

KINOVISTA AND FOREVER FILMS MEDIA PRESENT
IN ASSOCIATION WITH WILD BUNCH, CODA AND INVADA FILMS

THE FACTORY

WRITTEN AND DIRECTED BY YURY BYKOV



Official Selection

tiff

Toronto International
Film Festival 2018

KINOVISTA

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THE FACTORY

Завод (ZAVOD)

DIRECTED BY YURY BYKOV

109 min – Russia/France – 2018 – 2.35 – 5.1

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SYNOPSIS

A dilapidated industrial building stands in the outskirts of a provincial Russian town. Many of its workers have been employed before the change from state regulation to capitalist privatisation. When owner Kalugin (Andrey Smolyakov), a well-connected local oligarch, announces that the factory is bankrupt, a group of workers who haven't been paid for months kidnap him for ransom.

Led by the mysterious Alexei (Denis Shvedov) whose motives are far from clear, the heist goes awry. Kalugin's private security guards and a police SWAT team quickly have the building surrounded. The workers are trapped, the clock is ticking and allegiances are beginning to fray...

DIRECTOR'S NOTE

The central idea of the film is that fanatics stand above pragmatics. In a society where the rich can do anything and the poor are basically slaves trying to survive, cynical capitalistic pragmatism breeds bitter and uncompromising revolutionary bigotry. In the fight for justice, this bigotry will finally destroy the entire system, sacrificing the high and mighty, simple people and itself. But this is an inevitable price for the mistakes of our society, for the purging of our delusions and the birth of the free man who has to stop being a slave.

DIRECTOR'S BIOGRAPHY

Yuri Bykov was born in 1981 in Novomichurinsk, a small town in the Ryazan region of Russia. Coming from a family of factory workers, he studied acting in the famous VGIK (Institute of Cinema named after Gerasimov) and appeared in various theatres of Moscow after receiving his diploma in 2005.

In 2006, Yuri Bykov started to write and direct his first short films. In 2009, his short film "The Boss", in which he also played the lead role, won the main prize at the All-Russian National film festival Kinotavr. In 2010, Bykov directed his first feature film, "Live!", Special Jury Prize at Taipei International Film Festival. In 2013, his second feature, "The Major". was selected in Critics' Week at the Cannes Film Festival. In 2014, "The Fool" received important awards at the festivals of Locarno (Best Actor Leopard, Ecumenical Jury Prize, Junior Jury Award, First Prize) and Les Arcs, among many others. Both "The Major" and "The Fool" enjoyed international theatrical releases.

Yuri Bykov both writes and directs his films. He has also edited and scored his early projects, as well as playing one of the lead roles in "The Major".

DIRECTOR'S FILMOGRAPHY

2014 THE FOOL (Дурак)

Best Actor, Prize of the Ecumenical Jury , First Prize of the Young Jury - Locarno international Film Festival, 2014

2013 THE MAJOR (Майор)

Official Selection - Critics Week, Cannes International Film Festival, Grand Prix, Best Film, Best Director, Best Music - Shanghai International Film Festival

2010 LIVE! (Жить !)

Special Prize of the Jury - Taipei International Film Festival

2009 THE BOSS (Начальник)_ - Short film

Best Short Movie - Kinotaur Film Festival

ACTORS' BIOGRAPHY

DENIS SHVEDOV was born November 24, 1981. He graduated from the Mikhail Shchepkin Higher Theatre School in 2006 and began his acting career in the Russian Academic Youth Theater, based in Moscow. Appearances in various TV series led to his film debut in the romantic comedy "A Good Friend for All" (2008).

Shvedov first collaborated with director Yury Bykov in 2010 when he played the lead in Bykov's "Live!". Amongst other awards, the film received the Special Jury Prize at the Taipei IFF and the Grand Prix at KinoRurik, the Swedish festival of Russian cinema where Shvedov received the Best Actor award. In 2013, he once again worked with Bykov, playing the eponymous lead in "The Major". The film premiered in Cannes Critics' Week, received awards at numerous international film festivals and won Shvedov the Best Actor award at the Pacific Meridian International Film Festival.

VLADISLAV ABASHIN was born in 1979 in Ryazan, Russia. He studied to become a locksmith, played in the rock band "Sabateus Charabede", and worked numerous jobs before a car accident in 1997 left him with serious head injuries. During his convalescence, Abashin started to read classical literature and developed an interest in theatre.

In 1999, now fully recovered, he moved to Moscow and enrolled in the directing course of The Russian Institute of Theatre Arts.

Upon graduation, he began his career with appearances in TV series before moving quickly into feature films. Notable credits include "In the Fog" (Sergey Loznitsa, 2012), and "Territory" (2015) and "Terra Nova" (2008), both directed by Aleksandr Melnik.

ANDREY SMOLYAKOV was born in Podolsk, Moscow Oblast, in 1958. He studied for three years at the Boris Shchukin Theatre Institute before graduating in 1980 from the State Institute of Theatre Arts and beginning his acting career on the stage of the Moscow Art Theatre. Between 1984 and 1986, he worked with the Satyricon Theatre, and in 1987 joined the Oleg Tabakov Studio Theatre in Moscow.

Smolyakov made his big screen debut in 1978, and has since appeared in more than 80 films, working with many of Russia's leading directors. Notable credits include "Daddy" (Vladimir Mashkov, 2004), "Escape" (Egor Konchalovsky, 2005), "Stalingrad" (Fedor Bondarchuk, 2013), and "Viking" (Andrey Kravchuk, 2016).

CAST

Denis Shvedov	Greyhair
Vladislav Abashine	Fog
Andrey Smolyakov	Kalugin
Alexander Bukharov	Terekhov
Dmitry Kulichkov	Ryaboi
Alexander Vorobiev	Pyzh
Ivan Yankovsk	Vovka
Yury Tarasov	Vesely
Alexey Komashko	The Seventh
Kirill Polukhine	Andreich
Petr Barancheev	The Sexton

CREW

Written and directed by	Yury Bykov
Direction of photography	Vladimir Ushakov
Set Designer	Sergey Rakutov
Editor	Anna Krouty
Music	Yury Bykov, Ivan Isyanov
Sound Editor	Arkady Noskov
Costume Designer	Ulyana Polianskaya
Special Effects	Oleg Dokin
Producers	Charles-Evrard Tchekhoff Edward Iloyan Yury Bykov
Production companies	Kinovista Forever Films Media
In association with	Coda Wild Bunch Invada Films
With the participation of	CANAL+ CINE+
International Sales	Wild Bunch
French Distributor	Kinovista

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