Georgian delegation at IDFA 2024

led by

DOCA - Documentary Association Georgia

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Documentary Association Georgia is organizing a delegation of documentary filmmakers and producers from Georgia. The delegation highlights young talents providing them an opportunity to network with the international industry, meet fellow filmmakers, and partake in tailored industry events. The delegation also includes experienced professionals with projects in making and those who represent the broader documentary film industry in the country.

DOCA Georgia emerged in late 2022 as a response to the crisis in film and culture, when state support declined and political pressure increased. Counting 70 members, the association represents the core community of documentary film professionals in the country and advocates for their rights to freedom of creative expression and alternative funding resources.

Meet the delegates, schedule a meeting, and explore the latest Georgian film projects.

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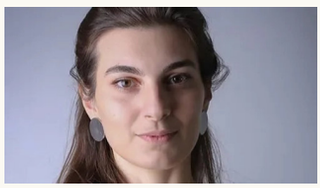
meet filmmakers from Georgia at IDFA

Mariam Nikolaishvili

director

IDFAcademy



Irina Gelashvili

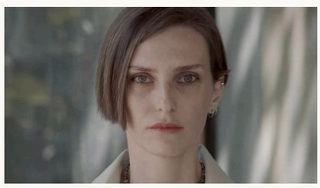
producer

IDFAcademy

Giorgi Parkosadze

director

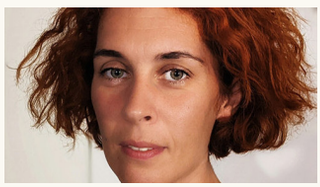
IDFA Competition for Youth Documentary



Ketevan Vashagashvili

director

dok.incubator preview at IDFA



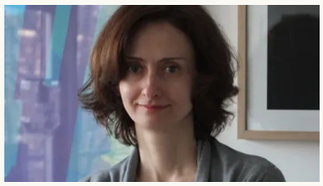
Mariam Chachia

director, producer

DOCA board member

Dea Tcholokava

director



Nino Orjonikidze

director, producer

Sopho Chkheidze

director

Nino Chichua

producer

dok.incubator preview at IDFA

Anna Khazaradze

producer, director

dok.incubator preview at IDFA

Ana Barjadze

director

Vano Arsenishvili

director, cinematographer, editor

Nik Voigt

director, cinematographer

Inna Margvelashvili

producer, production manager

Documentary Association Georgia team

Salomé Jashi

director, producer

DOCA Georgia chairperson

Ketevan Kipiani

producer, director

DOCA Georgia executive director

Tamar Nadiradze

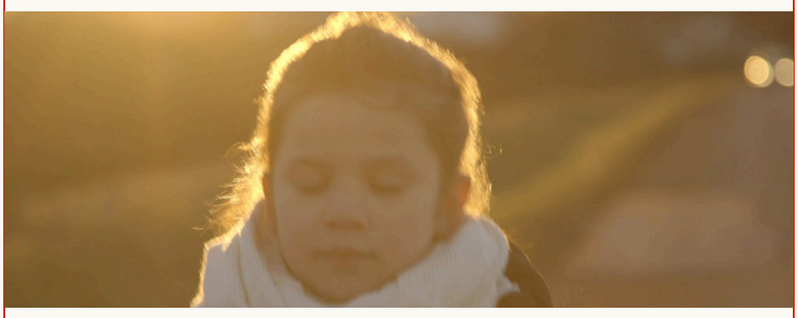
DOCA Georgia development manager

Georgian Film at IDFA
Competition for Youth Documentary

THE FLOWER BY THE ROAD

La flor del camino / ყვავილი გზის პირას

short documentary
director Giorgi Parkosadze
producers Giorgi Parkosadze - Attic Docu Films, Georgia / DocNomads – Hungary, Belgium, Portugal



In a few brief moments in the life of a young girl, we see her drawing on the window with a marker as she sings and chats, and walking along the main road on her way to meet her friend, meanwhile surrounded by cars and trucks racing dangerously close to her.

