

رخ

FACING THE ROOK

A film by
SAM KALANTARI







FACING THE ROOK

Director: Sam Kalantari
Writer & Producer: Arash Sadeghi L.N. - Sam Kalantari
Director of Photography: Reza Teymouri
Editor: Mastaneh Mohajer
VFX Supervisor: Javad Matouri
VFX Art Director: Afshin Sadeghi
Sound Designer: Ensieh Maleki
First Assistance and Programme Manager: Rassa Sheikh
Production Manager on Set : Mohsen Moradi

Executive producer:
Ali Akbar Sadeghi Foundation
Ashkan Sadeghi

with:
Dr. Babak Roshanaie
Dr. Tina Parsa

IRAN, 2023,
Running time: 80 min
In Persian

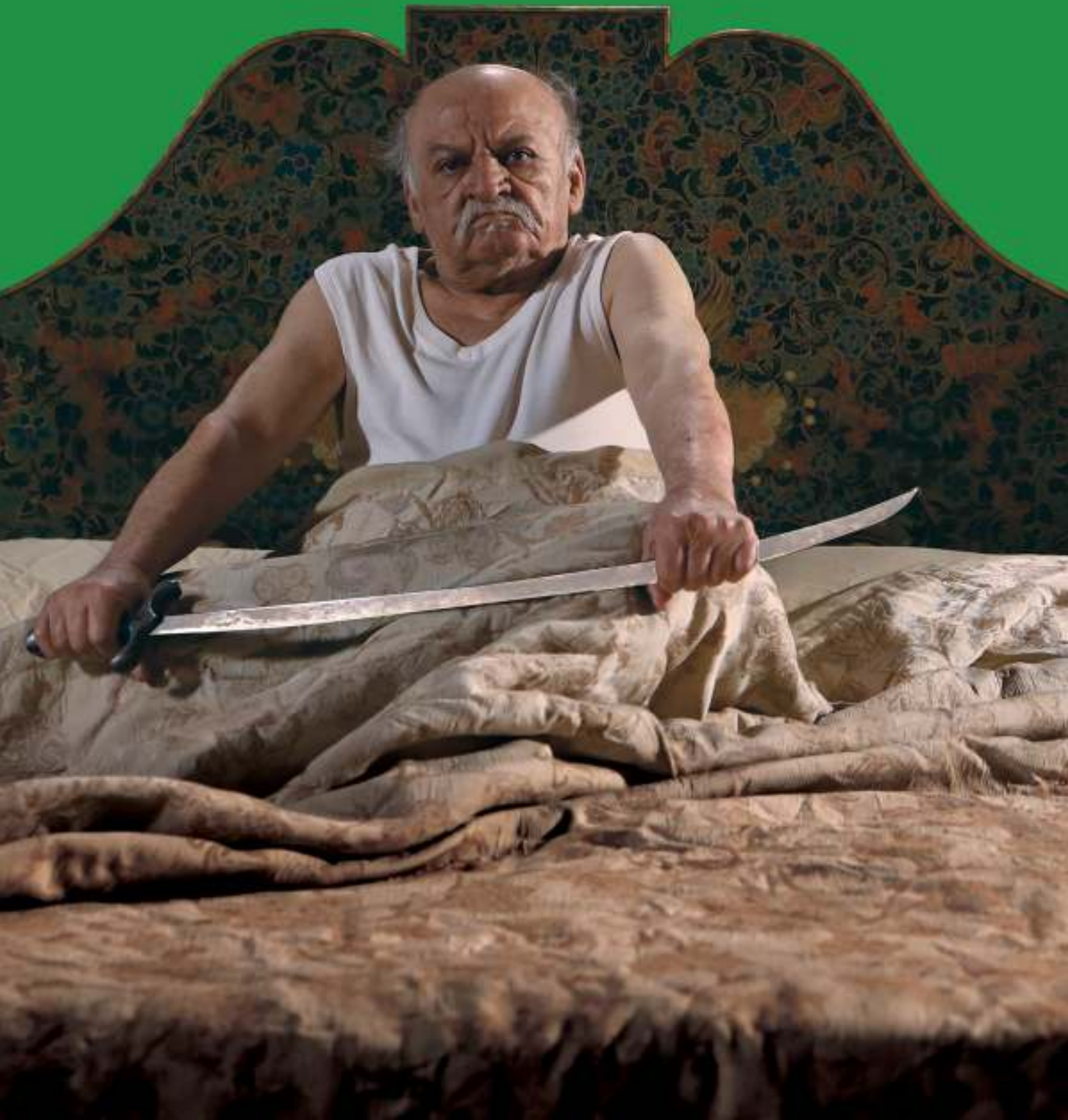
Subtitled: English, French

Surround 5.1 - Dolby standard Mix - EBU-R128 loudness standard
48kHz 24bit wave file format
Aspect ratio: 1.89:1
Camera: Arri Alexa mini,
Sony fs7
Zeiss ultra prime lenses
Sony G zoom lens
Process: ProRes 4444 XQ (3.4K)
mxf slog 2 (4k)
Master Format (2k) – Color
DCP: DCI-2K, FPS: 25

Pitch:

“... the world is full of colors, so we must travel with Virgil and Dante and go to hell, and try to capture the devil...

