

ALI MOAZEN

Filmmaker

Portfolio

2026

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ALI MOAZEN

SEP 22, 1993 TEHRAN, IRAN



I am an independent filmmaker with a strong interest in human-centered storytelling and minimalist cinematic expression. Having directed six films to date, I have developed a practice rooted in observation, emotional authenticity, and visual simplicity.

Inspired by Scandinavian and Eastern European cinema, I am drawn to narratives that reveal the extraordinary within ordinary lives. My work seeks to create intimate and meaningful connections with audiences through carefully crafted images, nuanced performances, and understated storytelling.

I view filmmaking as a lifelong discipline—one that demands curiosity, empathy, and continuous artistic growth. With every project, I strive to deepen my understanding of the medium and further develop a distinct cinematic voice.

This portfolio brings together a selection of works that represent important stages of my creative journey and the values that continue to shape my approach to filmmaking.

CURRICULUM VITAE

Education:

-MSc. Dramatic Literature

Soore Art University of Tehran (2019 - 2022)

-BSc. Civil Engineering

K.N.T.U (2011 - 2015)

-Diploma. Mathematics & Physics

Ershad High School Of Lahijan

Software Skills:

Microsoft Office

Adobe Premiere Pro

Adobe Photoshop Pro

Language Skills:

German (B2 Level)

English (B2 Level)

Spanish (A2 Level)

Persian (native)

HIT ME UP!

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Vimeo: www.vimeo.com/alimoazen

FILM

- Short Film: A Rainy Noon

Screenwriter & Director. 2019

- Short Film: The Return

Screenwriter & Director. 2020

- Short Film: Lover and the Sea

Screenwriter & Director. 2021

- Short Film: The Young Mozart

Screenwriter & Director. 2022

- Short Film: The Whispers

Director. 2023

- Short Film: The Misty Man

Actor, Screenwriter & Director. 2026

Performance

- 42 Years, Night, Director.

19th Tajrobe Theater Festival - 2018

- Force Majeure, playwright.

Divare Chaharom Hall, Tehran. October 2018

- Fools, Director.

Rajab Beigi Hall of UT, Tehran. November 2018

- Otello; Closeness, Playwright.

Mostaghel Hall, Tehran. November 2023

Workshops

- Filmmaking

Instructor: Shahram Mokri - 2018

- Performance

By Tazeh Theater Group - 2019

Jury Duty

- Zeroth Fanni Theater Festival - 2019

- 7th MADRESE Film Festival - 2021

- 13th BINESH Film Festival - 2022

Work Experiences

- Performing Arts Club for Engineers

Theater Teacher. 2018-2019

- Radio Daneshgah (University of Tehran)

Co-Founder & Broadcaster. 2018

- Podcasts (Shaba, Radio Pol, etc)

Writer & Broadcaster. 2019 - 2024

- Book (Internet and the challenges of virtual space)

Writer. 2022-2023

- Collaborate with Maghsoud Film

Director. 2022-2024

- Collaborate with The State Welfare Organization

Executive Producer. 2025

Other Work Experiences

- As a Civil Engineer. 2012-2016

- As a German Language Teacher. 2017-2018

Honors & Festivals

- A Rainy Noon

16th Nahal Short Film Festival

Nominated for Best Actress and Best Cinematography

Tehran, Iran. Jun 2019

1st Talent Discovery Online Short Film Festival

Official Selection

Tehran, Iran. Oct 2020

9th Lift-Off Filmmaker Sessions Hosted by @LiftOffGlobalNetwork

Official Selection

Iver, England. Jun 2019

- The Return

1st Festival del Cinema di Cefalù

Semi Finalist

Palermo, Italy. May 2021

1st Festival RENUAC

Official Selection

Santiago, Chile. Jan 2022

10th Lift-Off Filmmaker Sessions Hosted by @LiftOffGlobalNetwork

Official Selection

England. Aug 2021

- Otello; Closeness

1st Tazeh Theater Festival:

Award Winner of Best Playwright

Tehran, Iran. Feb 2024

- Lover and the Sea

16th Show me Shorts Film Festival (Oscar Qualifying)

Official Selection

Auckland, New Zealand. Oct 2021

4th Arthouse Film Festival

Nominated for Best Writing & Best Love Story

Austin, United States. Dec 2021

1st Garoa Awards

Winner of 4 Awards: Best Cinematography, Best Actress,
Best Make-up and Best Music

Sao Paulo, Brazil. Jul 2023

3rd Student World Impact Film Festival (SWIFF)

Award Winner of Honorable Mention

New York, United States. Jun 2023

6th Ramsgate Film Festival

Official Selection

Ramsgate, England. Jun 2022

2nd Buenos Aires Indie Shorts Awards

Official Selection

Buenos Aires, Argentina. Sep 2022

2nd Festival del Cinema di Cefalù

Official Selection

Palermo, Italy. Aug 2022

14th Rotary International Film Festival

Official Selection

Bolu, Turkey. Mar 2022

17th Nahal International Short Film Festival

Nominated for Best Actress

Tehran, Iran. Jun 2021

13th Sayeh Film Festival

Official Selection

Tehran, Iran. Jun 2022

2nd Aseman Film Festival

Official Selection

Tehran, Iran. Jul 2021

- The Young Mozart

1st London Vaporetto Shorts

Award Winner of Best Cinematography

London, England. Jun 2023

8th Direct Monthly Online Film Festival (DMOFF)

