



A MAJOR MOTION PICTURE EVENT

PUTIN

ONLY IN THEATERS THIS JANUARY



PROJECT OVERVIEW

Genre:	Psychological thriller/ Biopic
Production Type:	International
Director/Writer/ Executive Producer:	Patryk Vega
Production Companies:	AIO Studios
Cinematographer:	Michał Gościak
Editor:	Tomasz Widarski
Music by:	Łukasz Targosz
Casting Director:	Nancy Bishop
US Release:	Horizon Events

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If we want to inspire the modern Russian, we need more than a media circus – we need media theater.

– SWR GENERAL ANTON LOBANOV

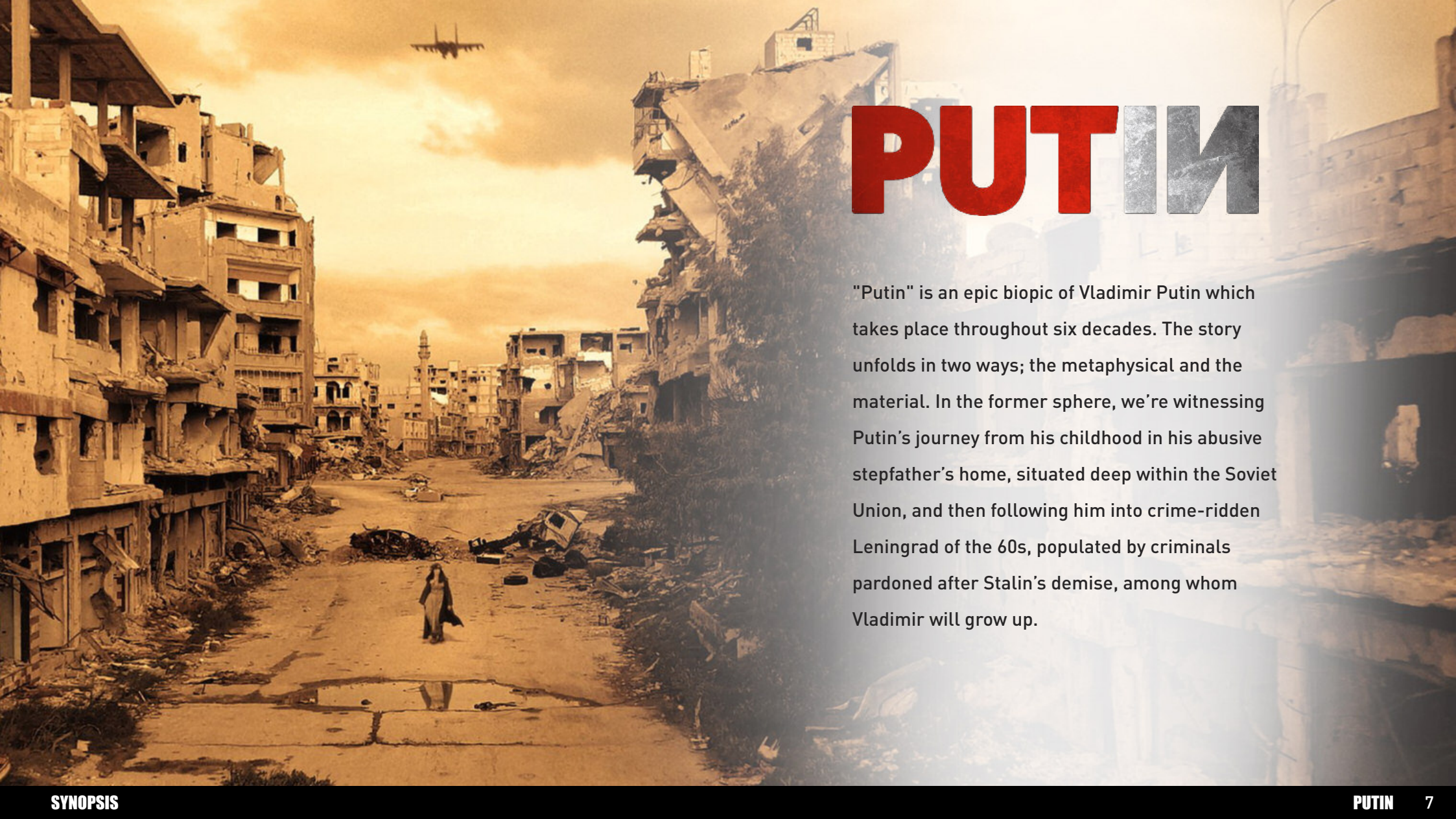


PUTIN

Uncover the psychological labyrinth of Vladimir Putin's rise to power, tracing his transformation from a haunted child to a formidable leader consumed by paranoia. This chilling exploration delves into the depths of his psyche, exposing the cost of his unyielding quest for dominance. The truth is revealed about the historical events that led to the invasion of Ukraine, made possible by fusing the metaphysical Russian soul with harsh Russian reality.

