

BEN SCHNETZER

ACADEMY AWARD® NOMINEE
MIRANDA RICHARDSON

ACADEMY AWARD® NOMINEE
JOHN MALKOVICH

BAFTA™ AWARD WINNER
SEAN BEAN

KATE PHILLIPS



THE YELLOW TIE

A FILM BY SERGE IOAN CELEBIDACHI

THE EXTRAORDINARY STORY OF A MUSIC ICON



obl/que
mediafilm

AN OBLIQUE MEDIA PRODUCTION IN ASSOCIATION WITH ROBERT CROFT PRODUCTIONS WITH THE SUPPORT OF ROMANIAN NATIONAL CENTER OF CINEMATOGRAHY AND ROMANIAN GOVERNMENT A FILM BY SERGE IOAN CELEBIDACHI CASTING BY BEN SCHNETZER KATE PHILLIPS MIRANDA RICHARDSON CHARLIE ROUSE WITH SEAN BEAN AND JOHN MALKOVICH
"THE YELLOW TIE" CASTING DIRECTOR: GEORGIA TOPLEY DES: HAMILTON PRODUCTION DESIGNER: PETER MENDES, JR. ACS PRODUCTION DESIGNER: VLAD YERU COSTUME DESIGNER: ALESSANDRO LAI HAIR MAKE UP: A PRODIGE HAIR DESIGNER: LYNDIA ABRACOSTING
ORIGINAL SCORE: KATHRYN ALUISE EDITOR: SERGE IOAN CELEBIDACHI EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS: MARISA ULTEANO PRODUCED BY CONSTANTIN RILEANDU PRODUCED BY SEBASTIAN COSOI DIRECTED BY SERGE IOAN CELEBIDACHI EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS: CECILIA GABRIELI PRODUCED BY ROBERT CROFT PRODUCED BY JAMES OLIVER ANDREI BOWEN
PRODUCED BY ANDREA VIOZCANU CELEBIDACHI DIRECTED BY SERGE IOAN CELEBIDACHI

A full-page background image showing conductor Sergiu Celibidache in a dark blue tuxedo with a white bow tie, standing on a podium and clapping his hands. He is facing slightly to the left. Behind him is a large, blurred audience in a concert hall. In the foreground, the backs of several orchestra members are visible, including a violinist on the right and a cellist on the left, both focused on their instruments. The lighting is warm and focused on the conductor.

The extraordinary,
true story of
Sergiu Celibidache,
one of the greatest conductors of
the twentieth century.

A man's inspirational quest
to follow his dream
and win the elusive acceptance
of those dearest to his heart.

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**Instant Market
Dominance:**

Since its November 14 release, the film has grossed over \$3.5M, finishing 2025 as the #2 highest-grossing film in Romania (after *Avatar: Fire and Ash*).

**Outperforming the
Majors:**

It debuted ahead of—and maintained its lead over—major studio titles like *Zootopia 2*, *Lilo & Stitch*, and *A Minecraft Movie*, despite a lean 60-screen footprint.

Social Velocity:

The trailer has now surpassed 17 million views across social media platforms.

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[IMDb Page](#)

[Trailer](#)

[Facebook](#)

[Instagram](#)

[TikTok](#)

Running Time: 145 min

Genre: Drama

Rating: G - General Audiences

Year: 2025

Language: English (primary), German, Romanian

Subtitles Available: Romanian, English (German & Romanian Scenes),
Spanish, Portuguese