Award Winner of Most Viewed Film

Canton, United States. Jun 2023

1st Opi Soulplace Film Festival

Award Winner of Best Screenplay

Abruzzo, Italy. Jul 2023

3rd Cannes World Film Festival

Nominated for Best Black & White Film

Cannes, France. Aug 2023

1st Global Bengaluru International Film Festival

Finalist

Bangalore, India. Dec 2023

6th Kalaburagi International Film Festival

Semi-Finalist

Kalaburagi, India. Feb 2024

4th Festival Internacional de Cine Independiente de Madrid (FICIMAD)

Award Winner of Best Original Score

Madrid, Spain. Mar 2024

2nd Cut International Short Film Festival:

Official Selection

Millville, United States. Sep 2023

1st Greenwich Film Festival:

Official Selection

Greenwich, England. Sep 2023

1st Near Far Film Festival:

Official Selection

Queensland, Australia. Dec 2023

2nd Guernsey Film Fest:

Official Selection

Guernsey. Oct 2023

- The Whispers

5th Short Film Slam Presented by Madlab Post

Official Selection

Pennsylvania, United States. Dec 2023

5th First City Film Festival

Official Selection

Kansas, United States. Mar 2024

3rd Eichsfelder Film Festival

Official Selection

Heilbad Heiligenstadt, Germany. Aug 2024

15th Pune Short Film Festival

Official Selection

Pune, India. Jun 2025

4th South Italy International Film Festival

Official Selection

Barletta, Italy. Jul 2025

1st Venice Lagoon Wave Film Festival

Official Selection

Trani, Italy. Dec 2025

3rd Symbiotic Film Festival

Official Selection

Kiev, Ukraine. Apr 2025

6st Short Shot Fest

Official Selection

Moscow, Russia. Dec 2025

3rd Golden Lion International Film Festival (GLIFF)

Best International Short Film

Kolkata, India. Jul 2024

1st Post-Cinema Film Festival

Best Short Film

Sicily, Italy. May 2025

4st Monthly Future Of Film Awards

Best Short Film

Ohrid, North Macedonia. Apr 2025

5st Athens International Monthly Art Film Festival

Honorable Mention

Athens, Greece. Mar 2025

15th Yes! Let's Make a Movie International Film Festival

Honorable Mention

Montreal, Canada. Jun 2025

Artistic Experiences

A RAINY NOON (2019)

FICTION SHORT FILM

Synopsis:

A girl who loves her brother, sees a boy in college, who looks exactly like him.

Link: <https://vimeo.com/353080300>

Screenwriter & Director: Ali Moazen

Cast: Mahsa Hejazi – Ali Azimipour

Director of Photography: Soroush Hazrati

Sound : Hamed Hosseinzadeh

Set and Costume Designer: Pouyan Baghandeh

Editor: Peyman Shahmohammadi

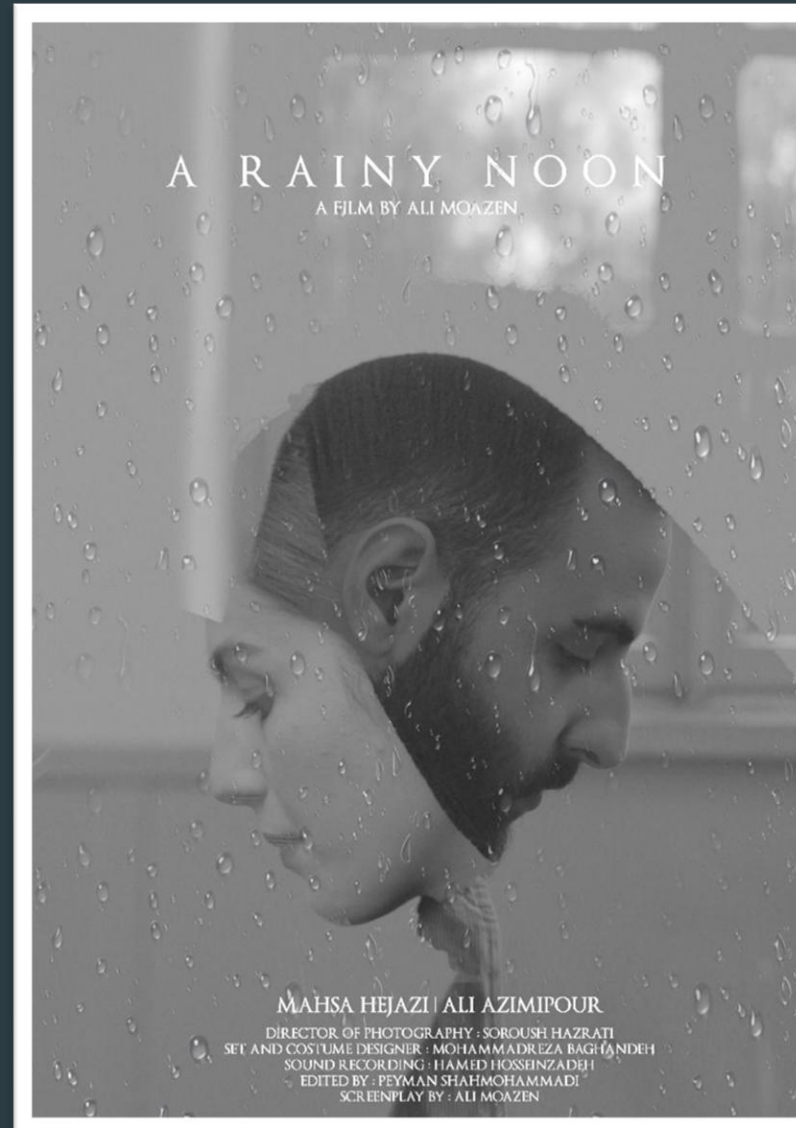
Make-up: Elham Izadparast

Color: Farbod Jalali

Assistant Director: Sepideh Parizan

Production Manager: Behnam Farhadi

Producer: Ali Moazen



STATEMENT:

