

**Ryszard Wiencek** is a film editor, director and producer with more than thirty years of experience in documentary cinema, radio, television, and audiovisual projects for cultural institutions. He began his career in 1989 as a composer and producer, creating sound identities, jingles and commercials for major Polish radio stations. His background in sound design has profoundly shaped his later cinematic language.

Gradually shifting his focus from sound to image, he developed as an editor, cameraman and director, co-creating over thirty documentary films. His work concentrates on memory, identity, and the human relationship with nature, often taking hybrid forms that blur the border between documentary and narrative cinema. At the same time, he firmly rejects staging in documentary filmmaking, considering it a substitute for ideas rather than a creative tool.

From 2000 to 2005, he served as Festival Center Director of the Camerimage International Film Festival, overseeing the opening and closing ceremonies, the festival TV studio and the programme of events within the Festival Center. This period significantly shaped his international perspective and understanding of cinema as both an art form and a professional environment.

He has also created audiovisual projects for museums and cultural institutions, including the Polish Vodka Museum and the Józef Piłsudski Museum in Sulejów, where he combined cinematic narrative with exhibition space.

He is currently the editor, director and CEO of **Nowa Formacja**, a Kraków-based company developing original documentary formats and commissioned projects.

The driving question of his work remains the boundary of documentary cinema: how far it can adopt the narrative tools of fiction without losing its identity. Each film is an attempt to answer this — not theoretically, but through form and storytelling. Rather than explaining, he seeks presence; rather than illustration, experience.

He lives and works in Kraków.