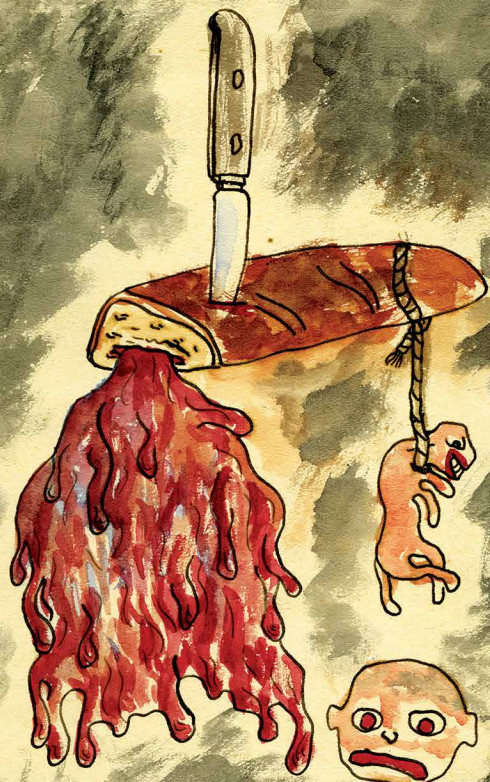


7 Scared Hearts

a free adaptation of the literary works of M. Blecher

written and directed by RADU JUDE

Festival del film Locarno
Cinéma international



PRESSKIT

m. Blecher.

7 Scared Hearts

written and directed by **RADU JUDE**
cinematography **MARIUS PANDURU RSC**
editing **CĂTĂLIN CRISTUȚIU**
sound recordist **JÜRIG LEMPEN**
sound designer **DANA BUNESCU**
mixer **CRISTINEL ȘIRLI**
production designer **CRISTIAN NICULESCU**
costume designer **DANA PĂPĂRUZ**
make-up **BIANCA BOEROIU**
hairstyling **DOMNICA BODOGAN**
assistant director **CRISTINA ILIESCU**
line producer **IOANA DRĂGHICI**
associate producers **JAMAL ZEINAL ZADE**
DAN WECHSLER
co-producers **JONAS DORNBAACH**
JANINE JACKOWSKI
MAREN ADE
producer **ADA SOLOMON**
world sales **BETA CINEMA**

CAST

LUCIAN RUS (Emanuel) **ADINA CRISTESCU** (Nurse)
IVANA MLADENOVIC (Solange) **MARIUS DAMIAN** (Nelu)
ILINCA HĂRNUȚ (Isa) **SARRA TSORAKIDIS** (Nurse)
ȘERBAN PAVLU (Dr. Ceafalan) **LARISA CRUNȚEANU** (Nurse)
MARIAN OLTEANU (Ernest) **FERNANDO KLABIN** (Young Doctor)
ALEXANDRU DABIJA (Mr. Lazăr B.) **GABRIEL SPAHIU** (Zed)
DANA VOICU (Mrs. Bella B.) **ALEXANDRU BOGDAN** (Pacient)
BOGDAN COTLEȚ (Victor)

a HI FILM production in co-production with KOMPLIZEN FILM in association with BORD CADRE FILMS in collaboration with THE POST REPUBLIC with the support of ROMANIAN CNC, STUDIOUL DE CREAȚIE CINEMATOGRAFICĂ AL MINISTERULUI CULTURII, MEDIA PROGRAM OF THE EU and EURIMAGES with the participation of CINEMA CITY, ADEPLAST SA, COVALACT, HENKEL ROMANIA, AUDI ROMÂNIA, HAVAS, METRO CASH & CARRY ROMÂNIA, ING BANK ROMÂNIA, ZENITH ROMANIA, FARMACIA DONA, LIBRA INTERNET BANK, CLINICA MEDICALĂ HIPOCRAT 2000 and HBO EUROPE



SHOOTING FORMAT 35 MM | SCREENING FORMAT DCP | ASPECT RATIO 1:1.85 | DOLBY DIGITAL 5.1 | 141 MIN | COLOR
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7 Scared Hearts

Synopsis

1937. Emanuel, a twenty-year old young man suffering from bone tuberculosis, is admitted to a seaside sanatorium. A free adaptation of the writings of M. Blecher.

