
presskit

Three Girls [ТРИ ДЕВУШКИ]

a film by Murad Ibragimbekov

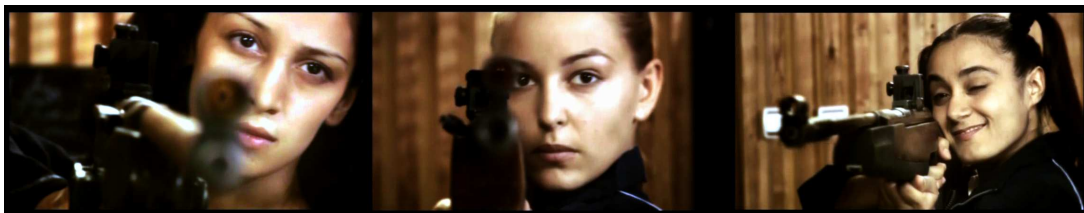


IBRUS Film (RU)
HOFERICHTER & JACOBS GmbH (D)
ULITKA (RU),
CENTRAL PRODUCTIONS (RU)

Synopsis

A summer in Baku. Sabina, Plusha and Maya are three independent and inseparable girls. They share almost everything, especially their passion for rifle shooting. Yet their untroubled world is shaken as three Russian gangsters enter the stage. Blinded by love, the girls initially help stealing a work of art which went missing in World War II and appears to be a mirror image of themselves. Increasingly, the story of the painting intertwines with the three women's lives and ultimately helps them to put a stop to the criminals' game.

The unconventional film project was realised against the backdrop of the stunning scenery of the Azerbaijan capital and is the latest work of the Russian director Murad Ibragimbekov. Beside IBRUS FILM, ULITKA and CENTRAL PRODUCTIONS, HOFERICHTER & JACOBS GmbH acted as co-producer in the development and the realisation of the project.





The Film

„Life is a painting, created by fate. But remember; there is the original of life and there is its copy. You have to decide.“

A summer in Baku: Sabina, Plusha and Maya are inseparable. They share fears, sorrows and dreams as much as their love for rifle shooting. But their untroubled world is shaken as three Russian gangsters enter the stage.

Jambo, the neighbourhood Casanova, has to act quickly. Owing money to his former friend Maf and his gang is more than unpleasant – it is dangerous. With his back up against the wall and an apple on top of his head, the realization dawns to Jambo that only an ingenious coup can save him. His opponent is not a good shooter and the apple does have far better chances to outlive this row. A last job for Maf could save Jambo’s life: He plans to steal a coveted painting from the local museum – with the help of Sabina.

As if picturing a mirror-image of the girlfriends from Baku, the notorious artist Zanzaren’s painting shows three graceful women. Believed to be lost in the troubles of the Second World War, this piece of art has been recovered only recently by the museum staff. Now, for the first time, it will be exhibited to the public. The mysterious history of the painting begins to intertwine deeply with the girls’ lives and eventually helps them to put a stop to the gangsters’ game.

„Three Girls“ is a parable about truth and lies, friendship and treason, original and counterfeit. Loyalties switch rapidly as it becomes increasingly difficult for the protagonists to distinguish between friend and foe. In a strange and sometimes surreal way, “Three Girls” joins all individual stories to an interlinked complex, ultimately steering its protagonists towards an inexorable climax.

Cast

Tarana Odjaverdieva Тарана Оджавердиева

[Plusha]

Arzu Kadibekova Арзу Кадыбекова

[Sabina]

Rovshana Ровшана

[Maya]

Zaur Teimurbekov Заур Теймурбеков

[Jambo]

Sergej Frolov Сергей Фролов

[Pogranzon]

Mikhail Politseimako Михаил Полицеймаков

[Maf]

Joachim Paul Assböck Иохим Пол Эшбок

[Schultz]

Alexandra FINDER Александра Финдер

[Helga]





Crew

Director

Murad Ibragimbekov Мурад Ибрагимбеков

Screenplay

Murad Ibragimbekov Мурад Ибрагимбеков
Pavel Finn Павла Финна

Director of Photography

Farhad Mamadkazin Фархад Мамадказин

Film Editing

Olga Tkachenko Ольга Ткаченко

Sound

Andrey Molchanov Андрей Молчанов

Production Design

Rafiz Ismailov Рафиз Исмайлов
Rafiq Nasirov Рафиг Насиров
Alexander Schurihin Александр Щурихин

Costume Design

Tatyana Amirova Татьяна Амирова

Make-up

Ekaterina Mashkova Екатерина Машкова
Max Mamedov Максуд Мамедов

Production Manager

Azer Guliev Азер Гулиев

Producer

Rustam Ibragimbekov Рустам Ибрагимбеков
David Shufutinsky Давид Шуфутинский
Olaf Jacobs Олаф Якобс

About the director

Murad Ibragimbekov

Murad Ibragimbekov is considered as the most promising young Russian director. He was born in Baku in 1965. Until 1989, he studied at the Russian film academy, VGIK. For his short-films and features he received several awards, amongst others, the Silver Lion of the Venice International Film Festival.



2006 „MOSCOW STORIES“

„THREE GIRLS“

2005 „RUSSIA - AMERICA: FROM THE PAST TO THE FUTURE“

„UNITED NATIONS - 60 YEARS AND ONE DAY“

2004 „ESCAPE“ (Feature film)

2003 „ESCAPE“ (Eight part series for Russian TV)

„THE OIL“

Silver Lion – 60th Venice International Film Festival.