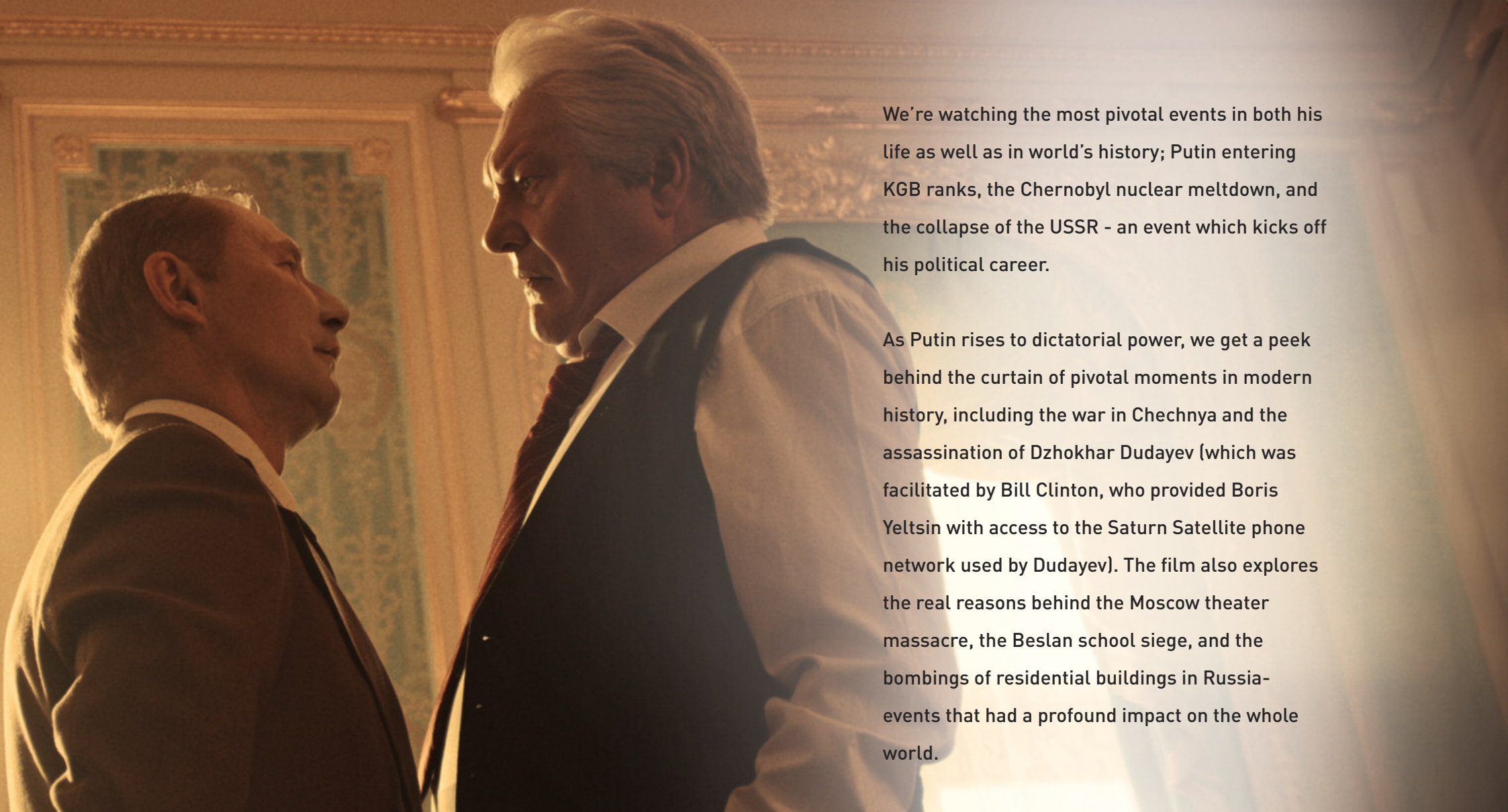


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*How does it feel to
be so close to
something you’ve
been working
towards for years?*



