



**JUMP IN THE DOC.
DOCUMENTARY
IDEAS
LABORATORY**

Film ideas for young viewers – catalogue
May 2022

**CENTRUM
KULTURY
FILMOWEJ**

ckf.waw.pl

Program

JUMP IN THE DOC.

LABORATORY FOR

DOCUMENTARY IDEAS

JUMP IN THE DOC program is an educational experiment aimed at creative people intending to make documentaries and having ideas for a story about the world of children or youths. The program arises from the need to create media that will help us to talk with the younger generation, especially during crises.

In countries such as the Netherlands, Belgium, Germany and the whole of Scandinavia, documentary films for young audiences are keenly watched at festivals, in educational and television programs. We would like to emulate this in Poland.

We started in 2020. For almost a year, filmmakers, children and tutors have been working on developing ideas for documentaries that we present to the Polish and international industry, hoping to create together conditions for the production, financing and distribution of documentary films for children in Poland.

Dear Friends,

We are happy and proud to present documentary film projects for young viewers, developed during the second edition of JUMP IN THE DOC. LABORATORY FOR DOCUMENTARY IDEAS organized by Andrzej Wajda Centre For Film Culture. We would like to invite you to the third Documentary Film Forum for Young Viewers and we are glad that together with the Millenium Against Gravity festival we can introduce our public to such films.

We would like to encourage parents, educators and teachers to use non-fiction and documentary content as a useful tool of education and the psychological and emotional development of children and teenagers. We also want to inspire filmmakers to devising and making such films. Let's create together a conscious audience and inspire each other to a good life based on empathy, respect for other beings and faith in our ability to overcome crises.

Katarzyna Ślesicka – vice-director
of the Andrzej Wajda Centre For
Film Culture, film producer.

WHAT DID
WE DO
AND WHAT
WOULD WE
LIKE TO ACHIEVE?

So far, two editions of the JUMP IN THE DOC development program have been organized. Some of the ideas that we worked on during our workshops are already in the production. One of them - "Pinki", dir. Ewa Martynkien - will even premiere at the 19th Millennium Docs Against Gravity festival. We are constantly in touch with other initiatives for documentary cinema for the younger audience in Europe, in particular the IDFA festival.

In 2022, we organize the 3rd Documentary Film Forum for Young Viewers with the support of our partners, including the Embassy of the Kingdom of the Netherlands. The aim is to create, step by step, a support network and an ecosystem for the creation of Polish documentary films for young viewers.

Our dream is for Polish documentaries for children to appear in cinemas, on TV, in educational programs. They should show young people, whom viewers could meet at school or during play. For this to happen, we have to produce films in Poland. Institutions and organizations that can support this process have to notice the potential in it, and also to perceive this as their mission.

Karolina Śmigiel i Diana Gaik
- originators and co-ordinators of the project



IDEAS FOR DOCUMENTARY FILMS FOR YOUNG VIEWERS

created during the 2nd edition of the
JUMP IN THE DOC program



ENGLISH TITLE: „IT’S G”
ORIGINAL TITLE: „JEST G”

Directed by Marek Głuszczyk
Director's e-mail:
marek.sf.gluszczyk@gmail.com

Production stage: development
Total budget: 40 000 EURO
Requirements: 40 000 EURO

Estimated production
end date: 2023

Estimated duration: 30 minutes

We are looking for: producer, financing

LOGLINE

YOUNG RAPPER ARTUR CUT CONTACT WITH HIS FATHER SIX YEARS AGO. HOWEVER, THE PARENT IS CONSTANTLY PRESENT IN HIS SONGS FILLED WITH PAIN AND GRIEF. DURING THE RECORDING SESSIONS WE GET CLOSER TO ARTUR’S TRAUMA AND HIS NEED FOR A MALE AUTHORITY.

SYNOPSIS

The protagonist of the film is Artur Drobniak, a 16-year-old rapper who has always dreamt of becoming a musician. Even as a six-year-old he has been saying he wanted to be Michael Jackson’s stand-in. He started recording his own songs a few years ago, when his father abandoned the family. After that Artur broke off all contact with him and recorded his first album, which became a form of therapy. However, the boy still feels a deep sorrow at the harm his father did. He sorely misses having a man to look up to.

In the film we will follow Artur and his friend Patryk as they create their first album together. We will witness their arguments and candid conversations. We will learn about their diametrically different experiences with their fathers.

