

IN BETWEEN , A PLACE

خاپی
در میانه

LOGLINE

Living between Germany and her home country of Iran, filmmaker Faezeh searches for where she belongs. Sustained by her intimate, long-distance bond with her two closest friends — one in exile and one unable to leave — the three women turn to cinema as a shared practice of survival, transforming distance into a place they can call home.



SYNOPSIS

Iranian filmmaker Faezeh remains connected to her homeland through her childhood friends — Narges, exiled in Germany for political reasons, and Hamideh, unable to leave Iran. Bound by their shared commitment to cinema, the three women sustain a decade-long filmic exchange across borders, using the camera to hold onto one another and to question what home means when it is fractured by distance.

Opening with Faezeh's archival footage from 2009, the film captures the last time the three young women stood side by side, imagining an uncertain future. Over the next thirteen years — shaped by political turmoil and mass protests — their decade-long filmic conversation endures. Across borders, they remain in constant exchange, and through the act of making a film together, cinema becomes a place where reunion is possible — if only for a moment.



DIRECTOR'S NOTE

I left my homeland, Iran, more than fifteen years ago — not because I was forced to, but by choice. I can return at any time. And yet I live with a persistent sense of displacement: a stranger everywhere, at home nowhere. A self-imposed exile. A life lived in between.

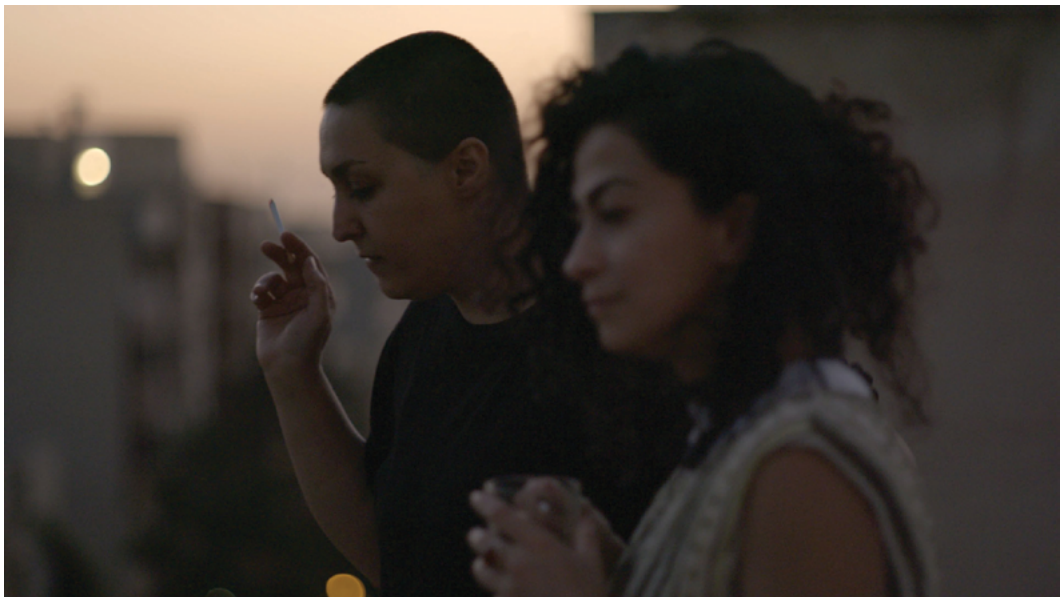
Some say we are shaped more by our experiences than by the places we come from. But our experiences are inseparable from place. Distance does not only change where we live — it reshapes what we witness, what we share, and what we come to understand, or no longer understand, about each other.

This film grows out of that distance. Through my friendship with two women I grew up with — both filmmakers — I reflect on how our lives have unfolded under radically different conditions: staying, leaving, being unable to return. Across borders and separation, the camera becomes a way to remain present in each other's lives, to sustain a connection that physical proximity no longer allows.

I am not searching for a definitive answer to where home is. Instead, this film asks whether friendship and cinema can hold what has been fractured — creating a fragile space of belonging that exists only through the act of making, looking, and listening together.

DIRECTORS BIOGRAPHY

Faezeh Nikoozad is an Iranian filmmaker and video artist based in Hamburg. She works across documentary, experimental film, and mixed media, exploring themes of home, childhood memory, and displacement. Her films have been shown and awarded at international festivals and exhibitions, including Festival dei Popoli, Kasseler Dokfest, Kino der Kunst, and the Berlin Biennale.



DIRECTORS
FILMOGRAPHY

DEGAR DISI
(2020)

Experimental / 16mm / 09:28 Min.

Histoire d'un ciel en creux - Exhibition 2022 / Brussels (BEL)
Festival Internacional de Cine de Autor 2021 /Guadalajara (MEX)
Altonale - Das Hamburger Kulturfestival 2021 / Hamburg (DEU)
The International Film Festival KineNova Skopje 2020 / Macedonia(MKD)

MISSED EMBRACE
(2019)

Documentary / HD / 53:08 Min.

16. dokumentarfilmwoche 2019 / Hamburg (GER)
Berenberg-Filmpreis der HFBK 2019
28 dokumentART, Neubrandenburg Germany
60 FESTIVAL DEI POPOLI IFF
36 DOKfest Kassel, nominated for Golden Key

ASB
(2017)

Experimental / 16mm / 07:54 Min.

