

REF Productions Presents
PERESTROIKA
a film by Slava Tsukerman

Starring F. Murray Abraham, Sam Robards, Oksana Stashenko,
Jicky Schnee, Maria Andreyeva and Ally Sheedy

Set To Open In New York At The Cinema Village April 17, 2009

Writer/Director Slava Tsukerman rose to fame with his cult classic *Liquid Sky*, considered to be one of the most successful true Indies of all time. Now Tsukerman has turned his sights on his native Russia during their time of reconstruction in "PERESTROIKA" which will open its theatrical engagement in New York at the Cinema Village on April 17, 2009.

Taking place in Moscow, 1992 Tsukerman's "Perestroika," combines a unique mixture of fiction, documentary and autobiographical elements. Sasha Greenberg (Sam Robards), a celebrated astrophysicist returns to Moscow after 17 years of exile. Formerly reviled as a traitor, he is welcomed back as a hero during the period of "Perestroika" (restructuring) only to realize that everything has been turned upside down.

Invited, by his wily but supportive mentor, Gross (F. Murray Abraham), an American defector to Russia who helped the Soviets develop nuclear weapons, to speak about the structure of the universe, Sasha's own world seems to be crumbling around him. His marriage to an American scientist (Ally Sheedy) has all but failed, his relationship with a beautiful filmmaker has reached an impasse, a colleague and former lover all but drags him back to her bed and he suspects that a fiery young girl may be his daughter. While old enemies welcome him home, painful memories of anti-Semitism return to haunt him. Expected to deliver his theory about the coherence of the universe, Sasha is overwhelmed by his personal chaos and the suspicion that man is the bane of a world in peril.

Slava Tsukerman (*writer/director*) is best known as the writer/director/producer of the cult classic "Liquid Sky." All totaled he has directed 43 films of various genres and has received 13 awards from international film festivals. Mr. Tsukerman made his debut at the age of 21 with "I Believe in Spring," the first independently made short in the history of the Soviet Union. Other films, "Great Bells," "The Heat In Cold Numbers," "Professor Alexandrov's Discovery," and "Vaudeville on Vaudeville" won the highest awards in the Soviet film industry. His documentary, "Once Upon a Time There Were Russians in Jerusalem", made for Israeli television, was a first prize winner at the Tenth Hollywood Festival of World Television. "Liquid Sky," released in 1982, is one of the most successful true Indies of all time. Praised by critics, it broke box office records around the country. In 2001 Mr. Tsukerman directed "Poor Liza," in Russia, starring Ben Gazazra and Lee Grant. "Poor Liza," won two festival prizes in Russia. In 2005, he released his feature length documentary, "Stalin's Wife," to widespread critical applause. Andrew Sarris, in the NY Observer, said, "if you have the slightest curiosity about the people and the period, "Stalin's Wife" is mandatory viewing."

"PERESTROIKA," written & directed by Slava Tsukerman, Produced by Nina V. Kerova, Co-Produced by Daniel M. Cohen and Executive Produced by Robert E. Field, stars F. Murray Abraham, Sam Robards, Oksana Stashenko, Jicky Schnee, Maria Andreyeva and Ally Sheedy. The film, presented by REF Productions, is in English, runs 97 minutes and is unrated.

FOR DOWNLOADABLE ART & PRESS KIT PLEASE GO TO: www.perestroikathemovie.com

REVIEW & INTERVIEW SCREENERS ARE AVAILABLE

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