



OUR CURSE

27 Minutes

Credits:

Written and Directed by Tomasz Śliwiński

Producer: Maciej Ślesicki

Cinematography: Tomasz Śliwiński, Magda Hueckel

Editing: Justyna Król, Tomasz Śliwiński

Sound: Grzegorz Lindemann

Produced and Distributed by Warsaw Film School

Synopsis: OUR CURSE is the personal statement of the director, Tomasz Śliwiński, and his wife, who have just found out that their newborn child Leo has been diagnosed with a very rare and incurable disease – Ondine’s Curse (also known as CCHS, congenital central hypoventilation syndrome). Little Leo stops breathing while he is sleeping and will require a lifetime of mechanical ventilation on a respirator. The film shows how these young parents cope with and work to tame their fears for their young family.

Director's Biography: Tomasz Śliwiński is a student at Warsaw Film School. His first short film, THE CURSE (2011), played at many festivals such as Nowe Horyzonty in Wrocław and Etiuda&Anima in Kraków (where he received a distinction of FICC JURY). His next film, OUR CURSE (2013), premiered at the Locarno International Film Festival and has played at over 45 international film festivals garnering over 30 awards – including an Academy Award® nomination for Best Documentary Short Subject. Together with Magda Hueckel (as the Muzungu-art group), he creates a subjective, personal photographic document from various travels around the world. Their works have been exhibited at many prestigious galleries, including the Tate Britain Gallery in London. Śliwiński currently lives and works in Warsaw.

Producer: Maciej Ślesicki - Director, screenwriter and film producer. Founder and Chancellor of the Warsaw Film School. Director of features: "Threeminutes. 21:37", "Daddy", "Sarah" and "Show" and the TV series "13th Police Station". He graduated from the Department of Radio and Television at the Film University of Silesia. Winner of the Golden Duck 1995 as well Best Directing award at the Polish Film Festival in Gdynia for "Daddy" (1995). In 1997 he was awarded with the Platinum Ticket distribution prize for the biggest yearly box office admissions number of his film "Sarah". Producer of award-winning film "Reserve" directed by Łukasz Palkowski. Initiator of numerous projects supporting the debuts of young filmmakers and head of his own movies studio, Paisa Films.

Festivals/Screenings and Awards:

OUR CURSE has been officially selected to participate in over 45 international film festivals and has won over 30 prizes, including:

66th Festival del Film Locarno, Competition Pardi di Domani (International Premiere); East Silver Market 2013, Jihlava, Czech Republic 24 - Silver Eye Award nominee; IDFA – International Documentary Film Festival Amsterdam, IDFA Competition for Student Documentary (Nomination for IDFA Award The Best of IDFA OnTour selection); ONE WORLD – International Human Rights Documentary Film Festival Praha, Czech Republic Competition; 19th Vilnius IFF “Kino pavasaris” Vilnius, Lithuania Short Films Competition; ASPEN SHORTSFEST, International Competition (North American Premiere & Best Documentary Award); Indie Lisboa – 11th International Independent Films Festival Lisboa, Portugal, International Competition (Audience Award for Best Short); DOXA – Documentary Film Festival Vancouver, Canada, Competition; Sheffield Doc/Fest, Student Doc Competition (Best Student Doc Award & Audience Award for Best Short); CNEX Documentary Film Festival, Taipei, International Competition; Raindance Film Festival London, Short Doc Competition (Best Short Doc Award); Chagrin Documentary Film Festival, Student Films Competition (Best Student Doc Award); Sapporo Short Fest, Sapporo, Japan, International Competition (Best Documentary Award); Heartland Film Festival, Indianapolis, Documentary Shorts Competition (Jimmy Stewart Memorial Crystal Heart Award for Best Student Documentary); Cork Film Festival Cork, Ireland, Konkurs Competition; Festival du film d'éducation Evreux, Competition; International Documentary Association IDA Documentary Award Nomination for Best Documentary Short; Academy Award® nomination for Best Documentary Short Subject.

Website: http://www.szkolafilmowa.pl/our_curse

(Photos and trailer available on the film's website or by request.)

Leo's Blog: www.leoblog.pl

Warsaw Film School was founded in 2004 by Polish film director, producer and screenwriter Maciej Ślesicki and one of the country's most popular actors, Bogusław Linda. The academy is a unique film institution, one of three in the country to grant BA diplomas. Based in the capital of Poland, WFS is at the centre of a film education hub, which also includes a film-profiled high school, secondary school, vocational college, arthouse cinema, and a production company.

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