in downtown (the luxurious building of the Croatian Music Institute) and in Mirogoj, the town's main cemetery and one of the most beautiful in Europe, whose northern and southern arcades are of special architectural and artistic value.



Upper Town



Mirko „Cro Cop“ Filipovic

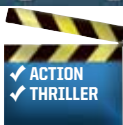


Cemetery Miragoj



Park Zrinjevac

The Hunting Party (2007)



Director:

Richard Shepard

Writers:

**Richard Shepard,
Scott Anderson**

Stars: **Richard Gere,
Terrence Howard and
Jesse Eisenberg**

Produced by:

**Mark Johnson, Scott
Kroopf, Paul Henson**

Production Co:

**Intermedia, Weinstein
Company, The, Cherry
Road Films**

An American action film with elements of adventure and thriller, under the working title "Spring break in Bosnia", changed in the post-production phase. The film had its world premiere at the 64th Venice International Film Festival in 2007. Although the trailer announced that a film was "based on a true story", its story was actually about the events described in the article by the American journalist Scott Anderson, published in Esquire magazine in October 2000 under the title "What I Did On My Summer Vacation". The article was about a group of five war reporters who had gathered in Sarajevo in April 2000 and informally, half joking, agreed to try to catch the war criminal and fugitive Radovan Karadzic...

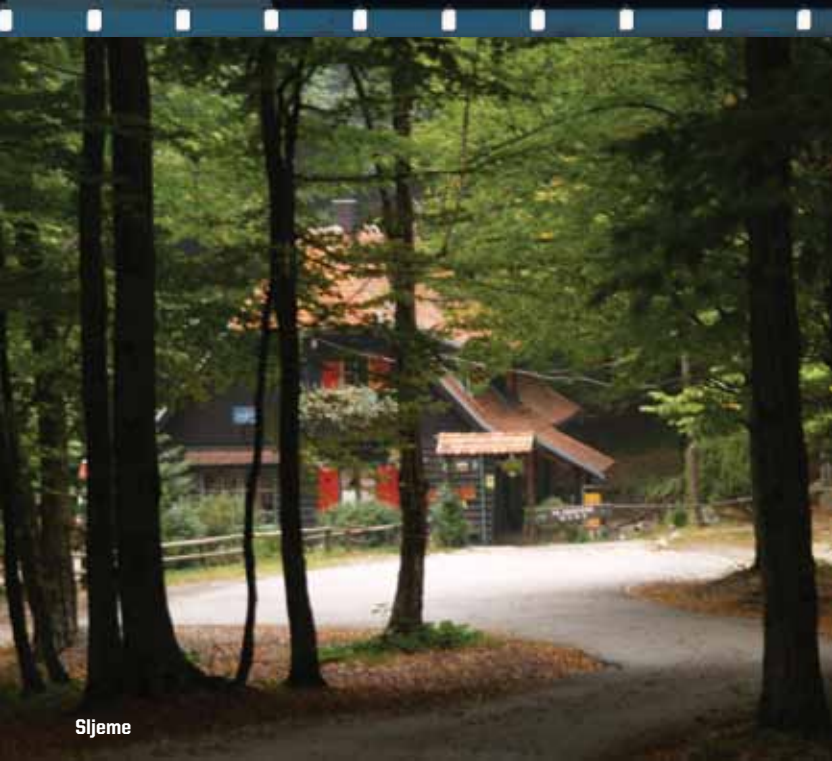
In the film, a young journalist, an experienced cameraman and discredited war correspondent embark on an unofficial mission to find the no.1 war criminal in Bosnia. Their adventure becomes life-threatening when they are mistaken for a CIA hit squad and their target goes after them.

The film was a complete disappointment for the producers, because it completely failed at the American box office (making less than one million dollars). The critics have argued that the viewers were not interested in the Balkan story, much like world politics wasn't in capturing Karadzic.

