



OPPRUSSIAN THE SUBJUGATION OF RUSSIA'S LGBT+ PEOPLE

A Feature Documentary Film

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CHRYSAOR 

IN PUTIN'S RUSSIA, BEING LGBTQ+ IS NOW A CRIME AGAINST HUMANITY



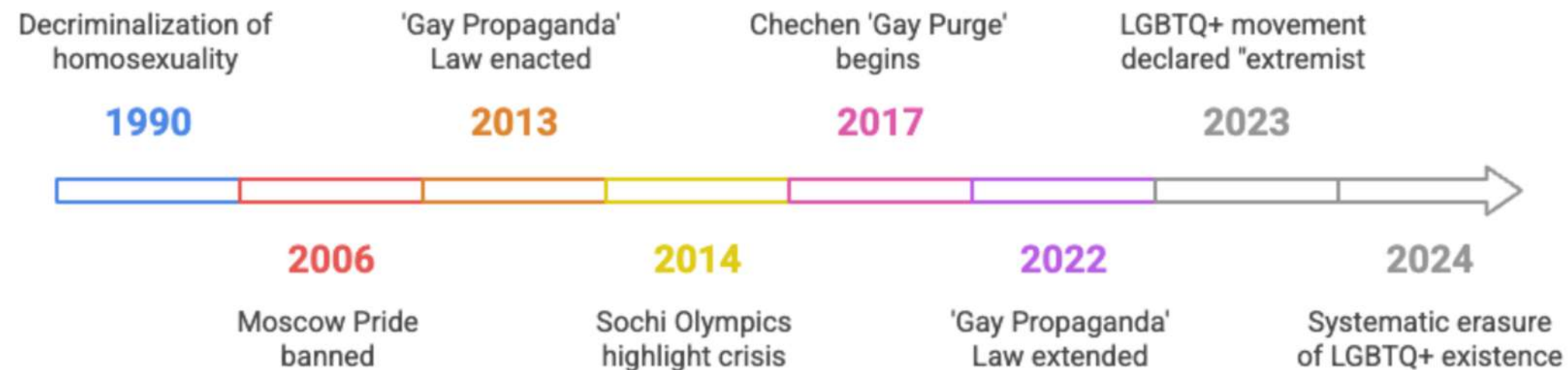
Over 500 LGBTQ+ individuals have been arrested and imprisoned since the "Queer Purge" began in 2024.

A HIDDEN WAR IS BEING WAGED AGAINST RUSSIA'S LGBTQ+ COMMUNITY



THE WORLD NEEDS TO KNOW. NOW.

The Decline of LGBTQ+ Rights in Russia: A Timeline





SYNOPSIS

In Putin's Russia, being LGBTQ+ is now a crime against humanity.

Against the backdrop of the 2018 World Cup, veteran human rights activist Peter Tatchell launches his sixth daring protest in Moscow, becoming the catalyst for exposing a hidden war against Russia's LGBTQ+ community.

Through intimate interviews, hidden camera footage, and unprecedented access, OPPRUSSIAN reveals the systematic destruction of queer lives under Putin's regime.

From Tatchell's dramatic arrest to today's state-sanctioned "Queer Purge," the film tracks the terrifying escalation of persecution that has led to mass arrests, frozen bank accounts, and forced exile. As Russia declares the entire LGBTQ+ community "extremists," ordinary citizens face up to 12 years in prison simply for being themselves.

OPPRUSSIAN is both a vital historical document and an urgent call to action, capturing a critical moment when the world can no longer look away.

KEY CHARACTERS - PROTAGONIST

MEET THE ALLY - PETER TATCHELL

- Veteran human rights activist with a 50-year history of challenging the Russian government's oppression of LGBTQ+ people.
- A key participant in six protests in Moscow between 2006 and 2018, defying bans and risking his own safety.
- Three times, he was arrested for his activism in Russia.
- Beaten semi-conscious in 2007 Moscow pride march protest.
- In 2018, he staged a daring solo protest during the World Cup in Moscow, bringing the world's attention to the escalating crisis.



KEY CHARACTERS - RUSSIAN VOICES

THE HUMAN COST OF PERSECUTION



IN MEMORIAM - KONSTANTIN YABLOTSKIY

Former LGBT Sports Federation Member. A passionate advocate who helped build community through athletics. His death in 2024, caused by the inability to access HIV medication, demonstrates the lethal impact of state persecution.



MISSING - ALEKSANDR AGAPOV

Former President, Russian LGBT Sports Federation. Last seen advocating for LGBTQ+ rights in sports. Current whereabouts unknown - one of many activists who have disappeared under the new laws.



