Gyula Gazdag

Gyula Gazdag has served as the Artistic Director of the Sundance Directors Lab since 1997. He is a screenwriter and director of film, theatre, and television, and is Distinguished Research Professor at UCLA's School of Theater, Film, and Television. He was a creative advisor at the Binger Film lab for more than a decade; has worked with new talent at the Script Station of the Berlinale Talents since 2006 and at the Sarajevo Talents since 2014 and Head of Studies of the Script Consultant training program (Czech National Film Fund collaboration with MIDPOINT) since December 2017.

His feature films include 'A Hungarian Fairy Tale' (screened in 20 film festivals worldwide, including Directors' Fortnight at Cannes), 'Stand Off', 'Lost Illusions', 'Swap', 'Singing On The Treadmill', and 'The Whistling Cobblestone' (Best First Feature by the Hungarian Film Critics). Gazdag has also directed documentaries, including A Poet On The Lower East Side and The Resolution (cited as one of the best 100 documentaries of all time).

Most of his films have been banned for periods in Communist Hungary, and have been denied foreign exhibition. For the stage, Gazdag has directed 'Candide', 'The Bald Soprano', 'The Abduction From The Seraglio', 'The Tempest', 'Tom Jones' and 'The Hothouse', among other plays. Gazdag was named one of the ten best film teachers in America by Daily Variety in 2010.He was selected as Berlin Prize Fellow in the fall semester of 2018 at The American Academy in Berlin.