Blue Star Contemporary - Exhibition 2022 / San Antonio TX (USA)
Histoire d'un ciel en creux - Exhibition 2022 / Brussels (BEL)
Biennale Mulhouse 2021 / Exhibition - Mulhouse (FRA)
Darmstädter Sezession 2021 / Darmstadt (GER)
Kino der Kunst 2020 / Munich (GER)
Award Prix VIDEOFORMES 2018 / Ville de Clermont-Ferrand (FRA)
4th Pori Film Festiva 2018 / Pori (FIN)
Over the course of the 10th Berlin Biennale 2018 / Berlin (GER)
SHORTS - Trinationales Filmfestival 2018 / Offenburg (GER)
FILMZ - Festival des deutschen Kinos 2018 / Mainz (GER)
BUNKERHILL Galerie - Group Exhibition 2018/ Hamburg (GER)

DOGME
(2015)

Experimental / 16mm / 06:06 Min.

Concerto Film Festival 2015 / Piacenza (IT)
SHORTS UNDER THE STAR (Selection of Concerto Film Festival 2015) / Malta (MLT)
Kino der Kunst 2015 / Munich (GER)
14th International Festival Signes de Nuit / Paris (FR) and Berlin (GER)
State Museum for Art and Design 2015 / Nuremberg (GER)
Heitland Foundation 2016 / Celle (GER)



ABOUT
FÜNFERFILM

Fünferfilm is a Hamburg-based production company dedicated to films with a distinctive auteur voice. We focus on supporting emerging talent and producing a diverse range of projects, from feature films to documentaries and shorts. Committed to pushing cinematic boundaries, we collaborate with talented filmmakers and international co-producers to create films that challenge, inspire, and connect with audiences around the world.

Since its founding, Fünferfilm has made a notable impact internationally. Our first feature, **Drift** (2017) by Helena Wittmann, premiered at the Venice Critics' Week. Wittmann's second film, **Human Flowers of Flesh** (2022), co-produced with France's TITA Productions, premiered at Locarno, solidifying her reputation. In 2023, our documentary **La Empresa** by André Siegers premiered at Rotterdam, followed by **Reproduktion** (2024) by Katharina Pethke at Berlinale +Forum+. **Der Fleck** (2024) by Willy Hans received a special mention at Locarno's Pardo Verde. In 2025, **Strandzha**, a documentary by Pepa Hristova, co-produced with Agitprop, Bulgaria, premiered at Rotterdam International Film Festival.

DER FLECK
(2024)

Fiction feature by Willy Hans
Co-produced with 8horses (CH)
Premiere at Locarno 2024

REPRODUKTION
(2024)

Documentary feature by Katharina Pethke
Premiere at Berlinale +Forum+ 2024

LA EMPRESA
(2023)

Fiction feature by André Siegers
Premiere at International Film Festival Rotterdam 2023

HUMAN FLOWERS OF FLESH
(2022)

Fiction feature by Helena Wittmann
Co-produced with Tita Productions (FR)
Premiere at Locarno Film Festival 2022

AT THE BOTTOM OF THE SEA
(2020)

Documentary feature by Karsten Krause
Premiere at International Film Festival Rotterdam 2020

OLANDA
(2019)

Documentary feature by Bernd Schoch
Premiere at Berlinale +Forum+ 2019

DRIFT
(2017)

Fiction feature by Helena Wittmann
Premiere at Venice Critics' Week 2017

IN BETWEEN, A PLACE

a film by

FAEZEH NIKOOZAD

Germany / 1h35 / colour / 2026

Farsi/German with English subtitles

film production Germany

FÜNFERFILM

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CREW &
SUPPORT

presented at

DOK Leipzig DOK Preview International / 2025

Docs-in-progress Marché du Film Festival de Cannes -
DAE (Documentary Association of Europe) Award / 2024

CIRCLE Women Doc Accelerator film development program / 2023

DOK.fest München DOK.forum Marketplace / 2023

script & direction

FAEZEH NIKOOZAD

sound mix

ROMAN VEHLKEN

cinematography

STEPHAN ROSCHE
FAEZEH NIKOOZAD

colors & mastering

TIM LIEBE

editing

FARAHNAZ SHARIFI

title graphics

UNA HELBIG

additional editing

SIMON QUACK
FAEZEH NIKOOZAD

subtitles

XXXXXX

music

ATENA ESHTIAGHI

film production Germany
FÜNFERFILM

dramaturgical collaboration

DANIEL FAEZI
RENE FRÖLKE

producer

JULIA CÖLLEN
KARSTEN KRAUSE
FRANK SCHEUFFELE

sound recording

ATENA ESHTIAGHI
PATRICK DADACZYNSKI

with

HAMIDEH GOLMOHAMMADI
NARGES KALHOR

sound design

PATRICK DADACZYNSKI

funded by

MOIN FILMFÖRDERUNG HAMBURG SCHLESWIG-HOLSTEIN

BKM - DIE BEAUFTRAGTE DER BUNDESREGIERUNG FÜR
KULTUR UND MEDIEN

CLAUSSEN-SIMON-STIFTUNG

