

WEREWOLF

by Adrian Panek

Liberation was just the beginning...



„The unschooled cast are unusually natural and convincing for child actors, and technical credits are generally superior”

The Hollywood Reporter

WILKOŁAK (WEREWOLF)

Poland / Netherlands / Germany

88', 2018

Synopsis

Summer, 1945. Eight children from Gross Rosen concentration camp find a provisional hiding place in an abandoned orphanage nearby, lost among forests. It seems that after the horrors of the war feral children may come back to normal life. All of a sudden idyllic atmosphere of peace and quietness is interrupted. The nightmare returns. In the surrounding forests wolfhounds are circling. The dogs were released by SS officers before the liberation of Gross Rosen camp. Wolfhounds - taught and used to kill prisoners - surrounded young heroes in the orphanage. All the attempts of escaping the place are failing. Children without any food and water turn into madness and wilderness once again. But the real danger lurks inside the palace.

Logline

WW2: a group of children liberated from a concentration camp find themselves, aimless and hungry, stranded in an abandoned mansion in the forest. They've gone through hell but the true horror is just about to begin.

Trailer

<https://vimeo.com/311902733>

Director's bio

Adrian Panek was born in 1975. He studied Architecture at Wrocław University of Science and Technology. He is also a graduate of Krzysztof Kieślowski Faculty of Radio and Television at the University of Silesia and Wajda School. He directed many short films, including *The Passion of Marian* (2006) and *My poor head* (2009), and numerous music videos as well as commercials. In 2011 he made his feature debut *Daas* with Andrzej Chyra, Mariusz Bonaszewski and Olgierd Łukaszewicz in the leading roles. The film was named the best Polish first feature of 2011.

Cast

KRAUT Nicolas Przygoda
WŁADEK Kamil Polnisiak
HANKA Sonia Miertelica
GREY Jakub Syska
REDHEAD Helena Mazur
LOONY Krzysztof Durski
SKINNY Maksymilian Balcerowski
BIGGO Julia Ślusarczyk
DOLL Matylda Ignasiak
JADWIGA Danuta Stenka
LONKA Oleh Shcherbyna
DRIVER Eugeniusz Malinowski
SS OFFICER Werner Daehn
RED ARMY SOLDIER Radostaw Chrześcianański
CHUNKY Wojciech Namiotko

Crew

Director and screenwriter ADRIAN PANEK
Cinematography DOMINIK DANILCZYK
Produced by MAGDALENA KAMIŃSKA, AGATA SZYMAŃSKA (Balapolis)
Coproduced by JAN DOENSE, HERMAN SLAGTER (House of Netherhorror), THANASSIS KARATHANOS, MARTIN HAMPEL (Twenty Twenty Vision), MACIEJ MUZYCZUK (Telewizja Polska SA), ALOIS ROSTEK (Rosco Polska)
Art Direction by ANNA WUNDERLICH
Costumes by MAŁGORZATA KARPIUK
Make up DARIUS KRYSIAK
Production Manager MAŁGORZATA WALA
Editing JAROSŁAW KAMIŃSKI
Music by ANTONI KOMASA ŁAZARKIEWICZ
Sound design WART WAMSTEKER, PETER FLAMMAN

AWARDS:

BLACK NIGHTS FILM FESTIVAL, TALLINN 2018: Audience Award, Ecumenical Jury Award
GDYNIA FILM FESTIVAL, POLAND 2018: Best Director, Best Music
POLISH FILM FESTIVAL, CHICAGO 2018: Discovering Eye Award for Young Filmmakers

REVIEWS:

“this grim fairy tale is original and gripping”

<https://www.hollywoodreporter.com/review/werewolf-review-1169817>



<https://www.scifinow.co.uk/tag/werewolf/>

“original and fresh” (...) “a reminder that genre films, such as horrors, can be graceful vessels for more profound content”

<https://www.cineuropa.org/en/newsdetail/363827>

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“excellent (...) post-holocaust horror”

Michal Oleszczyk (film critic at RogerEbert.com, Cineaste, Filmweb)

“Very Recommended”

<http://www.unseenfilms.net/2018/09/werewolf-wilkoak-2018-fantastic-fest.html>

„heartbreaking” (...) „very highly recommended”

“In many ways, it is a heartbreaking film, but it also allows for the possibility of hope—and maybe even forgiveness. Very highly recommended”

<http://jbspins.blogspot.com/2018/09/fantastic-fest-18-werewolf.html>

<https://www.austinchronicle.com/daily/screens/2018-09-26/fantastic-fest-review-werewolf/>

<http://oneofus.net/2018/09/infestation-fantastic-fest-2018-day-7/>

“A mix, of sorts, between Lord of the Flies and Cujo”

“a gripping story of survival”

“magnetic”

“to say it is a masterpiece would be an understatement”

<http://goseetalk.com/fantastic-fest-2018-parting-thoughts-the-best-and-the-rest-of-the-best-damn-fest-there-is/>

“more emotionally impacting moments I’ve seen in a film this year”

<http://dailygrindhouse.com/thewire/werewolf-2018/>

“a beautiful look at what people can do under the most gruesome of circumstances”

<https://birthmoviesdeath.com/2018/09/30/fantastic-fest-review-werewolf-shows-a-raw-side-of-survival>

“excellent and visually alluring”

<http://cineuropa.org/it/newsdetail/360729>

“very tense and exciting and scary and yet, it also ends in a very unexpected way that I really loved

Definitely be on the lookout for this little film.”

<http://lewtonbus.net/reviews/fantastic-fest-dispatch-part-2/>