The meditative effect of the gentle tempo and dreamy music is intensified by the simplicity of the situations and actions we see: the girl walking towards her friend, who awaits her with serene calm; the girl's hand drawing shapes. One might even feel envious of this girl who exists entirely in the moment, utterly absorbed, as only children can be.

Georgian documentary film projects
in various stages of production

9-MONTH CONTRACT

ცხრათვიანი კონტრაქტი

feature / in production
director Ketevan Vashagashvili
producers Anna Khazaradze, Nino Chichua - 1991 Productions, Georgia / Martichka Bozhilova - Agitprop, Bulgaria / Sylvia Nagel - Vincent Productions, Germany

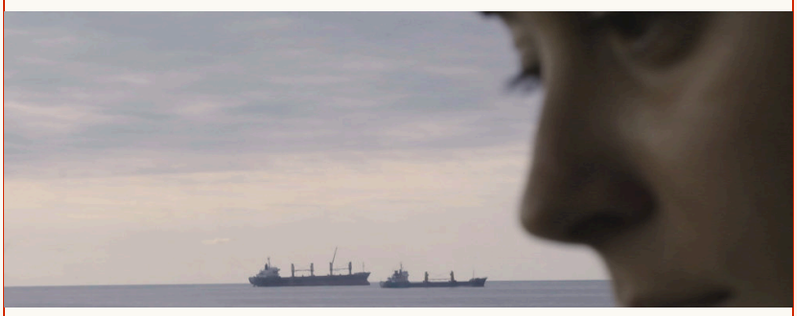
In Tbilisi, a homeless mother, Zhana, resorts to surrogacy to provide a safe life for her teenage daughter, Elene. While trying to keep her pregnancies hidden from Elene, Zhana's financial struggles persist. With no proper regulations in place, she pushes her body to the extreme through multiple childbirths, taking a dangerous toll on her organs and risking her life. As Zhana's health declines, Elene matures and eventually confronts her mother about her choices and their consequences. Through the director's decade-long friendship with the duo, the film explores the evolving dynamics of the mother-daughter relationship and raises questions about the extent of a mother's sacrifice.

Director's previous title: *Online Mother* (2020). Producers previous titles: *Crossing* (2024), *Smiling Georgia* (2023), *Glory to the Queen* (2020), *Negative Numbers* (2019)

BIRD OF PASSAGE

გადამფრენი ფრინველი

feature / in development
director Sopho Chkheidze
producer Inna Margvelashvili, Georgia



The captain's senior assistant, 30-year-old Natia, spends half of the year in long-distance seafaring. What is it like to make this choice when you are the only woman among twenty male sailors? Natia Labadze has been sailing around the world on cargo ships for the 10th year. She is one step away from becoming the first Georgian female captain. In a completely isolated and utterly different world from the land, governed by a very specific rhythm, human relationships, and emotions take on a different meaning. Even though the route is known, everything is planned and tasks are assigned, how do you prepare yourself for the unexpected?

Director's previous title: *One of Us is Dead: Story of the Carpet*. Producer's previous title: *Smiling Georgia* (production manager)

BERLINER

ბერლინელი

feature / in development
director Anna Khazaradze
producers Anna Khazaradze, Nino Chichua - 1991 Productions, Georgia, Heino Deckert - ma.ja.de. Germany

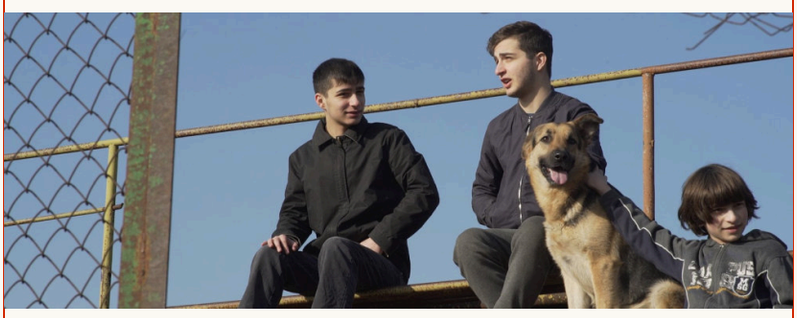
Nana, a 61-year-old Georgian woman, has lived in Berlin since the early '90s. Formerly an architect, she now works as a translator, helping Georgian asylum seekers navigate Germany's bureaucracy in refugee centers, courts, and police stations. Fluent in both languages, Nana is a vital guide, often seen as a savior by those who rely on her. Her compassionate approach goes beyond translation—she emotionally supports the people she assists, often accompanying them to their new homes. The film explores Nana's deep connections with asylum seekers, while authorities push to replace personal translation with impersonal digital tools.

