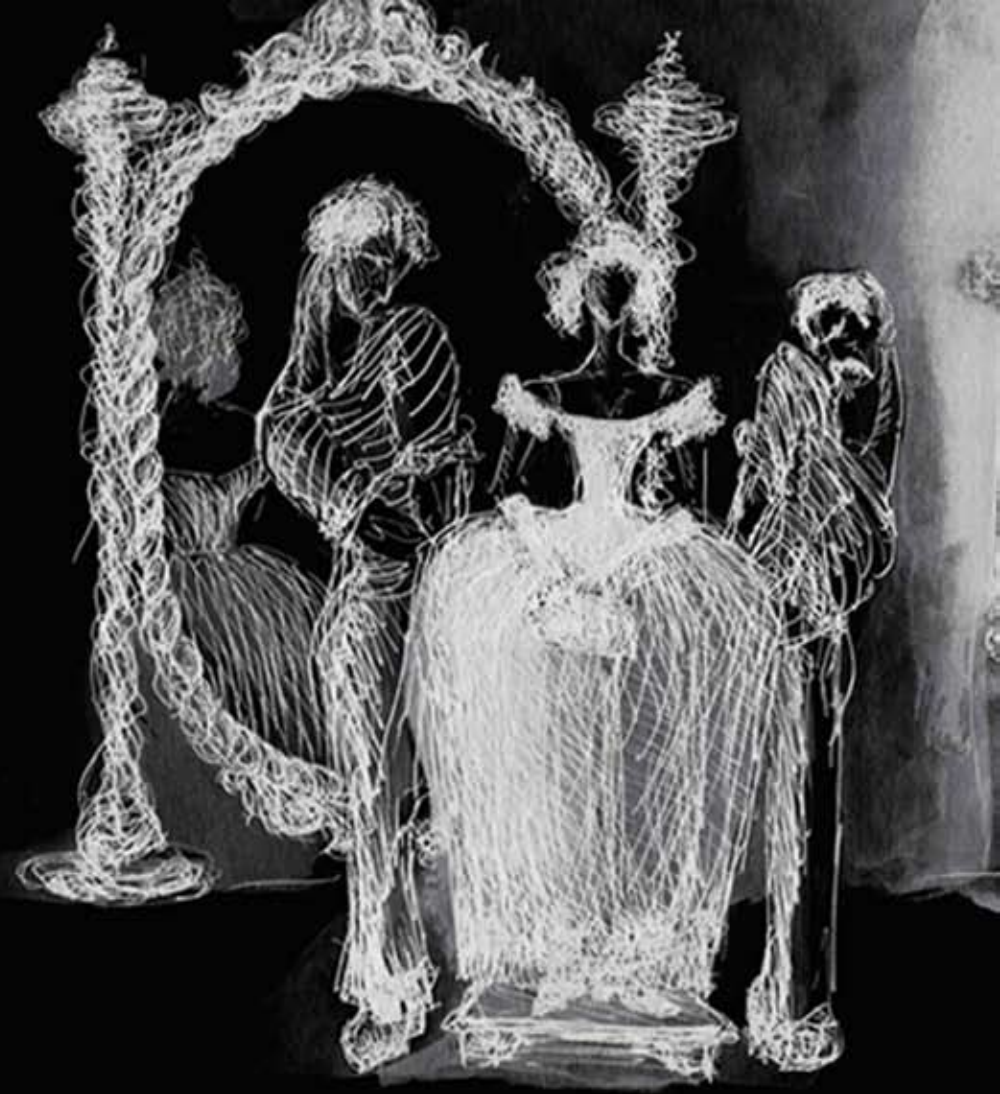




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M o m e n t
T h é â t r a l

Moment Théâtral

Graduate Thesis Film
35 mm, black and white, 14 minutes

Daniel Levin
Writer/director

213 - 713 - 0406
danielbl@usc.edu
<http://www.freewebtown.com/danila40/>

Production company:
University of Southern California
School of Cinema - TV



JESSICA YU

Industry mentor

It is a special feeling of joy to see a new talent emerge, a new talent endowed with a strong sense of purpose. Daniel Levin is a young Russian-American filmmaker who has come a long way to develop his vision into a powerful tool of true artistic integrity.