Namely, the conclusion of journalist Scott An-

derson in the mentioned article in Esquire was that "the UN and NATO have not only shown little interest in finding Karadzic, but have from within their ranks actively sabotaged any meaningful attempt in this direction." It is interesting that in one of the introductory movie subtitle it says: "Only the most ridiculous parts of this story are true."



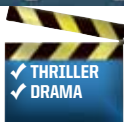


Sljeme

Some scenes from the movie were filmed in Zagreb, specifically those showing the search for Karadzic in the Bosnian forest. The southern slopes of Medvednica, a 1035 meters high mountain in front of Zagreb itself served for this purpose. Medvednica and its top Sljeme are traditionally a weekend excursion for Zagreb locals. It were the southern slopes, facing the town, full of hiking trails, meandering through the dense deciduous and coniferous forest. Sljeme in the sports sense is not limited to hiking (there are a dozen mountain huts), but in the winter it is also very popular ski area (the World Cup races are held on the northern slopes). The top of Sljeme has a high television tower, which can be reached by road from its base, the city suburbs of Gracani. This road, winding along the southern slopes, was also used by the producers of this film for fantastic chase scenes.



White Lightnin' (2009)



Director:

Dominic Murphy

Writers: **Eddy Moretti,**

Shane Smith

Stars: **Edward Hogg,**

**Carrie Fisher, Stephanie
Astalos-Jones**

Produced by: **Sam Taylor,**

Mike Downey

Production Co: **Film and
Music Entertainment,
Mainframe Productions,
Salt Company
International**



A dramatic thriller inspired by the life of Jesco White, a dancer from the Appalachian Mountains, premiered at the 2009 Sundance Film Festival. Deep in the heart of the Appalachian Mountains in West Virginia, where everyone owns a gun and an illegal moonshine still, is where the living legend Jesco White, "the dancing outlaw" lives. As a boy, Jesco often spent time in reform schools and mental institutions. To get him out of the trouble, his father D-Ray taught him the art of highland dancing (mountain dancing), a frenetic version of tap dancing, which you dance to wild country banjo music. After his father's death, crazy Jesco puts on his father's tap dancing shoes and embarks on a tour with the dance performance that he practiced. The film follows his life until the "imaginary" ritual death.

The budget of the film amounted to two million U.S. dollars and, although the action takes place in West Virginia, the film was shot almost entirely in Croatia (the rest however, was filmed in West Virginia). The reactions of the film critics were very positive. Dominic Murphy's directorial debut was rated as extremely powerful and complex artwork. The brilliant music and perfect performance by the young Edward Hogg in the title role were especially commended. The film received several awards, in

different categories at film festivals around the world.

The scenes of the film were shot on Jakusevac, Zagreb's largest Sunday "flea market". Situated in the suburbs, near the Sava River, this place is cluttered with second-hand cars, motorcycles, clothes and thousands of different things, usually very cheap, although sometimes real rarities can be found here. Bargaining is fun here, though many do not come to buy anything, but because of the crowds and authentic, inexpensive local food. The liveliness of the space and the atmosphere of poverty served perfectly for the needs of the film.

It was also filmed in Samobor, a town 20 kilometers away from Zagreb, which carries the nickname "Zagreb locals' favorite excursion place." Samobor, with its picturesque settlement and romantic surroundings, has long since attracted excursionists, especially the less demanding hikers, because it offers the tame Samobor mountains and mountain homes. This place of excursion is especially known for its good food and wine, and there are numerous restaurants and bars.

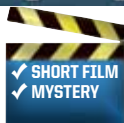
Along with Samobor, that is the Samobor mountain, Medvednica, "Zagreb's city mountain" (1.035 m high) rich with deciduous and coniferous forests and strewn with many hiking trails along which many mountain lodges are situated, also portrayed the Appalachians in the film.



