



غزیربانه در هوک به خیه و ده وانغ
TRANSIENT HAPPINESS

Directed By Sina Muhammad

66 MIN / KURDISTAN (IRAQ) / COLOR / KURDISH / 2023



In a remote Kurdish village, an elderly couple's emotionally distant lives take an unexpected turn when the wife falls ill. During the journey to a hospital on his motorbike, the husband's heartfelt but aware words "embrace me," spark a transformative and healing experience for his wife, potentially changing their relationship forever.

STARRING
SALEH BARI & PARWEN RAJABI



This is the story of a woman fighting to create a life in a society where women are discouraged from expressing their needs and desires. In her culture, female desires are taboo, and women are expected to serve others without having their own agency. The film portrays the psychology of neglected and overlooked women, delving into the impact of neglect on their mental health and sense of purpose.

Transient Happiness sheds light on the importance of the small things, and how neglect can lead to larger issues. It emphasizes the significance of acknowledgement and appreciation for women who have been dismissed and ignored. The film aims to challenge Middle Eastern and Kurdish gender expectations and invites viewers to question the importance of small gestures.

Beyond this, the film also reveals the struggles of feminism in rural areas, showcasing an under explored issue in the lives of many women. While the setting is in Kurdistan, the movie's universal theme highlights the suffering of women worldwide. It believes that local stories told well can resonate with a global audience.

Overall, the film portrays the universal desire for change and connection, as people from various cultures can relate to the problem of alienation in personal relationships. The female character drives the plot forward, providing profound and complex storytelling.

- Sina Muhammad
director

Transient Happiness features non-professional actors to authentically portray the life in the Kurdish community. I believe that working with non-professionals allows them to naturally re-enact their everyday activities. For the leading roles, I chose individuals who closely resemble the fictional characters in both appearance and personality. Additionally, the local community of the village actively participated in the film.

Before shooting, I lived with the two main characters to make them comfortable in front of the camera and to encourage spontaneous and natural behavior during filming. I provided hints about the scenes shortly before shooting and asked them to improvise as if they were living their real lives. This approach is essential for the success of this type of movie, where I aim to bridge the gap between fiction and reality.

- Sina





Characters and Mood

Transient Happiness revolves around the female lead's unspoken emotions, relying on minimal dialogue to portray the lack of communication between the husband and wife. Instead, it emphasizes non-verbal expressions, particularly the wife's facial reactions. Through long shots and slow camera movements, the film delves into her state of mind, emphasizing natural sounds to set a slow-paced tone.

The pivotal moment in the film is when the husband says "hug me," transforming the woman's world. Despite living in a beautiful house and lacking nothing materially, she craves care and affection from her husband. The constant neglect takes a toll on her physical health. However, a simple motorcycle hug changes everything. It reveals her emotional vulnerability, leading her to cry and experience a profound healing effect. The hug holds a deeper significance, reflecting her desire for closeness and human touch in mature relationships.

The film is set in a remote Kurdish village bordering Iraq, Turkey, and Iran—a politically unstable area facing daily conflicts and war-related problems. Despite the hardships, the local people hold onto hope for a better future. Alongside the main story, the movie sheds light on the present socio-political situation in Iraqi Kurdistan, highlighting the daily struggles of the locals to build their future.

Locations and Set



The production utilized an authentic Kurdish village situated at the border of Iraq, Turkey, and Iran. A charming old house was selected and renovated as a traditional Kurdish dwelling to add to the authenticity of the setting. Outside, a garden featuring sunflowers reminiscent of Van Gogh's paintings was planted. Sunflowers hold symbolic significance for the married couple and the entire Kurdish community, representing hope, new beginnings, and the daily pursuit of light and life. The film will capture various village locations, including roadways, farms, and fields, showcasing the everyday life of the Kurdish community.

Locations



Meet the director



Sina Muhammad

Born in March 1988 in Sulaymaniyah, Kurdistan, Sina Muhammad has become a prolific writer, poet, and filmmaker. Sina is a graduate of the University of Human Development (UHD) with over a decade of experience in filmmaking. He has directed over 200 television commercials with the HAMA Advertising Agency, and his passion for storytelling has led him to craft 7 short films and 30 documentary films, some of which achieved international acclaim, including collaborations with BBC and National Geographic.

Sina's contributions to cinema have been recognized through prestigious awards, including the Golden Prize for Best Short Film Director at the Peace Film Festival in Turkey. Additionally, *Transient Happiness* has earned him the Best Feature Film award at the Paris Art and Movie Awards and the Best Feature Fiction award at the Amsterdam Kurdish Film Festival. Through poetic narrative and visually captivating work, Sina Muhammad continues to inspire and leave a profound impact on the world of filmmaking.







DIRECTED BY **SINA MUHAMMED**

PRODUCED BY **VIM FOUNDATION, RUVIA FILM**

CO PRODUCED BY **SINA MUHAMED - AHMED NAJM**

EXTRA **AHMAD HAMDAMIN**

MAHMOOD HAMADMIN

AHMAD HAMID

DIMAN KHAFOR

KAWA MUHAMAD

MIRAN RASULL

SHAFIQ ABDULLA

CHYA BAWAJI

AZHI KHALID

MARDIN HAKIM

DANA KHALIL

ALAND MUHAMAD

RANJA MUHAMAD

KHARIB OMAR

ZYAD BAKR

HAWKAR MUHAMAD

SPECIAL THANKS **FAISAL MUHAMAD**
RUDAW NEWS
ETAMI BORJAN
HALWEST KAREEM
BARYAN MAJEED
ZMNAKO TOFIQ
JAMIL ALI
HOSHMAND HALGURD
HAMA AZHI
ZHAKO SHWAN

CAST **SALEH BARI**
PARWEN RAJABI
DYARI OMAR
AMINA MAHMOOD
ABDULRAHMAN MUHAMAD
SAADULA HAMA MUSTAFA
OMED REZA
CHALAK ESMAIL
SAEGUL ASAAD

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FIRST ASSISTANT DIRECTOR	SHWAN HAMA SAEED
SCREENPLAY	SINA MUHAMAD - TARA QADIR
MUSIC COMPOSER	KARZAN MAHMOOD
VISUAL EFACTS	HAVAL MAZN
TRANSLATOR	ZHEERA JALLAL
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