...I will hang my rug on the loom...”





Synopsis:

"Facing The Rook" is a film about the contemporary Iranian artist, Ali Akbar Sadeghi. It is a free interpretation of his dreams and poems. The story revolves around the artist's latest piece; an artwork with a clear violent expression that is different from his other pieces. Given the artist's past struggles with depression, the family is concerned about his emotional state and his sons decide to hire a team of psychoanalysts. The process sparks an idea in their minds to make a film about their father...







Director's Note

"Facing The Rook" begins with a celebration. The tale of "dream" and "color" companionship and capturing them on a piece of canvas. Rook is a tale of mummifying dreams in the mind's dungeon. A mind which will never be freed from the solitude cell, unless by the hands of color. And this cycle of suffering and pain will be everlasting.







Director Biography

Sam Kalantari was born in 1976, Tehran, Iran. Is an Iranian film director, producer and writer. He is considered to be a major figure of the fourth generation of Iranian documentary filmmakers. The civil engineer graduate entered the realm of Iran's professional filmmaking scene from year 2001 after completing his academic studies in filmmaking from Ireland.

Kalantari was involved in the production of over fifteen films, including documentaries and series in different countries, he is known for being passionate about experiencing different genres. He is the recipient of various prestigious awards from international festivals of Cinema Verite and Fajr International Film Festival. His movies also has been selected by different international film festivals like Visions du Réel (Switzerland).

Based on the strength of his works, some of them were screened in London, Prague, Paris and Istanbul.

Exploring different genres naming social, experimental and environmental is one of the distinctive features of his works which has been acclaimed by many critics, his unique way of narration from documentary has always been well received by the audience.





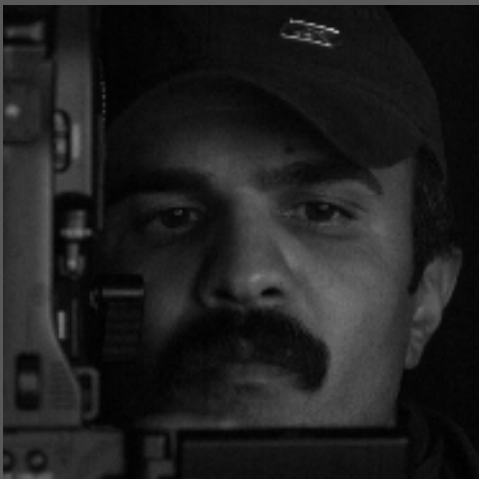
Arash Sadeghi Lavasaninia - Writer & Producer

Was born in 1975, Tehran, Iran. He received his Diploma in creative management from UCLA, BA (Honor) in Graphic Design from Faculty of Arts and Architecture, Azad University. Arash later began his professional career in 1997, working in Morteza Momayez's graphic studio (The founder of Iranian graphic design society). Seven years later, he found his interest in cinema with producing and filming the back stage of "Iranian Carpet" feature film, which brought him the best backstage film, in the first year the award was introduced in Shahr international film festival in Tehran.

He's also collaborated with Abbas Kiarostami as an editor of "Shirin" feature movie and the technical assistant in multiple projects.

Arash has won two more awards for "A Cube of Sugar" and "The Sensitive Floor" feature films' poster design from Iranian Cinema Celebration and the art director of the ceremony.

He is currently a thriving Producer, Art director for "the Iranian Alliance Of Motion Pictures Guilds" and a the core member of White Dreams Pictures distribution film company.



Reza Teymouri - Director of Photography

Is a director of photography. With over 25 years of experience working with several directors in different styles including more than 200 documentaries, 10 feature films and 50 shorts. During his years of activity, he won many awards, such as the "Crystal Simorgh of the Fajr International Film Festival", the "Best Cinematography Award from Kodak Company", and the "Best Cinematography of the Dubai International Film Festival".



Mastaneh Mohajer - Editor

Was born on May 5, 1974 and is one of the most prolific editors in Iran who has edited and produced more than 100 films and has been granted with many international awards in 3 decades.

She made her international debut with "Kandahar" by Mohsen Makhmalbaf, which was nominated for Palme D'or in 2001.

