The Kinofest NYC film festival celebrates independent cinema from Ukraine and other post-Soviet countries. 2013 marks the festival’s fourth consecutive year!

This year, the festival takes place at three venues: the Ukrainian Institute of America, and two long standing East Village institutions – The Ukrainian Museum and the historic cinema arthouse the Anthology Film Archives.

The Kinofest NYC team is excited to present the 15 guest filmmakers flown in just for the festival, and this year’s program with its selection of new, independent feature and short films.

See you at the movies!
## FESTIVAL AT A GLANCE

### THURSDAY APRIL 4

- **UIA 8:00 PM** • Festival kick-off! 2 short films, meet the filmmakers

### FRIDAY APRIL 5

- **AFA 8:00 PM** • *Pit No. 8; short Vanya*

### SATURDAY APRIL 6

- **AFA 1:00 PM** • *Bomzhi; short The Nameless*
- **AFA 3:00 PM** • *How to Re-Establish a Vodka Empire; short When a Woman is Happy*
- **UM 3:00 PM** • Young Ukrainian Filmmaker Short Films (9)
- **AFA 5:00 PM** • Post-Soviet Short Films (7)
- **AFA 8:00 PM** • *Business as Usual*

### SUNDAY APRIL 7

- **UM 1:00 PM** • Documentary Short Films: *16 Days... and «15 Young by Young»* (5)
- **UM 3:30 PM** • *Felt, Feelings And Dreams; Ukrainian Lessons; How The Cossacks...*
- **UM 6:00 PM** • “Video Poetry”; Festival closing reception

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On behalf of the Consulate General of Ukraine in New York please accept my greetings on the occasion of the 4th Kinofest NYC Film Festival. The annual Festival, which strives to present the independent cinema from Ukraine and other post-Soviet countries, is a unique cultural event in New York.

The Festival represents the great diversity of themes of filmmaking from Ukraine and post-Soviet countries. Being a powerful medium the Festival serves as a vehicle to break the barriers created and perpetuated by stereotypes.

We know that that your activity is extremely important and absolutely necessary. I am pleased and honored to be a patron of the 4th Kinofest NYC Film Festival and wish the organizers, supporters and the audience a successful and lively festival.

Hon. Igor Sybiga
Consul General of Ukraine in New York
March 26, 2013
It is a great pleasure to be an Honorary Patron of the 2013 Kinofest NYC Film Festival. I truly believe the main aim of Kinofest NYC -- the promotion of Ukrainian filmmakers and movies -- is an important cultural link between the artistic communities of Ukraine and the United States.

Your festival of independent Ukrainian film is especially timely in light of celebrating in 2014 the 120th anniversary of Oleksandr Dovzhenko, a brilliant Ukrainian film director, author, and playwright, whose legacy in world cinema is widely recognized.

I would like to assure you of my readiness to provide your Film Festival with all necessary support.

H. E. Yuriy A. Sergeyev  
Ambassador, Permanent Representative of Ukraine to the United Nations  
December 14, 2012
Denis Ivanov, a «Goodbye, Ukraine!» co-producer and founder of Arthouse Traffic, Lesya Kalynska, Yuriy Kovaliov (The Pie), Marysia Nikitiuk (Gaudi) and others will be available for post-screening Q&A.

Additional highlights:
• Meet the 12 visiting Kinofest NYC filmmakers from Ukraine, Estonia, and the USA
• Kinofest NYC kick-off reception

The Pie (A «Goodbye, Ukraine!» film)
Directed by Yuriy Kovaliov
Ukrainian (w/Eng. subtitles)
Ukraine, 2012
16 min
In a small provincial Ukrainian town everyone — old ladies, teenagers, police and local mafia... get a bite of a pie. Pie screened at the 2012 Odessa International Film Festival.

Gaudi (A «Goodbye, Ukraine!» film)
Directed by Aksynia Kurina
Screenplay by Marysia Nikitiuk
Ukrainian (w/Eng. subtitles)
Ukraine, 2012
18 min
While Victor, an architecture student, awaits news of a grant to study in Barcelona, his real, gritty life bears down hard on him.

Denis Ivanov, a «Goodbye, Ukraine!» co-producer and founder of Arthouse Traffic, Lesya Kalynska, Yuriy Kovaliov (The Pie), Marysia Nikitiuk (Gaudi) and others will be available for post-screening Q&A.

