

Sabina Vajrača

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FEATURES

- ❖ **Voodoo Macbeth (2021)** Narrative | Period Drama
Co-Director | True story of the first all-black cast to perform 'Macbeth' in 1936 Harlem, NY, directed by an arrogant young Orson Welles. Produced by USC School of Cinematic Arts, in partnership with Warner Bros. / Premiere: PAFF 2021
- ❖ **Back to Bosnia (2005)** Documentary | War Drama
Director ~ Producer | Feature documentary about the return of Vajrača family to Banja Luka, Bosnia after 10 years of exile. Premiere: 2005 AFI Fest (USA), 2005 Amnesty International Film Fest (Europe) / Awards: Director's Choice, 2006 Crossroads Film Festival / Streaming on Amazon, iTunes, GooglePlay, Xbox Video, YouTube.
- ❖ **Adam (2009)** Narrative | Romantic Drama
Assistant to Writer/Director Max Mayer on an independent feature starring Hugh Dancy and Rose Byrne. Premiere: 2009 Sundance Film Fest / Winner: Alfred P. Sloan Prize / Released by Fox Searchlight

SHORTS

- ❖ **Variables (2019)** Narrative | War Drama
Director ~ Writer | During the Bosnian war a teenage math prodigy is given a way out of the bloodshed when his math club goes to compete at the 1995 International Math Olympics in Canada. Starring Mira Furlan (*Lost, Babylon5*). / Premiere: 2019 Sarajevo Film Festival / Awards: Alfred P. Sloan Grant; DGA Student Awards Grand Prize; Best Student Short, Vail FF; Best Short, BHFF; BAFTA Student Awards finalist; Student Academy Awards Semifinalist; Script 2 Screens Short Film Grand Prize / Streaming on IndieFlix, Film Shortage (Daily Pick)
- ❖ **Callback (2018)** Narrative | Drama
Director | At an audition for the biggest role of her career, a struggling actress is sexually assaulted by an A-list director, and has to decide whether to turn him in, or keep quiet and take the job. Premiere: 2019 Cleveland Int'l Film Festival
- ❖ **Lost Children: Kate & Bill (2018)** Narrative | Drama
Director ~ Producer | Desperate to have children, Kate has been undergoing excessive infertility treatments, only to discover Bill has been hiding a secret that may change everything. Starring Rhea Seehorn (*Better Call Saul*).
- ❖ **The Monster Within (2017)** Narrative | Horror
Director ~ Writer | A woman is forced to confront the intruder in her house when she realizes there's no way out.
- ❖ **Negative Feedback Loop (2017)** Narrative | Experimental
Director ~ Writer ~ Sound Editor. | A woman works hard to break the loop of self-destructive thoughts, only to realize that the way out is much simpler than she suspected. Premiere: 2018 Crossroads Int'l Film Festival
- ❖ **Hiba (2016)** Narrative | Drama
Director ~ Writer ~ Producer ~ Editor | A retired Muslim elementary school teacher is confronted by her former Serb students during the Bosnian War. Starring Mira Furlan (*Lost, Babylon5*), Edin Gali (*MadMen, Fury*). Premiere: 2017 Female Eye Film Fest
- ❖ **The Fight (2016)** Narrative | Action
Director ~ Writer ~ Producer ~ Editor | A vicious fight between five women turns out to be a much more meaningful struggle.
- ❖ **Nyx (2014)** Narrative | Thriller
Director ~ Writer ~ Producer ~ Editor | A lone woman flees for her life from a mysterious nightly terror.
- ❖ **Whim (2012)** Narrative | Ghost Story
Director ~ Writer ~ Producer ~ Editor | Trying to mend a broken heart, Meg, and her best friend Jess, decide to go on an impromptu Bosnian vacation. Starring Flora Diaz (*Gotham*) and Lucy Walters (*Power, Get Shorty*).
- ❖ **Smoking Kills (2011)** Narrative | Dark Comedy
Director ~ Writer ~ Producer | A miscommunication between a maid and a businessman in a posh NYC hotel.
- ❖ **Apparition (2009)** Narrative | Horror
Director ~ Writer ~ Producer | A woman looks for an apartment in NYC. Inspired by Anne Washburn's play. Premiere: 2009 LA Shorts Fest / Awards: Bronze Palm, 2009 Mexico International Film Festival
- ❖ **Emina (2009)** Narrative | Drama
Director ~ Writer ~ Producer | A young Bosnian woman confronts her wartime rapist in the modern-day NYC. Starring Flora Diaz (*Gotham*) and Jack Kesy (*Strain, Claws*). Shot by Reed Morano.
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TV

