

THIRTEENTH ANNUAL

**BHFF**

**BOSNIAN -  
HERZEGOVINIAN**

**FILM**

**FESTIVAL**

**NEW YORK CITY**

Wednesday, May 25th, – Saturday, May 28th, 2016

[www.bhffnyc.org](http://www.bhffnyc.org)



## **DOBRODOŠLI & WELCOME!**

**We are delighted to present the thirteenth annual Bosnian-Herzegovinian Film Festival (BHFF) in New York City! A total of 16 films will screen Wednesday through Saturday, May 25 - May 28, 2016, at two Manhattan venues!**

The festival opens Wednesday, May 25, at Anthology Film Archives, with the new with the BH Film Forum. The evening begins with a special screening of two films in our noncompetitive program, followed by a panel discussion featuring Bosnian-Herzegovinian and international film professionals and cinema experts.

On Thursday, May 26, through Saturday, May 28, the action moves to the SVA Theatre for screenings of the 2016 BHFF competition selections, Q&As with filmmakers, celebration of Bosnian-Herzegovinian cinema and culture, and much more! Details including screening times, film synopses, and exact locations are on our program page.

This year, BHFF is honored to have cooperated with the Association of Filmmakers in Bosnia-Herzegovina/ Udruženje Filmskih Radnika Bosne i Hercegovine (UFRBiH). The 2016 festival is supported by both UFRBiH and the Foundation of Cinematography Sarajevo. UFRBiH is a major supporter of the BHFF and co-curator of the BH Film Forum panel. Director Ines Tanović, the board president of the UFRBiH, and Elma Tataragić, the 2016 BHFF jury member, scriptwriter,



producer and general secretary of the UFRBiH, will be in attendance at this year's BHFF. Both will also take part in the I BH Film Forum discussion panel on Wednesday, May 25th.

In 2016, the BHFF Jury includes scriptwriter and producer Elma Tataragić; filmmaker, educator, and author Annette Danto; and scholar of film and literature Nataša Milas.

The jury will award the following honors to the most outstanding films: BHFF 2016 Jury Award for Best Documentary Film; BHFF 2016 Jury Award for Best Short Film and BHFF 2016 Jury Award for Best Feature Film. Films eligible for the Jury Award are all those screened at the BHFF 2016 that were released in 2014, 2015 and 2016. As always, the audience will select one film in any of the categories to receive the BHFF 2016 Audience Award for the Best Picture. All those attending the screening will be able to vote for the favorite film of this year's Bosnian-Herzegovinian Film Festival.

The awards ceremony will take place at the SVA Theatre after our final screening on Saturday night, May 28th. Then, following the awards ceremony, we will host a closing party at the Westside Tavern at 360 West 23rd Street, New York, NY, starting around 11:30 p.m. Everyone is invited, so please join us! The Westside Tavern is just steps away from the SVA Theatre.

The BHFF is entirely not-for-profit and completely run by a dedicated team of volunteers. We are grateful for the support of our friends and audience! If you'd like to make a donation today to support the BHFF, please visit our sponsorship page to make your tax-deductible and secure donation. Thank you!

We also wish to thank participating filmmakers; distributors; production companies; and our main media partners: Radio Sarajevo and Bljesak.info. And we are very grateful to those who have helped finance this year's BHFF. Without them – and all of you – this festival would not be possible! Thank you!

Please visit [www.bhffnyc.org](http://www.bhffnyc.org) for regular updates and sign up for our mailing list. Also connect with us on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, and other social media (@BHFFNYC).

Sincerely,  
The BHFF Team



## BIOGRAPHIES OF OFFICIAL BHFF 2016 JURY MEMBERS:

**ELMA TATARAGIĆ** was born in Sarajevo in 1976. She studied Screenwriting and History of Cinema at the Sarajevo Academy of Performing Arts and subsequently obtained her Master of Science degree and Ph.D. in Film and Literature. She has been with the Sarajevo Film Festival since its founding in 1995, where she now works as a selector for Competition Program. Tataragić co-wrote the short film *First Death Experience* and wrote and produced the short *North Went Mad*. She has produced and co-written the feature film *Snow*, which was shown at Cannes 2008 – Semaine de la critique and won the Grand Prix. The film has been screened at over 80 festivals and has won over 30 international awards. Tataragić is also a General Secretary and member of the Association of Filmmakers in Bosnia-Herzegovina. She has been teaching screenwriting at the Sarajevo Academy of Performing Arts since 2002, now as a professor. Tataragić is member of European Film Academy. In addition to publishing a book on screenwriting, Tataragić is working as a script doctor for Eurimages (EU co-production fund) and advisor to the European Film Academy, and was a delegate for the Rome Film Festival in 2012 and 2013.

