



A True Story

in DARKNESS

AN AGNIESZKA HOLLAND FILM



BETA CINEMA PRESENTS

A SCHMIDTz KATZE FILMKOLLEKTIV STUDIO FILMOWE ZEBRA THE FILM WORKS PRODUCTION AN AGNIESZKA HOLLAND FILM "IN DARKNESS" ROBERT WIECKIEWICZ BENNO FÜRMANN AGNIESZKA GROCHOWSKA MARIA SCHRADER HERBERT KNAUP KINGA PREIS KRZYSZTOF SKONIECZNY
REGISSEUR JOLANTA DYLEWSKA PRODUZENT ERWIN PRIB DREHBUCH KATARZYNA SOBAŃSKA MARCEL SZANWIŃSKI EDITOR MICHAŁ CZARNECKI MUSIK ANTONI KOMASA-LAZARIEWICZ PRODUZENT STEFFEN REUTER PATRICK KNIPPEL MARC DANIEL DICHANT LEANDER CARELL JULIUSZ MACHULSKI PAUL STEPHENS ERIC JORDAN

EXECUTIVE PRODUCER WOJCIECH DANOWSKI DAVID F. SHAMMOON DR. CARL WOECKEN CHRISTOPH FISSEK WRITTEN BY DAVID F. SHAMMOON BASED ON THE BOOK "IN THE SEWERS OF LVOV" BY ROBERT MARSHALL DIRECTED BY AGNIESZKA HOLLAND

A POLISH FILM INSTITUTE PRODUCTION PRODUCED WITH THE SUPPORT OF MITTELDEUTSCHE MEDIENFÖRDERUNG MEDIENBOARD BERLIN BRANDENBURG DEUTSCHER FILMFÖRDERFONDS FILMFÖRDERUNGSANSTALT HESSEN INVEST FILM ASTRAL'S HAROLD GREENBERG FUND ROGERS TELEFUND

MONGREL MEDIA HERITAGE CANADA ONTARIO MEDIA DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION CITY OF ŁÓDŹ CINE POSTPRODUCTION FILMISSIMO CINEGATE TVT FILM & VFX STUDIO BABELSBERG



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Director Agnieszka Holland (EUROPA, EUROPA)

Cast Robert Wieckiewicz
Benno Fürmann (NORTH FACE)
Agnieszka Grochowska
Maria Schrader (AIMEE & JAGUAR)
Herbert Knaup (THE LIVES OF OTHERS)

Genre World War II Drama

Language Polish, Yiddish and German

Length 145 min

Produced by Schmidtz Katze Filmkollektiv,
Studio Filmowe Zebra and The Film Works



IN DARKNESS

SYNOPSIS

In March, 1943, Lvov, Poland is a beautiful city held in the iron grip of the Nazi occupation. The weak prey upon the weaker; the poor steal from the less poor. Near the bottom of this chain is Leopold Soha, a petty thief. His knowledge of the sewers' intricate maze of tunnels and chambers, in which he hides his loot, has earned him a menial job as a sewer worker. But there is a group of people in Lvov worse off than Soha – the Jews. Crowded into a ghetto, they are being worked and starved to death. Realizing that the ghetto is about to be destroyed, a motley group meet in secret to plot an escape into the sewers.

Under constant surveillance, they manage to tunnel down. As soon as they enter this dark netherworld, they are discovered by Soha. The Jews offer him money to hide them. The consequences of aiding Jews are public hanging of the helper and his entire family. But Soha desperately needs this money. In spite of grave misgivings on both sides, they strike a deal. As the Nazis start to liquidate the Lvov ghetto, Soha seizes the opportunity to profit by keeping them hidden and protected from the devastation above.

As the pressure to betray the Jews builds, Soha finds himself increasingly in danger, and abandons them to protect himself. But fate and his newly awakened conscience drive him back, and he commits himself to protecting his new “family” at all costs.

THE DIRECTOR

Agnieszka Holland, born in Warsaw, graduated from FAMU, the Prague film school in 1971. She began her film career working with Krzysztof Zanussi as assistant director, and Andrzej Wajda as her mentor. Her film debut was “An Evening at Abdon’s” (1975) and her first feature film was „Provincial Actors“ (1978), one of the flagship pictures of the „cinema of moral disquiet“ and the winner of the International Critics Prize at the Cannes Film Festival in 1980. „Europa Europa“ (1990) received an Academy Award nomination for Best Screenplay, a Golden Globe and a New York Film Critics Circle Award. Holland had also received an Academy Award nomination in 1985 as Best Foreign Language Film for „Angry Harvest“ (1985). She also collaborated with her friend, Krzysztof Kieslowski, on the screenplay of his trilogy, „Three Colours“ (1993). In 2008 Holland was honored with a retrospective of her films at the Museum of Modern Art in New York.