- ❖ **Madam Secretary (2019)** **CBS**
Shadowing a Director on episode 604 | Director: James Whitmore | EPs: Eric Stolz, Lori McCreary | Producer: Sam Hoffman
- ❖ **9-1-1 (2019)** **FOX**
Shadowing a Director on episode 311 | Director: Sarah Boyd | Part of the Ryan Murphy Half Directing Mentorship

COMMERCIALS | MUSIC VIDEOS

- ❖ **Made in NYC Media Center by IFP (2015)** **Commercial**
Director | 60sec | Released in 16,000 NYC taxi cabs, and on all local NYC channels.
- ❖ **ESPN's Generations Matter (2011)** **Commercial**
Director | 30sec | Created in celebration of the Black History Month.
- ❖ **Bela Lugosi's Dead (2012)** **Music Video**
Director ~ Choreographer ~ Producer ~ Editor | Band: Nouvelle Vague | Over 12,500 online views.

THEATRE *(selected)*

- ❖ **Svila/Seta/Silk (2004)** **Full-Length Play**
Director ~ Playwright ~ Producer | Stage adaptation of Alessandro Baricco's period novella Silk. Premiere performance at Anne Bogart's SITI Company in NYC.
- ❖ **The Beauty Project (2001-2008)** **Full-Length Play**
Director ~ Producer | Devised theatre project, exploring the connections between beauty and violence throughout centuries. Created with the company of 10 actors, over 7 years, and culminating in a performance at Anne Bogart's SITI Company in NYC.
- ❖ **Love Is a Thing That Can Never Go Wrong (2001)** **One-Act Play**
Director ~ Playwright | Based on Dorothy Parker's poetry and short stories. Presented as part of the Shakespeare & Company Summer Series in Lenox, MA.
- ❖ **Twelfth Night / Much Ado About Nothing / The Rover (1999-2002)** **Full-Length Plays**
Assistant Director ~ Fight Choreographer | As a member of Holderness Theatre Company, helped stage classical texts using movement theatre and modern dance techniques. All plays were presented at the Lincoln Center's Rose Theatre in NYC.

EDUCATION

- ❖ **USC School of Cinematic Arts**
M.F.A. in Film and TV Production
- ❖ **University of Central Florida**
B.F.A. in Theatre Directing & Stage Management
- ❖ **University of Cambridge**
Shakespeare in Theory and Performance
- ❖ **School of Practical Philosophy**
Level 6 / Stoicism and Vedanta

MEMBERSHIPS

- ❖ Film Fatales
- ❖ BAFTA
- ❖ Women in Film
- ❖ Lincoln Center's Directors Lab

AWARDS *(selected)*

- ❖ BAFTA Student Awards Finalist (2020)
 - ❖ HUMANITAS Prize Finalist (2020)
 - ❖ Script 2 Screens Grand Prize (2020)
 - ❖ DGA Student Awards Grand Prize (2019)
 - ❖ Ryan Murphy Half Directing Mentorship (2019)
 - ❖ Nantucket Screenwriters Colony (2019)
 - ❖ Stowe Story Lab / Tangerine Entertainment Fellowship (2019)
 - ❖ Student Oscars Semifinalist (2019)
 - ❖ Annenberg Fellowship (2018/19)
 - ❖ Alfred P. Sloan Grant (2017)
 - ❖ AAUW Fellowship (2016/17)
 - ❖ FEBA Road Map Award (2012)
 - ❖ Puffin Foundation Grant (2007)
 - ❖ LMCC Swing Space Grant (2006)
 - ❖ Jerome Foundation - SITI Company Grant (2004 and 2007)
 - ❖ MSN/Visa Ideas Happen Award (2003)
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