قدر
QADR
AFILM BY
MAYTHAM JBARA
PRESENTS MAYTHAM JBARA FILM "QADR" RUDIAB AHMED & MARWA RAYAN
PRODUCED BY MAYTHAM JBARA AND ALI JBARA CO-PRODUCED BY MICHEL KANDINSKY AND HUDA AL- KADHIMI WRITTEN BY MAYTHAM JBARA AND SAIF JBARA DIRECTED BY MAYTHAM JBARA
MUSIC BY JESSICA HANA DEUTSCH SUPERVISING SOUND EDITOR BRANDON TOBIA SOUND MIXER ROB ANDRES MIX SUPERVISION THOMAS NEUSPIEL RE RECORDING ENGINEER ANDREW MC-CREADY SOUND RECORDING MOHAMMED ALZAID
DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY MUHANAD AL-SUDANI ASSITANT DIRECTOR MURTADHA HARZ ART DIRECTOR RAMI BIRD EDITED BY MAYTHAM JBARA AND ALI JBARA
SPONSORS TRINITY SQUARE VIDEO , ALTER AGO , ROLLING PICTURES , TOAST + JAM , ENKI FILM ACADEMY , ISHTAR IRAQ FILM
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TOAST + JAM
SOUND + PICTURE

Logline:

Locked in a room, while her daughter is watched by an ISIS sniper outside, 25-year-old Iqbal starts to doubt ISIS promises to keep her daughter safe in exchange for the ultimate sacrifice realizing that everything she believed in was a lie.

Synopsis:

Qadr, a 6-year-old girl, watched by an ISIS sniper through the sniperscope, is knocking on her mothers closed bedroom door trying to open it and calling her mother with no response under the never ending sounds of gunfire and explosions.

Meanwhile, her mother Iqbal (25) continues reading the Quran hearing her daughter’s voice and the continuous knocking that filled up the house. She cannot open the door for her girl and calls her husband who was supposed to pick her up. But after her husband rejects her and their daughter’s life, betraying her and proclaiming the mission more important, she starts doubting ISIS perverted beliefs in fear for her daughter’s life.

Iqbal knows that her life is nearing its end. To keep her daughter safe, she has to follow ISIS orders and blow herself off to open the crossing at the checkpoint. Her last hopes are lost with a call from ISIS notifying her that her husband is killed. Iqbal is now ordered to move out on the mission and take her little girl with her. Her daughter and her motherly feeling of love make her realize that everything she believed in was a lie and change her heart and inner true desire of being a Mujahidah.

Director Statement:

Iqbal and her daughter Qadr have occupied my mind since I heard all over the media the breaking news under the headlines “A mother and her child daughter are suicide bombers at a checkpoint in Mosul”. As a filmmaker, I could not ignore and silently watch this happening without looking for the truth and the story behind the recruitment of this woman, a mother who made her daughter be one of her victims. I could not simply believe that this is just a belief that motivates a person to kill their child. And as I suspected, there was a psychological and physical manipulation behind it.

Qadr means fate in Arabic. She is a little girl who ended up being a terrorist without even knowing what violence is. I insisted to discover and consequently show the reasons for her role in this attack and the behind-the-scenes of the explosion. What has shocked me was finding out that there were many child soldiers and many deluded people from different countries involved in ISIS, from which the world powers, the "big chess players", have benefited. Me, or maybe we, are in need to know who are the real terrorists and what are their desires in any attack, whether in Mosul, Canada, Germany, France, or other country, whether they are motivated by religion or otherwise, and whether the attacks are addressed to a specific group of people or randomly.

Iqbal is one of the women who were following their husbands, as being raised to do so according to the accustomed norms of the society and religious rules and beliefs and not knowing anything different, lacking education due to the poor state of the society. The husbands who were recruited by ISIS and became one of their fighters seeking to build a new religion. Being lured by her husband’s and ISIS religious promises and promises for her daughter’s safety at first, as the story unfolds, Iqbal begins to realize that these religious illusions and promises were just a lie made up to serve ISIS interests and nothing more. ISIS fighters, being trapped by the Iraqi army besieging them inside the city of Mosul, wanted to control and pressure Iqbal, by separating her from her daughter, promising her safety in return for the ultimate sacrifice, for the higher goal, and by placing a sniper over her daughter;s head, to ensure she serves them as another human shield blowing herself off to open the checkpoint for them.

