



VLADA

Goes to London

A FILM BY ARTI SAVCHENKO

WITH SHELY NAVE, YARDEN TUIZER, OREN HAGANY | D.O.P. RUSLAN YUDOVSKY | ASSISTANT DIRECTOR IGOR ELSTEIN
EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS NIR ASSAYAG, SERGEY WORNOVITSKY | EDITORS NAAMAN HOFFMAN, ALEX KHOSID | ONLINE AVI LEVY
SOUND DESIGN & MIX MICHAEL GOOREVICH | ART & SET DRESSER ARTI SAVCHENKO | MAKEUP ELENA BARINSKY

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Vlada Goes to London (Israel, 2020) by Arti Savchenko

Tagline

Provocative, aggressive, dangerous.

Logline

Vlada is a pizza delivery girl who lives in Haifa and dreams of becoming a famous DJ. Within a five-hour shift, we get a glimpse into her world full of pressure where she's willing to do whatever it takes to find the money for a flight to perform at a festival in London.

Synopsis

'Vlada goes to London' follows the story of a Ukrainian immigrant Vlada (24), who works as a pizza delivery girl in Haifa, Israel, and dreams of becoming a famous DJ. She's lucky to get an invitation from a little festival in London, but she must urgently get funds for a flight ticket. Vlada doesn't have money in the bank. Her single mother works as a cleaner, and her roommate doesn't work and doesn't pay bills. This fast-paced provocative social drama sheds light on the nervous job of the deliveries and the struggles of young artists.



The Story

'Vlada goes to London' is a short narrative, a fast-paced social drama that takes place in our time in Haifa, Israel. Vlada (24) is a Russian immigrant who works as a pizza delivery girl. She makes dark electronic music and dreams of becoming a famous DJ. Vlada is lucky to get an invitation from a mini-festival in London to replace someone, but she must urgently find the money for a flight ticket. Vlada doesn't have money in the bank. Her single mother works as a cleaner, and her roommate doesn't work and doesn't pay bills.

Vlada spends a lot of time on the roads during the shift. It's a maximum speed, danger, and endless curses. Vlada is arrogant, nervous, violent, and reacts very provocatively to lack of tips using strong language, spitting on the pizzas, and causing damage to customers' property. She all the time arguing and lies to her shift's boss and fights with the rest of the delivery guys for every close customer and every tip.

In Vlada's world, drugs are everywhere. She does them in every possible situation, and it undermines her credibility. Vlada asks everyone around her to lend her money, but in most cases, she gets a negative answer.

In one of the deliveries, Vlada has to deliver pizzas to her home when her roommate is having a wild

party with lots of people, alcohol, and drugs. Vlada is furious when she walks into an orgy in her room and fights with her roommate's guests. After that, Vlada leaves the shift for DJing at the local pub to earn more money. She is talented and plays a good set. Then she goes back straight to the dirty jobs in the kitchen. Between deliveries, she embarks on an unsuccessful drug deal that ends in extreme violence.

Vlada at top speed. She must do more deliveries and more tips. The climax ends in a hit-and-run accident - the driver who hits her escapes immediately. Her scooter is broken and won't start. A wounded Vlada with a broken dream crosses to the side of the road. She stops at the gorgeous Haifa view and bursts into tears.



Director's statement:

My goal is to surprise and entertain without distorting the truth. I want to appreciate the viewer's time and not letting him get bored for a minute. In my film "Vlada Goes to London," I wanted to talk on the one hand about the lack of options through the difficult life of young creative immigrants and about the struggles that accompany them. Either about indifference and society's lack of empathy towards them. On the other hand, I wanted to talk about the fact that everyone gets what they deserve. Vlada is arrogant, nervous, pessimistic, her feelings and thoughts are crooked because of the drugs that surround her, and it doesn't allow her to succeed.

Stylistically I wanted to juxtapose the beauty of the Haifa city landscapes with the harshness of the protagonist's reality. I wanted to captivate audiences with this interplay of locations and characters, with fast 'nervous' editing, accompanied by a dark electronic soundtrack as witch-house and UK deep dubstep. By telling the story of one broken dream, I hoped to evoke compassion for creative people without funds.

