



FESTIVAL DE CANNES
2024 OFFICIAL SELECTION
SPECIAL SCREENING

NASTY

MORE THAN JUST TENNIS

PRODUCED BY
COSMIN HODOR
TUDOR GIURGIU

A FILM BY
TUDOR GIURGIU,
CRISTIAN PASCARIU
TUDOR D. POPESCU



ILIE NĂSTASE ION ȚIRIAC JIMMY CONNORS STAN SMITH BJÖRN BORG JOHN MCENROE RAFAEL NADAL
BILLIE JEAN KING BORIS BECKER YANNICK NOAH

WITH THE PARTICIPATION OF PHIL KNIGHT GHEORGHE HAGI NADIA COMĂNECI





NASTY

MORE THAN JUST TENNIS

DOCUMENTARY | ROMANIA | 2024
ENGLISH, ROMANIAN, FRENCH, SPANISH - 104'

MAIN CAST

Ilie Năstase
Ion Țiriac
Jimmy Connors
Stan Smith
Björn Borg
John McEnroe
Billie Jean King
Rafael Nadal
Boris Becker
Yannick Noah

WITH THE EXTRAORDINARY PARTICIPATION OF

Phil Knight
Gheorghe Hagi
Nadia Comăneci

A FILM BY

Tudor Giurgiu
Cristian Pascariu
Tudor D Popescu

SCRIPT

Cristian Pascariu
Tudor Giurgiu

DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY

Alex Brendea

EDITING

Tudor D Popescu

MUSIC

Marius Leftărache

SOUND DESIGN

Dumitru Alexandru

PRODUCERS

Cosmin Hodor
Tudor Giurgiu

CO-PRODUCERS

HBO Max
Executive Producer
Hanka Kastelicová
Producer
Tereza Bóna Keilová

SYNOPSIS

1972. Ilie Nastase wins his first US Open, while reaching both the Wimbledon and Davis Cup finals, and enters tennis history. *NASTY* explores his highs and lows, the controversies that surrounded the 1973 world number one ranked player, and the enduring impact he has had on the world of tennis. Lovable, charming and generous, yet temperamental, arrogant and obscene – Nastase disrupted the sport's antiquated etiquette with a great sense of showmanship on the court, and became its first rebel rock star.





ILIE NĂSTASE

"THE BAD BOY OF TENNIS"

"MAGNIFICENT"

"TEMPERAMENTAL"

"ARROGANT"

these are just some of the words used over the years by the international press to describe Romanian tennis player Ilie Năstase. The first number 1 in the history of the ATP rankings, Năstase held the top singles spot from 1973 to 1974. He is one of the 10 players in history who have won over 100 total ATP titles – including Davis Cup, Wimbledon and Roland Garros. Năstase was the first professional sports figure to sign an endorsement contract with Nike.

An irresistible combination of talent, eccentricity and humour made Nasty (the nickname given to him by the press) a true showman admired by fans, commentators and other athletes. After Năstase, tennis was never the same.



DIRECTOR & PRODUCERS STATEMENTS

“ Ilie Nastase on the court was fabulous. This young man from a communist country managed, in just a few years, to conquer the world with his talent and personality. We have been working on this project for 5 years, during which time we have uncovered impressive archives about Nastase's career and life and had the chance to talk to sports superstars, people who were deeply influenced by him. I believe that, in the end, our efforts will be seen on the big screen - a portrait of a complex, always surprising, hard-to-define character who made history for Romania and for tennis. ”

Tudor Giurgiu
DIRECTOR AND PRODUCER

“ I have always been fascinated by Ilie Nastase's ease on the court. And I caught him quite late, playing only exhibition matches. I grew up in my family with his name. Many tennis experts, including Björn Borg, say that only two players in history have had a special grace: Nastase and Federer. When I also read Ilie's autobiography I decided to make this film. Now that it's finished, I realise that the superlatives used to describe him are not at all exaggerated. At times, he was even more popular than tennis itself. That's what I'd like new generations to see in Nasty, - an inspirational figure who shook the world ”