Producer's previous titles: *Crossing (2024), Smiling Georgia (2023), Glory to the Queen (2020), Negative Numbers (2019)*

BITTER SUGAR

მწარე შაქარი

feature / in post-production
director Ana Barjadze
producers Irina Gelashvili - Radium Films, Georgia / Films De Force Majeure, France

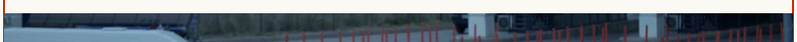


Three brothers living in a dying industrial town in Georgia struggle to cope with life independently as their parents have been forced to go abroad in search of work.

COMFORT LIMIT

კომფორტის ლიმიტი

feature / in production
director Alexander Koridze
producer Alexander Koridze



After the call for partial mobilization in Russia, thousands of Russians have left their country. Thousands Russians have relocated to settle in Georgia. Despite the fact that 20% of Georgia's territory is occupied by Russia, these people decided to leave Russia for Georgia, where they feel freer and more comfortable than in their own homeland. What are the future plans of these people? What conclusions have they drawn about the politics in their country, having had to become forcibly displaced persons? Do they feel any responsibility for the criminal acts committed by their country? How do they imagine Russia's future?

Previous title: *Atonal Glow*, feature documentary, 2022

FLOWERS ALIVE IN THE WINTER TOWN

ცოცხალი ყვავილები ზამთრის ქალაქში

feature / in development
director Giorgi Parkosadze
producer Attic Docu Films, Georgia

A young director running amateur theater, a couple with a young daughter struggling with their pastry shop, and a priest of the only functional church – all of them are inhabitants of a small, peripheral, isolated town lying at the feet of the Caucasus mountain range. As the decisive parliamentary elections approach, they try to maintain the weak heartbeat of the community, under the growing pressure and power abuse from intertwined politics and religion.

Director's previous titles: *la Flor del Camino* | 15' | 2024, *Requiem to the Hot Days of Summer* | 77' | 2023

GRADUATION PARTY

ბოლო ზარი

feature / in post-production
director Givi B. Odisharia
producer Tsiako Abesadze, Noshre Chkhaidze - Natura Film, Georgia

At a photo exhibition, I saw a man who could have been my uncle, and in the depths of the image, a door to the KGB. It awakened memories of a time I've tried to forget. On our university graduation day, toasts about Georgia's independence were secretly recorded. The next day, four of us were summoned to the KGB. My punishment was swift: I was banned from traveling to Poland to meet my love, unable to explain why. In this film, I seek the betrayer and embark on a long-delayed journey to find her, hoping to reconnect after fifty years.

Director's previous titles: *Return* (documentary feature, 2016), *Lecture* (documentary feature, 2015), *Double Aliens* (2015, screenplay), *Ramin* (2011, screenplay), *Chiora* (1984, screenplay).

GRANDMOTHER'S HOUSE

ბებიის სახლი

short / in production
director Magda Gvelesiani
producer Irina Gelashvili - Radium Films, Georgia

In a Georgian village, *Grandmother's House* celebrates the enduring power of women through the bond between grandmothers and grandchildren, intertwining personal history and the lives of a neighboring family.

