

WORLD PREMIERE

DOX Leipzig
International
Competition
Documentary Film
2025



scriptwriter,
cinematographer
and director
srđan kovačević

script editor
olga dimitrijević

editors
klara šovagović
damir čučić

sound design
001

producer
sabina krešić

co-producers
viva videnović
marta popivoda
jelena angelovski

FADE
IN→

ICA
THEORY
& WORK

URGH!

BLOK

■■■■■

■■■■■

■■■■■

■■■■■

■■■■■

■■■■■

■■■■■

THE THING TO BE DONE

(ONO ŠTO TREBA ČINITI)

A film by Srđan Kovačević

Croatia, Slovenia, Serbia

2025 - 88 mins

PRESS NOTES

World premiere @ DOK Leipzig 2025

[>> Press materials](#)

[>> Trailer \(vimeo\)](#)



TABLE OF CONTENTS

CONTACTS & SCREENING DATES.....	3
SYNOPSIS.....	4
DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT.....	5
ABOUT THE DIRECTOR AND PRODUCTION.....	6
CREDITS.....	7



CONTACTS & SCREENING DATES

Producer

FADE IN
Sabina Krešić
+385958690543
sabina.kresic@gmail.com

Director

Srđan Kovačević
srdj@proton.me

World Sales

RAINA FILM FESTIVAL DISTRIBUTION
Andrew Norton
+358449706841
andy@rainafilms.com

Press Agent

Kleber Film PR
Dagny Kleber
+49 171 4024803
dagny@kleberfilmpr.de

SCREENING DATES @ DOKfest Leipzig 2025

Tues, Oct 28	14:30 pm	CineStar 7	World premiere, Q&A with the director
Thurs, Oct 30	20:00 pm	CineStar 6	repetition
Sat, Nov 1	11:00 am	CineStar 4	repetition

[>> More Information](#)



SYNOPSIS

SHORT

In the heart of Ljubljana, the Workers' Advocacy Office (Delavska svetovalnica) stands as a beacon of hope for society's most vulnerable: working men and women, the unemployed, the disabled, pensioners, and migrants. Far surpassing the traditional boundaries of union work, this extraordinary organization fosters solidarity, champions justice, and envisions a more equitable future for the working class.

LONG

In the heart of Ljubljana, the Workers' Advocacy Office (Delavska svetovalnica) stands as a beacon of hope for society's most vulnerable: working men and women, the unemployed, the disabled, pensioners, and migrants. Far surpassing the traditional boundaries of union work, this extraordinary organization fosters solidarity, champions justice, and envisions a more equitable future for the working class.

The film intimately follows the lives and struggles of three compelling protagonists: Laura Orel, a compassionate social worker; Goran Zrnić, a former electrician turned advocate; and Goran Lukić, a steadfast union activist. Through their tireless efforts, we witness the profound impact of their work as they assist countless individuals who turn to their office for help with a wide array of challenges, from unpaid wages to workplace abuses.

Their story crescendos with an ambitious campaign to support over 1,200 outsourced workers at the Port of Koper, a microcosm of the struggles faced by laborers in a globalized world. Against the backdrop of modern Europe's deep inequalities, the film delves into the transformative power of creative union activism, shedding light on both its inspiring possibilities and its daunting limitations.

THE THING TO BE DONE is not merely a story of struggle; it is a testament to selfless solidarity and the enduring fight for workers' rights. In a time of overwhelming odds, it offers a glimmer of hope—an urgent reminder that collective action can still forge pathways to justice.

DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT

The inspiration to shed light on the work of the Workers' Advisory Office and their victories has stemmed from my personal encounters with precarious employment and professional uncertainty. Additionally, it has arisen from the shared insecurities experienced by a majority of young individuals in my surroundings. At the time when I began working on this film, in my country, a staggering 90% of new hires had been under fixed-term contracts over the previous decade, entailing various forms of precarious employment.

We, the film workers, have been navigating our professional lives for years from one project to another, often enduring prolonged working hours and diverse working conditions. We grapple with delayed payments for months, striving to avoid conflicts with employers, and face the harsh reality of pension insurance that promises nothing but impoverishment in our later years. So, when I first came across this small miracle based in Ljubljana, I knew I had to make a film about them.

Since beginning this project, the evolving challenges of precarious employment, migration, and social rights have only intensified, making the work of organizations like the Workers' Advisory Office even more vital today. This film, "The Thing to Be Done," not only reflects on past struggles but also goes beyond to reveal what is possible to achieve today, if we truly commit ourselves to protecting people in all possible ways. Perhaps this is the path trade unions ought to take if we want to build strong organizations capable of making real change in today's societies.



ABOUT THE DIRECTOR AND PRODUCTION

Srđan Kovačević - Director



Srđan Kovačević is a filmmaker and artist whose work explores labor, migration, spatial relations, and social transformation through collective and community-based dynamics. His acclaimed documentary *Factory to the Workers* chronicles a rare case of worker self-management in a post-socialist factory, using intimate, observational storytelling developed over five years to highlight labor rights, economic precarity, and solidarity.

Kovačević is committed to documenting collective struggles and imagining alternative social realities. This approach led him to initiate and co-author the Solidarity Film Agreement—a collective authorship contract aimed at more fairly regulating relationships between production companies, filmmakers, and protagonists.

Based in Zagreb, he is a member of the association BLOK, the cooperative *Prva za druge*, and the non-profit art organization Jagoda. He actively engages in projects focused on public space, collective memory, and social participation, bringing a distinctive visual and emotional depth to contemporary documentary narratives.

Filmography

FACTORY TO THE WORKERS (2021) - feature length documentary

DVOSTRUKI TERET (2015) - Short film

Fade In (Zagreb) - Production Company

In 2000, Fade In emerged as a platform for young authors with a strong affinity for acting through socially engaging film and video. In 25 years, Fade In became the leading production company in the field of documentary film with more than a hundred remarkable authors. We have always been working hard to stay in touch with the current social issues, aiming for better democracy and citizens' rights. We have produced more than 60 short and feature-length documentaries, short feature films, animated and experimental films presented at more than 300 festivals, as well as over 200 episodes of docu-series regularly broadcasted on national television - HRT and VOD platforms - making us the most productive company in Croatia in the field of documentary film and video.

CREDITS

Written & directed by	SRĐAN KOVAČEVIĆ
With	LAURA OREL GORAN ZRNIĆ GORAN LUKIĆ
Cinematography	SRĐAN KOVAČEVIĆ
Editing	KLARA ŠOVAGOVIĆ DAMIR ČUČIĆ
Sound Design	001
Producer	SABINA KREŠIĆ
Co-Producer	MARTA POPIVODA, JELENA ANGELOVSKI, VIVA VIDENOVIĆ

