



# **CLAUDIU & THE FISH**

PRESSKIT

## TECHNICAL INFORMATION

title	Claudiu & the Fish
genre	drama, comedy, coming-of-Age
writer & director	Andrei Tănase
DoP	Barbu Balasoiu
editor	Andrei Balasoiu
sound designer	Tobias Peper
makeup artist	Catalina Coroiu
music	Ludwig Berger
commissioning editor	Catherine Colas
producers	Philipp Dettmer, Tudor Giurgiu
production companies	Deutsche Exotik Filmproduktion GmbH, Germany LibraFilm, Romania
in co-production with	arte/ ZDF
running time	16'01"
year of production	2013
language	romanian
subtitles	english, deutsch, francais
recording format	ARRI Alexa
screening format	DCP, HDCam (Pal and Ntsc)
sound	Dolby 5.1
ratio	2,35:1 (scope)
countries of production	Germany, Romania

## TAGLINE/ LOGLINE

One day, CLAUDIU, a young man in his twenties, decides to take a stand, risk his job and save some fish from a supermarket.

## SHORT SYNOPSIS

Claudiu works at the fresh fish department in a big supermarket. Day by day, he watches the live carps struggling to move and breathe in their small, overpacked aquarium. When one of these fish starts coughing like a human being, Claudiu decides to take action.

## LONG SYNOPSIS

Claudiu, 28 year old, works at the fresh fish department of a big supermarket, pitying the live carps crammed into a small, overpacked aquarium. After seeing one of these fish coughing like a human being, Claudiu, seriously troubled by the episode, asks his boss if he can bring a bigger aquarium, where the carps can feel more comfortable.

Following a humiliating refusal from the boss, Claudiu decides to take revenge by making a bomb threat call and causing the evacuation of the entire store.

But his satisfaction doesn't last for too long: Claudiu learns that his prank call just sentenced to death all the living fish and thus he's forced to go back inside the empty store and rescue them.

## DEUTSCHE FILM- UND MEDIENBEWERTUNG / FBW

The FBW – Deutsche Film- und Medienbewertung is an institution, evaluating films on their recommendability. „Highly recommended“ is the most precious award a film can get.

„Claudiu & the fish“ was awarded „highly recommended“.



## FREIWILLIGE SELBSTKONTROLLE DER FILMWIRTSCHAFT / FSK

The FSK is a Self-Regulatory Body for the legally regulated protection of youth and minors and comparable with the American MPAA-rating system.

„Claudiu & the fish“ was rated „suitable without age restriction“ and thus suitable for viewers of all ages.



## SHORTFILM OF THE MONTH FEBRUARY 2013

The German Film- and Mediarating agency (FBW) gave "Claudiu & the Fish" the most precious grade.

### Explanatory statement:

..."The story is being told in a very stringent and fluent way, is captivating and surprising from the beginning until the end, and always offers small turns and twists. The film leaves it open, whether Claudiu's efforts will finally be successful, but we deeply keep our fingers crossed for him and the fish. Because if everybody would be a bit like Claudiu, our world could be a better place. And in the end, there is the sunset at the horizon. An important message, told in a brilliantly chosen cinematic language."

## **DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT**

Claudiu and the fish is a short fairytale equally suitable for kids and adults. It is set in present times and takes place in a very familiar environment to the modern man: the shopping center. Instead of the handsome prince rescuing the beautiful princess from a dungeon, we have a young introverted supermarket employee with a funny hat trying to rescue some carps from their aquarium. A mission that proves to be way harder than expected. A short but intense journey involving arguable decisions, surreal moments, a lot of running and – as any respectable action movie – policemen pulling out their guns!

In the end, our protagonist may have lost the battle but for sure he's no loser. Because he fought with courage. He tried to make a difference. To make the world a better place.

Claudiu & the fish is a short fairytale about trying the impossible. About a society that consumes more than it needs and wastes more than it should. And, last but not least, about admiring the sunset every once in a while.

## **PRODUCER'S STATEMENT**

„Claudiu an the Fish“ is one of the beautiful and rare projects, that manage find the lyrical in the ordinary.

