



FIDELITE FILMS PRESENTS

LEILA BEKHTI BENJAMIN SIKSOU CÉCILE CASSEL

LEILA

DIRECTED BY
AUDREY ESTROUGO

FRANCE • 1H27 • 35MM • SCOPE • 5.1 DOLBY SR SRD DTS • COLOUR

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SYNOPSIS

Gab, a young slacker from a wealthy Parisian family, falls passionately for Leila, a beautiful French Arab law student deeply engaged in the struggle of illegal immigrants. Their love grows, despite all opposition from a society that will do everything in its power to keep them apart...

CAST

Leila Bekhti	<i>Leila</i>
Benjamin Siksou	<i>Gabriel</i>
Cécile Cassel	<i>Alexandra</i>
Marie-Sohna Condé	<i>Tina</i>
Chantal Lauby	<i>Valérie</i>
Nicolas Briançon	<i>Brice</i>
Djanis Bouzyani	<i>Momo</i>
Martine Gomis	<i>Kaïna</i>
Emir Seghir	<i>Agib</i>
Renaud Astegiani	<i>Angelo</i>
Selim Clayssen	<i>Souleiman</i>
Math Samba	<i>Fidèle</i>
Gladys Gambie	<i>Glawdys</i>
Abel Jafri	<i>Abdellatif</i>
Cheïna Correa Lafaure	<i>Sally</i>
Zohra Benali	<i>Zhora</i>

CREW

Director	Audrey Estrougo
Screenplay	Audrey Estrougo & Juliette Sales
In collaboration with	Aline Méhouel
DP	Guillaume Schiffman - AFC
Editor	Sophie Reine
Sound	Cyril Moisson
Mix	Emmanuel Croset
Costume Designer	Emmanuelle Youchnovski
Art Director	Bertrand Seitz – A.D.L
Choreographer	Gladys Gambie
1st Assistant Director	Thomas Trefouel
Casting	Marion Toutou
Continuity	Céline Breuil
Line Producer	Sina Frifra
Still's Photographer	Jean-Marie Leroy
Original Music	Baptiste Charvet
Production Manager	Samuel Amar
Executive Producer	Christine de Jekel
Producers	Olivier Delbosc Marc Missonnier
Coproduced by	Wild Bunch Mars Films France 2 Cinéma
With the participation of	Orange cinéma séries
In partnership with	Cinéimage 4
With the support of	I'ANG OA-AGIC OA
International Sales	Wild Bunch

DIRECTOR'S INTENTION NOTE

Musical: *Theatre genre mixing comedy, singing and dancing, accompanied by live music.*

I have analysed this definition for a long time, from my perspective as a young film maker, committed to a quasi-naïve doctrine where cinema can only exist when it is fed by real life. I've often told myself that this notion of pure entertainment that is a musical could only take me away from my convictions. But no one ever told me that an author couldn't both entertain and convey a message, so I just went for it...

Musical according to A. Estrougo: *Cinema genre where comedy, dance and music are mixed to create a charged, hard-hitting and absolutely contemporary picture of our society.*

My story will be first and foremost political, but not just political. The storylines of musicals are built on a classic dramatic framework: the love story. From WEST SIDE STORY to MOULIN ROUGE, musicals have been rooted in passionate and impossible love stories. That's certainly the case here when Gab, a child of privileged Parisian society, meets Leila, a beautiful girl from the rough 18th arrondissement. Their conflicting worlds will collide and confront each other, the better to accept each other in the end. My story's second inspiration comes from political commitment – around this whirlpool of love, the terrible reality of illegal immigration and deportation rises. There is also the question of social injustice and exclusion.

I do not deny that I consider cinema to be a serious and useful medium, much more than just entertainment, and I regard this film as a tool for reflection and assessment of a situation.

The story's main concern is the future, and it brings together a galaxy of characters that bear witness to our world today. Younger and older characters revolve around Gab and Leila: Africans, Arabs, Parisian bourgeois... a real portrait of a multicultural and multiracial Paris.

The Music.

