

POL POT DANCING

by Enrique Sánchez Lansch



SYNOPSIS

A star dancer at the Cambodian royal court lovingly raises her husband's little brother as her own son. Decades later, as a forced labourer under the Khmer Rouge, she discovers that her foster son is Pol Pot.

Chea Samy was an outstanding soloist in the royal dance ensemble at the Cambodian Royal Palace in the 1930s. But she was also Pol Pot's foster mother. After marrying Pol's older brother, a low-level official at the royal court, she looked after the boy as if he were her own. They lost contact when he disappeared into the underground after his graduation. In 1975, like millions of other Cambodians, she was driven to the rice fields. Only after three years of forced labour did she learn that Pol Pot was the boy she had raised decades before. As one of only few dancers, she managed to survive his reign and returned to Phnom Penh as a dance teacher, thus preserving knowledge of the traditional dance. One of her first pupils was Sophiline Cheam, now a successful choreographer....

FESTIVALS

2024

26 TiDF Thessaloniki

39 DOK.fest Munich

FFCGN Filmfestival Cologne

CAST AND CREW

DIRECTOR Enrique Sánchez Lansch · PRODUCER Arne Birkenstock · SOUND Patrick Veigel · EDITOR Julia Oehring · DOP Marcus Winterbauer · EXECUTIVE PRODUCER Laryssa Stone

2024

99 min

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ORIGINAL LANGUAGES

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NEW DOCS

Dasselstr. 75-77

50674 Köln

Germany

sales@newdocs.de

<http://www.newdocs.de>

PRODUCTION COMPANY

Fruitmarket Arts & Media GmbH

Maastrichter Strasse 45

50672 Köln

Germany

mail@fruitmarket.de

<http://www.fruitmarket.de>

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JIP Film und Verleih GbR

Oeder Weg 42

60318 Frankfurt am Main

Germany

info@jip-film.com

<http://jip-film.com>

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CO-PRODUCTIONS

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