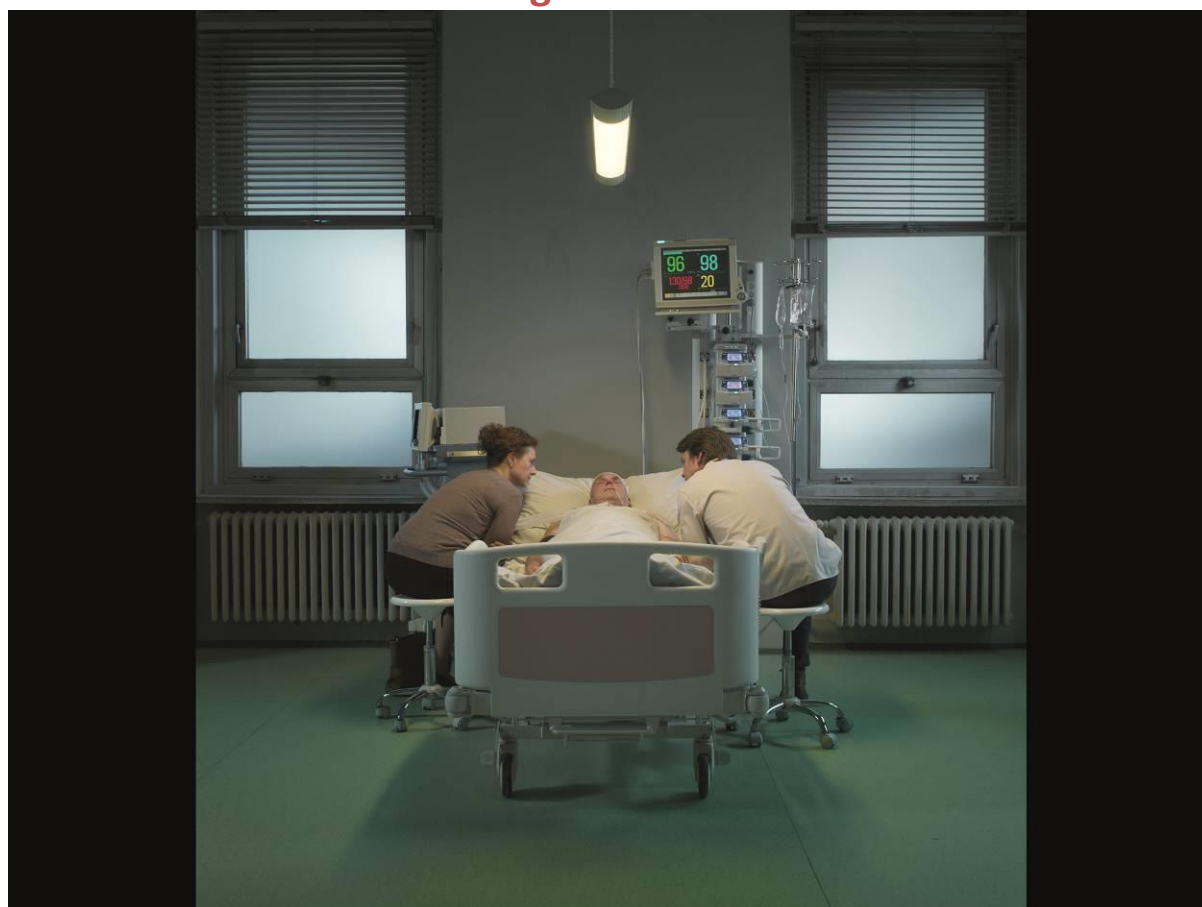


## WIP O Saving One Who Was Dead



**COUNTRY/REGION:** The Czech Republic, The Slovak Republic

**GENRE | FORMAT | LANGUAGE | RUNNING TIME:**

Drama | Digital Format | Czech | 88mins

**DIRECTOR:**

Václav KADRKA

**PRODUCER:**

Václav KADRKA

**WIP GOALS:**

Sales agents, Pre-sales, Festival Screening

**TOTAL BUDGET:** US\$1,200,000

**SECURED BUDGET:** US\$1,150,000

**DIRECTOR'S FILMOGRAPHY**

2017 *Little Crusader*

2011 *Eighty Letters*

## ONE-SENTENCE SYNOPSIS

When the Father falls into a coma, the Mother and the Son must overcome fear to find the right words to bring him back.

## SYNOPSIS

After a serious stroke, the Father goes into a coma. The Son and the Mother are suddenly confronted by a motionless body. The person they love is somewhere far away and nobody knows whether he will ever return. The doctors do not give them much hope. The Son and the Mother concentrate all their strength and start to act. They meekly accept the diagnosis but resist the verdict. They spend hours by the Father's motionless body looking for the right words to say to him. First, they address the Father's body, but soon they realise they must direct their words to much greater distance.

The saving of Father and themselves requires them to overcome fear together and accept resurrection.

## DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT

During the summer of 2016, my father suffered a severe stroke. Despite the anxiety of those days, I kept a record of what was happening around my father, my mother and me. I took notes and tried to capture the images, sounds and emotions around and inside of us. It was a day-by-day account of the battle for his life. This private record served as a starting point for my film.

Now that the film is in its final stages of post-production, I can relate to it as a personal footprint which, despite being a very difficult and painful experience, turned out to be full of light. It proved to me that we can change the direction of our thoughts and words to make life miraculous only if we reject conflict, accept the inevitable and maintain faith.

The experiences of my Father's condition and making this film have put me on a brand new journey not only as a filmmaker but also as a person.

The film completes a loose trilogy on the theme of "the absence of a loved one", which began with my previous films *Eighty Letters* (2011) and *Little Crusader* (2017).

## DIRECTOR

### Václav KADRŇKA

After graduation at the Film and TV School of the Academy of Performing Arts in Prague (FAMU), he completed *Eighty Letters* (2011), his full-length feature debut. The film premiered at the Berlin Film Festival 2011 and travelled around the world. His second feature film *Little*

*Crusader* (2017), an adaptation of a medieval poem by Jaroslav Vrchlicky, won the Grand Prix Crystal Globe at the Karlovy Vary International Film Festival.

Currently, Kadrnka is shooting the documentary feature *Pendant for Saving One Who Was Dead* and developing a new feature project *Horse Latitudes*. He also teaches film language at FAMU.

## **PRODUCER**

**Václav KADRNKA**

(same as director)

## **PRODUCTION COMPANY**

**Sirius Films**

A family-based production company established by filmmaker Václav Kadrnka to explore new possibilities of film language, concentrating on auteur projects. In addition to Kadrnka's award-winning films, the company also develops fiction and documentary projects with other filmmakers under Sirius Films' Manual programme, which was established last year to create an inspiring ground for young filmmakers and find unconventional ways to make cinema.

The programme currently has three projects in development and productions supported by the following institutions: Arte, CNC, HBO, Czech Film Fund, Slovak Audiovisual Fund, Czech TV, and others.