



## SYNOPSIS

Iraq, 2009. Little Hamoudi (10) is totally obsessed with football. Just as the rest of the world, he and his friends are eagerly looking forward to the Champions League finale FC Barcelona-Manchester United. The long awaited clash between Messi and Ronaldo. But then Hamoudi's television breaks down...



Genre:	short fiction
Year of production:	2013
Running Time:	16'30"
Locations:	Iraq
Shooting format:	Prores 4:4:4 (Arri Alexa)
Screening format:	Hdcam, digibèta, HD digital file, dvd
Aspect Ratio:	1:85
Audio:	stereo
Original language:	Arabic
Subtitles:	English – Dutch – French

## CAST & CREW

HAMOUDI ALI RAAD AL-ZAIDAWY

FATHER HAYDER HELO

MOTHER NOOR AL-HODA

YAKOUB ABDULAZIZ MOHAMED

ALI AMIR YOUSEF

JASSIM MAJID HAMEED

MADHI MAHIR ABDULLAH

DIRECTOR SAHIM OMAR KALIFA

WRITERS SAHIM OMAR KALIFA  
KOBE VAN STEENBERGHE

PRODUCERS HENDRIK VERTHÉ  
KOBE VAN STEENBERGHE

CINEMATOGRAPHY ROBRECHT HEYVAERT  
KOBE VAN STEENBERGHE

ART DIRECTION SERKAUT MUSTAFA

EDITING PIETER JAN BERGMANS

SOUND MAARTEN LEEMANS  
THOMAS VERTONGEN

MUSIC HANNES DE MAEYER



# SAHIM OMAR KALIFA

## BIOGRAPHY

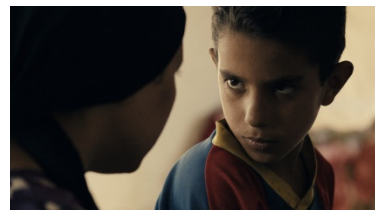
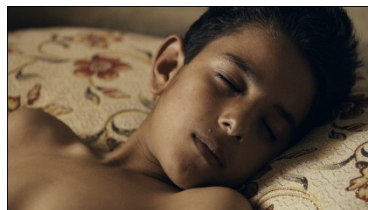
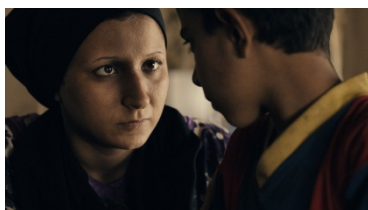
Sahim Omar Kalifa is born in 1980 in Kurdistan-Iraq. He came to Belgium in 2001, where he worked as interpreter while he studied Audiovisual Arts at the University of Art and Design Sint-Lukas Brussels. In 2008 he got a Master degree as film director. With his successful graduation short film *Nan* he won a wildcard for Best Student Film from the Flanders Audiovisual Fund and was able to make his first professional short film *Land of the Heroes*.



*Land of the heroes* was a huge success and received up to now 27 international awards and got selected for over 140 film festivals. The most prestigious award was the Jury Award for Best Short Film Generation at the 61th International Film Festival in Berlin. It was the first time that a short film by a Kurdish director got this award at the Berlinale.

The film was also the most awarded Flemish short film in 2011.

Meanwhile Sahim shot his new short film *Baghdad Messi* supported by the Flanders Audiovisual Fund, Dubai Entertainment and Media Organisation and Belgian tax shelter financing (uFilm). He also received screenplay support from the Flanders Audiovisual Fund to develop his first feature film *Zagros*. *Baghdad Messi* will be seen on the festival circuit in 2013.



## FILMOGRAPHY

2006	short film	<i>Zwart water</i> – Best Film - Melbourne Kurdish Film Festival
2008	short film	<i>Nan</i> - Winner Wildcard Best Student Short by the Flanders Audiovisual Fund
2011	short film	<i>Land of the Heroes</i> - Winner Jury Award Berlin International Film Festival - 27 International awards, 140 selections
2013	short film	<i>Baghdad Messi</i>

