

Explanation for Everything

Directed by Gábor Reisz



MOSTRA INTERNAZIONALE
D'ARTE CINEMATOGRAFICA
LA BIENNALE DI VENEZIA 2023
Official Selection



FILMS BOUTIQUE presents a PROTON CINEMA and MPhilms production with the support of the SLOVAK AUDIOVISUAL FUND

Cast: GÁSPÁR ADONYI-WALSH, ISTVÁN ZNAMENÁK, ANDRÁS RUSZNÁK, REBEKA HATHÁZI, LILLA KIZLINGER, ELIZA SODRÓ AND KRISZTINA URBANDYIS Director, Screenwriter GÁBOR REISZ Co-writer ÉVA SCHULZE Cinematographer KRISTÓF BECSEY Music ANDRÁS KÁLMÁN, GÁBOR REISZ
Production Designer ZSOFIA TASNÁDI Costume Designer REBEKA HATHÁZI Sound RICHARD FÜLEK, PÉTER BALOGH Editor VANDA BORNÁCZ, GÁBOR REISZ Production Manager FRUZSINA CZVETKÓ, OLIVÉR SZENDREY-NAGY Executive Producers VIKTÓRIA PETRÁNYI, KORNÉL MUNDRUCZÓ,
ESZTER GYÁRFÁS, JUDD SÓS Co-Producer MÁTYÁS PRIKLER Producer JÚLIA BERKES International Sales FILMS BOUTIQUE

FILMS Boutique



MPhilms

af SLOVAK AUDIOVISUAL FUND





Explanation for Everything

A Film by Gábor Reisz

2023 - Hungary/Slovakia - Drama - 152 min

INTERNATIONAL SALES

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SYNOPSIS

It's summer in Budapest, high school student Abel is struggling to focus on his final exams, whilst coming to the realisation that he is hopelessly in love with his best friend Janka. The studious Janka has her own unrequited love with married history teacher Jakab - who had a previous confrontation with Abel's conservative father. The tensions of a polarised society come unexpectedly to the surface when Abel's history graduation exam turns into a national scandal.

CREW

Director, Screenwriter

Co-writer

Producer

Co-Producer

Executive Producers

Cinematographer

Music

Production Designer

Costume Designer

Sound

Editor

Production Manager

Production companies

with the support of the

GÁBOR REISZ

ÉVA SCHULZE

JÚLIA BERKES

MÁTYÁS PRIKLER

VIKTÓRIA PETRÁNYI, KORNÉL MUNDRUCZÓ,

ESZTER GYÁRFÁS, JUDIT SÓS

KRISTÓF BECSEY

ANDRÁS KÁLMÁN, GÁBOR REISZ

ZSÓFIA TASNÁDI

REBEKA HATHÁZI

RICHARD FÚLEK, PÉTER BALOGH

VANDA GORÁCZ, GÁBOR REISZ

FRUZZINA CZVETKÓ, OLIVÉR SZENDREY-NAGY

PROTON CINEMA and MPHILMS

SLOVAK AUDIOVISUAL FUND

CAST

Ábel

György

Jakab

Erika

Dorka

Janka

Judit

GÁSPÁR ADONYI-WALSH

ISTVÁN ZNAMENÁK

ANDRÁS RUSZNÁK

REBEKA HATHÁZI

ELIZA SODRÓ

LILLA KIZLINGER

KRISZTINA URBANOVITS

DIRECTORS' NOTE

For a long time, I have felt suffocated by the atmosphere of my divided country, which permeates my everyday life. In 2021, the University of Theatre and Film Arts, Budapest lost its autonomy when it was completely reorganized from above as directed by the state, and the professors and students did not agree with this at all. The young people blockaded the university – for lack of any better means – and events soon took a party politics turn, even though the students' only aim was to be able to take part in autonomous education. As a filmmaker and former student of the university, I joined their struggle, and one day, on the way home from a demonstration, it occurred to me that we need to talk about the situation that surrounds us, and that every art form, including film, should be a medium through which to do this. This is what prompted the main idea of *Explanation for Everything*.

