

Our greatest glory is not in never falling, but in rising every time we fall.

Confucius

RISEN FROM THE ASHES

Documentary series

8 x 45'

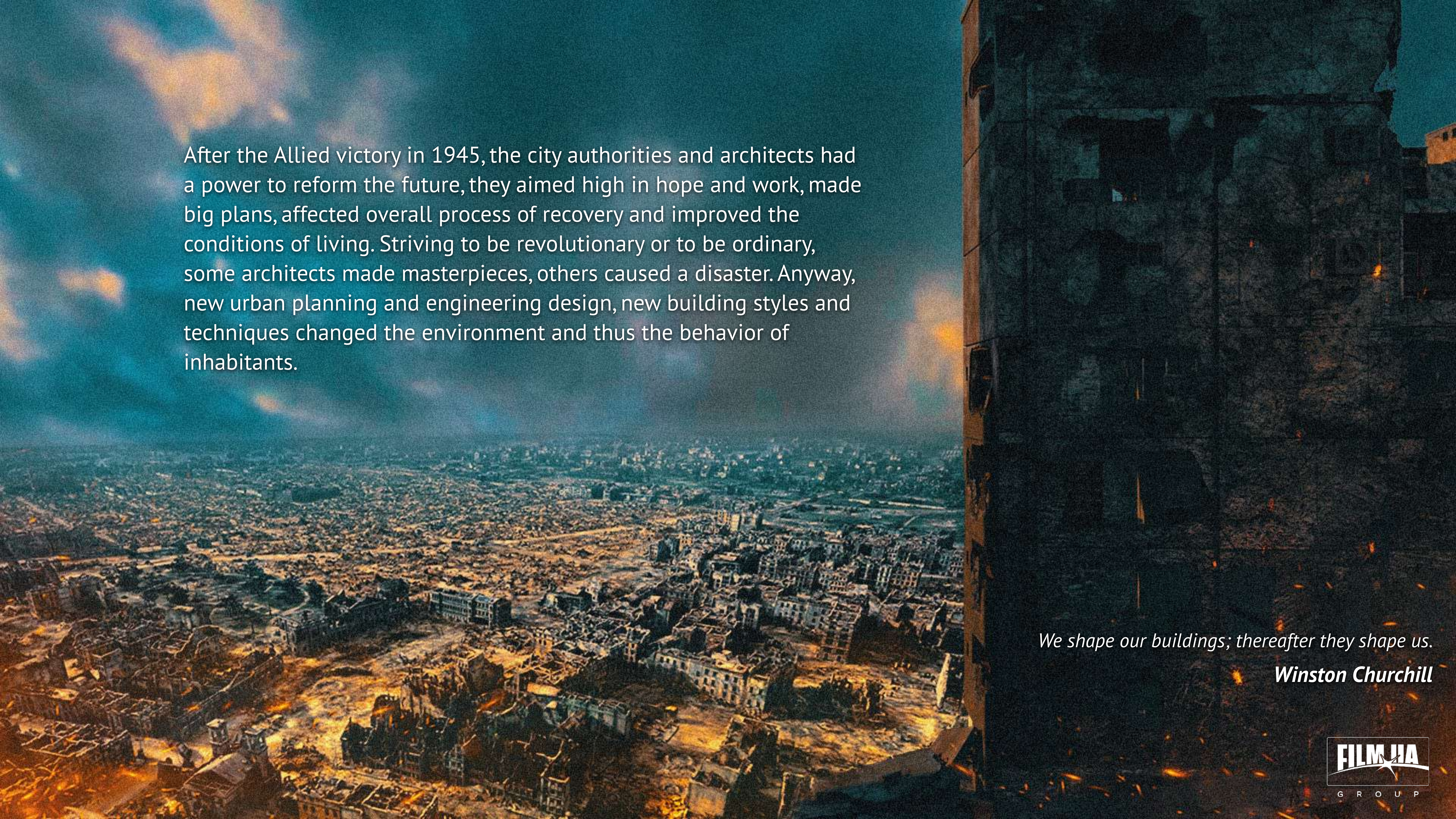
Ukrainian/English/TBD



RISEN FROM THE ASHES

Kharkiv, Mariupol, Irpin, Chernihiv, Mykolaiv... In front of the whole world, the Russian army is turning Ukrainian cities into ruins. Thousands of civilians have been killed; millions had to flee their homes. The aggressor is trying to destroy our country, our culture and our dreams. This happened before. Warsaw, Le Havre, Rotterdam, Berlin... 70 years ago those once alive and bustling cities were turned into desolate WWII ruins. Yet they were reborn again. What does history teach us? Even in the darkest hour human perseverance, ingenuity and will always win. The Ukrainian cities will also rise from the ashes, and we will use the experience of those who have already gone down this path to help us forge the cities of the future.

