

EASTERN BOYS

A FILM BY ROBIN CAMPILLO

France / 2013 / 128 min / Scope 2.35 / Color / French, Russian, Ukrainian, English w/ English subtitles



FIRST RUN FEATURES

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Synopsis:

Arriving from all over the Eastern Bloc, the men who loiter around the Gare du Nord train station in Paris are scraping by however they can, forming gangs for support and protection, ever fearful of being caught by the police and deported. When the middle-aged, bourgeois Daniel (Olivier Rabourdin) approaches a boyishly handsome Ukrainian who calls himself Marek for a date, he learns the young man is willing to do anything for some cash. What Daniel intends only as sex-for-hire begets a home invasion and then an unexpectedly profound relationship. The drastically different circumstances of the two men's lives reveal hidden facets of the city they share.

Presented in four parts, this absorbing, continually surprising film by Robin Campillo (director of the 2004 film *Les Revenants* and a frequent collaborator of Laurent Cantet's) is centered around relationships that defy easy categorization, in which motivations and desires are poorly understood even by those to whom they belong.

Director's Note:

Far from casting judgment on the situation of illegal immigrants, or from being a reflection on paternity, this film first and foremost follows the logic of its fictional narrative. It portrays characters living clandestinely who represent both a danger and a promise for one another. Much like Daniel who, when faced with these young men from the East, oscillates between fear and desire, the film threads its way through ambiguous feelings, borderline, indeed marginal situations, but also, I do hope, through moments of pure jubilation.

Robin Campillo- Filmography:

Director & Screenwriter

2013 *Eastern Boys*

2004 *Les Revenants / They Came Back*

Screenwriter

2011 *Confessions D'Un Gang de Filles / Foxfire* dir. Laurent Cantet

2008 *Entre les Murs / The Class* dir. Laurent Cantet
Palme d'or, Cannes 2008

2005 *Vers le Sud / Heading South* dir. Laurent Cantet

2001 *L'Emploi du Temps / Time Out* dir. Laurent Cantet

Cast:

Daniel	Oliver Rabourdin
Marek/ Paul	Kirill Emelyanov
Boss	Danil Vorobyev
Chelsea	Edea Darcque
Camila	Camila Charnirova
Petit Marek	Beka Markozashvili
Bislan	Bislan Yakhiaev
Mohamed	Mohamed Doukouzov
Guillaume	Aitor Bourgade

Credits:

Director	Robin Campillo
Screenplay	Robin Campillo
Image	Jeanne LaPoirie
Editing	Robin Campillo
Sound	Olivier Mauvezin
Sound Editing	Valérie Deloof
Mix	Jean-Pierre Laforce
Music	Arnaud Rebotini
Costumes	Isabelle Pannetier
Set	Dorian Malione
Producers	Hugues Charbonneau & Marie-Ange Luciani
Production Co.	LES FILMS DE PIERRE

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IN ASSOCIATION WITH Cofinova & Films Distribution

Praise for Eastern Boys

“Fascinating and suspenseful.”- Kent Turner, Film Forward

“Campillo thankfully refrains from offering on-the-nose explications for behavior and decisions, instead letting audiences infer psychology and motivation from on-screen behavior, with the entirely naturalistic performances of Raboudin and Emelyanov beautifully tuned in to each other and the material”

- Boyd van Hoeij, Hollywood Reporter

“Compassionately conflicted views of gay male sexuality and inter-European immigration mesh to fascinating effect.” - Guy Lodge, Variety