



70^e Internationale
Filmfestspiele
Berlin
Berlinale Classics

Distant Journey

Digitally restored film
by Alfréd Radok

Národní
filmový
archiv

Alfréd Radok's debut still gives a unique answer to the question of how to express the inexpressible. The film does not translate the horror of the Terezín prison directly, but through a comparison of the different visions that shaped the realities of the Holocaust. The multilayered art report therefore combines a melodramatic story, echoes of expressionism and a self-reflective play with documentary and fiction.

The goal of this digital restoration was to make the film available in a form similar to how audiences would have seen it at the time of its initial release in 1949. As a result, we have preserved various visual elements that originated during the film's shooting process or its laboratory processing, as evidence of the technologies and creative approaches of the time. The source materials for the digitization came from the Národní filmový archiv, Prague. Both sound and image were digitized from the duplicate positive preserved in the archive. The restoration was carried out in 2019 at the Universal Productions Partners studio in Prague, under the supervision of the Národní filmový archiv, Prague.

Czechoslovakia 1948 • 104 min.

Director	Alfréd Radok
Screenplay	Mojmír Drvota, Erik Kolár, Alfréd Radok
Director of Photography	Josef Střecha
Set Designer	Jan Pacák
Editor	Jiřina Lukešová
Sound Designer	Josef Vlček
Music	Jiří Sternwald
Cast	Blanka Waleská, Otomar Krejča, Viktor Očásek, Zdeňka Baldová

Alfréd Radok (1914–1976)

Although he originally considered journalism, he decided for theatre. After his beginnings as an assistant director and a director in Prague, Brno and Plzeň, Radok was interned in a labor camp near Wrocław from September 1944 to January 1945 for racial reasons. After the war he worked as a theatre director in opera and drama in Czechoslovakia. As one of the founders of *Laterna magika* (1956–1959) Radok connected film and theatre in perfect symbiosis. With *Laterna magika* he celebrated worldwide success at the Brussels EXPO 58. Radok gained his first professional experience with film as an artistic adviser for Art Nouveau comedy *The Antlers* (1947) by František Sádek. His first directing debut was drama *Distant Journey* (1948). After this, Radok was only allowed to implement a transcription of classic theatre play by V. K. Klicpera *The Wonder-Working Hat* (1952), distorted by censorship and *Vintage Car* (1956). Radok also worked for radio and television as a director.

Sales:
Národní filmový archiv
Tomáš Žůrek
E: tomas.zurek@nfa.cz
Tel.: +420 778 487 858

Press:
Národní filmový archiv
Veronika Bokšťeflová
E: veronika.boksteflova@nfa.cz
Tel.: +420 778 522 709

www.nfa.cz
www.zpetvkinech.cz

