



**DARIA PANCHENKO**

**ABOUT MYSELF**

Being passionate about all types of artistic expression since my very early years, at the age of 5 I started to create little musicals with other children of my neighborhood in Kiev ( Ukraine). This favorite pass-time would lead me later to study singing, theatre and dance. I would be studying in the Ukrainian Ballet Academy at the same time as in the prestigious Klovky Luceum that gave me the opportunity to learn 5 languages and to get a couple of scholarships to study in the USA. Later on I entered the Kiev Linguistic University already working as a lead dancer in a dance show and taking my first steps in the world of cinema.

At the age of 19 I decided to go and study cinema in France, the country that has always fascinated me. I finished by getting my Masters Degree in Cinema Direction in the University Paris 8. Studying acting at the same time in the prestigious Parisian school Cours Simon re-raised my interest in the Russian theatre so soon after I left for Russia to study in the Nation Theatre Academy of Saint Petersburg. In Saint Petersburg I was discovered by the Russian film production team and invited to work on a French feature "Raspoutine" of Josée Dayan with Gérard Depardieu in the leading part.

Still looking for new experiences and new acting techniques my next destination choice was New York and Lee Strasberg Film and Theatre Institute before returning to Paris and being accepted to the Masters course of the Theatre Directing in the University Paris 10.

Finally settled down in France I multiplied my experiences as an actress, dancer and choreographer for both video and stage productions. The director and producer Eric Atlan offered me my first leading part in a French fantasy feature film called "Mortem".

In addition to my acting and dancing career I obtained a rich cinema experience holding different technical positions in different film productions ( AD, production manager, script supervisor, set designer assistant, props master, casting assistant etc). Most of them were French-Russian coproductions.

As to my own film projects, right after my studies I wrote, directed and produced a short-film "Mille feuilles" ( 24min) in 2013 that participated in a couple of prestigious festivals like Courts Devant, SFC Cannes etc. In 2019 I co-directed and co-produced another short-film "Equilibre" that gave me a possibility to play the leading character of my own film. Being highly appreciated by the audience nowadays "Equilibre" is being developed into a feature film.

I invite here all the fascinating and passionate people to share this part of my professional life and to explore together new paths of creativity!