“My whole effort consists of writing a good, readable book, but that may be too vague for you, so I will explain more. ... It is a document of human value, applicable anywhere. Even in my search for character names I made sure to pick well-chosen names, with a general resonance. I will make it so that the reader does not wonder where it is all happening and cares only for the events and cases described. It is so riddled with harsh, heart-wrenching realities that I may have to give up some of them. There will be graver, more overwhelming realities, operating rooms, bandages changed in white, cold, terrifying clinic rooms and love stories between plaster-clad patients.” (a fragment from a letter written by M. Blecher to poet Geo Bogza, 1936)



Director's statement



Though it is probably normal for an author to explain his work, I find it extremely difficult. That is because I set off with many intentions and have no idea how many of them came to fruition. Because I would like the viewers to discover the essence of this film on their own, to discover its qualities (if any) and criticize its faults, to find its meanings, its humour and its poetry. I will only say that it is a love letter to M. Blecher's literature. And an invitation for the public to read his books, if only to have grounds to say "the book is much cooler than the film".

Historical context



Although in our film the historico-political context is not examined directly, indirectly its influence is felt in the lives of the characters (as it did in Blecher's life and, especially, as it would have done it in the years after, if he had lived).

"Uniforms and cheers, misery and twaddle, terror and promises, arming and declarations of peace, darkness and carnival", that is how Norman Manea presented Europe of the 30s. Romania is no exception.

On the one hand, we have here a certain blossoming of education, culture, arts, on the other hand, King Carol II is on the verge of installing a dictatorship and far-right movement Iron Guard has more and more fanatic adepts. Proponents of this movement belong, of course, to all classes and it is surprising to find followers among intellectuals' brand names as Emil Cioran or Mircea Eliade.

RADU JUDE

screenwriter and director



Radu Jude (1977) graduated the filmmaking Department of Media University in 2003. He worked as an assistant director.

He directed the short films **“The Tube with a Hat”** (2006) (winner of more than 50 international prizes in Sundance, San Francisco, Los Angeles, Uppsala etc.), **“Alexandra”** (2007) (selected in Clermont-Ferrand, awarded in Oberhausen) and more than 150 advertising commercials.

His debut feature film, **“The Happiest Girl in the World”** (2009), winner of NHK/Filmmaker Award in Sundance and Hubert Bals grant, was awarded with the CICAIE prize in Berlinale-Forum 2009. It was selected in more than 50 film festivals among which Toronto, New Directors/New Films - NY, Thessaloniki, Sarajevo and London. The film was released in cinemas in France, UK, Austria and Spain.

In 2011, he directed and produced the independent medium length **“Film for Friends”**. **“Everybody in Our Family”** (2012), his second feature film which premiered in Berlinale-Forum, received the Heart of Sarajevo Film Festival, Le Bayard d’Or for Best Film and Best Actor at Namur IFF, CinEast IFF Grand Prix and was selected in more than 30 film festivals around the world, released in cinemas in France, Holland and Hungary.

His two recent short films **“Shadow of a Cloud”** (2013) and **“It Can Pass Through the Wall”** (2014) were selected in Cannes - Quinzaine des Realisateurs section. The latest was awarded with a Special Mention.

World premiered in the 65th Berlinale Competition, Radu Jude’s third feature, **“Aferim!”** (2015) was awarded with the Silver Bear for Best Director in Berlin, Best Film at IndieLisboa, FIPRESCI Prize at Jameson CineFest Miskolci, Audience Award at LET’s CEE Film Festival and Bayard D’Or for Best Photography at Namur IFF.

