



Run Time: 86 Minutes
Language: Romanian w/ English Subtitles

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SYNOPSIS

In the wilderness of the Bucharest Delta, an abandoned water reservoir just outside the bustling metropolis, the Enache family lived in perfect harmony with nature for two decades, sleeping in a hut on the lakeshore, catching fish barehanded, and following the rhythm of the seasons. When this area is transformed into a public national park, they are forced to leave behind their unconventional life and move to the city, where fishing rods are replaced by smartphones and idle afternoons are now spent in classrooms.

As the family struggles to conform to modern civilization and maintain their connection to each other and themselves, they each begin to question their place in the world and what their future might be. With their roots in the wilderness, the nine children and their parents struggle to find a way to keep their family united in the concrete jungle.

With an empathetic and cinematic eye, filmmaker Radu Ciorniciuc offers viewers, in his feature debut, a compelling tale of an impoverished family living on the fringes of society in Romania, fighting for acceptance and their own version of freedom.

DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT

The harmonious bond with nature and the difficulties of the Enache's wild lifestyle dictated the social dynamics inside the family. The bond between the members was not only forged by love, but also by their will to stay alive. Only by working and being together could the family survive in that harsh environment. This was their shield against the dangers coming from inside and outside the Delta.

But independence is a core value of how our society sees the social integration process. Very soon after moving in the city, the family members learned that the opportunities of having a comfortable life can only be reached by becoming independent. Living or working together was not an option anymore especially for the family's youngsters. They had lesser difficulties than their parents to adapt to the new reality and were more willing to succeed as integrated citizens.

The film is built around one family's drama and, keeping the proportions, around one of modern man's biggest dilemmas: to go back to nature, where life is free but harsh without the benefits of civilization? Or to be part of a society that offers opportunities of a comfortable life, but only to those who are willing to embrace the pressures that come with comfort?

Visual approach

The most important aspect of my approach for shooting this film was to build trust with the Enache's. The last three years I've spent with them gave me intimate access to the family. This was crucial for creating, inside the film, the feeling of being a close family member - something that I want the audience to experience as well: the experience of an assimilated witness to an initiating journey - without making the family look vulnerable, but equal human beings passing through a complicated period of their lives.

In order to create this feeling of familiarity and home, the camera is always shooting at the eye level of the characters and at close distances, especially when highly emotional events are taking place.

In the first two parts of the film, where most of the action is taking place in the wilderness, the shootings are done hand held, but the camera movements are slow and steady, creating a feeling of being grounded in the natural environment.

When the family moves into the city, the key scenes are shot on a tripod, and the compositions become more linear, in order to illustrate the rigors and formalities of life in civilization.

- Radu Ciorniciuc

ABOUT THE CREW

RADU CIORNICIUC – CO-WRITER / DIRECTOR / PRODUCER/ CINEMATOGRAPHER

In 2012, Radu co-founded the first independent media organisation in Romania - Casa Jurnalistului (<http://casajurnalistului.ro/eng/>), a community of reporters specialized in in-depth, long-form and multimedia reporting. Since then, he has been working as a long-form writer and undercover investigative reporter. His researches are focused on human rights, animal welfare and environmental issues across the globe. His investigative and reporting work was published on most of the major international media organizations in the world - Channel 4 News, The Guardian, Al Jazeera, etc. - and received national and international awards.

His journalistic work was acknowledged by Royal Television Society UK (2014), Amnesty International UK (2014), Harold Wincott Awards for Business, Economic and Financial Journalism (2016), and by other international and national prestigious institutions.

MONICA LĂZUREAN-GORGAN – PRODUCER

Monica Lăzurean-Gorgan is an experienced Romanian producer, with over 10 years of international co-productions. Among the titles of films she produced, co-produced or was delegate producer, there are: CHUCK NORRIS VS COMMUNISM by Ilinca Calugareanu, selected in Sundance 2015, TOUCH ME NOT by Adina Pintilie, winner of Golden Bear, Berlinale 2018, A MERE BREATH, BEST INTENTIONS by Adrian Sitaru, winner of Best Director in Locarno 2011, THE CAGE by Adrian Sitaru, with over 20 awards including an award in Berlinale 2010. Monica is an EAVE 2011 graduate and "Producer on the Move" at Cannes IFF 2012.

LINA VDOVÎ – CO-WRITER

Lina Vdovî is an award-winning independent long-form reporter covering migration, conflict zones, poverty, education and social integration.