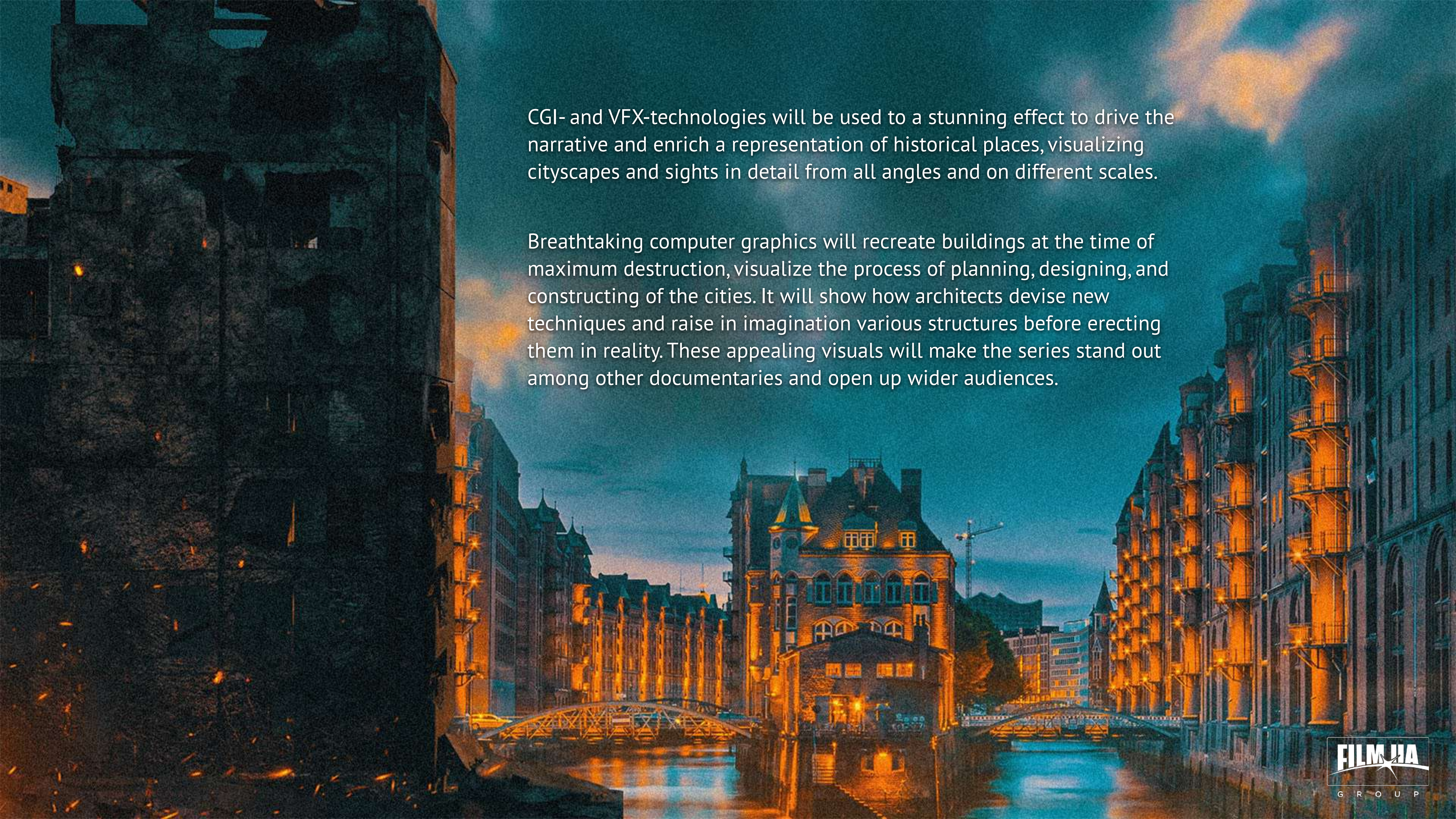
Risen From the Ashes is a cross-platform documentary project that ties together the stories of European cities destroyed during WW2 and the Russian war against Ukraine with social and architectural commentary and the best of modern technology to explore what rebuilding truly means.

