

## Love, Dad and minority co-production Silent Land selected for Toronto

Toronto International Film Festival will give floor to Canadian premiere of Czech short film *Love, Dad* by Diana Cam Van Nguyen. Polish-Italian-Czech co-production drama *Silent Land* will celebrate world premiere in the Platform competition section. Both films have been backed by the Czech Film Fund.

### Love, Dad | Short Cuts

Short Cuts selection of this year's TIFF includes Diana Cam Van Nguyen's both animated and live-action documentary *Love, Dad*, which was made as Czech-Slovak co-production with Karolína Davidová of 13ka being the main producer. Co-production partners are Jakub Viktorín of nutprodukcia (SK) and FAMU (CZ). The Czech Film Fund supported production of the film in 2019 with EUR 38 000. The international sales are handled by MIYU Distribution.

*Love, Dad* is a short film about ties and gaps between a child and a parent. The author rediscovers the letters that her dad used to write to her from prison. That love seems to be gone now. She decides to write back in hope to find the connection again. She puts in writing what could not be said: blaming him for family's break-up but also trying to understand his actions at the same time.

FAMU student Diana Cam Van Nguyen world-premiere her film at the Locarno IFF (Pardi di domani competition) earlier this month. However, this was not the first major festival appearance for her – the director impressed with her ability to combine different techniques already in 2019, when she presented her animated documentary *Apart* at the International Film Festival Rotterdam.

The last Czech film which appeared in TIFF's Short Cut selection was Student Oscar-winning drama *Daughter*, back in 2019.

### Silent Land | Platform

Polish-Italian-Czech debut feature by Polish director Agnieszka Woszczyńska, *Silent Land*, will compete in the Platform section – relatively young and already prestigious competition (introduced in 2015), which is focused on high artistic merit and films that demonstrate a strong directorial vision. Woszczyńska's drama is produced by Agnieszka Wasiak of Lava Films, Giovanni Pompili of Kino Produzioni (IT) and Jordi Niubó of Prague's based company i/o post (CZ).

*Silent Land* is a story of a perfect couple who rents a holiday home on a sunny Italian island. The reality does not live up to their expectations when they find out that the pool in the house is broken. Ignorant of the fact that the island faces water shortage, they ask for someone to fix it. The constant presence of a stranger invades the couple's idea of safety and starts a chain of events, which makes them act instinctively and irrationally, heading to the darkest place in their relationship.

The film was supported by Polish Film Institute, EC1 Łódź - the City of Culture, Eurimages, MIC - Ministero della cultura Direzione generale Cinema ed audiovisivo and the Czech Film Fund (with EUR 77 000 in 2019).

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