

Red River

2026 · CO-PRODUCTION · COMPLETED

A deaf-mute boy playing at war chases his imaginary enemy across a river, and walks into a real one.

SHORT SYNOPSIS

Playing war with a wooden sword, a six-year-old deaf-mute boy chases an imaginary enemy across a shallow river into the forest and falls asleep. Waking at dusk, he encounters a column of wounded soldiers crawling toward the water. Innocently mistaking their bloodied faces for clowns, he marches ahead as their playful leader. Recrossing the blood-red river toward a spreading fire, he loses his army and returns to his family farm, only to find it in ashes and his mother gone.

DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT

Returning to Ambrose Bierce's "Chickamauga" after fifteen years, I saw the power of telling a dialogue-free story through a deaf-mute boy; where sound design and facial expression carry every emotion. Stripping away the Civil War setting makes the absurdity of adult warfare universal. Despite a child protagonist, this is no children's film: shifting from vibrant woods to Otto Dix-inspired darkness, it confronts viewers with the unfiltered horror waiting at the end of innocence.

FACT SHEET

DIRECTOR / WRITER
Milan Milosavljević

BASED ON
"Chickamauga" by Ambrose Bierce

PRODUCTION
Vorky Team, Studio Dashak

COUNTRIES
Serbia, Bosnia & Herzegovina

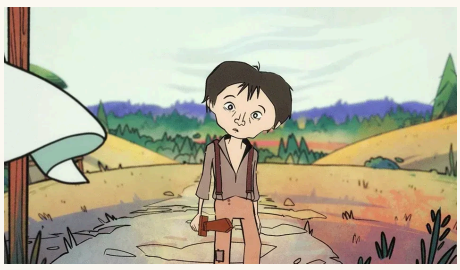
FORMAT
Short

LENGTH
7'23"

ANIMATION TECHNIQUE
2D Digital Cut-out animation

SUPPORTED BY
Film Center Serbia, Audio-Visual Centre of Republika Srpska







Let's talk

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