



For Immediate Release

MALMKROG

BERLIN FILM FESTIVAL PRIZE-WINNER ARRIVES IN UK



“A boldly uncompromising look at aristocratic life”

The Film Stage

“First-rate, physically impressive performances”

The Upcoming

“Wildly fascinating”

Eye For Film

“Intellectually rich and rigorous”

Sight & Sound

**IT'S THE TALK OF THE TOWN:
STUNNING PHILOSOPHICAL EPIC RELEASED IN UK, 26th March 2021.**

22 January 2021, London UK - Sovereign is proud to announce the release of acclaimed Romanian writer/director Cristi Puiu's historical drama, on 26th March, on Virtual Cinemas and VOD.

Guests arrive at the mansion of aristocratic landowner and man of the world Nikolai over the Christmas holidays. Among them are a politician, a young countess and a general with his wife. They converse and dine – what a wonderful, much-missed way of life – indulge in parlour games and discuss politics, progress, morality, death, and the Antichrist. As the debate becomes more heated, cultural differences become increasingly apparent and the mood grows tense. In the end, everyone will become a victim of his or her own discourse.

Puiu was named **Best Director** for the new Encounters Awards at the 70th Berlin Film Festival last year, and **Malmkrog** won Best Film and Best Screenplay at the 2020 Seville European Film Festival. Based on the work of Russian philosopher Vladimir Solovyov, **Malmkrog** is provocative, engrossing, and extremely timely filmmaking. Puiu, who won the Un Certain Regard Best Film award at Cannes in 2005, for *The Death of Mr Lazarescu*, cements his reputation here as one of Europe's most accomplished and uncompromising directors.

Elegantly staged and beautifully acted, with first rate performances from an ensemble cast including Frédéric Schulz-Richard (*Waiting For The Barbarians*), Ugo Broussot

(*Territory of Love*), Diana Sakalauskaitė (*Three Exercises of Interpretation*), and Marina Palii (*The Silver Forest*), the film recalls the drawing room masterworks of Max Ophüls, and the stark cerebral work of Ingmar Bergman. As the guests ruminate at length, within the confines of an ornate 19th century manor house, the viewer is swept along with confounding opinions, prescient dilemmas, dazzling wordplay and unexpected clashes, all handled with absolute cinematic mastery by Puiu.

A challenging, rewarding and unique mixture of *Downton Abbey* and Dostoyevsky, your mind will be all the richer for watching it.

MALMKROG WILL BE RELEASED ON 26th MARCH 2021

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For further information, please contact:

Fetch Publicity:

Lisa DeBell: lisa@fetch.fm

NOTES TO EDITORS

MALMKROG: FESTIVALS & AWARDS

Malmkrog writer/ director Crisiti Puiu, was the recipient of the Best Director award at the Encounters section at the 2020 Berlin Film Festival, and Best Film and Best Screenplay at the 2020 Seville International Film Festival. It was also nominated as a Top Ten film in the esteemed French film publication Cahiers Du Cinéma's 2020 awards, and was nominated as Best Feature at both the Lisbon and Transylvania film festivals.

ABOUT SOVEREIGN FILM DISTRIBUTION

Sovereign Film Distribution aims to release auteur driven feature films in the UK from exciting emerging and established international talent. Our carefully curated titles have played to strong critical and audience acclaim, often premiering at renowned international film festivals, including Cannes, Berlinale, Toronto, Venice and many more. The first four titles for release include; Philippine crime drama 'VERDICT ', which received the Special Orizzonti Jury Prize at the 76th Venice Film Festival; historical drama 'MALMKROG' which won Best Director in the Encounter section at opened the 70th Berlin Film Festival; Argentine psychological thriller 'A COMMON CRIME' which received its world premiere at the 70th Berlin Film Festival; and Peruvian drama 'SONG WITHOUT A NAME' which screened in the Directors' Fortnight section at the 72nd Cannes Film Festival and has been the recipient of numerous other festival awards and accolades.

Sovereign Film Distribution is part of **Sovereign Media Group**, an experienced and established UK based media and entertainment company committed to telling important and relevant stories across film, theatre, music and the arts with cultural links to our past, present and future. Since establishing Sovereign Films, their productions include Palme d'Or winner 'The Tree of Life' (3 Oscar nominations), starring Sean Penn, Jessica Chastain and Brad Pitt; 'Effie Gray', starring Dakota Fanning, Emma Thompson and Julie Walters; and 'Voyage of Time' with Brad Pitt and Cate Blanchett. Their upcoming productions including 'Memoria' from Palme d'Or winner Apichatpong Weerasethakul, starring Tilda Swinton; and 'Triangle of Sadness' starring Woody Harrelson from acclaimed director Ruben Ostlund (winner of the Cannes Palme d'Or for 'The Square').

sovereignfilms.co.uk

info@sovereignfilms.co.uk