Additional highlights:
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**Pit No. 8**

Directed by Marianna Kaat  
Russian/English (w/Eng. subtitles)  
Estonia, 2010  
95 min

In the hard scrabble, coal-mining towns in Donetsk, Ukraine, everybody digs—retirees, unemployed miners and even the children. It’s not well known but for years now, the region’s more desperate residents have been mining illegally. They excavate everywhere: in abandoned mines, under the basements of demolished buildings, in the neighboring woods, public parks, as well as in their own vegetable gardens.

This documentary focuses on the family Sikanov’s three children who have left their alcoholic mother and live on their own. Fifteen-year-old Yura, the grandson of a once powerful Soviet plant director, puts his dreams on hold in an emotionally riveting struggle to provide for his sisters the only way possible: illegally, and perilously, mining the remaining scraps in a once-thriving coal town.

*Pit No. 8* has screened at numerous international film festivals and won awards, notably the Charles E. Guggenheim Emerging Artist Award at the Full Frame Documentary Film Festival 2011.

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**Vanya**

Directed by Oksana Artemenko  
Ukrainian (w/ Eng.subtitles), Ukraine, 2012, 10 min

Marianna Kaat, Director, and Alla Tyutyunnyk, DOCUDAYS UA Film Festival, will be available for post-screening Q&A.  
*Pit No. 8* had its Ukrainian premiere at the 2012 DOCUDAYS UA Film Festival

Preceded by short film  
*Vanya*  
Directed by Oksana Artemenko  
Ukrainian (w/ Eng.subtitles), Ukraine, 2012, 10 min

See pages 16–21 for additional information about the short films.
Bomzhi
Directed by Andrej Naterer
Russian/Ukrainian (w/Eng. subtitles)
Slovenia, 2012
95 min

In a raw, blistering account of drugs and alcohol use by homeless youth in Makeevka, Donetsk province, Ukraine, Slovenian sociologist Andrej Naterer films the same group of youth over a span of 10 years chronicling their lives, sad stories and for many, a premature but predictable, tragic ending.

Preceded by short film
The Nameless
Directed by Lesia Kordonets
Russian (w/ Eng.subtitles)
Switzerland, 2010
18 min

See pages 16–21 for additional information about the short films.
SATURDAY APRIL 6  3 PM

THE UKRAINIAN MUSEUM (UM)

YOUNG UKRAINIAN FILMMAKER SHORTS

Sunshower
Directed by Anastasia Maksimych

The Wardrobe
Directed by Liza Klyuzko

Kizonka
Directed by Irena Ictelencheva

Here is Our Bride
Directed by Valeria Sochevech

National Idea in Ukraine (A «Goodbye, Ukraine!» film)
Directed by Dan Voronov

Evil (A «Goodbye, Ukraine!» film)
Directed by Oksana Kazmina
Screenplay by Kateryna Babkina

Find Our Boy
Directed by Artem Rezhekov and Fedor Aleksandrovich

Visit
Directed by Roman Synchuk

Haidamaka
Directed by Roman Synchuk

Curated by and introduced by Kinofest NYC Program Coordinator Andrij Witiuk; film selections organized in Ukraine by Liza Klyuzko and Lena Yacovitska (Karpenko-Kary). Screenwriter Kateryna Babkina (Evil) will be available for post-screening Q&A.

Olexa Hirnyk Stairs
A video installation by Oleh Chorniy
Screening continuously at the UM April 6 & 7

See pages 16–21 for additional information about the short films.

SATURDAY APRIL 6  3 PM

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Olexa Hirnyk Stairs
A video installation by Oleh Chorniy
Screening continuously at the UM April 6 & 7

See pages 16–21 for additional information about the short films.
How to Re-Establish a Vodka Empire
Directed by Daniel Edelstyn
English/Russian/Ukrainian (w/Eng. subtitles)
United Kingdom, 2012
75 min

This feature documentary charts the journey of filmmaker Daniel Edelstyn as he tracks down his long lost Jewish Ukrainian heritage to Ukraine and then attempts to relaunch his great grandfather’s once glorious vodka empire. The film constitutes a whirlwind journey through European times and spaces – the story has it all, revolution and romance, exile and entrepreneurship, and at its heart lies a life changing discovery of a vodka distillery in Ukraine. Daniel Edelstyn deftly adds archival photographs, animation, and re-enactments into his film adding to the viewer’s entertainment. Vodka Empire has screened in over a dozen theaters all over the U.K. and in numerous international film festivals.

