



PHILISTINE FILMS
PRESENTS



Festival du film
de Locarno

COMPETITION

MOHAMMAD BAKRI
SALEH BAKRI

واجب
WAJIB

a film by ANNEMARIE JACIR

SYNOPSIS

Abu Shadi is a divorced father and a school teacher in his mid-60s living in Nazareth. After his daughter's wedding in one month he will be living alone. Shadi, his architect son, arrives from Rome after years abroad to help his father in hand delivering the wedding invitations to each guest as per local Palestinian custom. As the estranged pair spend the day together, the tense details of their relationship come to a head challenging their fragile and very different lives.



DIRECTOR'S NOTE

In Palestine, there is a tradition which remains a big part of life today. When someone gets married, the men of the family, usually the father and sons, are expected to personally deliver the wedding invitations to each invitee in person. There is no mailing of invitations, or having them delivered by strangers. And unless the invitations are personally delivered, it is considered disrespectful. I don't know any other place which adheres to this tradition as much as the Palestinians living in the North of Palestine, where «Wajib» is set. «Wajib» loosely means «social duty». When my husband's sister got married, it was his wajib to deliver the invitations with his father. I decided to silently tag along as he and his father spent five days traversing the city and surrounding villages delivering each invitation. As the silent observer, it was at times funny and other times painful. Aspects of that special relationship between father and son, the tensions of a sometimes tested love between them, came out in small ways. I began working on the idea for a film about this fragile relationship.

ANNEMARIE JACIR BIO

Palestinian filmmaker Annemarie Jacir has written, directed and produced over sixteen films. Her short film *LIKE TWENTY IMPOSSIBLES* (2003) was the first Arab short film in history to be an official selection of the Cannes Film Festival and continued to break ground when it went on to be a finalist for the Academy Awards.

Her second work to debut in Cannes Un Certain Regard, the critically acclaimed *SALT OF THIS SEA* (2008), garnered fourteen international awards, included the FIPRESCI Critics Award. It was the first feature film directed by a Palestinian woman and Palestine's 2008 Oscar Entry for Foreign Language Film.

WHEN I SAW YOU won, among other awards, Best Asian Film at the 63rd Berlin Intl Film Festival and Best Arab Film in Abu Dhabi FF. It was also Palestine's 2012 Oscar Entry. Notably, the film's production was entirely Arab-financed with all Palestinian producers marking a new trend in Arab cinema.

WAJIB is her third Feature film.

2017 **WAJIB**

2012 **WHEN I SAW YOU**

2008 **SALT OF THIS SEA**

2005 **A FEW CRUMBS
FOR THE BIRDS** (short)

2003 **LIKE TWENTY IMPOSSIBLES** (short)

2001 **THE SATELLITE SHOOTERS** (short)

1999 **A POST OSLO HISTORY** (short)

CAST

Mohammad BAKRI
Saleh BAKRI

CREW

A film written and directed by Annemarie Jacir

Producer : Ossama Bawardi

DOP : Antoine Heberle

Production designer : Nael Kanj

Editor : Jacques Comets

Sound designer : Carlos Garcia

Costumes designer : Hamada Atallah

Mix : Kostas Varympopiotis

Production Company : Philistine Films

Countries of Production : Palestine, France, Germany, Colombia, Norway, Qatar, UAE

Coproducers : JBA production, Cactus World Films, Metafora Productions, Klinkerfilm,

Ciudad Lunar, Ape&Bjørn, Snow Globe Film, Schortcut Films

World Sales : Pyramide International

Palestine / 2017 / 96 MN / DCP 5.1 / 1.85 Color



INSTITUT
FRANÇAIS



JBA
PRODUCTION

klinkerfilm

Ciudad Lunar

Ape&Bjørn

(snowglobe)

SCHORTCUT
FILMS

BUSAN
INTERNATIONAL
FILM FESTIVAL

AICIF
ARABIC
INSTITUTE
SCRIPT DEVELOPMENT FUND

Dubai
Film Market

eave

BUSAN
INTERNATIONAL
FILM FESTIVAL

AICIF
ARABIC
INSTITUTE
SCRIPT DEVELOPMENT FUND

73
DUBAI
FILM MARKET

visions_est

مؤسسة الفنون
السينمائية
DOHA FILM INSTITUTE

MFA
MIDDLE EASTERN
FILM ACADEMY

AICIF
ARABIC
INSTITUTE
SCRIPT DEVELOPMENT FUND

Proimagenes
Colombia
Fondo Cinematográfico

TRIBECA
FILM INSTITUTE

ARABIC
INSTITUTE
SCRIPT DEVELOPMENT FUND

AICIF
ARABIC
INSTITUTE
SCRIPT DEVELOPMENT FUND

Pyramide
International

PYRAMIDE
INTERNATIONAL