Country of Origin: Romania

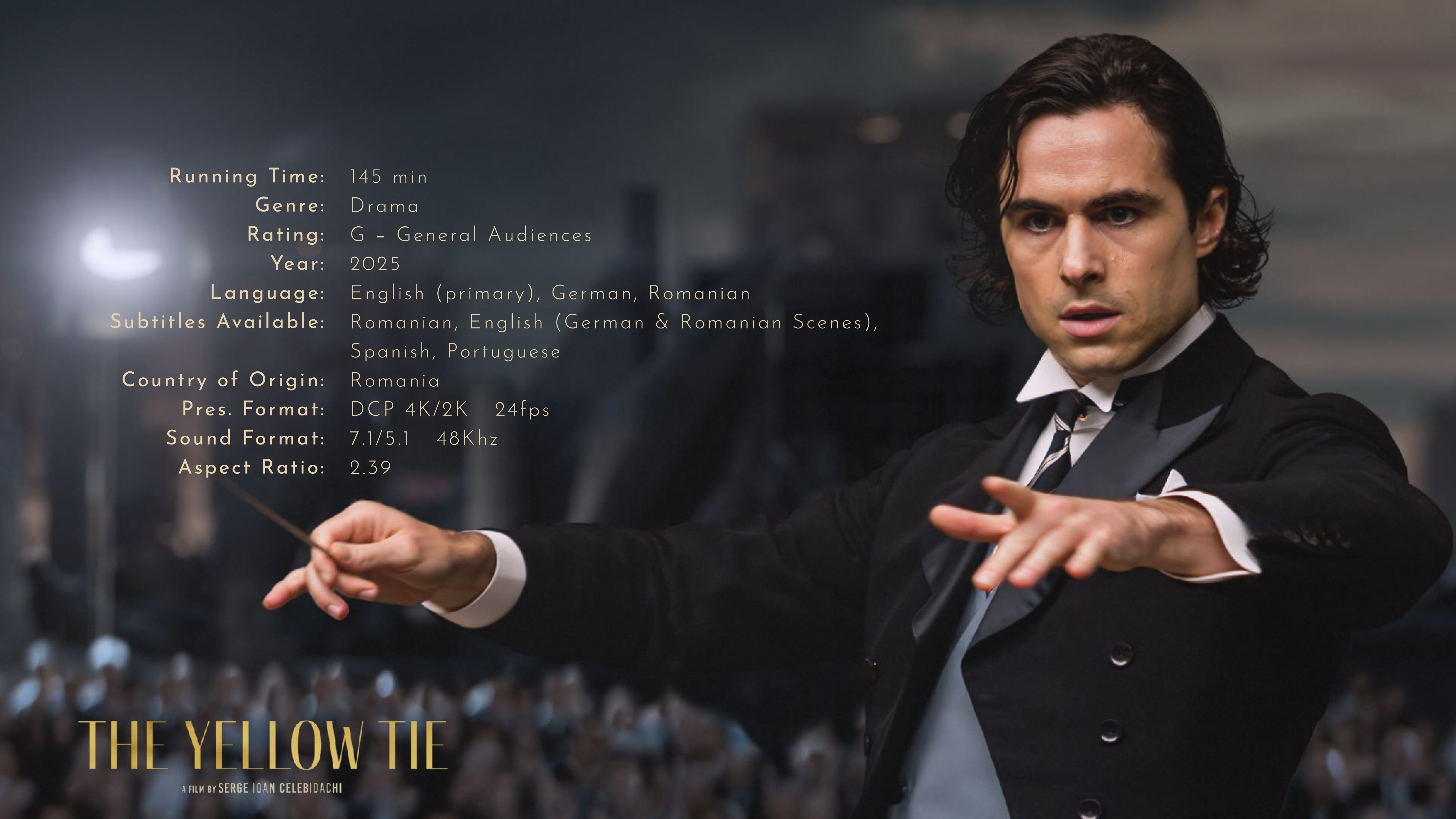
Pres. Format: DCP 4K/2K 24fps

Sound Format: 7.1/5.1 48Khz

Aspect Ratio: 2.39

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SHORT SYNOPSIS

The extraordinary life of Sergiu Celibidache, one of the most celebrated classical music conductors of the twentieth century.

A unique artist, revered and misunderstood in equal measure. From his childhood in Romania under the draconian authority of a disciplinarian father, to his painful flight from home to pursue his dream of a career in music, his struggle for survival in wartime Germany and his rise, fall and resurgence, in an unimaginable career and life path, spanning seven decades and all four corners of the globe.

This is the true story of a singular individual with a remarkable destiny. An artist's battle against prejudice, compromise, convention and commercialism. A man's inspirational, lifelong quest to follow his dream and win the elusive acceptance of those dearest to his heart.

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Sergiu Celibidache

(Older)

Two-time Academy Award nominee Malkovich made his Broadway debut as Biff in the revival of Arthur Miller's *Death of a Salesman* and is known for his memorable roles in films such as *The Killing Fields*, *Empire of the Sun*, *Dangerous Liaisons*, *Of Mice and Men*, *Con Air*, *Rounders*, *Being John Malkovich*, *Shadow of the Vampire*, *Ripley's Game* and *Burn After Reading*.