Artur’s father is absent in his life, while Patrick’s dad supports him and even records songs with him. For the new album the boys will co-create a song about their relationships with fathers. Outside the studio we will accompany Artur in his search for a male authority. Maybe it will be his grandfather, with whom he has a close relationship. Or maybe it will be his mom’s current partner, with whom he often watches soccer games. Or maybe it will be his mother, whom he already calls his life’s role model.

Through the process of making the album we will get closer to Artur’s trauma. We will also see if, influenced by conversations with Patryk and contacts with his supportive dad, Artur’s attitude towards his own father will change. Will he miss him? In the finale, Artur’s mother, stepfather and grandfather will attend the boys’ concert. Maybe my protagonist will invite his father too?

It is also possible that the boys will fall out and the album will never be finished. In that case we will be observing whose help Artur will seek. Or maybe the whole process will be enough to change his attitude towards the father?

IT’S G

dir. Marek Głuszczyk



ENGLISH TITLE: „THE LAST CHILDREN IN PARADISE”

ORIGINAL TITLE: „OSTATNIE DZIECI W RAJU”

Directed by Katarzyna Mazurkiewicz

Director's e-mail:

katarzyna@napolefilms.pl

Production stage: development

Total budget: 50 000 EURO

Requirements: 50 000 EURO

Estimated production

end date: 2023

Estimated duration: 20 minutes

We are looking for: financing

LOGLINE

ON THE OUTSKIRTS OF THE VILLAGE, IN AN OLD HOUSE, LIVE EIGHT SIBLINGS. THE CHILDREN DON'T ATTEND SCHOOL. THEY LEARN UNDER THE CARE OF THEIR MOTHER AND FROM EACH OTHER. IN THEIR WORLD, FULL OF ADVENTURE, WILL SOON APPEAR ONE MORE FAMILY MEMBER

SYNOPSIS

On the outskirts of a small village, in an old house with their parents live eight siblings. The eldest, Michael, is 13 years old. The youngest, Max, is just learning to call „mom!”.

Siblings are raised close to each other, almost entirely in their own company. None of them had ever gone to kindergarten or school. They do not know the sound of the school bell or the stress before a test. They all study together at home, under mom's supervision, in the so-called home education. Learning goes at its own pace and in constant contact with nature.

Children spend days outside, playing, but also working with their parents and taking care of the animals for which they are responsible: goats, sheep, chickens, geese, dog, rabbits... They live like on an island, in their own small community, distant from what the world is fed with today. They don't know the feeling of over-stimulation. Their days are full of adventure and secrets, extraordinary journeys and magic. Climbing a tree is like conquering the highest mountain. The frozen puddle becomes a glacier. And the nearby forest is a labyrinth with a secret cave in which extraordinary things happen. But there is also boredom. Learning is not always a happy thing. Conflicts and anger appear suddenly. It's easy to get lost in a crowd of eight little people. Somewhere in the middle of the pack is 9-year-old Mary, a keeper of the goats and the captain of the younger part of the family's „herd”. She is becoming responsible and serious. Still absorbed by children's games and dreams, soon she will no longer fit into that world.

This is like The Six Bullerby Children documentary. The film is a study of children's republic - cooperation, but also conflicts and hierarchy to which adults have limited access.

Soon, the family will get even bigger. The ninth child will bring new joys and emotions, but will also reorganize this world. He or she will be born at home, surrounded by siblings, akin to a flock of warm, soft animals in their barn.

THE LAST CHILDREN IN PARADISE

dir. Katarzyna Mazurkiewicz



ENGLISH TITLE: „MY PRETTY DRAGON”
ORIGINAL TITLE: „MÓJ PIĘKNY SMOK”

Directed by Liliana Fabisińska
Director's e-mail:
liliana.fabisinska@gmail.com

Production stage: development
Total budget: 50 000 EURO
Requirements: 50 000 EURO

Estimated production
end date: 2023

Estimated duration: 70 minutes

We are looking for: financing

LOGLINE

FIRST-GRADE SCHOOLCHILDREN FROM A MAZOVIAN VILLAGE MEET THEIR UKRAINIAN PEERS WHO FLED TO POLAND ESCAPING THE WAR. THEIR INTEGRATION CAN BE FACILITATED BY AN UNUSUAL PROJECT: THEY MAKE A 45 METRE LONG DRAGON TOGETHER TO GO TO THE GREAT DRAGON PARADE.

