DOWN THE RIVER

by Ruslan Fedotov





SYNOPSIS

Following the course of the river Dnieper, Down the River observes the lives of young people growing up along its banks. Teenage boys spend their summer by the water; passengers on a cruise ship dance to Tina Turner; children play among monuments; historical reenactors reconstruct World War II battles. In these carefully composed, seemingly peaceful scenes, everyday life, historical memory and inherited rituals begin to overlap.

Gradually, another current emerges beneath the surface. The imagery and rituals of a wartime past remain intensely present—in games, ceremonies, monuments and ways of imagining heroism. Keeping his distance, Ruslan Fedotov (Where Are We Headed) allows these connections to accumulate through observation, revealing how collective memory can quietly enter the lives and imagination of a younger generation.

As the legacy of earlier wars is reshaped and passed on, the film leaves us with an unsettling question: what kind of future is possible when the trauma and...

CAST AND CREW

DIRECTOR Ruslan Fedotov · PRODUCER Margarita Amineva-Jester, Kristina Shtubert · SOUND Andrey Dergachev, Sasha Valent · EDITOR Vlad Fishez, Ruslan Fedotov · EXECUTIVE PRODUCER Elena Fortes

Germany 2026
79 min

FORMAL CATEGORIES
War/Peace, Conflicts, Coming of Age

ORIGINAL LANGUAGES
Russian

PRODUCTION COMPANY
Voices Films

LINKS / REFERENCE
https://voicesfilms.com/dow...