



GENDER MONTAGE

Paradigms in Post Soviet Space

The Network Women's Program of the Open Society Institute And The Institute for Social and Gender Policy (Russia)

Together with

Open Society Institute Assistance Foundation-Armenia
Open Society Institute Assistance Foundation-Azerbaijan
Open Estonia Foundation
Open Society Georgia Foundation
Soros Foundation-Kazakhstan

Soros Foundation-Kyrgyzstan

Open Society Fund-Lithuania
Mongolian Foundation for Open Society
Open Society Institute Assistance Foundation-Tajikistan
International Renaissance Foundation-Kyiv (Ukraine)
Open Society Institute Assistance Foundation-Uzbekistan

Present Their Film Series:

Gender Montage: Paradigms in Post Soviet Space

What is «Gender Montage: Paradigms in Post Soviet Space»?

Analytical documentaries from 9 post-soviet countries (Azerbaijan, Estonia, Georgia, Kyrgyzstan, Lithuania, Mongolia, Tajikistan, Ukraine, and Uzbekistan) which reveal politically, socially and economically charged gender problems in post-Soviet space.

Each film addresses country-specific themes—often the most acute though invisible problems: women's rights violations, the impact of institutionalized inequality, and effects of gender stereotyping. The films expose hidden and often controversial subjects, and search for new strategies for women's self-expression and empowerment.

The films reflect the joint efforts of teams of script-writers, film directors, analysts and researchers, gender experts and academics, and the international community of coordinators of Women's Programs of the Soros foundations network.

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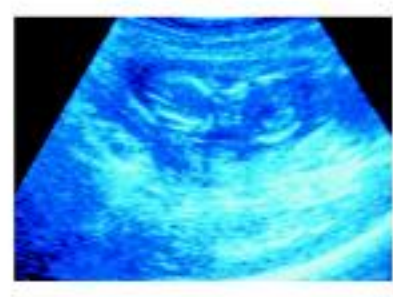
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The Films of Gender Montage

Azerbaijan:

Wishing for Seven Sons and One Daughter, 2002

Laws of the patriarchal family: boys are welcome, girls are unwanted. The use of ultrasound technology to design the "ideal" family. (25'50")
Film Director: Ali-Isa Djabbarov
Scriptwriter: Mila Faradzulaeva
Producer: Beyukaga Mamedov
Consultant/Analyst: Kamila Dadashova



Estonia:

Beauty of the Fatherland, 2001

Two models of new Estonian women: a former super model who organizes beauty pageants and a Girl Scout troupe leader who seemingly embody opposing values, yet promote the same stereotypes of patriarchy and nationalism. (50'55")
Film Directors/Scriptwriters: Jaak Kilmi and Andres Maimik
Consultant/Analyst: Leen Kailakas



Georgia:

Invisible, 2003

In an isolated minority community outside the Georgian capital of Tbilisi, Azeri girls stop going to school at the age of 14-15: some of them are already married, some are about to be kidnapped. (26'00")
Film Director/Scriptwriter: Liana Jakeli
Consultant/Analysts: Nino Djavakhishvili, Lela Khomeriki and Marine Nikuradze



Kyrgyzstan:

Red Butterflies Where Two Springs Merge, 2002

An elderly traditional rug maker from a remote mountain village becomes a leader in her community and an internationally-recognized celebrity for her artistic vision. (14'10")
Film Directors: Gaukhar Sydykova and Dilia Ruzieva
Scriptwriters: Gaukhar Sydykova, Dilia Ruzieva and Svetlana Suslova
Consultant/Analyst: Zarkynai Musaeva



Lithuania:

Tomorrow Will Be Better?, 2003

Four destinies of women from independent Lithuania – a political scientist, a small business owner, an actress and a farmer – who seek their own paths in the new reality with varying degrees of success. (39'35")
Film Director: Moxika Juozapaviciute
Scriptwriter: Violetta Bauhiene
Consultant/Analysts: Dalia Marcinkeviciene and Rima Praspaliauskiene



Mongolia:

Silk Patterns, 2003

Eighty percent of Mongolian students are girls, yet high levels of education do not save them from the fate of becoming housewives or sources for cheap labor. (26'30")
Film Director/Scriptwriter: Uranchimeg Nansalma
Consultant/Analyst: Zanaa Zhurmed



Tajikistan:

Live Containers, 2002

Women who attempt to save their families from starvation by using their bodies as containers for trafficking heroine are sentenced to long-term jail time. (26'16")
Film Director: Orzu Sharipov
Scriptwriters: Azimjon Aminov, Orzu Sharipov and Georgy Dzalaev
Consultant/Analysts: Tatyana Bozrikova and Kanost Khamidova



Ukraine:

Power: Feminine Gender, 2003

Although women were traditionally active in family life, agriculture, and business, women's political projects in independent Ukraine remain purely decorative evidence of the country's introduction into the European style of democracy. (22'35")
Film Director: Nina Rudik, Vlad Gello
Scriptwriter: Victor Varnitskiy, Tatyana Lyakhovetsjaya, Tamara Kutsay
Consultant/Analyst: Olga Podilchak
Project Manager: Irina Scorbun



Uzbekistan:

Hack Workers, 2002

Banished by their families and society, women doomed to the shame of the slave market are deprived of their rights and experience wide-spread violence. (20'06")
Film Director and Scriptwriter: Furkat Yavkalkhodzhaev
Consultant/Analyst: Murat Khadzhimukhamedov





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Background of Gender Montage

The Gender Collection film series was developed as part of a regional project called "Mass Media & Gender Policy", initiated by the women's programs of the Soros network in 12 countries and coordinated by the Institute for Social and Gender Policy (formerly the Women's Program of the Open Society Institute-Russia), with participation of the Soros Foundation-Kazakhstan in 2001. Funding, technical assistance and overall coordination was provided by the Network Women's Program of the Open Society Institute. Co-funding, management of country teams and program design were provided by the Open Society Institute Assistance Foundation-Armenia, Open Society Institute Assistance Foundation-Azerbaijan, Open Estonia Foundation, Open Society Georgia Foundation, Soros Foundation-Kazakhstan, Soros Foundation-Kyrgyzstan, Open Society Fund-Lithuania, Mongolian Foundation for Open Society, Open Society Institute Assistance Foundation-Tajikistan, International Renaissance Foundation-Kyiv (Ukraine), Open Society Institute Assistance Foundation-Uzbekistan.

