

A LEBANESE AMERICAN UNIVERSITY PRODUCTION
A FILM BY FIRAS ITANI
PRODUCED BY LINE ITANI
CAST: DIMA AL-ANSARI, GHIDA LAOKANI & MAYADA DAMER
DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY: KARIM EL-ALI
ART DIRECTION: RANA HAZIM
WARDROBE STYLIST: THERESE RAFFOUL
MAKEUP ARTIST: MARWA EL-CHARIF
EDITOR: ADAM JAMMAL
SOUND DESIGNER: HADI FRANGIEH
POSTER DESIGNED BY ANAS NAAMANI
DIRECTED BY FIRAS ITANI



Sugarcoat

مش معمول

a short film by Firas Itani



Program #2 – InFocus: Lebanese Cinema



NEWFILMMAKERS LA

1139 S. Hill Street, Los Angeles, CA 90015

South Park Center parking address: 1133 S. Olive Street, Los Angeles, CA 90015

WWW.NFMLA.ORG

Logline

Festivities at Souha's household take a drastic turn as she finds herself torn between her holiday guests and her teenage daughter.

Synopsis

Souha, a single mother, receives guests at her house in celebration of the Adha holiday. Before long, things take a sour turn as Souha juggles between her teenage daughter and her demanding guests.

Director's Statement

Sugarcoat draws upon the traditional society's fixation on decorum and social correctness. Through a satirical lens, the film attempts to critique the obsession of the people pleaser with properness in the face of a demanding social structure. This film ultimately illustrates how this social pressure clouds one judgment as the important things slip through the cracks.

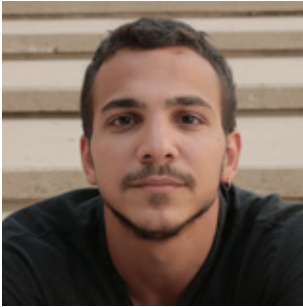
Fact sheet

English title	Sugarcoat
Original title	Mish Maamoul
Shooting location	Lebanon
Shooting format	Digital, RED
Aspect Ratio	2.4:1
Screening format	DCP
Sound	Stereo
Original language	Arabic
Subtitles Version	English
Country, Year	Lebanon, 2018

North American Premiere (USA): NFMLA - Newfilmmakers Los Angeles



Bios



Writer / Director

An aspiring Filmmaker, Firas Itani, born in 1996 in Beirut, Lebanon, holds a BA in Film & TV from the Lebanese American University in Beirut. *Sugarcoat*, his directorial debut, was awarded best capstone project in 2018. It went on to participate in several festivals across Lebanon. Firas is a freelance filmmaker, currently organizing a moving image exhibition, for a German NGO, on the topic of displaced Syrian children refugees.



Producer

Line Itani holds a BA in Communication Arts (TV/Film) from the Lebanese American University. Her senior film won Best Short Film at the 24th European Film Festival in Beirut, going on to participate in festivals in Portugal and Hong Kong. Also, her work on physical performances, being locally featured, got her invited to attend the Séminaire en Avignon, organized by the Festival d'Avignon and Pro Helvetia. She is currently pursuing an MA at Sciences Po, Paris.

Cast



as Souha

Dima Alansari is an international, interdisciplinary artist, university teacher, and performer. She holds an MA from Goldsmith College, University of London in Filmmaking. She has acted in many plays and short films in Lebanon, Kuwait, and Canada.



as Hiba

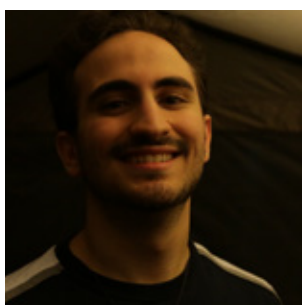
Ghida Ladkani is a student in Beirut pursuing her BAs in English Literature and TV and Film. She's interested in the intersection of art and activism, pursuing projects that inspect the issues facing women and queer people in journalism, theatre, and film.