HEART DON'T BE AFRAID

გულო ნუ გეშინია

feature / in post-production
director Ana Kvichidze
producer Avtandil Khorava, Mariam Bitsadze, Ana Kvichidze - 17/07 Productions, Georgia / Natalia Imaz - Parabellum Films, Germany

Dachi is a transgender girl (they/them) from a religious place in Georgia, oppressed by the Archbishop, religious society, and even their own family, they find an old witch, taught and empowered with her magic spells, and they begin to change reality.

HERE, BETWEEN THIS SEA AND THOSE MOUNTAINS

აქ, ამ ზღვასა და იმ მთებს შორის

feature / in production
director Keti Machavariani
producer Irina Gelashvili - Radium Films, Georgia

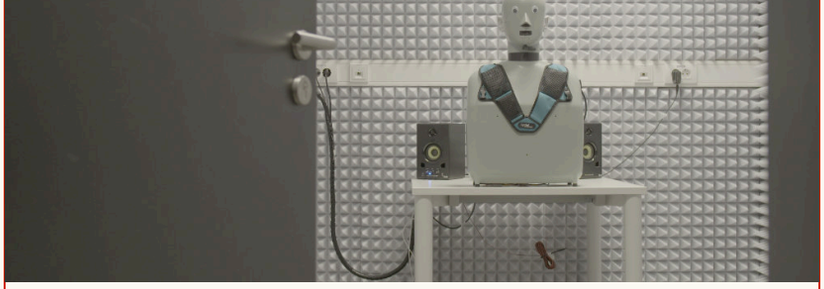
A family saga of a father and daughter, Gogi and Helena, two politicians from different generations, is intertwined with Georgia's century-long struggle for freedom.

Director's previous title: *Mziuri*

HOW TO TALK TO LYDIA?

როგორ ვესაუბროთ ლიდიას?

feature / in post-production
director Rusudan Gaprindashvili
producers Anna Dziapshipa - Sakdoc Film, Georgia / Hans Gralke - Black Market Film Production, Germany



The Film “How to Talk to Lydia?” tells the story of Moldovan migrant worker Damian, navigating the postmodern world in foreign country, within the walls of a German warehouse, where an artificial mind named “Lydia” guides his every move.

Sakdoc Film has produced several works by Salomé Jashi including *Taming the Garden*, alongside fiction projects like *What Do We See When We Look at the Sky* by Alexandre Koberidze

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KARTLI

ქართლის ცხოვრება

feature / in production
directersTamar Kalandadze, Julien Pebrel
producers Ketevan Kipiani - Sakdoc Film, Georgia / Jean-Baptiste Bonnet Habilis Productions, France

Kartli is the name of an old sanatorium in Tbilisi. Disused, it houses refugee families of the 90’s wars. But the building falls apart. Residents demonstrate, nothing changes. Kartli is a palace of life and death where dreams of a promised land go away.

Sakdoc Film has produced several works by Salomé Jashi including *Taming the Garden*, alongside fiction like *What Do We See When We Look at the Sky* by Alexandre Koberidze

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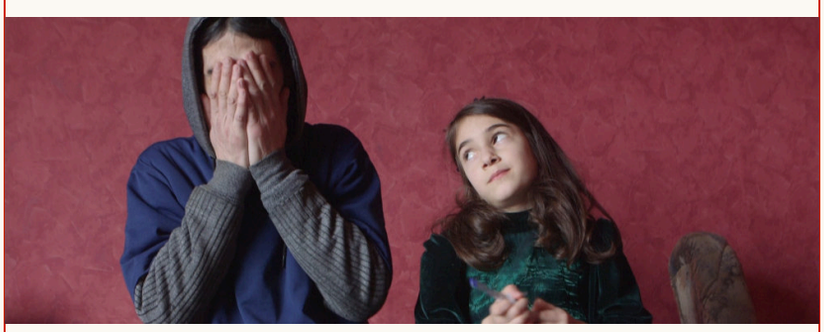
NOBODY IN SIGHT

არავინ არ ჩანს

feature / in development
director Kote Kalandadze
producers Elene Margvelashvili - Parachute Films, Georgia / Wide Productions, France



