

# A D N O C M S A

## MARIA STANISHEVA

**Portfolio:** [www.animadocs.com](http://www.animadocs.com)

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## EDUCATION

- 2011 - 2012** New York Film Academy: Documentary Filmmaking Conservatory
- 2002 - 2003** Central European University, Budapest: MA Political Science and Political Economics
- 1998 - 2002** Sofia University St. Kliment Ohridski: Political Science BA

## WORK EXPERIENCE

- 2016 - present** **AnimaDocs:** Founder/Director/Producer/Writer - animated and documentary film, specializes in indie projects, viral human rights campaigns and educational shorts
- [UNIFRANCE'22 Short Film award](#) nomination for Finding Home (pilot)
  - 4 online campaigns for Human Rights Watch, including "[Together to end male guardinaship in Saudi Arabia](#)" (HRW's most viewed video on Facebook for 2016)
  - Government policy change as a result of viral campaign with 10M views
  - Featured in the New York Times, Independent, Euronews, BBC and CNN
- 2013 - present** **New York Film Academy:** Documentary Department instructor, classes in "Documentary Producing/Directing" and "Animation for Documentary Film"
- 2014 - 2016** **Nomadic Learning:** Animation and Documentary Producer/Director, created over 40 educational short films in various visual styles
- 2008 - 2012** **Compote Collective:** Founder and Animation Film Producer, selected work:
- ["Father"](#) (animated documentary), over 100 festival selections, 28 awards including:
- Golden Dove for Animated Film - DOK Leipzig International Film Fest '12
  - Best Animated Documentary Film - Chicago Int'l Children's Film Festival '13
  - Best Animated Film - European Film Festival Lille '13
  - Audience Award - Banja Luka Animated Film Festival '12
- [British Council campaign "We are people first, then we're different"](#) awarded:
- Best Social, Political & Media Campaign, Assoc. of Advertising Agency Festival '08
  - Second place, overall campaign for 2008, AAAF '08
  - Used by the British Council in over 20 countries
- 2009 - 2011** **British Council:** Regional Manager Europe, [OPENCities](#) project, co-funded by European Commission, 10 city operations: Vienna, Madrid, Bilbao, Belfast, Dublin, Sofia, Dusseldorf, Poznan, Cardiff and Nitra; Financial management of 3,000,000 GBP
- 2006- 2009** **British Council Bulgaria:** Partnership Projects Manager of media, political and intercultural dialogue projects
- 2004 - 2006** **British Council Bulgaria:** Youth Coordinator of local and regional youth projects

## ADDITIONAL QUALIFICATIONS/AFFILIATIONS

**2022** Eurimages, EU Creative Europe and Bulgarian National Film Centre expert evaluator  
**2021** Guest Lecturer ANIMADOCS - Central European and Oxford Brookes Universities  
**2021** NEW INC program Mentor - NEW MUSEUM of Contemporary Art, New York  
**2019** Berlinale Talent, Short Film Station participant with FINDING HOME series  
**2018** Documentary Campus Masterschool mentor (CPH:DOX, Sheffield Doc/Fest, DOK Leipzig)  
**2016** Member of NEW INC, New Museum incubator, NYC  
**2016** Berlinale Talent, 66th Berlin International Film Festival  
**2016** Member of NYWIFTV (NY Women in Film and TV)  
**2013** Robert Bosch Foundation Consulting Producer at Berlinale'13 training sessions  
**2012** Successfully managed/consulted several crowd-funding campaigns '12-'15  
**2010** Robert Bosch SE Europe-Germany Coproduction Award for Best animated film  
**2009** British Council large scale project and budget management trainings

## FILMOGRAPHY

CHILDLESS (animated-documentary feature film in development), Co-producer/Co-director [80'] '25  
FINDING HOME (animated-documentary series + interactive installation), Producer/Director [4x22'] '26  
HOW TO BE NORMAL (documentary), Animation Director/Producer [110'] '19  
TRUMP & JESUS SHOW (animated-documentary), Co-producer and Co-director [2'30"] '16  
BETWEEN EARTH AND SKY (documentary), Director/Producer/Editor [25'30"] '12  
FATHER (animated-documentary), Producer, Directors Ivan Bogdanov, Moritz Mayerhofer, Asparuh Petrov, Rositsa Raleva, Veljko Popović, Dim Yagodin [16'30"] '12  
GARDEN OF EDEN (documentary), Director/Producer/Editor [10'] '11

## COMMISSIONED WORK

BOLTZMANN EQUATION, Simons Foundation biographical animated-docu, Director/Producer [14'] '21  
PLASTIC RIVER, Make a Change World documentary short, Animation Director/Producer, [20'] '20  
DOSTA! Redrawing Stereotypes, animated campaign on Roma rights, Council of Europe [2'] '19  
TEEN THERAPY, Cornell Medical Institute NYC, animated series, Director/Producer [8x3'] '18  
HUMAN RIGHTS WATCH - DANGERS ON THE WAY TO SCHOOL, Director/Producer [1'] '17  
HUMAN RIGHTS WATCH - EQUAL WORK RIGHTS FOR WOMEN IN IRAN, Director/Producer [3'] '17  
HUMAN RIGHTS WATCH - SAUDI ARABIA WOMEN RIGHTS CAMPAIGN, Director/Producer [3x30"] '16  
BRILLIANT IDEAS (TV series produced by MAKE Productions London/Singapore), Director [30'] '15  
PLAMEN (produced and directed by DRESS CODE NY), Editor [21'] '15  
NOMADIC LEARNING (educational animation and documentary shorts), Director/Producer [35x3'] '14  
INSIDE AND OUT: HAYATO ICHIHARA (NHK Japan, docu series), Field Producer NYC [2x45'] '14  
BAD TRIP (CMJ Productions Canada, TV docu series), Story Researcher NYC [10x60"] '14  
WHAT DIFFERENCE DOES IT MAKE? (docu, dir. Ralf Schmerberg), Line Producer NYC [95'] '13  
NYFA DOC DEPT. ALUMNI STORIES (documentary web series), Director/Producer/Editor [5x4'] '13  
BURNING MAN OF BULGARIA (produced by VICE NEWS NYC), Researcher/Interpreter [15'] '13  
DEATH METAL ANGOLA (documentary, dir. Jeremy Xido), Outreach Producer [83'] '12  
FINDING FELA! (documentary, dir. Alex Gibney), Editing Intern [119'] '14  
26 AND NEVER BEEN KISSED (documentary web series), Animation Producer [3x3'] '12  
MEDIA & DIVERSITY CAMPAIGN (animated campaign), Producer for British Council [5x30"] '08

## TV SCREENINGS

ARTE / ZDF / Fox Life / NHK / TV Europe / TV 7 / Travel TV / Eset TV / GTV / BNT / BTV / HTV3 /

## FESTIVALS

Projects screened at 200+ festivals around the world including DOK Leipzig, London Film Fest, Annecy, Hiroshima, ITFS Stuttgart, Anima Mundi. Pitched projects at Stuttgart Film Festival, Berlinale International Film Festival, Clermont Ferrand, Hot Docs, Doc Platform, Sunny Side of the Doc and IDFA, Amsterdam.