In 2016 Radu Jude made his debut as theatre director, in the National Theatre of Timișoara adapting for stage Ingmar Bergman’s **“Scenes from a Marriage”**.

He is currently preparing a film essay on the Romanian photographer Costică Acsinte.

ADA SOLOMON

producer



Since setting up Hi Film, Ada Solomon has produced award-winning shorts by Cristian Nemescu (“**Marilena from P7**”) and Radu Jude (“**The Tube with a Hat**”), debut features by Radu Jude (“**The Happiest Girl in the World**”), Răzvan Rădulescu (“**First of All, Felicia**”), Paul Negoescu (“**A Month in Thailand**”), and documentaries by Alexandru Solomon (“**Kapitalism, Our Improved Formula**”, “**Cold Waves**”). Ada produced “**Best Intentions**” by Adrian Sitaru, winner of two awards at the Locarno IFF 2011 and two Romanian Gopo Awards, as well as Radu Jude’s “**Everybody in Our Family**”, winner of Heart of Sarajevo 2012, Bayard d’Or for Best Film and Best Actor at Namur IFF and “**Aferim!**”, selected in more than 30 festivals and awarded with prestigious prizes such as Silver Bear for Best Director, Best Film at IndieLisboa, FIPRESCI Prize at Jameson CineFest Miskolci, Audience Award at LET’s CEE Film Festival and Bayard D’Or for Best Photography at Namur IFF.

She has been working in the film business for 20 years and her films have received awards in the most prestigious festivals such as Locarno, Sundance and Berlin. She is the producer of the Golden Bear winner “**Child’s Pose**” (2013) directed by Călin Peter Netzer. Ada is founder of NexT Cultural Society. She is member of the Board of European Film Academy and the Romanian National coordinator in EAVE. In 2013, Ada received the co-production Prix Eurimages, an award acknowledging the decisive role for co-productions in European film industry.

She is currently in production with the documentary “**Tarzan’s Testicles**” by Alexandru Solomon, in post-production with Daniel Sandu’s debut feature “**One Step Behind the Seraphim**” and shooting Ivana Mladenovic’s debut “**Soldiers. A Story from Ferentari**”.

MARIUS PANDURU RSC

director of photography



Marius Panduru is one of the most active directors of photography with a significant experience, working with the most acclaimed directors of the Romanian New Wave: Cătălin Mitulescu, Corneliu Porumboiu, Florin Șerban, Nae Caranfil, Tudor Giurgiu. His filmography includes more than 20 features and several shorts selected and awarded in Cannes, Berlinale, Locarno, Thessaloniki, among which: **“Bucharest – Wien”**, **“Traffic”**, **“The Way I Spent the End of the World”**, **“Loverboy”**, **“Liviu’s Dream”**, **“12:08 East of Bucharest”**, **“Police, Adjective”**, **“If I Want to Whistle, I Whistle”**, **“The Rest Is Silence”**, **“Box”**, **“Why Me?”**.

“Albüm”, directed by Mehmet Can Mertegolu, the latest Turkish-Romanian co-production he worked on, was premiered in Semaine de la Critique section in Cannes 2016.

He teamed up with Radu Jude in for the awarded shorts **“The Tube with a Hat”** and **“It Can Pass Through the Wall”** as well as for the features **“The Happiest Girl in the World”** and **“Aferim!”**.

CRISTIAN NICULESCU

production designer



With over 30 years of cinema experience, Cristian Niculescu teaches production design at the National University of Arts in Bucharest. He is the production designer of more than 35 Romanian and international productions. He is also the favorite collaborator of director Radu Mihăileanu with whom he worked for **“Trahir”**, **“Train de vie”**, **“The Concert”**, **“La source des femmes”** and **“The History of Love”**. For **“The Concert”**, Cristian Niculescu received a Gopo Award at the 2010 gala. He won another Romanian film industry trophy in 2011 for the design of **“Kino Caravan”** (directed by Titus Muntean). His portfolio also includes titles such as **“Cold Mountain”**, the fantasy series **“Fire & Ice”**, the thriller **“Dead in Tombstone”**, the TV-series **“The E.R.”** and two features directed by Nae Caranfil, **“Asphalt Tango”** and **“Closer to the Moon”**.