SYNOPSIS

Every June children from all over Poland walk around Cracow's Old Town animating huge, hand-made dragon figures. The most beautiful dragons win valuable prizes.

For the first-graders from a small village in Mazovia, several months of work on the dragon and a trip to Cracow for Dragon Parade may be much more than just a crazy adventure. In one class there will be Polish children and Ukrainian ones, who fled the war. They have gone through harrowing experiences. They said goodbye to their relatives and beloved pets. They have to adapt to a new place, full of friendly but strange people, speaking an unknown language.

Work on the dragon can help them integrate with their classmates, make friends and recover from trauma. With a common goal Polish and Ukrainian children will not be focusing on their differences and problems anymore. They will act together, supporting each other. And first of all, they will simply have fun.

„My Beautiful Dragon” will show the whole journey of the first-graders, from the moment of the decision „Let's make a dragon”, through the complex creative process, to the trip to Cracow - culminating in a triumphal march in the Dragon Parade.

The observation of the creative process is visually the most spectacular layer of the film - but creating a dragon will be only a pretext, a catalyst. We will witness the integration of Polish and Ukrainian kids. We will see how they communicate, how they make friends, how they are brought together by a common goal, and how they overcome difficulties.

Art can release great emotions, heal traumas, strengthen, build self-esteem and group identity. Suddenly, it is not just a bunch of children from two different countries who met in one class. They become a team, they have their common adventure and a friendship - the best reward.

MY PRETTY DRAGON

dir. Liliana Fabisińska



ENGLISH TITLE: „ A LAYUP”

ORIGINAL TITLE: „JAK ZROBIĆ DWUTAKT”

Directed by: Olga Papacz

Director's e-mail:

papaczolga@gmail.com

Production stage: development

Total budget: 10 000 EURO

Requirements: 10 000 EURO

Estimated production

end date: October 2022

Estimated duration: 15 minutes

We are looking for: producer

LOGLINE

MAGDA QUALIFIES TO JOIN THE POLISH NATIONAL BASKETBALL TEAM, BUT DURING THE FIRST TRAINING CAMP THE COACHES TELL HER SHE IS NOT DOING A GOOD JOB. TO REGAIN HER SELF-CONFIDENCE, THE GIRL HAS TO FIGHT WITH HER BODY. LUCKILY, SHE HAS FRIENDS AROUND HER.

SYNOPSIS

The film tells the story of Magda, who at the beginning of a training camp for the Polish national basketball team, learns about her technical deficiencies in one of the basic plays. To change such a basic sequence of moves is quite a challenge after years of training. It's also hard to accept the criticism of a coach she's heard a lot about and whom she's dreamed of impressing. Magda realizes that she has to train hard in order to stay on the team.

The film tells the story of the relationship between teenage girls and their rapidly changing bodies - bodies that must be subjected to the discipline of professional sports. It also shows the price of fighting for one's dreams and that no matter what you have already achieved, problems and weaknesses exist everywhere at every stage.

Magda is 15 years old, ambitious and disciplined. She dreams of being a professional player. Apart from basketball she likes to dance and post Tik-Tok videos. The story takes place during a week-long summer training camp in Cetniewo. The documentary focuses on the contrast between the disciplined gym, and the chaos and freedom of the resort where the girls spend time after the training sessions.

I would like these two worlds to intertwine. In each of the film's three parts there is a sequence at the gym and a sequence in the outside world. In the first part, the protagonist meets new friends and learns about her technical deficiencies. In the second, we see her tackling the challenge, more than once breaking down and losing hope. She establishes relationships, practices with her friends but also plays pranks on the demanding coaches, dances at room parties, and realizes she is not the only one struggling with problems. I imagine the film ends with the young heroine figuring out her own way of doing a proper, but maybe somewhat less than ideal, lay-up. In the end, she fails to make it onto the top of the roster, but believes in her chance the next season



ENGLISH TITLE: „LOOKING FOR THE CAPERCAILLIE”

ORIGINAL TITLE: „SZUKAJĄC GŁUSZCZA”

Directed by Arek Świtła

Director's e-mail:

arekswitala@gmail.com

Production stage: development

Total budget: 30 000 EURO

Requirements: 30 000 EURO

Estimated production

end date: 2022/2023

Estimated duration: 20 minutes

We are looking for: producer, financing,
distributors, tv broadcasters, festivals

LOGLINE

TEENAGE TYMON IS A BIRD LOVER. TOGETHER WITH HIS FATHER HE SETS OFF ON A JOURNEY TO SEE A RARE CAPERCAILLIE LIVE. ON THE WAY THEY REDEFINE THEIR RELATIONSHIP.

