

KINO LORBER

KILLS ON WHEELS

(Tiszta szívvel)

Hungary's Official Submission to the
2016 Academy Awards®

Thessaloniki Film Festival

Best Film – Golden Alexander Award

Best Actor: Szabolcs Thuróczy, Zoltán Fenyvesi and Ádám Fekete



2016 | Hungary | 105 Minutes
Cinemascope | Dolby Digital

Press:

Rodrigo Brandão / Kino Lorber
Rodrigo@kinolorber.com
212.629.6880

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Festivals:

Int'l Premiere: 51st Karlovy Vary IFF
East of the West - Opening Film

UK Premiere: 60th BFI London Film Festival

US Premiere: 2016 Chicago IFF
Winner of the Roger Ebert Award

57th Thessaloniki International Film Festival
Golden Alexander Award (Best Film / Main Prize)
Best Actor (Jointly Awarded) - Szabolcs Thuróczy, Zoltán Fenyvesi and Ádám Fekete

2016 Los Angeles Hungarian Film Festival
Best Film & Best Actor: Szabolcs Thuróczy

Official Synopsis:

In this wildly original action-comedy, two teenaged boys living with disabilities find escape from their humdrum lives when they're enlisted by a gruff ex-con to be his accomplices... as wheelchair hit men!

Thrust into a surreal world of gangsters and guns, the partnership soon blossoms into friendship as their mentor reveals a soft heart beneath his tough exterior and the boys help him come to terms with his own disability. Hungary's official submission to the 89th Academy Awards®, *Kills on Wheels* features stellar cinematography, a mix of live action and comic book-style animation, and a wickedly dark sense of humor.

It deftly blends genres, confronting issues of invisibility, prejudice, and loneliness as it boldly flouts all stereotypes and expectations.

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CREW

Written and directed by Attila Till
Director of photography: Imre Juhász
Editor: Márton Gothár
Music: Csaba Kalotás / Sound: Tamás Zányi / Visual design: Márton Ágh
Produced by Judit Stalter / Laokoon Filmgroup

CAST

Zoltán Fenyvesi – Zolika
Szabolcs Thuróczy – Rupaszov
Ádám Fekete – Barba Papa
Dusán Vitanovics – Rados
Lídia Danis – Évis
Mónika Balsai – Zita

About the director / Attila Till (b. 1971, Budapest) graduated from the Intermedia Department of the Hungarian University of Fine Arts. His first feature film *Panic (Pánik)* premiered in 2008 at the Hungarian Film Week, where it won Best Actress and screened at a number of international festivals. He shot his first short, *Beast (Csicska)*, in 2011, a chilling drama about modern-day slavery. The film premiered at Cannes' Directors' Fortnight and screened in over 100 festivals (incl. the Prague Short Film Festival), also receiving a Best Short Film nomination from the European Film Academy. He also works in television and is one of Hungary's most respected TV personalities. *Kills on Wheels* (2016) is his second feature film.

Director's statement / I have met several people in wheelchairs while I was volunteering with the disabled. These personal encounters inspired me to present a story about a wheelchair bound boy who is struggling with his own identity as much as with his environment – and he finds a way to cope with life's challenges in his own extreme fantasy world. It was crucial to me to make a movie about disabled people where they finally aren't played by actors, but they get the opportunity to act themselves and be the real heroes.

Zoltán Fenyvesi / Still only 23 and studying at university, Zoli is a real star and his wheelchair does not limit this in any way. Zoli is often seen at important fashion events as well as studying, working and giving motivational talks. *Kills on Wheels* is his first feature film but he has also appeared in a Coca-Cola campaign film. He is a key member of the "SUHANJ! (Whizz!) Foundation" and successfully completed the New York marathon on his hand-bike in 2014. Under the pseudonym "@wheelchairguy" he now has a stunning 10,000 followers on Instagram. He partially plays himself in the film, a young guy determined to get the most, and more, out of life.

Szabolcs Thuróczy / Attila Till is not the only one unable to imagine making a film without Szabolcs. Also a great favourite of Béla Pintér Theatre Company, he originally qualified in law, but Hungarian theatre and film would have been cheated of a great talent had he chosen to confine his unparalleled acting skills to the courtroom. Seen and much loved as the rough diamond with sex appeal, he is presently shooting the lead in the second series of *Golden Life*

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(*Aranyélet*) for HBO Hungary and recently appeared on cinema screens in Kornél Mundruczó's Cannes UCR Prix winner *White God* (2014) and Lili Horváth's Karlovy Vary IFF East of the West Award winner *The Wednesday Child* (2015). He plays Rupasov in *Kills on Wheels*, a paralysed fireman, who pulls Zoli and Babar into an underworld of crime and violence.

Ádám Fekete / A member of TÁP Theatre Company, and originally qualified as a dramaturge at the University of Theatre and Film Art, is currently working as an actor, director, writer and, of course, dramaturge. He not only enjoys reading poetry but also writes it and is rarely seen without a book in his hand. He is an exciting and entertaining figure, who proves that handicap is a meaningless term in the performing arts. He plays the role of Babar in the film, Zoli's best mate and easily the grouchiest member of the gang.

Dr. Dusan Vitanovics / Dusan is actually a practicing neurosurgeon (who wrote his doctorate about Bob Marley's brain tumour), whose acting talent was initially spotted by Benedek Fliegauf who gave him roles in *Talking Heads* and later *Dealer*. Attila Till was so impressed by his previous performances that he asked him to take to the screen again and so now, after an absence of several years, Dr. Vitanovics returns to cinemas as the dark and charismatic king of crime.

Lídia Danis / Known for her exotic good looks, Lídia works first and foremost as a theatre actress and qualified in her craft from the University of Theatre and Film Art under the tutelage of Géza Hegedűs D. She began her professional career at Budapest's leading theatre, Vígszínház, in 2007, and soon went on to win "Best Actress Under 30" at the Pécs National Theatre Festival (POSZT) and the Éva Ruttkai Memorial Ring in the very same year. Mainly known for her work in theatre, she plays the role of Rupasov's ex-girlfriend.

Mónika Balsai / Following a number of successful stage roles, Mónika had her biggest break with the title character in festival and audience favourite *Liza the Fox-Fairy* (2014) and also appeared in Attila Till's internationally successful short film *Beast (Csicska)* as well as the popular HBO series *Társasjáték* (Hungarian adaptation of *When Shall We Kiss?*). She plays Zoli's mother, who raised her son alone.

Judit Stalter / is one of the most active producers of Hungary. She is running a market leader film production company called [Laokoon Filmgroup](#) with 2 co-owners Gábor Sipos and Gábor Rajna. They are mostly known for their groundbreaking holocaust-drama, *Son of Saul* (2015) that has won most of the awards of the world, including the Academy Award for Best Foreign Language Film, a Golden Globe and the Cannes Grand Prix. Their focus is the development and production of high-quality auteur feature films, creative documentaries and shorts, but they work with a wide range of genres from art-house features to commercials, TV-series and documentaries. They have worked together with Fernando Trueba, Penélope Cruz, Fernando Bovaira, Federico Brugia and Antonio Banderas among others, as a service production company.
