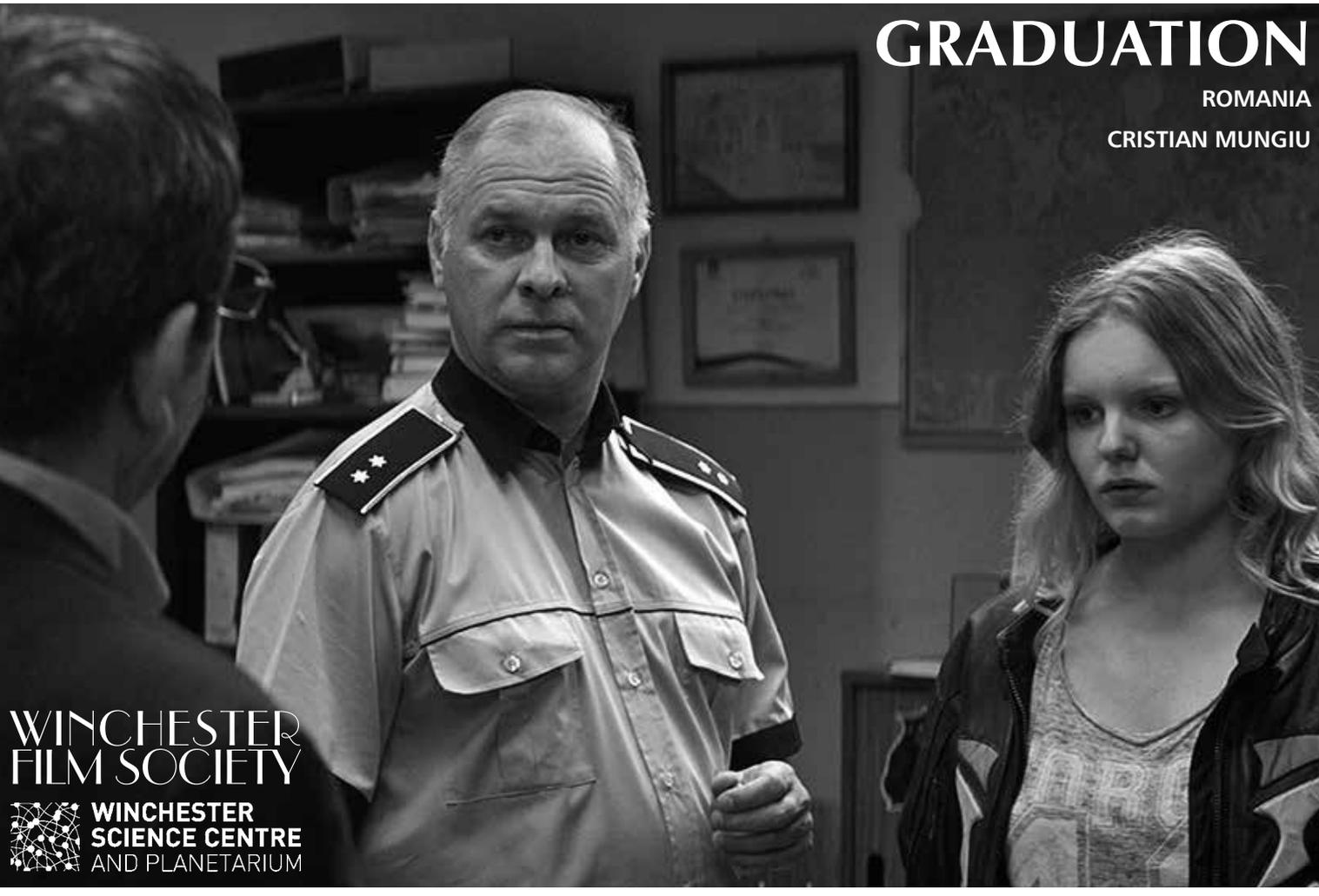


GRADUATION

ROMANIA

CRISTIAN MUNGIU



WINCHESTER
FILM SOCIETY

WINCHESTER
SCIENCE CENTRE
AND PLANETARIUM

A fascinating and fastidiously complex study of one man's moral choices at a crucial juncture in his life, Cristian Mungiu's *Graduation* is a thoroughgoing masterpiece which offers proof that Romania's cinematic upsurge remains the most vital and important national film movement of the current century.