Samobor



Hunger II (2009)



Director:

Stephen Johnson

Writer:

Scott Bassett

Stars:

Daniel Betts, Nadia

Cameron-Blakey, Judita

Frankovic

Production Co:

Flame47, Mainframe

Productions



Short film, based on the mysterious story by Scott Bassett. Saul (Daniel Betts), stranded for the night in a foreign city and wondering through its spooky streets, accidentally encounters a mysterious and seductive woman that seems to offer him escape from his situation. But, it turns out that the woman has quite different plans with him...

In Zagreb, the movie was filmed in several locations. The Upper Town, the oldest part of Zagreb, situated on a hill above downtown, provided a mysterious atmosphere with its old streets,

squares, buildings and churches. The main railway station was used for some scenes with its impressive building on the south side of King Tomislav Square, providing from its northern side a fascinating image with the statue of King Tomislav on horseback, a parterre garden and the Art Pavilion building.

In some scenes the Paromlin (steam mill) building appears as well. It is one of the first factories in Zagreb and a rare monument of industrial architecture, built in 1862. Paromlin completely burnt down in 1906, but was reconstructed along with the 40-meter-tall chimney. It was later on fire several times until 1988, when it was destroyed by one of the largest urban fires (since then it has been left intact).

One of the locations for this film was in Maksimir forest, part of a large park in the eastern part of the town, otherwise a popular Zagreb promenade and picnic site often used for shooting films.



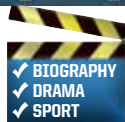


Paromlin (Steam mill)



Park Maksimir

Max Schmelling (2010)



Director:

Uwe Boll

Writer: **Timo Berndt**

Stars:

Henry Maske, Susanne

Wuest, Heino Ferch

Produced by:

Wolfgang Herold

Production Co:

**Boll Kino Beteiligungs
GmbH & Co. KG, Herold
Productions, Jadran Film**



A German biographical film that tells the story of a German boxing icon Max Schmelling. The central part of the story culminates with Schmelling's fight against Joe Louis, one of the top ten boxing matches of all time, and the biographical part reveals little-known details.

Maximilian Adolph Otto Siegfried Schmelling (1905-2005) was a German boxer who, from 1930 to 1932, held the title of world heavyweight champion. His two fights against Joe Louis in the late 30's overcame the frames of boxing and became worldwide social events, mostly due to the former conflict between two nations which the boxers belonged to. Although Schmelling collaborated with the German government in its efforts to reduce the very negative attitude of the world public towards the internal German affairs during the 30's, he never became a member of the Nazi Party. Indeed, after the World War II, it was discovered that in 1938 Schmelling risked his own life in order to save the lives of two Jewish children.

The film follows Schmelling's life and concentrates on the mentioned period when in the United States, the promoters announced him as a cold-blooded, evil invader, Hitler's puppet and hater of Jews. In contrast, in Germany the Nazi propaganda portrayed him as a heroic symbol of German destiny and Aryan superiority. Psychological studies, however, show that Schmelling was none of that. The film shows him as a good fighter, with respected boxing technique and enviable sense. The clash of politics, ideals, and countries often symbolically goes hand in hand with his fights, at least in the eyes of the audience, but it does not support the events in the ring. Rather than admire the art of boxing, the Americans hate him for being a Nazi and the Germans ultimately rejected him as a big disappointment. His status as a top boxer was examined independent of the cultural symbolism only towards the end of Schmelling's life.

The exterior scenes from Germany were filmed in Zagreb in Dalmatinska Street, a typical side street in downtown, whose shops and bars for this occasion received the German inscription tables. Other exteriors were filmed in the lush central town park Zrinjevac, which with its flower beds, green areas, a fountain, music pavilion and elegant palaces and surrounding buildings easily fits into the plot of any film. For the purposes of elegant interiors, like many times in co-productions filmed in Zagreb, the luxurious hotel Regent Esplanade, an architectural masterpiece from 1925, otherwise one of the most beautiful hotels in Central Europe, served the purpose.