MILA UMA

Underground Activist. Leading resistance against escalating anti-LGBTQ+ persecution who has fled Russia like so many LGBTQ+ activists.

KEY CHARACTERS - RUSSIAN VOICES

STORIES OF COURAGE AND RESILIENCE



NADJA ARONTSCHIK

A Russian activist who bravely fought for LGBTQ+ rights in Russia before being forced into exile. Now studying human rights to continue the struggle from abroad.



ZOYA MATISOVA-ROSH

A dedicated psychologist who provided support to LGBTQ+ individuals through gay help phone lines before they were banned. Now living in exile, she continues to advocate for the community.



ANONYMOUS

A Russian activist who fled Moscow and now lives in London, working tirelessly to support the cause from outside Russia and raise international awareness.

KEY CHARACTERS - WITNESSES

GIVING CONTEXT TO THE CRISIS: INTERNATIONAL VOICES



SIR LAURIE BRISTOW

Former British Ambassador to Russia. Providing diplomatic context to the crisis and highlighting the challenges of international pressure on the Russian government.



FEDERICO ADDIECHI

FIFA Head of Sustainability & Diversity. Addressing the role of sports organisations in upholding human rights and the complexities of hosting events in countries with poor human rights records.



ADDITIONAL VOICES

Underground activists, LGBTQ+ refugees, human rights observers, community leaders in exile. Some featured in this documentary have already paid the ultimate price for their advocacy.

STORY ARC - PART 1

THE DESCENT INTO DARKNESS

Act One: The Warning Signs (2006-2011)

Through Peter Tatchell's Eyes

Witnessing the early signs of state-sponsored homophobia and growing violence against activists.

Key Events

- 2006: First Moscow Pride ban - Peter's initial protest.
- 2007: Brutally beaten semi-conscious by neo-Nazis while protesting.
- 2009: Eurovision protest and arrest, highlighting the increasing restrictions on freedom of expression.
- 2011: Escalating violence against activists and the shrinking space for LGBTQ+ rights.



Act Two: Escalating Crisis (2013-2018)

The World Looks Away

A pattern of repression spreads as the international community fails to act decisively.

Key Events

- 2013: "Gay Propaganda" law enacted, further restricting LGBTQ+ visibility and rights.
- 2014: Sochi Olympics - International complicity in Russia's human rights abuses.
- 2017: Chechen "gay purge" begins, marking a terrifying escalation of violence and persecution.
- 2018: World Cup protest - Peter's dramatic stand against the backdrop of a global sporting event.

STORY ARC - PART 2

THE PURGE AND GLOBAL WARNING

Act Three: The Purge (2023-2024)

History Repeats

The complete criminalisation of LGBTQ+ existence and a descent into a full-fledged 'Queer Purge.'

Key Events

- 2023: LGBTQ+ organizations declared "extremist," marking a turning point towards open persecution.
- 2024: Mass arrests, imprisonment, and forced exile of LGBTQ+ individuals.
- Deaths resulting from denied medical care and lack of access to essential services.
- Mass exodus of LGBTQ+ Russians seeking safety and freedom abroad.



