



CHILD'S POSE

Directed by
Călin Peter Netzer

Starring
**Luminița Gheorghiu, Bogdan Dumitrache, Ilinca Goia, Natașa Raab, Florin Zamfirescu,
Vlad Ivanov**

Produced by
Ada Solomon

Producer
Parada Film in coproduction with Hai-Hui Entertainment

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CAST

Luminița Gheorghiu
Bogdan Dumitrache
Ilinca Goia
Natașa Raab
Florin Zamfirescu
Vlad Ivanov

Cornelia
Barbu
Carmen
Olga Cerchez
Aurelian Făgărășanu
Dinu Laurentiu

CREW

Director
Script

Photography
Sound
Editing and Sound Design
Costume Designer
Make-up Artist
Production Designer

Producers

Co-Producer
Line Producer

Călin Peter Netzer
Răzvan Rădulescu
Călin Peter Netzer
Andrei Butică
Cristian Tarnovețchi
Dana Lucreția Bunescu
Irina Marinescu
Dana Roseanu
Mălina Ionescu

Călin Peter Netzer
Ada Solomon
Oana Giurgiu
Valentino Rudolf

TECHNICAL DETAILS

Format: DCP, 35 mm, 1:2.35
Sound: Dolby Digital
Length: 112 min
Romania, 2013

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PRESS NOTES

Child's Pose presents in a thrilling, emotional, yet humorous way, the relationship between a dominant mother and her grown-up son. **Child's Pose** is a touching film about our looking after our children while suffocating them with love and on the marks that parents leave on their children's personalities. On a different layer, it is also a portrayal of contemporary high-class Romania, the low-level corruption and trading of influence in the midst of the core social institutions.

SYNOPSIS

Cornelia is 60 and fundamentally unhappy: her son, Barbu, 34, fights with all his might to become independent. He has moved out, has his own car, has a girlfriend who obviously doesn't meet Cornelia's standards and – most upsettingly – he avoids his loving mother as much as possible. When Cornelia finds out that Barbu was involved in a tragic accident, her motherly instincts take over and she uses all her skills, well-connected friends and money to save Barbu from jail. Then she expects him to once again become the dependent child he was before. This doesn't seem to be a very difficult task, given the state of shock Barbu is in. But it is a thin line between motherly love and self-serving manipulation. Will she be able to let go and unlock him from his child's pose...?

DIRECTOR'S NOTE – Călin Peter Netzer

Child's Pose is a film about a pathological mother-and-son relationship, about the children's position relative to their parents and vice versa, about parents losing their children one way or another. A camera-dependent film, I might say, that attempts to convey states of mind, feelings, smoldering conflicts, desperate outbursts, in a word: a slice of life almost as authentic as a documentary. The characters are analyzed, or rather psychoanalyzed, in an effort to help the viewer understand and perhaps even feel compassion towards this scarred family.

PRODUCER'S NOTE – Ada Solomon

I've been working with director Călin Peter Netzer and scriptwriter Răzvan Rădulescu for a few years now, and I knew from the beginning that they would make a perfect match for the delicate subject of the film as well as for their personal involvement in it. In the script of **Child's Pose**, I immediately recognized the strong emotional approach of Netzer and the microsurgery precision of Rădulescu's written style. Being a universal, emotional family story, the film has the power to appeal to all viewers around the world. Yet it is also a subtle radiography of contemporary Romanian society – the life of the "nouveaux riches", the rampant corruption at all levels of the public institutions, and the relations between the various members of society when they meet by chance. The backdrop of actual Romanian society does not hold center stage here, but is employed as a complex puzzle that ultimately forms a clear picture of the reality in which the characters are living.

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We are very fortunate to have Luminița Gheorghiu as our lead actress. She has fully embraced the character of Cornelia – so different from her real personality or her everyday look – and managed to craft, in my opinion, one of the most impressive performances in Romanian cinema. Her performance is supported by the other actors as well. Bogdan Dumitrache as the troubled son, Vlad Ivanov as the powerful, uncanny witness, and Adrian Titieni as the heartbroken father of the victim – to name just a few of the brilliant actors we cast in this adventure.

In the beginning, I thought that this film would appeal mostly to women, as it shows how a mother's excessive love can destroy and suffocate her son. But once the film was finished, I understood how much it also appealed to men, how much every man recognized himself in his relationship with his own mother, how the film says the things we think, but which we are hardly able to verbalize or to accept as influences for our own life. For me, this is the film's biggest achievement: that it is a film about forgiveness, acceptance and understanding.

