

CINENIC FILM PRESENTS

EVA AND RAMONA

A FILM BY MINKA JAKERSON



DIRECTOR AND CINEMATOGRAPHER: MINKA JAKERSON / EDITOR: CHRISTOFFER HALLBERG SEVHOLT

SOUND: GUSTAF BERGER - AUDITORY / COMPOSER: LISA MONTAN / PRODUCERS: ANNIKA HELLSTRÖM AND ERIKA MALMGREN



LOGLINE SYNOPSIS

Swedish artist Eva Wilms sets out to revive her most important friendship with East German Ramona Scholz with the help of a painting.

Eva and Ramona met in the summer of 1971 as ten-year-olds in the former GDR. They formed a lifelong friendship across the border between East and West. Later, their friendship was banned by Stasi. Despite their strong bond, there are unresolved issues between them. Eva decides to invite Ramona to Sweden to resolve the past. Through their friendship, our understanding of how the wall between East and West affected the individual's self-esteem deepens.

PRODUCTION FACTS

<i>Title</i>	Eva and Ramona
<i>Swedish title</i>	Eva och Ramona
<i>Production country</i>	Sweden
<i>Production year</i>	2021
<i>Genre</i>	Short documentary
<i>Production company</i>	Cinenic Film
<i>Financiers</i>	Svenska Filminstitutet Film i Väst Konstnärsnämnden Region Halland Creative Europe Lindholmen Science Park Göteborgs stad Helge Ax:son Johnsons stiftelse
<i>Running time</i>	15 min
<i>Frames per second</i>	25
<i>Available formats</i>	DCP / ProRes
<i>Aspect Ratio</i>	1:1,78
<i>Sound</i>	Stereo / 5.1 mix
<i>Dialogue</i>	Swedish/German
<i>Subtitles</i>	English

Cast Eva Wilms
Ramona Scholz

PRODUCTION TEAM

<i>Director / Scriptwriter</i>	Minka Jakerson
<i>Cinematographer</i>	Minka Jakerson
<i>Producers</i>	Annika Hellström Erika Malmgren
<i>Sound</i>	Gustaf Berger / Auditory
<i>Editor</i>	Christoffer Hallberg Sevholt
<i>Composer</i>	Lisa Montan



EVA WILMS

Eva Wilms was born in Sweden in 1960. She lives in Tolered outside Gothenburg and is a visual artist. Eva's painting revolves around the loneliness and vulnerability she experienced as a child. A loneliness that ended when she met Ramona.

When Eva was 10 years old, she was sent to her grandmother in the GDR to spend the summer holidays there. That was the summer she met Ramona.

As a child, Eva's experience of the GDR was mainly related to the feeling of being special. She went to a world that no one else knew. Wherever she went, she brought with her a breeze of the West that everyone was curious about.

The friendship with Ramona and the star status she received in the GDR became vital to her sense of self.

But how come the GDR was a refuge for her - a place of restoration - while for Ramona it was a kind of prison - a place of belittlement?

RAMONA SCHOLZ

Ramona Scholz was born in Leipzig in the former GDR in 1960. She lives on a farm outside Chemnitz with three hundred sheep, two donkeys and about twenty chickens.

Even though it was thirty years ago that the GDR ended, Ramona is still struggling to find a connection between what was and what is now.

She really believed in the construction of the East German society and was ideologically convinced that she was involved in building a fantastic country.

When the GDR collapsed and the corruption and denunciation was revealed, it became difficult for Ramona to orient herself. Within a few months, Ramona became an "Ossie" - a kind of second-class citizen of the new Germany.

In reuniting with Eva, Ramona is given the chance to get to the bottom with the image of herself as a "gray mouse" from the East.





DIRECTOR'S COMMENT



I was born in Sweden but my parents come from the Czech Republic. I have long wondered, how the division between East and West affected the individual's most private sphere - our self-esteem. As a child, I started to sense and experience a value scale in which the "East" was considered inferior to the "West". After persistent nagging on my part, we changed our family name from Jakersonova to Jakerson to erase my Eastern European background. Much like Eva in *EVA AND RAMONA*, I experienced a big status shift when I visited the Eastern block for the first time as a teenager. Suddenly I became someone and everyone was curious about me because I came from the West.

Ramona, in contrast, experienced a loss of status as the GDR was absorbed by West Germany. Overnight she became an "Ossie" - a second class citizen in her own country.

In *EVA AND RAMONA* I wanted to work with an associative narrative. By weaving together documentary, fiction, archive and personal photographs the film work as a reflection on the status difference between East and West - but also on how authentic friendship can restore our sense of self.

DIRECTOR'S BIOGRAPHY AND SELECTED FILMOGRAPHY

Minka Jakerson studied cinematography at The National Film School of Denmark and has since worked with moving images in various contexts and collaborations. In 2012, she directed the short film *THE YEARNING ROOM* which premiered at the Gothenburg International Film Festival and competed at the Berlin Film Festival 2013. Beside cinematography assignments Minka is currently developing her first feature film at Cinenic film. Her directorial work is mainly concerned with private and intimate stories set in a wider political context.

Director **Eva and Ramona**

Short, documentary. Production: Cinenic film 2021.

The Yearning Room

Short, fiction. Production: Cinenic film 2012.

The Dollar Bill

Short, fiction. Production: DDF 2007.

Cinematographer **The Comfort Zone**

Feature, documentary. Production: SVT 2018.

Director: Thomas Reckman.

Days of Hope

Feature, documentary. Production: Bullittfilm 2012.

Director: Ditte Haarløv Johnsen.

She Male Snails

Feature, Documentary. Production: Upfront films 2011.

Director: Ester-Martin Bergsmark.

AWARDS

Special Mention **Best cinematography**

She Male Snails, Plus Camerimage, Poland 2012.

Kodak Vision Award **Best cinematography**

She Male Snails, Gothenburg International Film Festival 2012.

GuldDok **Best cinematography**

One Day, Copenhagen Dox 2007.



CINENIC PROFILE

CINENIC FILM is a production company based in Gothenburg, Sweden. The company produces and co-produces high quality drama, documentaries and animations aimed at theatrical distribution and TV.

Titles include BEYOND DREAMS (2017), FLOCKING (Berlinale Crystal Bear winner 2015) and UNDERDOG (2014).

CINENIC FILM is also a very active co-production partner with titles such as AND BREATHE NORMALLY by Isold Uggadottir (ICE/SWE/ BEL), feature animation THE TOWER by Mats Grorud (NOR/FRA/SWE), PHOENIX by Camilla Strøm Henriksen (NOR/SWE), HACKER by Poul Berg (DK/SWE), DANIEL by Niels Arden Oplev and Anders W. Berthelsen (DK/ SWE/NOR).

Current line-up include feature documentary CHILDREN OF THE ENEMY (Gorki Glaser-Müller), youth comedy/drama JUST SO-O EASY-GOING (Christoffer Sandler), THE BRAID, an elevated horror written by Joen Heed Windahl and Jessika Jankert and THE SOFT SKIN, debut feature by Minka Jakerson.



Cinenic was founded by manager/producer Annika Hellström in 2006. She is an industry veteran with more than 25 years' experience as producer, director assistant and script supervisor.



Producer Erika Malmgren joined the company in 2016. She has a long standing career as line producer, working with directors like Thomas Vinterberg and Gabriela Pichler.



CONTACT INFORMATION

Cinenic Film, Annika Hellström / annika@cinenicfilm.se
+46 70 786 6416 / www.cinenicfilm.se