**ANNETTE DANTO** is an accomplished filmmaker, educator and author with extensive credits in film, television production, documentaries and sound recording. Some of her works include projects for BBC, Channel Four, NHK, Canal Plus, NBC, HBO and Showtime. Danto has directed fiction and documentary films for nonprofit

organizations, including the United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM), Pathfinder International and the Ted Turner Foundation. She's been awarded the Fulbright Scholarship in Film and Media Making three times. Danto's documentaries are distributed through [www.forwardintime.com](http://www.forwardintime.com) and held in permanent collections of universities and educational institutions worldwide. Recent documentaries include: *Reflections On Media Ethics* (2011), *Gandhi's Wheel* (2010), and *The Never Ending Path* (2005). Her recent invited presentations include: British Film Institute (2015), Daniel Pearl Film Festival (2015), IIE/CIES Global Exchange (2015).

**NATAŠA MILAS** is a Ph.D. candidate at Yale University in the Department of Slavic Languages and Literatures. She was born in Sarajevo in 1976, where she lived until her move to Canada in 1995. Currently Nataša lives in New York City with her husband and two children. Nataša works on Russian and South Slavic literatures and film and translates from Bosnian/Croatian/Serbian. Her translation of Muharem Bazdulj's novel *Transit, Comet, Eclipse* is forthcoming from Dalkey Archive Press in 2016. Milas co-edited a special issue of the film journal *Kino Kultura* 14 dedicated to Bosnian film, and guest-edited *Absinthe 20: Spotlight on Bosnia*, focusing on contemporary Bosnian prose. Her essays and translations have appeared in *Slavic and East European Journal*, *Absinthe*, *Brooklyn Rail*, *Kino Kultura*, *In Translation*, and *In Contrast: Croatian Film Today*.

## OFFICIAL BHFF 2016 PROGRAM:

**Wednesday, May 25, 2016: ANTHOLOGY FILM ARCHIVES:**

The BH Film Forum (BHFF non-competition program and panel)

**6:30 p.m.** | Film: *No Excuses* | Film: *100 Million Dollar House* |

**8:30 p.m.** | Panel: "Bosnian Cinema: From National to Transnational Frameworks" with:

*Elma Tataragić*, 2016 BHFF Jury member, scriptwriter and producer;

*Ines Tanović*, filmmaker;

*Dijana Jelača*, scholar of cultural and cinema studies; and

*Amir Husak*, filmmaker and multimedia artist.

**NO EXCUSES (Nema ali)** | Faruk Sokolović | 2015 | 32 min. | Documentary (non-competition program)

"No Excuses" follows the story of a young history teacher, Haris Jusufović, a Bosniak from Sarajevo, as he tries to memorialize crimes that were committed against the Bosnian Serb civilians during the 1992-95 siege of the city. The documentary is based on an article Jusufović wrote in 2014 for the Banja Luka news portal *Buka* about Bosnian Serb civilians who were murdered in the Kazani ravine on Mount Trebević, near Sarajevo. Jusufović believes that Sarajevo residents, regardless of ethnicity, should support the prosecution of all alleged perpetrators and the speedy exhumation of the remaining bodies at Kazani.

**100 MILLION DOLLAR HOUSE**

*(Kuća od sto miliona dolara)* | Reshad Kulenović | 2015 | 53 min. | Documentary (non-competition program)

In *100 Million Dollar House*, a documentary set in the West Bank, a family is offered 100 million dollars to sell their home and leave.

The film also features a former Israeli soldier who shares his experiences and attempts to come to terms with the Palestinian-Israeli conflict.

The film explores issues and themes of the meaning of home and the search for identity in a part of the world where tension and conflict continue year after year.



Thursday, May 26, 2016 **THROUGH**  
Saturday, May 28, 2016:

(Competition Program):  
**SVA THEATRE:**

**BLOCK 1: Thursday, May 26. 6:30 p.m.**

**PICNIC (Piknik)**

| Jure Pavlović | 2015 | 13 min. | Short Fiction



Nominations:

*BHFF 2016 Jury Award for Best Short Film*

*BHFF 2016 Audience Award for the Best Picture*

Picnic focuses on one of the most important relationships in the life of every man: the father-son relationship. The nature of that relationship is slowly revealed to the audience: the father is only allowed to visit his son under supervision, during time-limited visits. What adds more to the story is that the father clearly did something horrible in the past, for which he deserves the treatment he is getting, and he is aware of it. But still, one should never underestimate the power of the father-son bond...

**NO ONE'S CHILD (Ničije dete)**

| Vuk Ršumović | 2014 | 95 min. | Feature



Nominations:

*BHFF 2016 Jury Award for Best Feature Film*

*BHFF 2016 Audience Award for the Best Picture*

In the spring of 1988, a wild boy is found deep in the Bosnian mountains living amongst wolves. He is randomly given the name Haris and sent to an orphanage in Belgrade. He becomes inseparable with another boy, Žika, and slowly starts to show progress. In 1992, after he became a fairly socialized young man, local authorities force him to go back to war-torn Bosnia. "No One's Child" is based on a true story.