BIOGRAPHIES & FILMOGRAPHIES

CAST

LUMINIȚA GHEORGHIU (Cornelia)

Luminița Gheorghiu's acting skills have driven some of the most acclaimed films of the Romanian New Wave. However, her cinematographic career spreads over 30 years and includes many supporting roles as well as memorable parts and two major roles: in Stere Gulea's *Morometii* (1988) and Michael Haneke's *Code Inconnu* (2000). Over the years, she worked with famous Romanian directors such as Lucian Pintilie, Alexandru Tatos and Radu Mihăileanu.

Her career is closely related to Cristi Puiu's three features: *Stuff and Dough* (2001), *The Death of Mr. Lazarescu* (2005) and *Aurora* (2010). Her extraordinary supporting role in *The Death of Mr. Lazarescu* was honored with a Best Actress award at the Namur International Festival of French-Speaking Film 2005, a "Lumières de Safi" at the French Film Festival, and as Best Supporting Actress by the Los Angeles Film Critics Association in 2007.

After 2000, Luminița Gheorghiu became one of the most active and famous Romanian actresses, working with young directors and starring in powerful supporting parts in: *12:08 East of Bucharest* (director: Corneliu Porumboiu, 2006), *4 Months, 3 Weeks and 2 Days* (director: Cristian Mungiu, 2007), *The Yellow Smiley Face* (director: Constantin Popescu, 2008), as well as in the Cannes-nominated *Beyond the Hills* (director: Cristian Mungiu, 2012). She received a GOPO Award (Romanian equivalent of the Academy Awards) for her supporting role as Ana in Bobby Păunescu's *Francesca* (2009).

Her collaboration with Călin Peter Netzer started in 2003 with a supporting role in his debut feature film *Maria*.

Cornelia from *Child's Pose* is her first leading role in a feature film.

BOGDAN DUMITRACHE (Barbu)

Bogdan Dumitrache was born in Bucharest. While still in high school, he decided to pursue an acting career. He was admitted to the National University of Theatre and Cinema Art, where he studied

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with Mircea Albulescu, one of the most notable Romanian actors. He graduated from this institution in 1999 and made his theatre debut in 2000, before quickly abandoning the theatre in favour of film. Shortly thereafter, his silver-screen career took off, as Bogdan starred in highly acclaimed, prize-winning long and short films as lead actor in the short-film Palme d'Or winner **Traffic** (director: Catalin Mitulescu, 2004) and in **Best Intentions** (director: Adrian Sitaru, 2011), as well as in supporting parts in **The Death of Mr. Lazarescu** (director: Cristi Puiu, 2005), **The Way I Spent the End of the World** (director: Catalin Mitulescu, 2006), **The Boxing Lesson** (director: Alexandru Mavrodineanu, 2007) **The Portrait of the Fighter as a Young Man** (director: Constantin Popescu, 2010), **Stuck on Christmas** (director: Iulia Rugină, 2010). Although he became known to the larger public for his role in the Romanian adaptation of the American TV hit **In Treatment**, Bogdan earned the critics' recognition for his feature films. His role in **The Portrait of the Fighter as a Young Man** brought him the GOPO award (Romanian equivalent of the Academy Awards) for Best Actor in a supporting role, while the leading role in **Best Intentions** brought him the Leopard for Best Actor - Locarno International Film Festival and another GOPO Award.

ILINCA GOIA (Carmen)

Her acting debut is linked to the most prestigious Romanian student theatre company, **Podul (The Attic)**. After graduating from the National University of Theatre and Film in 1992, she attended the courses of the "Old Globe" University in San Diego and appeared on its stage. She received a complete scholarship at The American Musical and Dramatic Academy in New York. Her theatre experience was soon broadened when she performed on the Civic Light Opera's stage in San Diego, but also on Romanian stages, working with prestigious theatre directors such as Noel Craig, Elliot Swift and Andrei Serban. Her performance in Todd Salovey's **Dybbuk** was highly praised by the Critics Board in Los Angeles and obtained a Drama-Logue award. Although she has mainly performed and specialized in theatre, Ilinca also starred in various TV productions such as **Roberta's Diaries** (1999), **Poor Man, Rich Man** (2006 – 2007), **Mothers' Doctors** (2008), but also in features such as **White Lace Dress** (director: Dan Pita, 1988) and **The Moment of Truth** (Andrei Blaier, 1991).

