



## REMOTE CONTROL

a film by Byamba Sakhya

Mongolia / Germany / USA 2013  
90 min

Guru Media in co-production with Ma.ja.de. Fiction and Market Road Films  
produced with the support of  
Ministry of Culture, Sports and Tourism of Mongolia  
Development Fund of Culture & Arts of Mongolia  
World Cinema Fund  
Hubert Bals Fund of the International Film Festival Rotterdam

### **World Sales:**

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## Remote Control

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**Original title:** Alsin udirdlaga (Алсын Удирдлага)

**Country of production:** Mongolia / Germany / USA

**Year of production:** 2013

**Length:** 90 min

**Shooting format:** HD

**Screening format:** DCP, BluRay (1:2.35 Cinemascope, Dolby Digital, 1080, 24fps, not encrypted)

**Language:** Mongolian

**Subtitles:** English

**Color or b/w:** color

**Production:** Guru Media in co-production with Ma.ja.de. Fiction and Market Road Films

## Synopsis:

Tsog and his little brother Tulga are growing up in a loveless home with a bitter stepmother and a drunken father. To support his family, Tsog resells the neighbor's milk in the city. His only survival is to retreat inside his imaginary world. And he constantly draws pictures of his favorite hero – a young monk. After a senseless fight between parents Tsog runs away from home and settles on the rooftop of a city apartment building. He soon becomes obsessed with a young woman Anu, living in a top floor apartment of the opposite building. Tsog feels familiarity between their souls and starts to imagine different ways to intertwine their fates. But in the reality, she suffers acrophobia – the fear of heights. The boy steals a remote control and starts to control Anu's TV from the rooftop. Once having this little taste of power he wants more - to rule other's feeling. But Tsog's attempt to rule Anu's feeling collapses as a man appears in her apartment. Despair and misery forces Tsog to make revenge; he decides to organize a robbery in Anu's apartment. But growing up from his dream and fantasy world Tsog decides to face the reality at the end. He saves Anu's flat from robbery using the remote control for the last time.

## Credits

Author and director: Byamba Sakhya

DoP: Charles Libin

Editors: Byamba Sakhya & Naomi Spirio

Sound Design: Abigail Savage

Production Design: Ariunsaikhan Davaakhuu

Music: Sansar Sangidorj

Cast: Baasandorj Enkhtaivan (Tsog)

Bayarmaa Nergui (Anu)

Ganbaatar Chagnaadorj (Jaaga)

Co-producer: Heino Deckert

Producer: Ariunaa Tserenpil

World Sales: Pluto Film Distribution Network

## **Festivals and Awards:**

Busan IFF 2013, South Korea (**New Currents Award**, ex aequo with PASCHA)  
Rotterdam IFF 2014, Netherlands  
Göteborg IFF 2014, Sweden  
Vilnius IFF 2014, Lithuania  
Washington DC FF 2014, USA  
Mooov FF 2014, Belgium  
Seattle IFF 2014, USA  
Terracotta Far East FF London 2014, UK  
Zlín FF for Children & Youth 2014, Czech Republic  
Shanghai IFF 2014, PR China  
Munich FF 2014, Germany  
Melbourne IFF 2014, Australia  
Anonimul IFF 2014, Romania (**Award for Best Feature Film**)  
Asiatica FF Rome 2014, Italy  
Warsaw IFF 2014, Poland  
Inverness FF 2014, UK  
Camerimage FF 2014, Poland

## **Biography Byamba Sakhya**

Byamba Sakhya (1962, Ulaanbaatar / Mongolia) graduated in 1996 as a cinematographer from the Russian Film Institute VGIK in Moscow. He was involved in several international film productions, such as STATE OF DOGS (as DoP, 1998, dir: Peter Brosens and Dorjkhaldyn Turmunkh), KHADAK (as line producer, 2006, dir: Peter Brosens and Jessica Woodworth), or A NORMAL LIFE. CHRONICLE OF A SUMO WRESTLER (as DoP, 2009, dir: Jill Coulon). He also directed some documentaries on Mongolia.

REMOTE CONTROL (2013) is his first feature fiction film as a director.

## **Filmography Byamba Sakhya (as director)**

UMBILICAL CORD (1996, short doc, 15 min, graduation film)  
POETS OF MONGOLIA (1999, doc, 52 min, co-dir with Peter Brosens and Peter Krüger)  
PERPETUUM MOBILE (2002, doc, 55 min)  
KHUSEL SHUNAL / PASSION (2010, doc, 84 min)