

11 DECEMBER - 26 DECEMBER 2021

THE SIXTH INTERNATIONAL  
FILM FESTIVAL FOR CULTURAL SPIRITUAL  
AND HUMAN VALUES

# HOLY VIRGIN MARY OMOPHORION



# БОГОРОДИЧЕН ПОКРОВ

ШЕСТИ МЕЃУНАРОДЕН ФИЛМСКИ  
ФЕСТИВАЛ ЗА КУЛТУРНИ, ДУХОВНИ И  
ХУМАНИ ВРЕДНОСТИ

11 ДЕКЕМВРИ - 26 ДЕКЕМВРИ 2021



*Dear lovers of spiritual values,*

The Sixth International Film Festival for cultural, spiritual, historic heritage and human values - „Bogorodicen Pokrov“ - “Holy Virgin Mary Omophorion“, was held online, from 11th December until 26th December 2021, in Skopje, Macedonia, and the rerun of the festival was from 1th do 16 th January 2022.

This year the festival was sponsored by the Visegrad Fund. The project is co-financed by the Governments of Czechia, Hungary, Poland and Slovakia through Visegrad Grants from International Visegrad Fund. The mission of the fund is to advance ideas for sustainable regional cooperation in Central Europe. This festival is non-profit project, due to the great need to support spiritual and cultural values in humanity.

*With respect,*  
**Zorica Soloman Kostovska - Founder of the Festival**

### SPONSOR VISEGRAD FUND & PARTNERS OF THE FESTIVAL



**Petr Mareš** - Executive Director,  
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**Dr. Márta Dragonits** - Ars Sacra  
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**Srdjan Ilic** - President of the  
Association of Citizens and Film  
Festival “Vigil of Soul”, Serbia



**Viktor Krištof** - Three Brothers  
Company production, Czech Republic



**Michail Novinski** – Novinski  
Film Production, Slovakia



**Zorica Soloman Kostovska**  
Founder of the Festival  
“Holy Virgin Mary Omophorion”, Macedonia



**Jozef Sutus** - President of the  
Association of Hungarians in  
Macedonia - “TELEHAZ”

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Меѓународен повик: „КАКО СЕ НАУЧИВ ШТО Е ЉУБОВ?“  
Internacional call: “HOW I LEARNED WHAT LOVE IS”  
Меѓународни позив: “КАКО СУ МЕ НАУЧИЛИ ШТА ЈЕ ЉУБАВ”



„ДОБРЕДОЈДОВТЕ“ - програма на фестивалот и ретроспектива  
“WELCOME” - program and retrospective of the festival  
„ДОБРОДОШЛИ“ - програм фестивала и ретроспектива



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## “SAINT CYRIL AND METHODIUS - SLAVIC APOSTLES”



Historical drama for the great Slavic educators and equal to the apostles “St. Cyril and St. Methodius”. The film focuses on the main arrival of Saints Constantine and Methodius, the priestly preacher Eiben, who discreetly pulls the strings, acting as a double agent and a medieval lobbyist. At the heart of the film’s message is that Europe and European countries will not be saved by economic power with their heritage, they can only survive here if they nurture the same moral and spiritual values. The film also deals with the epic battle of Veligrad.

*Nominated for the highest film award Czech Lion, Febio-Slovakia, festivals in Russia and others.*

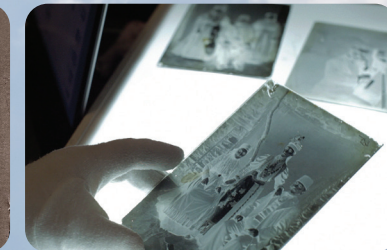


**Viktor Křištof**, producer of the film “Saints Cyril and Methodius - Slavic Apostles”, is the youngest member of the family production company, Three Brothers from the Czech Republic, founded by brothers Vladimir, Boris and Igor Kristof in 1991. Their specialty is historical films and effects. Produced about 90 feature and documentary films, independently or with huge TV companies, such as ZDF, ARTE, BBC and others. He also worked on numerous interna-

tional and Hollywood films, including Joan of Arc, Henry IV, The Trinity Musketeers... He collaborated with the actors Arnold Schwarzenegger, Sean Connery and others. Producer of the films Jan Hus, Musicians, Letters from Prague and many others.

