

CRICKETS, IT'S YOUR TURN

Director	Countries	Year	Runtime	Languages
Olga Korotko	France / Kazakhstan	2024	105 min	Russian, Kazakh

A diagnosis, not a prescription.

THE FILM

Crickets, It's Your Turn is a darkly absurd feminist parable in which a young photographer's private theatre of imagination begins to invade reality. Merey enters a mountain house governed by hierarchy, male solidarity and the logic of the strongest. She follows another logic: beauty, play and creation.

Through white-room tableaux, grotesque humour and deliberate ruptures between realism and theatre, an ordinary gathering becomes a study of collective complicity. The danger comes not from a single monster, but from reasonable men who protect one another until violence becomes ceremony.

The film refuses the expected catharsis of revenge because allowing Merey to prevail by adopting the men's logic would concede that their definition of power is the only one available. Her erasure is not the failed ending of a thriller. It is the film's central accusation: the system destroys the woman, rewards the man who enforces its rules, and applauds itself.

Korotko calls this gesture *cinematic femicide*: the film enacts the erasure it diagnoses, refusing the audience the comfort of symbolic repair.

DIRECTOR'S POSITION

"I wanted humour and theatricality to strip violence of the grandeur it so often receives on screen, without pretending that it is harmless. These men are ridiculous and lethal at the same time. The film denies the audience the relief of revenge because it refuses to resolve, through fiction, the injustice it is trying to expose."

FESTIVAL HISTORY

Locarno Film Festival — Concorso Cineasti del Presente
World Premiere · Official Competition · 2024

Helsinki International Film Festival · 2024

El Gouna Film Festival (Egypt) · Feature Narrative Competition · 2024

São Paulo International Film Festival (Brazil) · 2024

IFFI Goa / Chennai IFF / Cinévesture (India) · 2024–2025

Glasgow Film Festival · UK Premiere · Audience Award Shortlist · 2025

Eastern Neighbours Film Festival (Netherlands) · 2025

DIRECTOR

A Kazakhstani filmmaker, screenwriter, and producer. Debut feature *Bad Bad Winter* at Cannes ACID 2018. *Crickets, It's Your Turn* developed through La Fabrique Cinéma (Cannes 2020), Asian Cinema Fund, and Berlinale Script Station.

PRINCIPAL CREW

Producers: Étienne de Ricaud (Caractères Productions), Olga Korotko

Director of Photography: Aigul Nurbulatova

Editors: Ricardo Saraiva, Yedilkhan Amandyk

Original Music: Akmaral Mergen

Sound Design: Ilya Gariyev

INTERNATIONAL SALES & LICENSING

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