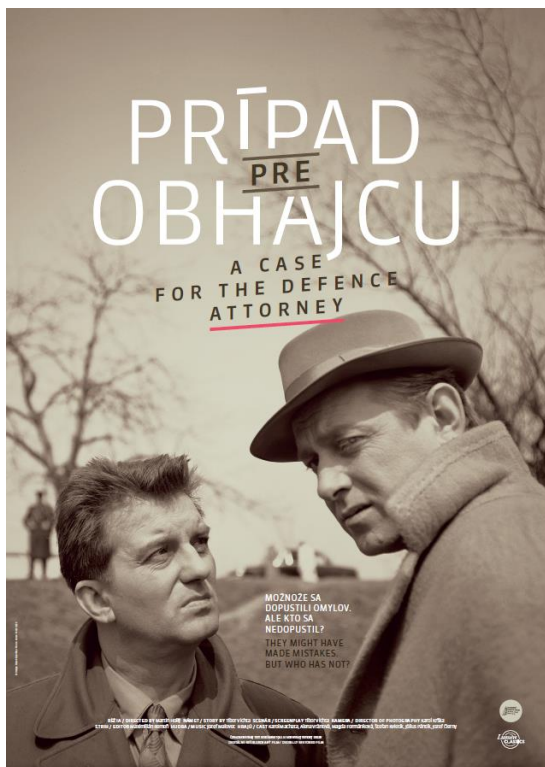


presents

**PRÍPAD PRE OBHAJCU**

**(A CASE FOR THE DEFENCE ATTORNEY, dir. Martin Hollý, 1964, 90 min)**

*"They might have made mistakes. But who has not?"*



Smalltown, year 1958. Fero Macejka, a 15-year-old boy from the margins of society is accused of rape and murder of a young girl. Three university friends – defence attorney, prosecutor and judge. For defence attorney Kolár, it is his first big case. Prosecutor Felcán is given the opportunity to clear his name and restore faith in a justice system. Judge Formánková stands above them. It is she, who will pronounce the final verdict...

The film is set shortly after the end of the period when the ruling Communist Party consolidated its power through political trials. Those who only a short time ago served the unlimited power shall now serve justice.

*A Case for the Defence Attorney* points to the roots of the methods of the cult of personality applied in the police and the judiciary and at the same time criticizes judicial practices. An indictment of the system that engineered political trials in Czechoslovakia in the 1950s in order to ruthlessly consolidate the power of the ruling Communist Party in the founding period of the people's democratic regime. A timeless film that takes a

closer look at evil of any political system, system which rules by sheer brute force.

*"Blacker than black, A Case for the Defence Attorney details the workings of the police and the justice system in a small Slovak town. Accused of rape and murder of a teenage girl, a young man from the fringes of society is quickly imprisoned and found guilty. The lawyer defending him has doubts about the methods that led to his conviction and arrest. Made in times when the Soviet grip over Czechoslovakia was loosening, the film poses dangerous questions aimed at justice and its institutions. – Lumière Lyon 2022 Festival Daily, (October 19, 2022)*



The film has been digitally restored and is available on 2K DCP in Slovak (OV) with English and French subtitles.