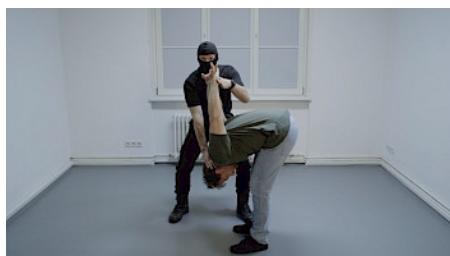




HANDBOOK

by Pavel Mozhar



SYNOPSIS

How do you go about crushing a protest? Handbook provides a comprehensive answer to this question. It includes almost everything, except no actual beatings take place in this instruction video.

It's August 2020. While in Minsk protests are mounting against Lukashenko's re-election, Pavel Mozhar follows the developments in his homeland from his room in Berlin. Over these few days, around 7,000 protesters were arrested by the notorious OMON riot police.

Mozhar studied hundreds of witness statements on the internet and discovered there was a systemic approach to the oppression. He transforms his room into a studio where he stages re-enactments of witness testimonies by a "police officer" wearing black clothes and a balaclava, and four "detainees" dressed identically in shirts and jeans. The result is distressingly instructive. [IDFA 2021]

FESTIVALS

Seal of Approval 'highly recommended'

2021

64 DOK Leipzig

IDFA Award for Best Short Documentary

2022

15 Glasgow Short Film Festival

Docs Against Gravity

International Short Film Festival Nijmegen

Hamburg Short Film Award

15 CinEast - Central and Eastern European FF, Luxembourg

KFFK Cologne

CAST AND CREW

DIRECTOR Pavel Mozhar · PRODUCER Pavel Mozhar, Kolja Wolle · SOUND Joscha Eickel, Bertold Budig · EDITOR Florian

Germany 2021

29 min

ORIGINAL TITLE
HANDBUCH

CONTENT CATEGORIES
Short film

ORIGINAL LANGUAGES
Russian, German

PREMIERE
Leipzig, Germany (2021)

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