

Maryam Haddadi

Documentary Filmmaker and Graphic Designer

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Profile

I am an award-winning documentary filmmaker, and graphic designer. Having lived, studied, and worked in various countries, I possess a deep passion for all things creative, with a particular emphasis on visual communication and cinema. My primary focus in graphic design revolves around artworks with cultural contexts. Additionally, I am enthusiastic about capturing and sharing human stories, with a special emphasis on the narratives of women. I am keen to find a role within the film industry.

Education

2023 – Present (August 2024) **Master in Film Directing** (Documentary film), University of Edinburgh

- Explored ethical considerations in documentary filmmaking which included learning about crucial documents such as contributor release forms. This knowledge enabled me to apply for release forms necessary to complete my short film project.
- Collaborative work and professional collaboration with two other students, one from the sound department and the other from Edinburgh Napier University. Also, beginning collaboration with two classmates who took charge of cinematography for my project led me to be part of a professional group and to experience exceptional collaboration as a director.
- Secured funding from the Scottish Council Refuge to screen part of my graduation film at their Arts Festival as their first screening event.
- Professional training in Premiere and Avid software was one of the outstanding skills I acquired during this course.
- Developed the ability professionally structure and format storytelling in documentary filmmaking.

2016 - 2014 **Master in Visual Communication**, Azad University of Tehran.

- Worked extensively on visual elements, conducting visual and analytical analyses of prominent world cinema films and their impact on the audience. Through this work, I gained a professional understanding of framing and learned to frame and design visuals professionally.
- Proficient in Adobe Illustrator, a skill I acquired during this course to a level where I could teach it at the university.
- Collaborated on projects with my classmates and organized group exhibitions, some of the most significant tasks I undertook during this course.

2011 **Bachelor of Art in Professional Design**, Limkokwing Creative Technology University, Malaysia

Achievements

2020 **Giselou** (Director Assistant) Best Documentary Award, TRT International Film Festival, Turkey

- Zahra, a young Iranian woman, whose husband abandoned her and her children five years ago. To acquire her children's birth certificates and finalize her divorce, she is forced to go looking for her husband in Afghanistan.

2019 **Adoor** (Director Assistant) Screened in 13 festivals and award winner in 3

- A 13-year-old teenager Mostafa who is a victim of separation never met his mother. He starts a journey to find his real mother.

2018 **Asheng** (Director Assistant) Screened in 48 festivals and award winner in 7.

- Four women try to plead for their husbands' release after the husbands are arrested and sentenced to the death penalty for drug possession.

2018 **Salto** (Director) Screened in 19 festivals and award winner in 3.

- A portrait of a young girl who is the swimming “champion of champions” in Iran. In spite of Islam’s recommendations on learning to swim and her own immense talent in the sport, she has no place in the Islamic Republic of Iran.

2016 **Master thesis awarded** as “The Best Research Award for Cinema Studies at the National Iranian Cinem School.”

2016 – Present Member of the **Iranian Youth Cinema Society**

Skills and Languages

- Leadership abilities
- The skill to take initiative
- Writing loglines and treatments professionally
- Creative in ways of storytelling
- Communication skills
- The capacity to receive constructive feedback and perform effectively in high-pressure situations.
- Adobe Premiere
- Final Cut Pro
- Adobe Illustrator
- Adobe Photoshop
- Avid media composer
- Microsoft Office
- Persian
- English

Employment

2023 December – Present, **Media officer (Par-time)**, Hydrafact Ltd, Edinburgh, Uk

- Social media and website Management of the company
- Branding Media Officer

2018 Present, **Iranian Correspondent (Volunteer)**, Artemis Women in Action Film Festival, USA

- Evaluator of Iranian films for selection in the festival as well as interacting
- Communicating with Iranians submitting films to the film festival

2014-2023 **Graphic designer and Video Editor**, Cultural Institute “Ava E Setak E Tat”, Qazvin, Iran

- Created clips and teasers
- Creating Logo, Visit card, Posters, and Adverts

2014 **Art Consultant**, “Eideh Paydar E Setak”, Qazvin, Iran

- Choosing advertising style of the company
- **Managing a team of five** graphic designers

2014-2016 **Graphic Designer**, Arahonar, Tehran, Iran

- Creating Logo, Visit card, Posters, and packaging

2013-2015 **University Lecturer**, Higher Education Institutions Miremad

- Teaching how to advertise for a product
- Teaching illustrator in terms of creating posters and logos

2013-2014 **University Lecturer**, University College of Takestan

- Teaching Photoshop and Illustrator in terms of creating posters and logos

References available on request