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## “MANAKI - A STORY IN PICTURES”



The documentary “Manaki - A Story in Pictures” is a work that talks about the personal history of the Manaki brothers, but it is even more important that it speaks with artifacts about the photographic and cinematographic history of Macedonia. The author researched six years in several countries (Macedonia, Greece, Serbia, Bulgaria, Romania and France) and came across information that is presented for the first time in this film! Every fact and opinion presented in the film has been carefully re-

searched and confirmed with presented artifacts.

*The film won the Best Documentary Award at the SEE a Paris Film Festival in Southeast Europe, at the SEE Online Film Festival was named best documentary. It was shown at the First UNESCO Forum of Film Cities in Bitola. It was also shown in Sofia, Novi Sad and Belgrade, Lodz in Poland, and in 15 Balkan cities, as part of the Balkanofilmophilia festival. Closing ceremony of the 40th ICFF “Manaki Brothers” in 2019 was for the first time with documentary film “Manaki brothers”!*

**Producer, director and cinematographer** Robert Jankuloski

**Screenplay** - Ilindenka Petrusheva and Robert Jankuloski

**Editor** - Blaze Dulev

**Music** - Goran Kerkez

**Sound design** - Darko Spasovski

**Macedonia, MCF Film Production 2018/2019, 70 min.**

*English subtitles*

**Robert Jankuloski**, the author of the documentary film and monograph “Manaki - A Story in Pictures” is the photographer, cinematographer and professor of photography. He has been researching the work of the first cameramen in the Balkans for almost 20 years. For the last few years he has been the dean and professor at the Faculty of Film Arts at the EFTA University of Audiovisual Arts (ESRA) in Skopje.





## "IF WE NEED TO DIE TODAY"



During the winter in 1949, on a frozen snow-covered hill, on a Sunday morning during a sermon at a small church in Chigosht, the wooden cross on the altar swayed three times and remained crooked. The movements were seen by 20 witnesses and the priest Josef Toufar. He was arrested by the fascists and forced to admit that it was a lie. A true biographical story about a martyrdom.

**Screenplay:** Roman Wavra, Milos Dolezal, Martin Pollack

**Camera:** Marek Jiha

**Director:** Roman Wavra

**Czech Republic, Czech TV, 52 min**



## "PROTECTOR - SAINT NECTARIOS OF BITOLA"



The first documentary film about the life and work of Saint Nectarios of Bitola, which tells about the place where he was born, the hermitage in which he lived a life of asceticism and the revival of his cult in Bitola.

It was realized with the blessing of the Metropolitan of Prespa and Pelagonija, Mr. Peter. The Macedonian public knows very little about the Macedonian saint from the 15<sup>th</sup> century, the Venerable Nectarios of Bitola. Perhaps because the Venerable Nectarios left Bitola as a child and received his saintly dignity far from his birthplace, on Mount Athos. The project was supported by the Municipality of Bitola.

**Screenplay:** Dragi Atanasovski

**Directed by:** Blagojce Bozinovski

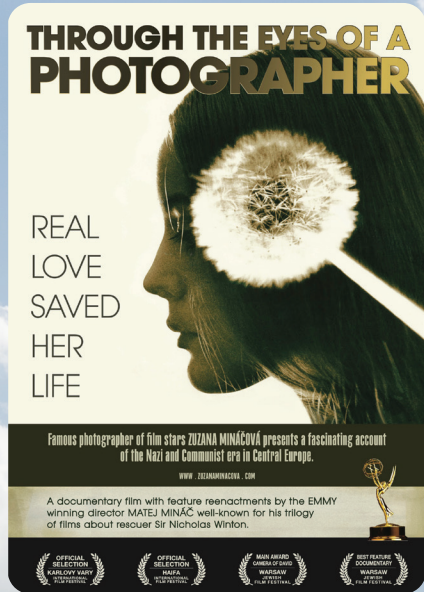
**Production** ASTRA - VEDA

**Macedonia, 47 minutes**



## “THROUGH THE EYES OF THE PHOTOGRAPHER”

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The incredibly energetic 88-year-old popular Slovak photographer Zuzana Mináčová has had a huge impact on Czech and Slovak photography for over 50 years, exhibiting in over thirty countries around the world. This successful and extremely positive woman is haunted by the secret of her childhood that

torments her and does not allow her to sleep. The only solution is to discover the great childhood love between her, a Jewish girl and a Christian boy, Peter. An incredibly difficult journey begins. She visits Auschwitz again, a concentration camp where 70 years ago she experienced the most horrible moments of her life. Will she finally find peace and leave the past behind?

