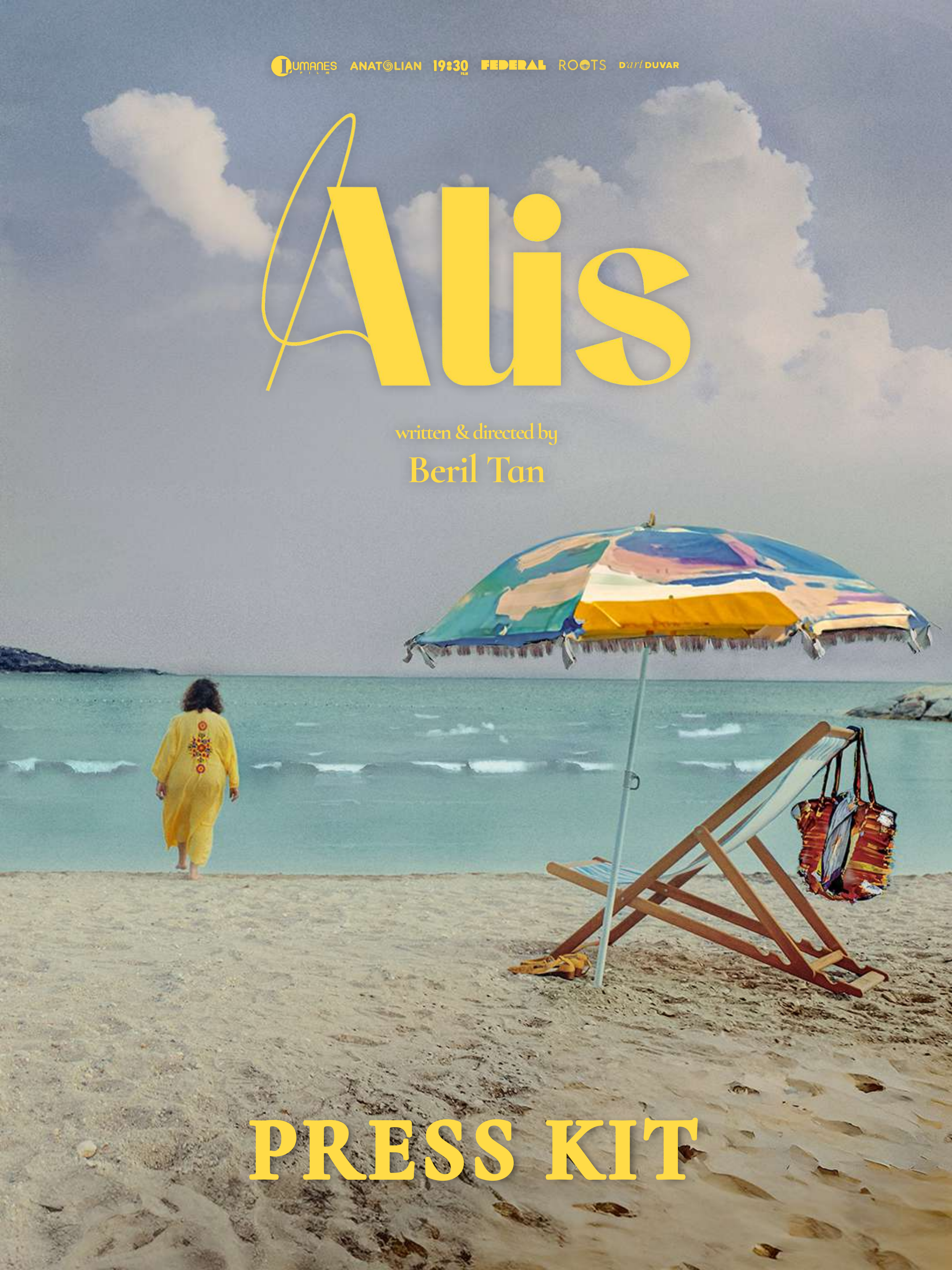


UMANES ANATOLIAN 19:30 FEDERAL ROOTS DARDUVAR

Alis

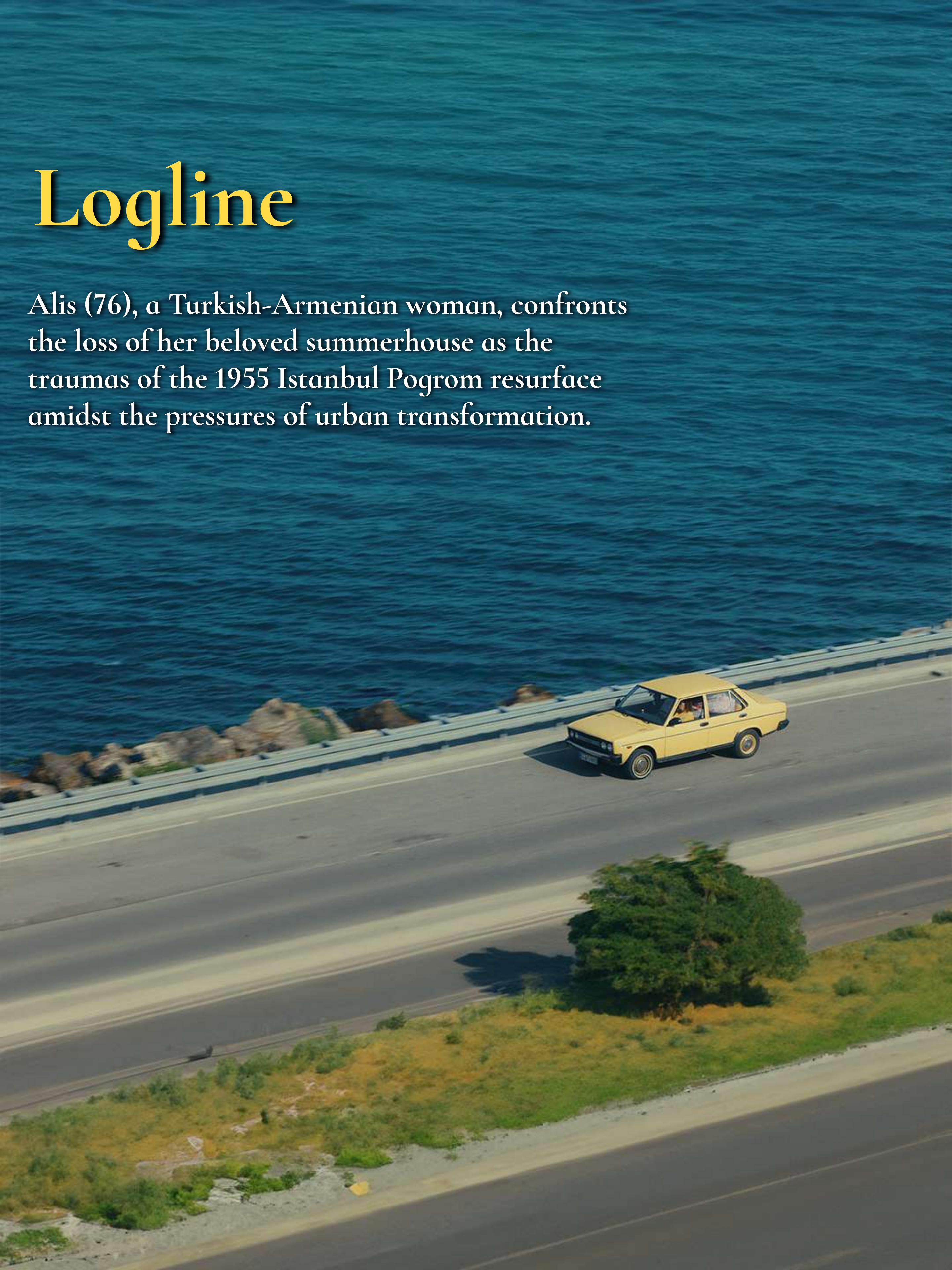
written & directed by
Beril Tan



PRESS KIT

Logline

Alis (76), a Turkish-Armenian woman, confronts the loss of her beloved summerhouse as the traumas of the 1955 Istanbul Pogrom resurface amidst the pressures of urban transformation.



Synopsis

Alis (76), an Armenian woman living alone in Turkey, arrives at her summerhouse, a place she has never missed visiting for even a single summer since her childhood. However, before she can fully embrace the tranquility of her beloved retreat, she begins to confront the gradual loss of her living environment.

Urban transformation, which has already reached her street, now looms over her apartment building as well. Facing the imminent loss of her home and haunted by her traumas of the 1955 Istanbul Pogrom, Alis takes an extraordinary stand—unlike the other residents, who have already accepted the changes.

Like a war flag, she firmly plants her plastic umbrella on the ground, officially marking the start of her battle.



