



Raha Hajzeinal

Resume

SHORT BIO

Raha Hajzeinal is an Iranian actress, singer and cinema and theater director

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| Date Of Birth | 26 May 1987 |
| Place Of Birth | Tehran, Iran |
| Credits | Actress, Director, Singer |
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Biography

Raha Hajizeinal was born in Tehran on May 26, 1987. Acting from the time of his studies at the Cinema University, theater began. Dirty and Lie, Square, Women Auschwitz, Invasion, Travelers, Oliver Twist, Judgment, Theater Shooting, Hamlet, Closet Open, Cronus and the Last Battle are among the theatrical works in which he played a role. Alireza Amini's cinematic film was his first professional career in the field of cinema. asphyxia, shabash, Maman, No.9, Blue whale, and like a nightmare, including the works of Haji Zainal in the field of cinema and television. In September 2021, she staged two plays, Holodomor and Auschwitz in Kyiv, Ukraine, and at the Lviv Theater Festival in Ukraine. She won the Special Jury Prize of the Golden Lion Theater Festival in (LVIV) Ukraine. She is the best scriptwriter of the National Iranian Youth Festival for writing the screenplay "Adalan".

Trivia

She is an opera and pop singer, but due to the situation in Iran, she never managed to continue his career in this field and preferred to continue acting. For many years, she worked as a complementary singer with famous Iranian singers such as Farzad Farzin, Reza Sadeghi, Bijan Afshar and Mehdi Ebrahimi Nejad, but She could never give a concert alone. In 2011, She won the award for best music designer at the International University Theater Festival of Iran. She received this award from Hamid Saminarian for designing and playing the music for the play "Black Holes".



Filmography

2012 - Without Farewell

Directed by Ahmad Amini

ACTRESS

2015 - NEED, SHORT, FICTION

DIRECTOR / PRODUCER

2016 - ME? YOU? SHORT, FICTION

DIRECTOR

2017 - Present

Directed by Hamed Kolahdari

ACTRESS

2017 - Asphyxia

Directed by Fereydoun Jeyrani

ACTRESS

2019 – Blue Whale

Directed by Fereydoun Jeyrani

ACTRESS

2018 – Brunt Ink

Directed by Soleiman Ghavipankeh

ACTRESS

2019 - BLOCKED CAFE, SHORT, FICTION

AUTHOR AND DIRECTOR

2021 - Maman

Directed by Arash Anessee

ACTRESS

2022 - CORAL BLUE, SHORT, FICTION

PRODUCTION DESIGNER

2022 – Non Domestic

Directed By Hesam Saleh Beig

ACTRESS

2023 - NO.9. SHORT, FICTION

Directed By Ali Safari

ACTRESS / PRODUCTION MANAGER

2023 - MITOSIS. SHORT, FICTION

DIRECTOR

2023 - BLACK FOREST, SHORT, FICTION

ACTRESS / PRODUCER





Theater Acting

2018 - Shooting in the Theater
Dir: Sogand Moghadam/Tehran

2015 - Women's Auschwitz
Dir: Raha Hajizeinal/Tehran

2015 - Always Crazy
Dir: Ali Safari/Tehran

2016 - The Last Battle
Dir: Saeed Taghvaei Tehran

2016 - Oliver Twist
Dir: Hossein Parsaei/Tehran

2016 - Women's Auschwitz
Dir: Ali Safari/Tehran; Da House, 36th Fajr Theater Festival

2016 – Invasion
Dir: Raha Hajizeinal/Tehran/ 36th Fajr Theater Festival

2016- Cronos
Dir: Ali Safari/ Tehran

2017 - Women's Auschwitz
Dir by: Raha Hajizeinal/Tehran

2019 – Cricket
Dir: Arash Sanjabi/Tehran

2019 – Fences
Dir by: Yasman Nosrati/Tehran

2021 - Women's Auschwitz
Dir: Ali Safari/ Kyiv, Ukraine/32th Golden Theater Festival

2021 - Holodomor
Dir: Raha Hajizeinal/ Kyiv, Ukraine/32th Golden Theater Festival



Theater Directing

She has been teaching acting for many years. Most of the plays She has directed have been performed by his students. Together with her husband Ali Safari, he is in charge of the trio art group, which is very popular in Iran.