CĂTĂLIN CRISTUȚIU

editor



He studied editing at The National Theatre and Film University in Bucharest and started working ever since with his colleague Cristian Nemescu for the international acclaimed shorts **"Mihai and Cristina"**, **"CBlock Story"** and continued their collaboration for the medium length **"Marilena from P7"** and the feature **"California Dreamin' (endless)"**.

His credits include the following titles: **"If I Want to Whistle, I Whistle"** (directed by Florin Șerban, awarded at Berlinale 2009 with The Alfred Bauer Prize and Jury Grand Prix), **"Medal of Honor"** (directed by Călin Peter Netzer, selected in more than 30 festivals around the world and awarded with Silver Alexander and four other prizes at Thessaloniki IFF in 2009), **"Somewhere in Palilula"** (directed by Silviu Purcărete), the animated documentary **"Crulic - The Path to Beyond"** (directed by Anca Damian, awarded in Locarno, CPH:DOX, Annecy, Jihlava IFF), the documentaries **"Apocalypse on Wheels"** and **"Cold Waves"** (both directed by Alexandru Solomon) as well as a vast number of shorts.

He teamed up with Radu Jude starting with **"The Tube with a Hat"** and continued working together for all his later projects: **"Alexandra"**, **"In the Morning"**, **"The Happiest Girl in the World"**, **"Film for Friends"**, **"Everybody in Our Family"**, **"Shadow of a Cloud"**, **"It Can Pass Through the Wall"**, **"Aferim!"**.

DANA BUNESCU

sound designer



She graduated from The National Theater and Film University in Bucharest and she has been the most sought-after editor and sound designer in the Romanian film industry ever since. Her credits include, among many others: **"California Dreamin' (endless)"** by Cristian Nemescu (2007), **"The Autobiography of Nicolae Ceaușescu"** by Andrei Ujică (2010), **"First of All, Felicia"** by Răzvan Rădulescu and Melissa de Raaf (2009), **"Love Sick"** by Tudor Giurgiu (2006), **"The Death of Mr. Lăzărescu"** by Cristi Puiu (2006), the Palme d'Or winner **"4 Months, 3 Weeks and 2 Days"** (2007) and **"Beyond the Hills"** (2012) by Cristian Mungiu, **"Tales from the Golden Age"** (2009), **"The Great Communist Bank Robbery"** by Alexandru Solomon (2004), **"Everybody in Our Family"** (2012), the Golden Bear winner **"Child's Pose"** (2013) by Călin Peter Netzer, **"It Can Pass Through the Wall"** (2014) and **"Aferim!"** by Radu Jude.

DANA PĂPĂRUZ

costume designer



Since 2000, after graduating from the Design department at the National University Arts in Bucharest, Dana started working as costume designer and supervisor for more than 300 commercials for Romanian and international advertising agencies. In cinema, her experience excels in the American productions shot at Castel Film: **“Side Show”** (2000, directed by Thom Fitzgerald), **“Princess of Thieves”** (2000, directed by Peter Hewitt), the BBC production **“Catherine the Great”** (2005, directed by John Paul Davidson, Paul Burgess), **“Borat”** (2005, directed by Larry Charles). She was the costume designer of Cristian Mungiu’s **“Beyond the Hills”** (2012) and Radu Jude’s **“Aferim!”** (2015), which brought her the Gopo Award for Best Costume Designer in 2016.

BIANCA BOEROIU

make-up



Bianca has a vast experience as a make-up stylist in the film industry working with Florin Șerban (**“If I Want to Whistle, I Whistle”** and **“Box”**), Cătălin Mitulescu (**“Loverboy”**), Bogdan Mustață (**“Wolf”**) and the Spanish director Chema Rodriguez (**“Nightfall in India”**). She handled the special effects make-up for Radu Jude’s **“Everybody in Our Family”**. Bianca is also a teacher and a passionate ceramic artist with solo exhibitions in Bucharest galleries. **“Aferim!”** brought her a Gopo Award for Best make-up.