Today, her photos of Robert De Niro, Sharon Stone, Michael Douglas, Antonio Banderas and many other stars are legendary in the world cinematography. The film has won awards at more than 70 international festivals, in New York-USA, Karlovy Vary-Czech Republic, Warsaw-Poland, Haifa-Israel and others.

**Screenplay and direction:** Matej Mináč

**Director of Photography:** Jan Drnek, Peter Zubal

**Executive producer:** Jana Gospicova

**Editing:** Robert Cuprik

**Stars:** Julie Ondrackova, Zdenek Pishkula, Johana Novackova, Lukash Kral

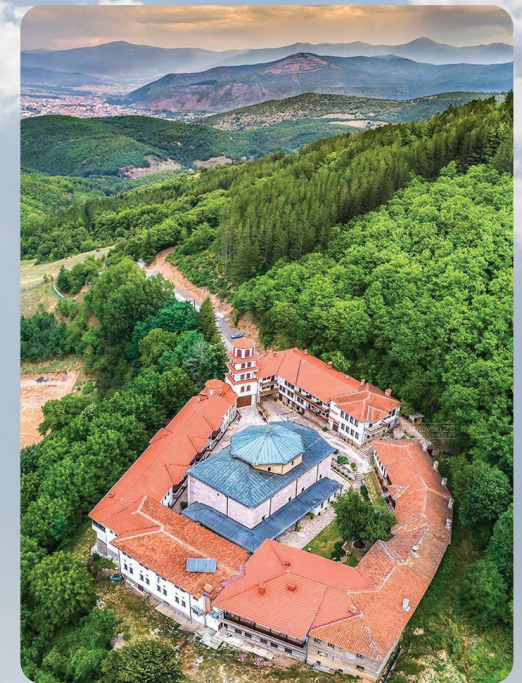
**Production:** Czech Republic/Slovakia, 84 min.

**Matej Mináč** - Director, producer, writer. He graduated in film directing in Bratislava. This film has won more than 70 awards. Among them are: the Emmy Awards, Montreal Film Festival, Karlovy Vary, Czech Lion, Prix Italia, Grand Prix -USA and others.



## “MONASTERY IMMACULATE - HOLY MOTHER OF GOD”

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The monastery “Annunciation of the Most Holy Mother of God”, known among the people as “Immaculate” is located by the city of Kicevo. The monastery was completed in 1320 year. Many old monastery manuscripts date from the monastery “Immaculate”. The most important iconographic work is the miraculous icon of the Most Holy Mother of God. Everyone who approached the miraculous icon with faith, love and hope found healing.

**Screenplay and director:** Oliver Angeleski

**Camera:** Aleksandar Risteski and Goran Poposki

**Editing:** Gjorgji Trajkoski

**Production** FUN

**Macedonia, 11 minutes**

*Macedonian with English subtitles*



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## “THE SOUL DEPARTS”

“Such is a life, another motive for honor.”

An excerpt from Dr. Ferenc Kucsera's diary gives a good idea of the creed of the young martyr priest. The chaplain of Szentendre was executed on June 25, 1919 by the “terrorists” of the Soviet Republic. The documentary about him tells the story not only of his martyrdom but also of his life.

**Film Director:** Ernő Zoltán Balogh

**EXPERIMENT Production**

**Hungary, 2020, 55 min.**

*Hungarian with English subtitles*

*Hungarian with Macedonian subtitles*



## “JOV”



After the loss of his unborn child and estrangement from his wife, Jov tries to find a new purpose in his life.

**Director:** Aleksandar Andonoski

**Producer:** Mile Petkovski, Aleksandar Andonoski

**Screenwriter:** Olivera Andonoska

**Director of photography:** Toni Koccev

**Editor:** Dimitar Spirkoski

**Sound designer:** Tomce Temelkoski

**Music:** Tomce Temelkoski

**Principal cast:** Dimitar Gjorgjievski, Marija Spirkoska-Ilijeska, Ilija Volceski

**Delegate Production Company:**

VIDEO STUDIO PETKOVSKI (MK)

**Co-production Companies:**

MA PRODUCTION

**MK | 2019 | 22' | Full HD | Drama**

*Macedonian with English subtitles*

## “OSTROG FROM ROVCA”



The film has been screened at the “Vigil of the Soul”, Festival in Serbia, at 5 festivals in Russia, at a festival in Ukraine, and has won 3 awards. The international premiere was this year in Moscow. It is shown for the first time in Macedonian and English at the festival “Holy Virgin Mary Omophorion”.