**BLOCK 2: Thursday, May 26. 9:00 p.m.**

**ONE DAY IN SARAJEVO**

(*Jedan dan u Sarajevu*) | Jasmila Žbanić | 2015 | 60 min. | Documentary



Nominations:

*BHFF 2016 Jury Award for Best Documentary Film*

*BHFF 2016 Audience Award for the Best Picture*

One Day in Sarajevo is about Sarajevans marking the 100th anniversary of what's become known as the Sarajevo Assassination: the killing of Austro-Hungarian presumptive heir Archduke Franz Ferdinand and his wife on June 28, 1914. The film explores different aspects of events that happened on that day using materials shot by citizens of Sarajevo, each of whom has their own personal interpretation of the event.

**BLOCK 3: Friday, May 27. 6:30 p.m.**

**LIONHEART (Treba biti lav)** | Sabrina Begović Čorić | 2015 | 23 min. | Documentary



Nominations:

*BHFF 2016 Jury Award for Best Documentary Film*

*BHFF 2016 Audience Award for the Best Picture*

Lionheart is a shocking account about a topic that's not very much talked about in Bosnia-Herzegovina: human trafficking. Human trafficking was able to develop in Bosnia in the chaos and aftermath of the 1990s war. Girls from Moldova, Ukraine, and Romania have been tricked and taken to Bosnia where they became slaves to the nightclub owners. The film centers on a story of a woman from Moldova, who, looking for a better life for herself, became a victim of human trafficking and ended up in Bosnia. A way out seemingly emerged when one of her clients fell in love with her and proposed marriage. But, in her marriage she became a family abuse victim.

**TIGERS** | Danis Tanović | 2014 | 90 min. | Feature





Nominations:

BHFF 2016 Jury Award for Best Feature Film

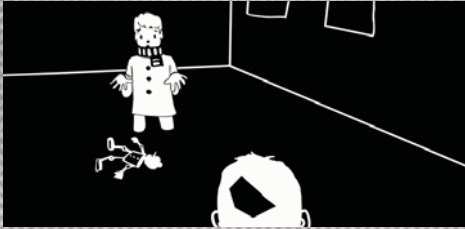
BHFF 2016 Audience Award for the Best Picture

Infant formula manufacturers have been marketing breast milk substitutes for decades. Due to unsafe water supplies and poverty in some areas of South Asia, the use of substitutes has led to the deaths of many babies. Thirty-five years ago, protests led to major changes and new regulations that banned aggressive marketing and direct advertising. Many people believed the problem had gone away. Filmmakers behind *Tigers* say it hasn't.

**BLOCK 4: Friday, May 27. 9:00 p.m.**

## REQUIEM FOR PINOCCHIO

| Berin Tuzlić | 2016 | 11 min. | Animated



Nominations:

BHFF 2016 Jury Award for Best Short Film

BHFF 2016 Audience Award for the Best Picture

Award-winning animator and cartoonist Berin Tuzlić uses vivid colors and subtle storytelling in this animated short in order to take us on an emotional journey. The film focuses on the topic of indoctrination at an early age, as the world changes suddenly for a little boy living in Sarajevo at the start of the 1990s.

## OUR EVERYDAY LIFE

(*Naša svakodnevna priča*) | Ines Tanović | 2015 |

89 min. | Feature



Nominations:

BHFF 2016 Jury Award for Best Feature Film

BHFF 2016 Audience Award for the Best Picture

*Our Everyday Life* is a story about everyday problems of a typical Sarajevo family today. An entire generation of people who are now in their forties lost their youth in the war, yet the 2000s have offered neither freedom, successful jobs, nor progress; as if the life has been placed on hold. The characters are ordinary people who wish for better life, comfort, and security. The static camera, the lighting, the warm colors of the costumes and the set design evokes emotion, humor, and human drama. It is hard for a young person to live in a country that has

no perspective. It is hard for a mother to watch her son jobless and to long for a daughter. It is difficult for a father to watch his wife affected by breast cancer, and to feel responsible for it. The special value of this film is its unique Bosnian vigor and humor that is specific, yet universally understandable.

**BLOCK 5: Saturday, May 28. 3:30 p.m.**

## I CAN SPEAK (*Ja mogu da govorim*)

| Mirza Skenderagić | 2015 | 35 min. | Documentary



Nominations:

BHFF 2016 Jury Award for Best Documentary Film

BHFF 2016 Audience Award for the Best Picture

Twenty-eight-year old Mirza, who has never tried to cure his stuttering, decides to visit a speech therapist and start therapy. Meanwhile, he finds four people of different ages who also stutter, and with them he starts a journey into their past, to the moment when the stuttering began. While speaking about themselves and their problems, they find memories they have pushed away, and begin to repair them.