Act Four: Global Warning

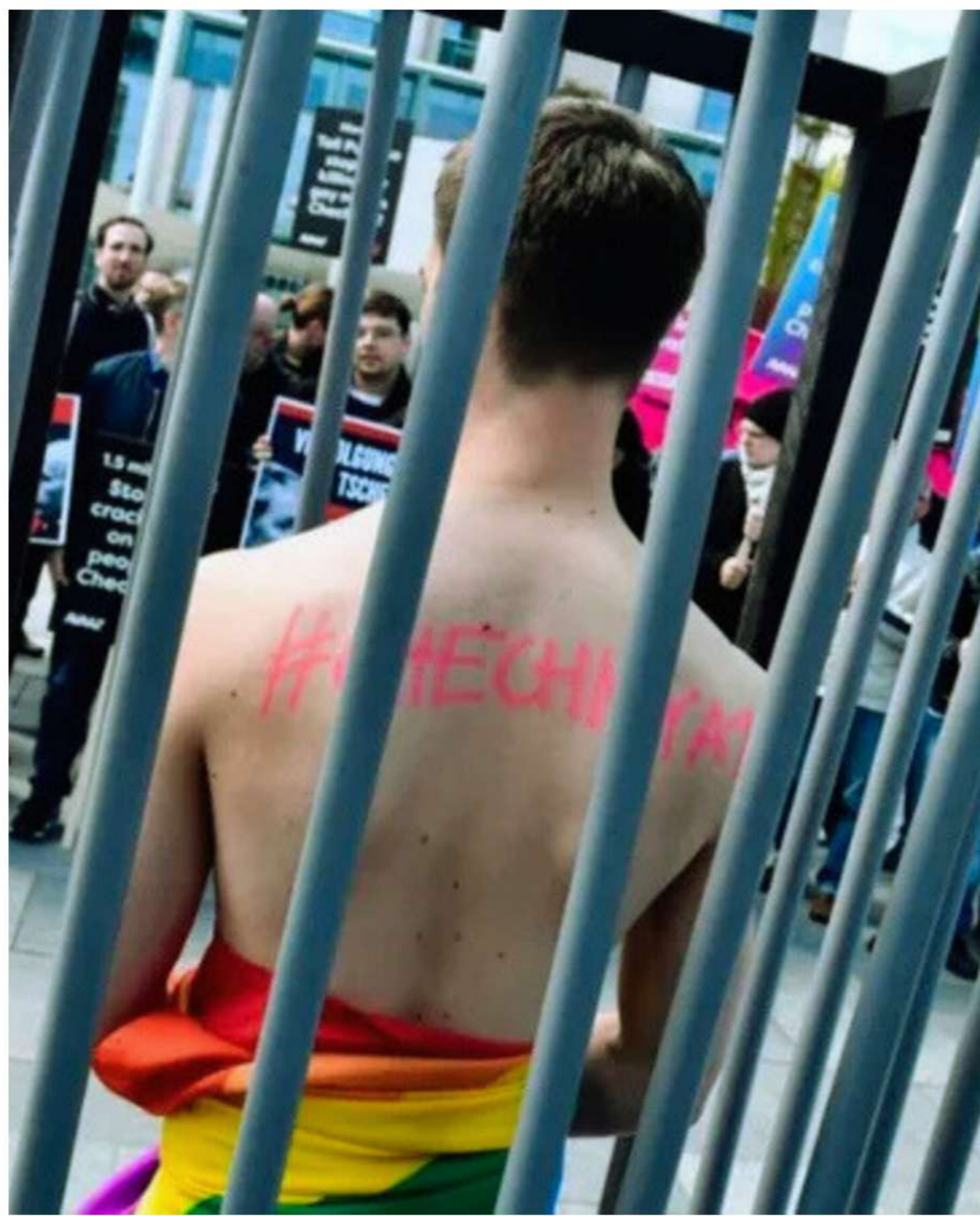
It Can Happen Anywhere

OPPRUSSIAN is not just about Russia; it's a warning about the fragility of human rights and the global rise of anti-LGBTQ+ sentiment.

Highlight the increasing number of countries enacting discriminatory laws and experiencing democratic backsliding.

Peter Tatchell's warning: "Rights won can be rights lost" - a call to protect democratic values and stand up for human rights everywhere.

UNPRECEDENTED ACCESS



EXCLUSIVE FOOTAGE

- Hidden Camera Material
- Underground LGBTQ+ meetings
- Police harassment incidents
- Protest organization meetings
- Current resistance movement

HISTORICAL ARCHIVES

- Rare Soviet-era LGBTQ+ documentation
- Early Pride attempts (2006-2011)
- Peter's previous protests
- State propaganda materials
- International news coverage

INTIMATE INTERVIEWS

- Peter Tatchell's 20-year journey
- Russian activists in hiding
- Families separated by persecution
- International human rights observers
- Former state officials

SURVEILLANCE & SECURITY

- CCTV footage of arrests
- Police body cameras
- Social media takedowns
- Digital surveillance evidence

VISUAL STYLE CINEMATIC APPROACH



OBSERVATIONAL FOOTAGE

- Intimate vérité camera work capturing the raw reality of the situation.
- Natural lighting in safe spaces, creating a sense of intimacy and trust.
- Long-lens surveillance of protests, highlighting the tension and danger.
- Handheld urgency in action sequences, immersing viewers in the heart of the action.
- Atmospheric establishing shots of Moscow, showcasing the city's grandeur and underlying tension.

INTERVIEW TREATMENT

- Shallow depth of field for key subjects, drawing focus to their emotions and experiences.
- Dramatic shadow play for anonymous sources, protecting their identities while adding visual intrigue.
- Location-based contextual backgrounds, grounding the interviews in the reality of the situation.
- Split-screen for remote interviews, connecting voices across borders.
- Environmental portraits of public figures, providing context and insight into their roles.

