



PLEASE

HOLD

THE LINE

A FILM BY PAVEL CUZUIOC

**CABLE TECHNICIANS IN EASTERN EUROPE
NAVIGATING THE MODERN-DAY TOWER OF BABEL.**

PRESS KIT



"The past and the present collide in this darkly amusing deep dive into the human side of the digital age. And each are as complex as the other... the film works on two levels: As an abstract expressionist arthouse piece and a deadpan social and political satire."
Filmuforia

Short Synopsis

Cable technicians in Eastern Europe navigating the modern-day Tower of Babel. With unflappable humour and a dose of philosophy, the technicians hold the line in a dissonant world.

Long Synopsis

An audiovisual allegory on communication - this film follows cable technicians in different countries, as they visit their customers. Each client they call on provides a glimpse into their own individual universe. With so many tools for communication, we still inhabit a modern-day Tower of Babel; an ordered discordance of personalities and perspectives.



"With these eclectic references, we see Please Hold the Line's strength as a stealth art film - its observant camera acting like a tuning fork, picking up strange echoes and vibrations."
Cineuropa

Director's Statement

We like to think of communication devices as a people binder. Yet, with a larger variety of communication tools than ever before, each human being continues to insist on his personality and perspective, social disintegration is as strong as ever.

“Please hold the line” is about people who fix communication defects - like cable technicians fixing a tv, phone or a modem - as well as about their customers. A palette of human typologies. I am interested in the human being, with its everyday struggles. It is these individual universes that fascinate me the most.



Director's Bio

PAVEL CUZUIOC was born in Chisinau, Republic of Moldova. In 2000, he moved to Vienna where he followed courses on film directing at the Vienna Film Academy. His films were screened at various international film festivals such as Locarno Film Festival, HotDocs, Clermont Ferrand ISFF, Black Night IFF, DocAviv FF, Transylvania IFF, FIPA, Cottbus FF, etc.

Filmography & Festivals (Selected)

SECONDO ME

(Documentary, 79 min., A 2016)
Locarno IFF, HotDocs

RAISA

(Short, 15 min., A, RO 2015)
Clermont Ferrand ISFF

DIGGING FOR LIFE

(Mid Length Documentary, 55 min., HBO RO 2011)
Docaviv IDFF, TIFF.

Cast

GHENADIE MARDARI
OLEG CHUMAK
IONUT FOTIN
MARIUS MARCOVICI
GEORGI TCHOLAKOV

Team

Directed, filmed and produced
by PAVEL CUZUIOC
Editor - SAMIRA GHAREMANI
Sound design - ATANAS TCHOLAKOV
Production managers - VALERIA SOCHYVETS
LILIA BRAILA, ANTONIYA TSINOVA
Color grading - ANDI WINTER
Graphics & SFX - DENIS BARTENEV

Technical specifications

A 2020, 86 Min.,
DCP, Color, 1:85, 2K,
Sound 5.1, English Subtitles

Languages spoken

Romanian, Ukrainian, Bulgarian,
Russian, French, English



Supported by



Bundeskanzleramt

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