

PRESS RELEASE

Ukrainian Educational Version "Okradena Zemlya" on Holodomor Released

■ MONTREAL: The Ukrainian-language Educational version of the documentary film "Okradena Zemlya" has been completed ushering in the upcoming 85th anniversary of the 1932-33 Famine Genocide in Soviet Ukraine. The new documentary release will add to the resource material available for Ukrainian-language teachers in Canada, United States, Ukraine and other countries. This documentary is a shortened version of the original 75 min feature documentary directed and edited by filmmaker Yuriy Luhovy. The Ukrainian-language Educational release includes two versions for teachers to select from, both a 28 min and a 54 min, on one DVD. Teachers of the Holodomor can choose the version that better fits into the length of their class time.

"Okradena Zemlya" exposes Moscow's policy of genocide against the Ukrainian nation. The film focuses on the 1932-33 famine-genocide engineered by Stalin's regime against the rural population, and the accompanied decimation of the national elite, churches and destruction of Ukraine's historical past. It reveals one of the greatest human tragedies of the 20th century.

"Okradena Zemlya" is based on testimonies of survivors, commentaries by historians, declassified Soviet archival documents and rare historical footage. The award-winning documentary was shot in eastern Ukraine. Today, most of the areas where this documentary filmed remaining survivors, is once again inaccessible, devastated by Russia's ongoing hybrid war in eastern Ukraine.

The documentary is under the patronage of the Ukrainian World Con-

gress. The Ukrainian-language version was made possible with the help of the Shevchenko Foundation and support from BCU Foundation, the Ukrainian Studies Foundation in Australia and others.

The Ukrainian-language version is the fifth major release by producers Yuriy Luhovy and Zorianna Hrycenko, in their efforts to make available teacher resource materials and to help bring public awareness to the Holodomor and the policies of genocide against the Ukrainian nation.

The following documentaries in this series are available. The original, 75 min Ukrainian-language feature documentary "Okradena Zemlya", narrated by Bohdan Beniuk; the English-language multi-award winning feature documentary version "Genocide Revealed", narrated by Canadian Oscar-nominated actor Graham Greene; the English-language Educational version of "Genocide Revealed" for teachers, with a 26 min and 54 min version on one dvd; and finally, the French-language 75 min feature documentary version titled "Génocide d'une Nation", narrated by internationally acclaimed actress Geneviève Bujold. These documentaries, which have received high praise from historians and specialists in Holodomor-genocide studies, were made possible with the support of Caisse Populaire Desjardins Ukrainienne de Montreal, Shevchenko Foundation, Temerty Family Foundation, Zaraska Family Foundation, Danyliw Foundation, BCU Foundation, Chicago Ukrainian Genocide Famine Foundation and others.

Director Yuriy Luhovy states, "I am so pleased we have finally been able to



Director Yuriy Luhovy (rt) and Lana Babij member of The Connecticut Holodomor Committee holding the newly released Ukrainian Education version "Okradena Zemlya".

photo credit MMLInc

complete the Ukrainian-language Educational version. Without the encouragement and financial support of the community, it would have been impossible to make these documentaries on the famine-genocide to help increase public awareness. This work has not been easy, but with the dedicated and determined team, we never gave up, and continued to ensure these versions are made. I am also pleased we have been able to donate many educational versions to schools with contributions made for this purpose. Completion of

these versions is a testimony of the Ukrainian diaspora's commitment, relentlessly continuing the work to research and document genocide against the Ukrainian nation."

To order the newly released Ukrainian Educational version "Okradena Zemlya" or other versions, please contact mmlinc@hotmail.com, or call 514 481 5871.

—Bohdanna Hawryluk
Head, UCC-Montreal Cultural
& Educational Committee

Documentary "Recovery Room" Official Selection at London International Filmmaker Festival

■ MONTREAL: The Canadian feature documentary "Recovery Room" has been invited as Official Selection to the London 2018 International Filmmaker Festival (IFF) of World Cinema which takes place from February 10-17 in London, England.

