Critical Acclaim for P.O.V.’s “BELARUSIAN WALTZ”
By Andrzej Fidyk

“Since 1994 Alexander Lukashenko has ruled the former soviet republic with an iron fist. . . . But the performance artist Alexander Pushkin has refused to stand down. . . . This P.O.V. documentary looks at this merging of old-style authoritarianism and contemporary street theater.”
— The New York Times

“The former Soviet republics were all thrilled to break away from totalitarianism, right? Think again.”
— Raymond A. Edel, The Record, New Jersey

“[The film] examines the strange tale of the last dictatorship in Europe, the one-time Soviet state of Belarussia. Neo-Stalinist strongman Alexander Lukashenko doesn’t even have to rig the elections – though he does anyway, just for fun.”
— Glenn Garvin, Miami Herald

“As an artist and provocateur, Alexander Pushkin probably would have stood out in any country, but he really does in the dictatorship of Belarus.”
— Roger Catlin, Hartford Courant

“It's an intriguing look at Eastern European politics, especially in light of the tragic turn of events in Georgia.”
— Jeff Wilser, GQ Online

“P.O.V. has evolved into a leading showcase for the best independent documentaries available internationally. . . . Belarusian Waltz is director Andrzej Fidyk’s look at brutal Belarus politics through the lens of an outrageous protester against despotic rule, who uses comedy and street theater against a dictatorial state.”
— Patricia Aufderheide, In These Times

“On August 5 . . . Belarusian President Aleksandr Lukashenko signed a new media law allowing authorities to further restrict press freedom by controlling what is published on the Internet. . . . Journalists are not the only ones denied freedom of expression. Belarusian Waltz on P.O.V. tells the story of Alexander Pushkin, a Belarusian performance artist.”
— Meredith Greene Megaw, Committee to Protect Journalists blog

“The local population [of Bobr, Belarus] is not only artless, but also afraid. This point is made repeatedly by Alexander Pushkin, painter and Bobr’s resident resistance fighter and the film’s star. . . . a decidedly complicated figure, at once energetic and committed . . .”
— Cynthia Fuchs, PopMatters.com