

# WOMEN LIKE US

A film by Persheng Sadegh-Vaziri



Documentary, 2002  
60 min, Video, Color

## Credits

Producer/Director: Persheng Vaziri  
Cinematography: Persheng Vaziri, Mohsen Nazari  
Editing: Persheng Vaziri, Farinaz Javan  
Music: Mehran Khalili



## Synopsis

Filmmaker Persheng Sadegh-Vaziri returns to Iran after 20 years as an expatriate to present this intimate and revealing portrait of five ordinary Iranian women: a nurse, a journalist, a rice farmer, a religious college graduate and a piano teacher. Against a backdrop of Islam, revolution and war, they share their views on the veil, the relationship of Iranian women to the West and the long-ranging impacts of the 1979 Revolution on the status of women in their country. What emerges is an image of Iran that resists easy classification, a nation in flux at a unique historical moment, still reeling from the residual effects of the Iran-Iraq war but poised for a new future. An important and timely look at contemporary Iran, **Women Like Us** offers surprising insights into the changing role of women in the Middle East from a perspective that rarely makes it to international headlines.

## Festivals and Exhibitions

- Montreal Int'l Festival of New Cinema & New Media
- Tiburon Int'l Film Festival
- Festival of the Iranian Diaspora, Gene Siskel Film Center

## Director's Biography

Persheng Vaziri is an independent documentary filmmaker, born and raised in Tehran, Iran. She came to the U.S. to continue her studies right before the Iranian revolution started. Vaziri has worked on documentary films in Boston, New York and Tehran and has worked for a number of American and international companies on programs about the Middle East. Recently, she has worked on a program for Deep Dish TV about the war in Iraq. She worked for five years in Iran for Internews Network, an international media company that promotes dialogue through media programs between societies in conflict. She produced *Vis a Vis: Beyond the Veil* and *Adventure Divas*, both for PBS.

Persheng also produced and directed several personal documentary films about Iran: *Journal from Tehran*, 1986 is a memoir of war days in Tehran, a prize-winner which screened at the Independent Focus series of PBS. *Far from Iran*, is a commissioned work by New England Foundation for the Arts; *A Place Called Home*, 1998, is about the filmmaker's decision to leave the US and live in Iran. She lives and works in New York and Tehran. Her latest work is a co-production about Iranians in America.