After several experiences in theater, I was waiting for an opportunity to pursue my ultimate dream of making a film. One cold winter day, I went to the technical college of Tehran University to meet a friend. I was cold, and my friend suggested that we go sit in one of the empty classrooms. We passed by several classrooms and finally arrived at an empty one. The classroom in front of me was the largest and oldest in all of Tehran University. It was a class with classic architecture and wide, beautiful desks. I told my friend how great it would be if a boy and a girl sat on these desks and talked about love. This was the first spark of a screenplay in my mind.

After a couple of months and several rewrites, a rainy noon turned into a story about forbidden love between a girl and her brother. A girl who wanted to have a relationship with a boy who simply resembled her brother. From the very beginning, I saw the film in black and white. I was very influenced by the film **"Cold War"** by Paweł Pawlikowski during those days and drew inspiration from it for the décor. I sought help from close friends to produce the film and entrusted the roles to Mahsa Hejazi and Ali Azimipour, who were my actors in theater before. My first film premiered at two prestigious domestic festivals and was nominated for Best Cinematography and Best Actress at the sixteenth **Nahal Film Festival**.





THE RETURN (2020)

FICTION SHORT FILM

Synopsis:

Amirali who came to Iran for a short trip 7 years after his emigration to Germany, goes with his old friend Mahyar to their family villa in the north of the country.

Link: <https://vimeo.com/484900480>

Screenwriter & Director: Ali Moazen

Cast: Mahyar Pourbabaei – Negin Tahamtan – Kiarash Dadgar – Pouyan Fereidooni

Director of Photography: Soroush Hazrati

Sound Recordist : Amin Jafari

Sound Designer: Saman Shahamat

Set and Costume Designer: Atousa Joneid

Editor: Mahyar Behmanesh

Make-up: Sheyda Nazari

Color: Raean Dadou

Assistant Director: Behnam Farhadi

Production Manager: Amir Morsali

Producer: Ali Moazen



STATEMENT:

After making my first film, I wanted to create a more difficult and challenging film. That's why I started writing a screenplay that had many scenes and posed many production challenges. "The Return," was a film that not only had no fixed location but also had scenes that needed to be shot in the middle of the night and even before sunrise, which was a new experience for me as a director.

Just before making this film, I saw an Austrian film called "Revanche" and really liked it. The film told a bitter love story with minimal dialogue, featuring static and long shots with many pauses and silences. After watching this film, I felt that the form chosen by the Austrian director, Götz Spielmann, was a suitable platform for me to also tell my love story in this way. Therefore, I wrote scenes with minimal dialogue and did not cut the scenes in directing, utilizing static and long shots. "The Return" is the longest film I have made to date. The filming of this film took place over four consecutive days and nights, and it was a very challenging yet enjoyable experience.

After editing, the film was 31 minutes long. Due to the deliberate slow pace of the film, I felt that the film's duration would be better if it were less than this amount. Therefore, I removed 5 scenes from the film and reduced the film's duration to 23 minutes. It is true that this may make it harder for the general audience to fully understand the film, but it resulted in a version of the film that I myself really love.





LOVER AND THE SEA(2021)

FICTION SHORT FILM

Synopsis:

A married woman betrayed her husband with a man who suffers sexual dysfunction.

