

Kino Kamera DOO with Penrose Film in collaboration with
Joroni Film and Here and There Productions (USA)

present

HERE AND THERE

Tamo i ovde

a film by Darko Lungulov



Serbia/Germany/USA 2008 / 35mm / 1:1.85 / color / 90'

WORLD SALES

FILMS BOUTIQUE

Skalitzer str. 54a - 10997 Berlin

Tel: +49 (0)30 8411 0859

info@filmsboutique.com

www.filmsboutique.com

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SYNOPSIS (short)

Branko, a young Serbian immigrant, struggles in an unforgiving New York, desperately trying to bring his girlfriend Maria from Serbia to USA.

Robert, a depressed New Yorker, tries to make quick cash and accepts to move to Belgrade to marry her so she can get an American visa. Instead of money, Robert finds his way in chaotic Serbia!

SYNOPSIS (long)

Robert, a jaded middle-aged New Yorker, is being evicted from his apartment. He hires Branko, a young Serbian immigrant with a van to help him move. Branko desperately wants his girlfriend Ivana, who is in Serbia, to join him in the U.S., but it's impossible for her to obtain a U.S. visa. Branko offers Robert a deal: he will pay him to go to Serbia and marry Ivana so she can be granted a "Fiancé Visa." Robert, desperate for cash, agrees. While waiting in Serbia for Branko to send him the cash, Robert stays in the apartment of Branko's mother Olga. Olga is kept in the dark about the marriage. Instead, Robert is introduced to her as a good friend of Branko's from New York in town on business. Feeling like a fish out of water, Robert resents her hospitality. He is distant and cynical.

Meanwhile in New York, as Branko is on a mission to earn the rest of the money, his van is stolen. When Branko in desperation calls and asks Robert to stay in Serbia longer, Robert is outraged. However, during his prolonged stay, Robert gets to know Olga and her warmth melts Robert's depression and resentment. After a series of awkward, yet romantic situations, Robert and Olga find themselves falling for each other. Their budding romance is disturbed when Ivana barges in, baring terrible news: Branko has been arrested and the truth behind Robert's visit is revealed. Dismayed, Olga blames Robert for Branko's misfortune. Unable to defend himself, he angrily storms out of the apartment. After calming down, he calls a friend in New York and asks him to bail out Branko. The next morning, Robert returns to Olga's apartment to pick up his things. Hurt, but thankful for getting Branko out of jail, Olga coldly offers to pay what Branko owes him for their wedding deal. Robert is reluctant, but accepts. Ecstatic, Ivana rushes him to marry and move to New York. When Robert and Ivana arrive in New York, Branko is waiting for them at the airport. All three of them ride in Branko's van to the city. While Ivana raves about the Manhattan skyline, Robert stares at it, sadly, thinking about Belgrade.

Director's statement

I was born and raised in Belgrade, then Yugoslavia, and now Serbia. When in 1991 the civil war broke in Yugoslavia, I moved to New York. There, while studying film at CCNY, I supported myself working as a "man with a van". Every time my beeper would go off, I would run out of class to make phone call to my potential clients. My fellow students and my professors thought that I am dealing drugs.

I entered many lives as "mover" in New York City. I always knew that this could be a good base for a story. Some real details from my 5-year experience of driving a van and moving furniture and boxes in NYC are built into "Here and There".

After graduating, I got a job as an assistant editor and in time I advanced to the position of director of documentary films.

Life was good, but nevertheless I was continually missing my "old country".

So, in 2003, I returned to live in Serbia. Soon enough, I learned about the harsh reality of daily life in this "country in transition." Even though all the wars ended, nearly all the young people there were still longing to live somewhere else.

That irony inspired me to write "Here And There."

The story of "Here and There" is loosely based on my 5-year stint as a "man with a van" in NYC.

Darko Lungulov

Darko Lungulov, originally from Belgrade, Yugoslavia, moved to New York City in 1991 where he obtained BFA in film and video from City College of New York.