Director's Bio

Arti Savchenko is an Israeli filmmaker who was born in USSR, Ukraine and emigrated to Israel at age 14. He finished Tel-Aviv Minshar School of Art with Honorable Mention. His graduate film "Vlada Goes to London" had its world premiere at Tallinn Black Nights Film Festival and international premiere at Palm Springs ShortFest. Arti has a background in music, theatre, writing, and worked as a script supervisor in several feature films. Among others: "Esau" with Oscar-nominated Harvey Keitel and "Shake Your Cares Away" with Oscar-nominated Bérénice Bejo. Arti is currently developing his first feature-length script in Tel Aviv.



F.A.Q.s

Questions for the writer, director & producer Arti Savchenko

Where does the story come from?

'Vlada goes to London' script was developed from my private experience when I worked as a pizza delivery guy and club DJ at the same time.

What was your inspiration for the film?

Mostly my life. When I worked as a delivery guy, saw what was happening, heard stories from colleagues - I understood that there were no films on this topic. I wanted to show the difficulties of this nervous work: bosses yell at you, customers humiliate you. Some clients look through you without talking to you, as if you are not a person.

As an artist, I saw many young creative people in a narcotic loop; with shattered nerves and broken dreams.

How were you able to fund the project?

I was lucky to get a grant from the film foundation. I had excellent assistance from my parents. Also, I spent all my savings and took credit from the bank.

What is your goal for the film?

I wanted to show people how it's like not getting a tip. Courier's work is miserable, hazardous, and with a high risk of accidents, especially when there's pressure on you. Also, I want young people to understand the consequences of not having a fear of drugs - this huge influence of mixed thoughts keeps you from reaching your goal or misleads you away from it.



How long did the project take?

From the start of the screenplay to the first official screening, it took two years. The script took about six months. There were 11 days of filming during the year. Picture edit was most challenging - the longest cut of the film was 40 minutes.

Why protagonist is so angry?

The constant lack of tips significantly affects the psychological state of the delivery guy. Besides that, addiction to drugs, along with a need to work, causes significant discomfort and nervous irritation. I know I failed to show this connection properly.

What was it like working with almost all-cast of non-actors?

It was challenging. Getting the desired result requires a specific experience of the director, the actor's natural talent, and a lot of time. The pressure of time was most destructive, and there was a feeling of many missed opportunities.



Are you satisfied with the end result?

I am not fully satisfied in some aspects, but I am glad for this precious experience that will help me improve.

What were your influences?

This film has various: Aleksei Balabanov's movies, Run Lola Run, Rosetta, Good Time, events from my own life, dark electronic music, counterculture & subculture literature. I like to be surprised with true credibility and so my goals.

What's next?

I'm currently developing a feature-length script from this short. I intend to make an honest, brutal, and entertaining film by showing every scene much more upgraded. I want to add exposition, show more action and danger on the roads, explain much better the link between drugs and failure to achieve goals, reveal Vlada's roommate character, and uncover sequences of their lifestyles.

I'm driving by a passion for producing breathtaking stories that have the possibility to provoke thought and create real and positive social change.

'Vlada Goes to London' is Arti's graduate short film. At Minshar School of Art's graduation ceremony, Arti received Honorable Mention, actress Shely Nave who portrays Vlada named Best Actress. Also, Special Mentions received editing and cinematography.



SHELY NAVE - lead actress

Shely Nave is an Israeli actress who finished various acting & dubbing courses. She has acted in a couple of short films and worked on several TV projects.

"Vlada Goes to London" is her first significant role. At Minshar School of Art's graduation ceremony, Shely, who portrays Vlada named as Best Actress. Also, she has a background in breakdancing and juggling. Shely is currently studying scriptwriting and working on her personal project in Tel-Aviv.

Questions for the actress Shely Nave:

How was it like to play Vlada character?

Very challenging and fun because I got to behave very differently in certain situations from how I bear in my personal life. It was fun to discover new sides of me.

What do you and Vlada have in common?

We are very similar in the dry details. I'm from a Russian family who emigrated to Israel; I worked as a pizza delivery for a long time and came from a not very well-established home. On the other hand, we are very different.

