

Born in Sarajevo in 1976.

Graduated in screenwriting and history of cinema of Bosnia and Herzegovina in January 2001 at Sarajevo Academy of Performing Arts, Dramaturgy. Professor of Screenwriting at Sarajevo Academy of Performing Arts since 2002. Completed postgraduate studies and film and literature and earned Master degree in film and literature titled with thesis **STYLISTICS IN SCREENWRITING**. Completed PhD in Film and Literature. Published two books on screenwriting.

Professor of Screenwriting and related courses at Sarajevo Academy of Performing Arts since 2002.

Selector of the Sarajevo Film Festival Competition Program for feature films and short films, and for non-competitive program **IN FOCUS** and **ANNUAL SHOWCASE OF BH. FILMS**.

Member of European Film Academy and General Secretary of Association of Filmmakers of Bosnia and Herzegovina since 2001 (www.bhfilm.ba).

Also works as an expert on project assessment for Media Program - Council of Europe, Doha Film Institute, EAVE, Torino Film Lab, etc.

Guest Lecturer at Film Professional Program Midpoint.

Currently writing two new feature films and a short film.

Languages spoken:

English, fluent

Italian, very good

Bosnian/ Serbian/ Croatian/ Montenegrin, fluent

Farsi, spoken fair

2019

- **GOD EXISTS, HER NAME IS PETRUNYA** was selected for the Official Selection of Berlin Film Festival (directed by Teona Strugar Mitevska and written by Elma Tataragić. The film won two awards in Berlin and was sold worldwide.
- Her other film **STITCHES**, directed by Miroslav Terzić, was also shown in Berlin in Panorama section and also won two awards. The film was shown at Fest Belgrade soon after Berlin where it won three awards. Only for the screenplay, Elma Tataragić received three awards (Film Festival Lecce, Las Palmas Film Festival, Shanghai Film Festival).

2018

- Published a new book on screenwriting **SCREENPLAY AND FILM ADAPTATION**
- Continued to program for Sarajevo Film Festival as well as to head the programs for Association of Filmmakers of Bosnia and Herzegovina

- Participated at numerous film festivals as Jury Member, Panelist, etc. such as Fest Belgrade, Sofia Film Festival, Istanbul Film Festival...
- Launched Bosnian Film Database for Association of Filmmakers

2017

- Her film WHEN THE DAY HAD NO NAME was selected and screened in Panorama section of Berlin Film Festival. The film continued to travel with success.
- Participated at numerous film festivals as Jury Member, Panelist, etc.
- Competition Main Programmer at Sarajevo Film Festival
- Professor for screenwriting at Sarajevo Academy of Performing Arts.
- Published the new edition of Filmmakers' Guide to Bosnia and Herzegovina
- Started working for Doha Film Institute as expert reader and also for Midpoint as guest tutor for feature film projects in development.

2016

- Completed her short film SJEĆAM SE/ I REMEMBER, which premiered at Sarajevo FF. It won the Special Critic's Prize at the Festival of Authors Film in Belgrade
- Writer of the screenplay GOD EXISTS AND HER NAME IS PETRUNIJA which won the production competition in Macedonia (In production 2017) and was supported for the script development from the Bosnian Film Fund.
- The project participated at Paris Project, CineLink Coproduction Market (Eurimages Award) and Venice Market.
- Competition Main Programmer at Sarajevo Film Festival
- Participated at numerous film festivals and as a Juror at Cinema Verite Film Festival in Tehran, Iran; Film Festival of Bosnian and Herzegovinian cinema in New York and at Sofia Film Festival
- Guest Lecturer at Berkeley University in October 2016.
- Professor for screenwriting at Sarajevo Academy of Performing Arts.