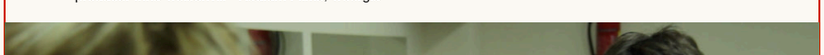
Achiko, 42, has struggled with drug addiction for 20 years, living alone in an 8-square-meter room beneath a staircase. He grapples with mental health challenges and depends on daily methadone therapy for support, feeling trapped in despair. Growing up in war-torn Tbilisi, his brother Goga, 44, is also addicted but lives with his wife Tiko and their two children, Elene, 8, and Deme, 4 months. Achiko shares a close bond with his niece Elene, whose trust inspires him to seek change. However, systemic barriers and social indifference leave him feeling abandoned, reflecting the struggles of a generation left to fend for themselves.

Producer's previous titles: *Blueberry Dreams* (2024, CPH:DOX), *Dead Souls' Vacation* (2020, Hot Docs)

OPERATION CHAMPION

ოპერაცია ჩემპიონი

feature / in production
director Mariam Nikolaishvili
producer Irina Gelashvili - Radium Films, Georgia



Gvantsa, a 30-year-old wheelchair fencing champion, can fully recover through surgery. If she does a surgery she will lose her career, sports family and a dream to become a champion.

SOUNDS OF REVOLUTION

რევოლუციის ხმაური

feature / in production
director Nikoloz Bezhanishvili
producer Nikoloz Bezhanishvili - Nikadocfilm, Georgia

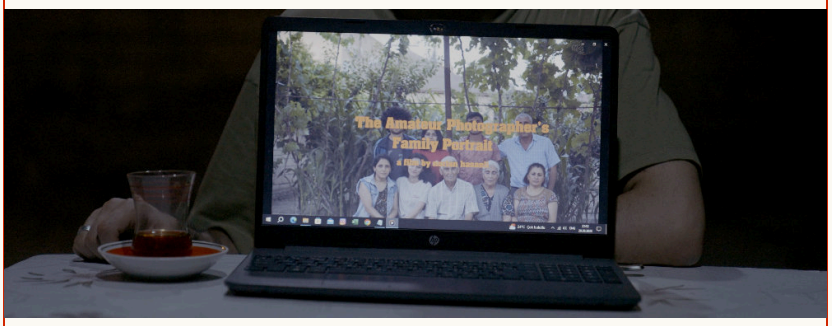
Sounds of Revolution chronicles Georgia's democratic rise and subsequent struggle against autocracy. Amidst the cacophony, witness the soul-stirring symphony of a people's resilience, echoing through the corridors of power and the streets alike.

Director's previous title: *The Northeast Winds*

THE AMATEUR PHOTOGRAPHER'S FAMILY PORTRAIT

მოყვარული ფოტოგრაფის საოჯახო პორტრეტი

feature / in production
director Nurlan Hasanli
producer Irina Gelashvili - Radium Films, Georgia

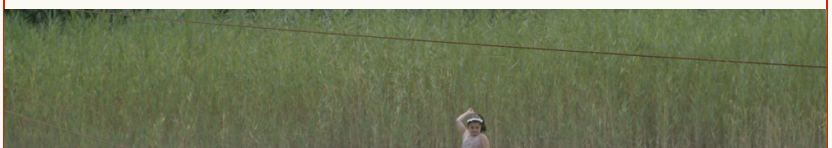


While a filmmaker, whose script was shot and ruined without notice in Azerbaijan, seeks creative revenge by uniting his family to remake the film.

