



MAHMOOD

Iran

PAS Nantes 2016

Category : Fiction drama, live-action animated

Length : 130'

Language : Farsi

Shooting format : 5K

Shooting location : Iran

Shooting dates : Early 2018

Expected date of completion : 2019

Stage of production : Development stage

Budget : 1 530 000 €

Financing in place : 0 €

Financing supports : —

Workshops and platforms attended :

Current situation : Closing financial strategy



Amir HAMZ - PRODUCER (*Bon Voyage Films*)



was born in Frankfurt/Main, in 1979. In 2001 Bachelor of Arts in Hamburg, Germany. 2004 Master of Fine Arts in Documentary Film in England. 2008 Master's in Journalism and Political Sciences in Hamburg. From 2004 on director and producer of several documentaries and music videos, including *SOUNDS OF SILENCE* (2006), *IRAN SPECIAL* (2007, ARTE) as well as several other documentaries and short films for German broadcasters like NDR and ZDF. At the same time Amir also worked as a Development Producer for *MME Movement*. From 2011 to 2014 Producer and Head of Development at Millbrook Pictures in Berlin & Zurich. He initiated the *SCHOLAR treat* Writers Program and the Millbrook Writers Award in cooperation with German film festival Hof International Film Festival. In 2015/2016, he produced *DER NACHTMAHR* and *PARADISE* as well as the movie adaptation.

Sina ALATEINA – DIRECTOR & WRITER



was born in 1983 in Iran, Sina Ataeian Dena first studied physics before transitioning to film at the Sooreh University in Tehran. He started his career as a visual effects supervisor and a story developer for video games. In 2009, he directed his first animation short, *Especially Music*, that would lead him to direct several commercials and cartoons. *Paradise* was shot without official permission from the government and is the first installment of a Tehran trilogy about violence.

DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT

« As an Iranian citizen who is a supporter of the realization of the majority's will, it seems to me that it is a long, complicated and exhausting way to even accomplish the majority's rights. Therefore, to imagine a condition where the freedom and rights of minorities and subcultures are protected looks far from reach and reality. When the argument comes to the point of making a priority between majority's and minority's rights, the process of transition to democracy is disturbed, as Ghandi teaches us. The right of one single individual is just as important as the rights of the whole society. [...] »

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SYNOPSIS

ARASH, a 24 years old soldier, is serving in an anti-drug police unit at the Iranian -Afghani border. He leaves his military base to travel to Tehran with a stolen package of opium in his pocket and a strong feeling of desperation in his heart: his brother, MAHMOOD, was recently executed. In Tehran Arash catches up with his old friend REZA (38), an edgy artist with a secret Cannabis plantation. Arash is surprised to find out that Reza got married to a highly conservative woman to hide his illegal disposition. Arash, on the contrary, is not interested in hiding anymore, he is determined to take revenge on a high rank member of the militia who is responsible for his brother's death. And he came to convince Reza to join him on his mission. But Reza is not at all convinced that violence is a solution - „eye to eye leads to a blind world“. While Arash is feverishly planning the revenge and getting close to the border of insanity, Reza is busy with the research for a new art project about computer games as a metaphor for life. But instead of being interested in Reza's philosophical theories, Arash gets into playing games himself and the borders between reality and game world increasingly melt for him. Long forgotten feelings start to rise. Reza wants to protect Arash and therefore he joins him on his way down to Tehran's underground of drug dealers, prostitutes and weapon dealers. They now prepare the assassination side by side. When everything is ready and set for the final deed and all that is left is to push a bottom...Arash cannot do it.