What did you like about your character?

I liked her confidence. She's working very hard and going all the way with her goals.

What was the most challenging scene in filming?

Home party scene. It was a real party, and the extras were really drunk. I had to be very focused during the filming. It was challenging.

You were mentioned as best actress at the Minshar College's graduation ceremony. How did you feel?

I was very excited and didn't expect it! It's great to get such feedback on your work!

What attracted you to being an actress?

The ability to reach a lot of people and be able to "touch" them.



What are you looking for in your role as an actress?

Be able to do roles that change people's opinions about people who are different from them.

What are you working on now?

I turned to the field of screenwriting, and I'm working on a personal project.

What roles would you like to get in the future?

Roles that are "light-years" far from who I am in my personal life.

Who is your favorite actor?

Every season there is a different actor that enters my heart. Lately, it's Elisabeth Moss.



Awards & Grants

- Gesher Multicultural Film Fund – grant for a student screenplay.
- World Premiere at 23rd Tallinn Black Nights Film Festival – POFF Shorts – New Talents Competition (November 2020)
- Clermont-Ferrand Short Film Market Picks 2021
- Berlinale Talents Project – Talent: Naaman Hoffman and Alex Khosid (editors)
- International Premiere at 28th Palm Springs ShortFest (USA, California) - Best Live-Action Short Over 15 Minutes Nominee / Best Student International Short Nominee (June 2021)
- French Premiere at 11th Paris Art and Movie Awards – **Best Student Film Award**, Best Actress Nominee, Best Production Nominee, Best Trailer Nominee (September 2021)
- Italian Premiere at 10th Visioni Corte Film Festival (Gaeta) – CortoFiction International Competition – **Special Mention Award for having been able to create curiosity and expectation in the audience, following the protagonist, so intense and authentic in her performance, in a modern and contemporary way, with a genuine interpretation in her acting, movements and expressions, with a careful and accurate direction.** (September 2021)
- Caucasian Premiere at 19th One Shot Film Festival (Armenia, Yerevan) – Short Films Competition - **Special Mention Award for the dynamic plot about a character longing for the big world and locked in another city.** (September 2021)
- 11th Catalina Film Festival (USA, California) – Advance Short Films Competition / **Best Actress Advance Shorts - Award of Excellence** (September 2021)
- 9th London Seasonal Short Film Festival – **Honourable Mention** (September 2021)
- Czech Premiere at 4th International Road Movie Festival (Plzen) – Shorts Competition (September 2021)
- Irish Premiere at 10th Dublin International Short Film and Music Festival – **Best Student Film Award**, Best Actress Nominee (October 2021)
- Moldovan Premiere at 3rd Serbest International Film Festival (Kishinev) – Official Program Selection (October 2021)

- Southeast Premiere (USA) at 18th 15 Short Film Festival (North Caroline, Charlotte) – Official Program Selection (October 2021)
- 4th Only the Best Film Awards (bi-monthly online film festival) (USA, Florida, Miami) – **Best Student Short Film Award, Best First Time Producer Award, Best First Time Director Award, Best Original Story Award, Best Actress Award, Best Film (All Genres) Award, Best Film of the Month Award** (October 2021)
- Northwest Premiere (USA) at 18th BendFilm Festival (Oregon, Bend) – Narrative Shorts Competition (October 2021)
- English Premiere at 2nd United Kingdom Student Film Festival (London) – **Gold Medal - Longer Student Short** (November 2021)
- Middle East Premiere at 17th Cyprus International Film Festival “Golden Aphrodite” (Nicosia) – **CYIFF Got Talents Competition: Honorary Mention Award** (November 2021)
- Canadian Premiere at 16th Hamilton Film Festival – International Shorts Competition (November 2021)
- 3rd Yucca Valley Film Festival (USA, California) – Student Film Competition (November 2021)
- 11th Foggia Film Festival (Italy) – Student Film Competition (November 2021)

Next Festivals:

