A film written and directed by Çağla Zencirci & Guillaume Giovanetti

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>> Synopsis

Noor wants to be a man.

He doesn’t belong anymore to the *Khusras*, Pakistan’s transgender community. And he is definitely done with the love story he had with one of them, that had drastically changed his life.

Now, he is doing a man’s job in a Truck Decoration Center and he made up his mind: he will find a girl who will accept him as he is...

>> Directors

Çağla Zencirci (Ankara, 1976) and Guillaume Giovanetti (Lyon, 1978), the directorial duo based in Paris, Istanbul and Lahore, started their journey into filmmaking with 4 short fictions and documentaries shot in the Middle-East, Central Asia, and Europe, **screened and awarded in more than 50 Festivals** (Berlinale, Barcelona, Rome, Cork, Brest, Istanbul, etc.) and **broadcast on several European TV channels** (France's *Planète*, Spain's *TVE*, *Eurochannel*, etc.).

The duo was acknowledged with the middle-length fiction *Ata* (the meeting in France of a young Turkish Lady and an old Uyghur refugee, shot in Super-16 mm with **non-professional actors**), which premiered at the **30th Clermont-Ferrand Film Festival 2008**, and was then **selected to more than 100 Festivals worldwide**, and **awarded more than 20 times** (Grand Prix in Créteil, Nancy (France), Tokyo (Japan), Istanbul (Turkey), Boston (USA), Tetouan (Morocco); Best Short Film CNC Award 2009; Best Script in Villeurbanne (France); Best Actor in Moulins and Nancy (France); Audience Award in Istanbul, Tokyo, Créteil, Contis (France); Jury Award in Montpellier (France); etc.). The film has been **broadcast on France 3** (French National TV) **and Ciné-Cinéma** (French Satellite TV), and selected among the **10 Best Short Films in Turkey** by the Turkish Center of Cinema.

Çağla Zencirci and Guillaume Giovanetti then directed *Six*, a fiction documentary shot in Japan and portraying *La Jetée*, the famous Chris Marker Tokyo bar. The film has premiered in the **competition of the 62th Locarno Festival**, and has then been selected in the **39th Rotterdam Festival**, the **FIDMarseille** and the **40th Tampere Festival** Festival, before it was **awarded the CNC Best Short Film Award 2011** and the **Best Short Film Prize** in Macau, China. After more than 40 selections, the film currently goes on with its career in Europe, North America and Asia.

Afterwards, the co-directors achieved *Camera Obscura*, a **feature documentary** shot in Istanbul, where they followed during several weeks blind people who wrote and directed fiction short films, which Premiered in the **29th Istanbul Film Festival**.

Çağla Zencirci and Guillaume Giovanetti have just achieved *Noor*, **their first feature film**, they shot in Pakistan thanks to the support of the **MEDIA Program**, and the film has just premiered at the **65th Cannes International Film Festival 2012**. They are developing their next film, a **feature film in Japan** they wrote in a residence at the **prestigious Villa Kujoyama**.

>> Media coverage in Cannes 2012

. Le Monde :

Cannes 19

La longue route de Noor, transgenre pakistanais

Noor, 25 ans, vient d'arriver du Pakistan. Heureux d'être à Cannes, curieux de manger avec des fourchettes. Mais surtout bouleversé : *Noor*, le premier long-métrage de Çagla Zencirci et de Guillaume Giovanetti, raconte son histoire. C'est presqu'un journal intime : Noor – qui joue son propre rôle – a quitté les Khusras, la communauté des transgenres du Pakistan. Il veut être reconnu comme un homme, trouver du travail et être aimé d'une femme. Cheveux longs ou pas. Ce road-movie poétique et politique, sélectionné par l'ACID, a une seule destination : la liberté d'être soi-même. La route est longue, l'histoire est forte. ■ CLARISSE FABRE

RICHARD DUMAS/VU POUR LE MONDE

Sur Lemonde.fr : lire le portrait de Noor sur le blog « Le Monde » à Cannes (http://festivalcannes.blog.lemonde.fr/)

Translation:

The long road of Noor, Pakistani transgender.

Noor, 25, has just arrived from Pakistan. He's happy to be in Cannes, curious to eat with forks. But, mainly, he's deeply moved: "Noor", the first feature film by Çagla Zencirci & Guillaume Giovanetti, tells his own story. It is almost a diary: Noor - who plays his own part - has left the Khusras, the transgender community of Pakistan. He wants to be acknowledged as a man, to find a job and to be loved by a woman. Whatever he has long hair or not. This poetic and political Road-movie, selected by the ACID in Cannes, aims at a single thing: the freedom to be oneself. The road is long, the story is strong.

Clarisse Fabre

Read the full article on "Le Monde" Website (in French) : http://festivalcannes.blog.lemonde.fr/2012/05/25/noor-ecce-homo/

. Slate.fr

(…) In the very first sequences appear the 2 main features of the film: first, an exceptional beauty, a rare visual strength that touches faces, landscapes, indoor locations, gestures of the characters, lights. Then a hypnotic strangeness, as we follow through Pakistan a young man, ex-transgender who decided to come back to his masculinity (…), a hero with an astonishing and confusing beauty.

Jean-Michel Frodon

Read the article: http://www.slate.fr/story/56273/cannes-moonrise-kingdom-anderson-noor

. Politis

The whole film is on the shoulder of Noor, who acts his own part; on his sweet, melancholic and decided face; on his lunar behaviour, counterbalanced by sudden changing moves. (…) One can especially feel the tender look of the co-directors on their character. "Noor", attaching film, sweetly enchanting, suggests, with no ostentation, what "to be a man" means.

Christophe Kantcheff

Read the whole review on : http://www.politis.fr/Cosmopolis-de-David-Cronenberg,18470.html

NB: You can also find other articles about the film on the websites of L'Humanité, Critikat.fr, Grand Ecart, etc.

NOOR نور

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Çağla Zencirci & Guillaume Giovanetti

Pakistan-France-Turkey, 2012, Fiction, 78 minutes, HD, Colours, format 2.35

With: Noor: Noor / Uzma: Uzma Ali / Baba: Baba Muhammad / Gunga: Gunga Saeen / Mithu: Mithu Saeen

Production: C'est au 4 (Cristine Asperti) – C'est au 3 (Svetlana Novak) – Explore Pakistan

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Assistant Director: Danyal Rasheed
Executive Producer: Karim Meharban
2nd Assistant Director: Rawal Varraich
Director of Photography: Jacques Ballard
Sound Engineer: Alexandre Andrillon
Editors: Tristan Meunier – Michko Netchak

With the support of: Pakistan Ministry of Culture / Programme MEDIA of the European Union / CNC / Centre des Ecritures Cinématographiques – Moulin d'Andé / Festivals of San Sebastian, Montpellier, Mannheim and Alba

NOOR نور