

ANNA & AMEDEO

Some love stories end
Others become art

PRESS KIT

Paris International Women's
Film Festival



ANNA & AMEDEO

A FILM BY IRYNA BONDARCHUK

Paris. 1910.
Some encounters last a lifetime

LOGLINE

In Paris in 1910, the young Anna Akhmatova encounters Amedeo Modigliani—an artist who will not only remain in her memory forever but will also create her portrait. A poetic story of love, art, and the inner freedom of a young woman beginning to find her own voice.



SHORT SYNOPSIS

“Anna & Amedeo” is a poetic historical narrative short film about the enigmatic encounter between the young Anna Akhmatova and Amedeo Modigliani in Paris at the beginning of the twentieth century.

Paris becomes the setting for their walks, conversations, and artistic connection. Through memories, poetry, and visual imagery, the film returns to a brief yet significant period in Anna's life—a time when Anna, still a young woman and poet, was only beginning to discover her own voice and inner freedom.

A special symbol of their encounter is Anna's portrait created by Modigliani. The image of the young poet, seen through the artist's eyes, becomes a bridge between their brief Parisian story and a memory that has survived the passage of time.

This is not simply a love story between two celebrated artists. It is the story of a young woman who would later become one of the most important poets of the twentieth century, yet who appears here as vibrant, vulnerable, and free—capable of loving, doubting, dreaming, and preserving in her memory those moments that can change a life forever.

“Anna & Amedeo” is a poetic story about love, art, memory, and a woman's right to be the author of her own story.

OFFICIAL LONG SYNOPSIS

Paris, 1910. At the dawn of a new artistic era, painters, poets, and dreamers from across Europe gather in the city in search of beauty, freedom, and their own creative voice.

Among them is Anna Akhmatova, a twenty-year-old poet visiting Paris with her husband. She has not yet become one of the defining literary voices of the twentieth century. She is a young woman at the beginning of her journey—curious, sensitive, and still discovering her own voice and inner freedom.

Paris opens before her as a world of art and possibility.

It is here that Anna meets Amedeo Modigliani, a young Italian artist living in Montparnasse and searching for the artistic language that will one day make him one of the most distinctive figures of modern art.

Their encounter develops into a brief but profound emotional connection. Together, they wander through the streets of Paris, sharing conversations about poetry, painting, love, and time. Their relationship unfolds through quiet gestures, lingering glances, and moments of silence.

Yet at the heart of this story is Anna herself.

In Modigliani's studio, she becomes the subject of his sketches and portraits. But the film does not see her merely as an artist's muse. Through the artist's gaze, we discover a young woman with her own inner world, memories, desires, and creative identity.

The portrait becomes a central symbol of their encounter. In attempting to capture Anna's image, Modigliani preserves something that neither of them could fully understand at the time: a fleeting moment in the life of a young woman who would one day become a legend.

History eventually leads them along different paths. Their brief encounter comes to an end, while the world around them begins to change forever.

Many years later, Modigliani's portrait of Anna Akhmatova remains more than a work of art. It becomes a silent witness to a meeting that transcended time—and to the young woman Anna was before history transformed her into an icon.

Inspired by documented episodes from the lives of Anna Akhmatova and Amedeo Modigliani, *Anna & Amedeo* is a poetic work of historical imagination. Rather than recreating history, the film explores the emotional truth of a brief encounter through a woman's memories, emotions, and evolving creative identity.

It is a story about love and art, but also about a young woman's right to exist beyond the roles assigned to her—to be more than a muse, a portrait, or a memory, and to become the author of her own story.

WHY THIS FILM FOR THIS FESTIVAL

“Anna & Amedeo” naturally resonates with the concept of the Paris International Women's Film Festival, as the film places at its centre the story of a young woman, her inner world, her creative development, and her right to be the author of her own story.

The film tells the story of one of the most enigmatic encounters in the artistic world of the early twentieth century — the meeting between Anna Akhmatova and Amedeo Modigliani in Paris. For me, however, this story is more than a romantic episode in the lives of two remarkable artists.

At the heart of the film is the young Anna. Before becoming a legendary poet, she was a woman with her own dreams, doubts, emotions, and desire for inner freedom. Paris becomes a unique space of art, discovery, and an encounter that would remain with her forever.

A special place in this story belongs to Anna's portrait created by Modigliani. In the film, it becomes not only a historical artefact but also a symbol of a creative dialogue between two people of art. At the same time, I sought to avoid the traditional image of a woman merely as an artist's “muse.” Anna emerges as an independent creative individual, with her own voice, memories, and the right to interpret this story through her own experience.

It is also particularly meaningful to me that this story takes place in Paris — a city that became one of the most important cultural centres of the twentieth century and a space of creative freedom for generations of artists.