Link: <https://vimeo.com/542614096>

Screenwriter & Director: Ali Moazen

Cast: Soha Niasti – Ebrahim Azizi

Director of Photography: Soroush Hazrati

Sound Recordist : Hasan Keramatfar

Sound Designer: Neda Mohseni

Costume Designer: Faraz Modiri

Music: Alireza Hosseini

Editor: Mahyar Behmanesh

Make-up: Sachlin Mahdilou

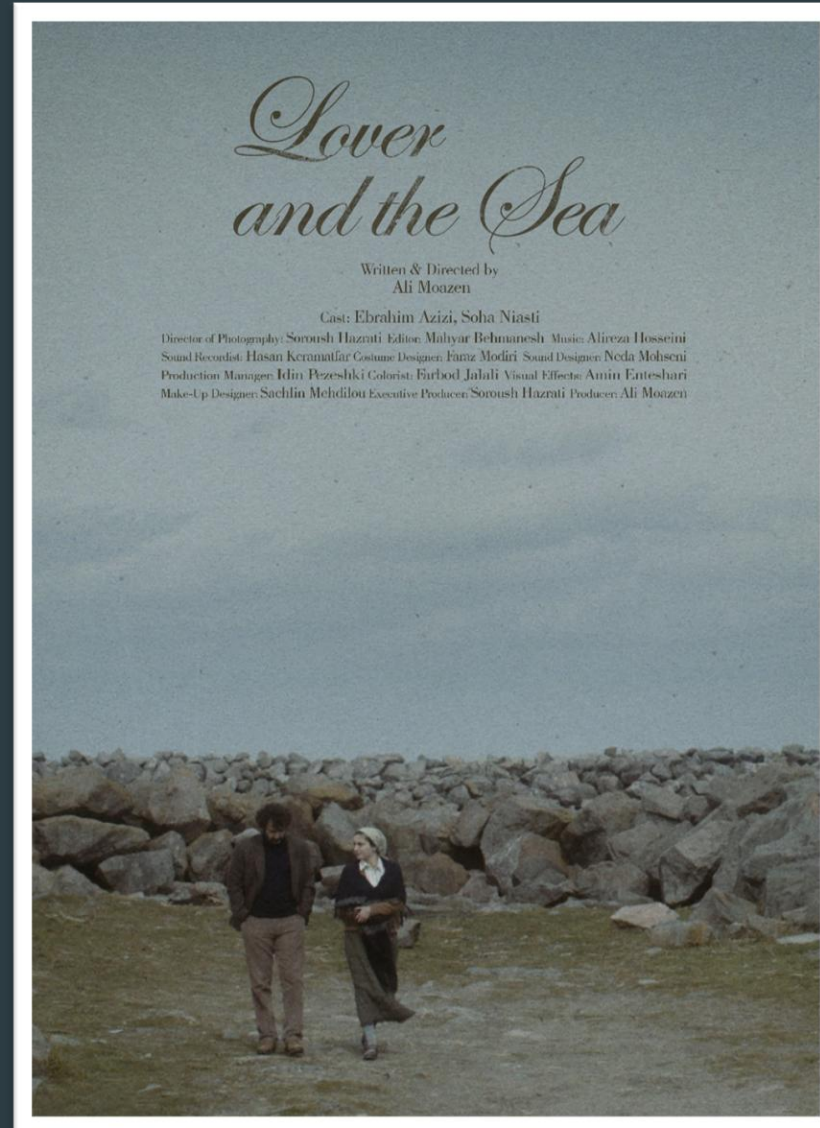
Color: Farbod Jalali

Assistant Director: Hesam Sadeghi

Production Manager: Aidin Pezeshki

Visual Artist: Amin Enteshari

Producer: Ali Moazen



STATEMENT:

And so, my third film, which is also my favorite. "Lover and the Sea" could be considered my most successful film. The film had its first screening at one of the most prestigious festivals in the world, which is also Academy Award approved. I made this film towards the end of my postgraduate studies, and for this reason, I was fortunate enough to win the prestigious award at the world's top student short film festival.

I always wanted to make a film whose story is told in breathtaking natural locations such as the sea and the forest. From the very beginning of my filmmaking career, I had the temptation to create such a poetic film, and after making my second film, I decided to overcome the challenges of production and make a compact film in the pristine locations of northern Iran.

It can be said that in this film, I was inspired by filmmakers such as Angelopoulos and Andrey Zvyagintsev, whose filmmaking style I admire greatly, and ultimately tried to create a film with my own personal signature.

After deciding to make a poetic film on the beach, I searched for a romantic story and came across a very passionate subject. The story of a man who, due to his sexual problems such as premature ejaculation or erectile dysfunction, cannot have relationships with the women he loves. In this film, we are faced with a married woman who only uses the excuse that her experience of sleeping with a man other than her husband was not good to cut off her relationship with him. The combination of a married woman and a troubled man was very exciting for me and led to a screenplay with a very bitter and poignant ending. Murder, especially in the way we see it in the film, was an idea that I was very excited about during the making of the film, and I am satisfied with the quality of its execution.

"Lover and the Sea" has been screened at several domestic and international festivals, and honestly, I never get tired of watching it myself.





THE YOUNG MOZART (2022)

FICTION SHORT FILM

Synopsis:

A woman who finds out about her son's mysterious relationship with his piano teacher, goes to the school to warn her, but in meeting her, she discovers a much bigger secret.

