

murina

a film by Antoneta Alamat Kusijanović

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cinéfondation
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Antoneta Alamat Kusijanović

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Technical Information

Working Title: Murina

Director: Antoneta Alamat Kusijanović

Screenplay: Antoneta Alamat Kusijanović

Nationality: Croatian

Genre: Drama

Format: 2,39:1

Length: 90 min

Shooting location: Croatia

Production Company: Spiritus Movens

Producer: Zdenka Gold

Director's Filmography and Biography

Main previous work: **Into the Blue**, 22', 2015

Special International Jury Mention at the 67th Berlin International Film Festival, the Youth Jury

Award at the 63rd Oberhausen Film Festival, the Heart of Sarajevo at the 23rd Sarajevo Film

Festival, Grand Prix at Chicago International Children Film Festival, Student Academy Award

nominated.

Antoneta is an alumna of the Berlinale Talent Lab, the Marcie Bloom Fellowship, First Films First and Sam Spiegel Lab. She holds an MFA in directing from Columbia University in New York.

Festival de Cannes

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Since 2000, the Festival Residence has provided each year accommodation and support to twelve selected young directors in order to help them prepare their first or second feature film. A jury presided by a film director sits twice a year, selecting these young filmmakers on the basis of their short films, or

even first feature film, and the merits of their feature film project. During their 4-and-a-half-month stay in Paris, they work on the writing of their feature film project, have meetings with professionals and try, with the support of the Cannes Film Festival, to bring their project to co-production status.



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Synopsis

Julija, (15) prepares to run away from home when a wealthy family friend, Jeronimo (50), unexpectedly arrives. As Jeronimo sweeps her family into a weekend of decadent fun, Julija watches her parents change in his presence and realizes his power – he protects her in a way no adult ever has. Julija begins to believe Jeronimo is her actual father who has come to finally take her away. When the group arrives on an isolated island Jeronimo’s rented, old tensions between the adults give way to unleashed dangerous power games, and Julija finds herself constantly strategizing alliances to survive. Hiding behind Jeronimo’s protection, she digs into her arsenal of hate against her parents and feeds into the dream of escaping.

Statement of Intent

Parental violence seeds deep emotional pain and turmoil that gradually grow within us, deforming our person. Love breathes through violence – and those two emotions are intense and closely related; they can easily transform from one to another. With *Murina* I am intrigued to explore this rawness of emotion through a teenager. They often express without social or cultural boundaries, restrictions we are trained to follow as we get older. On a semi-deserted island with very little vegetation nature exposes the characters, as if on a plate, they are burning in truth of who they are. Nature isolates them from society and permits them to entertain their needs of power struggle, violence and love.

Synopsis

Julija (15 ans) se prépare à fuir la maison lorsqu’un ami fortuné de la famille, Jeronimo (50 ans), arrive à l’improviste. Alors que Jeronimo entraîne la famille dans un week-end de plaisir décadent, Julija regarde ses parents changer en sa présence et réalise son pouvoir – il la protège comme aucun adulte ne l’a jamais fait. Julija commence à croire que Jeronimo est son vrai père et qu’il vient pour l’emmener. Lorsque le groupe arrive sur une île isolée louée par Jeronimo, les anciennes tensions entre adultes laissent place à des jeux de pouvoir dangereux et Julija est constamment obligée de faire des alliances stratégiques pour survivre. S’abritant derrière la protection de Jeronimo, elle puise dans son arsenal de haine contre ses parents et nourrit le rêve de s’échapper.

Note d’intention

La violence parentale engendre une profonde souffrance émotionnelle et des troubles qui grandissent progressivement en nous, déformant notre personne. L’amour respire par la violence – et ces deux émotions sont intenses et étroitement liées; elles peuvent facilement passer de l’une à l’autre. Avec *Murina* je souhaite explorer cette inexpérience de l’émotion à travers une adolescente. Ces émotions s’expriment souvent sans frontières sociales ou culturelles, restrictions que nous sommes formés à suivre à mesure que nous vieillissons. Sur une île semi-déserte avec très peu de végétation, la nature expose les personnages, comme si sur une plaque, ils brûlent de savoir qui ils sont. La nature les isole de la société et leur permet de satisfaire leurs besoins de lutte pour le pouvoir, la violence et l’amour.

