

ŽIVAN MAKES A PUNK FESTIVAL

2014 | Serbia | 64 min



Original title:

ŽIVAN PRAVI PANK FESTIVAL

Logline(s):

"Four days in the life of a daydreamer."

"A no-budget film about a no-budget music festival."

Synopsis:

Every summer for the last five years, Živan, a punk rocker and a poet, has organized a punk festival in his native village in Serbia. And, he always lost money on it.

However, his passion is in offering a different cultural model to the people in his environment and his dreams are focused on changing the way those people think.

This is the sixth time he makes a music festival, and Živan decides to make it an international one - he's bringing a band from Slovakia.

Film review:

"In one hundred years, it'll be Woodstock!" In his village near Belgrade, Zivan Pujic, aka Jimmy, is organizing a punk festival, alone and on a shoestring. For this sixth edition, the festival will become international as one of the bands is from Slovakia, but its stage is still the concrete slab at the sports ground, the ping pong table being removed at the last minute. As for the performers, they will help to move the rows of seats and, if need be, provide the cash to change the WC light bulb. The comic chapter inter-titles that count down to D-Day never hint of the slightest snigger or loftiness. And with good reason: the size of the film budget is doubtless close to the festival one. As the admitted "organizational errors" accumulate, the affectionate portrait of Zivan gains in depth, enriched by an almost painful flashback revealing his now-lost youthful energy. This young man, who lives on his mother's farm, confides to a passer-by that he had been committed to a psychiatric hospital for one month the previous winter. The quirky sociability of this discreetly destroyed poet fluctuates between burlesque comic genius and the melancholy of a tormented soul. Leaving behind the programmed pathos of the situation, *Zivan Makes a Punk Festival*, with its Buster Keaton-like title, also stands as an implicit and harrowing treatise on existential solitude.

(Charlotte Garson)



Director's statement:

Zivan is my long-time friend. Over the years I got to know him as a poet, organizer of concerts and festivals, radio host, front man of the punk band *Zivan & the Razorblades*, manager, confectioner, street newspaper seller... He himself says that he's a lowlife from Tomasevac village, a punk drifter, an outsider, a rural legend... but I would add that all of these titles and words cannot embrace all the things that makes him interesting and special.

In 2009 I made a short documentary portrait about him, which was the first documentary I ever shot, and the first time Zivan had an encounter with a film camera. After a few years, Zivan approached me and asked if I would like to direct a film with and about him. He told me that he had written a script about his life, the poverty, the personal problems and all kinds of family troubles he had.

He wanted to have real and famous actors play the characters from his script/life. He also gave me a list of all the locations where he would want to shoot, the list of all the actors he would want to cast, and the bands whose music he would like to have in the film. That sounded like a lot of fun so, as I realized that he already started directing his own film and even though we didn't have any kind of budget, I said that I would love to do it. I wanted to make a docu-fiction film, where I would also shoot Zivan choosing the camera angles, casting and directing the actors. The idea was, also, that the opening of that film would be a documentary introduction to Zivan's character, and that the rest of the film would be the fictional part based on his script.

After four days of shooting the documentary introduction, when Zivan was organizing the punk festival, we made a two-week pause before starting to shoot the fiction part of the film. Sadly, during those two weeks, Zivan had some health problems and he eventually ended up in a psychiatric hospital, where he stayed for two months. After he got out, he was heavily medicated for four more

months, and during that time I realized that the film we had planned wasn't going to happen in the planned form.

I was left with some documentary material I shot for those four days, and I felt there was something in it. In the editing room, while looking at the material and observing Zivan's organizational and personal problems, I realized that I had something that could become a new film, out of the ashes of the old, planned, dead one. That's how ZIVAN MAKES A PUNK FESTIVAL was born.

The whole film took more than a year to edit, because I didn't know if it should be a short or a feature-length film, what exactly the film would be about and how the structure should look like. I tried to understand what is it that I find interesting in Zivan and I realized that, however different we are, we have the same goals, and that the way I feel about my dreams – making films, enthusiasm, the process, the obsessions – are really similar and close to Zivan's own utopias and aims.

