

A photograph of a nun in a white habit with blue accents kissing an elderly woman on the cheek. They are in a garden with a stream and rocks. The scene is dimly lit, suggesting dusk or dawn.

# 100 YEARS LONG

A DOCUMENTARY FILM PROJECT

by ŁUKASZ DŁUGOŁĘCKI



## BACKSTORY

Two years ago my friend, an employee of Warsaw City Hall told me a story:

"(...) So the president of the city has a guy in the office who is responsible of his centenarians schedule. This guy also buys flowers and sets the meeting. There is a rule that once you turn 100, the president will visit you. (...)"

Alongside the feeling of surprise that there is so many 100-year-old people in the capital of Poland (as later research indicated - not only there), I couldn't stop thinking about the cynicism of the local representatives showed towards the ones celebrating their jubilee. Meetings usually take around 15 minutes - after the media are gone, the representatives forget about the senior for a year.

I've decided to take a closer look at the topic. I've met few of the oldest members of the society. I've understood that they did not care about the representatives as much as I did. They didn't really find the topic interesting. In exchange they've opened in front of me the reality that I was not aware of. They've struck me with the sensibility of their, sometimes tiny, micro cosmoses constructed out of passion and hope.

As the environment usually treats centenarians more as a curiosity, they guard the ideals that have been long time forgotten by the younger generations. That statement brought me to ignite the work on "100 Years Long" documentary film.

Łukasz Długofęcki

## FACT SHEET

Project Title

100 Years Long

Original Title (Polish)

Sto

Producer

Łukasz Długołęcki & Haukur M

Company & Contact Details

NUR

lukasz@nurfoundation.com

Kamińskiego st. 26/5

90-220 Łódź, Poland

Genre

Observational Documentary

Duration

approx. 50 min.

## MAIN CREW

Writer / Director

Łukasz Długolecki

DOP

Ásta Júlía Guðjónsdóttir

Editor

Kacper Plawgo

## TECHNICAL INFO

Language

Polish, English, Welsh, German, Italian, Icelandic

Format / Sound

HD, 16:9 / Dolby

Country of Shoot

Poland, Wales, Germany, Italy, Iceland

Intended Release

2015

Stage of Production

Pre-production

## 100 YEARS LONG

The bulk of the society has never treated older people too serious. Older the person is, more he or she is seen as a museum object, not an actual human being. Their disputed knowledge and life experience is used more as a slogan, proper historical source, not a real reference.

Are seniors any different from the representatives of younger generations? Don't they have their own little passions? Are their personal micro cosmoses just slow and boring?

And then, the oldest ones... 100, 101 or even 113. Are they here just to be asked about what is their secret of long-lasting life by some random journalist? What is there that keeps them going and what bothers them the most?

"100 Years Long" is designed as a series of portraits focusing on various aspects of 100-year-old people's lives, which raises basic questions about passion, consequence and isolation.



## COMAPNY PROFILE

**NUR** is a foundation established by three people from Poland and Iceland during their studies in The National Polish Film School in Łódź, Poland.

After its' establishment in May of 2012 NUR foundation managed to accomplish production of five short films and started development of two feature documentaries: "100 Years Long" and "New Blood". NUR has also started long-term projects such as bringing back to life abandoned monument as an open film center and a venue for all foundation's activities.

NUR is focused on supporting and initiating artistic activities, with film as priority. It is seeking, creating and promoting new forms of artistic expression and innovative methods of supporting the evolution of cultural environment. NUR also aims to create a strong Europe-based network for international film co-productions.

Being based in Łódź, hometown of The National Polish Film School, NUR stands in front of vast range of opportunities for enforcing the growth of film- and culture-friendly environment of the city, which used to be called the "Film Capital of Poland".



## NUR FILMOGRAPHY

2013	Who is Arvid Pekon? / Kim Jest Arvid Pekon? dir. Patrik Eriksson	Short Fiction / Sci-fi
2013	Hole in the Wall / Chwast dir. Haukur M	Short Fiction / Teenage Drama
2013	Áverkar / Bruised dir. Haukur M & Ásta Júlía Guðjónsdóttir	Short Fiction / Drama
2013	Arena dir. Martin Rath	Short Fiction / Drama
2013	Lena dir. Kalina Alabrudzińska	Short Fiction / Drama

## ŁUKASZ DŁUGOŁĘCKI – WRITER / DIRECTOR

Łukasz Długołęcki was born in Łódź, Poland in 1989. He is a 5<sup>th</sup> year student of Film Production at The Polish National Film School where he produced and co-produced over a dozen of students' films, both fiction and documentary.

Besides film work, throughout the years he has gathered theatre experience, first as a part of an alternative theatre group “Napięcie”, eventually directing his first original show “Green Space” in 2010.

In 2011, while working professionally as a production manager both on commercials and feature films he decided to go independent. He directed his first short the same year.

Observing rapid evolution of European film production sector and the role of a creative producer in contemporary filmmaking led him to co-found NUR.



## ÁSTA JÚLÍA GUÐJÓNSDÓTTIR – DOP

Ásta Júlía Guðjónsdóttir was born in Iceland in 1978. She is a 5<sup>th</sup> year student of Cinematography at The Polish National Film School. In 2000 she graduated from, based in Iceland Ljósmyndaskólinn (The School of Photography). Around this time Ásta met her future husband, Haukur M, an independent filmmaker.

Ásta worked as a still photographer on two feature films directed by Haukur M and they held two exhibitions: “Hugarburður 2” (2000) and “inn og útum gluggann” (2008). From here Ásta’s interest in photography had evolved into moving images.

During the time in The Polish National Film School she has worked on various projects both fiction and documentary, in and out of school. Some of the work she did with her husband, Haukur M.

Today Ásta’s main focus is on documentaries as she really enjoys to observe and become a part of people's lives and eventually be able to capture their magic through the lens. She is also a root party of NUR.





## SUMMARY

100 Years Long is a documentary project which evolved from observations of the elderly. Everyday life of the oldest ones, the centenarians, stands as the core of the idea.

The film is designed as a group portrait of ten people. Their stories, fascinations and opinions, all captured in off sound recordings, will be combined with the images from ten flats located in five European countries (Poland, Germany, Italy, Wales and Iceland).

This will create an ephemeral collage seeking for a personal answers for questions about memory, fascination and passion. There will be no taboo of topics such as death and aging.

Focusing on one aspect of each character's life will help to synthesize the themes and eventually to present the specific "voice of the generation".