"Recovery Room" is nominated for "Best Cinematography in Feature Documentary" and for "Best Feature Documentary". The film, directed by Adriana Luhovy, will be screened February 13 to participants attending the Festival from over 70 countries, with a closing awards ceremony at the London Crowne Plaza held Saturday, February 17. Attending the Festival from Montreal will be Yuriy Luhovy, producer of the film.

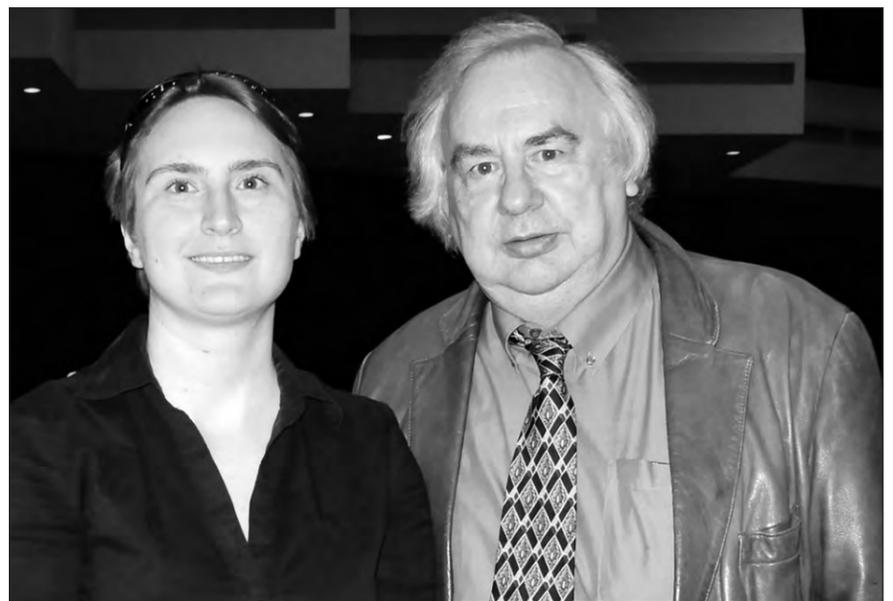
The documentary was filmed by Adriana Luhovy at the Main Clinical Military Hospital in Kyiv, Ukraine. It is a story of hope, resilience and compassion in a time of war in eastern Ukraine. Ms. Luhovy was invited to be part of Canada's Medical Missions, organized by the Canada-Ukraine Foundation providing humanitarian aid. "Recovery Room" is based on in-

terviews with wounded Ukrainian soldiers and with Canadian and Ukrainian medical teams performing complex reconstructive surgical procedures on victims of the Maidan and soldiers injured in eastern Ukraine from sniper fire and explosions. Incorporating flashbacks of actual war footage, the film unfolds a tightly constructed overall picture of Russia's invasion and the four-year long hybrid war in eastern Ukraine.

Viewers' comments in Canada include "film is absolutely beautiful and extremely impactful", "the story goes straight to the heart" and "eye-opening film".

Remarking on the film's nominations, Ms. Luhovy stated, "What wonderful news! Being invited as an Official Selection at the London Film Festival and nominated for two awards, the story depicted in "Recovery Room" continues to further international awareness about Canada's humanitarian aid and Russia's ongoing war, a threat not only to Ukraine's independence but to global peace."

Following the London International



Adriana Luhovy, film's director (L), with Yuriy Luhovy, producer

photo credit MMLInc

Filmmaker Festival, the Association of Ukrainians in Great Britain is organizing a public screening of "Recovery Room" with the film's producer Yuriy Luhovy present, on Sunday, February 19. For further details contact:

london@augb.co.uk

For information about "Recovery Room" see the website at: www.recoveryroomthemovie.com or call 514 481 5871. The trailer for the film at: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1E3DR4aULmg> Join the "Recovery Room Facebook Page: <https://www.facebook.com/RecoveryRoomTheMovie/>

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—Bohdanna Klecor-Hawryluk,
Chair, Cultural Committee
UCC-Montreal