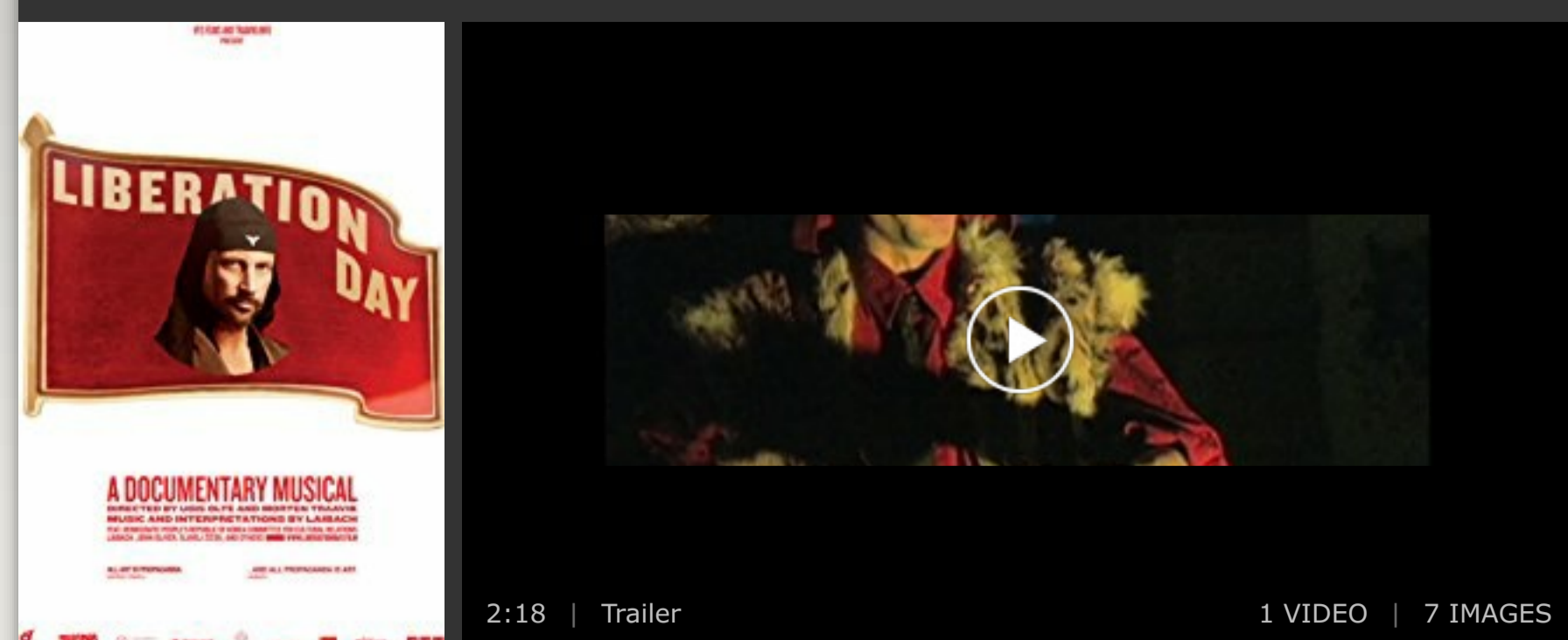


Liberation Day (2016)

1h 40min | Documentary, Music, Musical | 18 October 2017 (USA)

7.8 10 [Rate This](#)



ALL ART IS PROPAGANDA. George Orwell ...AND ALL PROPAGANDA IS ART. Laibach

Directors: Ugis Olte, Morten Traavik
Writer: Morten Traavik (story)
Stars: Boris Benko, Tomaz Cubej, Milan Fras | [See full cast & crew >](#)

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Scream for Me Sarajevo (2017)
 Documentary

8.9 10

In 1994 Sarajevo was a city under siege. Mortars and rocket propelled grenades rained onto the city, killing indiscriminately, ever day. Amongst the madness, two United Nations personnel: a... [See full summary >](#)

Director: Tarik Hodzic
Stars: Bruce Dickinson, Alen Ajanovi...

