

# Carmen Meets Borat

Director Mercedes Stalenhoef follows the life of 17 year old Carmen living in Glod, a small Romanian gypsy village where the men spend their days exchanging coarse words in her father's bar. In the evenings, Carmen watches Spanish soap opera and dreams of immigrating to a better life overseas.

When Hollywood came to their village to film Borat: Cultural Learnings of America for Benefit Glorious Nation of Kazakhstan, the community had no idea what they were being filmed for and jovially cooperated with the film crew's demands. They don't understand a single word of English and laugh in good faith into the camera. Later, they discover that they were truly exploited as primitive caricatures supposedly from Kazakhstan. Carmen's grandfather plays the part of an abortion expert and poses for the camera with a welding

apparatus. Borat embraces a woman he introduces as his sister and brags about her status as the fourth best whore in Kazakhstan.

**Nominated by The Netherlands for consideration in the Best Feature Documentary category of the Academy Awards 2009**

Upon the film's release, the world press descended on the village causing friction and suspicion among the villagers. They feel abused and discriminated and want to get back at Borat's makers. When an American lawyer offers the prospect of a \$30

million insurance claim to the villagers, the village descends into chaos as the residents once again find themselves ridiculed and taken advantage of.

## 🕒 Australasian Premiere

IDFA Amsterdam

Trieste FF, Italy



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The Netherlands - 2008 - 84mins - Romanian - Director: Mercedes Stalenhoef

Auckland  
**A**

8.30pm Tue 3 March  
12.30pm Sat 7 March

Wellington  
**W**

8.30pm Tue 17 March  
12.30pm Sat 21 March

Dunedin  
Christchurch  
**CD**

8.30pm Tue 31 March  
12.30pm Sat 4 April