Introsed by Kinofest NYC Program Director Damian Kolodiy.

Preceded by short film
When a Woman is Happy
Directed by Tatiana Budickaya
Russian (w/ Eng.subtitles)
Russia, 2012, 21 min

See pages 16–21 for additional information about the short films.
SATURDAY APRIL 6  5 PM

ANTHOLOGY FILM ARCHIVES (AFA)

POST-SOVIET SHORT FILMS

Denys
Directed by Roman Bondarchuk

Microbe (A «15 Young by Young» film)
Directed by Dzintars Dreibergs

Autoportrait
Directed by Natalia Ilchuk

Yellow Flower for Monsieur Bourillon
Directed by Larysa Artiuhina

Beautiful Woman (A «Goodbye, Ukraine!» film)
Directed by Olena Alymova

A Date (A «Goodbye, Ukraine!» film)
Directed by Yevhen Matviyenko

Hello My Name is Olga
Directed by Tatiana Korol

Presented by Kinofest NYC
Program Director Damian Kolodiy.

Filmmakers Olena Alymova
(Beautiful Woman) and Yevhen Matviyenko (A Date) will be available for post-screening Q&A.

See pages 16–21 for additional information about the short films.

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Filmmakers Olena Alymova
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See pages 16–21 for additional information about the short films.
In this darkish comedy, Tolik has a mundane job as a psychotherapist in a Kyiv state-run hospital. He’s married and a father, but everything in his life is lackluster. As Tolik contemplates something akin to a ‘what have I accomplished in life’ mid-life crisis, he gets into a row with a pair of addict patients and gets himself gladly fired from his job. In his new self-discovery journey he loses his status-minded wife, attempts several hare-brained schemes led by his buddy Slavik, and tries his hand as a poet-rapper at dance clubs. Meanwhile his joyless, aimless, indecisive approach to life unravels what’s left of the fragile threads of his being. Business As Usual, Valentyn Vasyanovych’s first feature, won a Special Jury Mention award at the Odesa International Film Festival in 2012 and is presently in wide commercial release in Ukraine.
**THE UKRAINIAN MUSEUM (UM)**

**SUNDAY APRIL 7  1 PM**

**DOCUMENTARY SHORT FILMS**

«15 Young by Young» Project

Presenting 5 of 15 short stories and animated reminiscence episodes from this multimedia series directed by 15 young filmmakers from each of the 15 former Soviet republics.

**Happiness.** Directed by Iskandar Usmonov

**To Fight For.** Directed by Andrei Kutsila

**Killer.** Directed by Liina Paakspuu/Arian Levin

**Polina.** Directed by Roman Bondarchuk

**Corn.** Directed by Alekber Alijev

«15 Young by Young» producer Ilona Bicevska will present the short films and will also be available for post-screening Q&A.

Introduced by Alexander Motyl, professor of political science at Rutgers University – Newark.

See pages 16–21 for additional information about the short films.

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**SUNDAY APRIL 7  1 PM**

**DOCUMENTARY SHORT FILMS**

**16 Days Of The Granite Revolution**

Directed by Halyna Khymych and Lidiya Chayka

Ukrainian (w/Eng. subtitles)

Ukraine, 2011

26 min

Ukrainian students in 1990 defend their right for dignity, freedom and their own state.

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Introduced by Alexander Motyl, professor of political science at Rutgers University – Newark.

See pages 16–21 for additional information about the short films.
Felt, Feelings And Dreams
Directed by Andrea Odezynska
Co-produced by Virlana Tkacz
Kyrgyz/Russian (w/Eng. narration and subtitles)
Kyrgyzstan, 2012, 30 min
Kyrgyz women pull themselves from poverty by reviving ancient traditions of making crafts and art from felt.

Ukrainian Lessons
Directed by Ruslan Batytskyy
Producers Vyacheslav Volynshchykov and Lesya Kalynska
Mostly silent with some Ukrainian (w/Eng. subtitles)
Ukraine, 2012, 30 min
A young, solitary miner is enraptured with a newly arrived pretty school teacher. A work in progress screening.

How The Cossacks Flew Into Space
(A «Goodbye, Ukraine!» film)
Directed by Yevhen Matviyenko
Ukrainian (w/Eng. subtitles)
Ukraine, 2012, 26 min
A young Ukrainian couple concerns itself with mundane things, while their son pursues a fantasy world.