Link: <https://vimeo.com/781747449>

Director: Ali Moazen

Screenwriter: Ali Moazen – Peyman Ezzati

Cast: Nazanin Yousefi – Pardis Shiravani

Director of Photography: Amin Ansari

Sound Recordist : Ali Edalatdoost

Sound Designer: Neda Mohseni

Set and Costume Designer: Hana Farid

Music: Amirhossein Mousavi

Editor: Soroush Hazrati

Make-up: Sahar Mirzaei

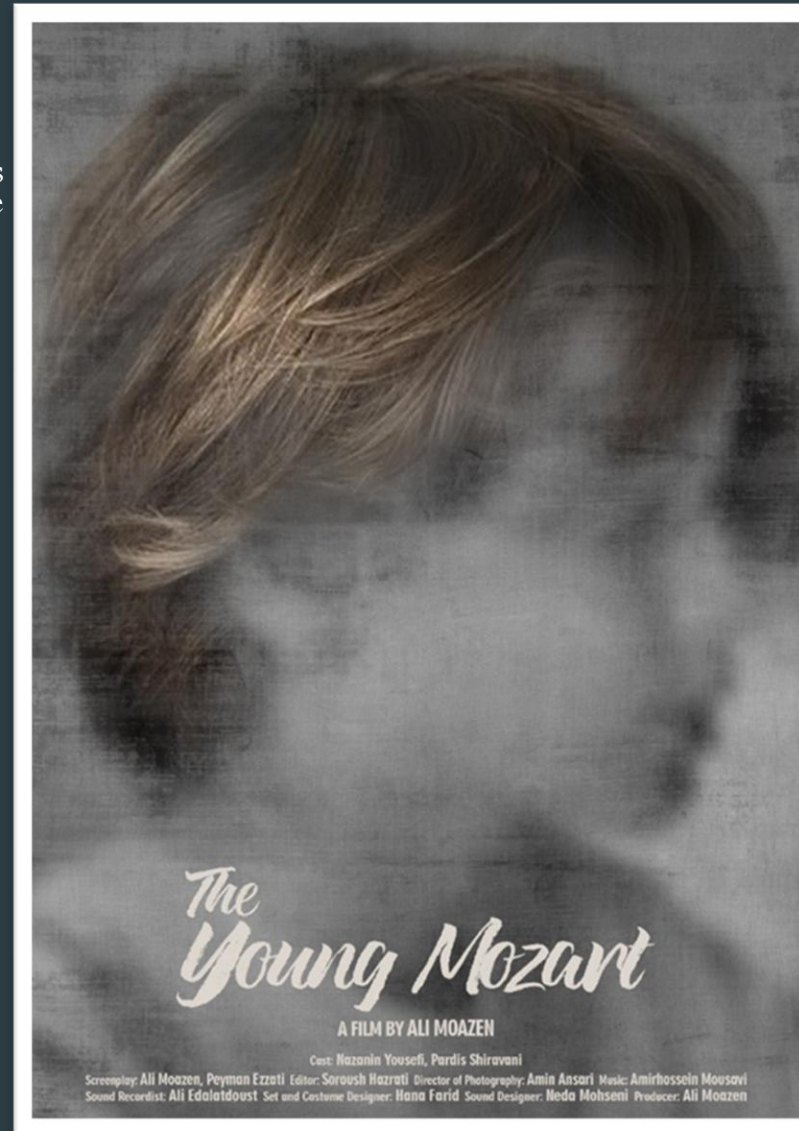
Color: Farbod Jalali

Assistant Director: Misagh Karimi

Production Manager: Danial Joharzadeh

Visual Artist: Amin Enteshari

Producer: Ali Moazen



STATEMENT:

The Young Mozart is my fourth film. It is a black and white film that tells the story of a female duel between a piano teacher and the mother of one of her students.

A year and a half after making "Lover and the Sea," I found myself in a situation where I was almost going crazy due to the distance from filmmaking, but due to financial problems and the lack of success in finding an investor, I couldn't make a film. After many ups and downs, I decided to make a short single-location film with minimal resources and budget, which would be shot in one day and completed.

I had long wanted to make a film in a language other than my mother tongue or at least make a film about a non-Iranian character. I went back to my old writings and came across the story of an Iranian-Spanish piano teacher who teaches the son of the Spanish ambassador in Iran. Within a few days, I rewrote it with the help of my university colleague, Peyman Ezzati, and visited film institutions to find a location.

One hot summer day, I was busy visiting a music school located near the German embassy garden in northern Tehran. In the midst of the visit, I encountered a teenage boy who had a European appearance. I asked the school director about him and found out that this boy is the son of the German ambassador to Iran and comes here due to the school's proximity to his residence to learn violin. This random encounter excited me greatly and I considered it the best sign to make **The Young Mozart**.

In this black and white film of mine, I once again paid tribute to the enduring works of Pawel Pawlikowski, namely "Ida" and "Cold War," and drew much inspiration from the compositions of these two works.





THE WHISPERS (2023)

FICTION SHORT FILM

Synopsis:

Few hours after their first meeting at a party, a girl and a boy are lying next to each other..