2015

- Nipkow Programme fellow for the screenplay STITCHES
- Jury member at Cottbus Film Festival
- Cowriter of fiction feature THE DAY THAT HAD NO NAME by Teona Mitevska (production)

2014

- Completed PhD in Sarajevo on thesis "Genre and stylistic characteristics of literal adaptations for feature fiction film"
- Guest Lecturer at Graz University
- Writer of the film STITCHES (director Miša Terzić)
- Head of promotion of Bosnian cinema in Indonesia
- Screenwriting workshop in Indonesia
- Jury member at Film Festivals in Sofia and Tirana

2013

- Head of the promotion of Bosnian cinema at Les Arc Film Festival
- Script consultant on short film HOLIDAY AT THE SEE by Cristina Grisan (Atlantic Group Award at Sarajevo Film Festival)
- Script doctor at Bitola Film Festival workshop in Macedonia
- Script mentor on short film omnibus in Zagreb
- Selection Committee at Cinelink Coproduction Market
- Rome Film Festival Programme Consultant

2012

- Jury member of Puebla Film Festival and Tuzla Film Festival

- Script consultant on feature film BUS
- Promotion of her *STYLISTICS OF FILM SCRIPT* in Novi Sad
- Script expert consultant at Eurimages
- Expert selector for European Film Academy
- Editor of Catalogue of BH Films 2012
- Programme Consultant to Rome Film Festival

2011

- Jury member of Lecce European Film Festival
- Script consultant on short film *BODILY FUNCTION* by Dane Komljan
- Issues book on screenwriting: *STYLISTICS OF FILM SCRIPT*
- Script expert consultant at Eurimages
- Expert selector for European Film Academy
- Editor of Catalogue of BH Films 2011 and *SHOOTING LOCATIONS IN BH*
- Award for Best Professor at Academy of Performing Arts

2010

- Completed Creative Collaboration Workshop on script editing
- Script editor of short film *REVERS* (Sarajevo City of Film)
- Attended Berlin Film Festival and Cannes Film Festival with presentations of B&H cinema and number of film festivals as festival representative, juror or guest
- Guest Screenwriting lecturer at SAE Institute, Milano
- Member of Selection committee of CineLink Coproduction Market
- Member of Selection Committee of Sarajevo Talent Campus – for screenwriters
- Completed Master degree in film and literature
- Member of selection Committee of Sarajevo City of Film Short Film Competition
- Writer and editor of catalogue BH. *FILM 2009/2010*

2009

- Guest Lecturer at Queen's University, Belfast (UK)
- Attending Script Factory (from London) workshops for script consultants;
- Producer and co-writer of the film *SNOW* that won over 30 international awards and was selected for over 80 international film festivals. The film was distributed in most European countries and among the awards are also awards for best screenplay and for the best film.
- Won *Ivica Matić* Award for filmmaking and contribution to B&H cinema;
- Jury member of different film festivals (Ljubljana Film Festival, Bucharest Film Festival) and panelist at various film events.

2008

- Producer and co-writer of film *SNOW* which premiered at Semaine della Critique of Cannes Film Festival and was awarded by the Grand Prix for the best film in this section. The film has won 9 International awards from all over the world so far and has been nominated for European Academy Award in the category of European Discovery for 2008. The film is also B&H candidate for the American Academy Awards and has been invited to over 40 festivals so far.
- Editor-in-Chief of catalogue BH *FILM 2008/2009* to be issued for Berlinale

- Reader for the selection of projects for CineLink annual co-production market of Sarajevo Film Festival and reader for the short film competition for project Sarajevo City of Film – Sarajevo Talent Campus
- Won Academy of Performing Arts Award for Professor of the Year

2007/ 2006

- Preproduction of the feature film SNOW
- Teaching Assistant in screenwriting at Sarajevo Academy of Performing Arts
- Selector of Competition Program at Sarajevo Film Festival
- Editor of the catalogue BH FILM 2006/2007
- Organized several film events in Bosnia and abroad such as the Bosnian film festival in August 2007
- Jury member at various film festivals
- Selection committee member for Sarajevo Cinema Fund on selection of films that are supported by the fund.

