

**OPENS AT FILM FORUM IN NEW YORK ON FEBRUARY 19
& AT THE NUART IN LOS ANGELES ON FEBRUARY 21, 2014
WITH NATIONAL RELEASE TO FOLLOW**

**Official Romanian Entry, Best Foreign Language Film
86th Academy Awards®**



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A ZEITGEIST FILMS RELEASE

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CHILD'S POSE

A film by Calin Peter Netzer

The top prize winner at the Berlin Film Festival, Calin Peter Netzer's sharply crafted *Child's Pose* pivots on a riveting performance by Luminita Gheorghiu (Best Supporting Actress, *The Death of Mr. Lazarescu*, Los Angeles Film Critics) as a steely, well-to-do Bucharest architect determined to keep her 30-something deadbeat son out of jail after a deadly car crash. How far will she go to convince the police, eyewitnesses and even the victim's family that her son was not recklessly speeding? A spellbinding drama of social commentary and psychological realism, this caustic look into the corrupt heart of the Eastern European bourgeoisie twists into a brilliantly ambiguous study of obsessive motherly love. Savagely witty and utterly engrossing, *Child's Pose* is also the Official Romanian Entry for Best Foreign Language Film at the 86th Academy Awards.

DIRECTOR'S NOTE

Child's Pose is a film about a pathological mother-and-son relationship, about children's positions relative to their parents and vice versa, and about parents losing their children in one way or another. It's a film, I might say, that attempts, to convey states of mind, feelings, smoldering conflicts, desperate outbursts, in a word: a slice of life almost as authentic as a documentary. The characters are analyzed, or rather psycho-analyzed, in an effort to help the viewer understand and perhaps even feel compassion towards this scarred family.

—Calin Peter Netzer

PRODUCER'S NOTE

I've been working with director Calin Peter Netzer and screenwriter Razvan Radulescu for a few years now, and I knew from the beginning that they would make a perfect match for the film's delicate subject matter. In the *Child's Pose* script, I immediately recognized the strong emotional approach of Netzer and the microsurgical precision of Radulescu's writing style. Being a universal, emotional family story, the film has the power to appeal to viewers around the world. Yet it is also a subtle dissection of contemporary Romanian society—the life of the *nouveau riche*, the rampant corruption at all levels of public institutions, and the relations between the various members of society when they meet by chance. The backdrop of actual Romanian society does not hold center stage here, but is employed as a complex puzzle that ultimately forms a picture of the reality in which the characters are living.

We are very fortunate to have Luminita Gheorghiu as our lead actress. She has fully embraced the character of Cornelia—so different from her real personality or her everyday look—and managed to craft, in my opinion, one of the most impressive performances in Romanian cinema. She is joined by a brilliant supporting cast: Bogdan Dumitrache as the troubled son, Vlad Ivanov as the eyewitness, and Adrian Titieni as the heartbroken father of the victim—to name just a few of the actors. In the beginning, I thought that this film would appeal mostly to women, as it shows how a mother's excessive love can destroy and suffocate her son. But once the film was finished, I understood how much it also could appeal to men, how much they could recognize themselves in their relationship with their mother, how the film says the things we think, but which we are hardly able to verbalize or accept as influences in our own lives. For me, this is the film's biggest achievement: that it is a film about forgiveness, acceptance and understanding.

—Ada Soloman

THE CAST

LUMINITA GHEORGHIU (Cornelia)

With a career spanning more than three decades, Luminita Gheorghiu has acted in the most notable films of the Romanian New Wave: Cristian Mungiu's *4 Months, 3 Weeks and 2 Days* (2007) and *Beyond the Hills* (2012); Cristi Puiu's *Stuff and Dough* (2001), *The Death of Mr. Lazarescu* (2005) and *Aurora* (2010); Corneliu Porumboiu's *12:08 East of Bucharest* (2006); and Constantin Popescu's *The Yellow Smiley Face* (2008). For her extraordinary performance in *Mr. Lazarescu*, Gheorghiu was named Best Supporting Actress of 2006 by the Los Angeles Film Critics Association. She also received a GOPO Award (Romanian Oscar) for her supporting role in Bobby Păunescu's *Francesca* (2009). Her collaboration with Calin Peter Netzer started in 2003 with a supporting role in his debut feature *Maria*.

