



MAIA – PORTRAIT WITH HANDS

by Alexandra Gulea



SYNOPSIS

Maia (Alexandra Gulea) was born into a semi-nomadic population under ethnic cleansing. Her granddaughter has produced a vivid visual reconstruction of her journey through the 20th century. Her history blends into the larger History.

The Aromanians (Rrãmãnji) are an ethnic group found mainly in today's Albania, Greece, Bulgaria and Romania. For filmmaker Alexandra Gulea, this question of heritage is connected to the name she shares with her grandmother, who was born into a traditional Aromanian life, and is fluent only in an Aromanian language. The older Alexandra's father suffered a violent death in an uprising for his people's rights, which forced the family out of Greece and into a politically treacherous Balkan landscape deep in the throes of nationalist upheavals, until finally, they found a home in Romania.

Through early documentaries from the period, ethnographic objects and importantly, through her own imagination, Alexandra begins her journey back into her grandmother's...

FESTIVALS

2024

53 IFFR Rotterdam

CAST AND CREW

DIRECTOR Alexandra Gulea

Romania, Germany 2024

89 min

FORMAL CATEGORIES

History, Human Rights, Social issues

PREMIERE

Netherlands (2024)

COPRODUCTION COMPANY

[weltfilm GmbH](#)

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FILM LOCATION

Romania

LINKS / REFERENCE

PRODUCTION

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TRAILER

<https://vimeo.com/888830359>