

ALTIMIR

a film by Kay Hannahan



FILM OVERVIEW

TITLE

Altimir

GENRE

Documentary Short

CONTACT

Tyler Hurley: tylerhurley@gmail.com	9011 35th Avenue APT 5N
Kay Hannahan: kayhannahan@gmail.com	Jackson Heights, NY 11372

TECHNICAL

Running Time: 18 minutes 11 seconds

Format: 1920x1080, 24fps, 1:85

Language: Bulgarian

Subtitles: English

Year of Production: 2016

Release date: May 2016

Country of Origin: Bulgaria/USA

LINKS

Offical Website: altimirfilm.com

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/altimirfilm>





SYNOPSIS

Against the backdrop of extreme population decline in Bulgaria, Yordan Dimitrov rides his bike across the slowly disappearing village of Altimir, revisiting memories of its communist past while documenting what remains of the village in its current fleeting state. The film is testament to the power of memory and nostalgia to sustain us.

Since the collapse of the communist regime in 1989, Bulgaria has experienced the most extreme population decline in the world. Low birth rates, high death rates, and two large waves of emigration have erased many villages from Bulgaria's map and pushed others to the verge of extinction. This short poetic documentary explores life in Altimir, one of Bulgaria's disappearing villages. As he rides his bike through the quiet village, Yordan Dimitrov is a guide to the life that remains.

DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT

In May of 2009, I moved in with Yordan and Malinka, their daughter Iva and granddaughter Yoana. Gosho and Trifonka lived down the road. The Peace Corps placed me in Altimir for three months of cultural and language training and for those months I called Altimir home. My host family became proud ambassadors to the seemingly quiet village, informing me of historic battles and national heroes, and the industry that lifted the village during its communist heyday. The overwhelming sentiment in Altimir was nostalgia. I wanted to make a film that captures the way past and present are intertwined in everyday life in the village, where vacant spaces are imbued with life from recalled memories and haunted by the promises of both communism and capitalism.



download hi-res images at altimirfilm.com

CREW BIOS



KAY HANNAHAN

Director, Cinematographer, Editor

Kay Hannahan is a Queens-based filmmaker originally from Minnesota.

She codirected the series *Lost in Bulgaria*, which was nationally broadcast in 2011, and has spent years documenting the people of Bulgaria, where she was a Peace Corps Volunteer.

Her work has screened nationally and internationally at venues such as Crane Arts, Nova Television, and the Bulgarian Embassy. Kay has a BA in Anthropology from Concordia University in Montreal and an MFA in Film and Media Arts with a certificate in Documentary Arts and Ethnographic Practice from Temple University. She was recently awarded the Beatrice Deglin Leder Award and was a Flaherty fellow in 2014.



TYLER HURLEY

Producer, Sound Recordist

Tyler Hurley has years of grassroots community development experience in Bulgaria. As an advisor to the first food bank in Bulgaria, he developed partnerships with community organizations and negotiated some of the first donations. He often collaborates with Kay Hannahan as an audio technician on documentary films, employing his community outreach background to facilitate engagement and collaboration with film subjects. He spent three months living with Gosho and Trifonka in Altimir during pre-service training for the Peace Corps, and is considered a member of the extended family.

AWARDS

Beatrice Deglin Leder Film and Video Production Award 2015 - Temple University

Dean's Grant for Creative Research Recipient 2015 - Temple University

University Completion Grant Recipient 2016 - Temple University



CREDITS

Director----- Kay Hannahan
Producer----- Tyler Hurley
Cinematographer----- Kay Hannahan
Sound Recorder----- Tyler Hurley
Editor----- Kay Hannahan
Associate Producers----- Nadya Dimitrova & Ken Johnson
Translators----- Radoslava Koleva, Alexandra Angelova, George Vasilev
Music----- "Polegnala Todora" performed by the Bulgarian State
Television Female Vocal Choir





PRESS KIT

Altimirfilm.com

download hi-res images at altimirfilm.com