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Illégal (Illegal)

Olivier Masset-Depasse

France

Belgium

Luxembourg

95 min

2010



[1] [1]

Synopsis:

Tania, a 39-year-old Russian woman, has been living illegally in Belgium for some ten years with her 14 year old son. Although the authorities refused her application for asylum, she manages to find a job and send her son to school. But she lives in constant fear of being found out. Following a police check, she is arrested and placed in a detention center. Her young son manages to escape and take refuge at a friend's home. And so she begins her fight for her dignity and the search for her son despite the constant deportation threat hanging over her head. It is a story of a mother's struggle against the State.

Olivier Masset-Depasse likes to portray headstrong female characters right from his first short films *Chambre froide* (2000) and *Dans l'ombre* (2004). With these two films, he won some 60 prizes in international festivals. His debut feature *Cages* (2006) was seen at the Rome and Toronto festivals and enjoyed commercial success in Belgium.

Screenplay: Olivier Masset-Depasse

Cinematography: Tommaso Fiorilli

Editing:

Damien Keyeux

Music: Lingo, André Dziezuk, Marc Mergen

Sound: Philippe Kohn, Marc Bastien, François Dumont, Thomas Gauder

Art direction: Patrick Dechesne, Alain-Pascal Housiaux

Costumes: Magdalena Labuz

Cast: Anne Coesens (Tania), Essé Lawson (Aïssa), Gabriela Perez (Maria), Alexandre Gontcharov (Ivan), Christelle Cornil (Lieve), Olga Zhdanova (Zina), Tomasz Bialkowski (Monsieur Nowak)

Producer: Jacques-Henri & Olivier Bronckart

Production: Versus Production

Co-production: Iris Productions, Dharamsala, Prime Time, RTBF

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Links

[1]

<https://www.youtube.com/embed/UnwI5Fk9Hrg?autoplay=1&width=500&height=300&iframe=true>