Struggling, fighting for those dreams, however unreasonable and futile they might seem, all the enthusiasm put into something that ends up dead or not very visible, the obstacles and powerlessness that come from reality but also your own limitations - are the feelings I recognized as something that connects me to Zivan, but also to a lot of people from our generation.



Official imdb.com page:

<http://www.imdb.com/title/tt3121746/>

Official facebook.com page:

<https://www.facebook.com/zivan.pravi.pank.festival>

Crew:

Cast: Živan Pujić

Directed by: Ognjen Glavonić

Cinematography by: Relja Ilić

Editing: Sara Santini

Sound recording: Pavle Dinulović

Sound design: Jakov Munižaba

Color grading: Nikola Mrdalj

Captions and titles: Boris Stanić

Produced by: Mladen Bulbuk, Ognjen Glavonić

Screening formats: DCP, Blu-ray, Apple ProRes, h264

Shooting format: Canon 7D (HD)

Aspect ratio: 1:1.85

Language: Serbian, English

Subtitles: English, French

Trailers:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=H6gZG8P0r1Y&hd=1>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YIYNEP6zHQg&hd=1>

Selected festivals and awards:

[Rotterdam International Film Festival](#) | Holland - *As Long as it Takes* Selection

[IndieLisboa](#) | Lisboa, Portugal - IndieMusic Selection

[CPH:DOX](#) | Copenhagen, Denmark - *Sound & Vision* Selection

[Cinéma du Réel](#) | Paris, France - First Films Competition (International premiere)

[TIFF](#) | Cluj-Napoca, Romania – *Special Events*

[One World Human Rights Documentary Film Festival](#) | Prague, Czech Republic

[Festival dei Popoli](#) | Florence, Italy - International Competition

[Open City Docs Fest](#) | London, UK – *Portraits* Competition Selection

[Crossing Europe](#) | Linz, Austria - Cinema Next Europe Selection

[Trieste Film Festival](#) | Italy - *TFF Arthouse* Selection

[DokuFEST](#) | Prizren, Kosovo – *Paths To Freedom* Music Docs Selection

[Brussels Film Festival](#) | Belgium – *Music Docs* Competition - *Award for BEST FILM*

[BELDOCS](#) | Belgrade, Serbia – National Competition - *Special Mention*

[this human world](#) | Vienna, Austria - *In Focus* Selection

[Kino Otok Isola Cinema](#) | Isola, Slovenia – *Friends* Selection

[SEEFest](#) | Los Angeles, USA - Documentary Competition

[Budapest International Film Festival](#) | Hungary - *Special Award of the Festival*

[Solo Positivo Film Festival](#) | Opatija, Croatia - Competition - *Best director Award, Audience award*



Director's biography:

Ognjen Glavonić (1985, Yugoslavia) graduated Film and TV directing at the Faculty of Dramatic Arts, Belgrade. His short films have been screened at more than 60 international film festivals.

His documentary, "Živan Makes a Punk Festival", produced in 2014, premiered at Cinéma du Réel film festival in Paris, France. This film has been screened at more than 50 international film festivals including IFF Rotterdam (2015), IndieLisboa (2015), CPH:DOX (2014) and Festival dei Popoli (2014).

"Depth Two", premiering at 66th Berlinale Forum, is Ognjen's first feature-length documentary.

Glavonić is currently in pre-production of his first fiction feature film, "The Load", a project supported by the CNC (Cinéma du monde), Visions Sud Est and the Hubert Bals Fund.

He is the director and co-founder of Pančevo Film Festival (Serbia).

Director's filmography:

- 2009. [Živan Pujić Jimmy](#) (20 minutes, short documentary)
- 2010. [Rhythm Guitar, Backing Vocal](#) (23 minutes, short fiction)
- 2012. [Made of Ashes](#) (17 minutes, short fiction)
- 2014. [Živan Makes a Punk Festival](#) (64 minutes, documentary)
- 2016. [Depth Two](#) (80 minutes, documentary)

**Contact:**

Ognjen Glavonić
Vukasovićeva 34/2, 11000 Belgrade, Serbia
+381 62 404 362
ognjenglavonic@gmail.com

www.nonalignedfilms.com