

Funeralzzi follows Natasha and Sergei, a Ukrainian couple in Milan who transport deceased Ukrainians back home. As undertakers, they face daily encounters with death, but recent personal losses test their emotional limits. Natasha, one of few women in this field, initially appears invincible. However, the 2022 invasion of Ukraine exposes her vulnerabilities, as she struggles with the destruction of her home and her father's death. Each repatriation mirrors her own grief, challenging her stoic exterior and questioning her sense of purpose. The film explores how those who accompany the dead on their final journey confront their personal losses in a conflict-ridden world.

#biography #ukraine #currentaffairs #migration





## director **OLENA FEDYUK**

Olena Fedyuk was born and grew up in Ukraine but in the last 15 years has been moving around Europe pursuing her professional interest – research in gendered migration flows, migrant labour, and moral economy of migration. She holds a PhD in Social Anthropology from the Central European University in Budapest. Since 2012, she's turned to film as a media for both research and outreach, and a way to grasp humour and contradictions of migration stories. Both of her previous films are not about migration per se but about people who have embarked on complicated life journeys, both emotionally and geographically.

**Production** Studio Onaleap (DEU)





# producer, DOP POLINA GEORGESCU

Polina is a documentary director, producer and DOP based in Berlin. She is from Eastern Europe and is a trained multi-disciplinary researcher of the region. After a career in public policy, she turned to visual storytelling in 2015. In 2022 she co-founded Studio Onaleap - a Berlin-based film and visual media production house focused on stories, big and small, from far and near, that explore and amplify universal humanism and justice.

**Production** Studio Onaleap (DEU)



# Funeralzzi

### Pitching team



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### **Funeralzzi**

#### Team members' bio

#### editor MYKOLA BAZARKIN

Mykola Bazarkin holds a painting degree from art school and a computer engineering degree from Kyiv Aviation University. Since 2006, he has edited numerous short and feature-length films, both narrative and documentary. A European Film Academy member, his works have been featured in Ukrainian and international festivals like HotDocs, Visions du Reel, Sheffield and Rotterdam, and nationally distributed in Ukraine. Nominated for the "Golden Dzyga" in 2020, he is now the program director of Kinosaray Film Festival and, since 2022, a film editing mentor and teacher at Karpenko-Kary University, Kyiv.

#### script doctor ZSUZSANNA BAK

Zsuzsanna Bak, a Hungarian writer and director, has built a career in the film industry after publishing three books, one of which was adapted for the stage. Her script writing debut came in 2018 with "Curtiz," which won the Grand Prix in Montreal and is now distributed by Netflix. Known for tackling sensitive subjects such as identity and life under political control, her films have been featured in prominent festivals. Her directorial debut, "Order and Soul," not only won the Grand Prix in Trento but also competed at the Astra Film Festival in 2020.