**Director and Producer:** Milan P. Kičevac

**Director of Photography:** Ilija Dimitrijević

**Editor:** Aleksandar Stojanov

**Organizer:** Sreten Mijovic

**Production “COOLTURE”**

**Hungary/Serbia, 2021, 23 min.**

*Serbian with English subtitles*

*Serbian with Macedonian subtitles*

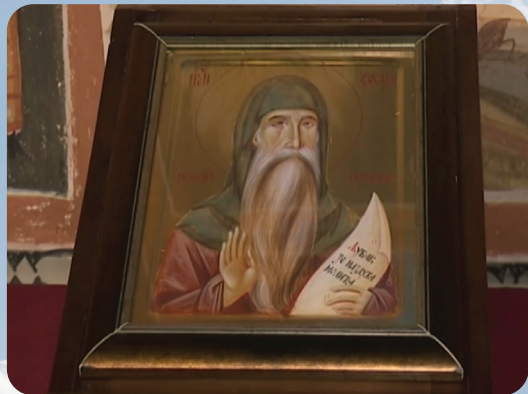
**Milan P. Kičevac** - Author and independent producer. In his own production: “His Beatitude Baron Wrangel”, “Arsen Karadjordjevic”, “Maestro”, “Traces of Witnesses”, “Migrations lasts forever”, “Shajtinac - three stories”, “Monastery of the Most Holy Mother of God - Trojerucica”, “Last Conversation - Dinko Davidov”, “Kostrikovača Monastery - Dead Deep”, “Teacher from Drimkol”. Some of these films have received awards and recognitions in Serbia, Russia, Northern Macedonia. Founder and owner of the COOLTURE Foundation. In 2020, together with the producer Antonij Matolov, he opened a representative office of “COOLTURE” in Sofia, Bulgaria. Long-term associate of the film festival “Vigil of the Soul”. Together with the Cinematheque of Republika Srpska and Snježan Lalović, he initiates and organizes the film festival of documentary film in Pale - Republika Srpska. He published the book “Marzipan - my father's kingdom” about a famous confectioner in Budapest.





## "TUMANE MONASTERY - TESTIMONIES"

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The film shows numerous testimonies about the healings of the believers who visited this shrine. The monastery is visited by people from all over the world, regardless of religion and nationality, seeking help and salvation. It is located 12 km from Golubac and is dedicated to the Holy Archangel Gabriel.

The main protagonist of the documentary is the abbot of the monastery Dimitrij, who testifies about numerous healings. The film also shows the secret of the Tuman saints

Saint Zosimus and Saint James. The film was awarded at the Nis Film Festival and screened at the Mostar Film Festival. It is shown for the first time in Macedonian and English at the "Holy Virgin Mary Omophorion" festival.

**Screenplay and direction:** Branka Bešević-Gajić

**Editing:** Nevena Jovanović

**Director of Photography:**

hieromonk Teofil Radović

**Narrator:** Aleksandar Ristanović

**MS - Film production**

**Serbia 2020, 61 min.**

*Serbian with English subtitles*

*Serbian with Macedonian subtitles*



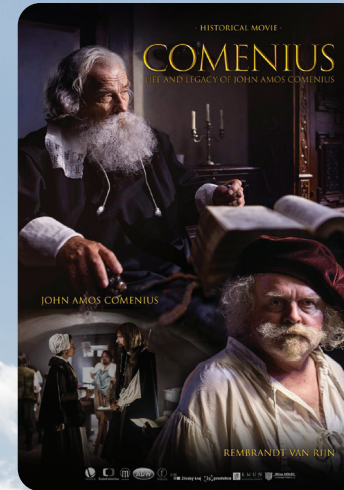
**Branka Bešević Gajić** - Award-winning Serbian Film & TV Director, Creative Producer, Screenwriter, Ph.D. of Arts. She holds a Master's degree in Drama and Audiovisual arts. She debuted as director and screenwriter of film "Laus", a film about the life of famous Yugoslav actor Zarko Lausevic. Featured Awards:

In Chicago, the Serbian Film Festival included it among the best films of 2014. "The best women XXI century" in drama and audiovisual arts, Airli Nivo, Belgrade (2016) "GRAND PRIX" for screenplay of film "Laus" at the International Festival (2016). "GRAND PRIX" for "The Home of Angels" in at the International Festival "Gold Buklia" (2017). Dr Dejan

Kosanovic award for the best Master of Arts graduate film at Faculty of Dramatic Arts, University of Arts in Belgrade, Serbia (FDU, 2017). City Fest (2019), City Fest (2021). Avant & Una (2021) Award for the best movie at Nis (2021).

