

Marian Crisan



MORGEN

Written by: Marian Crisan
Director: Marian Crisan
Production Company: Mandragora
Producer: Anca Puiu
Budget approx: 1.520.000 €
Financing in place: 900.000 €
Partners attached: CNC Romania,
Katapult Film, Slot Machine, B1 TV

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Attending CineLink:
Marian Crisan, writer / director
Anca Puiu, producer
Razvan Bumbes, production manager



Marian Crisan was born 1976 in Salonta, Romania. Licensed in Film and TV directing at the Academy of Theatre and Film, Bucharest, 1998. Lives in Bucharest. Filmography includes the shorts: FAMILY PORTRAIT (2006)-best Romanian shortfilm -UCIN, THE AMATEUR (2007)-best short Barcelon Independent Film Festival and MEGATRON (2008)-winner of the Palm D'Or for Short Film at Cannes 2008 and presented in more than 60 International Film Festivals. MORGEN is his first feature film.

SYNOPSIS

NELU, a forty years old man and his wife, FLORICA live on a isolated farm on the romanian-hungarian border. The farm is in ruin and needs renovation.

Days go by the same. Early in the mornings, NELU goes fishing and then to work. He works as a lousy bodyguard at a bank in the nearby town of Salonta. FLORICA works at the bakery in town, where her brother DANIEL is the boss.

NELU tries to get a small credit from the bank so he can repair the roof of the farm. He needs around 600 euros for this. But things are quite complicated for him to get the credit. He has diabetes and the life insurance needed for the credit is more expensive than the credit itself.

One day, NELU will fish something different from the river on the border: a man - BEHRAN - a turkish illegal immigrant who's trying to cross the border illegally through the canal. BEHRAN, a 50 years old turk immigrant, got lost from the group that was crossing illegally. NELU will help BEHRAN out of the freezing canal and will take him to the farm.

NELU will hide BEHRAN in a cellar at the farm promising he will help him cross the border tomorrow-morgen. BEHRAN hopes he will finally get on the way to reunite with his son's family in Hamburg, Germany. BEHRAN gives NELU the money he has to help him. He has around 500 euros.

NELU will take the money instinctively but after a couple of days he will think about using them to repair the roof. NELU will start renovate the farm with the money and help of BEHRAN. He will keep BEHRAN hidden in the cellar so nobody knows about him.

NELU tries to help BEHRAN cross the border

to Hungary, in many strange ways. They will try to cross through a cornfield on the border, on a road marking machinery, mixed in the crowd of local football supporters crossing for a match in Hungary and with an ambulance. They don't succeed.

One day, FLORICA discovers BEHRAN. FLORICA's brother, DANIEL threatens NELU he will alert the immigration office and they both will be in trouble. DANIEL will take BEHRAN to work for him at the bakery, for free. BEHRAN will start working at the bakery during the nights.

Eventually, The BORDER POLICE finds out about BEHRAN. BEHRAN asks for political asylum. The BORDER POLICE starts to make the official papers for BEHRAN to be taken in custody. They will send him to a refugee camp and then probably back to Turkey. Also they can send him to a special relocation programme to Canada or Greenland.

NELU will risk his own freedom taking BEHRAN to a canal on the other side of the border. BEHRAN crosses the border through the canal and NELU is left behind.

The Hungarian and Romanian BORDER PATROLS surround NELU who's just fishing...

DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT

I want to tell the story of a man on his way to the Western Europe who gets stucked in a deserted place, in Romania, where you can't tell where the border really is.

The themes I want to talk in the film are friendship and sacrifice at the basic human level.

Also what interests me is the immigration issue. This issue is hot everywhere in the world and I want to talk about it from a different perspective. From a basic human rela-

tions perspective. The immigration issue has a strange and direct relation to the issue of repairing a roof at a farm in Romania.

The meeting of the main characters-NELU and BEHRAN is the beginning of a personal adventure for both. Somehow NELU will become a hero in a strange and funny way. On the way NELU will find that he has the courage to do something to help people around him.

The space and the time of the story should be special.

The landscape gets lost to the horizon line on the deserted fields. You don't know exactly where you are. There are deserted roads which lead nowhere, the small town and the isolated farm.

Time seems to stay still in this forgotten place. Nothing really happens around here. People live their small and common lives. So, we'll establish a rhythm that is quite slow in the beginning. This will help us to describe the space and feel the atmosphere of the place. This is the place where nothing seems to happen. But after the stranger comes into town things get sort of complicated and the story will move faster.

We look for a kind of epic adventure but in a very realistic and personal style.

COMPANY PROFILE

Mandragora is a film production company founded in 2004, in Bucharest.

Starting project was producing the series of features films: Six Stories from the Outskirts of Bucharest.

Mandragora produced the most successful Romanian movie ever - The Death of Mr. Lazarescu by Cristi Puiu- awarded in Cannes with the Un certain regard prize in 2006. Also the company produced the short film Megatron by Marian Crisan awarded in Cannes with the Palme d'Or in 2008. The last finished feature film Francesca by Bobby Paunescu was selected for the Venice Film Festival. Aurora, the new film of Cristi Puiu is in postproduction.