LUMANES FILM and MOCCAFILM
present

UNKNOWN CONTINENT

(KARŞI)

a film by
MURAT ARDA GÜRSOY

FESTIVAL DISTRIBUTION AGENCY

NINOVA FILMS DISTRIBUTION

Uğur Şahin
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DURATION : 14m
TURKEY, GERMANY, SERBIA
2K / FLAT / STEREO

PRODUCTION COMPANY

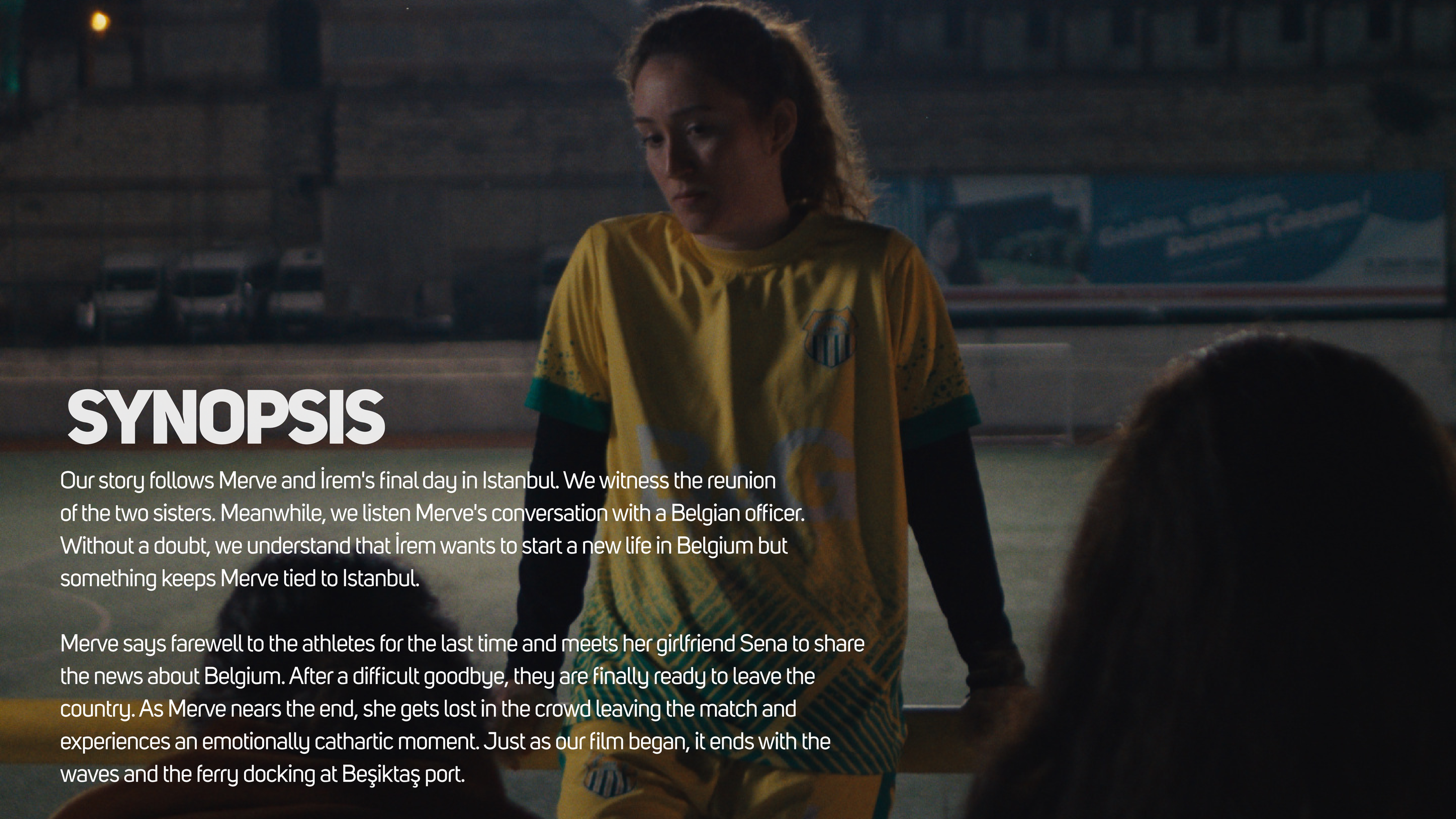
LUMANES FILM

Yiğit Serdar Canoğlu
serdarcanoglu@lumanesfilm.com



LOGLINE

Merve is a former athlete who sells performance-enhancing drugs in the Asian side of Istanbul. Yet, her father in Liège has just passed away. Her decision between two continents also means another loss... Her beloved sister who dreams living in Belgium or a female athlete who is more than a customer?



