

A group of Russian tourists go on a shopping tour to the neighboring Finland – only to be attacked by the Finnish cannibals. We focus on a middle-aged woman and her teenage son, who is filming the film – as we watch it – on his cell phone – as they are trying to survive in the land of vegetarians turned carnivores.

MIKHAIL BRASHINSKY

director, screenwriter

The first popular movie critic in the history of Russian cinema to turn to filmmaking, Mr. Brashinsky had worked as a train conductor en route to Siberia and a waiter in a Turkish restaurant, a dj on Bourbon Street in New Orleans and a film instructor at several New York universities before becoming the film columnist for Afisha magazine, Moscow's most popular city guide, in 1999. He is the author of more than 1000 texts and 2 books on film, published in Russia and the USA. From 1994 to 2002, he served as the Russian correspondent for Variety International Film Guide. *BLACK ICE (GOLOLED, 2003)*, which he wrote, directed and edited, was his feature directorial debut that premiered at the Rotterdam International Film Festival, was an Official Selection of the 2003 Berlinale, and received the New Directors Showcase Award at the Seattle International Film Festival, among other prizes, that year. Since then, Mr. Brashinsky has directed *ANOMALOUS ZONE (ANOMALNAYA ZONA, 2003)*, an episode of *The Killing Force*, a hit TV-series for Russian Channel 1, *TUNGUS METEORITE (TUNGUSSKIYI METEORIT, 2008)*, a pilot for the new TV-series, and *BLOOD TYPE (GRUPPA KROVI, 2006)*, a documentary on the Russian Koreans. *SHOPPING TOUR* is his second feature and his first effort as a producer.

Director:

A Road Movie (1991, short, 6 min., b/w, 8mm/video)

Let Them Think We're Sportsmen (Pust' dumayut, chto my – sportsmeny, 1999, short, 7 min., b/w & colour, video; for the art-show "The Underwear of the Soviet Era")

Black Ice (Gololed, 2003, 70 min., color, digital to 35 mm)

Awards:

Seattle International Film Festival 2003 – New Directors Showcase Award
International Festival of Film Debuts "The Spirit of Fire" 2003, Khanty-Mansiysk, Siberia – The Bronze Taiga Award

Moscow Premiere Festival 2003 – Federation of Moscow Film Clubs (FEKIM)

Award for the Search of the New Film Language

Moscow Pegasus Festival 2003 – Silver Pegasus

Russian Film Week in New York 2003 – The Most Promising Talent Award to actress Victoria Tolstoganova

International Independent Film Festival "Pure Dreams" (St.Petersburg) 2003 – Best Actor Award to Ilya Shakunov

Festivals:

Rotterdam International Film Festival (Official Selection; World Premiere, January 24, 2003)

Berlin International Film Festival 2003 (Official Selection; Internationales Forum des Jungen Films)

Jeonju (S.Korea) International Film Festival 2003 (Competition)

Sochi Open National Film Festival 2003 (Panorama)

Geneva International Festival of Film & Television "Cinema Tout Ecran" 2003 (Nouveautes)

Tallinn Black Nights Film Festival 2003

Vladivostok International Film Festival "Pacific Meridian" 2003

Prague International Film, Television and Video Festival "Febiofest" 2004

The Killing Force-5: Anomalous Zone (Uboinaya sila-5: Anomalnaya zona, 2003, TV, 49 min., 1st broadcast 30 October 2003, Channel 1, Moscow)

Blood Type (Gruppa krovi, 2006, documentary, 44 min.)

Festivals:

Pusan (S.Korea) International Film Festival 2006 (Wide Angle)
Moscow International Human Rights Film Festival "Stalker" 2006
Sochi Open National Film Festival 2006 (In the Mirror of the Document)
"Chir Chaiaan" International Arts Festival 2006, Abakan, Republic of Hakassia,
Russia
Vladivostok International Film Festival "Pacific Meridian" 2006

Tungus Meteorite (Tungusskyi meteorit, 2008, TV, Pilot, 100 min.), *unfinished*

Shopping Tour (2012, 70 min., color, digital)

Awards:

XX National Film Festival "Window to Europe" (Vyborg) 2012

- Critics' Prize
- Best Female Performance (Tatyana Kolganova)
- Grand Prix (Best Film)

AKHE in Europe: An Abduction (2012, documentary, 100 min.), *in post-production*

Antalia (2012), *in development*

Screenwriter:

Black Ice (Gololed, dir. Mikhail Brashinsky, 2003)

La Traductrice (Switzerland-Russia, dir. Elena Hazanov, 2006)

Churchill: The Night Visitor (Nochnoy vizit, dir. Niklay Khomeriki, TV-feature, RTR Channel, 2009)

Churchill: The Deadly Part (Smertelnaya rol, dir. Boris Khlebnikov, TV-feature, RTR Channel, 2009)

Churchill: Optical Illusion (Opticheskiy obman, dir. Avdotya Smirnova, TV-feature, RTR Channel, 2009)

Churchill: Kill Me! (Ubei menya, Ilya Malkin, TV-feature, RTR Channel, 2009)

The History of the Russian Show Business (Istoriya rossiyskogo show-biznesa, 2010, TV, documentary, 20 episodes x 48 min., STS Channel)

Awards:

TEFI-2010 Award: Best TV Documentary Series

Back to Back (Spina, documentary feature, 2011)

Dubrovsky (TV 4-part miniseries/feature, NTV Channel, 2011)

One, Two, Three, the Wicked Witch Is Free (a play for puppet theatre in 1 act)

Premiere:

Bialystok Puppet Theatre (BTL), Bialystok, Poland, 19 March 2011

Ricochet (Switzerland-Russia, 2012, dir. Elena Hazanov), *in development*

Antalia (2012), *in development*

Shopping Tour (2012)

In Treatment (2012, Channel 1, Season 1: Episodes 25, 30, 35, 40, 45; Season 2: Episodes 50, 55, 60, 65, 70, 75, 80)

Actor:

Two Days (Dva dnya, dir. Avdotya Smirnova, 2011, Film Director)

The main meaning of SHOPPING TOUR is simply that it exists, shot with almost no money, for 55 000 Euro, against all odds, by a bunch of self-producing professionals tired of being tied-up by the "major" industry's financial and ideological constraints. As such, it is one of the first Russian truly independent productions ever and, possibly, a pioneer of something that may be becoming a new trend in the country's worsening political and cultural climate. The rest should be pure fun, no more, no less.

Mikhail Brashinsky

Shopping Tour

Russia, 2012, 70 min., color, in Russian, Finnish & English, with English subtitles, digital (DCP).

A Duty-Free Productions production. Produced by Gennady Mirgorodsky and Mikhail Brashinsky. Written & directed by Mikhail Brashinsky. Director of Photography: Alexander Simonov. Costume Designer: Mark Lee. Make-up: Tamara Frid, Natalya Gaponova. Sound: Antonina Balashova. Editing: Mikhail Brashinsky, Oleg Malygin, with collaboration by Ivan Lebedev.

Cast: Tatyana Kolganova (Mother), Timofey Yeletsky (Son), Tatyana Ryabokon (Tour Guide), Yelena Belskaya (Smuggler), Satu Paavola (Blonde), Nanna Mäkinen (Gas-station Girl), Vladimir Nekrassov (Captain Tuivisto), Veli-Pekka Teponoja (Cop-1), Juhani Vainio (Cop-2).