



SISTER

a feature film by Svetla Tsotsorkova

MONIKA NAYDENOVA SVETLANA YANCHEVA ELENA ZAMYARKOVA ASSEN BLATECHKY

Director **Svetla Tsotsorkova** Screenplay **Svetoslav Ovcharov Svetla Tsotsorkova** DoP **Vesselin Hristov**
Production and Costume Designer **Mira Kalanova** Sound designer and mixer **Valeria Popova**
Producers **Svetoslav Ovcharov Svetla Tsotsorkova** World sales **Film Republic**



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DOHA FILM INSTITUTE



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SISTER

feature fiction film

Bulgaria, Qatar

Duration: 97 min

Color

Aspect ratio: 1:2.39

Sound - 5.1

DCP

OUTLINE / SHORT SYNOPSIS

The lie of a teenage girl destroys the world of her elder sister.
Struggling to fix what she has done she finds out the truth about their mother.

SYNOPSIS

A small town in present-day Bulgaria. A mother and her two daughters are struggling to survive. The dreamy and distracted younger daughter often invents stories in order to make life more interesting. Unwittingly, she eventually gets caught in the trap of her own lies and destroys her older sister's well-ordered materialistic world. While struggling to get to the truth, the two sisters find out the truth about their mother.

SVETLA TSOTSORKOVA

Writer & Director

Born in Burgas, Bulgaria in 1977. In 2004 she graduated from the National Academy for Theatre and Film Arts in Sofia. Her first short film *“Life with Sophia”* was screened at various international film festivals (Semaine de la Critique, Karlovy Vary, Telluride, among others) and won various awards (Trieste, Lodz, among others). Her first feature *“Thirst”* had its World Premiere at San Sebastian FF - New Directors competition in 2015. The film participated in more than 60 festivals around the world, received various awards and was sold in 15 countries. The film was nominated by EFA for “Discovery” in 2016.



Filmography

2004 Life with Sophia, short, 20 min

2015 Thirst, feature, 90 min

2019 Sister, feature 97 min

SVETOSLAV OVCHAROV

Writer & Producer

Svetoslav Ovcharov was born in 1957 in Bulgaria. He is the author of 3 books, several theatre and TV plays. He has written and directed 26 documentaries and 6 feature films. Most of them participated in various prestigious film festivals like Cairo IFF, Pusan IFF, Warsaw IFF, Moscow IFF, Thessaloniki IFF, Sao Paulo IFF, Haifa IFF etc. As a producer he made 7 films. One of them is the debut film *“Thirst”* which won various awards and was presented at over 60 festivals around the world. He is a professor at the National Academy for Theatre and Film Arts.





DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT

“Sister” is actually a story about myself.

I was seven years old when my mother sent me out to buy some bread. On my way to the bakery, I ran into some other kids and we ended up spending the money I had on cotton candy. I came home with a bag of chestnuts that one of the neighborhood kids had given to me. I told my parents that the baker’s wife was having a baby, which is why the bakery was closed, and that I had bought the chestnuts, so that we’d have something to eat.

I was nineteen years old when I applied to the National Academy for Theatre and Film Arts in Sofia. I wrote a short film script about drug addicts and made it to the next round. Georgi Djulgerov, who would become my professor, asked me how I knew such details about the life of drug addicts. I told him that my parents had hired a man to drop me off and pick me up from school, and that one day I’d found him taking drugs in the bathroom of our apartment. In order to avoid having to give further explanations, I quickly added that the man had subsequently died and that I’d found him dead at the threshold of that same bathroom. And then I started crying.

I was raised by my grandmother in a village in the Strandzha Mountain in the southeastern part of Bulgaria. Our life there was boring, locked as it was between the vineyard, the vegetable garden, and taking care of the donkey. And how can you not make up stories when the daily grind itself doesn’t offer anything exciting?

“Sister” is a love confession for the people who live precisely such seemingly unremarkable lives. It seems to me that we all owe a debt to the truth about the kind of world we live in.



CAST & CREDITS

Cast	Monika Naydenova - Rayna Svetlana Yancheva - The Mother Elena Zamyarkova - Kamelia Assen Blatechky - Miro
Director	Svetla Tsotsorkova
Screenplay	Svetoslav Ovcharov, Svetla Tsotsorkova
DoP	Vesselin Hristov
Music	Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart "The marriage of Figaro", Barbarina's Aria
Songs Composer	Hristo Namliiev
Songs lyrics	Svetoslav Ovcharov
Production and Costume Designer	Mira Kalanova
Sound designer and mixer	Valeria Popova
Editor	Svetla Tsotsorkova
Producers	Svetoslav Ovcharov, Svetla Tsotsokrova
Production company	Omega Films supported by Doha Film Institute



SISTER Film Still | Monika Naydenova, Svetlana Yancheva



SISTER Film Still | Monika Naydenova, Assen Blatechky



SISTER Film Still | Monika Naydenova, Svetlana Yancheva



SISTER Film Still | Monika Naydenova



WORLD SALES

FILMPUBLIC

Xavier Henry-Rashid
Hackney Picturehouse, 270 Mare Street
London E8 1HE, United Kingdom

T: +44 (0) 203 287 9112
E: xavier@filmrepublic.biz
E: viktorija@filmrepublic.biz
www.filmrepublic.biz

PRODUCER

OMEGA FILMS

7 Viktor Grigorovich str.
Sofia 1606, Bulgaria
T: +359 888 325 022
E: omegafilms@abv.bg