2000 „TRUE STORIES“

Special Jury Prize of „Kinoshock“ – Russian National Film Festival

Special Jury Diploma of Russian festival of Literature and Cinema (Gatchina 2001)

Cinema-critic`s Association Prize – Russian Festival of Literature and Cinema. (Gatchina 2001)

Prize for the „Best Director“ - International festival in Vladikavkas (Russia, 2001)

The film was shown at São Paulo International Film Festival, 2001, and at the Cinema Festival in Wiesbaden, 2001.

1997 „THE MAN FOR THE YOUNG WOMAN“ - Fora Film

Bronze Prize of XIV IFF in Bogota

Russian Film Academy Prize for best supporting actor (NIKA 1997)

Nomination for Russian Film Academy Prize for best young film director (Green Apple 1997)

„The Man for the Young Woman“ was shown at the following international film festivals: Moscow International Film Festival; Cairo; Antalya (Turkey); Madrid; Huelva (Spain); Chicago; Sofia (Bulgaria).

1995 advertising spots and music videos (Mc Cann-Erickson)

1993 „THE WALTZ OF THE GOLDEN CALVES“ - Studio Tiskino

International Film Festival of Anger (France)

1988 „ONE FOR EVERYBODY“ - Azerbaijan Film

International Film Festival of Young Cinema (France)

1987 „DUNDUKLEI“ - Azerbaijan Film

International Film Festival of Anger (France)

Production Facts

Original title	ТРИ ДЕВУШКИ
English title	Three Girls
Production period	June 2005 - November 2006
Filming location	Baku (Azerbaijan), Moscow
Original language	Russian / German / Azerbaijani
Subtitles	English / German / Russian (DVD)
Shooting format	24p (HDV)
Screening format	DigiBeta, BetaSp, DVD; (in Russia 35 mm)
Ratio	1:1,85
Sound	Dolby Surround 5.1
Length	84 min

a production of:

IBRUS (RU)

in co-production with:

HOFERICHTER & JACOBS GmbH (D)

ULITKA (RU)

CENTRAL PRODUCTIONS (RU)

The film's production development was supported by:



Awards & Festivals

Grand Award of the International Festival of the Commonwealth and Baltic countries „New Films - 21st century“ in Nizhni Novgorod and Awards for the Best Acting Leading Role and Best Music 2007

Award for Best Photography and Special Award of the Union of the Filmmaker Belarus at the International Film Festival Listapad 2007

Nomination for the Russian Film Award (NIKA) as Best Film of the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS) and Baltic States

NIZHNI NOVGOROD INTERNATIONAL FESTIVAL OF THE
COMMONWEALTH AND BALTIC COUNTRIES “New Films - 21st century”
2007

14th MINSK INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL LISTAPAD 2007

16th ANAPA KINOSHOK FILM FESTIVAL 2007

9th BAKU EAST-WEST INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL 2007

10th SHANGHAI INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL 2007
 (“Three Girls” was shown in “International Film Panorama”)

29th MOSCOW INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL 2007
 (“Three Girls” within the scope of “Gala Screenings”)





Screenings & Cinema

German premiere in the "Russisches Haus der Wissenschaft und Kultur",
Berlin, february 2007

**Since the 7th of February 2008 the film has been shown in the
following cinemas:**

Kino Arsenal Berlin (Filmdays Azerbaijan)

Metropolis Kino Hamburg

Filmpalette Köln

Kino Krokodil Berlin

Kino in the Künstlerhaus Hannover

Schaubühne Lindenfels Leipzig

Kino Mon Ami Weimar

Kino in the Capitol Villingen Schwenningen



Hoferichter & Jacobs

Gesellschaft für audiovisuelle Medien und Kommunikationstechnologien mbH

Company Profile

Since 1996, Hoferichter & Jacobs GmbH continuously produces documentaries and feature films. Our main focus lies with contemporary topics realised in long formats. We are interested in exceptional, intriguing and fascinating stories bearing the potential to be told in a highly qualified manner, both to a German and an international audience. We aim to find an adequate realisation for unique stories strengthened by a convincing authorial stance and a gripping narrative approach. During the past years, our dedication to all kinds of movie formats has brought us from docu soaps, docu dramas and a variety of hybrid forms all the way to the exciting threshold between reality and fiction.

Presently, our main focal point is on further developing individual filmic approaches and visual styles. Constantly working together with different authors and directors creates the core of this intention - the mutual knowledge of individual strengths and weaknesses builds the opportunity of shared success. At the same time, Hoferichter & Jacobs GmbH increasingly produces on an international scale: In 2004, more than two thirds of our productions have been realised as an international co-production. In pursuing this further, we can produce films for which a national market would have proven too small. Numerous awards, festival invitations, as well as an abundance of international sales hold this stance up.

The Hoferichter & Jacobs GmbH team consists of seven permanent employees. The CEO Olaf Jacobs, together with the producers Carolin Scheffler and Anne Stephan, account for the film productions. Peter Effenberg supervises the production process and all technical services.

Matthias Hoferichter left the company in 1999. Olaf Jacobs is CEO. From 2003 to 2006, Hoferichter & Jacobs acted as the executive producer of the European Film Academy's master classes. The company holds shares in the Cocopelli Musikverlag GmbH, in the art & pictures Medien GmbH and in the PentAlpha Verlag für Kunst und Medien GmbH, Leipzig.



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