

# PAPUSZA

A film by Joanna Kos-Krauze & Krzysztof Krauze

Poland, 2013, black and white, 131 min, Polish/Roma with English subtitles.



Grand Jury's special Mention, Karlovy Vary International Film Festival  
Audience Award, Open Horizons, Thessaloniki International Film Festival  
Best Director, Youth Jury Prize & Best Actor – Valladolid International Film Festival  
Rotterdam International Film Festival  
London International Film Festival

**Opening Night Gala, Kinoteka / Polish Film Festival, London, 25 April 2014**  
**UK release Winter 2014**

*Papusza* is based on the true story of the Roma poet Bronisława Wajs (1908-1987). The film follows Papusza's life from birth to old age: arranged marriage as a small girl, her life in a gypsy tabor before, during and after second world war, then forced settlement in communist Poland and urban life in poverty. Her meeting with the Polish poet Jerzy Ficowski, who discovered her great talent for poetry and published her works led to a tragic paradox: a famous poet was living in poverty, rejected by the Roma community for betraying their secrets.

With beautiful monochrome photography, the film gives insight into the Roma way of life, soon to be swept away by WWII and the following communist regime. Speaking mostly in Roma language, the ensemble of actors includes mostly non-professionals from Roma families.

**'Polish husband-and-wife duo transform the troubled life of a celebrated Gypsy poet into a ravishing visual poem'.**

Stephen Dalton, *The Hollywood Reporter*

**'Some of the most spectacular black and white camera work in recent years'.**

Dan Fainaru, *Screen International*

## **CAST**

Jowita Budnik (Papusza)  
Antoni Pawlicki (Jerzy Ficowski)  
Zbigniew Waleryś (Dionizy – Papusza's  
husband)  
Artur Steranko (Czarnecki)

## **CREW**

DIRECTED BY Joanna Kos-Krauze, Krzysztof  
Krauze  
SCREENPLAY Joanna Kos-Krauze, Krzysztof  
Krauze  
CINEMATOGRAPHY Krzysztof Ptak, Wojciech  
Staron  
PRODUCTION DESIGN Anna Wunderlich  
COSTUME DESIGN Barbara Sikorska-Bouffal  
SOUND Mateusz Adamczyk, Jarosław  
Bajdowski, Sebastian Witkowski  
EDITING Krzysztof Szpetmański  
MUSIC JanKanty Pawluśkiewicz

PRODUCED BY Argomedia sp. z o.o., Lambros  
Ziotas  
PRODUCTION COMPANIES Telewizja Polska  
S.A., Canal+ Polska & Studio Filmowe KADR