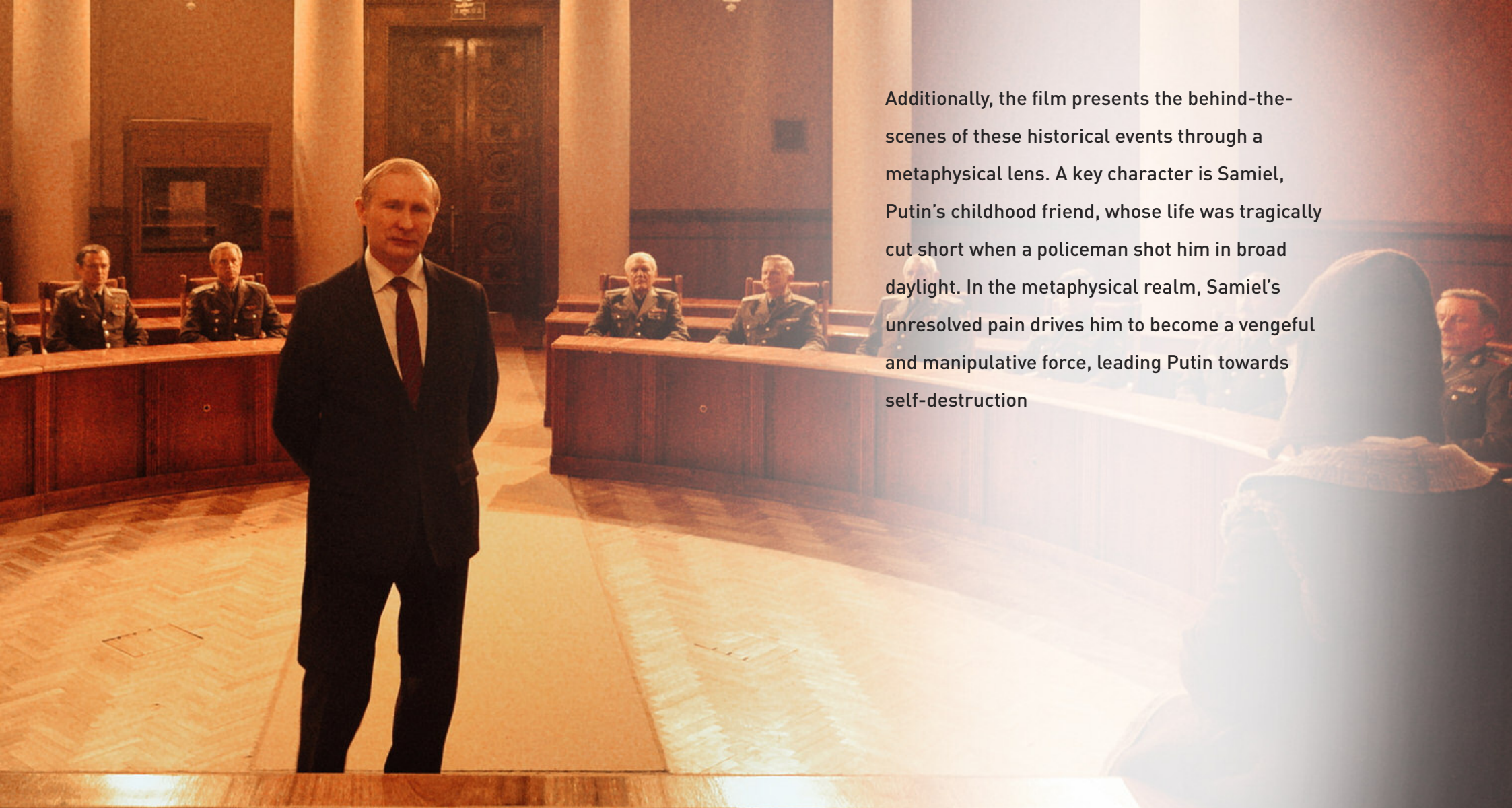
PUTIN

"Putin" is an epic biopic of Vladimir Putin which takes place throughout six decades. The story unfolds in two ways; the metaphysical and the material. In the former sphere, we're witnessing Putin's journey from his childhood in his abusive stepfather's home, situated deep within the Soviet Union, and then following him into crime-ridden Leningrad of the 60s, populated by criminals pardoned after Stalin's demise, among whom Vladimir will grow up.



We're watching the most pivotal events in both his life as well as in world's history; Putin entering KGB ranks, the Chernobyl nuclear meltdown, and the collapse of the USSR - an event which kicks off his political career.

As Putin rises to dictatorial power, we get a peek behind the curtain of pivotal moments in modern history, including the war in Chechnya and the assassination of Dzhokhar Dudayev (which was facilitated by Bill Clinton, who provided Boris Yeltsin with access to the Saturn