Andrea Odyzenska (Felt, Feelings And Dreams), Yevhen Matviyenko (How Cossacks Flew Into Space), Vyacheslav Volynshchykov and Lesya Kalynska (Ukrainian Lessons) will be available for post-screening Q&A.
Yara Arts Group founder Virlana Tkacz and “Video Poetry” co-curator Kateryna Babkina will be available for Q&A.

VIDEO POETRY

Yara Arts Group’s Virlana Tkacz curates an evening of new Video Poetry with poet and video director Kateryna Babkina from Kyiv. The video artists translate the beautiful and intense language of the poets into unforgettable images, graphics and animations, accompanied by readings and music.

The event will combine screenings of videos with performances of the poems in English by Yara actors. The videos feature Ukrainian poets: Yuri Andrukhovych, Bohdan-Oleh Horbochuk, Halyna Kruk, Iryna Shuvalova, Victoria Stakh, and Oksana Zabuzhko, as well as Ukrainian-American poet Dzvinia Orlowska and Lithuanian poets Dainius Gintalas and Gabriele Labanauskaite. Such innovative video artists as Yuriy Kruchak, Yulia Kostereva and Olia Mykhailiuk/ArtPole have contributed several videos each to the event. Also featured are works by Kateryna Babkina, Grytsa Erde, Max Hoffman, Volodymyr Klyuzko, Mark Marczyk with his Lemon Bucket Orkestra and Oleksandr Usik, who directed the popular Telnyuk Sisters.
SHORT FILMS (in alphabetical order...more or less)

*Autoportrait*
Directed by Natalia Ilchuk
Silent, Ukraine, 2012, 5 min
An animation-treated ode to the Zaporezhets, a classic Soviet Ukrainian car first manufactured in 1960.

*Beautiful Woman* (A «Goodbye, Ukraine!» film)
Directed by Olena Alymova
Ukrainian (w/Eng. subtitles), Ukraine, 2012, 14 min
A pretty but reclusive librarian fantasizes an unattainable love affair. *Beautiful Woman* won a Special Diploma of the Jury award at the Odesa International Film Festival in 2012.

*Corn* (A «15 Young by Young» film)
Directed by Alekber Alijev
Azerbaijani (w/Eng. subtitles), Azerbaijan 2012, 13 min
A young Azerbaijani, once with much higher aspirations, finds himself taking over his father’s business: selling hot corn to beachgoers.

*A Date* (A «Goodbye, Ukraine!» film)
Directed by Yevhen Matviyenko
Ukrainian (w/Eng. subtitles), Ukraine, 2012, 10 min
Anya is an aspiring actress and a single mother. She works at an assortment of jobs, some less palatable – just to survive. *A Date* screened at the 2013 Clermont-Ferrand International Short Film Festival, France.
Denys
Directed by Roman Bondarchuk
Ukrainian (w/Eng. subtitles), Ukraine, 2012, 6 min
A teacher attempts to break traditional Gypsy culture in Ukraine by teaching Gypsy children in a formal classroom setting instead of the historical pattern of “homeschooling”.

Evil (A «Goodbye, Ukraine!» film)
Directed by Oksana Kazmina
Screenplay by Kateryna Babkina, Ukrainian (w/Eng. subtitles), Ukraine, 2012, 9 min
Young and pregnant. Lesya doesn’t seem to differentiate between dreams, nightmares and reality.

Find Our Boy
Directed by Artem Rezhekov and Fedor Aleksandrovich
Mostly silent with some Ukrainian (w/Eng. subtitles), Ukraine, 2012, 4 min
A couple desperately searches for their little boy in this dream/nightmare-like scenario.

Haidamaka
Directed by Roman Synchuk
Ukrainian/Russian (w/Eng. subtitles), Ukraine, 2012, 29 min
Based on a novel by Valerian Pidmohylny about the Civil War in Ukraine in the early twentieth century, this is the first installment of a trilogy. The story is about two teenagers who come into Petliura’s detachment and almost immediately are captured by the Red Army.
**Happiness** (A «15 Young by Young» film)
Directed by Iskandar Usmonov
Tajik (w/Eng. subtitles), Tajikistan 2012, 13 min
A popular wedding singer/planner takes us behind the scenes of his successful business.