THE MUD PRINCESS

ტალახის პრინცესა

short / in post-production
director Dea Tcholokava
producer Irina Gelashvili - Radium Films, Georgia

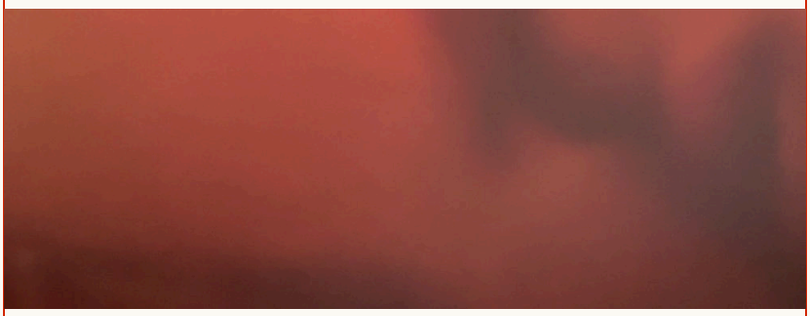


In the heart of Georgia, where a mud healing center works its quiet miracles, 5-year-old Tako spends her summers wandering its magical grounds. Drawn to the mystery of its healing powers, she embarks on a journey to uncover the ancient legend behind this enchanted place.

THE NOISE OF A FALLER STONE - A ROGUE'S DIARY

კლდიდან მოწყვეტილი ქვის ხმაური — ერთი ავაზაკის დღიური

feature / in production
director Giorgi Mrevlishvili



The Noise of a Fallen Stone — A Rogue's Diary is a visual investigation of a diary, blending real and imagined events as they intersect with the present of memory. It traces the notes of an unknown researcher who disappears while searching for a childhood friend in the mountains. A man stumbles upon the diary and passes it to the narrator. The number of films and their timeline remain uncertain. This is an unserious, even absurd project, more of a gesture of memory—if one has it.

Previous titles: *National Exams, Twelve Lessons, My Wonderful Mother, Reflection, The Remote Valleys of Caucasus, Zurabi*

THIS IS NOT MY SEA ANYMORE

ზღვა, რომელიც ჩემი აღარ არის

feature / in development
director Elene Mikabaridze
producer by Tatia Gurgenidze - Nushi Film, Georgia

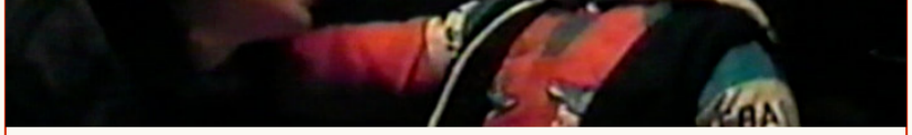
Set in an old apartment in Tbilisi, *This Is Not My Sea* follows two Abkhazian sisters, both married to Georgian men, as they reunite after 30 years apart due to war. The film chronicles their reconnection and the challenges they face while caring for their mother, Larissa, who is diagnosed with Alzheimer's and experiencing fading memories and dementia. Over three years, the story captures the complexities of this mixed Georgian-Abkhazian family and its quest for peace amidst the complexities of war and illness.

Director's previous title: *Blueberry Dreams* / Production company previous title: *Holy Electricity*

TOO NEAR TO THE SKY

ზედმეტად ახლოს ცასთან

medium / in development
director Dea Tcholokava
producer Irina Gelashvili - Radium Films, Georgia



With a wish to be part of the transcendental ritual and to finish grieving of a beloved one, Dea, a filmmaker goes to the mountain but memories and chaos of loss never leaves her.

WAVE

ტალღა

feature / in production
director Mariam Chachia
producers Mariam Chachia - OpyoDoc, Kino Elva, Georgia / Monica Lazurean-Gorgan - Manifest Films, Romania

While art is often relegated to the bottom of financial priorities, it paradoxically becomes the primary target for dictators. Mariam's camera tells the story of a filmmakers' movement as "Georgian Cinema is Under Threat" transforms into "Georgia Under Threat" over the course of a tumultuous year.

Previous title: *Magic Mountain* by Mariam Chachia and Nik Voigt

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Documentary Association Georgia (DOCA Georgia) aims to build a strong and sustainable community of documentary film professionals by creating a safe networking and working space to share and inspire. On that basis DOCA Georgia sets grounds for a common voice to foster creativity and freedom of expression, to improve policy and build audiences. By strengthening the art of documentary film we strive to contribute to societal change.

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Alfred Toepfer Stiftung FVS · New Democracy Fund · IMS · USAID from the American People · East-West Management Institute

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