It is through Qadr that Iqbal returns to her humanity and her heart and mind. She is now fighting a psychological war to preserve her child. And, despite enduring the nerve racking atrocious circumstances and her fear, aware of everything she was doing, Iqbal demonstrates patience to the last moment for there might be a hope to save her daughter and to prevent her child paying the price of her wrongs.

The explosion that occurred near the house made Iqbal scream and hit her head on the door, which became an obstacle between her and her child, and Iqbal’s madness fills up the room. By putting Iqbal into a closed environment, immersed into dark colours, a strong feeling of anxiety, fear and death, I wanted to show the depth of the agony of Iqbal, a person driven forcedly to the fate that was chosen for her.

ISIS, The Dark State, a terrorist group that occupied Mosul and other cities in Iraq and Syria for more than 3 years. During their control, thousands of attacks were executed by them. The watchers from different ideologies judge all the attackers as terrorists, but behind each one of them there is a story, and if we know these stories, the tragedies can be prevented.

MAYTHAM JBARA
Director-Producer

Maytham Jbara is an Iraqi flm director, producer, screenwriter and cinematographer who grew up in a family of flmmakers in Baghdad. He studied Cinema and Television at the College of Fine Arts, University of Baghdad, and took numerous workshops for editing, art of lighting, screenwriting and film production developing a broad set of skills.

In 2010, Maytham started working as a cinematographer at the Iraqi Independent Film Center. His frst work was as a camera assistant on Mohammed Al Darraji's feature Son of Babylon. He then worked as a D.O.P. on three feature and ten short films. Many of these films were nominated and awarded at the leading flm festivals. Among his notable credits are films Path of Maryam (2016), The Journey (2017), and the most recent ones Haifa Street (2019) and Mosul 980 (2019). He also wrote, directed and produced his fiction short flm Qadr, which is in post-production and is being released in 2021.

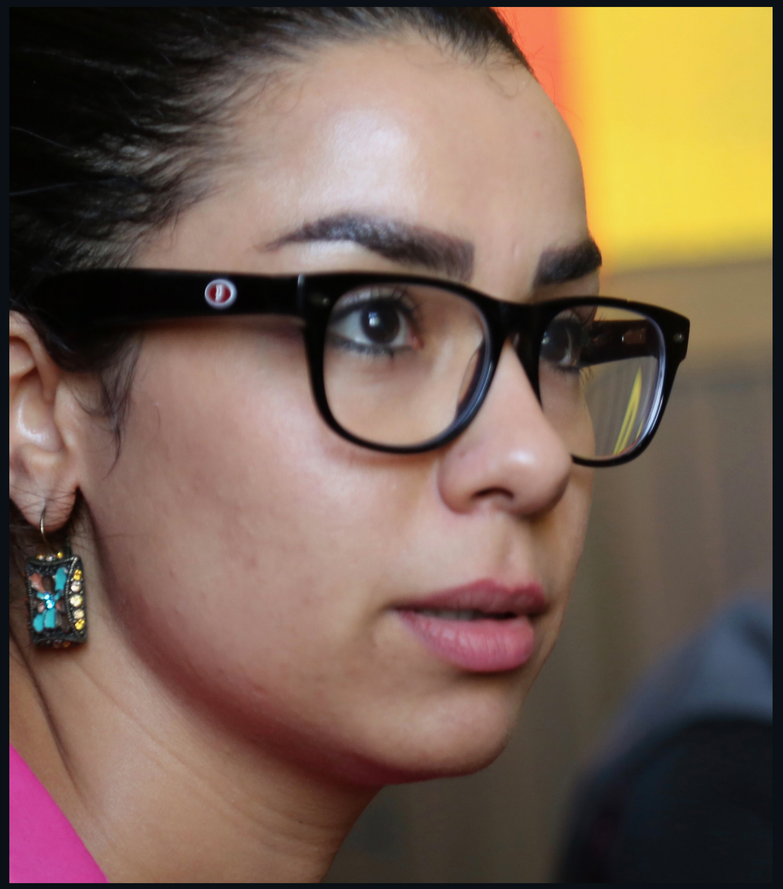
Most of Maytham's work focuses on social justice issues and freedom in his home country, Iraq. Because of his career, he was threatened by a radical group and forced to leave Iraq. He is currently based in Toronto, Canada, where he is producing on several feature and short films and at any opportunity aspires to teach and support young flmmakers.

