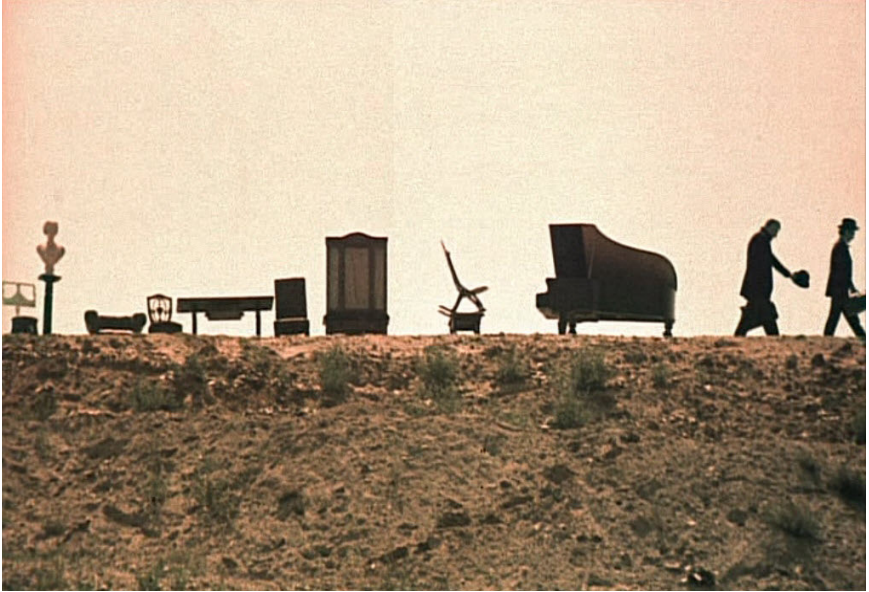


GYULA GAZDAG
AND
COLD WAR HUNGARIAN CINEMA



SATURDAY, JUNE 2, 2018
MUSEUM LECTURE HALL
THE GETTY CENTER

ORGANIZED BY
ISOTTA POGGI, GETTY RESEARCH INSTITUTE

Saturday, June 2, 2018

- 4:30 p.m. **Welcome remarks**
Isotta Poggi, curator, Getty Research Institute
- 4:35 p.m. **Program introduction**
Vera Mijojlic, director of the South East European Film Festival
- 5:00 p.m. ***A válogatás (Selection), 1970***
Balázs Béla Stúdió, black-and-white, 41 min.
Hungarian with English subtitles
- 5:30 p.m. **Intermission and reception**
Complimentary refreshments
- 6:30 p.m. **Program introduction, second half**
Vera Mijojlic, director of the South East European Film Festival
- 7:00 p.m. ***Bástyasétány hetvennégy (Singing on the Treadmill), 1974***
Hunnia Filmstúdió, color, 76 min.
Hungarian with English subtitles
- 8:20 p.m. **Conversation**
Vera Mijojlic, director of the South East European Film Festival
Endre Hules, award-winning documentary filmmaker
Gabor Kalman, award-winning documentary filmmaker
- 9:00 p.m. **End program**

ABOUT GYULA GAZDAG

Award-winning filmmaker Gyula Gazdag graduated from the Hungarian Academy of Drama, Film, and Television in 1970. Between 1968 and 1975, he was a member of the legendary experimental Balázs Béla Stúdió, where he directed celebrated documentaries and feature films. During the early nineties, Gazdag moved to Los Angeles, where he became a Distinguished Research Professor at UCLA's School of Theater, Film, and Television. He has served as artistic director for the Sundance Directors Lab since 1997.

Tonight's screening features Gazdag's *A válogatás* (Selection) (1970), which, in the style of reality TV, captures how a Hungarian Young Communist League chapter selected an amateur rock band to attract young members, thus revealing the hypocritical priorities of the committee. The operetta-style *Bástyasétány hetvennégy* (Singing on the Treadmill) (1974) is an entertaining parody on collectivization, housing shortage, and the power of bureaucracy. Both films were banned upon their release due to their sociopolitical undertones.

ABOUT THE SPEAKERS

Vera Mijojlic founded the South East European Film Festival Los Angeles (SEEFest). She has curated major film retrospectives for the UCLA Film & Television Archive and the Austin Film Society, and initiated a national tour of landmark short films with the Los Angeles Filmforum, Pacific Film Archive, Harvard Film Archive, and National Gallery of Art. She has received many recognitions, including the Women in Leadership Award from the city of West Hollywood in 2018. In her native Yugoslavia, she worked as a film critic and in various capacities on international film productions. She holds a degree in journalism from the University of Belgrade, Serbia.

Endre Hules was born and raised in Hungary. He studied music and acting at the Cellar Theatre in Budapest, and graduated from the Krastyo Sarafov National Academy for Theatre and Film Arts as a director. Endre has taught workshops on acting, writing, and directing at universities including New York University, Espace Acteur, Smith College, Bard College, and the University of Southern California. Endre's films have won numerous merits at festivals, including audience and jury awards, and recognition for outstanding cinematography and acting. His achievements include a Screen Actors Guild Award, two Golden Eagle Awards, a Maverick Award, and three European Union MEDIA Prizes.

Gabor Kalman is an award-winning documentary filmmaker. He was born in Hungary and immigrated to the United States as a university student in 1956. He received a BA in Physiology from the University of California, Berkeley, and an MA in Communication, Film, and Television from Stanford University. He is currently an adjunct professor at Art Center College of Design in Pasadena and has taught previously at the USC School of Cinematic Arts and Occidental College. A Fulbright Scholar and a Fulbright Senior Specialist, he is a founding member of the International Documentary Association and created the David L. Wolper Student Documentary Achievement Awards.

ABOUT THE SCREENING

Two seminal films by renowned Hungarian film director Gyula Gazdag, *A válogatás* (Selection) (1970) and *Bástyasétány hetvennégy* (Singing on the Treadmill) (1974), feature Gazdag's sharp observation and subtle satire of the regime that ruled Hungary at the time. Both films were banned for years, due to their hidden provocative messages. Vera Mijojlic, director of the South East European Film Festival, will introduce the films. Following the screenings, Mijojlic will be joined in conversation by award-winning documentary filmmakers Gabor Kalman and Endre Hules.

This screening complements the exhibition *Promote, Tolerate, Ban: Art and Culture in Cold War Hungary*, a collaboration with the Getty Research Institute that is on view at the Wende Museum of the Cold War in Culver City through August 26, 2018. For more information, please visit wendemuseum.org/programs.

Front cover: Still from *Bástyasétány hetvennégy* (Singing on the Treadmill), 1974



The Getty Research Institute

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