## "COMENIUS"

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Closing of the festival with an international premiere of the Czech feature film Comenius, dedicated to Jan Amos Komensky, who lives in the late 16th and early 17th centuries, in a time of hatred between Catholics and Protestants. He is not only a pedagogue, but also a writer, scientist, philosopher, theologian, bishop of the Czech Brotherhood and lives a spiritually ascetic life. He is under strong impressions of Francis Bacon, Jean-Jacques Rousseau, Pestalozzi, Jan Huss. Komensky is an example with his life of everything that is spiritual, sublime, but also of the suffering and the humane. A great movie that we highly recommend!

**Producers:** Lubomír Hlavsov, Iva Hlavsova

**Authors:** Milena Štrafeldova, Lubomír Hlavsa

**Screenplay:** Martin Fahrner

**Main stars:** David Svehlik Alois Švehlik, Igor Bareš

**Director of photography:** Pavel Kopp

**Director:** Lubomír Hlavsa

**Vistafilm production,**

**Czech Republic, 2021, 95 min.**

## "WHO IS COMENIUS AND HOW WAS THE MOVIE MADE?"

Interview with producer and married couple Iva Hlavsova and Lubomír Hlavsa, Vistafilm producers of the Czech film "COMENIUS". The film has its World premiere at the "Holy Virgin Mary Omophorion" festival. Part of the interview is Pavel Kopp, who was awarded this year for Best Director of Photography in Los Angeles. They answer the questions of the students of the "European University" from Skopje and the students from the primary school "Jan Amos Komenski" from Skopje. Otherwise, the European University established a traditional award to award the most valuable volunteer of the festival a free four-year scholarship, in honor of the late founder of this University, Bojo Andreski.



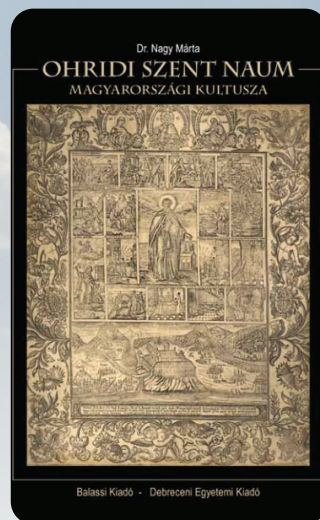


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Interview with **Dr. Marta Nagy**, byzantinologist, associated professor at the Debrecin University, Hungary  
**“CULT OF ST. NAUM FROM OHRID IN HUNGARY”**



**Dr. Marta Nagy:** In 2012 I published a book titled *“Cult of Saint Naum of Ohrid in Hungary as a manifestation of preserving ethnic identity”*. Before the publication of this book, in 2010 I arranged an exhibition contained almost 100 items consecrated to the 1100th anniversary of the death of Saint Naum. In this exhibition could be seen icons, engravings which I published first time, and a contemporary icons, textiles, reliefs, enamels etc. made for the anniversary. In September this year I arranged another exhibition consecrated to the 1111th anniversary of the death of Saint Naum. The title was: *“Saint Naum of Ohrid in the Hungarian contemporary art”*.



\*The interview was published in the magazine “Premin Portal” and in the daily press “Nova Makedonija”

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Interview with **Dr. Márta Dragonits**, chairman of the Festival ARS SACRA, Hungary  
**“WE GOT A LOT MORE FROM THE FESTIVAL, THAN WE EXPECTED”**



**Bogorodicen pokrov:** According to the data from your site, in 2019th, you had 100.000 visitors at 700 events in 418 venues. How was that possible for three spiritual women? To you Márta Dragonits, to Ildikó Kolek and Ilona Toroczky, who although are three of you, you are like the same soul and founders of this festival

**Dr. Márta Dragonits:** I don't think we achieved that, we gave only our five breads and our two fish. We made a great poster, which said: “Our main Sponsor is the Holy Spirit” :) Following our call, more and more people joined us, to organize the Festival. Among others we work together with the organizers of the European Heritage Days, since most of the European cultural heritage is sacral. The European culture has grown out of Jewish - Christian faith, the roots of it's civilization are there.



\*The interview was published in the magazine “Premin Portal” and in the daily press “Nova Makedonija”



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