Private Link: <https://vimeo.com/835742576>

Password: 5moazen

Director: Ali Moazen

Screenwriter: Peyman Ezzati

Cast: Ehsan Gharedaghi – Nava Nemati

Director of Photography: Soroush Hazrati

Sound Recordist : Mohsen Asdaghpour

Sound Designer: Neda Mohseni

Set and Costume Designer: Ali Moazen

Music: Alireza Hosseini

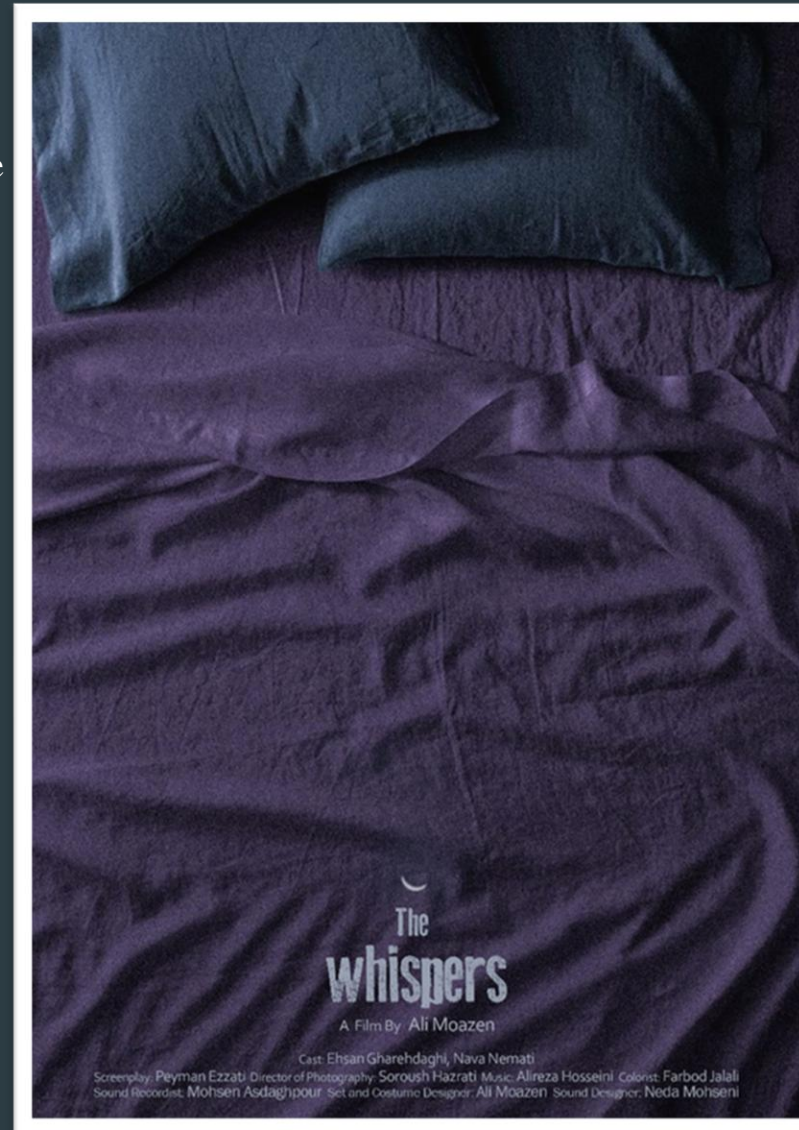
Editor: Ramrin Jamshidi

Make-up: Maral Omid

Color: Farbod Jalali

Assistant Director: Misagh Karimi

Producer: Ali Moazen



STATEMENT:

The last film of mine until today can somehow be considered the most important film in my filmmaking resume.

After the killing of **Mahsa Amini** by the forces of the Islamic Republic regime in Iran in September 2022, a movement called "**Women,Life,Freedom**" was formed in Iran, demanding freedom for Iranian women. One of the social and cultural effects of this movement was the emergence of an underground movement where some theater and filmmakers produced their works freely and without observing Islamic hijab.

It is obvious that producing such works in Iran also has its own risks, as it may lead to the arrest of the creators and severe punishments. However, I had made my decision and wanted to make my next project without hijab.

It was early 2023 when Peyman sent me the script for "**The Whispers**" to read and give my opinion on. As soon as I read the script, I called him and said I wanted to make it in the next few days. It was clear that besides the attractiveness hidden within the work, "Whispers" was a project that could be produced with minimal costs. Therefore, it was the best option in every way. It was both attractive and low-cost.

"**The Whispers**" was a seemingly romantic story with a revengeful undertone that was narrated in a room and on a bed. It was a great challenge for me to create an engaging 13-minute film in such a limited space that would captivate the audience and make them love it.

The global distribution of this film has recently started. I hope it will be successful in its international screenings.





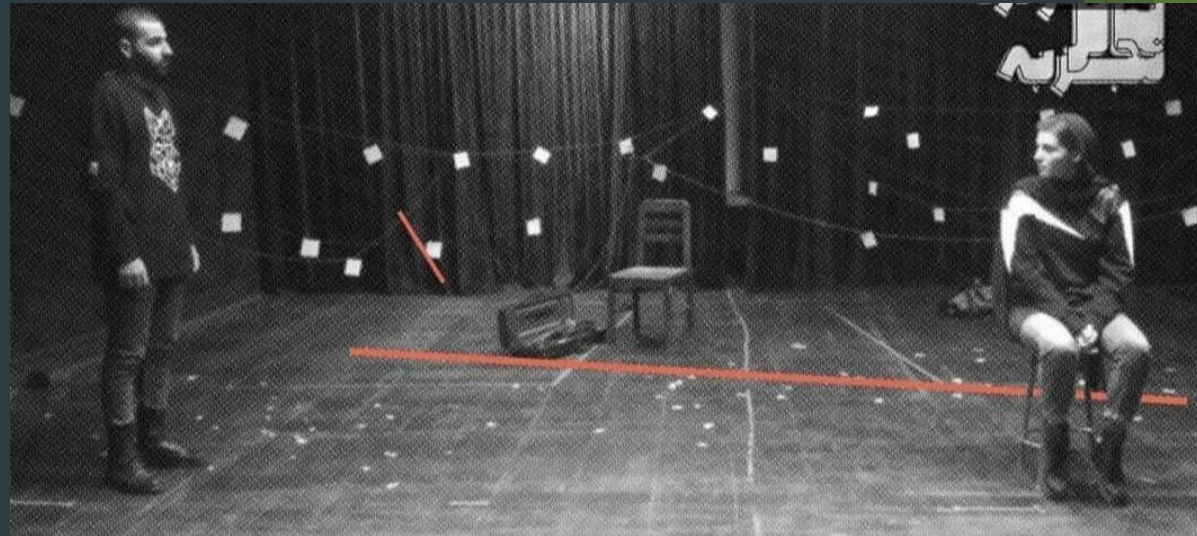
42 YEARS, NIGHT (2018)

THEATER

"42 Years, Night" was an avant-garde theater production that addressed the issue of migration. This performance revolved around a musician couple, a girl and a boy, who wanted to go to Germany for a music performance. This couple, who were in a romantic relationship, had a disagreement on whether to return to Iran after the concert in Germany or stay there and seek asylum. I was responsible for both writing and directing duties in this theater production, and a few months after this performance, I made my first film with the same two performers.

Writer & Director: Ali Moazen

Performers: Mahsa Hejazi – Ali Azimipour



FORCE MAJEURE (2018)

THEATER

"Force Majeure" was the title of a play that ran for 24 nights in a prominent theater in Tehran in 2019. I was the playwright of this performance and wrote the text with a different adaptation from one of Sarah Kane's plays. This theater production was about a psychiatric center under the supervision of a therapist, a person who gradually revealed to be more psychologically troubled than all the psychiatric patients in that facility.

