

MY STOLEN PLANET

سیاره‌ی دزدیده شده‌ی من

A Film by
Farahnaz Sharifi



74th Internationale
Filmfestspiele
Berlin
Panorama

Director, Writer, Cinematographer and Editor: Farahnaz Sharifi | Producers: Anke Petersen, Lilian Tietjen and Farzad Pak
Music: Atena Eshtiaghi | Sound Editor: Daniel Wulf | Sound Mixer: Philipp Kempfner | Color Grading: Jochen Hinrichs-Stödt (BVK)
Poster Design: Parichehr Bijani | Distributor: CAT&Docs
Produced By JYOTI FILM and PAKFILM

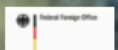
JYOTI PakFilm



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MY STOLEN PLANET

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Press Notes



Internationale Filmfestspiele Berlin
Panorama
world premiere

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LOGLINE

Farah, an Iranian woman, is forced to migrate to her private planet to be free. She buys other people's memories in form of super 8mm films and records and archives her own, to create an alternative history of Iran.

SYNOPSIS

My Stolen Planet" is a diary-style narrative by Farah, an Iranian filmmaker. Born during the Islamic revolution in Iran in 1979, she captures moments of joy and defiance in her daily life, navigating the contrast between domestic freedom and external oppression. Simultaneously, she collects 8mm archives from people she doesn't know. Relying on others' recordings, she gains a new perspective on losing memories.

Her connection with Leyla, an Iranian professor who left Iran during the revolution, adds a name and story to one of her archive's faces. Farah's mother, suffering from Alzheimer's, motivates her to fight against forgetting. In the fall of 2022, the Women, Life, Freedom uprising became a turning point in Farah's life, as well as in the lives of many others in Iran.

This is a homemade history.



Press notes *My Stolen Planet*
Berlinale Panorama 2024

DIRECTOR'S NOTE

When we share a memory with others, it moves from private to public. This story is woven tightly with a resistance to forgetting. At a time when power structures strive to narrate history in ways that hide important and popular segments, it becomes all the more crucial to share personal details and micro-narratives.



ABOUT THE DIRECTOR

Farahnaz Sharifi is an award-winning Iranian filmmaker, based in Germany since 2022. She graduated in Cinema Studies from Iran. Most of her films are characterized by a creative use of archive. She is also a well-known film editor. Farahnaz has received many awards inside and outside of Iran and has participated as a filmmaker, editor, and jury member in many leading International film festivals, including Berlinale, Venice Film Festival, IDFA, Sheffield DocFest, and Uppsala International Short Film Festival. Besides her career as a filmmaker and editor, she is also a writer, and her book of short stories, "Breathing in Open Air," has been published in Iran.



Filmography:

2024 Sayyareye dozdide shodeye man/ My Stolen Planet; (Feature Documentary)

2016 Missing; (Documentary Short Film)

2014 Profession: Documentarist; Collective Film (Episodic Documentary)

2013 Revolutionary Memories of Bahman Who Loved Leila; Documentary Short Film)

2008 My Sad Face; (Documentary Short Film)

2005 Iran According To Ads; (Documentary Short Film)

2003 Destiny; (Documentary Short Film)

2002 Moon's Voice; (Documentary Short Film)

PRODUCTION COMPANIES

JYOTI FILM
Germany



JYOTI means LIGHT in the Hindi language. With the films they develop and produce, Anke Petersen and Lilian Tietjen aim to shed light on untold stories. They love to co-produce with partners from all around the world. With the scope of projects, JYOTI Film tries to open new perspectives on internationally relevant topics, inspire their audience and improve the understanding of the unfamiliar. Their films have been awarded with the Golden Dove in Leipzig, the Human Rights Award in Sarajevo, the Special Jury Award in Visions du Réel and the Arab Film Critics prize in Cannes. Their coproduction "Les Enfants Terribles" was in the short list of the European Film Awards. Anke and Lilian are members of AG Dok and ProQuote. As female producers, stories from and about women are close to their heart. They like to put an emphasis on diversity and crossmedia storytelling.