Rather than Cannes Festival which she later had two more appearances with Abbas Kiarostami's "Ten" in 2002 and "Three Faces" by Jafar Panahi in 2018, Mastaneh has other international nominations in festivals like Venice, Berlinale and many more.

She was the editor of Siddiq Barmak's "Osama" which won the Golden Globe awards' best foreign film in 2003.

Mastaneh is currently the CEO of "White Dreams Pictures", which is an exclusive film distribution company based in Tehran-Iran, aiming to bring new voices to the contemporary history of cinema.



Ensieh Maleki - Sound Designer

Ensieh Maleki, born in Iran. As a Supervisor of Sound Design and Re-Recording Mixer over 10 years professional work in Cinema in Iran and abroad, Ensieh has been contributing more than 60 feature-length films including fiction and documentary which have been awarded/nominated in more than 100 international film festivals including Cannes, Venice, Berlin, BAFTA, BFI, Toronto, Sundance, IDFA, Asia Pacific, Chicago, Shanghai, Tokyo, Locarno, Visions du Reel, Karlovy vary, Sheffield, Hot Docs, Bussan, Edinburgh, Goa, San Sebastian, and Krakow.

She has then headed her career in the film Industry by completing a Bachelor and subsequently a Master's Degree in Sound Design and Mix for Film, from Bournemouth University.



Javad Matouri - VFX Supervisor

Javad Matouri started his official career in 2004 and after 15 years of experiences in VFX, he has supervised more than 100 projects in Iranian and Indian cinema. His repertoire includes award-winning Iranian movies such as the below: The Salesman (Winner of 2017 Academy Awards' Best Foreign Movie) ... and more than 100 other cinematic features. His international repertoire includes high-grossing Bollywood movies such as: Baahubali 2 (highest-grossing movie of Indian cinema) & Saaho & Syeera & 2.0 (one of the most expensive movies of Bollywood).

He has cooperated with Abed Abest in his first film (Simulation) (2017) and actually in his second one, the movie "Killing the eunuch KHAN" (2021).



Rassa Sheikh - First Assistance and Programme Manager

Was born in 1978, Tehran, Iran. An experienced film and TV industry professional, line producer and project manager who oversees every stage of development of features and documentaries, from pre-production to post-production. First Assistance and programme manager for "Nobody Sleeps" documentary. Managing producer of a series of 40 TV commercials for an Iranian national broadcaster.

Previous to that, for over a decade, she was working as a design manager and motion designer for a TV channel in London with 50 million viewership.

She has a Bachelor of Arts (Hons) in Design for Graphic Communication from London College of Communication, London, UK and a Bachelor of Arts (Hons) in Graphic Design from Faculty of Arts and Architecture, Azad University, Tehran, Iran.

She is currently a core member of White Dreams Pictures distribution film company.



Babak Roshanaei - Psychotherapist

Babak Roshanaei-Moghaddam, MD is founding and director of Tehran Center for Psychoanalytic Studies (TCPS). He is a faculty member at Seattle Psychoanalytic Society and Institute (SPSI), an adjunct faculty of psychiatry at the University of Washington in Seattle. He is a board-certified psychiatrist by the American Board of Psychiatry and Neurology. He completed his psychoanalytic training at SPSI and psychiatric residency and addiction fellowship at the University of Washington in Seattle. He was the co-chair of the scientific committee of the 1st Iranian Psychoanalytic and Dynamic Psychotherapy Conference (IPDPC.) He has also served as a consultant to the Psychodynamic Diagnostic Manual (PDM)-2 task force. He is translator of several books.



Tina Parsa -Psychotherapist assistance

Tina Parsamand is a clinical psychologist, social media influencer and the founder of Insight clinic. She has many years of experience working as a psychoanalyst and is also well-known for her social media platform, raising mental health awareness. As she was born in Iran and raised in New Zealand, most of her research is concentrated on cross-cultural studies looking at how common cultural beliefs influence behavioral patterns.



Ali Akbar Sadeghi Production

Ali Akbar Sadeghi was recognized as an outstanding cultural figure and contributor to Iranian art and culture. In this respect we have established the foundation in 2010 celebrating the artist legacy through various programs, events, collaborations, publications, animations and film. The foundation continuously showcasing works from different periods of long professional career both domestically and internationally.

www.aliakbarsadeghi.com

instagram: [aliakbarsadeghi_foundation](https://www.instagram.com/aliakbarsadeghi_foundation)





Ali Akbar Sadeghi Foundation



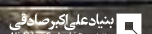
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DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY: REZA TEYMOURI / EDITOR: MASTANEH MOHAJER / WRITER & PRODUCER: ARASH SADEGHI L.N. - SAM KALANTARI / DIRECTOR: SAM KALANTARI



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