She is one of the most prolific female theater directors in Iran. To date, She has directed nearly 10 theaters. Auschwitz Women, Holodomor, Kebab, Berlin 10:10, Invasion, brief are some of his works in the theater.

In 2021, he performed the play Holodomor in Tehran. The Ukrainian ambassador saw the play and invited it to perform in Kyiv. The play was performed in the cities of Kyiv and Lviv, Ukraine, and received a special award from the jury of the International Golden Lion Theater Festival of Ukraine.



2015 - Women's Auschwitz
Tehran/Bazigah Theater Hall

2016 – Invasion
Tehran/Nofel Loshato Hall

2016 – Passengers
Tehran/Bazigah Theater Hall

2017 - Death of Yazdgerd
Tehran/Bazigah Theater Hall

2017 - Opening the package
Tehran/Bazigah Theater Hall

2018 - Women's Auschwitz
Tehran/Shaherzad Theater Campus

2019 - Berlin 10:10
Tehran/Da Show House

2019 - Holodomor
Tehran/ Neauphle-le-Château Hall

2021 - Holodomor
Kiev/Ukraine/New Theatre on Pechersk

2021 - Holodomor
Lviv/Ukraine/Golden Lion Theater Festival

2021 – Kebab
Tehran/ Neauphle-le-Château Hall

Mitosis Short Film By Raha Hajzeinal/2023/Behind The Scenes





Award's

- Special recognition of the jury of the 32nd International Golden Lion Festival of Ukraine 2021
- Selected Music Award from the 15th Soureh Student Theater Festival for the play "Black Holes"
- The best female actress from the second play reading festival of Dr. Nazerzadeh Kermani for show "Square"
- The best director for the film Niaz from the Tehran International Short Film Festival
- Screenwriting award from Iranian National Youth Festival
- The first role of the supporting role of Nahal Film Festival
- The best voice award from the festival in search of the best voice of Burna
- Best Actress in Campinas Film Festival 2023/Brazil

DIRECTOR'S INTERVIEW



Why did you choose the name “Mitosis”?

Mitosis means the division of the cell nucleus into two equal cells, and since the main character of the film seeks to share a part of his existence with another person or a statue, we named it mitosis.

Does the story of Mitosis also happen in real life?

Emotionally and because I talked to many sculptors, what happened to this artist was understandable for many. From the artistic point of view and what happens to an artist in isolation, it can be said that there are many of us in my society. This lostness existed in the majority of these artists, the fact that the majority of sculptors reflected their lostness in their works was a common occurrence in most of them.

This film includes various elements of art such as theater, cinema, music, and sculpture. Did you plan to make a performative film?

Undoubtedly, my experience in the field of music as a female singer, my presence in the theater as a director and director of more than 10 shows, as well as acting and directing in the cinema field, have not been without influence in the direction of Mitosis. The traces of all these arts can be seen everywhere in this film, and these traces have been my experiences in my artistic life. The combination of three elements of music, cinema, and theater has always existed in my cinema and theater works. On the other hand, sculpture is my personal interest, maybe I have never pursued this art professionally, but I have always been and am a

special audience for sculpture. For this reason, I was no stranger to this art, and when I wanted to show the life of an artist in this film, I went to a sculptor. But in general, if I want to say that I wanted to make a performance film, it was not like that. I went along with the drama. I wanted to make a dramatic film using the above elements. The choice of the sculptor was in a way that could advance the drama and the story. Mitosis's short film is a very dramatic film about the daily life of a sculptor.

Normally, Iranian films that are shown in international festivals are about Iran's social problems. Why didn't you go for making such a work that usually wins awards?