Satellite phone network used by Dudayev). The film also explores the real reasons behind the Moscow theater massacre, the Beslan school siege, and the bombings of residential buildings in Russia - events that had a profound impact on the whole world.



Additionally, the film presents the behind-the-scenes of these historical events through a metaphysical lens. A key character is Samiel, Putin's childhood friend, whose life was tragically cut short when a policeman shot him in broad daylight. In the metaphysical realm, Samiel's unresolved pain drives him to become a vengeful and manipulative force, leading Putin towards self-destruction



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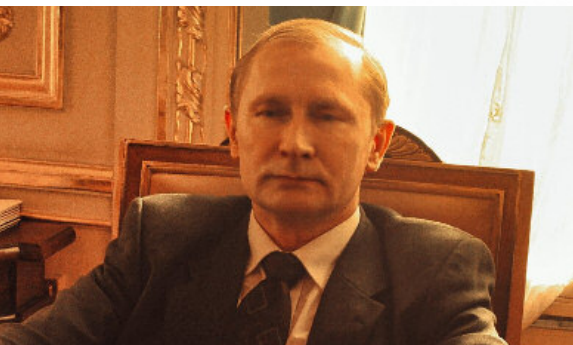
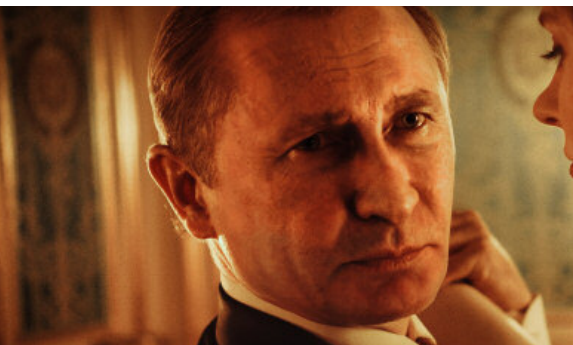
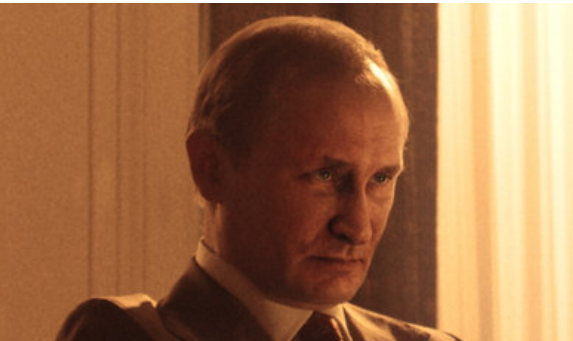
*You forgot to ask what
I want in return.*



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*Hand your power over to me,
only I can save you.*

I must be President.



