

## Is It Easy to Be Young? (1986)

Riga Film Studio, 83 min.

**Directed by** Juris Podnieks  
**Written by** Ābrams Kleckins, Jevgēnijs Margolins, Juris Podnieks  
**Cinematography** Kalvis Zalmancis  
**Music** Mārtiņš Brauns  
**Editing** Antra Cilinska

A series of interviews with Soviet teenagers —punks, rock music fans, soldiers sent to Afghanistan, a filmmaker, a Hare Krishna devotee and others—about their lives and frustrations in an authoritarian society. The film had a major impact in the Soviet Union.

## Soviets [Hello, do you hear us?] (1989)

Jura Podnieka studija, 258 min.

**Written and directed by** Juris Podnieks  
**Music** Aleksej Rybnikov

A five film series about the Soviet Republics in the time before Perestroika. The topics covered in the first three films are working conditions at factories, the Chernobyl accident and nuclear weapons, the movement for change in the Baltics, and the war in Afghanistan.

## Maria (1978-88)

Gorky Film Studio, 41 min.

**Written and directed by** Alexander Sokurov  
**Cinematography** A. Sokurov and A. Burov  
**Art Director** S. Debizhev  
**Editing** L. Semenova

The film is a requiem about Russian peasant Maria Voinova, a woman who grew flax, and after her death, her secrets and methods of working the fields were lost. The second chapter of the film is shot nine years later after Maria's death.

## Last Day of a Rainy Summer (1978)

Gorky Film Studio, 26 min.

**Written and directed by** Alexander Sokurov

The film documents the daily life of an ordinary collective farm in the USSR in 1978: hard-working people who love their work but have almost no rewards in life, in an atmosphere contaminated with official rhetoric.

## In Memory of the Day Gone By (1990)

Studija Kinema, 40 min.

**Directed by** Šarūnas Bartas  
**Written by** Šarūnas Bartas  
**Cinematography** Vladas Naudžius  
**Sound** Romualdas Fedaravičius  
**Editing** Ariadna Gruodienė, Nina Romanovskaja

An allegoric and transient journey through an unnamed city. A dark fantasy about the shattered world and the man's loneliness in the city.

Juris Podnieks 1950-1992



Alexander Sokurov, b. 1951



Šarūnas Bartas, b. 1964



## There were Seven Simeons (1989)

The East Siberian Newsreels Studio, 90 min.

**Directed and written by** Vladimir Eisner, Gerts Frank

**Cinematography** Evgenii Korzun  
**Sound** T. Konovalova, S. Gorbunov

There lived once a family of 11 children and their mother in Irkutsk. Seven of them played in a jazz orchestra. One day they made a desperate attempt to leave the USSR by hijacking an airplane. The tragic story of the Ovechkin family has spawned a number of documentaries and a full-feature film (*Mom*, 1999).



## Adonis XIV (1985)

Tadzhikfilm, 10 min.

**Written and directed by** Bako Sadykov  
**Cinematography** V. Iarmatov

A "Judas" goat serenely leads a herd of animals to the slaughterhouse in this short parable which was banned for 9 years.

## Zhakon (1986)

Tadzhikfilm, 20 min.

**Directed by** Safarbek Soliev  
**Written by** Safar Khakdodov  
**Cinematography** Zikriio Israilov  
**Sound** Rustam Akhadov, Vladimir Zhigunov

A hundred year-old singer of the Tajik epic Gurugli recalls his life on the background of Soviet Dushanbe.

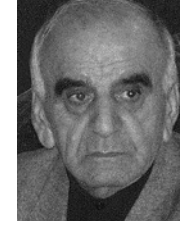


Bako Sadykov, b.1941



Safarbek Saliev, b.1959

## EXTRAS



**Artavazd Peleshian** was born on February 22, 1938 in Leninakan, Armenia. Pelechian studied at VGIK from 1963 to 1968. Creator of the "distance montage," Pelechian removed the boundaries of feature and documentary films, editing both sequences as a real poetical unity.

### Seasons of the Year (1975)

Peleshian's outstanding look at the co-existence of nature and people, lensed in black and white by Mikhail Vardanov. Music: Vivaldi's Four Seasons and Armenian folk. (30 min)

### Life (1992)

About the beginning of life from labor pains and birth and about its symbolic meaning. Pelechian's first color picture. (7 min)