

حَسَبَ سِلَّةٍ

A BASKET OF LOVE

"An intimate reflection of a mother-daughter relationship with all its complexity within a family dynamic and a journey of coming to term with breaking societal expectations"

إخراج
زهراء شمس

A FILM BY ZAHRAA SHAMS

PRESS BOOK

FILM TITLE: *A Basket of Love*

ORIGINAL TITLE: *Portraits of Love*

DURATION: 19m 22s

ASPECT RATIO: 2.35:1

FORMAT: 4K

YEAR: 2023

ORIGINAL LANGUAGE: Arabic

COUNTRIES OF PRODUCTION: USA, Oman, Bahrain



A FILM BY
ZAHRAA SHAMS

سلة حب

A BASKET OF LOVE

A CREATIVE SOUL PRODUCTION

"A BASKET OF LOVE" HANAN ALMUSCATI * MALAK ALZADJALI

SOUND DESIGN & MASTER BY: ABDULLAH MUBARAK PRODUCTION DESIGNER: MOOSA ALBALUSHI DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY: MUSTAFA IZZELDIN
PRODUCTION MANAGER: BADER ALJABRI FINANCIAL MANAGER: TAHA ALLAWATI FIRST ASSISTANT DIRECTOR: ALI JOWHARI
PRODUCED BY: ALI ALNAJJAR DIRECTED BY: ZAHRAA SHAMS



FILM
POSTER

LOGLINE

When Noor's traditional mother becomes suspicious of her daughter's lifestyle, Noor struggles to maintain transparency in the family... What could happen if her secret was ever revealed?

In a tight-knit Arab household, NOOR, the eldest daughter, lives by her own rules, but her late night outings start to raise Mother's suspicions

As Noor struggles between sharing her secret with Mother but also maintaining their relationship, she slowly starts facing the consequences of her actions...

with IMAD, her younger brother aware of her whereabouts and watching her every move, and MALAK, Noor's sister covering up for her... what could happen if Mother ever found out about that secret?

