



THE MACHINE WHICH MAKES EVERYTHING DISAPPEAR

A film by Tinatin Gurchiani
An Icarus Films Release

"Director Tinatin Gurchiani opens a window into the lives of common folk in her native Georgia, where the post-Soviet era has been plagued by strife, using the premise of a casting call to pull confessions of hopes and dreams from her subjects."

—Steve Dollar, *The Wall Street Journal*

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SYNOPSIS

Young adults, aged 15- to 23, are sought in a filmmaker's casting call. The director wants to make a film about growing up in her home country, Georgia, and find commonalities across social and ethnic lines. She travels through cities and villages interviewing the candidates who responded and filming their daily lives.

The boys and girls who responded to the call are radically different from one another, as are their personal reasons for auditioning. Some want to be movie stars and see the film as a means to that end; others want to tell their personal story. One girl wants to call to account the mother who abandoned her; one boy wants to share the experience of caring for his handicapped family members; another wants to clear the name of a brother, currently serving a jail sentence.

Together, their tales weave a kaleidoscopic tapestry of war and love, wealth and poverty, creating an extraordinarily complex vision of a modern society that still echoes with its Soviet past.

IN THE PRESS

"An offbeat, rewarding essay on diminished dreams...tapes into universal concerns about family, separation and identity. There's a playful, spontaneous touch to these real world scenes [that] taken together, begin to acquire a cumulative power, suggesting the shared anxieties of all those in the throes of adolescence."

—Tim Grierson, *ScreenDaily*

"Tinatin Gurchiani's *The Machine Which Makes Everything Disappear* begins as an experiment as various youths of the country of Georgia arrive at a casting call only to spill their personal stories to the camera. The myriad of lives shared in the film, which screened as a part of the [Sundance] World Cinema Documentary Competition, provides an intimate and raw glimpse into the challenges faced by the young people of the former Soviet territory." —*indieWIRE*

"Best of Sundance 2013! [Tinatin Gurchiani] stands apart from others [in] her ability to center her work around cold questioning and her willingness to completely abide by visual and narrative simplicity. *The Machine Which Makes Everything Disappear* employs such tactics to subconsciously tackle much larger subject matter to brilliantly penetrating effect."

—Jordan M. Smith, *Ion Cinema*

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SELECTED FILM FESTIVALS AND AWARDS

Best Director Award, International Documentary
Sundance Film Festival 2013, USA

Filmmakers Award
Hot Docs 2013, Canada

Official Selection, MoMA Documentary Fortnight 2013, USA

DOK Leipzig 2012, Germany

International Documentary Film Festival Amsterdam (IDFA) 2012, The Netherlands

Best Georgian Film, Tbilisi International Film Festival 2012, Georgia

Alpe Adria Cinema, Trieste Film Festival 2012, Italy

Göteborg International Film Festival 2013, Sweden



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DIRECTOR BIOGRAPHY



Tinatin Gurchiani was born in Tbilisi, Georgia, where she studied painting, dance, and psychology. After receiving her diploma with honors at the Ivane Javakhishvili Tbilisi State University, she pursued postgraduate study in psychology at Albert-Ludwigs University in Freiburg, Germany, and the University of Graz in Austria. She studied directing at the University of Film and Television Konrad Wolf (HFF) in Potsdam-Babelsberg, Germany, and graduated with honors in 2010. In 2007, Gurchiani won the DAAD Award for artistic and social engagement in film. *The Machine Which Makes Everything Disappear* is her first feature.

FILM CREDITS

Title: *The Machine Which Makes Everything Disappear*
Country: Georgia / Germany
Year: 2012
Length: 101 minutes
Aspect ratio: 16:9
Language: Georgian with English subtitles
Director/writer: Tinatin Gurchiani
Cinematographer: Andreas Bergmann
Sound: Michał Krajczyk
Editor: Nari Kim
Music: Mahan Mobashery, Marian Mentrup
Producer: Tamar Gurchiani
Production companies: Alethea and TTFilm
Sales agent: Deckert Distribution
North American distributor: Icarus Films



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