Writer: Ali Moazen

Director: Erfan Razavi



نویسنده / علی مؤذن
کارگردان / عرفان رضوی
Director / Erfan Razavi - Writer / Ali Moazen
کروه کارگردانی / علی مؤذن - عرفان تهرانی فر - تهیه کننده / رضا دشتی
Cast / Director / Ali Moazen - Erfan Tahrani Far - Producer / Reza Dashti
بازیگران (به ترتیب حروف الفبا) / زهرا آهنکری / عرفان تهرانی فر / غزل صادق الوعد
Actors / Zahra Ahankari - Erfan Tahrani Far - Ghazal Sadeghlooe
سحر صفریان / کاوه فرجامنش / نگین فیروزمندش / سیروس محمدی
Sahar Safarian / Kaveh Farjadmansh / Negin Firoozmandsh / Siyous Mohammadi
یکم تا سیام مهرماه ۹۸ / تماشاخانه دیوار چهارم
23th september - 22th October 2019 / Fourth Wall Theater



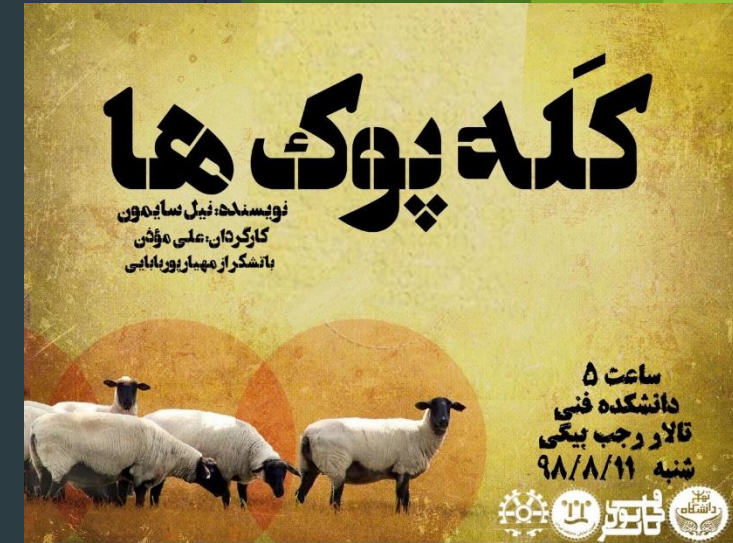
FOOLS(2018)

THEATER

"Fools" is a famous comedic play written by Neil Simon. Over the years, I have trained students and introduced them to the phenomenon of theater. In one of the workshops I held, I worked with young people under the age of 20 who had no prior experience in theater. After months of theoretical and practical sessions, I decided to direct a comedic play with ten of my most talented students, and for this purpose, I chose "Fools" This performance was an extraordinary experience for me because my actors were dedicated to their work and had a great enthusiasm for theater. Our show premiered in the fall of 2018 in one of the auditoriums at the University of Tehran's Engineering Faculty and was very well received by the students.

Writer: Neil Simon

Director: Ali Moazen



OTELLO; CLOSENESS (2023)

THEATER

"Otello; Closeness" was an independent and underground theater production that went on stage without adhering to the laws governing the Islamic Republic of Iran, and was met with a great reception from the audience. The text of this play was written with inspiration from William Shakespeare's play "Othello", focusing on the main characters Otello and Desdemona and their relationship. In this play, we followed a young man and woman who were rehearsing the play "Otello" and realized the many similarities between their relationship and the relationship between Otello and Desdemona.

Writer: Ali Moazen – Peyman Ezzati

Director: Mahyar Pourbabaie



Awards & Nominations



Work Experiences

Jury Duty

-Zeroth Fanni Theater Festival

This festival was held in 2019 under the supervision of Amirhossein Shirali, the head of the University of Tehran Theater Society, providing a platform for those whose academic field is nothing but theater at the university to engage in a theatrical competition. I had the honor to be an art judge at this event and observed the emergence of many talents.



-7th MADRESEH Film Festival

This film festival selected its judges on a voluntary basis after reviewing their artistic resumes. I participated in this call at the invitation of **Ramtin Shahbazi**, a well-known film critic and the director of the cinema group at Soore Art University. I am honored to have been one of the judges at this student film festival.