ALI JBARA
Producer

Is an Iraqi filmmaker. His Journey in filmmaking started in the Iraq independent film center in Baghdad since 2008. His first work was as an assistant camera in 2009, he worked on three short films as a director of the cinematographer. He worked as a Camera Assistant for many films, like The Journey, Path of Maryam, Son of Babylon, and others. Many of his films had been screened at pres- tigious international film festivals like Cannes Film Festival, Venice Film Festival, Toronto Interna- tional Film Festival, Berlin International Film Festival, Malmo Arab Film Festival. He has participat- ed in five workshops for the filmmaking, Film Editing, Film Lighting, and Film Production.

HUDA AL-KADHIMI

Co- Producer



Is an active Iraqi film producer who started her career in the film industry since 2017. She started her journey in cinema from workshops that was hold in the Royal Film Commission in Jordan, from 2006 to 2013. Later, she joined the Iraqi Independent Film Center in Baghdad and got engaged with them for five years. She gained significant experience in the field throughout her role as an Assistant Director of many films, including "The Journey" by Mohamed Al-Daradji, "Path of Maryam" by Atia Al-Daradji and "Gift of My Father by Salam Salman and others. Huda founded Ishtar Iraq Film Production Company in Iraq and Jordan. The company aims to support the local relevant talents and reflect the reality of the Arab World in its projects.

Huda also worked as a line-produced many international and regional films, like for "Haifa Street" by Mohanad Hayal and "Another Day in Baghdad" by Maysoon Pachachi. Having built this vast experience in various areas of production enabled Al Kadhimi to produce many local films that participated in several prestigious film festivals around the world. Some of these films are "MOSUL 980" which was selected for the Generation Competition of the 69th Berlin International Film Festival 2019, "QADR" which is under the distribution stage, "THE MIRACLE BOY & HIS SHEEP" which is under the post-production " Door Of The East, Taboo" which is under post-production satge and many others.

MICHEL KANDINSKY

Co- Producer

Was born in a Warsaw Taxi Cab and raised in Oklahoma City. After injuries halted a competitive fenc- ing career he studied neurobiology before turning to film.

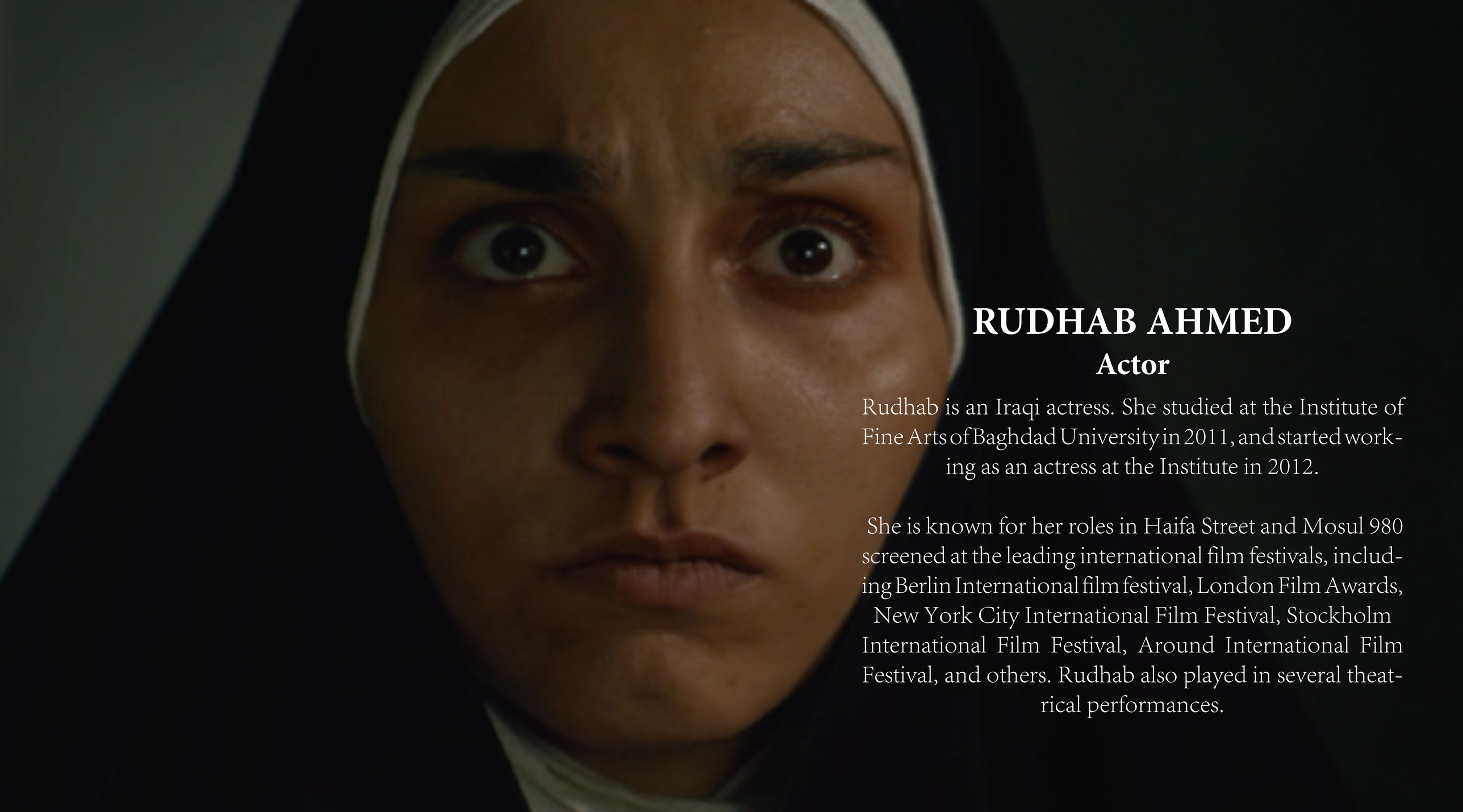
He graduated from the Polish National Film School in Lodz and la Fermi’ s in Paris. He apprenticed un- der director Lech Majewski in The Mill and The Cross (2011). He received a Norman Jewson fellowship to attend the Canadian film Centre. Michel has directed a feature, music videos, commercials & short films, written for episodic television and produced content for MTV and Comedy Central. His feature film hotel congress was included in the grid magazine top 10 Canadian films to watch, distributed by search engine & opened at TIFF light box.