SYNOPSIS

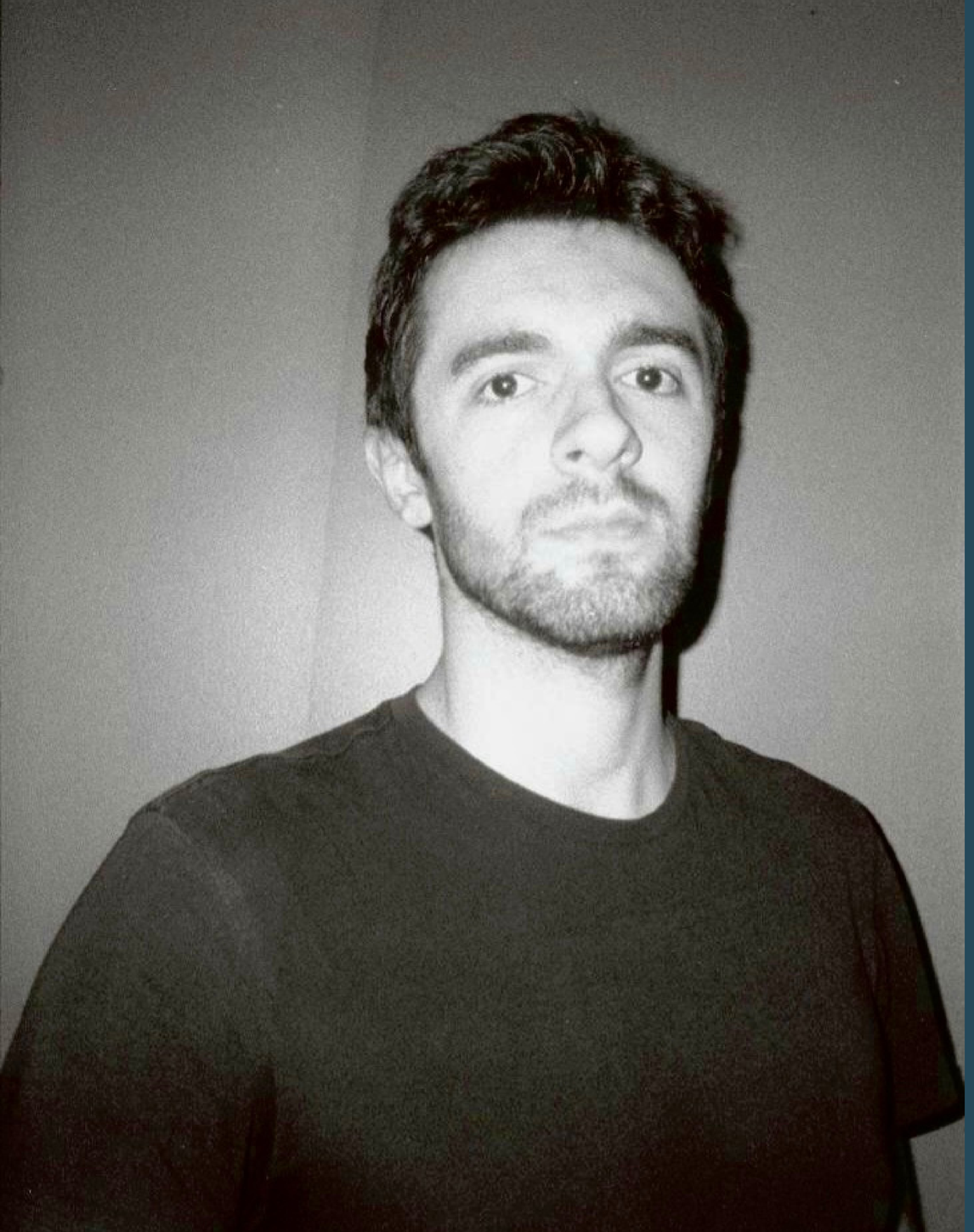
Our story follows Merve and İrem's final day in Istanbul. We witness the reunion of the two sisters. Meanwhile, we listen Merve's conversation with a Belgian officer. Without a doubt, we understand that İrem wants to start a new life in Belgium but something keeps Merve tied to Istanbul.

Merve says farewell to the athletes for the last time and meets her girlfriend Sena to share the news about Belgium. After a difficult goodbye, they are finally ready to leave the country. As Merve nears the end, she gets lost in the crowd leaving the match and experiences an emotionally cathartic moment. Just as our film began, it ends with the waves and the ferry docking at Beşiktaş port.

DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT

The starting point of "Unkown Continent" is the dilemma of "leaving-staying" which is a problem many of us experience, regardless of our generation. Believing in a better future always existing in that "unknown continent" beyond our country and the constant struggle of losing the loved ones in our habitat is an ongoing battle... This dilemma also brings about a choice. Most of us, especially the ones in early twenties, feel the weight of this choice. Choosing to go abroad means giving up on our friends and family, while choosing to stay in Turkey means continuing to struggle with financial difficulties and future anxiety. I believe this emotional state (which I've personally experienced) can lead people into pessimism, indetermination and even depression. My aim in the film was to portray this emotional state as realistically, sincerely and minimalistic as possible as a director. I wanted to create a character drama that isn't fixated on right or wrong, black or white and a film based on the emotions emerged by these gray characters.

- Murat Arda Gürsoy
2023



MURAT ARDA GÜRSOY

DIRECTOR

Murat Arda Gürsoy is a director, script consultant and editor based in Istanbul. He studied film and television at Istanbul Bilgi University and received his master's degree in Eric Rohmer's Cinema and French Existentialism. Afterwards, he began working as a script consultant and junior scriptwriter at Ay Yapım, a well-known TV production company in Turkey. His debut short film, **Sun, Moon, and Woman** (2023), supported by the Ministry of Culture Short Film Fund, was showcased at festivals such as Ankara Film Festival, Izmir Short Film Festival and Uşak Short Film Festival, among others. Following the completion of his second short film, **Unknown Continent** (2024), Gürsoy is currently working on his next short film titled **"Maternity Leave"**.

FILMOGRAPHY

Sun, Moon and Woman (Güneş, Ay ve Kadın) - 2022 Fiction
34.Ankara Film Festivali, Ulusal Kısa Film Yarışması, Finalist.
24.İzmir Kısa Film Festivali, Ulusal Panorama Bölümü, Gösterim Seçkisi.
10.Uşak Kanatlı Denizatı Kısa Film Festivali, Ulusal Kısa Film Yarışması, Resmi Seçki.
4.Antep Kısa Film Festivali, Kurmaca Film Yarışması, Finalist.
7.Güzel Ordu Kısa Film Yarışması, Finalist.
3.Sultanbeyli Uluslararası Kısa Film Yarışması, Ulusal Kısa Film Yarışması, Finalist.
10.EgeArt Sanat Günleri, Kısa Film Yarışması, Ulusal Kısa Film, Gösterim Seçkisi.



YİĞİT SERDAR CANOĞLU

PRODUCER - LUMANES FILM

Yiğit Serdar Canoğlu is a Turkish filmmaker, producer and editor. He received his BA and MA in Film and Television from Istanbul Bilgi University. He is the founder of Lumanes Film which is a film production company and advertising agency. He produced **Sun, Moon and Woman (Güneş, Ay ve Kadın)** and **Different Kind of Mourn (Farklı Bir Yas**) funded by Republic of Türkiye Ministry of Culture and Tourism. The two short films he produced were also shown at national festivals such as Akbank Short Film Festival, Kaş International Short Film Festival, Ankara Film Festival and İzmir Short Film Festival.



KEREM ERGÜN

PRODUCER - MOCCAFILM

Kerem Ergün is a screenwriter and director from Berlin, Germany. His work spans documentaries, short films, TV shows and teaching. Ergün holds a degree from the Konrad Wolf Film University of Babelsberg.In 2019, Ergün founded Moccafilm, a production company based in Germany and Turkey. Written and directed by Ergün, Moccafilm's first production-the short Second Skin-depicts societal and cultural tensions roiling under the surface of the melting pot of Berlin. The film was presented at over 50 festivals worldwide and earned multiple nominations and awards. Further Moccafilm projects are in development.Prior to founding Moccafilm, Ergün created TV show concepts, and produced and directed for numerous corporate clients. He continues to teach storytelling and creative writing for universities and private clients throughout Europe.

CAST

ILGIT UÇUM as Merve
ZEYNEP SU TOPAL as İrem
İPEK SOBUTAY as Sena
AUDE RUYTER as Belgian Officer
EMİR MECİKOĞLU as Swimmer
ARDA TOKTA as Rower



CREW

Writer and Director	Murat Arda Gürsoy
Producer	Yiğit Serdar Canoğlu
Assistant Director	Beril Tan
Cinematographer	Tolga Pekar
Production Designer	Lal Yılmazoğlu
Art Director Assistant	Alya Çelik
Sound	Can Yarış
Editor	Murat Arda Gürsoy
Sound Design	Yiğit Serdar Canoğlu
Co-Producers	Kerem Ergün (Germany)
	Vukan Zarkovic (Serbia)
	Murat Arda Gürsoy
Production Company	Lumanes Film
Co-Production Company	MoccaFilm
Distribution	Ninova Films Distribution



TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS

Digital, 2K

Duration : 14m

Sound Mix : Stereo

Color

Aspect Ratio : 4:3

Languages Spoken : Turkish, French