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FILMS FROM SOVIET GEORGIA

ILLIKO, ILLARION, GRANDMOTHER AND ME 7:30

“Tenghis Abuladze, whose dark masterwork **MOLBA** was featured last month in our season of Georgian Cinema, is one of the most gifted Georgian filmmakers. His first film, **MAGDANA’S DONKEY** (1955)—co-directed by Rezo Chkheidze—is considered the first film of the New Georgian Cinema to make an impact outside of the U.S.S.R. (it won the Grand Prix at Cannes). **ILLIKO, ILLARION, GRANDMOTHER AND ME** is virtually a series of comic, lyrical and grotesque village sketches (interrupted by a war interlude), shot mainly out of doors. Owing something to folk poetry with a rather Gogol-like response to the comic characters, it has a refreshingly open tone in both its mood and splendidly shot locations.” —John Gillett.

(1963, 90 mins, 35mm, English titles)