Moment Théâtral is a proof of that. It is a story of family values, individual self-worth and collaborative friendship. The film is a celebration of youth, that season of man when all can be achieved and no moment is lived in vain. The film is above all a visual story, told in a uniquely cinematic language, something we rarely see in contemporary films.

Daniel's Russian background is an immensely valuable asset. American cinema has always depended on immigrant directors for alternative perspectives and sensibilities. Commercial interests have turned Hollywood into a factory of uniformity. We desperately need more diversity in American filmmaking, if only for our own sake. Daniel Levin is a welcome addition to our national cinema, a cinema versatile and dynamic like no other.

I would like to wish Daniel and his wonderful crew the best of luck in their work on this film and in future endeavors.

Jessica Yu is an Oscar winning director. Among her film credits are documentaries *In the Realms of the Unreal* and *Breathing Lessons*. Her TV credits include episodes of "Grey's Anatomy", "The West Wing", and "ER".

Moment Théâtral

Story Outline

Two teenage siblings, Sandro and Sofiko, leave behind the materialistic aspirations of their peers to plunge into the exciting world of self-discovery and learning about life.

Sandro joins a theater company, while Sofiko interns at a marine biology lab. Although they pursue different careers, individually they long for the same thing – to find out what exciting things life has in store for them.



DANIEL LEVIN

Writer/director

Imagine you are sixteen again. Every morning you wake up to a bright new day, full of unexpected surprises. The same people you see every day don't seem boring to you. At every turn you expect the unexpected. You are beaming with curiosity and an insatiable desire to find out what life is really all about!

Such are the characters of Moment Théâtral. They are two siblings on the verge of a discovery. Only the discovery may happen at any given moment and they are ready for it. The exciting and burlesque worlds of the theater and marine biology, where our characters live, prove to be auspicious for their creative development.

The style of the film is inspired by the great tradition of Russian and Georgian filmmaking, particularly by the films of Otar Iosseliani. Leaving aside pathos and preaching, the goal of this film is to let the audience share an uplifting experience by means of expressive tools of cinema.

A stylized, handwritten signature of Daniel Levin in black ink.

Daniel Levin comes to film from TV journalism. Over the past two years he has directed six short films and has co-written and edited a feature documentary, *The Russian Story*, by Marina Goldovskaya. He is currently in post-production on a feature documentary *The White Sea of Blue*. Daniel holds degrees in political science from Cornell University, Georgetown University and Institut d'Etudes Politiques in Paris, France. He is working toward an MFA degree in film directing at USC, for which Moment Théâtral is the thesis film.

ESTIMATE BUDGET

Script Dated : June 26, 2006
 Budget Draft Dated : July 29, 2006
 Start Date : Dec 1, 2006
 Finish Date : Dec 9, 2006

Producer : Katherine Vondy
 Director : Daniel Levin

Acct No	Category Description	Page	Total
Total Above-The-Line			0
4400	WARDROBE	1	1,500
4411	LAUNDRY	1	800
4500	MAKEUP & HAIRDRESSING	1	750
4700	CAMERA	1	3,000
4750	1st ASSISTANT CAMERAMAN	1	1,350
4800	RAW FILM STOCK	1	6,000
4820	FILM PROCESSING	2	1,200
4830	TELECINE	2	2,970
4840	ANSWER PRINT	2	750
4850	OPTICAL NEGATIVE TRACK	2	705
4860	COMPOSITE ANSWER PRINT	2	1,545
4870	COMPOSITE RELEASE PRINT	2	555
4900	GRIP EQUIPMENT	2	1,750
5300	SET AND PROP RENTALS	3	1,500
5400	LOCATION PERMITS	3	1,000
5700	SOUND RECORDING NAGRA TAPE	3	72
6300	CATERED MEALS FOR CREW AND CAST	3	2,700
6400	GRIP TRUCK	3	500
6500	GAS	3	96
Total Below-The-Line Production			28,743
7200	POST PRODUCTION SOUND EDITING	4	1,800
7600	POST PRODUCTION SOUND MIXING	4	1,200
7800	PRODUCTION INSURANCE	4	2,000
7900	PUBLICITY	4	2,000
Total Below-The-Line Post			7,000
8500	CONTINGENCY	4	3,399
Total Below-The-Line Other			3,399
Total Above-The-Line			0
Total Below-The-Line			39,142
Total Above and Below-The-Line			39,142
Grand Total			39,142