NATAȘA RAAB (Olga Cerchez)

Natașa Raab has had a strong theatre career performing in several plays since 1988, working with famous Romanian directors, receiving nominations and awards along the line. Before being admitted to the National University of Theatre and Film, she played jazz, traditional music and canto, performing in various TV & radio shows. She was top-model of a famous fashion house in Romania for almost 10 years (1979 – 1988). She gathered film experience in several TV productions, played a supporting role in Costa Gavras's **Amen** (2003) and starred in Adrian Sitaru's films: she was the lead actress in the Locarno award-winning feature film **Best Intentions** (2011) and starred in **House Party** (2012, Uppsala Short Film Festival winner, Onda Curta Award at Indie Lisboa).

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FLORIN ZAMFIRESCU (Aurelian Făgărășanu)

Florin Zamfirescu is one of the most acclaimed actors of his generation, having graduated in 1971 and performed on the leading Romanian theatre stages. He starred in more than 30 Romanian features directed by Lucian Pintilie (*De ce trag clopotele, Mitica*, 1981), Mircea Veroiu (*Dincolo de pod*, 1976), Stere Gulea (*Morometii*, 1988), Nae Caranfil (*Filantropica*, 2002) and the Romanian New Wave directors Cristi Puiu (*The Death of Mr. Lazarescu*, 2005) and Catalin Mitulescu (*The Way I Spent the End of the World*, 2006) and starred in TV series such as *Lumini si umbre* (director: Andrei Blaier, 1981) produced by the Romanian National Television or the Romanian adaptation of the American TV hit *In Treatment* (HBO). He also directed plays written by Shakespeare, Caragiale, Mrozeck and Goldoni. Florin Zamfirescu is well-known as a teacher, a career he started in 1974, and has become the mentor of many young actors of today.

VLAD IVANOV (Dinu Laurentiu)

Winner of the Los Angeles Critics Award for his brilliant portrayal of the abortionist in Cristian Mungiu's Palme d'Or winner *4 Months, 3 Weeks, 2 Days*, Vlad Ivanov's versatility has established him as one of Europe's great character actors. It's his ability to portray both the kindly next-door-neighbor character alongside the creepy, evil one that stamps him as a special actor. He played in *Police, Adjective* (director: Corneliu Porumboiu, 2009), which was awarded the Best Film prize at Un Certain Regard in Cannes in 2009 and for which Vlad won Best Supporting Actor at the Romanian Gopo Awards. His filmography also includes: *Tales from the Golden Age* (director: Hanno Hofer, 2009), *The Concert* (director: Radu Mihaileanu, 2009), which was nominated for a Golden Globe, *Principles of Life* (director: Constantin Popescu, 2010), *In the Fog* (Serghei Loznitsa, 2012), FIPRESCI award winner at the Cannes Official Competition in 2012. Beside his film work, Vlad Ivanov is an accomplished stage actor and has received many domestic awards in Romania for his work on both stage and screen.

CREW

CĂLIN PETER NETZER (Director)

Călin Peter Netzer was born in Romania in 1975. In 1983, he immigrated to Germany together with his parents. In 1994, he started attending the courses of The National Theatre and Film University in Bucharest, Film Direction Department, and in 1999 he obtained his diploma as film director. His short & feature debuts, both entitled *Maria* (1997 & 2003) were screened and given awards in prestigious festivals around the world. His debut feature film was the Locarno International Film Festival highlight in 2003, obtaining the Grand Prize of the Jury and the Silver Leopards for the two leading actors; it was also nominated for the EFA Awards as well. His next feature, *Medal of Honor* (2009), was selected for screening in more than 30 festivals and awarded the Silver Alexander and four other prizes at the Thessaloniki IFF 2009. It was also shown at the Turin, Miami, Los Angeles, Zagreb and Transylvania IFF and won two GOPO Awards (Romanian equivalent of Academy Awards) for Best Leading Actor (Victor Rebengiuc) and Best

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Script (Tudor Voican). **Child's Pose** is Netzer's 3rd feature film and a premiere both as Berlinale participant and producer.

