

A man who restored a classic car sells it to a scrap yard and gets just enough money to buy a blueprint for a wooden sailing boat. Over the next six years he builds the boat from scratch in his family garden nestled in downtown Sarajevo. With no steady work and income to fall on, this is a story of a man's perseverance, of friendships and alliances, and of the dream of freedom for which he now only needs sails.

THE CAPTAIN of Sarajevo

A Short Documentary by
Veronica Wijaya | Boris Mrkela | Vildana Deljkic

Concept & Production Team: Veronica Wijaya, Boris Mrkela, Vildana Deljkic.

Text and Subtitles Team: Boris Boris Mrkela, Rosemary Armao, Francis Berg

Bosnia and Herzegovina | 2015

*"The thing is that I have full freedom here,
and once I pull up the bridge and push
myself away from the coast I'll be as free
as fish in the water."*

-Sead Deljkic-

Title : The Captain of Sarajevo
Original Title : Sarajevski kapetan
Duration : 15 minutes
Language : Bosnian
Subtitles : English
Country of shooting : Bosnia and Herzegovina
Year of production : 2015
Genre : Short Documentary
Director/ Co-Director: Veronica Wijaya / Boris Mrkela
Producer:
Veronica Wijaya, Boris Mrkela, Vildana Deljkic
Project Link: <https://vimeo.com/148798046>
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Synopsis

A man who restored a classic car sells it to a scrap yard and gets just enough money to buy a blueprint for a wooden sailing boat. Over the next six years he builds the boat from scratch in his family garden nestled in downtown Sarajevo. With no steady work and income to fall on, this is a story of a man's perseverance, of friendships and alliances, and of the dream of freedom for which he now only needs sails.

Director Statement

Most of the movies produced in the Balkans region are about the war or post war, depicting the point of view of victims' fate during and in the aftermaths of this war.

In this short film I intended to bring a different vantage by telling a story of a individual while pointing the bigger issues Bosnia is currently facing. The man who, with limited resources and with all constraints has been able to keep his dream alive for more than 15 years and make it comes true, whilst coping in a country going through tremendous historic and social changes that deeply affected his life.



Directors' Bio

Veronica Wijaya is a professional photographer and multimedia storytelling producer, of Indonesian origin. Veronica studied Photojournalism at Universidad Autonoma de Barcelona, Spain. Often working in the humanitarian field, she has been assigned a number of projects with United Nations Agencies and other International Organisations, and has travelled widely. Her work has been published in various United Nations and international publications, including in the photo book 'Anchoring Homes' and the Spanish magazine Contraluz. She has exhibited at a number of international/national exhibitions, such as the National Geographic Exhibition in Indonesia and the Noorderlicht International Photo Festival in the Netherlands.

Living in Bosnia for one year, Veronica has collaborated and produced 'The Captain of Sarajevo', her first short documentary.

Co-Director

Boris Mrkela was born in 1969 in Banja Luka. He is a writer, journalist, and translator. His poetry first appeared in Banja Luka's Putevi magazine after the war in Mostar's Kolaps. He later began working on documentary films and since 2003 as an investigative journalist. He lives in Sarajevo.

Film Festivals

- Official selection of 10th Edition of the River Film Festival, 28th May - 11th June 2016, Padova, Italy.
- Official selection of Open City Documentary Festival. 21st - 26th of June 2016, London, UK.
- Official selection of SHOTS: International Independent Short Film Festival, 4th - 6th August 2016, Slovenj Gradec, Slovenia.
- Official selection of the Balkan Film Food Festival, 1st to 6th August 2016, Pogradec Albania.
- Official selection of TrueDoc Film Festival, 8th to 10th September 2016, Ukraine.

