

WEREWOLF

A film by Adrian Panek

Liberation was just the beginning...



„The unschooled cast are unusually natural and convincing for child actors, and technical credits are generally superior”

The Hollywood Reporter

„Audacious and ambitious, a controversial subject is brilliantly realised in a film which reaches way beyond its generic origins.”

Gráinne Humphreys

Festival Director
Dublin IFF

WILKOŁAK (WEREWOLF)

Poland / Netherlands / Germany

88', 2018

Synopsis

Summer, 1945. Eight children from Gross Rosen concentration camp find a provisional hiding place in an abandoned orphanage nearby, lost among forests. It seems that after the horrors of the war feral children may come back to normal life. All of a sudden idyllic atmosphere of peace and quietness is interrupted. The nightmare returns. In the surrounding forests wolfhounds are circling. The dogs were released by SS officers before the liberation of Gross Rosen camp. Wolfhounds - taught and used to kill prisoners - surrounded young heroes in the orphanage. All the attempts of escaping the place are failing. Children without any food and water turn into madness and wilderness once again. But the real danger lurks inside the palace.

Logline

WW2: a group of children liberated from a concentration camp find themselves, aimless and hungry, stranded in an abandoned mansion in the forest. They've gone through hell but the true horror is just about to begin.

Trailer



vimeo.com/311902733

Director's bio

Adrian Panek was born in 1975. He studied Architecture at Wrocław University of Science and Technology. He is also a graduate of Krzysztof Kieślowski Faculty of Radio and Television at the University of Silesia and Wajda School. He directed many short films, including *The Passion of Marian* (2006) and *My poor head* (2009), and numerous music videos as well as commercials. In 2011 he made his feature debut *Daas* with Andrzej Chyra, Mariusz Bonaszewski and Olgierd Łukaszewicz in the leading roles. The film was named the best Polish first feature of 2011.

Cast

KRAUT Nicolas Przygoda

WŁADEK Kamil Polnisiak

HANKA Sonia Miertelica

GREY Jakub Syska

REDHEAD Helena Mazur

LOONY Krzysztof Durski

SKINNY Maksymilian Balcerowski

BIGGO Julia Ślusarczyk

DOLL Matylda Ignasiak

JADWIGA Danuta Stenka

LONKA Oleh Shcherbyna

DRIVER Eugeniusz Malinowski

SS OFFICER Werner Daehn

RED ARMY SOLDIER Radosław Chrześcianański

CHUNKY Wojciech Namiotko

Crew

Director and screenwriter ADRIAN PANEK

Cinematography DOMINIK DANILCZYK

Produced by MAGDALENA KAMIŃSKA, AGATA SZYMAŃSKA (Balapolis)

Coproduced by JAN DOENSE, HERMAN SLAGTER (House of Netherhorror), THANASSIS KARATHANOS, MARTIN HAMPEL (Twenty Twenty Vision), MACIEJ MUZYCZUK (Telewizja Polska SA), ALOIS ROSTEK (Rosco Polska)

Art Direction by ANNA WUNDERLICH

Costumes by MAŁGORZATA KARPIUK

Make up DARIUS KRYSIAK

Production Manager MAŁGORZATA WALA

Editing JAROSŁAW KAMIŃSKI

Music by ANTONI KOMASA ŁAZARKIEWICZ

Sound design WART WAMSTEKER, PETER FLAMMAN

AWARDS:

BLACK NIGHTS FILM FESTIVAL, Tallinn 2018: Audience Award, Ecumenical Jury Award

GDYNIA FILM FESTIVAL, Poland 2018: Best Director, Best Music

POLISH FILM FESTIVAL, Chicago 2018: Discovering Eye Award for Young Filmmakers

BRUSSELS INTERNATIONAL FESTIVAL OF FANTASY, FANTASTIC, THRILLER, AND SCIENCE-FICTION FILMS (BIFFF), 2019: Orbit Award
NETIA OFF CAMERA, Poland 2019: Young Audience Award
HORRORANT FILM FESTIVAL 'FRIGHT NIGHTS', Greece 2019 : Best Director Award
FANTASPOA INTERNATIONAL FANTASTIC FILM FESTIVAL, Brasil 2019: Best Film Award
FANTA FESTIVAL, Italy 2019: Best Picture Award
LUND INTERNATIONAL FANTASTIC FILM FESTIVAL, Sweden 2019: Méliès d'Argent winner