ADA SOLOMON (Producer)

Before setting up Parada Film in 2010, **Ada Solomon** had worked as a production manager and executive producer on more than 150 TV commercials for Domino Film since 1993. She has also served as a line producer for foreign international projects such as Franco Zeffirelli's **Callas Forever**, Didi Danquart's **Offset** and Hermine Huntgeburth's recent **Tom Sawyer** and **Huck Finn**. In 2004, Ada set up Hi Film and has produced award-winning shorts by Cristian Nemescu (**Marilena From P7**, 2006), Radu Jude (**The Tube With A Hat**, 2007) and Paul Negoescu (**Renovation**, 2009), debut features by Jude (**The Happiest Girl In The World**, 2009), Melissa de Raaf, Răzvan Rădulescu (**First of All, Felicia**, 2009), Paul Negoescu (**A Month in Thailand**, 2012) and documentaries by Alexandru Solomon (**Cold Waves**, 2007 and **Kapitalism – Our Improved Formula**, 2010), among others. She is currently developing Daniel Sandu's debut feature (**One Step Behind The Seraphim**) as well as Radu Jude's third feature **Aferim** after the award-winning **Everybody In Our Family**, which premiered in the Berlinale's Forum 2012 and received the Heart of Sarajevo for Best Film, the Golden Bayard for Best Film and Best Actor at the Namur IFF and the Golden Pram Award in Zagreb among 12 other awards.

Ada Solomon is also the initiator and the director of NexT IFF in Bucharest, dedicated to the memory of Cristian Nemescu & Andrei Toncu.

RAZVAN RADULESCU – Co-Screenwriter

Răzvan Rădulescu is one of the most acclaimed and productive Romanian screenwriters, and the representative of the so-called post-revolution film in Romania. He is part of the most successful generation of Romanian filmmakers, whose films left their mark on the international film scene over the past decade. Rădulescu studied philology at the University of Bucharest and opera-directing at the Music Academy of Bucharest. His novel **The Life and Deeds of Elijah Cazane** (1997) won the Best Debut Prize by the Romanian Writers Guild. His second novel, **Theodosius the Small** (2006), won the EU Prize for Literature.

He has worked with many successful directors and his filmography includes more than 15 feature films, among them **The Death of Mr. Lazarescu**, **Stuff and Dough** (both directed by Cristi Puiu), **The Paper Will Be Blue** and **Tuesday, After Christmas** (directed by Radu Muntean), **Tertium Non Datur** (directed by Lucian Pintilie).

He co-wrote and co-directed **First of All, Felicia**, which won awards at Namur (Special Jury Mention), Estoril (Cineuropa Award) and the Transylvania International Film Festival (Best Debut, Best Actress in a leading role, Best Script). He was also script advisor for **4 Months, 3 Weeks, 2 Days** (Cristian Mungiu) and for **The Autobiography of Nicolae Ceausescu** (Andrei Ujică).

Rădulescu was guest teacher at Karlsruhe University of Arts and Design and The Marrakech School of Visual Arts for several years.

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DANA BUNESCU - Editing, Sound Editing and Sound Design

Dana Bunescu graduated from the National University of Theatre and Film 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'* by Cristian Nemescu (2007), *The Autobiography of Nicolae Ceausescu* by Andrei Ujica (2010), *First of All, Felicia* by Răzvan Rădulescu and Melissa de Raaf (2009), *Love Sick* by Tudor Giurgiu (2006), *The Death of Mr. Lazarescu* by Cristi Puiu (2006), *4 Months 3 Weeks 2 Days* by Cristian Mungiu (2007), *Tales From the Golden Age* (2009), *The Great Communist Bank Robbery* by Alexandru Solomon (2004), *Everybody in Our Family* by Radu Jude (2012), as well as a vast number of short films.

ANDREI BUTICĂ - Director of Photography

Andrei Butică graduated from The Film Academy in 2002, working as cameraman for *The Death of Mr. Lazarescu* (director: Cristi Puiu, 2006) and *Marilena from P7* (director: Cristian Nemescu, 2006). He teamed up with Radu Jude as co-writer & DoP for *In the Morning* (2006) and *Alexandra* (2007). His collaboration with Radu Jude continued with *A Film for Friends & Everybody in Our Family* (2012). Andrei Butică also teamed up with Paul Negoescu in 2008 for his shorts: *Late, Renovation, Derby, Horizon* and his debut feature *A Month in Thailand* (2012). He also worked as a documentary DoP on Alexandru Solomon's *Kapitalism – Our Improved Formula* (2010). *Child's Pose* represents his first collaboration with Călin Peter Netzer.

CRISTIAN TARNOVEȚCHI - Sound Engineer

Cristian is one of the most popular sound engineers in Romania. His credits include the most acclaimed Romanian films of the New Wave: *The Death of Mr. Lazarescu* (director: Cristi Puiu, 2006), *4 Months, 3 Weeks and 2 Days* (director: Cristian Mungiu, 2007), *California Dreamin'* (director: Cristian Nemescu, 2007), *Hello! How Are You?* (director: Alexandru Maftai, 2010), *Of Snails and Men* (director: Tudor Giurgiu, 2012), *Beyond the Hills* (director: Cristian Mungiu, 2012) and prestigious TV series such as the HBO production, *In Treatment*.