JOHN MALKOVICH

Sergiu Celibidache

(Younger)

Schnetzer made his film debut in *The Book Thief* and earned two BIFA nominations for his role as a gay activist in *Pride*. He also starred in *The Riot Club*, *Goat*, *Warcraft*, *Snowden*, *The Journey Is the Destination*, *Entebbe*, *The Grizzlies*, *The Death & Life of John F. Donovan*, *Saint Judy* and *The Giant*. He appeared on TV in *The Truth About the Harry Quebert Affair*, *Gone Hollywood* and *Y: The Last Man*.

BEN SCHNETZER



Most recently, Schnetzer joined the ensemble of Taylor Sheridan's hit series *The Madison* and is set to appear in the highly anticipated forthcoming season of HBO's *The White Lotus*.

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MIRANDA RICHARDSON Ioana (Older)

Richardson received Academy Award nominations for *Damage* and *Tom & Viv*. She has also appeared in landmark films like *Empire of the Sun*, *The Crying Game*, *The Hours* and the *Harry Potter* series of films.



SEAN BEAN Demostene Celibidache

Double BAFTA winner Bean found mainstream fame on TV in the 90s as the swashbuckling hero Sharpe. More recently, he starred in *Game of Thrones*. His film roles have included *Patriot Games*, *GoldenEye*, *Lord of the Rings* and this year, *Anemone*, opposite Daniel Day-Lewis.



KATE PHILLIPS Ioana (Younger)

Phillips is best known for her performances in *The Crown*, *Peaky Blinders* and *Downton Abbey*. She also stars in *Miss Scarlet* and *The Duke*.



CHARLIE ROWE Miki

Rowe has earned widespread recognition for his performances in *Rocketman*, *Never Let Me Go*, *Salvation*, *Slow Horses*, *Wolf Hall* and *Jay Kelly*.

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ANTON LESSER Martin Steinke

Game of Thrones, Endeavour, Wolf Hall, The Crown, Andor, Pirates of the Caribbean: On Stranger Tides



OLIVIA POPICĂ Sonia Celibidache

Liaison, The Tattooist of Auschwitz, The Wheel of Time, Fantastic Beasts: The Crimes of Grindelwald



ROBERT DÖLLE Heinz Tiessen

Babylon Berlin, SAS: Rogue Heroes, We Were the Lucky Ones



TAMZIN MERCHANT Ortancia

Carnival Row, Salem, The Tudors, Pride & Prejudice. Jane Eyre, Cemetery Junction



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THE DIRECTOR

Director and co-writer **Serge Ioan Celebidachi** was born on June 19, 1968 in Paris, France to Ioana Procopie Dumitrescu, a successful abstract painter and Maestro Sergiu Celibidache.

Serge was born and raised in Paris, France. He left for the USA to pursue a B.A in Theatre & Drama at Indiana University (Bloomington) before returning to Europe for a Master's in Film at the London International Film School.

His first theatrical release, *Le Jardin de Celibidache* (***Celibidache's Garden - documentary***, 1997), received critical acclaim. Following films across a variety of genres, he made his the first feature, award-winning ***Octav*** (2017), that topped the Romanian box office for domestic films in 2017.

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KEY CREW

THE YELLOW TIE

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PETER MENZIES, JR A.C.S.
DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY

Shooter (2007)

dir. Antoine Fuqua

Four Brothers (2005)

dir. John Singleton

A Time to Kill (1996)

dir. Joel Schumacher

Die Hard With a Vengeance (1995)

dir. John McTiernan

VLAD VIERU
PRODUCTION DESIGNER

The Performance (2023)

dir. Shira Piven

Django- the series(2023)

dir. Francesca Comencini

Modigliani(2004)

dir. Mick Davis

Cold Mountain (2003)

dir. Anthony Minghella

LYNDA ARMSTRONG
HAIR, MAKEUP &
PROSTHETICS DESIGNER

Atlanta (2016-2022)

dir. Donald Glover

Troy (2004)

dir. Wolfgang Petersen

Batman(1998)