VISUAL STYLE A POWERFUL VISUAL LANGUAGE



COVERT FOOTAGE

- Raw hidden camera material, adding a layer of authenticity and immediacy.
- Surveillance footage aesthetic, creating a sense of paranoia and surveillance.
- Body-worn camera sequences, providing a first-person perspective of the events.
- Phone footage from protests, capturing the chaos and energy of the resistance.
- Encrypted video calls, showcasing the challenges of communication and activism in a repressive environment.

ARCHIVAL INTERGRATION

- Soviet-era LGBTQ+ documentation, providing historical context and a glimpse into the past.
- News footage from past protests, highlighting the ongoing struggle for LGBTQ+ rights.
- Peter's historical campaign footage, showcasing his long history of activism.
- Social media video evidence, adding a contemporary perspective and showcasing the power of digital platforms.
- Police bodycam material, providing a chilling glimpse into the brutality of the crackdown.

VISUAL MOTIFS

COLOUR PALETTE

- Deep blues and greys for Moscow scenes
- High contrast for protest footage
- Desaturated surveillance material
- Warm tones for intimate moments
- Red accent colour for state power

GRAPHICS TREATMENT

- Clean, bold typography
- Minimalist information design
- Dynamic timeline animations
- Data visualisation of persecution
- Animated maps showing spread of laws



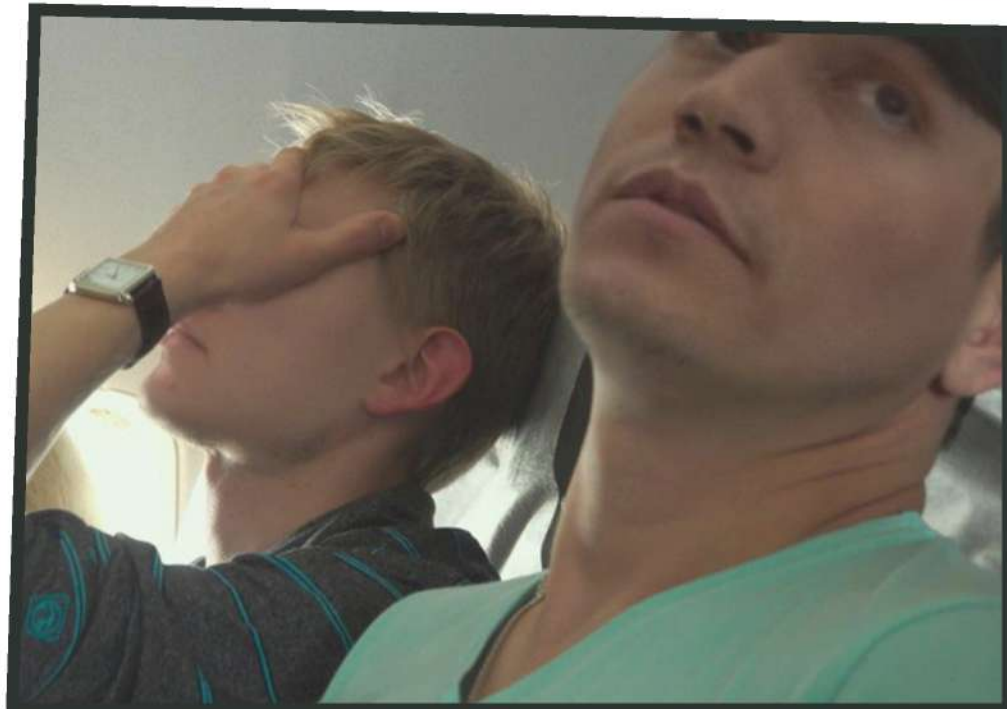
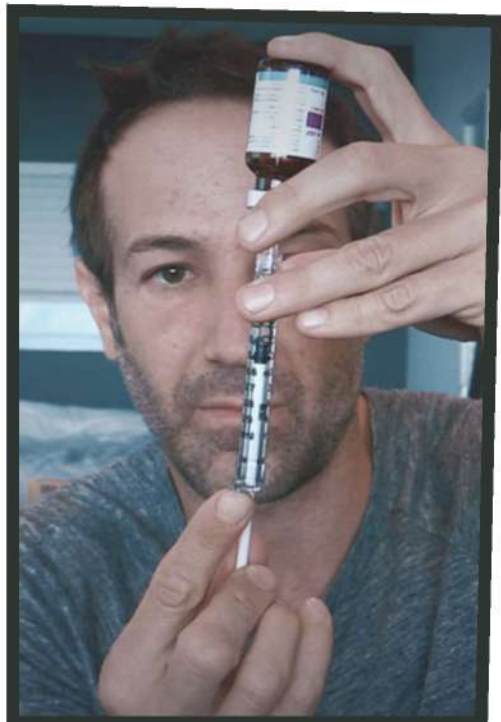
EDITING STYLE

- Urgent rhythm for protest sequences
- Contemplative pacing for personal stories
- Quick cuts for mounting tension
- Sustained shots for emotional impact
- Seamless blend of multiple sources

A powerful visual language that captures both the raw urgency of resistance and the human cost of oppression.