The film celebrates a gentle scurility that can almost be overlooked but which manifests itself powerfully in situations like the coughing fish or the meeting with the bomb squad officers. The resulting humor has an emotional and philosophocal depth, which makes the film into the many-layered but lightly told story that it is.

The audience watches Claudiu in his vain attempts to save the fishes and identifies themselves with the "freed" employees, that have been saved from their oppressive daily routines.

While exploring the microcosm of a hypermarket, the film brings us to think about our own personal situation, our own restrains - and he does it in such a playful and naive way, that it is very hard to elude.

I am convinced that this extraordinary film will find and deeply touch it's audience.



## VISUAL REFERENCES / FILM STILLS



## **DEUTSCHE EXOTIK FILMPRODUKTION GMBH**

Deutsche Exotik Filmproduktion GmbH was founded late 2008 by Philipp H.M. Dettmer in Munich.

Believing in the power of collaborative creative processes, „Deutsche Exotik“ works very closey with international talents whose visions/ languages/ styles/ themes we like – starting at a very early stage, we sometimes find ourselves bouncing loose ideas to elaborating the storyline to polishing dialogues.

Deutsche Exotik focusses on cutting edge auteur-driven films for an international audience, trying to combine artistical and economical aspects in the best way possible.

Within the 3 years of its existence, DEF has produced a couple of short films, music videos, mid-length feature films, as well as the feature films “MYSTERY CACHE” by PHM Dettmer, and co-produced “CAMERA OBSCURA” by Maru Solores.

“Nowhere man” by Benjamin Freidenberg (ISR) - feature film

“Družina/ The Family” by Rok Biček (SLO) - documentary

“Nightsession” by PHM Dettmer (GER) - feature film

## **LIBRA FILM PRODUCTION**

Libra Film is an independent film/TV production company founded in 1994, having a focus on producing feature films, TV programs but shorts and documentaries as well.

In 2006 Libra produced the local box-office hit Love Sick, by Tudor Giurgiu, with the support of Romanian Film Center, Hubert Bals Fund, Global Film Initiative and SEE Cinema Network.

The Film had its exclusive world premiere within the Berlin International Film Festival, Panorama section and has been sold worldwide in more than 25 territories. Another Libra production, Katalin Varga, by Peter Strickland, was named the European Discovery of the Year at the 2009 European Film Awards and awarded with Silver Bear for Outstanding Artistic Contribution at Berlinale 2009.

Libra Film is the only Romanian production company which has been granted twice (2009 and 2011) development support by MEDIA Program of EU for its slate of projects including features and documentaries.

Between 2008-2010, Libra was also involved in production of three TV documentaries: Australia, by Claudiu Mitcu, broadcasted in July 2009 on HBO Romania, about first participation of Romania's football team at the Homeless World Cup in Melbourne; Birds Way by Klara Trencsenyi and Vlad Naumescu, about the life of a forgotten community of Lipovans in Danube Delta and Children of Uranium, by Adina Popescu and Iulian Ghervas.

Between 2009-2010, Libra offered production services for the 2.3 M Euros co-production The Human Resources Manager, by Eran Riklis and shot mostly in Romania. Film won Audience Award in Locarno IFF 2010 and was representing Israel at the Academy Awards competition for the Best Foreign Film.

Among the projects from the 2012-2013 lineup we can mention: “Somewhere at Palilula”, the debut film of worldwide famous theater director Silviu Purcarete, Tudor Giurgiu's second film “Of Snails and Men” a coproduction with Agat Films (France), supported by Eurimages and three other debut films - Iulia Rugina's “Breaking news”, “Japanese Dog” by Tudor Cristian Jurgiu (awarded with Best Script at 2008 ScripTeast competition) and Razvan Savescu's “America, here we come!”, as well as Oana Giurgiu's documentary “From Romania to Zion”, developed in Archidoc program.