From 1997 until 2003 he has worked at the production company Spiral Pictures/Ross Institute as director/co-producer of documentaries; most notably *Sonic Convergence* - music documentary featuring Quincy Jones and *How to Eat a Poem* - award winning documentary - Silver Apple 99, The Best Film at South Bronx Festival. At the same time Darko taught production courses at Long Island University and was a faculty member of Media Studies department of the Ross School. During that same period, Darko also collaborated on numerous independent projects; most notably *Burn by Vladan Nikolic* and *Special Players Amongst The Stars* by Don Lenzer, an Academy Award winning cinematographer.

In 2003 Darko moved back to Serbia and started a freelance career. In 2004 his feature documentary *"Escape"* won the Audience Award at its world premiere at Hamptons International Film Festival. It was screened at numerous international festivals since, including: Amsterdam International Documentary Festival, Leipzig International Documentary Festival, Go East Film Festival, FEST- Belgrade International Film Festival and SANFIC - Santiago de Chile Film Festival. *"Escape"* was broadcasted in USA and Europe.

Darko's script "Here and There" won Balkan Fund script development award at 47th Thessaloniki International Film Festival in Greece.

Here and There, feature film, 2009, world Premiere at 2009 Tribeca Festival - Official Selection (World Narrative Features)

2005, short, 2005, ATA Gallery, San Francisco 2007, Pasadena Museum of California Art, 2007, BELEF 2005 Belgrade Summer Festival;

Escape, 50 min. documentary, 2004,

Hamptons International Film Festival 2004-Audience Award, International Documentary Festival Amsterdam, 2004, 2005 Belgrade International Film Festival, Citizens Without Boundaries, Malmoe, Sweden, 2005, Zivot=Life, 1st Belgrade Regional Doc Fest, Serbia - Opening Night, Go East 2006 - Festival of Central and East European Film, Wiesbaden, Santiago de Chile International Film Festival 2006, Chile

Face, documentary about artist Dawoud Bey, 2000

About the cast

David Thornton. In the lead role of Robert is **David Thornton**, known for 'Civil Action' (costars with John Travolta), 'John Q' (with Denzel Washington), and for TV Show 'Law and Order'. Most recently, he costars in Nick Cassavetes' film "My Sister's Keeper".

Mirjana Karanovic, currently the most established Serbian actress, in the lead female role. In 2006 Mirjana was nominated for European Oscar for her role in 'Grbavica' (AKA "Sarajevo, mon amour"), 2006 Berlin Festival Winner. She is best known for two Cannes Festival winners: "When Father Was Away on Business" (1985) and "Underground" (1995) directed by a famous Serbian director Emir Kusturica.

Cyndi Lauper (Original song composer / Supporting Role) is an iconic American Grammy Award-winning singer and Emmy Award-winning film, television and theatre actress. She exploded onto the scene in 1984, winning a Grammy for Best New Artist and selling nine million copies of 'She's So Unusual'. Her songs were featured in at least 30 films and TV shows including: Napoleon Dynamite, John Tucker Must Die, Big Momma's House, Never Been Kissed, Unhook the Stars, Tarzan.

Branislav Trifunovic in the role of Branko. **Branislav Trifunovic**, young Serbian star, best known for "Seven a Half" (Roma Independent Film Festival Jury Award). Young actress **Jelena Mrdja** plays Ivana, Branko's girlfriend. **Fedja Stojanovic** plays Tosha, **Goran Radakovic** plays Mirko, Ivana's brother. **Antone Pagan** plays Jose Escobar, a street-wise mechanic who is "helping" Branko in New York. **Mirjana Djurdjevic** plays Violeta and **Vlasta Velisavljevic** plays Dragi, the waiter.