Cast

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Credited cast:

	Boris Benko	...	Himself
	Tomaz Cubej	...	Himself
	Milan Fras	...	Himself
	Janez Gabric	...	Himself
	Tomislav Gangl	...	Himself
	Matej Gobec	...	Himself
	Primoz Hladnik	...	Himself
	Luka Jamnik	...	Himself
	Mary Sun Kim	...	Herself
	Rok Lopatic	...	Himself
	Gregor Musa	...	Himself
	Ivan Novak	...	Himself
	Saso Pusnik	...	Himself
	Mina Spiler	...	Herself
	Morten Traavik	...	Himself

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Storyline

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Under the loving but firm guidance of an old fan turned director and cultural diplomat and to the surprise of a whole world, the ex-Yugoslavian cult band Laibach becomes the first foreign rock group ever to perform in the fortress state of North Korea. Confronting strict ideology and cultural differences, the band struggles to get their songs through the needle's eye of censorship before they can be unleashed on an audience never before exposed to alternative rock'n'roll. Meanwhile, propaganda loudspeakers are being set up at the border between the two Koreas and a countdown to war is announced. The hills are alive...with the sound of music.

[Plot Summary](#) | [Add Synopsi](#)

Genres: [Documentary](#) | [Music](#) | [Musical](#)

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Details

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Official Sites: [Liberation Day film](#) | [Official site](#)
Country: [Latvia](#) | [Norway](#) | [Slovenia](#)
Language: [English](#)
Release Date: 18 October 2017 (USA) [See more >](#)
Also Known As: [Islaisvinimo diena](#) [See more >](#)

Company Credits

Production Co: [VFS Films](#), [Traavik, Norsk Fjernsyn](#) [See more >](#)
[Show detailed company contact information on IMDbPro >](#)

Technical Specs

Runtime: 100 min
Color: [Color](#)
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User Reviews

★★★★★ **liberation or manipulation?**
 21 May 2017 | by [dromasca](#) (Herzliya, Israel) - [See all my reviews](#)

North Korea may be the most talked and the lesser known country of the planet. It's a closed and supervised nation which is practically disconnected from the rest of the world, and who let itself be filmed very seldom, by few people and in a well filtered manner. 'Laibach' is an anarchist band of metal rock from Slovenia, which had its peak moment of glory more than three decades ago when it brought its contribution to the fall of the Iron Curtain and of the Communism system and dismantling of the country that was known for much of the 20th century as Yugoslavia. The two came together in the summer of 2015 in an incredible event which can be of huge importance or can be just a footnote in history. The first concert of a Western (or at least European) rock band in North Korea. Until history decides about the importance of the event, we have this documentary film named Liberation Day which I have seen in the last screening of the DocAviv International Documentary Film Festival in Tel Aviv.

Watching this film is a multi-layered experience. We see a door semi-open, or a crack in a wall of mis-communication or lack of communication - I think these words or some similar are being used in the film - to a closed world. But we also know that not all could be filmed, and not everything was shown to the guests. While the members of the band and the team that came with them seem to buy into much of what is being served to them, there is a lot that is not being said that needs to be taken into consideration. After all, the members of the Laibach band not only came originally from a similar political system, maybe not that extreme, but based on the same principles, but also fought against it, and contributed - with their music and public attitude - to their fall. So the question can be asked - why did they accept the censorship and the rules of engagement defined by their hosts? Were they manipulated? The answer is not simple and the ambiguous quote that opens the film describes their approach - any form of art (in their opinion) has its component of propaganda and manipulation.

(Yes, indeed, but dosing differs.)

Some of the images in the film are memorable. The beginning brings together crowds on stadiums gathered for rock concerts (in the West) or for big propaganda shows (in North Korea) and suggests a parallel. The huge statues of the Korean rulers and the ceremonies of bringing flowers and bowing to the monuments are impressive, even if one may disagree with the message that is being conveyed. Some of the situations shown on screen - censorship, controlled performances with selected audiences - are familiar for somebody who lived under the Communist system. Other look simply surrealistic. The music of Laibach and the deep voice of the soloist remember us again on the background that what is important is the art and that its message needs not be explicit. A rock band concert in North Korea is an event. This film is an event. Viewers need to take this film as an open exercise and do their own reading.

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