KATHERINE VONDY

Producer

A unique vision has a better chance of being noticed, simply because it stands out. Indeed, our film does stand out, both stylistically and in terms of its content. It is excitingly visual, which makes it universally appealing, reaching across cultures and languages. And it addresses the most basic thing common to all people - the lust for life and the joy of living.

Raised in both Russia and in the US, Daniel brings with him a unique approach to filmmaking and a strong sense of direction. His aesthetic sense is refreshing and lyrical. Daniel is a young man of remarkable self-knowledge and sensitivity to the world around him.

I am also excited to work with a wonderful team of dedicated filmmakers - artists who are committed to bypassing the conventions of mainstream media and instead, creating art. Together we will make a film that will touch our audience and will stand out as a work of unique vision.

Katherine Vondy, originally from Gore, VA, earned her BA from Amherst College with a double major in English and Music. She worked in Financial Communications for several years in New York before moving to Los Angeles to pursue a graduate degree in Film Production. Her first film, *Milk Delivery*, most recently played at the Female Eye Film Festival in Ontario, Canada.

PRODUCTION SCHEDULE

Moment Théâtral

Scheduled						
7	In the city	EXT	In the city	Day	1/8 pgs.	1
4	Sandro's house	EXT	In front of Sandro's house	Day	2/8 pgs.	1, 5
End of Day 1 -- Saturday, December 2, 2006 -- 3/8 pgs						
11	Sofiko arrives on	EXT	Pier	Day	7/8 pgs.	4, 20, 21
27	Ship is ready to	EXT	Pier	Day	2/8 pgs.	4, 21
End of Day 2 -- Sunday, December 3, 2006 -- 1 1/8 pgs						
1	Sandro's apartm	INT	Sandro's apt	Day	7/8 pgs.	1, 2, 3, 4
3	Sandro's apt/To	INT	Sandro's apt	Day	1/8 pgs.	
2	Sofiko's room	INT	Sofiko's room	Day	2/8 pgs.	4
5	Sandro's house	INT	In front of Sandro's house	Day	2/8 pgs.	4, 5
End of Day 3 -- Monday, December 4, 2006 -- 1 4/8 pgs						
12	Lab hall	INT	Lab hall	Day	3/8 pgs.	4
13	Lab office	INT	Lab office	Day	4/8 pgs.	4
28	Woman janitor c	INT	Lab office	Day	2/8 pgs.	29
End of Day 4 -- Tuesday, December 5, 2006 -- 1 1/8 pgs						
8	In the theater lot	INT	Theater lobby	Day	1 1/8 pgs.	1, 8, 9, 10
9	In the theater	INT	Theater	Day	4/8 pgs.	1, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17
10	Trot march	INT	Theater	Day	2/8 pgs.	1, 18, 19
End of Day 5 -- Wednesday, December 6, 2006 -- 1 7/8 pgs						
18	Sandro walks ba	INT	Theater backstage	Day	3/8 pgs.	1, 12, 17, 22, 23, 24, 25
19	Rehearsal on st	INT	Theater stage	Day	5/8 pgs.	1, 26, 27
22	Break in rehear	INT	Theater stage	Day	3/8 pgs.	8, 10, 13, 14, 24, 25, 28
End of Day 6 -- Thursday, December 7, 2006 -- 1 3/8 pgs						
23	David is cleanin	INT	Theater off stage	Day	1/8 pgs.	8
24	Two actors kiss	INT	Theater	Day	1/8 pgs.	8, 9, 11, 27
25	Box office lady v	INT	theater cellar	Day	1/8 pgs.	1, 9
14	Sandro in the w	INT	Theater workshop	Day	5/8 pgs.	1, 27
15	David brings a s	INT	Theater workshop	Day	2/8 pgs.	1, 8
16	Sandro feeds th	INT	Theater workshop	Day	1/8 pgs.	1
17	Mime in the wor	INT	Theater workshop	Day	2/8 pgs.	1, 18
End of Day 7 -- Friday, December 8, 2006 -- 1 5/8 pgs						
20	Sandro returns t	INT	Theater workshop	Day	1/8 pgs.	1
21	Throught the wa	INT	Theater workshop	Day	1/8 pgs.	
26	Tamara visits St	INT	Theater workshop	Day	1 4/8 pgs.	1, 11, 27
29	Sandro leaves t	INT	Theater workshop	Day	2/8 pgs.	1
End of Day 8 -- Saturday, December 9, 2006 -- 2 pgs						