VISUAL AND TONAL INSPIRATION

DRAWING ON POWERFUL STORYTELLING TRADITIONS



VISUAL REFERENCES

- "Welcome to Chechnya" (2020): Using hidden camera footage to protect identities and capture the situation's urgency.
- "The Act of Killing" (2012): Explores complex and controversial themes through a cinematic lens.
- "Icarus" (2017): Using investigative journalism and suspenseful storytelling to uncover the truth.

STYLE INSPIRATIONS

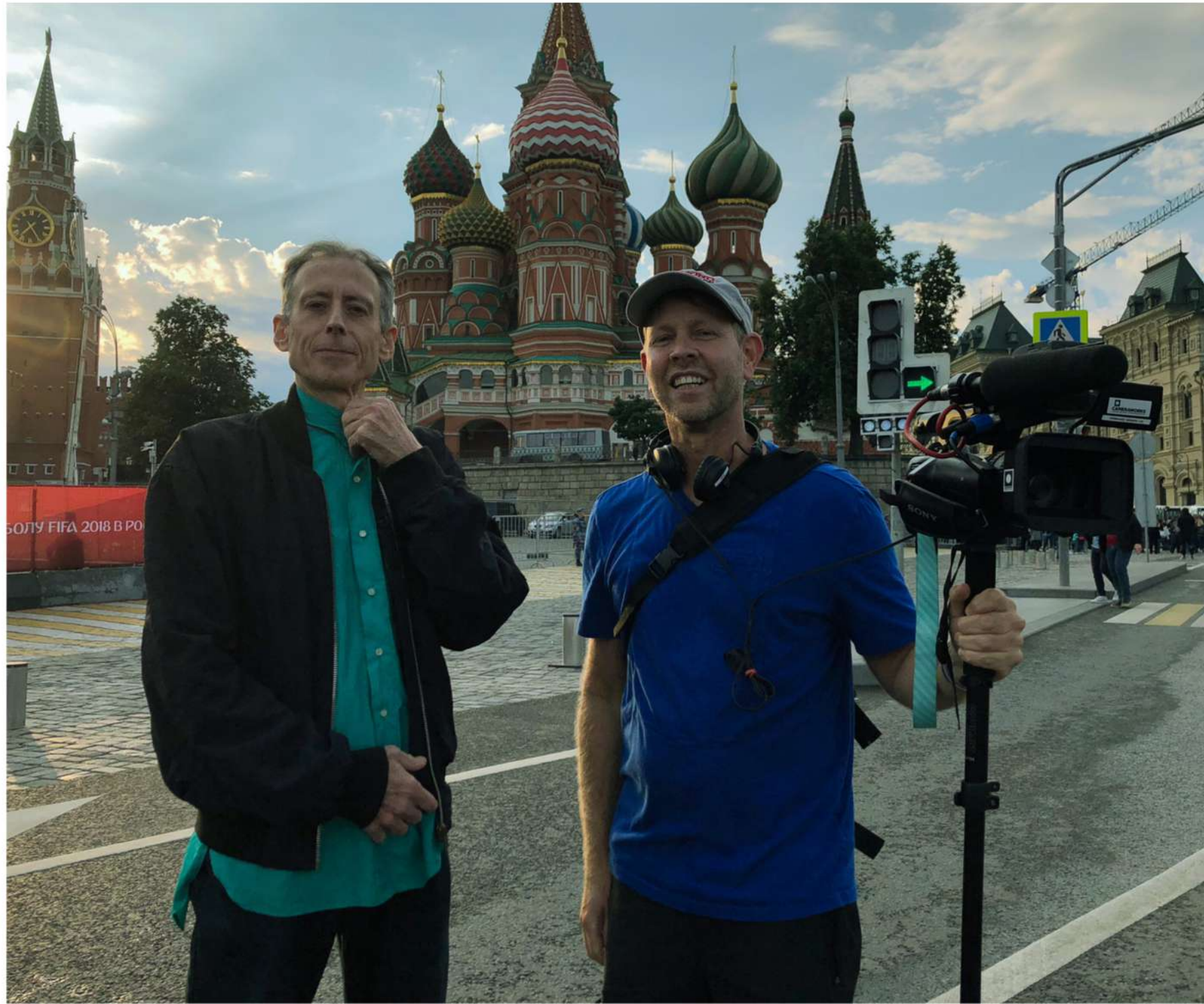
- Laura Poitras: Known for her immersive and vérité style, capturing the complexities of political situations.
- Joshua Oppenheimer: Master of exploring complex subjects with empathy and visual power.
- Alex Gibney: Renowned for his investigative documentaries that expose corruption and injustice.