## **CAST „CLAUDIU & THE FISH“**

Claudiu	Paul Ipate
the Boss	Andrei Mateiu
Supermarket employees	Dan Lupu
	Eugen Lumezianu
Old couple	Vasile Georgescu
	Ana Andrei
Police officers	Oltin Hurezeanu
	Florin Mihalache
Fish department girl	Florentina Marin

## **CREW „CLAUDIU & THE FISH“**

written & directed by	Andrei Tănase
director of photography	Barbu Bălășoiu
editor	Andrei Bălășoiu
sound designer	Tobias Peper
production designer	Adriana Răcășan
makeup artist	Cătălina Coroiu
commissioning editor ZDF/ARTE	Catherine Colas
producers	Philipp Dettmer
	Tudor Giurgiu
executive producers	Bogdan Crăciun
	Jan Jakob Weber
production assistant	Paul Lovas
production secretary Romania	Alexandra Boghiu
first assistant director	Adriana Răcășan
second assistant director	Ion Sîrbu
script / continuity / dog whisperer	Petra Kurtela
first Assistant Camera	Cătălin Cocioran
focus puller	Giani Roberto Ivan
video assist	Cristian Gheorghe
gaffer	Leo Fanone
electricians	Florin Ene
	Cătălin Magaliuc

assistant editor	Georgiana Mera
sound recordist	Marius Obretin
boom operator	Alex Lungu
additional sound recording	Vlad Voinescu
sound editor	Tobias Peper
foley artist	Martin Langenbach
foley mixer	Christoph Wieczorek
re-recording mixer	David Wasilewski
craft & catering / wardrobe	Aneta Manea
driver	Paul Dumitru Adrian Drăghia
post production coordinator Romania	Andrei Bălăşoiu
post production coordinator Germany	Holden Caulfield
color grader	Victor Dumitrovici
graphics & title designer	Ştefan Cios
DCP mastering	Jan Jakob Weber
set photography	Vlad Ilicevici
making of	Jan Jakob Weber
accounting Germany	Petra Dogan
accounting Romania	Amalia Toader Irina Manea
camera equipment	Abis Studio Romania
lightning equipment	Slap & Shoot
casting	Best Romanian Actors
casting extras	Liliana Toma, Central Casting
costumes	teamwork filmservice GmbH
sound studio	Orange Sound, Munich Andreas Rudroff Oliver Vorderbrügge Tobias Pfister



## ANDREI TĂNASE

Writer / Director

Andrei Tănase was born in Bucharest on the 16th of November 1982. After finishing high-school, he entered the National University of Drama and Film (UNATC) "I.L. Caragiale", Bucharest. During the four years of study, he completed several short film projects (as screenwriter and director) from which *Myriapod* and *Love Forever* (short, fiction films) are the most important.

*Love Forever*, his graduation project, was selected in several international film festivals and won the Best School Film prize at the Budapest Short Film Festival in 2007.



After graduating, Andrei worked as a director for a TV program about advertising, on Romanian National Television and as a screenwriter for a TV series set to be produced by MediaPro Pictures.

As a finalist of the Nisi Masa European Short Film Script Contest 2007 (with the script *Summer Break*, the winner of the national phase of the contest), he attended the European Short Pitch scriptwriting masterclass in Moulin d'Andé and Clermont-Ferrand (France), in 2008.

In august/september 2008, Andrei took part in the CineTrain international documentary project as the director of *Mc Russia*, one of the 6 short films shot and edited while traveling across Russia on the Transsiberian train, from Moscow to Vladivostok, in order to find an answer to the question "Did we just cross the European border?". The film had its premiere in the Semaine de la critique section at Cannes Film Festival, in 2009.

Andrei's latest film project is called *Kings of the Castle*, a short documentary film, co-directed with Vlad Illicevici in Ankara, Turkey and completed in January 2010.

In February 2010, *Claudiu and the Fish*, one of Andrei's short scripts was selected for Euro Connection (European short film co-production forum) at Clermont-Ferrand Film Festival, in France. *Claudiu and the Fish* was also nominated for the Co-Production Prize of the Robert Bosch Foundation. *Claudiu and the Fish* was shot in Bucharest in August 2012 in a coproduction between Deutsche Exotik (Germany), Libra Film (Romania) and broadcaster arte/ZDF.

