

Paris / Berlin / Kyiv, March 21 2023

Gaumont setting up pan-European finance and co-production structure for Ukrainian TV drama series IN HER CAR created by showrunner Eugen Tunik, produced by Kyiv based Starlight Media.
Principal photography commenced this March in confidential locations in Kyiv and surroundings.

It was during the European Film Market (EFM) 2023 in Berlin that global studio **Gaumont** – via its Berlin based team – assembled and closed an alliance of one private and eight public broadcasters throughout Europe to finance and co-produce the Ukrainian drama series **IN HER CAR**. Ukrainian production company Starlight Media just commenced principal photography in confidential locations in and around Kyiv, Ukraine.

*We are happy, says **Christophe Riandee**, Vice-CEO of Gaumont, “that our global group structure with operating offices in core European markets allows us to act as one stop shop for our broadcasting partners all over the continent. This enables us to set up international co-productions and financings without which such very special and relevant series would probably not have been produced at this point. And we are looking forward to more international co-productions being set up by our European teams.”*

Oleksandr Bohutskyi, CEO of Starlight Media, adds: *“The struggle for Ukraine's victory and the values it represents, such as freedom, dreams, independence, respect, and equality, isn't limited to the courageous soldiers fighting on the front lines. Millions of ordinary people are also doing extraordinary things, becoming heroes in their own right. The journey toward peace is not only occurring on the battlefield but also on civilian roads where individuals are working to save, help, and support others. This project, a collaboration between a Ukrainian showrunner, Gaumont, and several European partners, is a significant milestone for the industry. It aims to bring together people who care about these values and highlight the true power of human stories that transcend borders and war. Through this project, we can appreciate the impact of everyday heroes and their stories beyond the scope of roadside explosions and military operations.”*

The 10 x 25 minutes series **IN HER CAR** created by **Eugen Tunik** (*Early Birds*) is based on true events lived by Ukrainians during the first days and weeks of the Russian war on Ukraine. The story centers around therapist Lydia (played by Locarno awarded Anastasia Karpenko) who uses her car to get civilians to safer places. Each episode is one ride, each ride and each passenger has a very own and touching story to tell.



About Gaumont:

Gaumont is the first film company in the world, celebrating nearly 130 years of history and innovation. With offices in Paris, Los Angeles, London, Berlin, Cologne and Rome, Gaumont remains an industry leader, producing and distributing high-quality TV programming and films. The Gaumont library encompasses over 1,500 iconic titles, including *The Untouchable*, *Narcos*, *Monsieur Gangster*, *Barbarians*, *The Fifth Element*, *Stillwater*, *Lost illusions*, *8½*, and *Lupin*. Gaumont proudly embraces its eclecticism, inspiring film and series lovers across generations. Specializing in producing local stories with global appeal, Gaumont's current slate includes talent-driven, diverse, and distinctive titles (films, series, animation) across multiple languages for theaters and the world's leading global streaming platforms and channels.

About Starlight Media:

Starlight Media is the leading and largest Ukrainian media group. We produce and distribute audio-visual content nationwide through TV and digital media. Starlight Media owns seven TV channels: STB, ICTV, ICTV2, Novyi Channel, M1, M2, OCE TV, as well as in-house production, rental and set construction companies. Three best-trusted national newsrooms, a documentary film studio and an international creative agency are also part of Starlight Media group. Starlight Media is the first Ukrainian media company focused on implementing the UN Sustainable Development Goals and diversity & inclusion strategy in its business, content, and partnerships. The media group has been empowering its social mission during the war through each product, campaign, and initiative. Every day Starlight creates new evidence that everything is possible together.



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