Director's Statement

Alis, my downstairs neighbor, Araksi Aliksenyana, is a character and story imbued with traces of reality. Araksi, a Turkish Armenian woman in her 70s, lives alone. Our shared experience of being two solitary women has strengthened our bond, making us like grandmother and granddaughter to each other. The memory she shared with me that impacted me the most was her experience during the events of September 6-7. In the attacks of September 7, 1955, she lost her home, leaving deep wounds within her. The ongoing urban transformation in Turkey and her story became the genesis of Alis for me.

I constructed Alis on three pillars: belonging, shelter, and exclusion. Alis's connection to her home is akin to a mother-child relationship. She refers to it as her daughter. She protects it as if it were a part of herself, seeing it as her refuge.

However, this sanctuary is under threat from the urban transformation encroaching upon the street of the apartment building. It triggers Alis's past traumas. Additionally, the neighbors in the building have various reasons for wanting this transformation. They are confident that Alis will not leave her home, so they proceed with the process secretly. However, Alis witnesses this and, just like them, initiates a covert plan to challenge the damaged report they've obtained. At the end of the film, when Alis firmly plants her plastic umbrella in the ground like a war flag, we understand her unwavering stance throughout the process.

For the visual language, I intend to use a subjective form that harmonizes with Alis's emotions. In the mise en scene, I will allow tension and paranoia to seep into a seemingly colorful and peaceful summer season.' With the film 'Alis,' I aim to convey individuals deep connection to their homes and leave a lasting tribute to Aunt Araksi's resilience.





Beril Tan

writer & director

Beril Tan (Turkey - 2000) is a director and producer. Her educational journey commenced at Kuwait English School, where she laid the foundation for her filmmaking career. After she returned to Turkey, she started to study in Cinema and Television at Istanbul Bilgi University.

Throughout her academic tenure, Beril's focus gravitated towards the intricacies of visual culture, actor management, film grammar, and the art of film editing. Building upon her theoretical knowledge, she embarked on practical experiences, serving as an assistant director on various television and commercial projects. Her dedication culminated in her debut short film, A Different Kind Of Mourn, which was supported by the Ministry of Culture and Tourism of the Republic of Turkey.

"A Different Kind Of Mourn" made waves in the festival circuit, competing and screening in over 25 prestigious events and winning five awards. It is now available to watch on MUBI Turkey. Her upcoming project, "Alis," is promising another compelling addition to her filmography.

A Different Kind Of Mourn – Short Film – 2022 – 13 min

Alis – Short Film – 2024 – 17 min

Yiğit Serdar Canoğlu

producer

Yiğit Serdar Canoğlu (Turkey) is a Turkish filmmaker, producer and editor. He received his BA and MA in Film and Television Studies from Istanbul Bilgi University. Throughout and after his education, he worked in production department on numerous advertising and television projects. He is the founder of Lumanes Film which is a film production and advertising agency. He produced "Sun, Moon and Woman" and "A Different Kind of Mourn" funded by Republic of Türkiye Ministry of Culture and Tourism.

He applied to the Small and Medium Enterprises Development Organization (KOSGEB) with Lumanes Film and successfully obtained support. Within the framework of Lumanes Film, he operates as a producer in advertising and film projects.

A Different Kind of Mourn – Short Film – 2022 – 13 min

Sun, Moon and Woman – Short Film – 2022 – 19 min

Apotemnophilia – Short Film – 2023 – 1 min

Unknown Continent – Short Film – 2024 – 14 min

Alis – Short Film – 2024 – 17 min

Actually Everyone – 2025 – 16 min



Cast

DENİZ TÜRKALİ as Alis

ŞEBNEM SÖNMEZ as Hayret

MÜCAHİT KOÇAK as Üzeyir

CEREN TAŞÇI as Mine

KAAN SEVİ as Hakan

ERKAN AKBULUT as Mami



writer & director **Beril Tan**

producer **Yiğit Serdar Canođlu**

director of photography **Deniz Eyübođlu Aydın**

assistant director **Gizem Coşkun**

art director **Güzin ErKaymaz**

costume **Dilan Bıyık**

hair & makeup **Esmā Keskin**

composer **Batuhan Yalaz**

editor **Yiğit Serdar Canođlu**

sound design **Resul Keleş**

colorist **Mesut Kesici**

executive producer **Amy Omar (USA)**

co-producers **Deniz Eyübođlu Aydın**

19:30 Film

Federal Film

production company **Lumanes Film**



Technical Specifications

17 min 20 sec

Digital 4K

DCP

H.264

25 FPS

Color

Aspect Ratio: 2.35

Stereo

Languages Spoken : Turkish & Armenian