### Awards and honorable mentions:

1. Best Film - Gulf Film Festival Dubai 2013, UAE
2. Honorable mention at IKL, Leuven, Belgium
3. Grand Prize 'Best Film' at Brescello International Film Festival 2013, Italy
4. 2nd Best film at 6th Asian-Moroccan Festival of Short Films 2013, Tissa, Morocco
5. Best director at the International Short Film Festival, 2013, Kalar, Iraq
6. Jury Award at Arab Film Festival, 2013, Malmö, Sweden
7. Best Film at 15th Festival du monde Arabe 2013, Azou-Ifrane, Morocco
8. Honorable mention at Urbanworld film festival 2013, New York, USA
9. Silver Aleph BIFF Beirut 2013, Lebanon
10. Best film Latina Commission Visioni Corte 2013, Rassegna, Italy
11. Audience award Visioni Corte 2013, Rassegna, Italy
12. Best shortfilm Baghdad Film Festival 2013, Iraq
13. Best short film 29th Alexandria Film Festival 2013, Egypt
14. Golden Olive – Bar International Film and TV Festival 2013, Bar, Montenegro
15. Jury Prize – Regiofun International Film Festival 2013, Katowice, Poland
16. Best short film fiction – 8<sup>e</sup> Relatos Cortos 2013, Merlo, Argentina
17. Grand Prize of the Jury – 8<sup>e</sup> Relatos Cortos 2013, Merlo, Argentina
18. Best film by the Jury - 9e Armenian Film Festival for Children 2013, Yerevan, Armenia
19. Best film by youth audience - 9e Armenian Film Festival for Children 2013, Yerevan, Armenia
20. Best shortfilm, 29th Interfilm International film festival 2013, Berlin, Germany
21. 7th L'Aquila International Film Festival 2013, L'Aquila, Italy
22. Silver award, 43th Roshd International Film Festival 2013, Iran
23. Red Cross award, 43th Roshd International Film Festival 2013, Iran
24. 2nd Best shortfilm KO&Digital International Film festival 2013, Barcelona, Spain

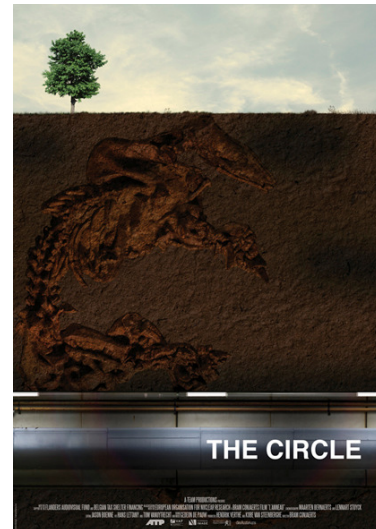
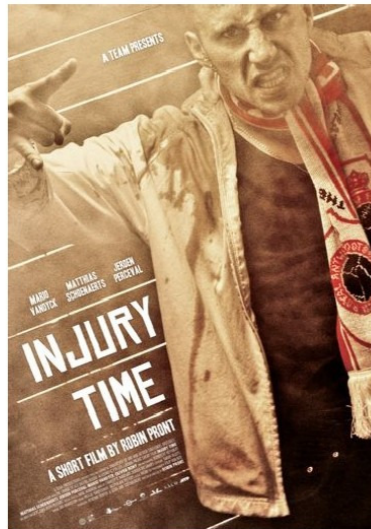
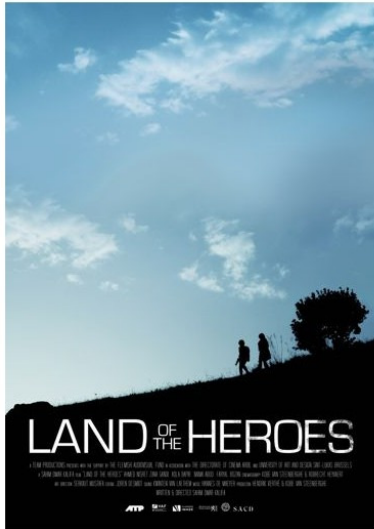
### Official selections:

Dubai Film Festival UAE 2013 (world premiere) - IKL Leuven, Belgium - Gulf Film Festival Dubai UAE 2013 - Huesca Film Festival 2013 - Progetto Cinema 2013 - Horcynus Festival 2013, Italy - Duhok Film Festival 2013 - 1st Kalar International Film Festival 2013 - 6th Asian-Moroccan Short Film Festival Tissa 2013 - Film Festival Delicatessen 2013, Belgium - Brussels Film Festival 2013 - Law Film festival - Kurdistan Irak - MENAR Film Festival - 6th edition - Umea Campus Royal Film festival 2013 - Rencontres du Cinema Arabe Marseille 2013 - 19th Lessinia Film Festival 2013 - Arab Film Festival Australia 2013 - Film Festival Malmö 2013 - TaZ Oostende 2013 - Festival du monde Arabe Azrou-Ifrane 2013 - Nederlands Film Festival Utrecht 2013 - 10th Sedicicorto International Film Festival 2013 - Beirut Film Festival 2013 - PUFF New York 2013 - CircuitoOff Venice 2013 - Farabi Film Festival Teheran 2013 - Visioni Corte 2013 - UWFF 2013 New York - 5th HAFF 2013 Hangzhou (China) -

