

Biography

Born in 1962 in Tehran, Iran, Parviz Shahbazi is a filmmaking graduate of the 'Tehran Cinema College'. During the early 80s he began writing short stories and directing short films.

He edited several films and directed 12 shorts before making his first feature film, *Traveler from the South*, in 1996. *Malaria* is his latest feature.

His debut feature, *Traveler from the South* (1997) as well as his second film, *Whispers* (2000) has been screened at countless festivals bringing him international recognition and several awards along the way. In 2002 his third film, *Deep Breath*, was selected for the Directors' Fortnight section of the Cannes International Film Festival receiving great critical acclaim.



Filmography:

Selected Short Films

- 1992: *Shadows* | 16 mm, 40min
- 1990: *The Rope* | 16 mm, 20min
- 1988: *Project2* | 16 mm, 10min
- 1986: *The Atrium* | 8mm, 18min

Feature Films

- 2016: *Malaria* | Fiction, 90min, 2K, Colour, Iran
- 2013: *Trapped (Darband)* | Fiction, 96min, 35mm, Colour, Iran
- 2009: *Karat 14 (Ayar 14)* | Fiction, 87min, 35mm, Colour, Iran
- 2003: *Deep Breath (Nafas-e Amigh)* | Fiction, 86min, 35mm, Colour, Iran
- 2000: *Whispers (Najva)* | Fiction, 86min, 35mm, Colour, Iran
- 1997: *The Traveler from South (Mosafer-e jonoub)* | Fiction, 90min, 35mm, Colour, Iran

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Malaria

A film by Parviz Shahbazi

Produced by Masoud Radaei



MOSTRA INTERNAZIONALE
D'ARTE CINEMATOGRAFICA
la Biennale di Venezia 2016
Orizzonti
Competition

Synopsis

A young girl informs her father she's been kidnapped and asks him to bring the ransom money. Panicked, her father and brothers go to Tehran to look for her. They are unaware, however, that the girl has in fact eloped with her boyfriend and now spends her time in the company of a band of street musicians. Following the arrest of the band leader and full of the love for her boyfriend, the young girl descends an uncertain path...

Une jeune fille avertit son père de son kidnapping et lui demande de verser la rançon aux ravisseurs. Affolés, son père et ses frères se rendent à Téhéran pour la retrouver. Mais ils ignorent que la jeune fille a pris la fuite avec son petit ami et qu'ils ont rencontré des musiciens de rue avec lesquels ils passent du bon temps. Le chef du groupe est arrêté par la police. Alors par amour pour son petit-ami, la jeune fille s'engage dans un chemin incertain...

Director's statement / Note d'intention

I believe that Iranian society has never had a greater need of joy. The street concert sequence was shot in the heart of Tehran. Passers-by stood for hours to hear the music, paying no heed to the film crew. When the storyline allowed it I introduced scenes of popular joy into the film, such as the night when the nuclear agreement between Iran and the 5+1 group was finally signed.

I would have liked the main characters of my film to have also been joyous, but the contradictions of a society constantly torn between modernity and tradition renders such a thing difficult.

Je suis convaincu que la société iranienne a plus que jamais besoin de joie. La séquence de concert de rue a été filmée en plein cœur de Téhéran. Les passants sont restés plusieurs heures debout pour savourer la musique sans prêter attention à l'équipe de tournage. Quand l'histoire le permettait, j'introduisais des scènes de joie populaire dans le film, comme celle de la nuit où l'accord nucléaire historique entre l'Iran et les pays du groupe 5+1 fut enfin signé. J'aurais souhaité que les personnages principaux de mon film soient aussi joyeux, mais les contradictions d'une société constamment tiraillée par la tradition et la modernité rendent les choses difficiles.



Cast

Saghar Ghanaat (Hanna)
Saed Soheili (Mori)
Azarakhsh Farahani (Azi)
Azadeh Namdari (Samira)

Crew

Director: Parviz Shahbazi
Screenplay: Parviz Shahbazi
Director of Photography: Hooman Behmanesh
Editing: Parviz Shahbazi
Sound Mixer: Mohammad Kashfi
Sound Recorder: Mansour Shahbazi
Music: Azarakhsh Farahani and Siavash Asadi
Set & Costume Designer: Keyvan Moghadam
Make-Up: Mohammad Ghomi
Production Manager: Majid Goodarzi
Producer: Masoud Radaei

Shooting format: 2K Digital (Arri Alexa)
Screening format: 2K
Sound: 5.1 SR
Ratio: 1:2:39
Original version: Persian
Subtitled in: English
Running time: 90min

Fiction-Colour-90min-2016-Iran