



IRON BUTTERFLIES

by Roman Liubyi



SYNOPSIS

On July 17, 2014, Malaysia Airlines Flight 17 from Amsterdam to Kuala Lumpur was shot down by Russian forces over eastern Ukraine, killing all 298 people on board. The reality of this attack, and its possible ramifications for the then-ongoing war in Donbas and the West's relationship with Russia, was immediately questioned by the Russian government and media. As voluminous evidence – including physical artifacts like the butterfly-shaped shrapnel found in the bodies of the pilots – piled up, the lies denying reality only became more outlandish and incredible.

In a world where violence can only be defended by lies, and lies only maintained by violence, Iron Butterflies presents the truth of what happened to MH17, but also what was at stake by not confronting it. Director Roman Liubyi uses a wealth of visual material and individual testimonies to craft this artful yet evidence-driven examination of a turning point in recent world history. This act of mass murder not only...

FESTIVALS

2023

Sundance Film Festival

73 BERLINALE - Panorama Dokumente

25 TiDF - 25th Thessaloniki International Documentary Festival

movies that matter festival, The Netherlands

30 Hot Docs Toronto

38 DOK.fest Munich - DOK.focus Power of Media?

DocAviv

Global Cinema Film Festival Boston

Bildrausch Filmfest Basel

57 KVIFF - Karlovy Vary

22 DOKFEST Prizren, Kosovo

18 DocEdge NZ

BSD Baltic Sea Doc. Riga, Latvia

29 WFF - Warsaw International Film Festival

Ukraine, Germany 2023

84 min

FORMAL CATEGORIES

Current Affairs, Conflicts,
War/Peace, Politics

CONTENT CATEGORIES

Hybrid

ORIGINAL LANGUAGES

Ukrainian, Russian, English,
Dutch

PREMIERE

Germany (2023)

WORLD SALES

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