dir. Tim Burton

Empire of the Sun (1997)

dir. Steven Spielberg

ALESSANDRO LAI
COSTUME DESIGNER

The Performance (2021)

dir. Shira Piven

Django - the Series (2021)

dir. Francesca Comencini

De Gasperi (2005)

dir. Liliana Cavani

Callas Forever (2002)

dir. Franco Zeffirelli



PRODUCERS

ADELA VRÎNCEANU-CELEBIDACHI

CRISTINA DOBRIȚOIU

ROBERT W. CORT

JAMES OLIVIER

ANDREI BONCEA

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FILM REVIEW EXTRACT

Leonne Lewis – Miroirs-CA - February 12, 2026

"The Yellow Tie is a powerful film that will most likely be considered by the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences for a number of Oscars that include writing, production, cinematography and sound."

Among the entries from 50 countries that are being presented is the United States premiere of *The Yellow Tie*, a biopic about the life and career of Romanian conductor Sergiu Celibidache (1912-1996) - directed by his son Serge Ioan Celibidache, who wrote the script in collaboration with James Olivier, while his wife Adela Vranceanu Celibidache served as chief producer. It features a cast of seasoned British, American and Romanian actors who deliver a savvy triptych characterization of the Celibidache persona in Ben Schnetzer (Celibidache), Ewan Horrocks (a younger Sergiu) and John Malkovich (who turned in a performance of an older Sergiu worthy of an Oscar nomination).

In one scene that draws viewers into the beginning of Celibidache's extraordinary rise to the spotlight, he was snatched from the Hochschule für Musik in Berlin to conduct the Berlin Radio Symphony in a Stravinsky ballet suite, and since it was mere moments from showtime an orchestra director asked Celibidache if he needed a score of the work. He didn't and proceeded to give his players directions both spoken and with baton the essence of music being played. From there, Celibidache was chosen as the youngest Principal Conductor of the mighty Berlin Philharmonic, a position he held for seven years (1945-1952). Schnetzer's building of his role as an orchestra conductor began here and never stopped until the role was taken over by John Malkovich as the older Celibidache. Malkovich is also likely to get an Oscar nod for his powerful portrayal of the tormented conductor working so hard to preserve his principles.

The Yellow Tie is a homegrown in Romania product that contains some gorgeous cinematography of this country's idyllic countryside or elegant Athenaeum concert hall in Bucharest. The script's underlying message is rooted in Celibidache's musical, philosophical musings and spiritual approach to music, which he emphasized to numerous students in his teaching of musical phenomenology and conducting, most notably at Mainz University (1978-1992). He also held masterclasses at the Curtis Institute of Music (1984), Accademia Musicale Chigiana in Siena and Schola Cantorum in Paris.

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FILM REVIEW EXTRACT

Jackie Spafford – Edhat - February 19, 2026

"*The Yellow Tie* is a sumptuous epic, taking us through much of the 20th century via a rich and interesting character."

The cast of *The Yellow Tie* is excellent, with Ben Schnetzer as the young and middle-aged Celibidache, John Malkovich portraying him in his later years, and Sean Bean as his father. The production overall is outstanding – lush cinematography, gorgeous score, and amazing locations and sets. It is a treat to see the performance sequences in beautiful concert halls, and surprising to learn that the production was entirely in Romania, which stood in for all locations.

One of the most delightful surprises of all was learning that the director was Serge Ioan Celibidachi, the son of the subject. He also co-wrote the screenplay, with James Olivier.

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FILM REVIEW EXTRACT

R.C. Samo – Fanboy Nation - February 26, 2026

"The Yellow Tie is impressive. It's visually stunning, confidently directed and clearly made with passion."

What really struck me is how confident the direction is. You can tell this was a love letter to his father, but doesn't feel self indulgent. Celebidachi handles the scale of it all with a steady hand, balancing intimate character moments with grand concert hall spectacle.

The film is gorgeous. Cinematographer Peter Menzies Jr. turns every frame into something rich and immersive. Romanian locations convincingly stand in for Philadelphia, Buenos Aires, Venice, Bucharest and Berlin, and the concert recreations are genuinely wonderful. The camera flows with the music, pulling you right into the performance. Add in detailed costume work, transformative hair and makeup with a sweeping score from Kathryn and Kim Allen Kluge, and the whole thing feels real.

