



# LEARNING TO MILK A COW

by Juliana Saragosa



## SYNOPSIS

A 64min experimental documentary about my grandmother's personal experiences of being stolen from her family in Soviet Ukraine and taken to work for German farmers under National Socialism.

When the filmmaker's grandmother was 19, she was taken from Soviet Ukraine to Germany to work on a Bavarian farm under National Socialism. She had the luck and perseverance to survive hardships of the forced famine in her homeland and forced labour in the new one. The stories of her everyday life – learning how to milk a cow, falling in love – are interspersed with three generations of reflections on politics, longing, feelings of displacement and loss.

Hand-processed black & white film, colour film, photographs and official documents create a montage of different perspectives. The hand-touch aesthetic combines with the acousmatic effect of disembodied voices, in this deeply intimate portrait obscured by memory loss, mis-translation, fear and trauma.

## FESTIVALS

- 30.11.2016 xart splitta Filmreihe, Berlin, Germany
- 22.03.2017 Cineding, presented by Gedenkstätte für Zwangsarbeit, Leipzig, Germany
- 09.09.2017 Chouftouhonna, Tunis International Feminist Art Festival, Tunisia
- 07.10.2017 Baikal International Documentary Film Festival, Irkutsk, Russia
- 28.11.2017 Altes Finanzamt, Berlin, Germany
- 25.02.2018 Ausland, Berlin, Germany
- 25.11.2018 Grandmother Film Festival, Rotterdam, Netherlands

## CAST AND CREW

DIRECTOR Juliana Saragosa

Germany, Canada 2016  
64 min

ORIGINAL TITLE  
LERNEN EINE KUH ZU  
MELKEN

FORMAL CATEGORIES  
Biographie/Portrait, History,  
War/Peace, Human Rights,  
Migration, POV, Social issues

ORIGINAL LANGUAGES  
Ukrainian, German, English

PREMIERE  
Germany (2016)

LINKS / REFERENCE  
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<https://www.facebook.com/Le...>