2005

- Founder of the production company MAMAFILM
- Editor of the catalogue BH FILM 2006/2007
- Screenwriting development grant from Bosnian Film Fund for the feature film screenplay ALONE

2004

- Balkan Fund award for the project SNOW at Thessaloniki Film Festival
- Montpellier Film Festival Award for the project SNOW – Moulin D'Ande residency
- Goteborg Film Festival award for the project development for SNOW
- Hubert Bals Fund grant for the development for SNOW

2003

- Wrote and produced short film NORTH WENT MAD, directed by Aida Begić
- Programmed the Sarajevo Film Festival Regional program
- Awarded for the CD Rom on Bosnian Feature Film
- Awarded for the screenplay for feature film BLOODY GAME
- Working as teaching assistant at Academy of Performing Arts

2002

- Together with director Aida Begić, wrote the screenplay NORTH WENT MAD for a short fiction film and won for the screenplay the Goteborg Film Festival Award and Goethe Institute Award.
- Wrote screenplays for several TV shows on Federal TV of Bosnia and Herzegovina
- Curator of various film weeks in Sarajevo
- Worked as writer of several advertisements and commercials with FABRIKA Agency.
- Programmed the Regional Program at Sarajevo Film Festival
- Started working at the Academy of Performing Arts as teaching assistant on screenplay

2001

- Began working for the Association of Filmmakers of Bosnia and Herzegovina.
- Programmed the Regional program at Sarajevo Film Festival
- Worked on several commercial adds with Fabrika agency

2000

- Worked at Sarajevo Film Festival as Bosnia Program Editor, catalogue editor and head of Press office for foreign and local press.
- Won the first award for the theatre play THAT'S LIFE, and the second award for the plays FLOWER GARDENS and FAITH OR EVE AWAITS.
- Directed a short video film PLUS MINUS
- Collaborator on the screenplay for short film FIRST DEATH EXPERIENCE by Aida Begić, premiered at Cannes Film Festival 2001, section Cinefondation. The film was shown at numerous festivals and won awards.

1999

- Worked at 5 Sarajevo Film Festival as the catalogue editor and managed the Press office for foreign and local press;
- Worked at Bosnian Television as a program collaborator
- 1998
- Attended the winter semester of screenwriting workshop held at UCLA, Los Angeles

1997

- Attended and completed the screenwriting workshop at Imaginary Academy in Grožnjan, Croatia led by UCLA professor Lew Hunter
- Worked at Locarno Film Festival at Press Office and VIP Office

1996

- Attended the film festival in Berlin as a representative of Sarajevo Film Festival, as well as Fajr Film Festival and Locarno Film Festival
- Worked at Second Sarajevo Film Festival as Assistant Director, PR and catalogue editor assistant
- Enrolled at the Academy of Performing Arts in Sarajevo, at the Department of Dramaturgy, Screenwriting

1995

- One of the founders of Sarajevo Film Festival and worked at First Sarajevo Film Festival as assistant director

1994

- Started working at the Film Department of Obala Art Center, a cultural institution based in Sarajevo as junior assistant at the film department.
- Worked on film programs: "Review of Edinburgh Film Festival in Sarajevo", "Swiss Film Season in Sarajevo" and "Locarno Film Festival in Sarajevo" and on various film programs and art exhibitions.

FILMOGRAPHY:

- **FIRST DEATH EXPERIENCE**, directed by Aida Begić, 2000/ **screenplay consultant**
- **PLUS MINUS**, **director, writer and producer**, student short, 2000
- **NORTH WENT MAD**, directed by Aida Begić, 2003/ **screenwriter and producer**
- **WARCHILD**, directed by Christian Wagner, 2005/ **production manager** for Bosnia and Herzegovina
- **SNOW**, feature film by Aida Begić, 2008 - **producer and co-writer**

- **REVERSE** 2009, script editor
- **BODILY FUNCTION** by Dane Komljen, 2010, script editor
- **A VIEW FROM THE 14TH FLOOR**, writer, development
- **A DAY THAT HAD NO NAME**, feature film by Teona Mitevska, writer, premiere in 2017
- **STITCHES**, feature film by Miša Terzić, writer, production 2019
- **GOD EXISTS AND HER NAME IS PETRUNIJA**, feature film by Teona Mitevska, writer, 2019
- **SUMMER DEW**, feature film by Carlo Chiaramonte, cowriter, postproduction

CONTACT:

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