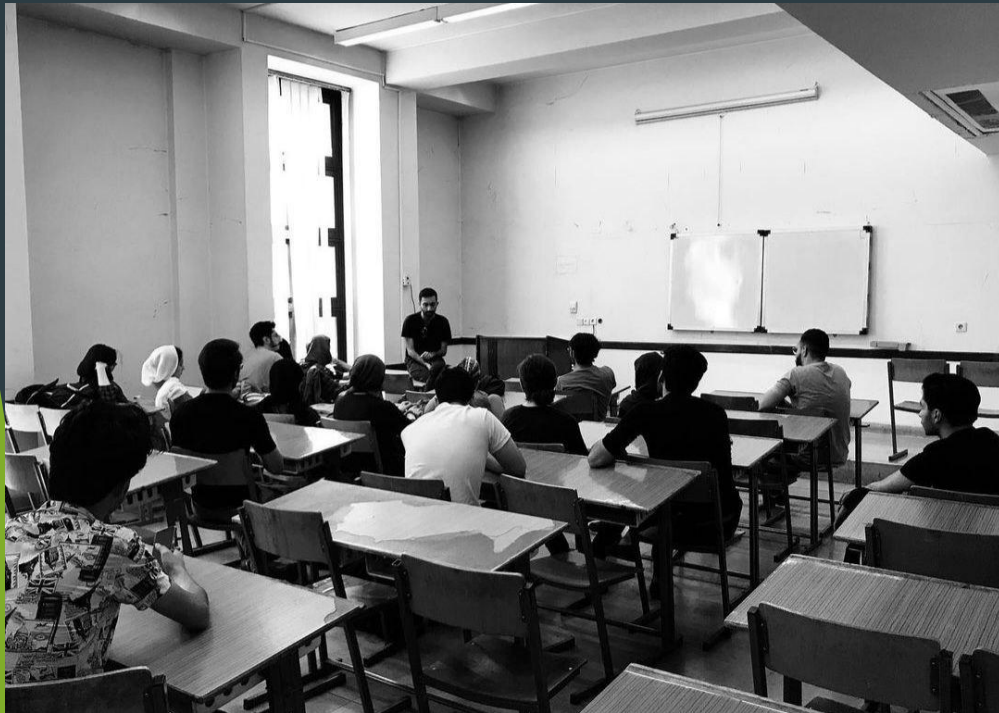
-13th BINESH Film Festival

This festival is the oldest student film festival in Iran. The experience of judging at this festival taught me that young filmmakers can create works that are even better and more captivating than those of adult filmmakers. I was fortunate to be one of the judges at this event because all the judges of this festival were prominent figures in Iranian cinema, and my age and experience were much less than theirs. From great actors like **Hadi Hejazifar** and **Sima Tirandaz** to critics like **Mohammadreza Moghaddasian**, my colleagues at this artistic gathering were distinguished individuals. This festival was held with the financial support of several large companies, and the global football star of Iran, **Ali Daei**, presented awards to the winners. Undoubtedly, the moments when I stood on stage next to him are among the most important moments of my life.



Performing Art Clubs

Between the years 2018 and 2020, I had many students in the field of theater, most of whom lacked even the slightest knowledge and experience in the arts. The result of holding these theater courses was the training of actors and directors, some of whom are now prominently present in the Iranian theater scene. In my classes, I covered topics of theater theory and its history, as well as practical theater exercises. From Shakespeare to Florian Zeller, these were the playwrights whose works I analyzed in my classes, aiming to introduce my students to good theatrical texts and make them more fascinated by theater than ever before.



Working as an Executive Producer

One of my artistic activities in 2025 was a collaboration with Iran's State Welfare Organization. State Welfare Organization of Iran is a government agency that supports vulnerable people in society. It helps people with disabilities, children without proper family care, female-headed households, and low-income families. The organization provides financial aid, rehabilitation services, counseling, addiction treatment, adoption services, and programs to prevent social problems.

I worked as the executive producer for four short narrative films, supervising the process from script development to production. These films focused on the challenges faced by women and children in Iranian society. Being the project manager and casting the crew was challenging but rewarding, as I collaborated with a large and diverse team throughout these projects.



Radio

Radio Daneshgah was a special audio content for students. We were a group of 20 people who created various audio programs. These programs were broadcast during students' break times and brought joy and entertainment to them. In this series of programs, I participated as one of the presenters and also served as the head writer.

Podcasts

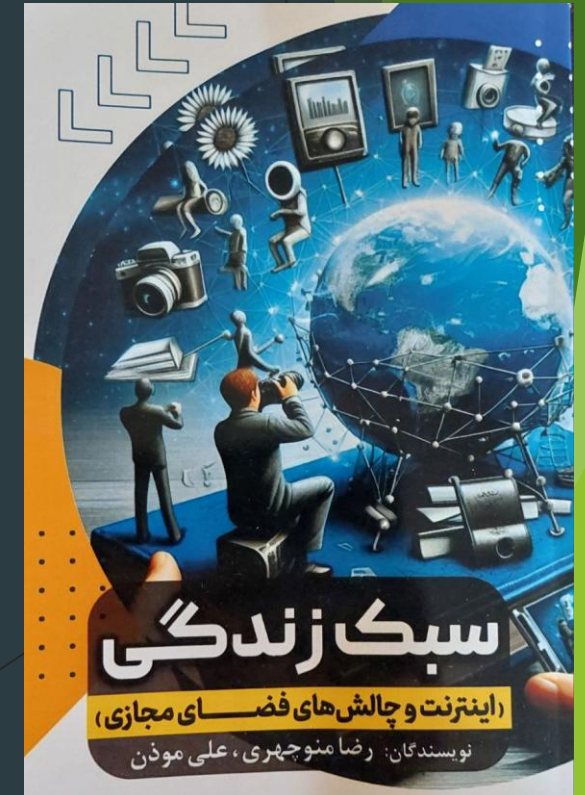
Another area of my work in sound is podcast production. I worked as a writer and voice actor on two podcasts, *Shaba* and *Radio Pol*, and as a film critic on a podcast called *In the Mood for Films*, which focused on reviewing art films. *Shaba* told the story of a boy's one-sided love for a beautiful girl, while *Radio Pol* introduced different cities in Iran.

Book

I was involved in writing a book titled "Internet and Challenges of the Virtual Space" for about a year. In this book, I examined various platforms of the virtual space and listed their advantages and disadvantages. This book was published by Poshtiban Publications in 2024.

Directing Music Video and Teaser

I had the opportunity to direct several music videos and promotional teasers both as a freelancer and in collaboration with "Maghsoud Film" production company.



**Thank you for your
attention**