



# YET TO RULE

A FILM BY MIHAELA POPESCU

SAGA FILM PRESENTS

DOROTHEEA PETRE CUZIN TOMA OLIMPIA MELINTE

# YET TO RULE

*YET TO RULE is a surrealist drama about a 40-year-old criminal court judge with a dying father, an unhappy marriage and routine cases to solve, shown as struggle between ANDI, the animal within, and K, his rational side.*

*with the support of the Romanian National Cinema Center*



A courtroom scene with a woman in the foreground covering her face in distress, surrounded by other people and a judge.

## DIRECTOR'S NOTE

*I was struck when I first saw a courtroom five years ago and that image stayed with me. Despair coexisting with boredom, anguish, routine, an amalgam of mouths, thoughts, grief, hate, hope and cordiality. I felt I entered a grinding bureaucratic apparatus that was coasting on the fumes of a past ideal justice. I felt that somehow the spirit of justice was lost along the way and that we've only kept the form, the procedures to deal with this difficult matter. I couldn't get that image out of my head and so, I went back again and again, trying to figure out what was troubling me.*

*Thus, I began working on a story about the case of an abused woman seeking to find justice in court. At first, I focused on the aggressor and the victim, but then I realized it was all about the judge, this is what was troubling me. So, I looked at the judges more closely, stripped them of their robes and shields and little by little by little I started seeing us in them. I started seeing us as both victims and aggressors throughout our lives. I started seeing the struggle we carry on between reason and our animal needs. I started seeing the reconciliation we try to do between those two as a painful fight and I saw that when one dominates, the other suffers. I started seeing this film.*

DIRECTOR | WRITER | EDITOR



Mihaela Popescu is a Romanian filmmaker, based in London, UK.


She started as Associate Producer for OUTBOUND (2010), a feature film directed by Bogdan George Apetri and produced by Saga Film, premiered at Locarno International Film Festival.

She then worked as Story Editor and Executive Producer for THE UNSAVED (2013), a feature film directed by Igor Cobileanski, premiered at Karlovy Vary IFF in 2013. During the same year, she made her directorial debut with THE WALK, a short film selected at Locarno, Slamdance, Brussels, Thessaloniki, FIFF Namur, Transilvania, Ankara and other international festivals.

In 2014, she won the Romanian National Cinema Center production support competition, receiving the biggest funding for her feature debut, YET TO RULE. While working for this film, she has also produced, directed, shot and edited ON ANOTHER CORNER, a short documentary about the rampant gun violence in Chicago, which premiered at the 60th DOK Leipzig in 2017.

She is currently developing THE LIVING BRIDGE, a feature documentary about how Brexit is affecting EU citizens living in UK



A man and a woman are shown in profile, looking towards the left. The man, in the background, is wearing a light blue t-shirt and has a beard; he is holding a lit cigarette to his mouth. The woman, in the foreground, has dark hair and is wearing a dark top. They are both looking off-camera with serious expressions. The background is dark with some out-of-focus lights, including a prominent green light source.

DOROTHEEA PETRE is a well-known Romanian actress.

Throughout her career she has received significant acting awards, as well as numerous nominations in international film festivals. She received the Special Jury Prize at the International Film Festival Mannheim-Heidelberg for her role in "Ryna" (d. Ruxandra Zenide) and Special Jury Prize for Best Actress at the prestigious Cannes Film Festival in Un Certain Regard section for her role in "How I Spent the End of the world" (d. Cătălin Mitulescu).

CUZIN TOMA is a Romanian actor and an artist, known for "Comoara" (d. Corneliu Porumboiu). "Aferim!" (d. Radu Jude), "The Japanese Dog" (d. Tudor Jurgiu) and "Silent River" (d. Anca Miruna Lăzărescu).

ALEXANDRU TEODORESCU, an EAVE graduate, is the CEO of Saga Film.

He has almost 20 years of experience in film production.

At Saga Film, Alexandru co-produced the Palme D'or winner "4 months, 3 weeks and 2 days", directed by Cristian Mungiu.

Since then he has produced over 1000 commercials, and besides the feature films "Outbound" and "The Unsaved",

he also produced several short films and documentaries, such as "First Strike" and "The Manakia Brothers. Diary of a long look back".

PRODUCER



MARIUS PANDURU is one of the most acclaimed DOPs from Romania,

he has signed the cinematography for some of the best Romanian films of the past years: "Aferim" (d. Radu Jude),

"Why me?" (d. Tudor Giurgiu), "Box" (d. Florin Serban), "If I want to whistle I whistle" (d. Florin Serban),

"Outbound" (d. Bogdan Apetri), "Police, adjective" (d. Corneliu Porumboiu).

Marius has worked with director Mihaela Popescu before, on her first short "The Walk" in 2013.

DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY



## CAST

K  
Andi  
Lara  
The prosecutor  
Magol  
The mother  
The father  
The clerk  
Ana Tănase  
Valentin

Dorotheea Petre  
Cuzin Toma  
Olimpia Melinte  
Teodor Corban  
Laurette Atindehou  
Alexandrina Halic  
Ion Arcudeanu  
Crenguța Hariton  
Liliana Mocanu  
Cosmin Pană

## CREW

Written and Directed by  
Director of Photography  
Editor  
Sound

Art Director  
Costumes  
Hair  
Make-up  
Casting Director  
Producer

Mihaela Popescu  
Marius Panduru, RSC  
Mihaela Popescu  
Sebastian Zsemlye  
Alexandru Dragomir  
Cristian Niculescu  
Brândușa Ioan  
Ștefan Enache  
Ioana Covali; Irina Ianciuș  
Oana Bucur  
Alexandru Teodorescu

ROMANIA • 2018 • COLOUR • 93 MIN • FORMAT : 1.85/5.1



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