SYNOPSIS



سليم حبيب

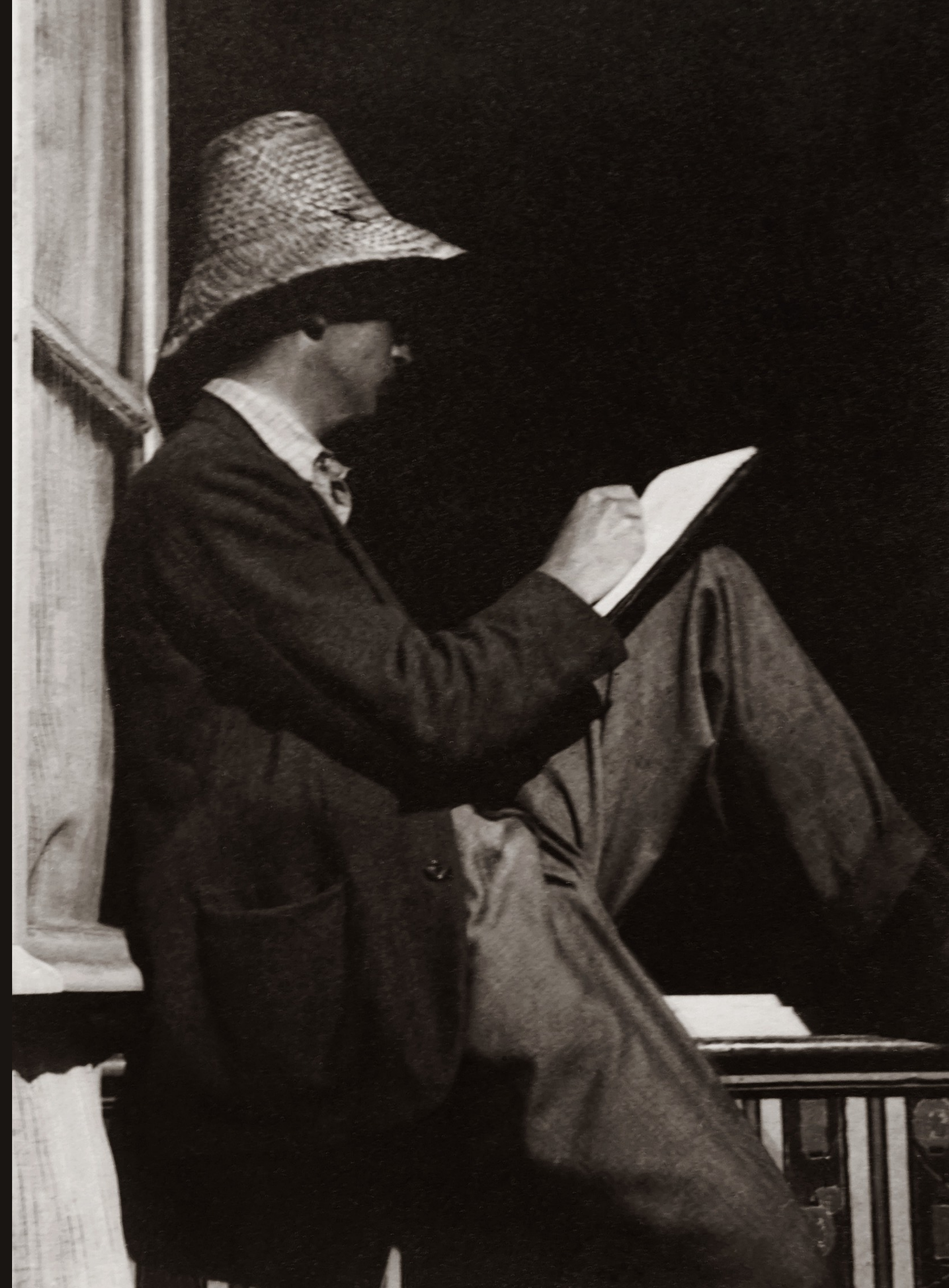
DIRECTOR BIO

Zahraa Shams is a Creative Director, born and raised in Bahrain, a small country with rich and diverse culture and many untold stories that inspired the characters and settings in her films.

In 2019, Zahraa received her BFA at EICAR film school in Paris, specializing in Directing for Cinema & Television and is currently pursuing her MFA in New York City after receiving her Fulbright scholarship in 2021.

Zahraa's films are inspired by stories that happen behind closed doors... consequences of social construction, culture, religion and beliefs that are rooted within human beings to form a society.





“Love Basket” started coming to life when I was away from my family, pursuing my studies in a very lively, yet very lonely city; the city of New York, but I always reminded myself of why I was there. I was there to reflect realities, experiences and stories that have never been told the way I saw them. I have always wanted to share the stories of where I come from; the stories of the very unique and beautiful Arab culture that has always been misrepresented in the western world.

“A Basket of Love” is an intimate reflection of a mother-daughter relationship with all its complexity within a family dynamic and a journey of coming to terms with breaking societal expectations.

This story is inspired by the experiences and realities of many young women living in middle eastern societies and was written with the intention of raising questions about morality, by sharing two perspectives of completely different worlds and different roles in a family; Mother and Daughter.

My passion for film and storytelling comes from exploring the “hidden” and “unrevealed”, the conflicts that happen behind closed doors and the stories that only the walls know about. My inspiration comes from the culture and beliefs rooted in human beings since birth and how that constructs a society and affects the way we live.

Finally, as Mark Twain said: “Write what you know” and as Chris Humphreys said in contradiction: “Don’t write what you know, write what you love”, I chose to do both.

DIRECTOR STATEMENT



CREW

Director: Zahraa Shams
Producer: Ali Alnajjar
First Assistant Director: Ali Jowhari
Financial Manager: Taha Allawati
Casting Director: Mohammed Alfarsi
Production Designer: Moosa Albalushi
Set Dressing: Hisham Almahmoudi
Director Of Photography: Mustafa Izzeldin
Second Camera Operator: Richard Pagulayan
Camera Assistant: Hari Das
Gaffer: Jahanzaib Mohammad
Best Boy 1: MD Masoom
Best Boy 2: Noor Zaman
Unit Production Manager: Bader Aljabri
Production Coordinator: Ghusun Aljabri
Production Assistant: Saeed Almahmoudi
Make-Up Artist: Ebrahim Aljasassi
Production sound: Mohammed Iqbal
Sound Designing, Mixing & Mastering: Abdullah Almubarak
Colorist: Ali Alnajjar
Editor: Zahraa Shams
DIT: Joseph Santon
Music composer: TBA
Artwork: Abeer Ashoor
SECOND UNIT CREW
Production Coordinator: Mohamed AlMarkhi
Camera Assistant: Yusuf Hisham

CAST

Malak AlZadjali as NOOR
Hanan Al Muscati as FATEMA
Ali Albulushi as IMAD
Issam Albulushi as DAD
Estabraq Qassim as MALAAK
Shareefa Alsabri as GRANDMOTHER
Lamya Alharbi as AUNT
Maymoona Almaamari as WOMAN IN SOUQ
Abrar Shams as YOUNG GRANDMOTHER
Naeema Ali as YOUNG FATEMA
Khalaf Alhadhrami as TEA SELLER
Mariya Albalushi & Sultan Alabri as COUPLE ON THE BEACH

...SPECIAL THANKS...

Batool Shabaan
Andrea Weiss
Babak Rassi
David Ranghelli
Andrzej Krakowski
Rich Guay
Tal Lazar
The Fulbright Program

CREATIVE SOUL PRODUCTIONS



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