PUTIN AND AI

Director's Statement

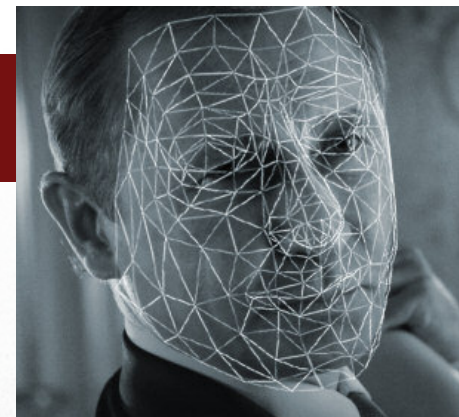
PUTIN is a film that tells a story unfolding right before our eyes.

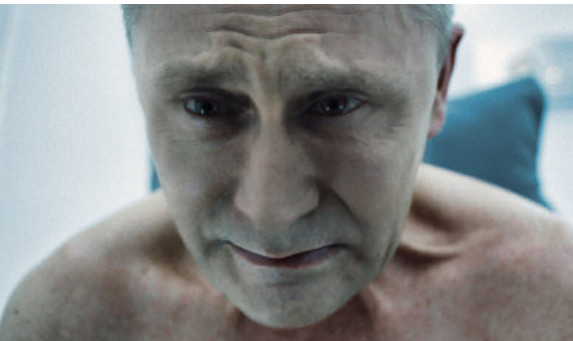
My goal was to offer viewers a unique experience, allowing them to get incredibly close to the Russian dictator.

Given this aim, I knew I couldn't simply cast an actor with makeup to resemble Vladimir Putin.

I wanted people, familiar with the dictator to feel as if they were truly interacting with him. Initially, it seemed that using classic deep-fake technology was the way to go. However, the results were disappointing. We collaborated with four studios—two in Los Angeles and two in Europe—all attempting to train an AI model based on high-resolution footage and images of Putin. It turned out to be impossible to achieve a satisfactory effect due to the insufficient quantity of high-resolution material available online.

So, I gathered CGI specialists from my network and proposed that we develop our own technology to overlay Putin's face onto an actor. We worked on this for two years, creating eight different engines.





After a year and a half, the results were better than deep-fake but still not satisfactory to me.

The visuals still had a computer-generated feel, especially in close-up shots, which require a significantly higher level of detail than medium shots. Achieving a realistic close-up on the big screen where an actor's face is the size of a small building would require a completely different technology.



The breakthrough came in the last six months. One morning, I woke up with a crazy idea. I called my special effects supervisor and suggested we abandon our previous approach and try something entirely different. Often, my best ideas come to me early in the morning, and I like to think they are gifts from above. This time, the final engine we created turned out to be the most revolutionary, delivering the best results among all our efforts over the past two years.

When we presented about 45 minutes of footage featuring Putin at the Cannes festival, industry professionals were astounded. They said it looked even better than Marvel's work, as our depiction of Putin didn't have the tell-tale signs of CGI that sometimes mar even the best productions.



I'm incredibly proud that after two years of challenging work, we succeeded in creating a technology that delivers such a high-quality result. The success of our efforts has led us to establish a new company, AIO Technology, aimed at providing these tools to the film industry to support other productions worldwide.

”

*Do you know this game, Valeria?
In American they call it Paintball.
The bunny you hit will go to bed
with you.*





”

*I can get you any contraband
you want, Volodiy.*



WHY PUTIN? / WHY NOW?

BY FILMMAKER PATRYK VEGA

I am a person stigmatized by communism, as I grew up in communist Poland. At the same time, I have been shaped by audiovisual culture of Hollywood - for that very reason, I find myself capable of translating the intricacies of the Eastern culture into the language of the West. Putin's biography is not meant for the Russians. It an international production designed for the rest of the world.

Americans, and even Western Europeans fail to comprehend Putin. For example, they can't fathom the reason why Putin embarked on accusing President Bush of poisoning the Russians by use of a private business from fail the to USA that exported chicken meat to Russia. People all over the world want someone to help them make sense of "Vladimir Putin's paranoia".