An aerial photograph of a city in ruins, likely after a bombing raid, with a large, dark, and heavily damaged building in the foreground on the right. The sky is a mix of blue and orange, suggesting sunset or sunrise. The city below is a dense grid of rubble and skeletal remains of buildings.

After the Allied victory in 1945, the city authorities and architects had a power to reform the future, they aimed high in hope and work, made big plans, affected overall process of recovery and improved the conditions of living. Striving to be revolutionary or to be ordinary, some architects made masterpieces, others caused a disaster. Anyway, new urban planning and engineering design, new building styles and techniques changed the environment and thus the behavior of inhabitants.

We shape our buildings; thereafter they shape us.

Winston Churchill



CGI- and VFX-technologies will be used to a stunning effect to drive the narrative and enrich a representation of historical places, visualizing cityscapes and sights in detail from all angles and on different scales.

Breathtaking computer graphics will recreate buildings at the time of maximum destruction, visualize the process of planning, designing, and constructing of the cities. It will show how architects devise new techniques and raise in imagination various structures before erecting them in reality. These appealing visuals will make the series stand out among other documentaries and open up wider audiences.

WARSAW

Ignoring the agreed terms of the capitulation, Hitler ordered the entire city of Warsaw to be razed to the ground. Monuments and government buildings were blown up by special German troops. Overall, Warsaw suffered approximately 700,000 civilian deaths. About 85% of the city had been destroyed, including the historic Old Town and the Royal Castle.

After the war the city was left with collapsed bridges along the Vistula River, whole districts of roofless, burned-out houses and the Warsaw Ghetto as a flat sea of rubble... Under a Communist regime set up by the conquering Soviets, the "Bricks for Warsaw" campaign was initiated, and large prefabricated housing projects were erected in Warsaw to address the housing shortage. But it took several decades to reconstruct the landmarks of the city.

ROTTERDAM



The Rotterdam Blitz, the aerial bombardment by the Luftwaffe, destroyed almost the entire historic city centre of Rotterdam, the largest industrial target in the Netherlands, killing nearly 1,000 people and making 85,000 others homeless. Uncontrollable fires worsened the following days when the wind grew fiercer and the fires emerged into a firestorm. Around 2.6 square km of the city was almost leveled. 24,978 homes, 24 churches, 2,320 stores, 775 warehouses and 62 schools were destroyed.

Due to the extent of damage, an almost immediate decision was taken to demolish the entire city centre with a few exceptions. Despite the disaster, the city's destruction was often regarded as the perfect opportunity to redress many of the problems of industrial pre-war Rotterdam, such as crowded, impoverished neighborhoods, and to introduce broad-scale, modernising changes in the urban fabric which had previously been too radical in built-up city. The new reconstruction plans had a high emphasis on broad open spaces, widened streets and sidewalks. By 1950 the city had again retained its reputation as the fastest loading and unloading harbour in the world.

BERLIN

Complicated history of Berlin has left the city with many scars an eclectic assortment of architecture. It was bombed 363 times, almost completely destroyed in the war and divided by a wall for nearly 30 years in a peaceful time. Between 20,000 and 50,000 Berliners lost their lives in the sustained bombing of WWII, and many times more people were left homeless. Necessity forced the architects to act rapidly, therefore many buildings went up in a hurry, especially large prefab settlements.

Modernism called for a departure from the medieval city centers, which had dominated Germany for centuries. Many see Berlin as having been successful in incorporating the old with the new. Still, the German capital has not been free of controversy and the reconstruction process continues even today.

HAMBURG

An important port, industrial center and the site of major German shipyards and U-boat pens, Hamburg was a significant target for the Allied bombing attacks. The Battle of Hamburg, codenamed Operation Gomorrah, was at the time the heaviest assault in the history of aerial warfare and was later called the Hiroshima of Germany by British officials.

The severity of the bomb blasts created feared firestorm that reduced over 8 square miles of the city to ashes. Some 3,000 aircraft took part in the raids, which left 42,600 dead and 37,000 wounded. The burnt-out area was almost entirely residential, several quarters like Hammerbrook, Rothenburgsort were totally destroyed.

