



THE UNIVERSITY *of* EDINBURGH

★  
FILMHOUSE

## Russian Film Festival in Scotland

4<sup>th</sup> November to 29<sup>th</sup> November 2012



RUSSIAN  
**FILM** 6<sup>TH</sup>  
FESTIVAL



Arts & Humanities  
Research Council

**The Princess Dashkova Russian Centre** is pleased to announce the 2012 Russian Film Festival in Scotland, organised in collaboration with Academia Rossica and Edinburgh Filmhouse. The Festival will present the UK premieres of the most outstanding, cutting edge and award winning Russian films of the past year.

The films will be screened at the Edinburgh Filmhouse and the Princess Dashkova Russian Centre, the University of Edinburgh.

The films will be accompanied by discussions and Q&A sessions. The film *Living* (Zhit') will be presented by its world-renowned film director Vasilii Sigarev and the leading actor Yana Troyanova. The documentary of the recent Russian protest movement, *Winter Go Away!* (Zima, Ukhodi!) will be accompanied by a talk by the acclaimed film critic and journalist Dr Andrei Plakhov.

Another highlight of the Russian Film Festival will be the season of films by the legendary Andrei Konchalovsky, presented by the director himself.

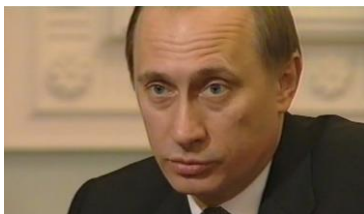
**A collaboration between the Princess Dashkova Russian Centre, University of Edinburgh, Academia Rossica, and the Edinburgh Filmhouse. Funded by the Arts and Humanities Research Council; Centre for Russian, Central and East European Studies (CRCEES), University of Glasgow. CRCEES is funded by the Arts & Humanities Research Council and the British Academy. We also thank the Scotland-Russia Forum for assistance in information dissemination.**

**All films are shown in Russian with English subtitles.**

## **Films from the London 6<sup>th</sup> Russian Film Festival**

**4<sup>th</sup> November – 6 pm**

**'Unknown Putin' (Neizvestnyi Putin), followed by a discussion moderated by Dr Luke March (University of Edinburgh, Politics) and led by Edinburgh University students.**



Princess Dashkova Centre, Screening Room 1.01, University of Edinburgh, 14 Buccleuch Place EH8 9LD

Price: £5 (concessions £4)

Details and tickets: <http://tinyurl.com/unknown-putin1>

Director: Sergei Miroshnichenko

Screenwriter: Vitaly Mansky

Russia, 2000, 52 min

Anywhere in the world, it is a special event when political leaders allow a camera behind the scenes. In the Kremlin, such openness is quite unique. Director Sergei Miroshnichenko follows Vladimir Putin just after his appointment as acting president. Miroshnichenko has a refreshingly loose style of interviewing, managing to peel a few layers from the unknown president. It turns out that the former KGB officer Putin, who has the appearance of a surly bureaucrat, easily makes jokes and has no objections against personal questions. He is polite and does not devote any time to trivial matters. But what is most striking is that he gave his permission for this

documentary and for the camera to follow him, even in his own home.

**5<sup>th</sup> November – 6 pm**

**'Winter Go Away!' (Zima ukhodi!), with a talk by leading Russian film critic and journalist Andrey Plakhov and Q&A session.**



Princess Dashkova Russian Centre, Screening Room 1.01,  
University of Edinburgh, 14 Buccleuch Place, EH8 9LD

Price: £7 (concessions £6)

Details and tickets: <http://tinyurl.com/winter-go-away1>

Directors: Elena Khoreva, Denis Klebleev, Dmitry Kubasov  
and others.

Russia, 2012, 79 min

Documentary

Winter, Go Away! was filmed by the graduates of Marina Razbezhkina and Mikhail Ugarov's Documentary Filmmaking and Theater School, on the initiative of Novaya Gazeta, an independent Russian newspaper. Ten young directors did not part from their cameras for two months. The result was a chronicle of Russia's winter protests – a chronicle of those who

make the political climate and those who are dissatisfied with the makers. We see people, their faces, their conversations, rallies, victories and defeats ahead of the presidential election. A living camera interacts with living heroes.

**Critic Biography: Andrey Plakhov**

Andrey Plakhov is a leading Russian film critic and cinema historian. After graduating from Lviv University, he studied history of cinema at the Gerasimov Institute of Cinematography. Since the seventies, Plakhov has written articles and reviews for Russian and international publications, including *Pravda*, *Iskusstvo kino*, *Sight and Sound*, and *the Guardian*. During the *perestroika*, Plakhov was secretary of the USSR Union of Cinematographers and head of the Conflict Committee, which released more than 200 films banned by Soviet censorship. Since 2005, he has served as President of the International Federation of Film Critics (FIPRESCI), as well as writing a column for the newspaper *Kommersant*. He serves as judge at a number of major international film festivals and is a member of the European Film Academy. His recent books include *Under the Sign of F: Film Festivals* (2006) and *Directors of the Future* (2010).

