

a Cinema Guild release



With Hasan in Gaza
Ma' Hasan Fi Ghazza
مع حسن في غزة

Opens May 29 in New York at Metrograph
2025 / 106 min / 1.78:1 / DCP / Stereo / Color
Arabic with English subtitles

Press

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Booking

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Synopsis

Three MiniDV tapes of life in Gaza from 2001 were recently rediscovered. This footage is now a testament to a place and time that no longer exists. What started as a search for a former prison mate from 1989—a man lost to time and war— led to an unexpected road trip from the north to the south of Gaza with Hasan, a local guide whose fate remains unknown. As the camera moves through Gaza's streets and landscapes, it records fleeting moments of everyday life—fragments of a reality now irreversibly altered. With Hasan in Gaza transforms this forgotten footage into a cinematic reflection on memory, loss and the passage of time, capturing a Gaza of the past and lives that may never be found again.

Director's Note

An homage to Gaza and its people, to all that was erased and that came back to me in this urgent moment of Palestinian existence, or non-existence. It is a film about the catastrophe, and the poetry that resists.

This is my first film, which I have never made.

Credits

Conceived and Directed by: Kamal Aljafari

in collaboration with: Hasan Elboubou

Camera & Sound: Kamal Aljafari

Editing: Kamal Aljafari

Music: Simon Fisher Turner, Attila Faravelli

Color Grading & Compositing: Yannig Willmann

Assistant Editing: Martin Arbelaez

Sound Mixing: Jochen Jezussek

Executive Producer: Flavia Mazzarino

Editing Consultant: Benjamin Mirguet

Additional Music: Lucy Railton

Title design: Toby Cornish

Tape Digitisation: Crème – Ulf Wrede

Other contribution: Alessandro Gagliardo, Hans Broich

Production: Kamal Aljafari Productions

Supported by: Doha Film Institute, Centre National des Arts Plastiques, Gwaertler Stiftung, Columbia Institute for Ideas and Imagination, Media City Film Festival's Chrysalis Fellowship, Atelier 105 – Light Cone

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Select Festivals & Awards

Europa Cinemas Label – Locarno Film Festival
Best Documentary – International Cinephile Society Awards
Grand Prize Frontier Competition – DMZ Docs
The Mayor's Prize – Yamagata International Documentary Film Festival
Best Artistic Achievement award – Doha Film Festival
Special Jury Prize – Athens Avant-Garde Film Festival
Official Selection – Los Angeles Festival of Movies
Official Selection – Toronto International Film Festival
Official Selection – New York Film Festival
Official Selection – BFI London Film Festival
Official Selection – Viennale - Vienna International Film Festival
Official Selection – Vancouver International Film Festival
Official Selection – DocLisboa
Official Selection – São Paulo Film Festival
Official Selection – Cineuropa Film Festival
Official Selection – IDFA
Official Selection – FIDOCS

Biography

Palestinian filmmaker and artist Kamal Aljafari is known for his distinctive approach to cinema. He studied at the Academy of Media Arts in Cologne and has held teaching positions at The New School in New York and the Deutsche Film-und Fernsehakademie in Berlin. He was awarded a Radcliffe Fellowship at Harvard University and most recently a fellowship at The Columbia Institute for Ideas and Imagination in Paris (2024–2025). As from September 2025, he is a resident at Académie des beaux-arts x Cité internationale des arts in Paris. His installation “The Camera of the Dispossessed” was shown at the 35th Bienal de São Paulo in 2023. Aljafari was also honored at IndieLisboa 2024 with a full retrospective of his work at the Portuguese Cinematheque as well as at the Madrid Spanish Cinematheque in 2025. The feature film “A Fidai Film” (2024) was shown in over hundred festivals and won around 10 international awards. His most recent work, “With Hasan in Gaza” (2025), premiered in the International Competition at Locarno Film Festival, where it was awarded with the Europa Cinemas Label. The film has received main awards at DMZ Docs, Yamagata International Documentary Film Festival, CINEMED, Festival dei Popoli and is currently shortlisted for the European Film Academy.

Filmography

Feature Films:

With Hasan in Gaza (2025)

A Fidai Film (2024)

An Unusual Summer (2020)

Recollection (2015)

Port of Memory (2010)

The Roof (2006)

Short Films:

UNDR (2024)

Paradiso, XXXI, 108 (2023)

It's a Long Way from Amphioxus (2019)

Balconies (2007)

Visit Iraq (2003)