## DAMAGED GOODS (*Kalo*)

| Nermin Hamzagić | 2015 | 20 min. | Short Fiction



Nominations:

BHFF 2016 Jury Award for Best Short Film

BHFF 2016 Audience Award for the Best Picture

*Damaged Goods* provokes a range of emotions as it paints a snapshot into the life of a young man named Tarik. Tarik's life seems pretty normal and at times mundane. He spends it working as a stockman in a supermarket. On the surface, Tarik looks and seems happy, but in private he often gets very frustrated dealing with a personal problem that society often mocks. Things change when a young woman starts working nearby Tarik's supermarket. Tarik takes interest in her, but struggles to communicate his affection.

## WHATEVER WILL BE WILL BE

(*Bit će šta bude*) | Esma Sarić | 2015 |

10 min. | Short Fiction





Nominations:

BHFF 2016 Jury Award for Best Short Film

BHFF 2016 Audience Award for the Best Picture

The robbery of an old man turns into an adventure where the first-time robber learns a powerful lesson. This short film features veteran Bosnian actor Nermin Tulić, as well as brand new and up-and-coming faces of Bosnian cinema.

### LAST PERSPECTIVE (Posljednji pogled)

| Mladen Đukić | 2015 | 13 min. | Short Fiction



Nominations:

BHFF 2016 Jury Award for Best Short Film

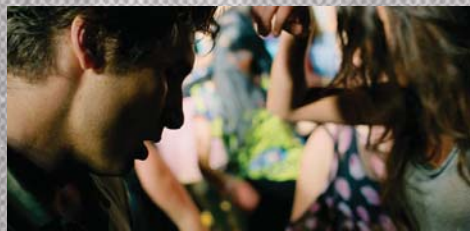
BHFF 2016 Audience Award for the Best Picture

Three sisters disguise themselves as zombies in order to survive in a post-apocalyptic world full of infected, former humans. When they see another uninfected guy, who just ran into a group of zombies, the sisters are in a dilemma: to help him and expose themselves, or let him die?

### BLOCK 6: Saturday, May 28. 5:30 p.m.

### THE HIGH SUN (Zvizdan)

| Dalibor Matanić | 2015 | 122 min. | Feature



Nominations:

BHFF 2016 Jury Award for Best Feature Film

BHFF 2016 Audience Award for the Best Picture

The High Sun shines a light on three love stories, set in three consecutive decades, in two neighbouring Balkan villages with a long history of inter-ethnic hatred. It is a film about the fragility—and intensity—of forbidden love, becomes a forbidden luxury in the pre-war atmosphere

of madness, confusion, and fear. In the second story, set in 2001, the war is over but the lovers find it impossible to turn their infatuation into an ongoing relationship: the scars of the war are still too fresh. The third story takes place in 2011, when love can finally take root, if the lovers can break free of the past. Evil and suspicion have not completely vanished from their lives and catharsis is not easy to achieve, but it is possible once again.

### BLOCK 7: Saturday, May 28. 8:15 p.m.

### I LOVE SFK (Volim SFK)

| Ada Sokolović | 2015 | 22 min. | Documentary



Nominations:

BHFF 2016 Jury Award for Best Documentary Film

BHFF 2016 Audience Award for the Best Picture

The ethnically-mixed women's soccer club "SFK 2000" from Bosnia-Herzegovina is the subject of I Love SFK, which documents their losses and victories both on and off the pitch. The film shows how sport can help unite Bosnians and help them overcome ethnic divisions. The club has been a state champion in women's football for a dozen years, and its members play for Bosnia's national women's team. Despite their success, they face many obstacles as women in a male-dominated sport.

### SOUL TRAIN | Nermin Hamzagić | 2015 | 78 min. | Documentary



Nominations:

BHFF 2016 Jury Award for Best Documentary Film

BHFF 2016 Audience Award for the Best Picture

Soul Train hits you like a truck from the very first second, and it doesn't stop until the very end. You will see a side of Bosnia you don't see very often in film. This high-energy and highly entertaining (and at times humorous) film is described as the first-ever film to tell stories about Bosnian hip-hop and rap music and the leading Bosnian artists and musicians behind the genre. But it's not all about rap and hip-hop. Bosnian rappers Frenkie and Kontra, DJ Soul and music producer Billain travel all around Bosnia-Herzegovina. They visit several cities and meet musicians and artists of all kinds. It's a rare, surprising and refreshing look at the people who are keeping the arts alive in Bosnia-Herzegovina.



BOSNIAN-HERZEGOVINIAN FILM FESTIVAL