BOGDAN DUMITRACHE (Barbu)

Born in Bucharest, Bogdan Dumitrache is a 1999 graduate of the National University of Theatre and Film. He has appeared in several acclaimed shorts and features, including Cristi Puiu's *The Death of Mr. Lazarescu* (2005); Catalin Mitulescu's *The Way I Spent the End of the World* (2006); Alexandru Mavrodineanu's *The Boxing Lesson* (2007); Constantin Popescu's *The Portrait of the Fighter as a Young Man* (2010); and Iulia Rugina's *Stuck on Christmas* (2010). He also appears in the Romanian adaptation of the HBO series *In Treatment*. Awards include a Best Supporting Actor GOPO (Romanian Oscar) for *The Portrait of the Fighter*; and a Best Actor Golden Leopard at Locarno and Best Actor GOPO for Adrian Sitaru's *Best Intentions* (2011).

ILINCA GOIA (Carmen)

Ilinca Goia is a 1992 graduate of the National University of Theatre and Film in Bucharest, and a 1996 graduate of American Academy of Dramatic Art in New York. She also attended the "Old Globe" at the University of San Diego, and received a Drama-Logue Award for her performance in Todd Salovey's 1993 San Diego Repertory Theatre production of *Dybbuk*. Goia has starred in various Romanian television productions and feature films, and performed on stage in San Diego, Los Angeles and throughout Romania.

NATASA RAAB (Olga Cercez)

Natasa Raab has been acting in Romanian theatre since 1988. Before being admitted to the National University of Theatre and Film, she played jazz, traditional music and canto in various television and radio shows. From 1979–1988, Raab was also a top model for a renowned Romanian fashion house. Her feature film work includes Costa Gavras's *Amen* (2003), and Adrian Sitaru's Locarno-winning *Best Intentions* (2011).

THE CREW

CALIN PETER NETZER (Director)

Calin Peter Netzer was born in Romania in 1975, and immigrated to Germany with his parents in 1983. In 1999, he received a diploma in film directing from the National University of Theatre and Film in Bucharest. His short film and feature debuts, both entitled *Maria* (1997 and 2003), were screened at prestigious festivals around the world. The feature version of *Maria* won the Grand Jury Prize and two Silver Leopard Actor awards at Locarno, and was also nominated for multiple European Films Awards. His 2009 feature, *Medal of Honor*, was screened in more than thirty festivals—including Turin, Miami, Los Angeles, Zagreb and Transylvania—and won the Silver Alexander and four other prizes at Thessaloniki. The film also garnered two GOPO Awards (Romanian Oscars) for Best Actor and Best Screenplay. *Child's Pose* is Netzer's third feature film and was awarded the Golden Bear at the 2013 Berlinale.

RAZVAN RADULESCU (Screenwriter)

Razvan Radulescu is one of the most acclaimed and prolific screenwriters in Romania and an integral figure in the Romanian New Wave. Radulescu studied philology at the University of Bucharest and opera directing at the Music Academy of Bucharest. His novel *The Life and Deeds of Elijah Cazane* (1997) won the Best Debut Prize from the Romanian Writers Guild. His second novel, *Theodosius the Small* (2006), won the EU Prize for Literature. As a screenwriter he has worked with many notable feature films, including Cristi Puiu's *The Death of Mr. Lazarescu* (2005) and *Stuff and Dough* (2001); and Radu Muntean's *Tuesday, After Christmas* (2010), *Summer Holiday* (2008) and *The Paper Will Be Blue* (2006). He co-wrote and co-directed *First of All, Felicia* (2009), which won awards at Namur (Special Jury Mention), Estoril (Cineuropa Award) and the Transylvania International Film Festival (Best Debut, Best Lead Actress, Best Script). He was also script advisor for Cristian Mungiu's *4 Months, 3 Weeks and 2 Days* (2007); and for Andrei Ujica's *The Autobiography of Nicolae Ceausescu* (2010). Radulescu was for several years a guest lecturer at Karlsruhe University of Arts and Design and The Marrakech School of Visual Arts.