- 3rd LA Student Film Festival (USA, California) – Official Program Competition (November 2021)
- 39th Festival Tous Courts (France, Aix-en-Provence) – International Short Film Competition (December 2021)
- Israeli Premiere at 11th Near Nazareth Film Festival (Afula) – Student Film Competition (December 2021)
- 2nd Filmocracy Fest (USA, Los Angeles) – Student Film Competition (December 2021)
- 13th Shockfest Film Festival (USA, New York) – Shocking Student Competition (December 2021)
- Spanish Premiere at 22nd Cortogenia Short Film Festival (Madrid) – International Short Films Competition (December 2021)

Credits:

Producing, Writing & Directing Arti Savchenko

Cinematography Ruslan Yudovsky

Editing Naaman Hoffman, Alex Khosid

Executive Producing Nir Assayag, Sergey Wornovitsky

Sound Design & Mix Michael Goorevich

Soundtrack Ross Tones (Throwing Snow); William Brown (Compa); Simon Shreeve (Kryptic Minds); BLVCK CEILING. All artists confirmed using samples of their tracks. All rights reserved.

Cast

Vlada - Shely Nave; **Pizzeria Manager** - Yarden Tuizer; **Amit** - Oren Hagany; **Alina** - Yulia "Shorty" Burichin; **Yotam** - Ido Gilad; **Katya** - Katerina Marka; **Said** - Daniel Eili; **Customers** - Tali Roth Grunwald, Eran Mazin, Eden Frid, Moshe Lousky, Saray Lousky; **Weed Customer** - Daniel Bogush; **Andrey** - Igor Elstein; **Orit** - Shavit Hovav; **Couple in the Car** - Hadas Ben Arzi, Arik Rubinshtain; **Orgy** - Ido Carasso, Alina Deoxy, Alice Sitar, Maggie Shkuro.

Assistant Directing Naaman Hoffman; **Sound** Michael Tulchin; **Art Directing & Costume Design** Arti Savchenko; **Make-Up Artist** Elena Barinsky; **Gaffer** Alon Rabinovich, Jacob Fux; **Script Supervising** Igor Elstein; **Editing Online** Avi Levy; **Editing Rough Cut** Katya Shepeliavaya; **Trailer Editing** Metal Gal; **Assistant Camera** Alexander Grakovsky; **Lighting Crew** Alex Albinsky, Dan Jacobson; **Casting & Location Scouting** Arti Savchenko; **Stunts** Sergei "Kepa" Klimkin (Kepa Stunts); **Production Assistants** Tamara Savchenko, Vadim Sher, Igor Elstein, Tom Raanan, Yuri Bonder; **Runners** Sergey Wornovitsky, Alon Hammer, Daniel Shiffman; **Visual Effects** Vadim Bar Zakharin; **Graphic Design** Tami Mazin Jerassi; **Pizza Logo Design** Anton Egorov; **Subtitles** Arti Savchenko, Leo Pissak; **Poster Design** Misha Pletinsky; **Watergirl** Daniel Eini.

Additional Shootings

Camera Raz Birger; **Gaffer** Chen Asraf; **Sound Recording** Naaman Hoffman, Igor Elstein; **Assistant Camera** Ofri Margalit, Omer Sideman

Thanks to the Tutors & Advisors (School Staff)

Keren Yedaya, Hagar Ben Asher, Yael Perlov, Inbar Horesh, Asaf Korman, David Noy, Oren Gerner, Sara Bozakov, Rotem Dror, Itai Lev, Laliv Melamed, Orna Levi, Ruth Lev Ari.



Article:

T-Port Talent Spotlight – Arti Savchenko and “Vlada Goes to London”:

<https://bit.ly/3jgZiik>

Specifications:

Title: Vlada Goes to London

Running Time: 21:54 mins

Shooting Format: Sony PMW-F3 2K

Screening Format: DCP / Prores / HD

Aspect Ratio: 16:9

Sound: Stereo / 5.1 Surround Sound

Country of Production: Israel

Year: 2020

Language: Hebrew and Russian

Subtitles: English

Filming Locations: Haifa, Kefar Sava, Tel-Aviv (Israel)

Trailer Link: vimeo.com/474158453

IMDb: <https://www.imdb.com/title/tt13496888/>

Facebook: www.facebook.com/VladaGoesToLondon

Production Company/ Distribution/ Sales:

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