

Magdanas Lurdzha

("Magdana's Donkey")

U.S.S.R. (Georgia) : 1955 : dir. Tengiz Abuladze & Rezo Chkheidze

: ? min

prod: : scr: : dir.ph.:

[Dato Daneliya](#)

Dudukhana Tserodze

Ref:	Pages	Sources	Stills	Kbytes	Ω □ € Z ∞	Copy on VHS	Last Viewed
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Dato Daneliya in an early role

Source: Cinematographic Art in Soviet Georgia

Cinematographic Art in Soviet Georgia note (in somewhat fractured English):

"The young generation of the Georgian cinema workers of the 1950s, now already called "the middle-aged", made it their principal to continue the best traditions of the elder colleagues in the line of describing people's life. This principle was materialised in "MAGDANA'S DONKEY", 1955, directed by Tengiz Abuladze and Rezo Chkheidze, and "THE CHILDREN STRANGE TO HER" by T Abuladze.

"MAGDANA'S DONKEY" was a true-to-life story about the tragedy of Magdana, a peasant's widow. An unusually authentic reproduction of typical Georgian village on the screen was, no doubt, one of the film's merits.

The director's skill of combination of the real-life shots with their poetic interpretation first manifested in "MAGDANA'S DONKEY" later became one of the most characteristic features of the Georgian cinema. The success of the film was largely due to its humanism and excellent performance of actress Dudukhana Tserodze in the role of Magdana."

The Moving Picture Boy entry on Daneliya:

"This young Georgian had three leading roles as a child: in "MAMLYUK", "DEDUSHKA GIGIYA" and "RASKAZ NISHCHEVO". In the last two of them – the first was a story of Turkish slavery in 18th century Georgia – he played "Dato" and "Datiko". It looked as if cult of personality was setting in.

His later films included "**MATZI KHVITYA**" (67), "**TARIEL GOLUA**" (68), "**ABESALOM I ETERI**" and "**GIMILIS BICHEBI**" (69). Eventually, however, he chucked in the glory of the screen. He became a handball trainer, and in due course an international referee."

[no listing in "Halliwell's Film Guide", "Leonard Maltin's Movie and Video Guide 2001", "Speelfilm Encyclopedie", "The Critics' Film Guide", "The Good Film and Video Guide", "Movies on TV and Videocassette 1988-89", "Rating the Movies (1990)", "The Sunday Times Guide to Movies on Television", "The Time Out Film Guide", "TV Times Film & Video Guide 1995", "Variety Movie Guide 1993", "Video Movie Guide 1993" or "The Virgin Film Guide"]

No further information currently available. Daneliya was 7 in his first known film. Holmstrom lists nine films for him 1955-61, among them "**ORI ODZHAKI**" ("Two Families" 58), "**SKHVISI SHVILEBI**" ("Another Woman's Children" 58) and "**SLUCHAI NA PLOTINE**" ("Incident on the Dam" 59). Good luck in finding any of them.

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