

# سطر جديد SECOND WIND

**Project Title (Original Language):**  
Second Wind -

**Directed By:**  
Nessim Stevenson & Tariq Keblaoui

**Project Type:**  
Short Documentary

**Runtime:**  
26 minutes 15 seconds

**Completion Date:**  
March 29, 2021

**Production Budget:**  
18,000 USD

**Country of Origin:**  
Lebanon

**Country of Filming:**  
Lebanon

**Language:**  
Arabic - English Subtitles

**Aspect Ratio:**  
2.0.1

SEARCH  
FOR COMMON  
GROUND

WHAT  
TOOK  
YOU  
SO LONG?

DONKEY  
PRODUCTIONS

التعاون  
الالمانى  
DEUTSCHE ZUSAMMENARBEIT

tunefork

**Synopsis:**

Few stories ever emerge out of Lebanon's notorious prison system, let alone stories about the difficulties of starting a new life after prison. Four ex-prisoners living in a rehabilitation center in the Bekaa Valley of Lebanon share their personal stories and perspectives on how the experience of prison and the criminal record system shaped their lives, and how far they're willing to go to be given a chance to a new start.

**Short Synopsis:**

Four ex-prisoners in a rehabilitation center in Zahle, Lebanon, share their experiences about the hardships of prison and the difficulties of reintegrating back into society.





### **TARIQ KEBLAOUI**

Tariq Keblaoui is a Lebanese Director with a technical background in editing and cinematography.

After graduating as Filmmaker of the Year from Central Film School London, he moved back to Lebanon to direct his short film, Al Hmar, and work in the fields of fiction filmmaking, video journalism, and documentary making.

He is currently based in Beirut, Lebanon, working as a CNN camera operator, animation and video editor at Megaphone, and founder and director of Donkey Productions— having directed and produced several music videos, fashion videos, and short-form documentaries on the occurrences of the Lebanese uprising of October 2019 up until the August 4th Beirut Blast. He has co-directed Second Wind, a short documentary on ex-prisoners, and is currently working towards directing and producing his first feature film.

### **NESSIM STEVENSON**

Nessim is a Lebanese-British filmmaker and photographer with experience working as a producer, director, camera operator, and editor in over 30 countries across 6 continents on a range of subjects such as environmental conservation, education, and global health. For the past five years, he has worked alongside What Took You So Long, a production company that specializes in producing content for NGOs, development organizations, and ethical companies. His expertise lies in breaking down complex topics into aesthetic, nuanced, and human-centric stories.

He was the DoP of the award-winning documentary web-series Waynak, which told positive solutions to the 2016 refugee crisis, and was the director and editor of George & the Whales, a short documentary portrait of George, a young Tongan whale guide and the humpback whales he swims with. Most recently he co-directed Second Wind, a short documentary about the rehabilitation and reintegration of ex-prison inmates in Lebanon, told through the eyes of a group of ex-prisoners living in a rehabilitation center in the town of Zahle.

## Director's Statement

We made this documentary as a collaboration with Search For Common Ground to shed light on the subject of the prison system in Lebanon and to highlight the importance of rehabilitation and reintegration post-prison.

It is commonly known to us in Lebanon just how under-resourced and inhumane the prison conditions and system are in the country. What is much less talked about is the conditions and experiences that lead people to prison in the first place, and the reality they are faced with upon leaving it. We realized that the only way to understand this would be to find ex-prisoners willing to share their stories with us. We were lucky enough to find four exceptionally engaging and well-spoken participants willing to talk to us about their journey and show us just how much one can change when given the chance and the support.

### Cast:

#### Ahmad:

"Why do you like to get so close?"

#### Adnan:

"I wrote a rap song... Yeah"

#### Miled:

"I'll tell you what! 'The World is Still Alright'"

#### Omar:

"I want to introduce you to Abou Hajaj,  
the biggest duck trader in all of Asia"

### Crew:

Directed & filmed by Tariq Keblaoui & Nessim Stevenson  
Produced by What Took You So Long?

Remote Project Support Till Schopen

Edited by Tariq Keblaoui  
Assistant Edited by Nessim Stevenson

Original Sound Track by Fadi Tabbal & Julia Sabra - Tunefork Studios

Color Grade by Aiman Yahya Jabayee  
Sound Design by Fadi Tabbal  
Graphic Design by Amal Ghamlooch

Nosroto's Team  
Father Marwan  
Rima Saade Turk  
Makram Alkaid

Search For Common Ground Supervision Team  
Chantal Azzam  
Lena Safi  
Hiam Mardini  
Reina Yazbeck

Special Thanks  
Father Marwan  
Rima Saade Turk  
Mazen  
Elise Chbieb  
Johnny  
Hala Habib  
Samer Qiblawi  
Michel Chaker  
Firas Haidar  
Nour Annan

Danny (Adnan) Qiblawi