“Anna & Amedeo” brings together a woman's story, art, poetry, memory, and Paris. For this reason, I believe the film can find a special resonance with the audience of the Paris International Women's Film Festival.





ABOUT THE FILM

Anna & Amedeo is a poetic historical short film inspired by the encounter between the young poet Anna Akhmatova and Italian artist Amedeo Modigliani in Paris in 1910.

Rather than retelling their biographies, the film focuses on a brief but significant moment in Anna's life—before she became a legendary poet. At its centre is a young woman with her own dreams, doubts, emotions, and an emerging creative voice.

Paris becomes a space of art, freedom, and inner discovery. Through their encounters, conversations, and the portrait created by Modigliani, the film explores the connection between memory, love, and artistic creation.

Rather than portraying Anna merely as the muse of a celebrated artist, *Anna & Amedeo* seeks to reveal her as an independent creative personality and the author of her own story.

Blending historical research with poetic storytelling and a distinctive visual language, the film invites audiences to rediscover a young woman whose image was preserved in art long before she became a legend.

DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT

The story of Anna Akhmatova and Amedeo Modigliani has reached us through fragments of memories, poetry, art, and images that have outlived the people who inspired them. Among these, a special place belongs to the portrait of the young Anna created by Modigliani in 1911. This image became one of the important starting points in my work on the film.

I was interested not only in what might have happened between them, but above all in Anna herself—a young woman who had not yet become a legend.

We are accustomed to seeing Akhmatova as a great poet and an iconic figure of the twentieth century. But before that, there was a young woman with her own dreams, doubts, and emotions. It was this living and vulnerable Anna that I wanted to discover through my film.

For me, the portrait created by Modigliani is more than an artistic image. It is one creative person looking at another. The artist saw a young woman who was only beginning her journey and preserved her image through art.

Paris became more than a historical setting for this story. For me, it is a space of freedom, art, and inner discovery. Here, Anna meets Amedeo, and their brief encounter leaves its mark not only in memory but also in art.

At the same time, I did not want to reduce Anna to the role of a “muse” to a great artist. It was important for me to portray her as an independent creative personality, experiencing this encounter through her own emotions, memories, and poetic perception of the world.

“Anna & Amedeo” is the story of a young woman who experiences love and art without losing herself. It is a story about memory, inner freedom, and a woman's right to be not merely someone else's image in art, but the author of her own life.





DIRECTOR BIOGRAPHY

Iryna Bondarchuk is a Ukrainian filmmaker, art historian, author, and researcher of art history. She graduated from the National Academy of Fine Arts and Architecture in Kyiv, earning a Master's degree in the History and Theory of Art and Architecture.

She began her creative career as an animation artist at leading Ukrainian film studios. For more than twenty years, she worked in the creative industries, leading her own advertising agencies and producing artistic projects and cultural festivals.

Bondarchuk is the author of three books on art history. One of them, *Cassandra of the Silver Age*, explores the life of Anna Akhmatova through the history of her artistic portraits.

Since 2022, she has lived in Poland, where she creates independent artistic and documentary films, combining classical cinematic language with contemporary creative technologies.

***Anna & Amedeo* continues her long-term research into the artistic legacy of Anna Akhmatova and represents her attempt to reinterpret the history of art through the language of contemporary authorial cinema.**

SELECTED FILMOGRAPHY

- 2026 — Anna & Amedeo (Narrative Short Film)
2026 — Kazimir Malevich. Black Square (Documentary Short)
2026 — Jazz Band "Salt & Sax". Jazz Music Concert (Music Film)
2026 — The Crown of Gdańsk (Documentary Short)
2025 — I Reach for You with All My Heart... (Poetic Short Film)
2025 — Suite for Violin (Music Short Film)
2025 — Histoire d'amour à Paris (Narrative AnimaFilm)
2025 — Beyond the Numbers and Borders (Documentary film about the history of the development of cybernetics in Ukraine)
2024 — Lullaby for the Ocean (Social Short Film)



VISUAL WORLD OF THE FILM



PRODUCTION NOTES

The development of *Anna & Amedeo* began with years of research into Anna Akhmatova's life and artistic legacy.

The screenplay grew out of the director's own book dedicated to Akhmatova's portraits and gradually evolved into a cinematic interpretation of one of the most fascinating episodes in the history of modern art.

Rather than recreating historical events literally, the filmmaker sought to capture the emotional truth behind them.

At the heart of the film is an attempt to rediscover Anna Akhmatova not as a historical icon or an artist's muse, but as a young woman and an independent creative personality.



CONTACTS

IRYNA BONDARCHUK



+48 536 07 99 19



irina.bondrchuk@gmail.com



YouTube @IRYNA_BONDARCHUK-2026



@bondarchuk.iryina



Iryna Bondarchuk

+48 536 07 99 19

Based in Poland