## FILMOGRAPHY (selection)

### 2004 **Myriapod**, fiction – 10 min., 35mm

CinemaIubit Film Festival (2004), Hyperion Film Festival (2005, Best Leading Actor Award)  
Transilvania International Film Festival (2005)

### 2006 **Love Forever**, fiction – 12 min., 35mm

Cinema Iubit Student Film Festival (2006), Benicàssim International Film Festival (2007),  
Busho - Budapest Short Film Festival (2007, Best School Film Award), Fresh Film Fest  
International Student Festival (2007), Magma Film Festival (2007), Arte Film Festival (2007)

### 2008 **Mc Russia**, documentary – Mini DV, 11 min.

Pacific Meridian Film Festival (Vladivostok, Russia, 2008), Festival de Cannes - Semaine de la critique (2009), Open Russian Film Festival Kinotavr (2009), Fresh Film Fest (2009), Aye Aye Film Festival (2009), Sheffield Doc/Fest (2009), Dokma Film Festival (2009), Lago Film Festival (2009, Winning short of the Matter of taste project), Univerciné Nantes (2010)

### 2010 **Kings of the Castle**, co-directed with Vlad Illicevici, documentary, miniDV, 10 min.

Next IFF (2010), Transilvania IFF (2010), FilmVideo Montecatini (2010, Special mention),  
Fest IFF 2010 (2010), Sole Luna IFF (2010), Magma IFF (2010), OF/ON Festival (2010), Interfilm  
Berlin (2010)

### 2013 **Claudiu and the Fish**, fiction, Arri Alexa, 15 min.

## PHILIPP DETTMER

*Producer Germany*

Born in Munich in 1978. Studied Economics and Cultural Management in Germany & France, before working at a consulting company. Changed to film in 2005 by participating in the German-French-Masterclass of Filmakademie Baden-Württemberg before working for Bavaria Film, Munich, as Junior Producer for two years.

Founded Deutsche Exotik Filmproduktion in 2009 in Munich – its' aim: the production of features and documentaries for an international audience.



## FILMOGRAPHY (selection)

*in preparation:*

**Nowhere man**, dir.: Benjamin Freidenberg (ISR), feature film

**Družina/ The Family**, dir.: Rok Bičėk (SLO), documentary

**Nightsession**, dir.: PHM Dettmer (GER), feature film

*completed:*

**2013 Claudiu and the Fish**, dir.: Andrei Tănase, short - producer Germany

**2013 Mystery Cache**, feature - producer/writer/director (in postproduction)

**2011 Camera Obscura**, dir.: Maru Solares, feature - co-producer

**2011 Lovelab**, dir.: Mirjam Dolderer, mid-length - producer

**2010 Tobi**, dir.: Eva Zillekens, short film - producer

**2009 Mexican Elvis**, dir.: Philipp Dettmer, music video - producer

**2008 Letter to a friend**, dir.: Sebastian Blank, short film - producer

**2008 A christmas love**, dir.: Rolf Schübel, feature film - producer

**2007 Diamonds**, dir.: Namche Okon, imagefilm - producer

**2007 Conspiracy**, dir.: Tim Günther, imagefilm - producer

**2006 Wallets**, dir.: Johanna Icks, short film - producer

## TUDOR GIURGIU

*Producer Romania*

Born 1972 in Cluj-Napoca, Romania.

Founded the successful film company Libra Film in 2004.

Founded TIFF Festival (Transilvania International Film Festival) in 2001.

