

OPEN DOOR

Directed by Florenc Papas



25.
Sarajevo
Film Festival
OFFICIAL COMPETITION





*A road movie on
sisterhood and male
dominated family
traditions.*



SYNOPSIS

Married Rudina sets off on a long journey with her pregnant sister, Elma, to meet their strict, traditional father in the Albanian village where they were born. As Rudina's car makes its way across the mountains, Elma comes up with a plan to enlist an ex-classmate to play the part of her husband.

Director's note

Open Door is about understanding who we are as a people and what we must do to change the circumstances that keep us tied to the past.

The story follows two sisters, Rudina and Elma, who are unable to go to their strict father's home owing to the fact that the younger of the two, Elma, is pregnant and unmarried. Elma and Rudina have evolved in different ways and the trauma of the past has made them grow apart. Yet that strong link that once united them in the past is still there. Together they will help each other to face the

circumstances brought about by the closed, patriarchal Albanian society. The film takes place in present day Albania, a fast-developing country that attempts to navigate a delicate balance between traditional values and modernity.

As a younger filmmaker coming from a certain generation, I feel tremendous empathy and fascination for these characters. I find myself particularly drawn to this confrontation between the traditional values of our parents and values in our present environment. Perhaps this is the one thing ideology





has not been able to impact: the very specific nature of the Albanian family. The characteristics of these clans are often marked by an extremely stubborn and serious father, a long-suffering, hard working mother, and children who attempt to live their own lives but feel they must please and live up to their parents' expectations.

For me, as a director, the inner workings and dynamics inside

families, Albanian and otherwise, is the compelling material of which great cinema is made. The sisters in my story go to ridiculous lengths to please their unhappy father by producing a pretend husband for his benefit; a length that puts their lives in danger. For me, this absurdity perfectly captures the awful, tragic and sometimes humorous social landscape that marks Albania in the past three decades.

Florenc Papas

DIRECTOR'S BIOGRAPHY

Florenc Papas was born in Albania, on May 1991. He studied film directing and media at the Marubi Film Academy in Tirana. He has worked in numerous short films, promotional videos, television series and broadcast documentaries.

His first feature film **Open Door** (Dere e Hapur) was completed on 2019 and is going to be presented on the main competition of 25th Sarajevo Film Festival. As a festival programmer, he is currently working for Tirana International Film Festival. Papas is an alumnus of Sarajevo Talents 2015, Berlinale Talents 2016 and First Films First. With his projects he has also participated at Sofia Meetings, Midpoint, Torino Film Lab and Priforum. At the moment he is working on his second film titled "Luna Park".



Cast



Rudina: **Luli Bitri**

Elma: **Jonida Vokshi**

Orion: **Maxwell Guzja**

Father: **Sotiraq Bratko**

Geni: **Elidon Aliko**

Receptionist: **Guljelm Radoja**

Rezart: **Visar Vishka**

Father-in-law: **Jorgaq Tushe**

Assistant: **Andi Begolli**



Crew

Produced by: **Eno Milkani**

Directed by: **Florenc Papas**

Written by: **Florenc Papas, Ajola Daja**

Cinematographer: **Sevdije Kastrati**

Editor: **Stefan Stabenow**

Sound: **Igor Popovski**

Original Music: **Aleksandar Pejovski**

Production Designer: **Erjona Daka**

Costumes: **Borana Gjyzeli**

Co-Producers: **Besnik Krapi, Riccardo Neri, Goran Stojilkovic, Vladimir Stojcevski**

Production Company: **Bunker Film +, Circle Production, Lupin Film, Award Film & Video**



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TECHNICAL INFORMATION

Original Title: Dere e Hapur / shot in 2K Digital / available for screenings in DCP / color /
image format: 16:9, 1:2.3 / 77 minutes / sound format: 5.1, dolby digital surround /
original language: Albanian with English subtitles
Bunker Film +, 2019

www.opendoor-movie.com



BUNKER FILM +

Eno Milkani

Producer

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