tone examples

- Urgent and immediate, capturing the escalating crisis and the need for action.
- Intimate and personal, connecting viewers with the human stories at the heart of the conflict.
- Suspenseful and thrilling, reflecting the risks and dangers faced by activists.
- Emotionally impactful, leaving a lasting impression on the audience.

CURRENT STAGE

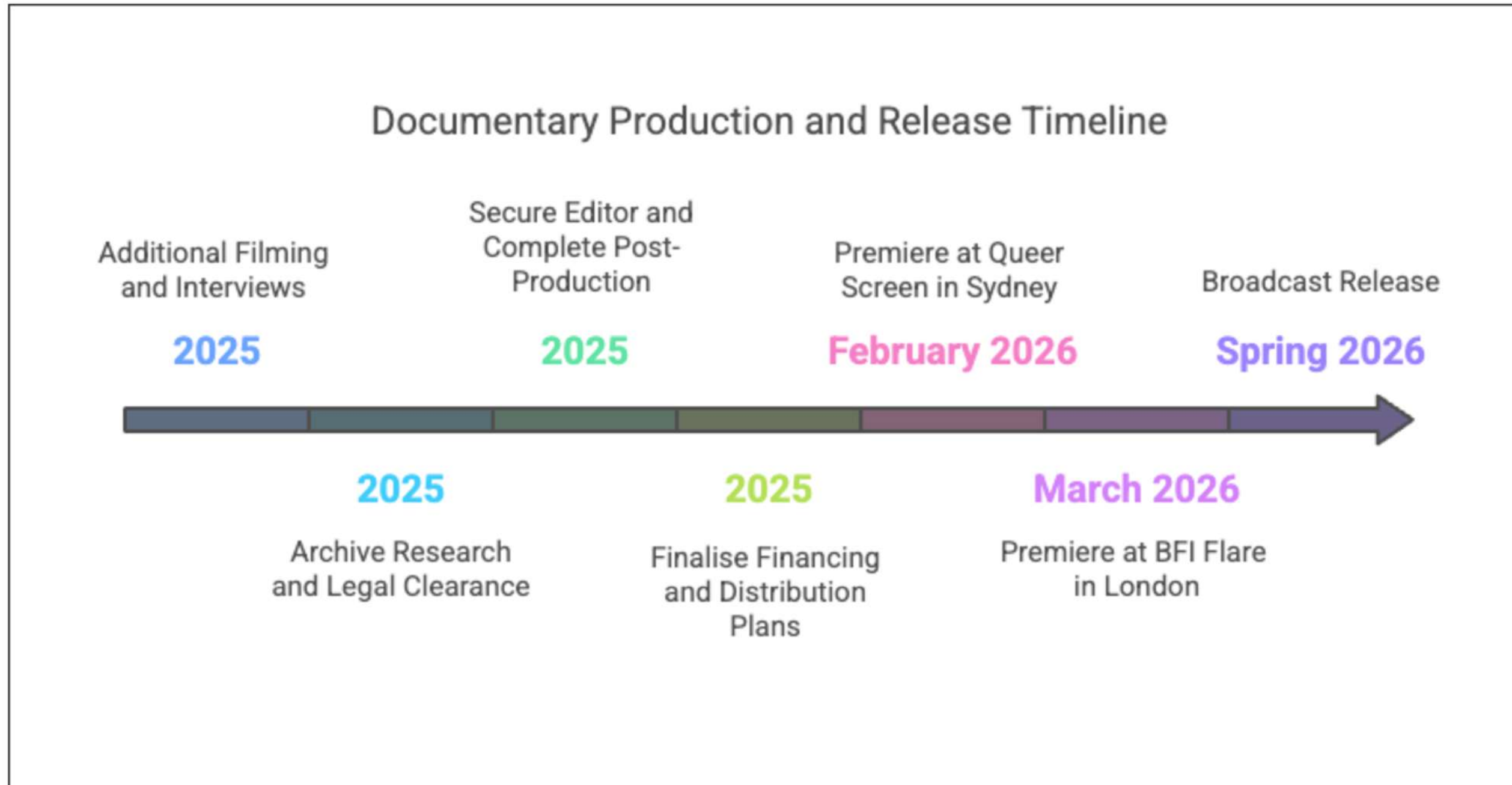
PRODUCTION STATUS: READY TO DELIVER A POWERFUL STORY