## FILMOGRAPHY (selection)

*Producer of:*

**2013** **Claudiu & the Fish**, short, dir.: Andrei Tănase (post-production)

**2012** **Of Snails and Men**, feature, dir.: Tudor Giurgiu

**2012** **Somewhere in Palilula**, feature, dir.: Silviu Purcarete

**2010** **The Human Resources Manager**, feature, dir.: Eran Riklis

**2010** **Camelia**, short, dir.: Marian Crisan

**2009** **Children of Uranium**, documentary, dirs.: Iulian Manuel Ghervas, Adina Popescu

**2009** **Kino Caravan**, feature, dir.: Titus Muntean

**2009** **Ashes and Blood**, feature, dir.: Fanny Ardant

**2009** **Katalin Varga**, feature, dir.: Peter Strickland

**2009** **Australia**, documentary, dir.: Claudiu Mitcu

**2006** **Legaturi bolnavicioase**, feature, dir.: Tudor Giurgiu

**2004** **Great Communist Bank Robbery**, documentary, dir.: Alexandru Solomon

**2001** **Popcorn Story**, short, dir.: Tudor Giurgiu

*Director of:*

**2012** **Of Snails and Men**, feature

**2011** **Superman, Spiderman or Batman**, short

**2008** **Weddings, Music and Videotapes**, documentary

**2006** **Legaturi bolnavicioase**, feature

**2001** **Popcorn Story**, short

**1993** **Vecini**, feature



## BARBU BALASOIU

*Director of Photography*

In 2006 Barbu filmed the movie "California Dreamin' (endless)", film nominated for Camera D'or and winner of "Un Certain Regard" award at Cannes Film Festival 2007. The film is based on a true story: a NATO train transporting military equipment is stopped in the middle of nowhere by an overzealous chief of a Romanian train station. A year later, he worked as Director of Photography for the short movie "A good day for a swim", directed by Bogdan Mustata. The short film won the Golden Bear at the Berlin International Film Festival "Berlinale Shorts" 2008. The film is about three juvenile delinquents who break out of prison, kidnap a prostitute and a driver and play with them on an empty beach. In 2009, Barbu was the director of photography and producer of the short film "Troleibuz 92", which represented Romania at "The Venice Biennale" Romanian Pavilion. Enjoying a large popularity, the short was later bought by „Fondation Louis Vuitton pour la creation".



## FILMOGRAPHY (selection)

- 2013** **Claudiu and the fish**, short, dir.: Andrei Tănase - D.o.P.  
HD Color
- 2013** **Lupu**, feature, dir.: Bogdan Mustata - D.o.P. (in postproduction)  
HD Color
- 2012** **Here and There**, feature, dir.: Antonio Méndez Esparza - D.o.P.  
HD Color
- 2012** **Tuns ras si frezat**, short 12 min., dir.: Bogdan Muresanu - D.o.P.  
HD Color
- 2009** **The right for healthy environment**, documentary 54 min, dir.: Monica Gorgan - D.o.P.  
HD Color
- 2009** **Cases of Social Inclusion in Romania**, documentary 52 min., dir.: Bogdan Mustata - D.o.P.  
HD Color
- 2009** **Troleibuz 92**, short 8 min., dir.: Stefan Constantinescu - Producer & D.o.P.  
RED 4K Color, Shown at "Venice Biennale" Romanian Pavilion
- 2008** **A movie Simplu**, feature, dir.: Tom Gatsoulis, D.o.P. Tim Hudson - Camera Operator  
HD
- 2007** **A good day for a swim**, short film, 10 min., dir.: Bogdan Mustata - D.o.P.  
35mm, Color, Golden Bear winner at the International Film Festival Berlin "Berlinale Shorts" 2008
- 2006** **California Dreamin' (endless)**, feature, dir.: Cristian Nemescu, D.o.P. : Liviu Marghidan - C. Operator  
S35mm. Color, nominated for Camera D'or and winner of "Un Certain Regard" award at Cannes Film Festival 2007
- 2007** **Without Content**, short film, 15 min., for National Center of Dancing,  
Concept and Directing: Ion Dumitrescu & Eduard Gabia - D.o.P.  
HD
- 2005** **The secret life of vampires**, documentary for NBC U.S.A, 60 min. - D.o.P.  
HDTV

## TECHNICAL INFORMATION

Working title	Claudiu & the Fish
genre	Coming of age / comedy
Shooting format	HD (Arri Alexa)
Screening format	35mm/ HD Cam
Length	15 Minutes
Language	Romanian
Color / SW	Color
Sound	Stereo
Shooting schedule	June / August 2012
Days of shoot	5
Location	Romania / Bucharest
Completion	Beginning 2013

### TEAM:

Writer & Director	Andrei Tănase
Director of Photography	Barbu Balasoiu
Production companies	Deutsche Exotik Filmproduktion GmbH, Munich, Germany Libra Films, Bucharest, Romania