Image Film festival 2013 Denmark - International Short Film festival Drama Greece 2013 - Teheran Short Film festival 2013 - Film Festival Reggio Emilia 2013 - 27th International Festival of Films for Children and Young Adults 2013 - 5th Lahore International Children's Film Festival 2013 – Pakistan - Baghdad International Film Festival 2013 - Ayjal Youth Festival Doha 2013 - Regiofun Film festival Katowice 2013 Poland - ISFFC Cyprus 2013 - Alexandria Film Festival 2013 - Evolution EIFF Palma 2013 Mallorca XVIII International TV Festival Bar Montenegro - Filemon Childrens festival Brussels 2013 Belgium - Arlington International Film Festival 2013 - 9th Children's India International Film Festival 2013 - Relatos Cortos Film festival Buenos Aires 2013 - Contemporary Festival Kathmandu Nepal 2013 - Flutlicht Film Festival Switzerland 2013 - Interfilm Festival Berlin 2013 - Grand OFF Warsaw Poland 2013 - Relics Kunstenfestival Antwerpen 2013 - Fesitval di cortometragio di Resana 2013 - 8th London Kurdish film festival 2013 - 24FPS International Film Festival 2013, Texas - 3rd Gulf Film Days Amman 2013 - Arab Camera Filmfestival Rotterdam 2013 - Certamen Cortos Soria filmfestival 2013 - Batman Turkey Film festival 2013 – Foyle International Film Festival Londenderry Ireland 2013 – 9th International Children's Film Festival Bengaluru, India 2013 - Gijon International film festival Spain 2013 – KO&Digital Film festival Cine Solidario 2013, Barcelona, Spain – 7th L'Aguila International Film festival 2013, Italy – 1st Toamna auf Aur 2013 Chisisnau, Moldavia – Sportfilmfestival 2013 Antwerpen, Belgium – Bogoshorts 2013, Bogota, Colombia

## A TEAM PRODUCTIONS

Sahim Omar Kalifa once again joined forces with **a team productions**, a Belgian production company founded by Hendrik Verthé & Kobe Van Steenberghe. As producers, they focus on working with young, talented directors. Supported by the Flanders Audiovisual Fund, they have produced several short films and feature-length documentaries. At the moment, they are shooting their first feature film.

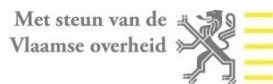


### FILMOGRAPHY

2013	feature film	<b>Image</b>	- Postproduction
2013	documentary	<b>La muerte en la tarde</b>	- Shooting
2013	documentary	<b>What about Eric</b>	- Postproduction
2013	documentary	<b>Applausman</b>	- Postproduction
2013	documentary	<b>The Circle</b>	- Winner Best Medium Length Documentary Hot Docs International Film Festival 2013
2013	short film	<b>Baghdad Messi</b>	- Winner Best Short Film Gulf Film Festival Dubai
2011	short film	<b>19:00</b>	- Exclusively for MTV
2011	short film	<b>Land of the Heroes</b>	- Winner Berlin International Film Festival
2010	short film	<b>Injury Time</b>	- Winner Brussels International Film Festival
2010	short film	<b>How to enrich yourself by driving women into emotional and financial bankruptcy?</b>	- Winner Leuven International Short Film Festival
2009	short film	<b>Aan zij die blijven</b>	- Selection Leuven International Short Film Festival
2009	short film	<b>Jappegem</b>	- Belgian entry Student Academy Awards
2009	short film	<b>Victor</b>	- Winner Festimages Charleroi Short Film Festival

## SUPPORTED BY

- The Flanders Audiovisual Fund (VAF)
- Flanders Image
- Flemish Government
- Belgian tax shelter financing
- The Dubai Entertainment and Media Organisation (co-producer)
- uFilm – uShort (co-producer)
- Enjaaz, a Dubai Film Market initiative
- Gulf Script Market
- Directorate of Cinema Arts Dohuk
- Société des Auteurs et Compositeurs Dramatique (SACD)



## CONTACT DATA

### **a team productions bvba**

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### **Flanders Image**

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