First of all, let me say that by the way, this movie is completely social. However, I looked at the hidden part of Iranian society. The part that always lives in secret. A part of society that maybe we don't see in the streets and they are always isolated. Therefore, dealing with the life of an artist who is LGBT is completely social. However, I went to the isolation of this person. I didn't want to repeat making social films. I was looking for the truth in this film and addressing this issue is the same as the truth. What problems does a LGBT artist face? Unfortunately, being an artist alone in my society has many difficulties. Now imagine that you are a LGBT artist. I wanted to be the language of many people who do not talk about this issue. I can honestly say that I did not make my film to win an award. This was my concern and that's why I made this film.



DIRECTOR'S INTERVIEW

What were your selection criteria for choosing the actors? As a female director, how did you direct your actors to play the roles of two LGBT people?

Unfortunately, the issue of homosexuals is taboo in my society, it is very difficult to approach this issue, and on the one hand, if you want to make an honest and maybe bold work on this issue, it makes it more difficult. For this reason, it was very difficult for me, the director, as well as the actors, to deal with this issue. In Iranian cinema, you can't even make a movie about the relationship between a man and a woman, let alone make a movie about LGBT people. I tried to show the feelings of these two characters honestly, without exaggeration, and completely real. These feelings are sometimes misunderstood in my society, but it is a sincere and normal relationship. I had many conversations with the actors of this film and we tried our best to make both actors express their emotions completely naturally. Understand your personality and portray this relationship realistically with all the challenges of a natural relationship. My actors tried to overcome existing taboos and present a real view of their characters.

Tell us about the filmmaking style of the film and how you work with Hanif Parandeh as the director of photography.

I have a history of long-term cooperation with Hanif Parandeh, always after the completion of the script, my first action is long-term discussions with Hanif. He has a lot of intelligence, he always helps me in the important parts of the film, and his view of cinema is close to mine. We tried to choose a kind of style in

filming to be close to the character and his mental and personal space. The fiery personal atmosphere of the first character of this film defines the camera's gaze. I was looking for a kind of chaos in the filming, a chaos that comes from the character's core identity. For this reason, we avoided any arrangement space. We wanted to constantly look for the subject in the filming, and for this reason, all the decoupages were formed based on this look. Fortunately, Hanif Parandeh is a knowledgeable cinematographer, and with his taste, he completely completed my vision as a director.

The closeness of my mind with the cameraman made me not to give an additional explanation, as if Hanif understood with the very first sentence what kind of image I was looking for in each shot. Fortunately, this familiarity and awareness and good relationship between me and my cameraman made the space I wanted in the decoupages to be done well.

The issue of women has always been a big challenge in Iran. We are faced with very few Iranian female directors. What is the challenge of being a female director in Iran?

Iranian women are being banned from the day they are born; from the day they learn to walk and talk. We have always been limited. Women in Iran are prohibited from freedom, and as they grow, the obstacles in front of them become bigger. We are separated from men in all moments of life. In childhood, during education, and during work, we have many restrictions compared to men. Unfortunately, there are these limitations in

DIRECTOR'S INTERVIEW



art and in directing. Everyone believes that women are not capable of doing hard work and since directing is a tough profession, it is not easily left to women. If every time an Iranian woman has been praised, she has done things that maybe no one believed. Unfortunately, when these restrictions are imposed on women from childhood when they want to do something important, this weakness affects their subconscious. For this reason, women must first break the strong fence that society has built for them and then start working.

As an Iranian female director, I believe that we must be bold. We may lose many things along the way, but we must believe that we will also gain many unique things. Based on this point of view, I stood strong and chose a subject for my film that many cinematographers may not go for. I want to tell all the women of my country that with courage and courage, we can be in the best position.