MĂLINA IONESCU - Production Designer

Mălina first studied foreign languages before later deciding to pursue an art career, attending the National University of Fine Arts in Bucharest, in the Photography and Video Department. After graduating, she had various solo photo exhibitions in Bucharest galleries, while her experimental shorts were part of installations and screened in several film festivals. Mălina combined her passion for art with cinematography by creating the costume and set design for many short and feature films. She joined Adrian Sitaru (*Lord, The Cage, Best Intentions, Domestic*), Răzvan Rădulescu and Melissa de Raaf (*Networking Friday, First of All Felicia*). She was in charge of the set decor for the German production *Huck Finn* (director: Hermine Huntgeburth) and of the art direction of the Dutch feature *A Long Story* (director: Jorien van Nes).

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IRINA MARINESCU - Costume Designer

Irina Marinescu started her career as a designer in her early years of study at the National University of Fine Arts in Bucharest. She created her own namesake label after a 6-month internship for the Romanian designer Venera Arapu. Soon after the internship, she was selected to show at the annual Oribe Fashion Contest in Japan and won. In 2002 Irina Marinescu received the Pantene New Look award for the most promising young designer, which gave her the opportunity to show her collection in Bucharest for the first time, during the local fashion week. Since 2004 she has been showing twice a year, and has been building her brand to become one of the most important designers in the local market.

DANA ROȘEANU - Make-Up Artist

Dana Roșeanu's name is connected to the films that represent the beginning of New Romanian Cinema: *Filanthropy* (director: Nae Caranfil, 2002), *Furia* (director: Radu Muntean, 2002). Her collaboration with Nae Caranfil continued with the production *The Rest Is Silence* (2007). She also worked with Radu Jude for his two feature films: *The Happiest Girl in the World* (2009) and *Everybody in Our Family* (2012). She was awarded three Gopo Awards for *Silent Wedding* (director: Horațiu Mălăele, 2008), *Caravana cinematografica* (director: Titus Muntean, 2009), *Hello! How are you?* (director: Alex Maftai, 2010). During her career she also worked with Lucian Pintilie (*De ce trag clopotele, Mitica?*, 1981) and Mircea Daneliuc (*Proba de microfon*, 1980).

THE PRODUCER - Parada Film

Parada Film was founded in 2010 by Călin Peter Netzer and Ada Solomon. Parada Film began as a distributor, offering the Romanian public and film industry a creative alternative for independent artworks. Up to now, Parada Film has promoted and released in Romanian cinemas one of the most acclaimed documentaries (*Kapitalism – Our Improved Formula*) as well as Romanian features (Călin Netzer's *Medal of Honor*, Răzvan Rădulescu and Melissa de Raaf's *First of All, Felicia*, Radu Jude's *Everybody in Our Family*) and international art house productions such as Wim Wender's *Pina*. Parada Film's aim is to approach the blockbuster film's audience by promoting a different genre of products in an informal way. The promotional campaigns are always fresh and based on endorsement, flash mobs and virtual hooks, and obtain an impressive response through the participation of cultural, showbiz, social media or sports personalities.

The production activity of Parada started with Claudiu Mitcu's documentary *Two of Us*, the first Romanian documentary on LGBT issues and Daniel Sandu's ironic social short *The Counting Device* (award winner at the Leyden IFS, selected in festivals such as Sarajevo, Cambridge, Montpellier's Festival du Film Méditerranéen, Bristol Encounters).

Călin Peter Netzer's *Child's Pose* is the company's first feature length production.

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WORLD SALES - Beta Cinema

Beta Cinema has established itself as a "boutique-operation" for independent feature films with strong theatrical potential. Beta Cinema's philosophy is to keep its selective acquisition policy of 10 to 15 titles per year in order to fully develop the theatrical potential of each title according to its individual character.

Beta Cinema's portfolio includes outstanding productions like VIVA RIVA, which won six African Academy Awards 2011; BLACK BREAD, big winner at the Spanish Goya Awards 2011; German Film Award Winners VINCENT WANTS TO SEA (2011), ALMANYA (2011) and JOHN RABE (2009); Berlin 2011 out of competition entry MY BEST ENEMY; Cannes 2008 Jury Prize-winning IL DIVO; Academy Award 2008-winning THE COUNTERFEITERS; Academy Award 2008 nominated MONGOL; Academy Award 2007-winning THE LIVES OF OTHERS; and the Academy Award 2005-nominated DOWNFALL.

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