

Musical  
youth  
drama

# Ciao, Bela

"Attachment is the  
source of ~~love~~ suffering."





Katja:

"Being alone  
is difficult."

Bela:

"Sometimes that's  
the only way."



~~~~~



Janko:

"Look, you just have  
to do things sometimes..."

"...When she decided  
to leave I agreed."

Bela:

"I didn't."



roll



## STORY

Bela plays the piano, writes songs and practices taekwondo. She lives with her father, who is a music producer. Her mother went to America to pursue a career in acting. At the beginning of her first year of high school, Bela learns that her mother wants to come back into her life. This prompts her to reflect on the relationships she has taken for granted, but also on the relationships she is re-establishing. Bela experiences her first love and her first major life crisis. A crisis that leads her, in extreme moments, to try drugs and self-harm. In search of meaning and self-expression, Bela forms a band that represents freedom and an expression of her worldview.



## DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT

*Ciao Bela* is a coming-of-age story that is never easy, about the search for self-expression, the search for meaning and the possibility of artistic expression. In the film I dealt with motifs that surround me emotionally and rationally. It was inspired by my children and their friends. And my memories of a very distant youth. The fundamental family relationships, the initiation into secondary school, the first experiences of love and above all the strength to overcome obstacles, all this is the framework of a narrative that, despite the serious difficulties faced by the characters, is based on optimism. This is perhaps the most important thing, because we all need courage and freedom to grow up.





## MUSIC

The film is characterized by the music of Konstrakta and Zemlja gruva, who finished in fifth place at the 2022 EuroVision Song Contest with In Corpora Sano, representing Serbia.

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## CAST

Alisa Miličević - Bela  
Krešimir Mikić - oče  
Gaja Mazvita - Maja  
Maša Slapar - Katja  
Luka Lukša - Roko  
Laura Prajs - Mija  
Brin Strnad Volkar - Maks  
Suzana Krevh - Jasmina  
Nejša - Neisha

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## JANI SEVER

Jani Sever is a director, writer and producer. He graduated in History from the Faculty of Arts in Ljubljana. In the 1980s, he was a member of Ljubljana punk bands (Čao pičke, UBR) as a drummer and lyricist. He also published poems in Slovenian literary magazines (Literatura, Problemi, Nova revija). From 1989 to 1996, he was an investigative journalist at Mladina, for which he wrote, among other things, about the post-war massacres and the illegal arms trade. From 1996 to 2006, he was editor-in-chief of Mladina. In 2006, he founded and was editor-in-chief of the online video portal Vest, for which he produced the documentaries Elena and Veš poet svoj dolg (You know your debt, poet), for which he also worked as a scriptwriter, and the internet fiction series Prepisani (Overwritten). In 2011, he founded the production company Sever & Sever, which has so far produced 11 short films, 12 documentaries, three feature films and two TV series. Most of the films have been awarded at film festivals.

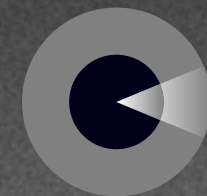
### He directed:

- shorts: Adagio (2013), Bum bum bis (2014), Richard pride jutri (Richard Comes Tomorrow, 2014), opazovalec smrti (Deathwatch, 2021);
- documentaries: Status zero (2016), Pero Lovšin - Ti lahko (2017), Naš Triglav (Our Triglav, 2018), Antigona - Kako si drznemo? (2020), Ključ (The Key, 2022);
- feature film: Čao Bela (Ciao Bela, 2024).



CREATORS

Directing and script - Jani Sever  
D.O.P. - Darko Herič, ZFG  
Producers - Nina Jelič, Jani Sever



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