FESTIVALS

2018: FANTASTIC FEST Austin, USA (World Premiere) // GDYNIA FILM FESTIVAL, Poland: Competition // POLISH FILM FESTIVAL Chicago, USA // TALLINN / International Competition (European Premiere) // **2019:** JEWISH FF MIAMI, USA // FANTASPORTO, Portugal / Critic's Week CLEVELAND IFF, USA // GLASGOW IFF, Scotland // DUBLIN IFF, Ireland // BOSTON UNDERGROUND, USA // FEBIOFEST, Slovakia / Midnight Screenings // BRUSSELS IFF of FANTASY, FANTASTIC, THRILLER, Si-Fi, Belgium / Orbit Competition + Critic's Selection // FESTIVAL OF TOLERANCE JFF Zagreb, Croatia / Opening Film // IMAGINE FF, Netherlands // FAJR IFF, Iran / International Competition // POLISH FILM FESTIVAL, NYC, USA // NEISSE FILM FESTIVAL, Germany: Competition // HORRORANT FILM FESTIVAL "FRIGHT NIGHTS", Greece // FANTASPOA INTERNATIONAL FANTASTIC FILM FESTIVAL OF PORTO ALEGRE, Brasil // FANTA FESTIVAL, Rome // AL ESTE FF, Peru // BUCHEON INT. FANTASTIC FILM FESTIVAL, Sth. Korea // SHANGHAI IFF, China // GROSSMAN FANTASTIC FILM AND WINE FESTIVAL, Slovenia // NEUCHATEL INTERNATIONAL FANTASTIC FILM FESTIVAL, Switzerland // CARL INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL Sweden // SARAJEVO FILM FESTIVAL, Bosnia&Hercegovina // FULL MOON HORROR AND FANTASY FILM FESTIVAL IN BIERTAN, Romania // LUND INTERNATIONAL FANTASTIC FILM FESTIVAL, Sweden // TORONTO AFTER DARK, Canada // RAZOR REEL FANTASTIC FILM FESTIVAL, Belgium // BLACK CANVAS CONTEMPORARY FILM FESTIVAL, Mexico // AL ESTE FILM FESTIVAL, Argentina // AL ESTE FILM FESTIVAL, Colombia // PHENOMENA FILM FESTIVAL, Brasil // FILMS ON WAR, Norway

REVIEWS:

"this grim fairy tale is original and gripping"

<https://www.hollywoodreporter.com/review/werewolf-review-1169817>



<https://www.scifinow.co.uk/tag/werewolf/>

"original and fresh" (...) "a reminder that genre films, such as horrors, can be graceful vessels for more profound content"

<https://www.cineuropa.org/en/newsdetail/363827>

"excellent (...) post-holocaust horror"

Michal Oleszczyk (film critic at RogerEbert.com, Cineaste, Filmweb)

"Very Recommended"

<http://www.unseenfilms.net/2018/09/werewolf-wilkoak-2018-fantastic-fest.html>

„heartbreaking” (...) „very highly recommended”

"In many ways, it is a heartbreaking film, but it also allows for the possibility of hope—and maybe even forgiveness. Very highly recommended"

<http://jbspins.blogspot.com/2018/09/fantastic-fest-18-werewolf.html>

<https://www.austinchronicle.com/daily/screens/2018-09-26/fantastic-fest-review-werewolf/>

<http://oneofus.net/2018/09/infestation-fantastic-fest-2018-day-7/>

“A mix, of sorts, between Lord of the Flies and Cujo”

“a gripping story of survival”

“magnetic”

“to say it is a masterpiece would be an understatement”

<http://goseetalk.com/fantastic-fest-2018-parting-thoughts-the-best-and-the-rest-of-the-best-damn-fest-there-is/>

“more emotionally impacting moments I’ve seen in a film this year”

<http://dailygrindhouse.com/thewire/werewolf-2018/>

“a beautiful look at what people can do under the most gruesome of circumstances”

<https://birthmoviesdeath.com/2018/09/30/fantastic-fest-review-werewolf-shows-a-raw-side-of-survival>

“excellent and visually alluring”

<http://cineuropa.org/it/newsdetail/360729>

“very tense and exciting and scary and yet, it also ends in a very unexpected way that I really loved.

Definitely be on the lookout for this little film.”

<http://lewtonbus.net/reviews/fantastic-fest-dispatch-part-2/>

***↓

„*Werewolf* is a rugged and well directed thriller”

<http://www.themoviewaffler.com/2019/02/werewolf-review.html?m=1>

“disturbing, challenging” // The Guardian

<https://www.theguardian.com/film/2019/oct/02/werewolf-review-adrian-panek-horror-film>

★★★★☆

The Times (UK)

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/edition/times2/werewolf-review-a-lord-of-the-flies-style-breakdown-with-controversial-overtones-gk75t05fp>

“succeeds as a straight genre film, an allegory (...) and a study of human behaviour” // Time Out (London)

<https://www.timeout.com/london/film/werewolf-1>

“elevated horror” // BFI

“well written and superbly acted” // The Hollywood News

“Hollywood could learn a thing or two” // RTE

★★★★☆

“an impressive addition to the Holocaust film canon” // theartsdesk.com

“an intense, imaginative mixture of thriller, fairytale and allegory” // film.list.co.uk

“powerful” // Backseat Mafia

<https://www.backseatmafia.com/film-review-werewolf/>

“bold concept, fresh location, cracking sound design, terrific performances and a script which keeps you off balance” // chrishunneysett.uk

<https://chrishunneysett.uk/2019/09/30/werewolf/>

WORLD SALES:

Media Move: justyna.koronkiewicz@mediamove.pl

North American Distributor:

Indi8ecan Entertainment Inc.: info@indiecanent.com