Hotel Esplanade



Dalmatinska Street



Park Zrinjevac

Anton Chekhov's The Duel (2010)



Director:

Dover Koshashvili

Writers:

**Anton Chekhov (novel),
Mary Bing (script)**

Stars: **Andrew Scott,
Fiona Glascott and
Tobias Menzies**

Produced by: **Donald
Rosenfeld, Mary Bing**

Production Co:

Duel Productions



The story of the quite close adaptation of Chekhov's novella "The Duel" is set in the coastal resort town in the Russian Caucasus region. The story focuses on the character of Laevsky, a Russian aristocrat and civil servant and his mistress, Nadya, whom Laevsky is trying to leave.

Laevsky does not care much for his job, and spends his free time mostly drinking and playing cards. He lives with Nadya, a married woman he seduced and stole from her husband. Unexpectedly, he receives a letter in which he finds out that Nadya's husband has died, but he doesn't tell her. In the meantime, he realizes that he never really loved Nadya, and is afraid of marrying her. He is in great debt and tries to find a way out of this situation, and becomes more and more nervous. Nadya is neglected and tries to avert dark thoughts by flirting with other men, which leads to trouble. Captain Kirilin is persistent in his romantic advances towards her and does not accept to be ignored, although Nadya has already turned towards other men. Kirilin insists that she meet him and in case of her rejection threatens with a scandal.

The film was shot in Croatia, and the cast was made up of mainly British and Irish actors. The film received good reviews and was called "another masterpiece by the producers who signed the gems from the filmography of James Ivory - The Remains of the Day and Howard's End." Praised were also the delicate, refined and precise acting, and atmosphere which one should enjoy "like sipping a fine glass of port while watching the sun set over the open sea."

To the mentioned atmosphere of old noble Russia contributed as well the scenes shot in Zagreb. In one of its many film incarnations, the Upper Town, the oldest part of Zagreb, with its ancient streets, squares, houses, palaces and churches, "played" with ease a 19th century Russian town and thus proved that, even though the product is a completely different Central European culture, it can simply be transformed also into Slavic cities of the north. The particularly impressive atmosphere of the Upper Town has much to thank the romantic gas lighting (one of the few left in the world), which has often been a powerful tool in the hands of skilled cinematographers who have worked in Zagreb.



Upper Town

Room 304

(2011 / orig. title: Værelse 304)



Director:

Birgitte Stærmosé

Writer: **Kim Fupz Aakeson**

(screenplay)

Stars: **Mikael Birkkjær,**

David Dencik, Trine

Dyrholm

Produced by:

AlphaVille Pictures

Production Co:

AlphaVille Pictures

Copenhagen, Mainframe

Productions



A Danish drama beginning with gunshots in a hotel in Copenhagen. There the predestined various lives and the past of people are intertwined (multilingual narration) - an unhappy stewardess longing for intimacy, an immigrant obsessed with revenge, a hotel manager lost in his despair, a woman abandoned by her husband, a receptionist with blood on his hands... These people meet in the intimate atmosphere of hotel rooms, reveal their secrets, until the unexpected events merge into a dramatic story of love and longing.

The film was shot in Zagreb, and critics said that the set and the film work visually emphasized the claustrophobic atmosphere, one that corresponds to the psychological state of the characters.

The Unnamed Copenhagen hotel role was played by the Zagreb's Hotel Palace, the first modern town hotel which a few years ago turned a hundred.

This Art Nouveau beauty flaunting itself towards the clearing of the vast Strossmayer Square, where one can enjoy the three-floor building with many facade details, is a cult place of Zagreb's social history and institutions which

are associated with many famous domestic and foreign names. The Production found the nearby central town park Zrinjevac (part of the Green Horseshoe, a large system of parks and green areas in downtown), which with its extraordinary picturesque, century-old plane trees, flower beds, music pavilion, paths and benches provided interesting images, an occasional relief to the viewer from the grave claustrophobic scenes. The garage of Hotel International, a modern building situated slightly south of downtown, "played" the role of the hotel garage.





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