LUCIAN TEODOR RUS
(Emanuel)



Lucian Teodor Rus graduated Acting Section at the National University of Theatre and Film in Bucharest. He is very active on the theatre stage. He is currently performing in **“Organic”** directed by Andrei Măjeri, one the Bucharest National Theatre’s New Generation project – 9G. Lucian was selected among the 10 most promising young actors in Romania in Cluj TIFF show case “10 for Film”. He worked with acclaimed theatre directors among one can name Victor Ioan Frunză, Radu Afrim, as well as in independent productions.

Emanuel’s part in Radu Jude’s **“Scarred Hearts”** represents his debut in a feature film.

IVANA MLADENOVIĆ (Solange)



Ivana Mladenović was born in Serbia in 1984. After studying Law in Belgrade, she moves to Romania where she graduates in 2010 Film Directing at the National School of Film and Theatre (UNATC) in Bucharest. In 2011 she finishes her MA studies in Film Directing at the same University. Her short student films were shown at various film festivals around the world. She started working on her first feature documentary, **“Turn Off The Lights”**, in 2009, finishing it after three years of work. The film follows the destinies of three young ex-convicts after their release from prison. The film was developed in the frame of the workshops on acting organized in the Jilava prison by the director Florin Șerban (known for his film **“If I Want to Whistle, I Whistle”**) who invited her to join the project and encouraged her to continue working with prison boys. **“Turn Off The Lights”** premiered at Tribeca Film Festival in April 2012 and won the Heart of Sarajevo Award for Best Documentary and Gopo Award for Best Romanian Documentary. In 2013 she was selected for a seven months scriptwriting residency in Berlin, in the frame of Nipkow Programm. Ivana currently lives and works in Bucharest, working on her first fiction feature film, **“Soldiers. A Story from Ferentari”**. She is very active on the Romanian contemporary arts scene being part of various performative projects mixing theatre, film, video art & music. Impersonating *Solange* is her first experience in front of the camera.

ILINCA HĂRNUȚ (Isa)



Ilinca Hărnăț graduated Film Academy in Bucharest in 2006. She played in various theatre plays, in independent and national stages. Her contact with film meant several secondary parts in Romanian and international productions such as: **“Marilena from P7”** (directed by Cristian Nemescu, 2004), **“Margot”** (directed by Ioan Cărmăzan, 2004), **“Jaquou le Croquant”** (directed by Laurent Buttonat, 2005), **“California Dreamin’ (Endless)”** (directed by Cristian Nemescu, 2005), **“Devil Inside”**, directed by William Brent Bell, 2012).

ȘERBAN PAVLU (Dr. Ceafalan)



Șerban Pavlu manages to combine his great love for the stage – as an active member of one of the most prestigious theatre companies in Romania – with the cinema career. Șerban worked with acclaimed Romanian film directors from different generations: Lucian Pintilie – “**Terminus Paradise**” (1998), “**The Afternoon of a Torturer**” (2001), “**Niki and Flo**” (2003), Cristi Puiu – “**The Death of Mr. Lăzărescu**” (2005) or Radu Jude – both in his shorts and long features, “**Alexandra**” (2006), “**The Happiest Girl in the World**” (2009), “**Shadow of a Cloud**” (2013). His latest leading role in Jude’s “**Everybody in Our Family**” (2012) – winner of Heart of Sarajevo IFF 2012 Trophy – brought him three awards: Bayard d’Or for Best Actor in Namur 2012, Blue Angel at Art Film Festival – Teplice, Slovakia, but also the Gopo Award – Romanian equivalent of the Academy Awards. He is the leading actor in Vali Hotea’s “**Roxanne**” (2013) premiered in Locarno International Film Festival and Tudor Jurgiu’s “**The Japanese Dog**” (2013).