DAVID PLANT
Supervisor

As a producer, businessman and graphic artist, David brings a broad range of experience in media, entertainment and technology, with depth in both the public and private sec- tors. He has assisted over 1200 film producers internationally and has credits on Acade- my Award-winning films such as Good Will Hunting. As a producer, David co-executive produced the first feature film of writer-director David Krae. He has been a member of the Academy of Canadian Cinema and Television for more than 20 years serving on juries and committees and he continues to sit on industry policy committees addressing the future of the industry with a particular interest in emerging technology, public outreach and educa- tion and also sits on the Program Advisory Committee for Advanced Television, Video and Film at Sheridan College.

JANE GARRAH
Color producer

OLGA TSESLIVE
Line-producer



RUDHAB AHMED

Actor

Rudhab is an Iraqi actress. She studied at the Institute of Fine Arts of Baghdad University in 2011, and started working as an actress at the Institute in 2012.

She is known for her roles in Haifa Street and Mosul 980 screened at the leading international film festivals, including Berlin International film festival, London Film Awards, New York City International Film Festival, Stockholm International Film Festival, Around International Film Festival, and others. Rudhab also played in several theatrical performances.

MARWA RAYAN

Actor

Was born in Mosul, Iraq in 2013. She start her career as an actress in 2018 in Qadr.

She has a desire to complete her life in the filmmaking because she thinks cinema is the only way to win the freedom we have lost in our lives because of the war.

Film Specifications

Film Type: Short
Production: Canada, Iraq
Runtime: 12 minutes
Production Year: 2021
Film Language: Arabic
Subtitle: English
Budget: 67,000 USD
Shooting Format: Digital
Sound: 5.1 Dolby
Film color: Color

CREW

Screenplay: Maytham Jbara - Saif Aliay

Director of Photography: Mohanad hussan
Camera Assistant: Ahmed Falah - Ahmed Kadhum

Assistant Director: Saif Aliay - Murtadha G Hrz

Art-Director: Rami AL-Shatri

Sound Recorder: Mohammed Alaa Alzaidi

Music Composure: Jessica Hana Deutsch

Editor: Andrew Cromey - Maytham Jbara - Yasir Saad
Color Correction: Patrick Samaniego
Color Assistant: Evan Spicer

Producer Sound: Brandon Tobia
Sound Mix: Supported: Rob Andres
Re recording engineer: Andrew McCready
Mix supervision: Thomas Neuspiel

Production Company