The split within our nation has been palpably present for years, not just in the parliament, but also in everyday, human relations, out on the street. To me, one of the most expressive examples of this conflict is the wearing of the nationality pin. On the anniversary of the 1848 War of Independence, one of Hungary's most prominent celebrations, it is customary to wear a nationality pin made up of the colors of the flag, and the perception of this has also become a political issue. The nationality pins displayed by the nationalistic side during party events and demonstrations changed the meaning of this symbol quite a bit in the past 20 years. While it once stood for Hungarian independence and a kinship to our country, today, anyone who wears it is deemed for the nation, and anyone who doesn't is against it. The situation has become so aggravated that no innocent congregation of friends or family can take place without it soon devolving



into discussions of who is on which side, and, as a result, people are less and less interested in each other's opinions, less willing to hear each other out. I believe that if normal, human communication ceases, no one can grow; after all, this is one of the foundations of a livable society. My former professor and co-scriptwriter, Éva Schulze, and I launched off from here to develop *Explanation for Everything* in 2021. An important aspect during the writing process was to understand and illustrate the intentions and lostness of both sides. Our earlier applications – along with those of many other successful and talented filmmakers – were rejected by the Hungarian National Film Fund. And so, with the help of my long-standing artistic partner, producer Juli Berkes, as well as a team of seventeen, very young people – often at the beginning of their careers, but all the more enthusiastic – the help and favors of friends and family, and working with a very small budget, we managed to shoot the film in 20 days. The post-production work was supported by MPhilms and the Slovak Audiovisual Fund.

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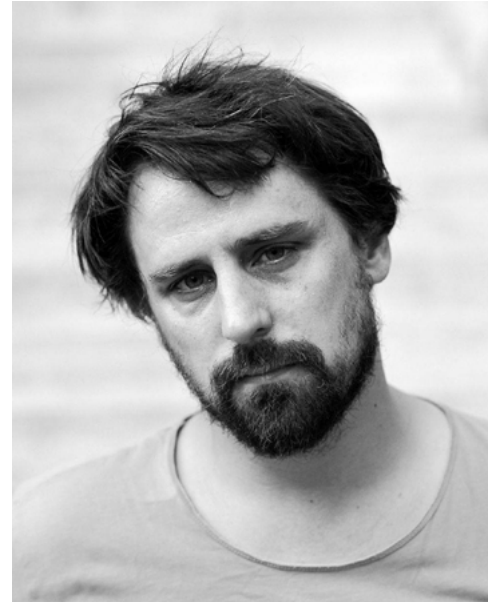


Explanation for Everything.



BIOGRAPHY

Gábor Reisz, Hungarian filmmaker, graduated from ELTE Film History and Theory in 2006, and film directing at University of Theatre and Film Arts in 2013. His debut feature, *For Some Inexplicable Reason* (2014) an unconventional coming of age story, premiered at Karlovy Vary IFF, became a cult film in Hungary and was a big success at the box office and on the int'l festival circuit as well. In 2015, he was invited to the Cannes Film Festival's Residence program, where he developed his second feature *Bad Poems* (2018). The film went on to win 16 awards, including best Hungarian film of 2018 and made a recognizable admission in local cinemas. *Explanation for Everything* is his 3rd feature film.



FILMOGRAPHY

- 2023 - **Magyarázat mindenre / Explanation for Everything** - Feature film
- 2018 - **Rossz versek / Bad Poems** - Feature film
- 2014 - **VAN valami furcsa és megmagyarázhatatlan**
/ **For some inexplicable reason** - Feature film
- 2013 - **Nekem Budapest / ...meanwhile in Budapest** - Omnibus film
- 2010 - **Külalak / On a lower level** - Short fiction
- 2010 - **Judith Keith** - Short fiction
- 2009 - **valakinek a valamije / Somebody's Something** - Short fiction
- 2008 - **Öltöző / Changing room** - Short fiction
- 2007 - **Jót és Semmit / Nothing and Good** - Short documentary film
- 2007 - **8** - omnibus film
- 2006 - **a tagadás oka, őszintén / The reason of denial, honestly**
/ (SZFE - apply film for admission) - Short fiction



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