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COUNTRY OF ORIGIN: Poland

GENRE | FORMAT | LANGUAGE | RUNNING TIME: Comedy, Drama | Digital Format | Polish | 90 mins

DIRECTOR: Daria WOSZEK PRODUCER: Marcin LECH Daria WOSZEK HAF GOALS: Sales agents, Pre-sales, Festival Screening BUDGET: US\$ 1,100,000 SECURED BUDGET: US\$ 960,000

DIRECTOR'S FILMOGRAPHY

First Feature Director

ONE-SENTENCE SYNOPSIS

Comic drama about 50-year-old virgin – Mary, whose life begins to change on her 50th birthday.

SYNOPSIS

Mary is just a lonely small town grocery store worker. She leads a simple life. Struggling with menopause, she visits her doctor, who prescribes her a course of hormone replacement therapy. On the eve of her 50th birthday, Mary's life begins to take a totally unexpected turn. It is freaking magical. As she feels things differently, she begins to live more extravagantly. On top of this, her young, vivacious niece keeps showing up at her doorstep and affects Mary's sexual awakening. But there is something much darker bubbling beneath the surface... Meanwhile, a holy presence in Mary's home appears to silently judge her, which deepens her uncertainty. This anxiety threatens to suppress her newfound lust for life. Mary must act if she is to keep the wickedness at bay...

DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT

It was very interesting to find out that for my mother and my female friends alike, life started at age 50. Only after freeing themselves from the roles traditionally assigned to them, were they able to finally find true selves. Only after society stopped expecting certain things from them, could they begin to wonder who they really were. Grażyna, who plays the protagonist in this film, found out that she was a daughter, a mother, and an actress before being herself. She was disappointed to find out that she had kept herself in the last place of all in her life, struggling to fit into various roles prior to realising herself. This is the point at which we meet Mary, the main character. She begins to experience the world like never before, finally freeing her libido and her feminine strength. In the midst of this hormonal turbulence, heartbreak and her niece Helena's uncertain pregnancy, the two women rely on and take care of each other. The film is about experimenting and searching to find one's own way of life. It is about the struggle to start giving your life the shape you want it to have.

DIRECTOR

Daria WOSZEK

Daria Woszek graduated from the Jagiellonian University, followed by studies in theatre and film directing at the Krzysztof Kieslowski Faculty of the Radio and Television University of Silesia in Katowice. She completed film directing and screenwriting masterclasses at the Wajda School. *The Dogcatcher* is her latest short and already has gathered main awards at the Oscar-qualifying Rhode Island Film Festival (2016) and at Poland's most prestigious domestic film event, the Gdynia Film Festival (2016).

PRODUCER

Marcin LECH

Marcin Lech Producer and postproduction expert, is co-founder and co-creator of the Jutrzenka Studio - production studio and one of the creators of the Kraków Film Cluster, the postproduction department. He was also producer for Nolabel Studio, for which he completed more than 20 multimedia forms. During 2010-2013 he was Film Commissioner at the Krakow Film Commission. Since 2011, he has been permanently associated with the Film Spring Open Foundation, Sławomir Idziak.

Daria WOSZEK (same as director)

PRODUCTION COMPANY

Jutrzenka Studio

Jutrzenka Studio is a production house based in Warsaw and Cracow operating in Central and Eastern Europe. It was founded by Jan Pawlicki, former director of TVP1 (main channel of Poland's national public broadcaster) and Marcin Lech, former director of Multilab (multimedia lab for creative industries, division of Cracow Technology Park). Pawlicki and Lech merged their mutual experiences in TV and film production to launch a "creative center" for polish filmmakers and storytellers. With strong background in local market Jutrzenka Studio concentrated on developing projects directed to the international audience.