**6<sup>th</sup> November – 8.15pm**

**'Living' (Zhit'), accompanied by a discussion with director Vasily Sigarev and actor Yana Troyanova.**



Edinburgh Filmhouse, 88 Lothian Road, EH3 9BZ

Details and tickets: [www.filmhousecinema.com](http://www.filmhousecinema.com)

Director: Vasiliy Sigarev

Russia, 2011, 119 min

Drama

Life is more than the mode of existence of protein bodies. A person can feel, suffer, love, and live out his/her destiny, even when this means losing that which is most precious: those one loves. Following the lives of the film's characters, we watch as Fate takes their loved ones swiftly and brutally, removing any reason to live, even the desire to stay alive; snatching up their entire world. The film's characters do not surrender: they stand up in defiance, declare war on Fate, struggling to the limits of human endurance—and beyond. They reach their own victories

**First prize, Festival of Central and Eastern Film, Wiesbaden, Germany, 2012.**

**Best directing, Open Russian Film Festival Kinotavr, Russia, 2012**

**Director's biography: Vasily Sigarev**

Vasily Sigarev is an award-winning playwright, director and screenwriter. His third play, *Ladybird*, was produced by the Royal Court Theatre, London in 2004, following on from his previous dramatic works *Plasticine* (2002) and *Black Milk* (2003). Sigarev won the 2002 Evening Standard Charles Wintour Award for Most Promising Playwright. His plays often deal with the reality of decay in post-Soviet Russia. His first feature film, *Wolfy*, was produced in 2009 as an adaptation of his own play, and went on to win numerous major awards, including the Golden Eye for Best International Feature at the Zurich Film Festival and the Grand Prix at the Sochi Open Russian Film Festival. Most recently, his film *Living* was nominated for the Grand Prix at the 23rd Kinotavr Festival. Sigarev is married to the actress Yana Troyanova.

#### **Actor's biography: Yana Troyanova**

Yana Troyanova has earned a reputation as one of the most exciting new actresses in Russian cinema. Her major acting debut in *Wolfy* (2009) earned her much praise with critics commending her charismatic performance, and she went on to win the Best Actress Award at that year's Kinotavr Open Russian Film Festival. She has since gone on to star in the acclaimed films *Living* (2012) and *Kokoko* (2012). Troyanova is married to the director Vasily Sigarev.

**9<sup>th</sup> November – 6.10pm**

**'Convoy' (Konvoi)**



Edinburgh Filmhouse, 88 Lothian Road, EH3 9BZ

Details and tickets: [www.filmhousecinema.com](http://www.filmhousecinema.com)

Director: Alexei Mizgirev

Russia, 2012, 81 min

Drama

Alexei Mizgirev's *Convoy*, set in an apocalyptic Russia, is the story of an army captain commissioned to escort two deserters back to their unit. After the suicide of one the deserters, the remaining soldier and the commander spend the day in Moscow, where they are confronted with the realities of life in the metropolis. As their friendship blossoms, the cynical Captain's attitude to life is changed forever.

**Winner of the FIPRESCI prize at the 8th Eurasia International Film Festival**



## Andrei Konchalovsky Season

Edinburgh Filmhouse in association with the Princess  
Dashkova Centre



The career of legendary Russian director and screenwriter Andrei Konchalovsky has spanned more than five decades, and several nations: he has made lasting contributions to the cinemas of Russia, the United States, Kyrgyzstan, and Kazakhstan. From his early collaborations with Tarkovsky, to his eclectic oeuvre as a Soviet (and post-Soviet) filmmaker, to his big-budget Hollywood productions, Konchalovsky has never failed to surprise.

**18<sup>th</sup> November – 5.15pm (lecture: Dr Seth Graham (UCL), The Films of Andrei Konchalovsky; 6.30pm (film screening) ‘Maria’s Lovers’ (in English). Special event screening accompanied by a Q&A session with Andrei Konchalovsky.**  
Edinburgh Filmhouse, 88 Lothian Road, EH3 9BZ

USA, 1983

This film will be preceded by a lecture by Dr Seth Graham of the School of Slavonic and East European Studies, University College London, entitled ‘The Films of Andrei Konchalovsky’. Dr Graham will offer an interpretive overview of the director’s work from his early collaborations with Tarkovsky, to his eclectic *oeuvre* as a Soviet (and post-Soviet) filmmaker, to his big-budget Hollywood productions.

The film will be followed by a Q&A session with Andrei Konchalovsky, led by Dr Graham.

### **Dr Seth Graham**

Seth Graham has been Lecturer in Russian at SSEES, UCL. He is the author of many articles and reviews on contemporary Russian and Central Asian cinema, as well as the book *Resonant Dissonance: The Russian Joke in Cultural Context*.

**The Edinburgh Filmhouse will also screen the following films as part of the retrospective:**

**5<sup>th</sup> November – 8.45pm**

**‘Uncle Vanya’ (Diadia Vania)**

**7<sup>th</sup> November – 8.45pm**

**‘The First Teacher’ (Pervyi uchitel’)**

**12<sup>th</sup> November – 6.10pm**

**‘Asya’s Happiness’ (Istoriia Asi Kliachinoi...)**

**25<sup>th</sup> November – 12.45pm**

**‘Siberiade’ (Siberiada)**

**29<sup>th</sup> November – 8.45pm**

**‘Runaway Train’ (Poezd-beglets)**

Details and tickets: [www.filmhousecinema.com](http://www.filmhousecinema.com)