

# Press Release / Key infos

Oct. 2022



# THE COUNTRY OF RUSTAVELI

Feature-length documentary

## **“The Country of Rustaveli“ (working title)**

The documentary is a project supported and funded by the Georgian National Film Center.

Project inspiration comes from a medieval Georgian epic poem, "The Knight in the Panther's Skin", written in the 12th century by Georgia's national poet Shota Rustaveli.

In the 12th century - The golden age of the Georgian kingdom, the country was ruled by woman, values of tolerance, gender equality and a progressive way of thinking were dominating the Georgian culture.

Does the Country of Georgia belong to Europe? And if yes, why it is so?

The main protagonist Emine Shahingöz wants to find the answer: Why is this poem so important to Georgians even nowadays? Is it still the country of Rustaveli?

The Documentary shows the portrait of modern Georgian society. The “Trigger” to interact with the protagonists is Rustaveli and his eternal values.

Emine is a descendant of Turkish immigrants in Germany. She was born and raised in Frankfurt. Emine's roots are Caucasian. Once Emine participated to the reading marthon of the poem at Frankfurt Book Fair 2018 as a linguist, she decided in 2022 to come to Georgia and meet the modern society.

Emine meets tik-tokers and a literature scientist, goes clubbing, and meets medieval storytellers in the forest.

German, English and Georgian are the languages of the film.

### **Narration revolves around the following topics:**

- Gender equality and the role of women in Georgia in King Tamar's times vs. nowadays.
- European values and Rustaveli's Neo-platonic thinking - love, friendship, togetherness and the struggle for freedom.
- Medieval storytelling vs. Modern formats - Fairytale told by heart in front of the fire, or Tik-Tok, Instagram and Youtube?

## Key Infos

**Genre:** Documentary

**Duration:** full-length 1:20 min

**Shooting Format:** 6K / Red Comodo

**Original Language:** German, English, Georgian (with subtitles)

**Main protagonist:** Emine Sahingöz

**Production studio:** Author's Film Studio

**Supporters:** Georgian National Film Centre

**Director:** Erekle Inashvili

**Written by:** Zurab Inashvili, Erekle Inashvili

## Key Dates and timeline:

- 1st and 2nd filming phases are completed (May-July 2022)
- 3rd filming phase remains planned for November 2022 (technical shootings only)
- Post-production, editing - In progress: (state of Oct. 2022)
- Color grading and sound design - Planned December 2022 (state of Oct. 2022).



**web:** [rustaveli-film.ge](http://rustaveli-film.ge). | **Social Media:** [facebook.com/rustaveliscountry](https://facebook.com/rustaveliscountry)