**SUELA BAKO (ZALLA)**

**Actress | Director | Casting Director**

**Address:** Rr.Don Bosko, Tower 3, Floor 1, Apt 10/4, Tirana, Albania  
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**Foreign Languages:** English, Italian

Suela Bako was born in Tirana. She graduated from the Acting Department at the Academy of Arts in 1999. After over 10 years of work experience in television, she completed her Master's studies in Film and TV Directing at the University of Arts, graduating in 2014. Since that year, she has realized several short films and documentaries as director and screenwriter. Her works have been screened and appreciated at several important festivals such as the Documentary Film Festival in Thessaloniki, Film Festival in Krakow, Film Festival in Brussels, etc. Suela Bako debuted as a theater director in 2018. As an actress, she has several roles to her name and has been recognized with awards in film and theater. She is the winner of the Best Actress award at the Nashville Film Festival, USA 2017. For 10 years she has been a resident actress at the Aleksandër Moisiu Theater and since 2020 she has been an assistant lecturer in the Film and TV Directing department at the University of Arts. Suela Bako is co-founder of Z-Studio, Albanian Casting Agency, and she has been engaged as casting director in several productions. THE THREE OF US, her first feature film project as an author director, won the grand prize at DotOnTheMap, Cyprus Film Days, 2020.

**EDUCATION**

**2024** - Started PhD studies with the theme "Albanian Cinema for Children", University of Arts, Tirana  
**2011-2013** - Master's Studies in Film and Television Directing, University of Arts, Tirana  
**1995-1999** - Complete Studies Acting Department, Faculty of Performing Arts, Academy of Arts, Tirana

**FILM DIRECTOR/WRITER**

**2025 -** "NE TE TREJA" (feature film in financial phase) cowriter Doruntina Basha, EraFilm **2023** - "PIRRO DHE ANTIGONA" (historical short film), independent  
**2021** - "TE DALËSH MBI DHUNËN" (documentary), AWA, with support from the US Embassy  
**2021** - "KADILLAK DHE MANAFERRA" (short film), 90 Production, funded by ANCC, participant in 25th Brussels Short Film Festival, Belgium (2022)  
**2020** - "EMRI IM ËSHTË SONILA" (short film), EraFilm Production, funded by ANCC, participant in 60th Krakow Film Festival, Poland (2020)  
**2018** - "DRITË" (documentary), AR Production, with support from US Embassy, funded by CCA, participant in 20th Thessaloniki Documentary Film Festival, Greece (2018)  
**2015** - "MËNGË KËMISHE" (short film), EraFilm Production, funded by ANCC, Cannes Short Film Corner  
**2014** - "DARKA" (short film), Tirana International Film Festival

**FILM AWARDS**

**"DARKA"** - Best Film Award / Best Actress, at 3rd Gjakova Film Festival, Kosovo (2014)  
Encouragement award for promising start in film career, at DEA Film Festival, Albania (2014)  
Best Film Award, at 4th Balkan Film Food Festival, Albania (2014)  
Encouragement award for best character adaptation, at 3rd Albanian Film Week, USA (2014)

**"DRITË"** - Best Cinematography Award, Honorable Mention at 8th Queens World Film Festival, USA (2018)  
Best Documentary Award, at 6th DEA Film Festival, Albania (2019)  
Best Documentary Award, at Noli Film Festival, USA (2023)

**"KADILLAK DHE MANAFERRA"** - Special Mention Award, at 11th Short of the Year Festival, Spain (2022)  
Special Mention Award at 12th Balkan Film Food Festival, Albania (2022)  
Best Direction Award, at Dropull International Film Festival, Albania (2023)

**"NE TË TREJA"** first feature film in development - Best Project Award at DotOnTheMap, Cyprus (2020)

**CASTING DIRECTOR/Assistant Director**

**2025** - SUBURREAETERNA, Netflix TV series, casting for Albania  
**2023** - PIKË UJI, director Robert Budina, EraFilm Production  
**2022** - EUROPA, director Sudabeh Mortezai, Fratella Filmproduktion  
**2021** - NJI PREJ NESH, director Ergys Meta, EraFilm Production  
**2021** - KATRORI I PUSHTETIT (TV series), director Robert Budina, EraFilm Production