Cosmin Hodor
CO-PRODUCER

“ I am very happy to be co-producing this fascinating film about the life of Ilie Nastase - a tennis legend whose matches I enjoyed as a child and whose charisma on the court is still recognised today. The filmmakers have skilfully portrayed the journey of this Eastern European athlete who transcended borders with his talent and personality, which earned him the nickname Nasty for his engaging and often controversial style. This film captures the essence of a true showman, reminding us of Nastase's legacy and the mark he left on the tennis world. ”

Hanka Kastelicová
VICE PRESIDENT & EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS
DOCUMENTARIES HBO EMEA - HBO MAX

GUEST STARS

RAFAEL NADAL



BORIS BECKER



BJÖRN BORG



JOHN MCENROE



NADIA COMĂNECI



JIMMY CONNORS



+MANY MORE

TUDOR GIURGIU



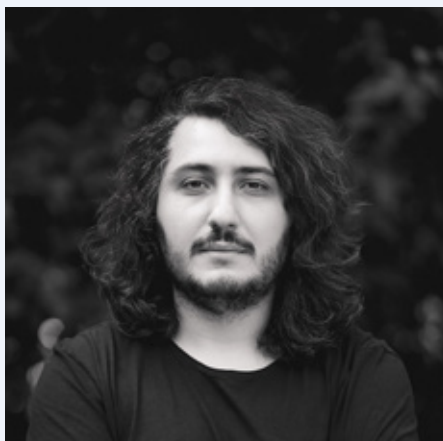
Member of the European Film Academy, Tudor is the founder and President of the **Transilvania International Film Festival** (TIFF), the most prestigious film-related event in Romania. His directorial debut feature **Love Sick** was selected in Panorama section of 2006 Berlinale and awarded in several int'l festivals. His short **Superman, Spiderman or Batman** (2011) won Best European Short at the 2012 edition of European Film Academy Awards. Tudor's 2nd feature, **Of Snails and Men**, was awarded in Warsaw IFF and Valladolid IFF. **Why Me?**, an unsettling legal thriller based on a real case of corruption in present-day Romania, premiered in 2015 Berlinale Panorama. His most recent film is **Libertate**, a story inspired by real events that happened during the Romanian Revolution.

CRISTIAN PASCARIU



Cristian Pascariu is a director and screenwriter. He wrote and directed a number of internationally acclaimed short films and is currently collaborating with various production houses in Bucharest, working on projects ranging from animation to fiction and documentary. He is currently preparing his feature film debut **A Flower is not a Flower**, awarded the Alex.Leo Șerban Fellowship at Transilvania IFF in 2021 and the Producers Network Prize in 2022. He collaborated with directors such as Tudor Giurgiu, Paul Mureșan, Anton Octavian, Laura Pop, Marian Poiană and Dan Panaitescu.

TUDOR D. POPESCU



Tudor D. Popescu graduated from the National University of Theatre and Film Arts (UNATC) in Bucharest, where he later became a university lecturer in the Multimedia department. He has been a drummer in several alternative rock bands, and he has edited numerous music videos, video commercials, and feature films including **Taximetriști** (2023), **Klaus și Barroso** (2024), and **Urma** (2019).



Photo: Alex Gálmeanu

NASTY is produced by Libra Films in co-production with HBO and The Romanian Television.

Presented by Ion Țiriac Foundation, Banca Transilvania, Dedeman, Superbet, with the support of Mastercard.

The film is produced with the support of the Romanian Government, LIDL, Vodafone, Henkel Romania, CEC Bank, Regina Maria, HelpNet, Initiative Media.

Distributed in Romania by Transilvania Film.

WORLD SALES

GOODFELLAS

Flavien Eripret

feripret@goodfellas.film

www.goodfellas.film

PRESS CONTACT

Organic PR

nasty@organic-publicity.com



@NASTY.THEMOVIE

**LIBRA
FILMS**

HBOMAX



TVR

goodfellas