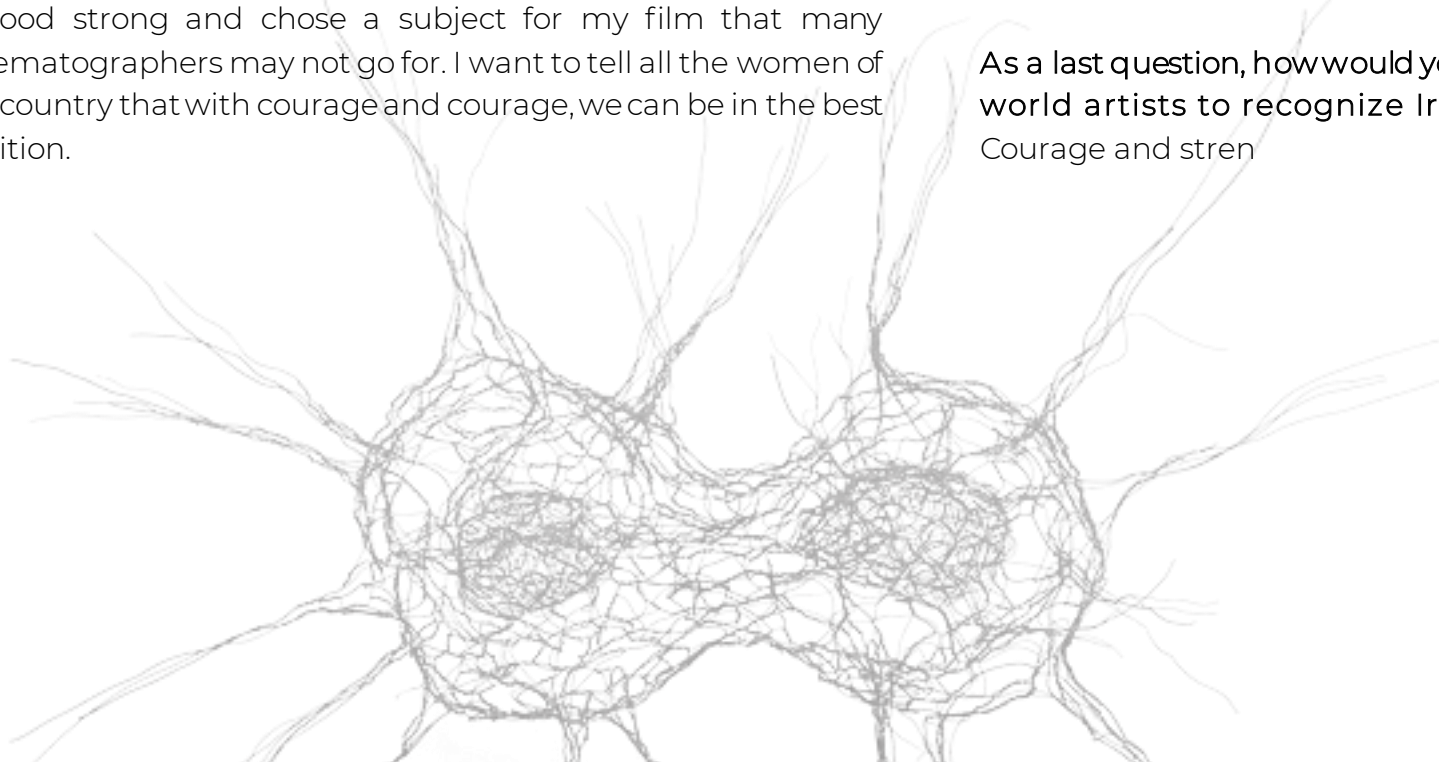
The fact that Iranian women filmmakers are underemployed is not due to the lack of awareness, literacy, and courage, sometimes obstacles are put in the way of women that do not allow them to breathe.

A mitosis short film has been made. Of course, there will be different opinions after the screening. As a director, what impression do you want the audience to have of this film?

I would like every viewer who saw this movie to think about himself and his emotions. I would like the audience of this film to face LGBT artists and the community with a better and more open view.

As a last question, how would you like the world community and world artists to recognize Iranian women?

Courage and stren







No.9 Film By Ali Safari/2023/Behind The Scenes