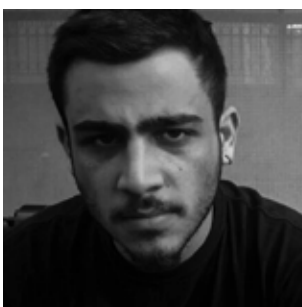
Cinematographer

Karim El Ali holds a BA in Film & TV from the Lebanese American University. After extensive experience in the camera, lighting and coloring departments, he went on to graduate as a Cinematographer from the Global Cinematography Institute. His 30+ works, covering both narrative and documentary, have been screened in multiple festivals internationally.



Editor

Adam Jammal's passion for cinema started at a very young age. He acted in 9 productions by his first year at the Lebanese American University. Aside from writing, directing, & acting, Adam developed a liking for video editing by his second year. His editing portfolio consists of a total of 14 short films & 3 professional advertisements. By spring 2019, he directed his senior short film "Home". He is currently writing an independent screenplay.



Sound Designer

Hadi Frangieh from Lebanon, studied Audio Visual at USJ IESAV in Beirut. He worked on many projects in Lebanon and the middle east as a sound editor and sound engineer on set. He is currently working with the content team in different TV shows such as "The Voice".



Art Director

With a background in Interior design, Rana Hazim specialized in Furniture design in London at Central Saint Martins. Upon returning to Lebanon, She worked as an Art Director for short films where she combined her love for cinema and the moving image. Her designs and concepts tend to meditate on nostalgia and poetry; In "Sugarcoat" her set design celebrated culture, tradition and the idea of home. Rana Hazim is now based in Paris working in art curation.

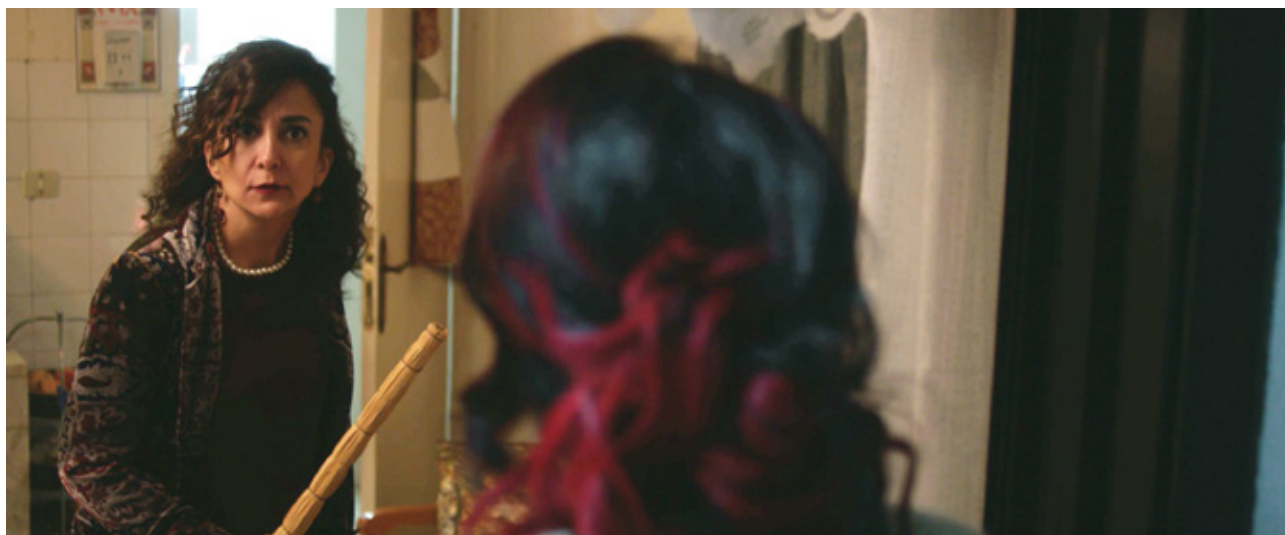


Costume Designer

Therese Raffoul is a 21 year old fashion designer from Beirut, Lebanon. She graduated Fashion Design at the Lebanese American university in collaboration with Elie Saab in 2019. Her graduate collection "perversions of quiet girls" won the excellence in craftsmanship award.



Stills



1139 S. Hill Street, Los Angeles, CA 90015

Program #2 – InFocus: Lebanese Cinema

South Park Center parking address: 1133 S. Olive Street, Los Angeles, CA 90015



NEWFILMMAKERS LA

WWW.NFMLA.ORG

Set Process