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CELEBRATING A LANDMARK WORLD PREMIERE IN BUCHAREST

4,300+ Attendees | A Triumph of Film & Classical Music

- **An Unprecedented Gathering:** The Bucharest premiere brought together a massive crowd of 4,300 spectators, establishing a spectacular launch for the film.
- **Cross-Border Cultural Representation:** The event was attended by leading figures of the classical music community.
- **Elite Guest List:** In addition to the film's cast, crew, and high-ranking diplomats from multiple countries, celebrated filmmaker Tim Burton attended as a special guest of honour, adding major industry prestige to the night.



CELEBRATING A LANDMARK WORLD PREMIERE IN BUCHAREST



COMING ON SEPTEMBER 30TH TO LONDON'S ODEON LEICESTER SQUARE

- **The Next Major Milestone:** The momentum continues as The Yellow Tie makes its highly anticipated UK debut at the prestigious Odeon Luxe Leicester Square.
- **A Star-Studded UK Welcome:** The red carpet event will feature key cast and crew members sharing the stage to introduce the film.
- **Strengthening Cultural Ties:** The premiere will serve as a hub for ambassadors, state officials, and the elite classical music communities of the UK and Ireland, marking a massive moment for the cultural and diplomatic spheres.



UK PREMIERE SPONSORSHIP PACKAGES

10.000 Euro

- Permission to create branded promotional materials, subject to production company approval, highlighting that the company is bringing The Yellow Tie to the UK and Ireland.
- Mention in official press releases.
- Mention in the UK Premiere brochure.

THE YELLOW TIE

A FILM BY SERGE IOAN CELEBIDACHI

UK PREMIERE SPONSORSHIP PACKAGES

25.000 Euro

- The right to create branded promotional materials, subject to the production company's approval, highlighting the sponsor's role in bringing "The Yellow Tie" to the United Kingdom and Ireland.
- Mention in official press releases.
- Dedicated sponsor focused content published across the film's official social media channels.
- Half a page dedicated to the sponsor in the UK Premiere brochure.



THE YELLOW TIE
A FILM BY IAN CEBIDACHI

UK PREMIERE SPONSORSHIP PACKAGES

50.000 Euro

- Two VIP invitations to the UK Premiere in London.
- The right to create branded promotional materials, subject to the production company's approval, highlighting the sponsor's role in bringing "The Yellow Tie" to the United Kingdom and Ireland.
- Mention in official press releases.
- Dedicated sponsor content published across the film's official social media channels.
- The opportunity to run promotional competitions and ticket giveaways for customers, partners and employees.
- Joint media opportunities with the film's director, including press interviews and selected television and radio appearances, subject to availability and editorial approval.
- One full page dedicated to the sponsor in the UK Premiere brochure.



THE YELLOW TIE

A FILM BY SERGE IOAN CELEBIDACHI

UK PREMIERE SPONSORSHIP PACKAGES

100.000 Euro

- Eight VIP invitations to the UK Premiere in London.
- The right to create branded promotional materials, subject to the production company's approval, highlighting the sponsor's role in bringing "The Yellow Tie" to the United Kingdom and Ireland.
- Mention in official press releases.
- Dedicated sponsor content published across the film's official social media channels.
- The opportunity to run promotional competitions and ticket giveaways for customers, partners and employees.
- Joint media opportunities with the film's director, including press interviews and selected television and radio appearances, subject to availability and editorial approval.
- One full page dedicated to the sponsor in the UK Premiere brochure.
- An exclusive private screening for the sponsor's guests, attended by the film's director and producers, subject to availability (additional cost may apply).
- Recognition as the Main Sponsor of The Yellow Tie in a dedicated newsletter distributed to more than 600 promotional partners across Romania, the United Kingdom and Ireland.

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A romantic couple is shown in a close embrace, nearly kissing. The man, on the left, has dark, wavy hair and is wearing a grey suit jacket over a light-colored shirt. The woman, on the right, has dark hair styled with a blue clip and is wearing a dark blue top. She is holding a red clutch bag. The background is a blurred cafe interior with warm lighting and plants.

THE YELLOW TIE

Contact:

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