

## Miss GULAG Production Team



### MARIA YATSKOVA - DIRECTOR

Maria Yatskova was born in Moscow in 1976 and immigrated to the United States with her mother and grandmother five years later. She studied journalism in France and Belgium and graduated with a B.A. in Film Studies from the New School for Social Research in New York. Maria's engagement with Russian history began with her feature essay for the AP surrounding the controversial remains of Russia's last Czar, which appeared in the LA Times.

Her article about prison camp UF 91/9 in Siberia, titled "Crime and Beauty," appeared in the September 2006 issue of Marie-Claire magazine, and provides part of the vision behind her directorial debut, **Miss GULAG**, an official selection of the Berlin Film Festival. Winner of grants from the Ford and Sundance Foundations, **Miss GULAG** has been to over twenty international film festivals and was recently broadcast by the BBC. Currently, Maria is in Baku, Azerbaijan, at work on a film about Mstislav Rostropovich.



### RAPHAELA NEIHAUSEN - PRODUCER

A dual citizen of the US and Canada, Raphaela Neihausen was born in New York City, where she currently resides. She comes from a family of Latvian Jewish émigrés. Ms. Neihausen holds a B.S.F.S. in International Politics and an M.A. in Latin American Studies from Georgetown University School of Foreign Service, where she graduated in 2000.

Raphaela holds a position with Mercer Management Consulting, the strategy-consulting arm of a multi-billion dollar conglomerate. Proficient in six languages, she focuses on solving business issues and developing growth strategies for companies and governments around the world. **Miss GULAG** is her first film project.



### IRINA VODAR - PRODUCER

Irina Vodar pursued a Bachelor's Degree in Producing for Motion Picture and TV at the Russian State Film School (VGIK) in Moscow, Russia, and received her diploma in 1990. She continued her film studies at the Film Department of Columbia College, Chicago, IL, where she had initiated the student exchange program between Russian and American Film Schools.

A New York City resident since 1997, Irina Vodar had joined the ranks of ABC NEWS bureau in NYC. For her efforts she has been nominated and presented with many awards, including a 30th Annual Daytime EMMY Award nomination.

Irina Vodar returns to film producing with her full-length documentary title **Miss GULAG**.



### GRIGORI RUDAKOV CINEMATOGRAPHER

Grigori Rudakov was born in Moscow in 1977. He pursued a Degree in Cinematography from the Russian State Film School (VGIK) in Moscow, Russia, and graduated in 2000.

Grigori has frequently recorded events in militarily turbulent territories throughout the world. He has collaborated with British, American, Spanish and German filmmakers, and has completed over 20 documentary and narrative projects to date.