YIMIN CHEN

Director of Photography

As a director of photography I am attracted to this project first and foremost by the endless possibilities of its visual language. The film has virtually no dialogue. All emotions must be expressed visually using what cinema is best known for – the light and the dark. That is the reason why we chose to shoot this film in black and white and in 35 mm format – to maximize our expressive tools to make the most beautiful images we possible can.

The world of theater offers infinite opportunities for expressive variety. It is a world of illusion. My goal as a cinematographer is to capture its magic and charm and to let the audience feel them like the characters do. The world of marine biology is no less fantastic. It is full of magnificent creatures that range from gigantic mammals to microscopic worms. Like the theater, the sea also hides from us its mysterious secret, fathomless like its very depth.

Yimin Chen comes to USC from China where he began his film career as a documentary filmmaker for a local television station. Since his arrival at USC Yimin has shot a number of advanced projects, infusing them with his own unique sensibility. He is a recipient of the prestigious Frank Sinatra scholarship.

SPONSORS AND CONTRIBUTORS

Austin Film Society, Texas Filmmakers' Production Fund
Cultural Arts Council of Houston/Harris County Texas
Accountants and Lawyers for the Arts
Texas Commission on the Arts
Washington, D.C. Commission on the Arts
Fotokem Film and Video Laboratories
Claremont Camera
Kodak Motion Picture Film

MARKETING AND DISTRIBUTION PLAN

Marketing strategy for *Moment Théâtral* involves distribution to a wide array of film festivals in the United States and abroad to insure the widest possible publicity for the film.



SOPHIA GRINBLAT

Fiscal Sponsor

People who bring their talents and skills from all over the world to this country are the strength of our nation. The *Russian Cultural*

Center Our Texas is dedicated to making the voice of the Russian community of Texas heard. We are proud to assist Daniel with his project because we feel that his film can be the voice which represents the Russian-American community and makes America more diverse.



OTAR IOSSELIANI

Writer/Director

The history of cinema is a story of martyrdom. Yet Daniel has got what it takes. He's got the vision and the drive.

Moment Théâtral has all the elements that will make it a beautiful piece. I can't wait to know that it's complete and I can watch it.

Otar Iosseliani is a veteran film director. His films have won awards at Berlin, Venice, and San Francisco film festivals. In 2000 he was president of the Caméra d'Or jury at the Cannes Film Festival.



MARINA GOLDOVSKAYA

Director

A good film is like a good book. It only takes one good film for me to keep going for a year. *Moment Théâtral* is a rare film. It has the power

to reinvigorate and to boost my energy. Since I've known Daniel he has been working on this film. For three years. It's time the film got made.

Marina Goldovskaya is a renowned documentary filmmaker. Her films have screened and won awards at all major documentary film festivals. She is a professor, running the Documentary program at the UCLA Film School.