Like other Romanian masterpieces, the film seems to reflect an ongoing concern with the nation's fate since the collapse of Soviet Communism and the Ceausescu regime in 1989. While that historic turning point freed Romania from one form of oppression, these films probe the sense that ghosts of the old regime still haunt its successors and that elements of corruption have been internalized to the point that they're not just social but individual as well.

Mungiu's protagonist this time is a doctor named Romeo Aldea (Adrian Titieni), who is about to turn 50, which means that he's reached a certain mid-point in life: young enough to have an aged mother needing his attention, old enough to have a daughter about to graduate from high school...

...and it's the daughter, Eliza (Maria Dragus), who becomes the film's dramatic crux as the story begins.

One day after Romeo drops her off at school, a stranger drags her into a nearby construction site and attempts to rape her. The attack leaves the girl badly shaken and with one arm in a cast. But the real problem is that it also renders her potentially unable to ace an especially important final exam, one that may determine whether she'll be able to accept a scholarship at a British university.

Her father, though, is totally invested in the idea that she will escape to England. When they were younger, Romeo and his wife left Communist Romania for the West, and Romeo evidently regrets that they moved back; in his eyes, Eliza's salvation will also be his redemption.

The doctor considers himself to be a highly principled man, more so than much of the society that surrounds him. But when Eliza's exit from Romania falls into jeopardy, his personal morals start to waver. He knows strings that can be pulled to help the girl get past that exam, and he begins tugging at them. And yes, this inevitably recalls Lenin's statement about breaking eggs to make an omelet, and thus the whole Communist ethos of the ends justifying the means.

Godfrey Cheshire, rogerebert.com

WRITER: Cristian Mungiu **CINEMATOGRAPHY:** Tudor Vladimир Panduru

CAST: Romeo Aldea Adrian Titieni | Eliza Aldea Maria Dragus | Magda Lia Bugnar | Sandra Malina Manovici

VOTING FOR MY FERAL HEART A45 | B44 | C5 | D2 | E0 | Rating 84.4% | Attendance 97

Next screening | **Paterson** | Tuesday 17 April 2018 8.00pm

'...a powerful ode to the simplicity of everyday life...'

Winchester Film Society Presents:

Adam DRIVER

Golshifteh FARAHANI



"A treasure for years to come"

THE TELEGRAPH

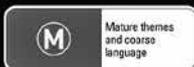
"Splendid and profound. A masterpiece"

DEADLINE



A film by Jim Jarmusch

PATERSON



AS INTERNATIONAL AND AMAZON STUDIOS PRESENT AN ASSOCIATION WITH LE PACTE AN INKAY PRODUCTION A FILM BY JIM JARMUSCH ADAM DRIVER GOLSHIFTEH FARAHANI "PATERSON"
BABY SHARON HANLEY CUFFY SMITH KRISTEN HANFORD WILLIAM JACKSON HARPER AND MARGOT SIMS ANAGISI COSTUME DESIGNER ELLIEN LEWIS & MEGHAN RAFFERTY PRODUCTION DESIGNER RON PALDETTI MUSIC BY SCOTT
CRISTOFER DENZEL CATHY DINE LESLIE COSTUME DESIGNER ANTONIO GONCALVES, A.C.E. PRODUCTION DESIGNER MARK PROTOCIRO EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS FREDERICK LEMCKE, A.S.C.
EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS OLIVER SHERN DANIEL BAHR RON KUTYMAN JEAN-LUC BAUDR PRODUCED BY JOSHUA ASTRACHAN CARTER LEGAN WRITTEN AND DIRECTED BY JIM JARMUSCH
K5 amazonstudios



Tuesday 17 April 2018 8.00pm

For further information, please visit
www.winchesterfilmsociety.co.uk