Patryk Vega on the set of Putin

The world depicted in the film has been based on locations from the following countries: Ukraine, Russian Federation, Israel, Poland, Syria and Jordan.

The film offers a powerful platform for us to artistically protest against the Russian dictator and the war in Ukraine.

Following his footsteps, I aim to immerse the saints and demons of my film into the gritty reality of Saint Petersburg's streets. My portrayal will reflect a city full of ragged and disheveled people with tormented Russian souls.





CAST

Thomas Kretschmann

In West Berlin, he began acting studies and became a member of the Schillertheater. Made his stage debut in “**Macbeth**”, directed by Katharina Thalbach. After a few years, he quit theater to work in film. He appeared in the TV series “**Der Mitwisser**”, for which he received the Max Ophüls Prize for best young actor. Since then, he has appeared in over 40 films. He has acted in several popular American movies, such as **Indiana Jones and the Dial of Destiny** (2023), **The Avengers: Age of Ultron** (2015), **Captain America: The Winter Soldier** (2014), **King Kong** (2005), **Resident Evil 2: Apocalypse** (2004), **In Enemy Hands** (2004), **The Pianist** (2002), and **U-571** (2000).

Thomas is now living in Los Angeles.



Justyna Karłowska

Justyna Karłowska, a rising star in the acting world, has garnered significant recognition for her performances in Patryk Vega's works, most notably in the 2021 film "Pitbull".

Despite her relatively young age and striking appearance, she has already made a mark in the industry. In 2011, she was crowned Vice Miss Polonia. With her remarkable talent and boundless energy, she is sure to captivate audiences on the big screen again and again.



Tomasz Dedek

Tomasz Dedek is one of the most iconic figures in the Polish acting industry. Over the years, he has honed his unique style and gained widespread recognition for his memorable performances. His extensive filmography speaks to his unparalleled experience and talent. Dedek is perhaps best known for his roles in “**Psy**”, “**Poranek Kojota**”, and for the character of ‘Jędrula’ in “**Rodzina Zastępcza**”. He also appeared in the highly acclaimed film “**Schindler’s List**”, which won seven Academy Awards, among other accolades. With his distinguished voice, vast skill set, and impressive seniority, Dedek will surely remain a prominent figure among the top Polish actors for years to come.





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*You lived your childhood years
in darkness.*

Now you will fish people out of it.



PATRYK VEGA

Director/Writer/Producer

Patryk Vega is the highest-grossing director and producer of films in Europe's fifth largest market. So far, Vega has made 19 feature films and 16 television series. He is also the creator of documentary series and the author of four books. Vega's films have amassed an audience of nearly 40 million viewers, and his TV series productions have an audience of over 100 million. His productions have broken popularity records on platforms: svod, Netflix, Amazon, Showmax, Canal+, HBO.

Patryk Vega has won many prestigious awards for best box-office performance in theaters. He has also received the Polish President Lech Kaczynski Award for Outstanding Film Achievements Abroad, and the Best Director Award at the world's largest crime cinema festival, Noir in Festival, whose winners also included such prominent filmmakers as Quentin Tarantino and Martin Scorsese.

The distribution of Patryk Vega's productions has so far taken place on 5 continents. Patryk Vega's films have been spectacularly successful in Europe. In England alone, the director's films have repeatedly reached the top five of the box office, rivaling such global hits as "The Jungle Book", and J.K. Rowling's "Fantastic Beasts"