- Rough cut and key scenes assembled, prepared for presentation to potential partners.
- Essential footage secured: Exclusive interviews, hidden camera recordings, and archival material."
- Access confirmed to key characters and locations, ensuring authenticity.
- Upcoming tasks: Additional interviews, archive clearance, professional editing, securing financing, and collaborating with international partners for impactful campaign.

PROJECT TIMELINE

FROM FINAL TOUCHES TO GLOBAL IMPACT



IMPACT CAMPAIGN



EDUCATIONAL OUTREACH

- University screening program
- High school curriculum development
- Teacher resource packages
- Online learning modules
- Interactive timeline website

DIGITAL CAMPAIGN

- #OppRussian awareness campaign
- Multilingual social media content
- Interactive web platform
- Video series featuring activists
- Digital action toolkit

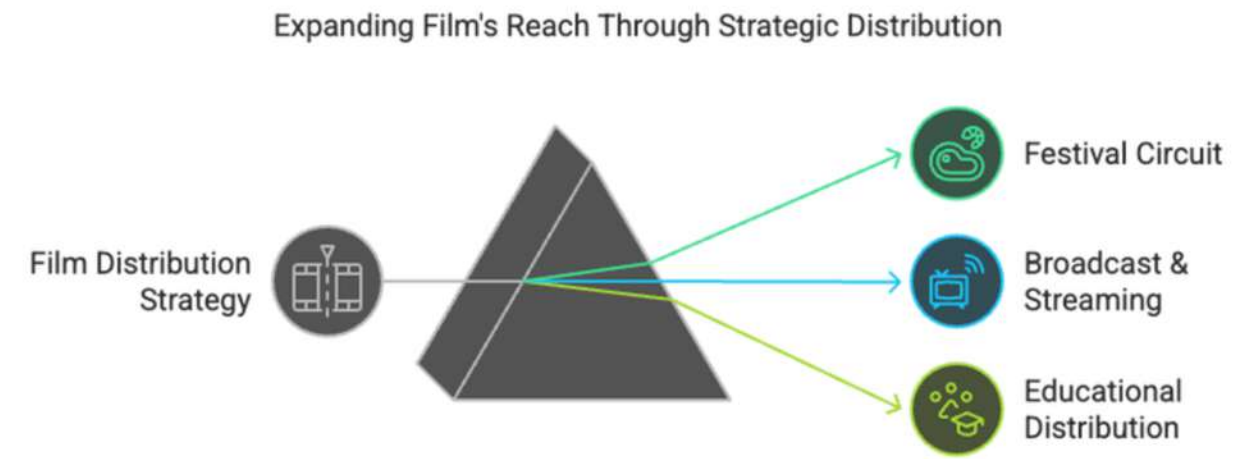
ACTIVISM PARTNERSHIPS

- Amnesty International
- Human Rights Watch
- LGBTQ+ rights organisations
- Refugee support networks
- Democracy advocacy groups

RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT

- Discussion guides
- Action planning toolkits
- Advocacy training materials
- Emergency response resources
- Legal rights information

DISTRIBUTION STRATEGY



FESTIVAL CIRCUIT

Priority Festivals

- February 2026: Queer Screen (World Premiere).
- March 2026: BFI Flare.
- April 2026: Hot Docs.
- May 2026: Human Rights Watch Film Festival.
- June 2026: Pride Month Screenings.

BROADCAST & STREAMING

Target Partners

- Public broadcasters (BBC, PBS, ABC) to reach a broad and engaged audience.
- Premium cable networks to access a wider viewership and potential for international distribution.
- Major streaming platforms (Netflix, Amazon Prime) to ensure global accessibility and reach.
- News networks to provide timely and relevant coverage of the crisis.
- International syndication to maximise the film's exposure and impact.

EDUCATIONAL DISTRIBUTION

- Universities and high schools to integrate the film into educational settings and promote critical thinking and awareness.
- Community organisations and human rights institutions to facilitate discussions and mobilise support.
- Policy think tanks to inform policy discussions and advocate for change.

