

## DUBROVAČKE LJETNE IGRE DUBROVNIK SUMMER FESTIVAL

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PULA FILM FESTIVAL WINNER

## Bigger Than Trauma at Jadran Open-air Cinema

**Dubrovnik, 26 July 2023** – The screening of the Golden Arena winning feature film from this year's anniversary **70<sup>th</sup> Pula Film Festival**, is brought by the **Dubrovnik Summer Festival** in cooperation with **Dubrovnik Cinemas** to the **Jadran Open-air Cinema**, as is by now a beloved tradition, and the festival audience will be watching **Vedrana Pribačić's and Mirta Puhlovski's** *Bigger Than Trauma* **tonight, 26 July at 9:30 p.m**. While the entrance is free, the number of seats is limited. The cinema doors open at 9 p.m.

"Vedrana Pribačić and Mirta Puhlovski have turned this difficult, painful, and important topic into an unforgettably moving and deeply remarkable film with their masterful actions in terms of directing, screenplay, and cinematography. This film about psychological rehabilitation and restoring the dignity of victims of war rape takes the viewer on a journey through a whole range of feelings, compassion, rage, despair, and helplessness. It brings us into the experience of the most extreme human cruelty, but also restores our faith in human contact and in the power and healing and saving properties of solidarity, patience, and tenderness people are capable of giving one another." - stated the PFF jury explanation.

Twenty-five years after the Croatian war for independence, women who survived torture, rape, and loss of their loved ones are still traumatised. The documentary film follows a group of participants in a three-year therapy program as they share their life stories, face past traumas and search for healing. With one Serbian woman in the group, the question of nationality is another burden that Katica, Ana and Marija will have to overcome in order to turn to the future and embrace the joy of life again.

The documentary was produced by **Metar60**, direction and script are by **Vedrana Pribačić** and **Mirta Puhlovski**, **Dario Hacek** is the cinematographer, **Marta Broz** editor, with **Tihomir Vrbanec** and **Dario Domitrović** doing the sound design. The 90-minute film was created in co-production with Croatian Radio and Television, and with the support of the Croatian Audiovisual Center (HAVC) and the City of Zagreb.

At the recently held Croatian Film Days, it won four awards: a main jury Special Mention in the documentary film category, the Audience Award, the Golden Oil Lamp Award, and the Ethics and Human Rights Award (shared with Marko Šantić's feature film 'Marko'). At the anniversary 70<sup>th</sup> Pula Film Festival, it won the Grand Golden Arena, the first 'pure' documentary film to do so, and received a rating of 4.82 from the audience.

The Dubrovnik Summer Festival – the centre of Croatian and global spirit and culture, a place of creation and not just a place of visit, a place of community, ideas and new artistic expressions, is traditionally supported once again this year by the Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Croatia, the City of Dubrovnik, the Dubrovnik-Neretva County, Dubrovnik Tourist Board and numerous sponsors Mastercard, Dubrovnik Airport, ACI club, ALH, Euroherc, Studenac, HEP, Croatian Lottery, Coca-Cola, MG Motors, Kraš, Croatia Airlines, and donors OTP bank, Atlantska Plovidba alongside other benefactors who helped bring this most prestigious cultural event in Croatia to fruition.

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