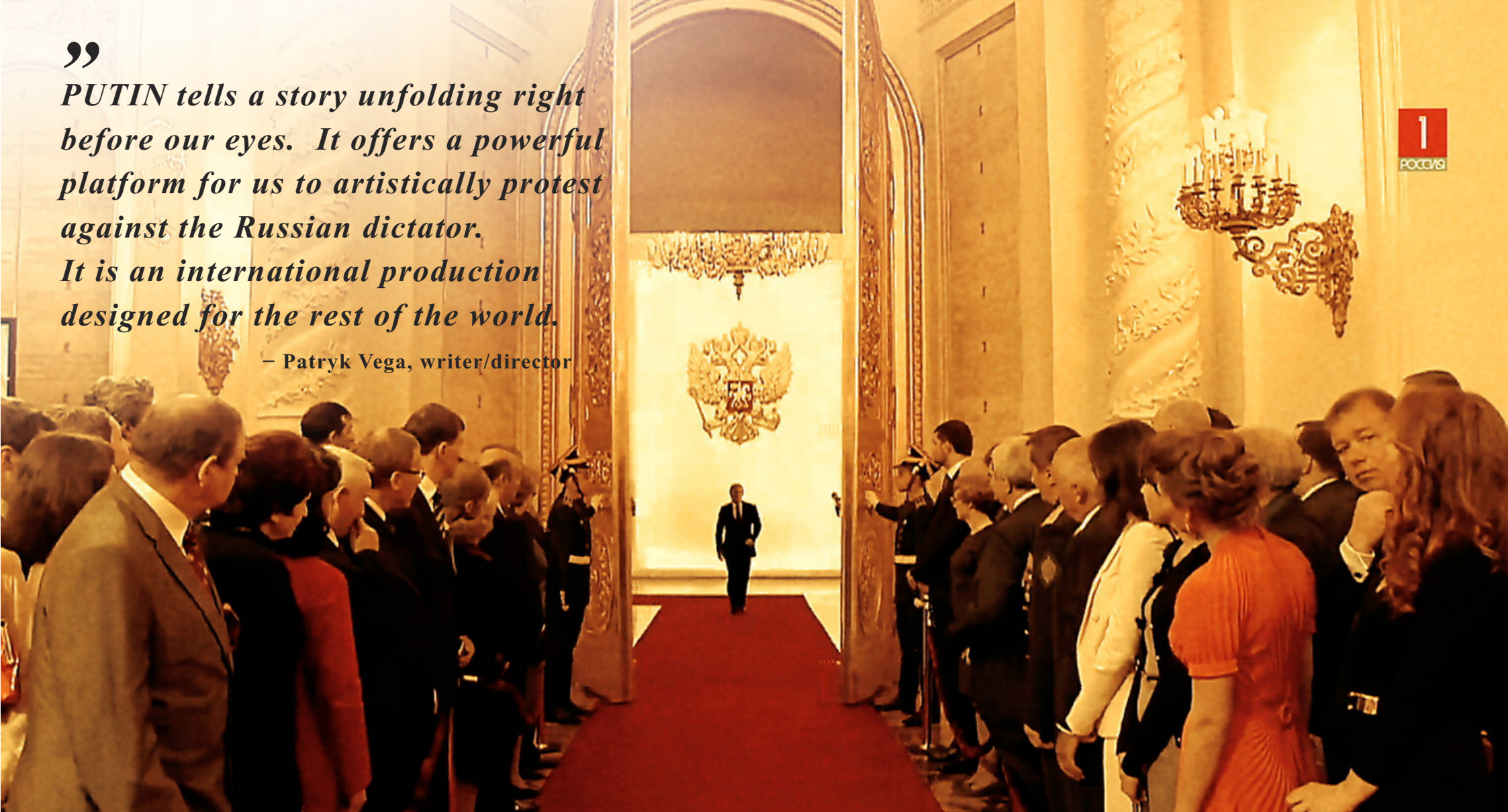


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*It's dangerous to try and keep a secret.
Better to try to forget about it.*



”
PUTIN tells a story unfolding right before our eyes. It offers a powerful platform for us to artistically protest against the Russian dictator. It is an international production designed for the rest of the world.

– Patryk Vega, writer/director



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*The mind is its own place. And in itself can
make a heaven of hell, and a hell of heaven.*

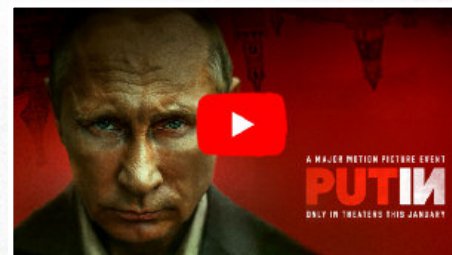
– John Milton



CONTACT

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PUTIN please contact:

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