SYNOPSIS

Tymon is 13 years old. At first glance, he seems like a typical teenager - he spends a lot of time on his phone, loves playing games and meeting friends. What distinguishes him from his peers is the passion for birdwatching. The boy's goal is to see as many free-living birds as possible in their natural environment. Tymon has already seen and heard several hundred species in the wild, he is the youngest birdwatcher who can boast such achievements. He has also involved his father Arek, who is a professional camera operator, in his passion.

For years Tymon and Arek have been travelling together across Poland in search of rare birds. Arek, just like his son, loves nature. He enjoys spending time with his son and observing birds. However, something has recently begun to change in their father-son relationship. Tymon prefers to spend more time with his friends than on outings with father, and instead of using binoculars, he increasingly reaches for his phone. They no longer talk as much as they used to. Arek is saddened that his son is starting to drift away from him. He suggests an expedition in search of a very rare bird that few people in Poland have ever seen in the wild. They set off on a journey in search of a capercaillie.

Tymon is hesitant about the idea of another trip, but as the preparations get underway, he becomes more and more involved. At the beginning, both Tymon and Arek are uncertain what will come of it. They are somewhat clumsy in showing their joy for the adventure. They start to argue and it gets even worse when they fall silent for half a day.

But camping together in the wild in a tent, eating food from the campfire, walking in the forest at night, and supporting each other not to give up and lose hope of finding a grouse - slowly brings them closer together again. Will the coveted grouse await them at the end of this path? Or maybe during this journey father and son will find something that would allow them to better understand each other?

LOOKING FOR THE CAPERCAILLIE

dir. Arek Świtła



ENGLISH TITLE: „I WILL DO MY BEST”

ORIGINAL TITLE: „DAM Z SIEBIE WSZYTSKO”

Directed by Ewelina Buś

Director's e-mail:

ewelinabus@gmail.com

Production stage: development

Total budget: 50 000 EURO

Requirements: 50 000 EURO

Estimated production

end date: 2024

Estimated duration: 30 minutes

We are looking for: producer, financing,
distributors, tv broadcasters, festivals

LOGLINE

14-YEAR-OLD MAJA IS FIGHTING FOR A TRIP TO THE USA FOR THE YOUTH WORLD CLIMBING CHAMPIONSHIPS. SHE IS TRAINED BY HER DAD, A FORMER WORLD VICE-CHAMPION IN CLIMBING. THEIR JOINT PREPARATIONS BRING THEM CLOSER, ALTHOUGH THEY HERALD MAJA'S DISTANCING FROM THE FAMILIAR.

SYNOPSIS

Maja and Tomek Oleksy are a daughter and father duo who share physical and behavioural similarities and, above all, a passion for climbing and a desire to win the most prestigious competitions.

14-year-old Maja has recently started participating in international climbing events. She has already stood on the podium many times during Polish and European competitions. Currently, the girl dreams of participating in the World Junior Championships, to be held in August 2022 in the United States.

She spends most of her time training - practising strength, motility, endurance and acrobatics. She trains alone because there are no peers in her home town of Tarnów who can match her skill level. Maja's dad has already had a fifteen-year competition career and helps her with preparations. On the one hand, emotions and the effort they put into training bring them closer; on the other hand, they create conflicts. The father-daughter relationship is constantly tested and changes as the girl grows up.

Maja's trip to the USA may prove to be a real test of their bond. It will show how the girl copes with being away from what is safe and familiar. I want to travel to the competition with Maja to discover how she manages the experience of separation from her parents and the possible loss of her dreams.

In the film, we accompany Maja in her competitive endeavours and the struggles that ordinary teenage life brings - puberty, moving away from home, recruitment to a new school, and lack of time to meet her friends or study. Despite the uncertainty of the future and many tensions, this will be a portrait of a teenager who has found strength in the sport and great support in her family, especially her dad.

I WILL DO MY BEST

dir. Ewelina Buś

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