In 2012, she joined the Romanian Centre for Investigative Journalism and, in 2014, became a fellow in the Balkan Fellowship for Journalistic Excellence. In 2014, she was awarded 1st place in the Feature Writing category at Premiile Superscrieri. In 2015, Lina received the distinction Young Journalist of the Year, awarded by Freedom House, Romania.

Her work was published in both national outlets and international publications, such as in The Guardian, the EU Observer, Courrier International, Al-Jazeera, Transitions online, RFE/RL, Berlin Policy Journal and Balkan Insight.

CREDITS

Director
Radu Ciorniciuc

Producer
Monica Lăzurean-Gorgan

Producer
Radu Ciorniciuc

Editor
Andrei Gorgan

DoP
Mircea Topoleanu
Radu Ciorniciuc

Screenwriter
Lina Vdovii

Co-producers
Ari Matikainen
Ümit Uludağ
Martin Roelly
Erik Winker

Executive Producer HBO Europe
Hanka Kastelicova

Producer HBO România
Alina David

Producer YLE Finland
Erkko Lyytinen

Main Partner
UiPath Foundation

Characters:
Vali Enache
Gică Enache
Niculina Nedelcu
Rică Enache
Marcel Enache
Gigel Enache
Nicușor Enache
Luci Enache

Zâna Enache
Duca Enache
Corina Enache
Georgiana Enache

Editing Consultant
Joelle Alexis
Matti Näränen

Music composed by:
Yari
Codrin George Lazăr
Gaute

Supervising Sound Editor
Tom Weber

Re-Recording mixer
Andreas Mühlischlegel
Lukáš Moudrý

Sound Mix
Lukáš Moudrý

Foley recordist
Volker Armbruster

Foley Artist
Luis Schöffend

Graphics
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Wanda Hutira

Visual Effects
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Grading
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Catalin Miloiu

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Andrei Gorgan

Associate Producers

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Anghel Damian

Communication & Public Relations

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Agerpress

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Vitalie Brega

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Andrei Martalog

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Alex Gâlmeanu

Accountant

Florina Baicu

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Andrei Gorgan

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Tuukka Vartiainen

Production assistant

Elena Martin

Translation

Anca Bărbulescu

Post-production coordinator Beep Studio

Kateřina Doležalová

Manager Cinelabs Romania

Cornelia Popa

Post-production coordinator Cinelabs Romania

Madalina Bureicu

Thank you:

Aster & Rodica & Viorel Ciorniciuc

Thank you:

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Heidi Gronauer
Thomas Righetti
Lotte Gibitz

Thanks to the Dok Incubator Team:

Andrea Prenghyová
Andrea Laciakova
Agata Janu
Tomáš Potočný
Klára Mokrá
Renáta Buchtová
Petra Chlpáňová
Jakub Hanuš
Tomáš "Bóža" Kraus

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This movie was made with the support of Romanian Film Center
(logo CNC Romania)

O producție realizată în colaborare cu SOCIETATEA ROMÂNĂ DE TELEVIZIUNE
A film made in collaboration with SOCIETATEA ROMÂNĂ DE TELEVIZIUNE
(and Logo of TVR under it)

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(logo Creative europe / Media)

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(logo EsoDoc)

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(logo Dok Incubator)

DocumentaryTank@AFF
Romanian Docs in Progress - post-production award
(Logo Astra)

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(logo MFG <https://film.mfg.de/service/logos/>)

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Juha Rajamäki

And all the logos will come here
https://www.dropbox.com/home/Logo_Acasa_Final/Logo_Complete%20Folder/logos_Acasa

Acasă - The Social Project

Social Project Coordinator
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George Grigoraş

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Ionut Poeană
Paul Iordache

Communication & Public Relations
Zenaida Tătaru
Timea Honţ
Alexandra Popa

Art Director
Wanda Hutira

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Marta Movileanu
Anghel Damian
Lia Bugnar

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And to all the good hearted people that contributed to helping the Enache family have a better
transition to the city life.

Acasa - The Book and Multimedia Project

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Radu Ciorniciuc

Photography
Vali Enache, Rică Enache, Marcel Enache, Gigel Enache, Nicușor Enache, Luci Enache, Zâna Enache, Duca
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Decât o Revistă

The Power of Storytelling

The Romanian National Museum for Contemporary Art

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Radio Romania Cultural

Realitatea TV

TVR

SUB25

Scena9

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