



V'20  
VIENNALE  
VIENNA INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL

PLEASE

HOLD

THE LINE

*A FILM BY PAVEL CUZUIOC*

CABLE TECHNICIANS IN EASTERN EUROPE  
NAVIGATING THE MODERN-DAY TOWER OF BABEL.

PRESS KIT  
[www.pleaseholdtheline.net](http://www.pleaseholdtheline.net)



*"The past and the present collide in this darkly amusing deep dive into the human side of the digital age. And each are as complex as the other... the film works on two levels: As an abstract expressionist arthouse piece and a deadpan social and political satire."*

*Filmuforia*

## Short Synopsis

Cable technicians in Eastern Europe navigating the modern-day Tower of Babel. With unflappable humour and a dose of philosophy, the technicians hold the line in a dissonant world.

## Long Synopsis

An audiovisual allegory on communication - this film follows cable technicians in different countries, as they visit their customers. Each client they call on provides a glimpse into their own individual universe. With so many tools for communication, we still inhabit a modern-day Tower of Babel; an ordered discordance of personalities and perspectives.



*"With these eclectic references, we see Please Hold the Line's strength as a stealth art film - its observant camera acting like a tuning fork, picking up strange echoes and vibrations."*

*Cineuropa*

# Director's Statement

We like to think of communication devices as a people binder. Yet, with a larger variety of communication tools than ever before, each human being continues to insist on his personality and perspective, social disintegration is as strong as ever. "Please hold the line" is about people who fix communication defects - like cable technicians fixing a tv, phone or a modem - as well as about their customers. A palette of human typologies. I am interested in the human being, with its everyday struggles. It is these individual universes that fascinate me the most.



## Director's Bio

PAVEL CUZUIOC was born in Chisinau, Republic of Moldova. In 2000, he moved to Austria where he followed courses on film directing at the Vienna Film Academy. His films were screened at various international film festivals such as Locarno FF, IDFA, HotDocs, Sheffield Doc/Fest, Clermont Ferrand ISFF, Black Nights IFF, DocAviv FF, Transylvania IFF, Cottbus FF, etc.

## Filmography & Festivals (Selected)

**SECONDO ME**  
(Documentary, 79 min., A 2016)  
Locarno IFF, HotDocs

**RAISA**  
(Short, 15 min., A, RO 2015)  
Clermont Ferrand ISFF

**DIGGING FOR LIFE**  
(Documentary, 56 min., HBO RO 2011)  
Docaviv, FIPA, TIFF

## Team

Directed, filmed and produced  
by PAVEL CUZUIOC

Editor - SAMIRA GHAHREMANI

Sound design - ATANAS TCHOLAKOV

Production managers - VALERIA SOCHYVETS

LILIA BRAILA, ANTONIYA TSINOVA

Color grading - ANDI WINTER

Graphics & SFX - DENIS BARTENEV

## Production:

PAVEL CUZUIOC

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## Technical specifications

A 2020, 86 Min.,

DCP, Color, 1:85, 2K,

Sound 5.1, English Subtitles

## Languages spoken

Romanian, Ukrainian, Bulgarian,

Russian, French, English

## Cast

GHENADIE MARDARI, OLEG CHUMAK, IONUT FOTIN, MARIUS MARCOVICI, GEORGI TCHOLAKOV



## Supported by

 Bundeskanzleramt

## Distribution:

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