HIROSHIMA NAGASAKI

During the final stage of the Second World War, the United States dropped atomic bombs on the Japanese cities of Hiroshima and Nagasaki. The two bombings remain the only use of nuclear weapons for warfare in history. Within the first months of the bombings, the acute effects of the atomic bombings killed 90,000–166,000 people in Hiroshima and 39,000–80,000 in Nagasaki.

Hiroshima as a whole was highly susceptible to fire damage. The bombing started fires that spread rapidly through wood and paper homes. Japanese officials determined that 69% of Hiroshima's buildings were destroyed and another 6–7% damaged.

Nagasaki was bombed on a small scale 5 times. Although the bomb was more powerful than the one used on Hiroshima, the effect was confined by hillsides to the narrow Urakami Valley. The radius of total destruction was about 1.6 km, followed by fires across the northern portion of the city to 3.2 km south of the bomb.

LONDON

London was subjected to a sustained strategic bombing campaign carried that is said to have lasted for 76 consecutive nights. It is estimated that more than one million homes were damaged or flattened during the bombing. The Luftwaffe's attacks on London left 30,000 Londoners dead, and over 1.2 million homeless.

The most devastating strike occurred on in December 1940, when German aircraft attacked the city with incendiary and high explosive bombs, causing a firestorm that has been called the Second Great Fire of London. The area destroyed was greater than that of the Great Fire of London in 1666. The raid was timed to coincide with a particularly low tide on the River Thames, making water difficult to obtain for fire fighting. In one 6-month period, 750,000 tons of bombsite rubble from London were transported by railway on 1700 freight trains to make runways on RAF Bomber Command's airfields in East Anglia. By the middle of the 20th century, the streets and skyline of London changed more significantly than at any other time.

KYIV
MARIUPOL
KHARKIV
CHERNIHIV

2023...

Today, the whole world witnesses how russians are trying to wipe out the most beautiful Ukrainian cities with their rich history and architecture. Kharkiv, Mariupol, Chernihiv are turning into ruins before our eyes. Thousands of civilians have been killed; millions had to flee their homes...

But we believe that people will be able to return home very soon, and we know for sure that we will rebuild everything that the invaders destroyed. Since we deeply love our country and see how other cities destroyed over the past century have **Risen From the Ashes.**



VISUAL STYLE

Dramatic recreations, archive footage, photographs and animated drawings allow the viewer to travel through time and learn about the sites and buildings that made a city iconic as well as locations that are not found in tourist guides but are central to understanding city's recent history.



LOADING LOCATION: IRPYN

CROSS-PLATFORM PROJECT

DOCUMENTARY SERIES, 8 X 45'

DOCUMENTARY FEATURE FILM

DIGITAL CONTENT

Digital cycle is part of a large project **Risen From the Ashes**. We'll tell stories of the most beautiful European cities destroyed during WWII but rebuilt anew. We will use the experience of these reconstructed cities to restore Ukrainian ones devastated by russian invaders.

EXHIBITIONS

Offline events dedicated to the history of the city, its architecture, restoration works and famous architects.

BOOKS, CATALOGUES

Printed guides on the history of the city and its architecture, exclusive tourist guides to unknown places, catalogs with archive footages, drawings and photos of urban architecture.

MOBILE APPS

Various entertainment (support VR-experience project for further discussions) and educational interactive apps.



SOCIAL DIRECTION

We want to use all scanned materials to restore our cities. We expect that this unique material, which we will provide to the public, will give an opportunity for Ukrainian and foreign architects, urbanists, and studios to create their ideas and concepts for the restoration of our cities. And our documentary project will become a kind of platform for ideas exchange between city administrations and architects from all over the world.



RISEN
FROM
THE ASHES

RISEN FROM THE ASHES

About us

FILM.UA GROUP is a creative powerhouse and one of the largest Eastern European media groups, operating in global markets and covering the full production cycle: development, production, adaptation and distribution of audiovisual content through the vertical business structure.

WEBSITE: film.ua

WATCH SHOWREEL



Contact us:

Olena Malkova - e.malkova@film.ua

Kateryna Vyshnevskaya - k.vyshnevskaya@film.ua

THANKS!

CLICK HERE TO WATCH TEASER

(<https://youtu.be/UXyLzZUlwXU>)

CLICK HERE TO WATCH BACKSTAGE VIDEO

(https://youtu.be/9_0ot6_NOWc)

VISIT OUR WEBSITE

([HTTPS://READYMAG.COM/U2734664532/3818456/](https://readymag.com/U2734664532/3818456/))