ALEXANDRU DABIJA (Mr. Lazăr B.)



Alexandru Dabija is one of the most acclaimed Romanian theatre directors, having mounted more than 100 productions. He debuted in 1976 and ever since he has worked on the most important Romanian stage theatres with famous actors, winner of UNITER (Romanian Theatre Association) highlight prizes. Dabija was the General Manager of the prestigious Odeon Theatre in Bucharest. He conducted several acting workshops in Bucharest, Leicester, Glasgow, La Marlagne. Radu Jude’s previous films “**The Tube with a Hat**” and “**Everybody in Our Family**” convinced Dabija to accept the role of the Priest in “**Shadow of a Cloud**” in 2012. In “**Aferim!**”, Alexandru Dabija plays the part of Boyar Iordache, the one who orders the recapturing of the Gypsy slave.

Hi Film Productions production company

Hi Film is a Romanian independent company dealing with local films, international co-productions as well as with production services. Among the projects of Hi Film one can find features as well as documentaries, short films as well as television films. Hi Film is covering the whole range of activities from casting to location scout, from research to post-production.

Since the beginning Hi Film produced projects involving many of the most promising names of the Romanian New Cinema: Cristian Nemescu, Radu Jude, Adrian Sitaru, Răzvan Rădulescu, Alexandru Solomon, Constantin Popescu, Ștefan Constantinescu, Paul Negoescu, as well as emerging European talents as Federico Bondi, Adriano Valerio or Jorien van Nes. The company is aiming to develop & produce projects made in Romania or organic linked to our part of the world, though designed for an international audience, artistic projects with commercial potential.

Hi Film has co-produced up to now with: Germany, France, Italy, Spain, Luxemburg, Hungary, Croatia, Netherlands, Sweden, Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Czech Republic, Serbia and we are looking forward to new cinematic adventures.

Among Hi Film's productions one can name: **"The Happiest Girl in the World"** (directed by Radu Jude, 2009), **"First of All, Felicia"** (directed by Răzvan Rădulescu & Melissa de Raaf, 2009), **"Best Intentions"** (directed by Adrian Sitaru, 2010), **"Kapitalism-Our Secret Recipe"** (directed by Alexandru Solomon, 2010), **"Everybody in Our Family"** (directed by Radu Jude, 2012), **"A Month in Thailand"** (directed by Paul Negoescu, 2012), **"Roxanne"** (directed by Vali Hotea, 2013), **"Aferim!"** (directed by Radu Jude, 2015).



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Komplizen Film **co-producer**

Komplizen Film was founded in 2000 by Janine Jackowski and Maren Ade during their studies at the Munich Academy for Film and Television. Both serve as Komplizen Film's managing directors and are active as producers for the company. In 2010, they were joined by Jonas Dornbach as managing director and producer.

Komplizen Film's primary focus is on developing arthouse feature films and international co-productions for the cinema as well as working to establish German directors on an international level.

We seek out projects that have a special regional and cultural character, projects that cross borders and encourage us to think beyond boundaries. We appreciate cinematic scripts and directors that exhibit a unique signature style. We believe in building long-term relationships with directors and production partners.

In 2015, Komplizen Film was honored with the Award for Outstanding Accomplishments in German Film by the DEFA Foundation.

Among the films produced by the company, one can name: Maren Ade's films "**Toni Erdmann**" (2016), "**Everyone Else**" (2009), "**The Forest for the Trees**" (2003), as well as Sonja Heiss's "**Hedi Schneider steckt fest**" (2015), "**Hotel Very Welcome**" (2006), Ulrich Köhler's "**Sleeping Sickness**" (2011), Benjamin Heisenberg's "**Superegos**" (2014) and Miguel Gomes's "**Arabian Nights**" (2015), "**Redemption**" (2013), "**Tabu**" (2012), amongst many others.

Komplizen Film

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