

Children are the Most Honest Audience

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The actress from Sarajevo, Alena Dzebo-Heco, has recently finished with the filming of *Sabina K.*, whose premiere screening is expected this fall. Though her occupation does not require it, Alena is involved in a number of activist engagements. At the moment she is preparing a play that will involve children with Down syndrome. She talked to us about the movie *Sabina K.*, about her involvement with children, and her work in Altteatar.

DANI: Can you tell us more details about the movie *Sabina K.*, whose premiere is expected this fall?

DZEBO-HECO: The movie is completely a women's story, which is very interesting, considering that it was directed by a man. Cristóbal Krusen, is an independent film director, who named his film after one of his favorite films directed by Vittorio De Sica – *Umberto D.*, as he wanted his film to resemble the movie's Italian neo-realism, at least by title. The movie is about a woman who, at the beginning of the film has everything, but by the end has nothing. It's about the earthly sphere, about the metaphysical and transcendent knowledge, which arises when she loses everything material and realizes that, there is, in fact, something more than what we are preoccupied with everyday.

Our collaboration started when director Krusen saw the short film I starred in, *Alena's Journey*, which he liked a lot, so he invited me for an audition. It was amazing that my previous work recommended me for a future project. *Sabina K.* is in Bosnian, and I am proud that the entire cast is from our country. The cast contains around 40 actors including Alban Ukaj, Mirvad Kurić, Miralem Zupčević, Almir Glamočak, Enis Bešlić, Senad Bašić, Jasna Diklić, Vesna Mašić, Saša Petrović, Mirsad Tuka... The director's artistic preoccupation is focused on the cultural differences and interesting facts about the country. He has made films in South Africa and South America, but he also wanted to tell a story about Bosnia. Several years ago he came here, met some people, asked them to bring him stories they thought were interesting. He heard many different stories, among which was the story of Sabina. The entire movie is based on events that really happened. This woman's story is pretty unusual. We often ask ourselves whether or not a film could bear a lot of pain, sadness and disaster, but life is even more cruel and very often we don't even realize what some women really go through. The protagonist is a mother, an ex-wife, a fiancé, and a daughter, who loses the support of her entire family, but she finds a way to stay strong and to move on with her life. I hope that people will accept the story, allow it to touch them, and that they will understand how little is really needed to lose everything we have built.