The goal of the project was threefold: 1) to make visible a large stratum of real social, political and economic problems of women living in the post-Soviet space in order to transform public thinking, and ultimately to create an impact at policy and legislative levels; 2) to develop a community of educated and gender-sensitive documentary film-filmakers, journalists and media specialists; and 3) to create accessible, quality, and entertaining films and analytical materials which address pressing and relevant gender issues.

The project includes the collection of films, as well as analytical print materials.

Participating women's programs from 12 Soros foundations organized "country teams", made up of local filmmakers, media specialists, gender experts/academics, etc., who worked together contributing their respective expertise, to create artistic, reflective, and enlightening documentaries.

Contact Information for Gender Montage

The films are available in local languages, as well as in Russian and English.

For copies of the films or for more information, contact:

Elena Vitenberg, Mass Media Gender Policy Manager
The Institute For Social And Gender Policy (Russia)
191028 St. Petersburg, Mokhovaya st., 15
RUSSIA
Tel: +7-812-2725116
Email: vitenberg@lfond.spb.ru
Website: www.soros.org/women

Organizers of Gender Montage

Central Management/Coordinating Office

Network Women's Program of the Open Society Institute-Russia
(The Institute For Social And Gender Policy since 2003):

Larisa Fedorova, MMGP Director
Elena Kochkina, MMGP Director
Elena Vitenberg, MMGP Manager (since 2002)
Inna Dmitrieva, MMGP Manager (2001- July 2002)
Irina Sinelina, MMGP Coordinator (2001)
Zhanna Zhanabekova, Women's Program Coordinator, Soros Foundation-Kazakhstan (2001)

Supervising Office

Network Women's Program Open Society Institute (New York):

Anastasia Posadskaya-Vanderbeck, NWP Director
Phoebe Schreiner, NWP Program Coordinator
Raikhan Sabirova, NWP Program Coordinator OSI-Budapest (2001-June 2002)

Country Management Offices

Open Society Institute Assistance Foundation-Armenia:

Gayane Ghukasyan, Women's Program Coordinator

Open Society Institute Assistance Foundation-Azerbaijan:

Gulnara Mamedova, Women's Program Coordinator

Open Estonia Foundation:

Selve Ringmaa, Women's Program Coordinator

Open Society Georgia Foundation:

Marina Tabukashvili, Women's Program Coordinator

Soros Foundation-Kazakhstan:

Danata Issayeva, Women's Program Coordinator

Soros Foundation-Kyrgyzstan:

Elmira Shishkaraeva, Women's Program Director

Open Society Fund-Lithuania:

Virginija Aleksejunaite, Women's Program Coordinator

Mongolian Foundation for Open Society:

Solongo Sharkhuu, Women's Program Director

Open Society Institute Assistance Foundation-Tajikistan:

Shahrigul Amirjanova, Women's Program Coordinator

International Renaissance Foundation-Kyiv (Ukraine):

Tetyana Kukhareenko, Women's Program Manager

Open Society Institute Assistance Foundation-Uzbekistan:

Eleonora Fayzullaeva, Women's Program Coordinator

Country Expert Panelists/Consultants

Gulnara Abikeeva, Film Critic / Program Coordinator of Soros Foundation-Kazakhstan (Almaty, Kazakhstan)

Aktan Arym Kubat, Film Director (Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan)

Nadezhda Azhgikhina, Executive Secretary, Union of Journalists of Russia / Co-Chair, Association of women-journalists of Russia (Moscow, Russia)

Victoria Belopolskaya, Film Critic / Editor of Magazine "Premier" (Moscow, Russia)

Leokadia Drobizheva, Director, Institute of Sociology of Russian Academy of Science / Member, OSI Board (Moscow, Russia)

Teo Khatlashvili, Film Critic / Member of Film Union of Georgia (Tbilisi, Georgia)

Nadezhda Khvorova, Documentary Film Director / Project Manager, Internews (Moscow, Russia)

Olga Klyushkina, Sociologist, Institute of Sociology of Russian Academy of Science (Moscow, Russia)

Elena Mashkova, Director, Femina / Project Director, International Festival of Women's TV Programs (Nab. Chelny, Russia)

Elena Stishova, Film Critic / Chief Editor of Magazine "Art of Cinema" / Associate Professor, State Institute of Cinema (Moscow, Russia)

Irina Tartakovskaya, Vice Director of Gender Center of Samara State University (Samara, Russia)

Mikhail Trofimenkov, Film Critic / Journalist of Media holding "Commersant" (St.Petersburg, Russia)

Olga Voronina, Director, Moscow Center for Gender Studies (Moscow) / Chair, NWP OSI-Russia Board (Moscow, Russia)

Elena Zabadykina, Executive Director, Social-Legal Service for Victims of Violence "Alexandra" (St.Petersburg, Russia)