

## WHITE GOD (Feher isten)

Autumn Season 2015

Release: 2014 Cert (UK): 15

**Language:** Hungarian **Runtime:** 121 mins

**Director:** Kornél Mundruczó

Writer: Kornél Mundruczó, Viktória Petrányi & Kata Wéber

Cinematographer: Marcell Rév

Cast: Zsófia Psotta, Sándor Zsótér, Lili Horváth ...and 274 dogs



Lili is forced to spend the holidays with her father who hates dogs and the government have instituted a tax on mixed-breed dogs. This is enough to give Dad an excuse to kick her beloved Hagen out onto the street. While Lili is trying hard to find her dog and bring him home, he is going through all kinds of hell, eventually leading a breakout of

all the other mistreated dogs in the pound. They then hit the streets to get their revenge. Imagine a remake of Spartacus...but with dogs.

Director Kornél Mundruczó won 'un certain regard' award for this at Cannes, whilst the dog that played Hagen won the Palm Dog! (Actually there were two dogs, Luke and Body) The whole film was made with no CGI, needing an army of dog trainers to make some of the fantastic scenes on the streets.

The film is the first successful film to come out of a revamped Hungarian film industry. It can be seen as an allegory for the state of Hungary, how the downtrodden will eventually fight back; it has very little in common with its Disney doggy predecessors like 'Incredible Journey'!

This will not be an easy ride, but whether you see it as a political allegory, an indictment of the way immigrants are being treated in Europe as a whole or just as a horror movie, it will leave you thinking long after it ends...if it helps, no dogs were hurt during its making.