**Hello My Name is Olga**
Directed by Tatiana Korol
Ukrainian/Russian/German (w/Eng. subtitles), Ukraine, 2011, 35 min
Franz, an aging Austrian playboy, seeks a Ukrainian romantic adventure via internet dating. When he meets Olga, he gets much more than he’s planned for.

**Here is Our Bride**
Directed by Valeria Sochevech
Romani Gypsy (w/Eng. subtitles), Ukraine, 2012, 4 min
Young love, jealousy, vendetta, regret play out in this Gypsy national folk song’s music video.

**Killer** (A «15 Young by Young» film)
Directed by Liina Paakspuu/Arian Levin
Estonian (w/Eng. subtitles), Estonia 2012, 13 min
An introspective young man slaughters animals to make a living.

**Kizonka**
Directed by Irena Ictelencheva
Ukrainian (w/Eng. subtitles), Ukraine, 2012, 10 min
A former lover performs the erotic Kizonka goat dance to entice a cuckolded husband.
**Microbe** (A «15 Young by Young» film)
Directed by Dzintars Dreibergs
Latvian (w/Eng. subtitles), Latvia, 2012, 13 min
The troubled lives of a teenager and his friends in a Latvian suburb.

**The Nameless**
Directed by Lesia Kordonets
Russian (w/Eng. subtitles), Switzerland, 2010, 18 min
A thought-provoking, graphic depiction of what brain surgery and shoe repair share in common in Ukraine. *The Nameless* received the Jury Mention of Best New Signs Doc at the Lago Film Fest 2012, Italy.

**National Idea in Ukraine** (A «Goodbye, Ukraine!» film)
Directed by Dan Voronov
Ukrainian (w/Eng. subtitles), Ukraine, 2012, 11 min
A female university student seeks to emigrate from Ukraine by consorting with international tourists.

**Polina** (A «15 Young by Young» film)
Directed by Roman Bondarchuk
Ukrainian (w/Eng. subtitles), Ukraine 2012, 13 min
Polina, 11, an infectiously endearing and musically talented girl, plays a wide assortment of instruments. Her dream is to be a one-woman band.
Sunshower
Directed by Anastasia Maksimchyk
Ukrainian (w/Eng. subtitles), Ukraine, 2012, 10 min
A jaded couple have a petty argument over the purchase of a shower head.

To Fight For (A «15 Young by Young» film)
Directed by Andrei Kutsila
Belarus (w/Eng. subtitles), Belarus 2012, 13 min
Overcoming personal hardships, a young man perseveres and becomes a judo champion in Belarus.

Vanya
Directed by Oksana Artemenko
Ukrainian (w/Eng. subtitles), Ukraine, 2012, 10 min
A fragile boy, pining his mother, enters an orphanage and is forced to deal with his new life.

Visit
Directed by Roman Synchuk
Ukrainian (w/Eng. subtitles), Ukraine, 2012, 10 min
An old Ukrainian World War II veteran experiences PTSD during a family gathering.
The Wardrobe
Directed by Liza Klyuzko
Ukrainian (w/Eng. subtitles), Ukraine, 2012, 11 min
Based on a Guy de Maupassant short story, a University student prostitutes herself to make ends meet. Wardrobe screened at the Molodist Fast Film Festival in Ukraine.

When a Woman is Happy
Directed by Tatiana Budickaya
Russian (w/ Eng.subtitles), Russia, 2012, 21 min
In this light comedy/drama, a sassy teenage girl seeks out much older men on an internet dating site.

Yellow Flower for Monsieur Bourillon
Directed by Larysa Artiuhina
Ukrainian/French (w/Eng. subtitles), Ukraine, 2012, 18 min
In this xenophobic comedy of errors, a paranoid French novelist arrives in Ukraine to do a book tour and finds his worst suspicions may be coming true.

SCREENING CONTINUOUSLY AT THE UKRAINIAN MUSEUM, SATURDAY AND SUNDAY

Olexa Hirnyk Stairs
A video installation by Oleh Chorniy
Ukrainian/Russian, Ukraine, 2012, 14 min
Composed of archival Soviet footage, this video installation is an ironic tribute to Olexa Hirnyk who in 1978 burned himself to death near the grave of Taras Shevchenko as an act of protest against russianization of Ukraine.
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The Ukrainian Museum’s film series is supported, in part, by public funds from the New York City Department of Cultural Affairs in partnership with the City Council.
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Martha Duff   Hospitality
Orest Bauer   Logistics
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