ADA SOLOMAN (Producer)

Before setting up Parada Film in 2010, Ada Solomon worked as a production manager and executive producer of more than 150 television commercials at Domino Film. She also served as a line producer for international projects such as Franco Zeffirelli's *Callas Forever*, Didi Danquart's *Offset* and Hermine Huntgeburth's *Tom Sawyer*, and *Huck Finn*. In 2004, Ada set up Hi Film and produced debut features by Radu Jude (*The Happiest Girl In The World*, 2009), Melissa de Raaf and Razvan Radulescu (*First of All, Felicia*, 2009), Paul Negoescu (*A Month in Thailand*, 2012); and documentaries by Alexandru Solomon (*Cold Waves*, 2007, and *Kapitalism – Our Improved Formula*, 2010), among others. She is currently developing Radu Jude's third feature, *Aferim*, after producing his award-winning *Everybody In Our Family* (2012), which premiered in the Berlinale Forum. Ada Solomon is also the founder and director of Next IFF in Bucharest, dedicated to the memory of Cristian Nemescu and Andrei Toncu.

PARADA FILM (Production Company)

Founded by Calin Peter Netzer and Ada Solomon in 2010, Parada Film began as a distributor of independent Romanian films. They released the acclaimed documentary *Kapitalism – Our Improved Formula*; features such as Netzer's *Medal of Honor*, Razvan Radulescu and Melissa de Raaf's *First of All, Felicia*, and Radu Jude's *Everybody in Our Family*; and international arthouse productions such as Wim Wender's *Pina*. Parada's production venture began with Claudiu Mitcu's documentary *Two of Us*, the first Romanian documentary on LGBT issues; and Daniel Sandu's short *The Counting Device* (official selection at festivals including Sarajevo, Cambridge, and Montpellier's Festival du Film Méditerranéen). Netzer's *Child's Pose* is the company's first feature production.

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CAST

Cornelia **Luminita Gheorghiu**
Barbu **Bogdan Dumitrache**
Carmen **Ilinca Goia**
Olga Cerchez **Natasa Raab**
Aurelian Fagarasanu **Florin Zamfirescu**
Dinu Laurentiu **Vlad Ivanov**

CREW

Directed by **Calin Peter Netzer**
Produced by **Calin Peter Netzer & Ada Solomon**
Written by **Razvan Radulescu & Calin Peter Netzer**
Editing & Sound Design **Dana Bunescu**
Sound **Cristian Tarnovetchi**
Cinematography **Andrei Butica**
Production Designer **Malina Ionescu**
Make-up **Dana Roseanu**
Costume Designer **Irina Marinescu**
Co-Producer **Oana Giurgiu**
Executive Producer **Valentino Rudolf**

A **PARADA FILM** production in co-production with **HAI-HUI ENTERTAINMENT**
Supported by **ROMANIAN CENTRE OF CINEMATOGRAPHY, MEDIA PROGRAMME OF THE
EUROPEAN UNION, ODYSSEY COMMUNICATION BV, MCCANN ERIKSON, REAL TOP MEDIA,
ETNO MEDIA, TELECLUB, SOTI CABLE NEPTUN** with the participation of **HBO ROMÂNIA**

Romania • 2013 • 112 mins • Color • In Romanian • 2.35:1 aspect ratio • Not Rated
Dolby 5.1 • DCP, Blu-ray and HD-CAM



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