

# BRIGHT FUTURE

Original Title: VIITOR LUMINOS

Documentary | 89 minutes | Romania, South Korea | 2024

Languages: Romanian, Korean, English, Swahili, French, Italian, Arab, Mandarin, etc.



## LOGLINE

July 1989, North Korea - the hottest summer of the Cold War for the world's youth!

## SYNOPSIS

In the summer of 1989, thousands of people from various nations and beliefs gathered in North Korea for a grand student festival that championed peace, friendship, and anti-imperialism. Entangled in the geopolitical tensions of the Cold War, the festival, over its 42-year history, became a cultural battleground where youth from the West, socialist states, and developing countries converged. At the same time, it served as a rare opportunity to experience diverse cultures in a world divided by borders and ideologies- a common space where young people debated humanity's future. Though primarily political, addressing issues like nuclear disarmament, environmental protection, women's and students' rights, social justice, and above all, peace, the festival also took place at a pivotal moment in history. Behind the celebration, a crucial shift was on the horizon, signalling the end of an era.





Written and Directed by: Andra MacMasters  
Cinematography: Emilian Urse  
Producer: Monica Lăzurean-Gorgan  
Editor: Andrei Gorgan  
Cast: Pompilius Onofrei, SONG Ji-Young  
Sound Designer: Matei Vasilache  
Executive Producer: Elena Martin  
Co-producers: Andra MacMasters, KO Duhyun  
Production companies: Manifest Film, Conset, Keumyoil Film



This movie was made with the support of:

**Romanian Film Center**  
**Creative Europe MEDIA funded by the European Union**  
**DMZ Docs Fund**  
**Seoul Metropolitan Government and SFC location incentive**

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### **DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT**

*As a child of Romania's wild years of transition from communism towards capitalism, I am enthralled by Cold War narratives. 'Bright Future' is an invitation to a journey in one of the most secluded places in the world at an exceptional point in history. In the last chapter of the Cold War, for one week, North Korea became the global meeting point for 20.000 people coming from 166 countries. The event was the space of the other, involving travel and contact with otherness, the creation of dialogue, of cohesion in the production of intellectual and affective links, of creative encounters and the transfer of information. As the world is on the brink of a new Cold War, I consider it vital to look back in history at the experiences of the previous generations of youth in facing the trauma of war. The complex infrastructures of international youth organizations that advocated for peace and solidarity have been forgotten or completely disappeared. At 35 years distance, it is time to reflect on these platforms that allowed youth to voice their opinion on world's current affairs and build a more equitable society. I wish to make a film that seeks fresh takes on the past, with stories that bring visions of worlds that shatter the easy black-and-white categories of the Cold War and raise important questions about what it means to be young, international and in solidarity, then and now.*

### **DIRECTOR'S BIOGRAPHY**

**Andra MacMasters** (former Popescu) is a Romanian audiovisual producer and archive researcher. In 2013 she founded Conset Film and since then worked with filmmakers from Azerbaijan, Georgia, Serbia, India. As a visual anthropology researcher, she established the first archive dedicated to the cine-amateurism movement in the Socialist Republic of Romania, available on [www.cineama.ro](http://www.cineama.ro). BRIGHT FUTURE is her first film.

### **PRODUCER'S BIOGRAPHY**

**Monica Lazurean-Gorgan** is a producer, a documentary filmmaker and a member of the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences and also a member of European Film Academy. Monica is the producer of Acasa, My Home by Radu Ciorniciuc, winner of the Sundance Cinematography Award 2020 and other 40 international awards, also producer for the documentary Tata by Lina Vdovii and Radu Ciorniciuc, recently selected at Toronto IFF. Monica is the director for the film Wood premiered in HotDocs and CPH:Dox in 2020. She is the producer for the film Between Revolutions by Vlad Petri, winner of FIPRESCI award at Berlinale 2023; delegate producer for Berlinale Golden Bear winner in 2018, Touch Me Not by Adina Pintilie and co-producer of 2015 Sundance selected Chuck Norris vs Communism by Ilinca Călugăreanu. Monica is the director for the film A Mere Breath, winner of Best Doc at Sarajevo IFF 2016 and 10 other international awards, screened on Mubi, Amazon, etc.