jyotifilm.de

PAKFILM
Germany



PakFilm is a film production company based in Hamburg, Germany, founded by the award-winning Iranian film producer Farzad Pak. "There Is No Evil," the Golden Bear winner of the 70th Berlinale in 2020, "District Terminal," recognized with a special mention for Best First Feature at the Berlinale in 2021, "Endless Borders," Big Screen Award winner at the IFFR in 2023, and "And Me, I'm Dancing Too," Crystal Bear winner at the Berlinale Generation 14plus in 2023, are among the latest productions by PakFilm.

pakfilm.de

ABOUT THE PRODUCERS

Anke Petersen

Germany

Anke Petersen used to work as an executive producer for commercials. For over 19 years she was an inherent part of Tony Petersen Film. In 2013 she established Jyoti Film, a company focused on international documentary and feature film co-productions, short films and digital projects. Anke is an alumna of Documentary Campus and a Green Consultant (IHK). Through workshops and seminars Anke constantly updates herself about state-of-the-art technology and enjoys transferring her knowledge and network to digital and documentary-based projects with a cause. In recent years Anke has set her sights on producing documentaries with impact, and has several impact campaigns currently in the works.



Lilian Tietjen

Germany



Lilian Tietjen joined Jyoti Film in 2020 as a creative producer. In addition, she produces state of the art commercials and music videos freelance since 2015. Her documentary career started over a decade ago, researching, developing and shooting for editorial departments of various companies. Studying in the UK and Belarus has sparked her passion to build bridges and produce films that matter and raise critical debates. Lilian loves to provide an outside the box perspective and the hands-on, innovative and solution oriented framework, necessary to bring film ideas to life.

Farzad Pak

Iran

Farzad Pak is an award-winning film producer and the founder and CEO of PakFilm and Filminiran production companies. With a career spanning more than 25 years, Farzad has produced a remarkable array of feature films and documentaries such as the Golden Bear winner film "There is No Evil" (2020), directed by Mohammad Rasoulof; "Son-Mother" (2019), honored with the Amnesty award; "District Terminal" (2021), the Berlinale GWFF special mention for the Best First Feature Award; "Endless Borders" (2023), the VPRO Big Screen Award winner at IFFR; and "And Me, I'm Dancing Too" (2023), winner of the Crystal Bear at Berlinale Generation 2023.



**Press notes *My Stolen Planet*
Berlinale Panorama 2024**

PRODUCERS NOTES

When we met Farahnaz in Berlin we were immediately taken by the deeply personal and rarely shared perspectives of her film “My Stolen Planet” on the question of “home” and “freedom” in a dictatorship.

Farahnaz uses archives and personal material to share a rare perspective of the everyday life of people who live under a dictator, so they are forced to emigrate “inwards”, into their own homes in order to be free.

Farahnaz is an award-winning, multi-trained and skilled filmmaker and due to her ability to write, edit shoot and direct, she has what it takes to breathe life into this film, which would be unthinkable otherwise, given the conditions. In all of her films she has worked with archive footage, gathered a large personal library and has become an expert in the field.

The central question of this film is both, deeply personal but also universal. And with regards to the latest political developments in Iran and the world, ever timelier.

“My Stolen Planet” furthermore reflects this question from the perspective of women. The stories shared are those of girls and women, whose voices are rarely heard and whose human rights are particularly violated in Iran.

This feature-length documentary is not only courageous considering the deeply personal approach and the political threat making it poses, it also displays a great creative use of archive material. We were captivated by the very beautiful and powerful archive footage of female Iranian singers, who have been prohibited from singing publicly in Iran and 8mm home videos from before the Revolution. This footage triggers curiosity and poses the question who these people are, their experiences in the Revolution and how they view or experience Iran today.

Farzad Pak is a prolific producer and filmmaker and has produced many internationally awarded co-productions like *There is no Evil* and *And me, I’m dancing too*. He is a very passionate producer who truly knows how to navigate film productions about Iran and we at JYOTI Film have been very glad to be working on this project with him.

We believe in the importance and urgency in broadcasting this film to give a platform to a vast and ever-increasing number of unheard voices in the world.