About the crew

Darko Lungulov / Writer and Director

Born in Serbia, moved to New York in 1991. Graduated from the City College of New York. Moved back to Serbia in 2003. His documentary 'Escape' won the Audience Award at the Hamptons International Film Festival in 2004 and was screened and awarded at many festivals since, including: Amsterdam International Documentary Festival, Leipzig International Documentary Festival, Go East Film Festival, Belgrade International Film Festival and Santiago de Chile Film Festival. Script for "Here and There" was awarded Balkan Fund Script Development Award at Thesaloniki Film Festival in 2006.

Next project, in development, feature film "Monument to Michael Jackson" based on a true story.

George Lekovic / Producer

George is a young NY based independent producer whose debut film was picked up by Universal's Vivendi. His recent larger scope projects include 'The Mill and the Cross' and 'Stoneman' by Lech Majewski, as well as 'Horizon' by Vladan Nikolic. George is in the final selection round for the 2009 Sundance Creative Producer Fellowship.

Mathias Schöningh/ Director of Photography

His latest accomplishment 'Pool of Princesses' won 2008 German film Award and DIALOGUE en Perspective Award at 2007 Berlin International Film Festival.

"House is Burning" was screened at the Cannes Film festival.

Zora Mojsilovic / Costume Designer

She is the one of the Serbia's most respected theatre and film costume designers. Selected films; 'Life is a Miracle' by Emir Kusturica (Cannes 2004, 2005 César Award, France), 'Gucha' by Dusan Milic (Berlin 2007), "Powder Keg" by Goran Paskaljevic (Venice Fipresci Award 1998) and over 70 theater plays.

Dejan Pejovic / Composer

Dejan was European Oscar's Nominee for music in Dusan Milic's 'Gucha' in 2007.

Jim Stark / Co-Producer

Legendary New York producer of independent classics such as: "Night on Earth", "Mystery Train" and "Down by Law" by Jim Jarmush, and "In the soup"

by Alexandre Rockwell.

Dejan Urosevic / Editor

“The Trap” by Srdan Golubovic (2008 Foreign Language Oscar - short list), ‘Tears for Sale’ (AKA Charston and Vendeta) - Toronto 2008, by Uros Stojanovic.

Mirko Ilic / Visual Identity

Renowned designer and illustrator, Mirko was art director of the TIME and THE NEW YORK TIMES Op-Ed pages for over a decade. His work is exhibited in The Smithsonian and is included in the anniversary collection of the 12 most popular American designers.

Slavimir Stojanovic / Graphic Design

One of Serbia’s most respected graphic designers created the film’s poster.

CAST

David Thornton	Robert
Mirjana Karanovic	Olga
Cyndi Lauper	Rose
Branislav Trifunovic	Branko
Antone Pagan	Jose Escobar
Fedja Stojanovic	Tosha Rajkovic
Goran Radakovic	Mirko
Jelena Mrdja	Ivana
Mirjana Djurdjevic	Violeta
Max King	George
Vlasta Velisavljevic	Dragi, the waiter
Russian Lady	Fredda Lomsky
Chinese Woman	Lew Lew

Vladimir Bibic

Greek Dinner Owner

CREDITS

Written and Directed by

Darko Lungulov

Cinematography by

Mathias Schöningh

Original Music by

Dejan Pejovic

Costume Design by

Zora Mojsilovic (Belgrade)

Laura Schwartz (New York)

Film Editing by

Dejan Urosevic

Production Design by

Phil Buccellato (New York)

Ivana Nikolic (Belgrade)

Marija Jovic (Belgrade)

Sound Designer

Roland Vajs

Music consultant

Suzana Peric

Produced by:

Kino Kamera DOO (Serbia) with

Penrose Film (Germany) in collaboration with

Joroni Film (Germany) and

Here and There Productions (USA)

Producers

Darko Lungulov, George Lekovic, David
Nemer, Vladan Nikolic, Branislav Trifunovic

Co-producers:

Jim Stark, Katja Siegel, Julia Kleinhenz, Goran
Petmil, Felix Eisele

World sales

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