

Svetoslav Stoyanov is a director, producer, and co-founder of the production company Portokal, whose films have been internationally awarded and distributed. His directorial debut, *The Last Black Sea Pirates*, competed in more than 30 international festivals, including the world's leading documentary cinema forums, such as HotDocs, DOK Leipzig and Visions du Reel. Since 2015, Svetoslav is a member of the selection committee of the international documentary competition at Sofia Film Fest. He's a member of the Bulgarian Producers' Association.

That said, he never parted with his first film profession, and to this day enjoys working as behind-the-scenes photographer, capturing the people, process, and places on set. His BTS photography portfolio includes films such as Andrey Paounov's *Georgi and the Butterflies* (Silver Wolf, IDFA 2004), *The Mosquito Problem and Other Stories* (International Critics' Week, Cannes Film Festival, 2007), and *January* (Black Nights Tallinn IFF, 2021); Pavel G. Vesnakov's European Film Awards-nominated short film *Pride* and his debut feature *German Lessons* (Cairo IFF 2020); *Blaga's Lessons*, the latest film by Stephan Komandarev, whose previous works have competed at Un Certain Regard at Cannes IFF and shortlisted for the Oscar American Academy Awards; and more.

He has a master's in film directing from the Bulgarian National Academy of Film and Theatre Arts and a master's in psychology from Southwest University, Bulgaria.

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