TARGET AUDIENCES



HUMAN RIGHTS COMMUNITY

- Activists and advocates
- NGO workers
- Legal professionals
- Policy researchers
- International observers

POLICY MAKERS

- Government officials
- UN representatives
- EU parliament members
- Human rights commissioners
- Democracy advocates

LGBTQ+ COMMUNITY

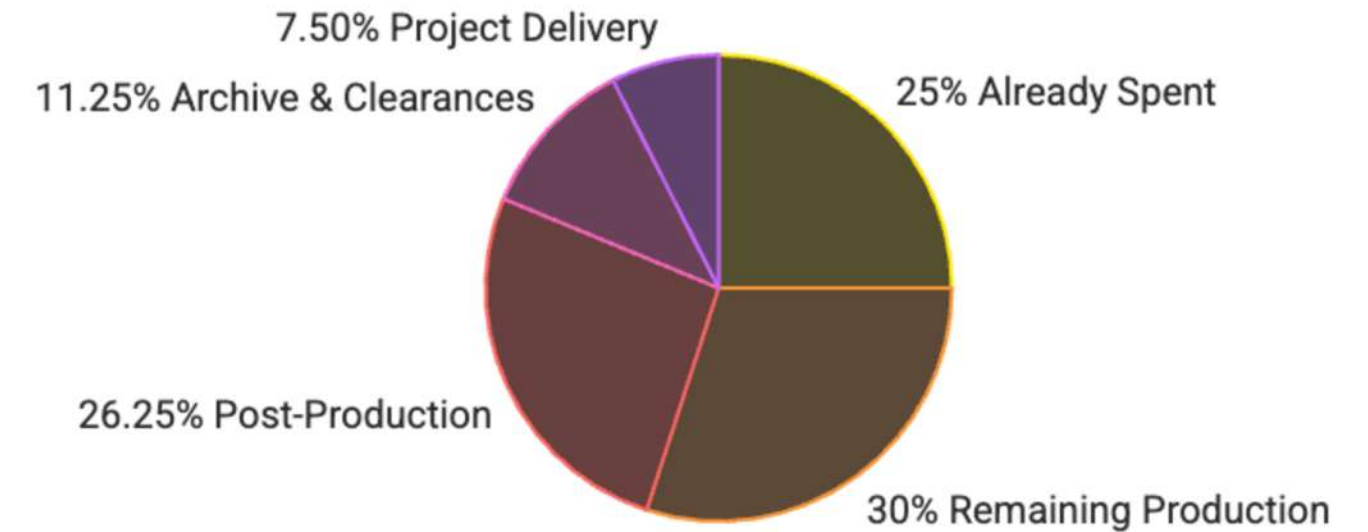
- LGBTQ+ organisations
- Community centers
- Support networks
- Pride organisations
- Youth groups

DOCUMENTARY AUDIENCES

- Film festival attendees
- Social justice audiences
- News followers
- Documentary enthusiasts
- Student groups

BUDGET BREAKDOWN

Budget Allocation in AUD



FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

- Total Project Budget: \$800,000
- Secured Funding: \$200,000
- Funding Gap: \$600,000

ALLOCATION

1. Production Phase:
 - Already Spent: \$200,000 (25%)
 - Remaining Production: \$240,000 (30%)
2. Completion Requirements:
 - Post-Production: \$210,000 (26.25%)
 - Archive & Clearances: \$90,000 (11.25%)
 - Project Delivery: \$60,000 (7.5%)

KEY COST CENTERS

- Additional Filming & Travel: \$125,000
- Editorial & Post: \$132,000
- Archive Footage (20 mins): \$60,000
- Technical & Marketing: \$45,000

CURRENT SUPPORT



PETER TATCHELL FOUNDATION

Primary financial and production partner providing exclusive access to 20 years of archival photos and footage documenting LGBTQ+ activism in Russia.

QUEER SCREEN COMPLETION FUND

\$10,000 completion funding awarded by Australia's premier LGBTQ+ film organisation, recognising the film's significant cultural impact and market potential.

CANNES NEXT PROGRAMME

Elected as one of six international documentary projects for prestigious development program, providing crucial industry connections.

WHAT WE ARE SEEKING



IMPACT PARTNERS

Collaborating with human rights organisations, LGBTQ+ advocacy groups, and educational institutions to maximise the film's impact

BROADCAST PARTNERS

Seeking partnerships with television networks and streaming platforms to reach a wider audience.

PHILANTHROPIC FOUNDATIONS

Seeking grants and funding from foundations dedicated to social justice and human rights.

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