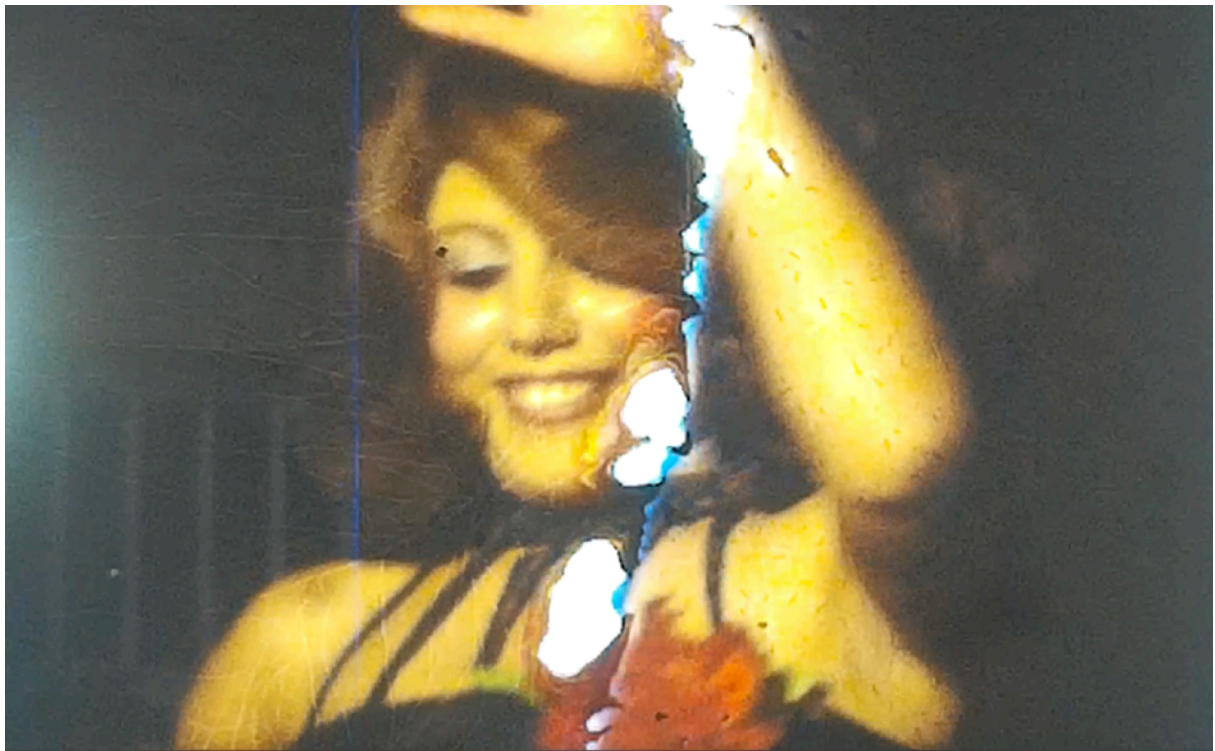
Best,

Anke Petersen & Lilian Tietjen

"My Stolen Planet," directed by Farahnaz Sharifi, is a moving documentary that I've had the privilege to be involved with in recent years. The film is an urgent exploration of socio-political realities and the ongoing struggle for freedom in Iran. It serves as a poignant portrayal of the experiences endured under totalitarian regimes.

The political pressure on people in totalitarian structures is widespread worldwide. Being an Iranian producer in Germany gives me the opportunity to make films that showcase the political reality in such regions. "My Stolen Planet" is a perfect summary of the relentless oppression faced by people, especially women, and stands as a story emblematic of our generation.

Farzad Pak



CREDITS

Director (*Regie*)
Screenplay (*Buch*)
Cinematography (*Kamera*)
Editing (*Montage*)
Music (*Musik*)
Sound Design (*Sound Design*)
Sound (Ton)
Producer (*Produzent*in*)

Executive Producer (*Ausführende*r Produzent*in*)
Co-Production (*Koproduktion*)

Farahnaz Sharifi
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Atena Eshtiaghi
Daniel Wulf
Farahnaz Sharifi
Anke Petersen, Lilian Tietjen &
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