It seems to me that the music, the film's heart, must both carry and sublimate the story's ambitions. I chose covers of French standards. It allowed me both to reach a far greater number of people by appealing to their collective unconscious, and to expand the 'second degree' aspect of the film. I was free to make multiple allusions, to take risks when using certain 'sacred' lyrics that might be old-fashioned and uncool to some. We have covers of songs by Khaled, Françoise Hardy, M, Claude François, Joe Dassin, Nino Ferrer, Jacques Brel, Michel Berger...

What better tool to illustrate France than a well-protected heritage in desperate need of rejuvenation?

The arrangements are faithful to the tone of the film: urban pop, with African and Eastern undertones and a splash of elegance.

I want this film to make the audience dream as well as think, sing as well as dance. To startle as well as dazzle. All in all, a true work of cinema.

- Audrey Estrougo

FILMOGRAPHIES

AUDREY ESTROUGO

NAYAN (work in progress) - Screenplay

REGARDE-MOI - Director & Screenplay

IAM, ENCORE UN PRINTEMPS (Documentary for Canal+) - Screenplay

LEILA BEKHTI

2009 TOUT CE QUI BRILLE

LE COSE CHE RESTANO

2008 A PROPHET

MESRINE, PUBLIC ENEMY NUMBER 1

2007 DES POUPÉES ET DES ANGES

2006 PARIS JE T'AIME

2005 SHEITAN

BAD FAITH

Géraldine NAKACHE & Hervé MIMRAN

Gianluca Maria TAVARELLI

Jacques AUDIARD

Cannes Film Festival - Grand Jury Prize

Jean-François RICHEL

César - Best Director & Best Actor

Nora HAMDY

Gurinder CHADAH

Kim CHAPIRON

Roschdy ZEM

BENJAMIN SIKSOU

2009 À BICYCLETTE (short)

2007 DADDY COOL

2007 LARGO WINCH

Jean DOUCHET (*starring Claude Chabrol, Xavier Beauvois, Jean Douchet*)

François DESAGNAT & Thomas SORRIAUX

Jérôme SALLE

CÉCILE CASSEL

2008 BARBAROSSA

EX

YOU'LL MISS ME

NUIT BLEUE

2007 MY LAST FIVE GIRLFRIENDS

THE FIRST DAY OF THE REST OF MY LIFE

2006 LES AMOURS D'ASTRÉE ET DE CÉLADON

2005 O JERUSALEM

2004 FOON

MA VIE EN L'AIR

2003 NARCO

HEAD IN THE CLOUDS

EVERYBODY IS A KILLER

2002 WITHOUT HER

2001 LA BANDE DU DRUGSTORE

2000 ALIVE

Renzo MARTINELLI

Fausto BRIZZI

Amanda SHERS

Ange LECCIA

Julian KEMP

Rémi BEZANÇON

Eric ROHMER

Elie CHOURAQUI

Les Quiches

Rémi BEZANÇON

Tristan AUROUE & Gilles LELLOUCHE

John DUGAN

Dominique DERUDDERE

Anna DE PALMA

François ARMANET

Sandrine RAY

SOUNDTRACK

POUR UN FLIRT AVEC TOI

Performed by Benjamin Siksou

Lyrics by Michel Delpech

Music by Roland Vincent

© Warner Chappell Music France – 1971

(p) 2010 Fidélité Films

LE TEMPS DE L'AMOUR

Performed by Leila Bekhti - Marie-Sohna Condé

- Chantal Lauby

Lyrics by Lucien Morisse-André Salvat

Music by Jacques Dutronc

© Editions Musicales ALPHA

(p) 2010 Fidélité Films

TOUT LE MONDE

Performed by Gladys Gambie

(Zazie / arr. : P. Jaconelli - C. Voisin)

© Larsen Sarl

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LA BONNE ÉTOILE

Performed by Leila Bekhti - Benjamin Siksou

(Matthieu Chedid/ Jérôme Goldet)

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Jérôme Goldet

(p) 2010 Fidélité Films

ET SI TU N'EXISTAIS PAS

Performed by Leila Bekhti - Benjamin Siksou

- Cécile Cassel

Lyrics by V. Pallavicini

Music by T. Cutugno and P. Losito

French adaptation by P. Delanoe

© Edizioni Curci Srl / Asso Edizioni

(p) 2010 Fidélité Films

UN AUTRE MONDE

Performed by Marie-Sohna Condé - Sandra Nkaké

(J. L. Aubert / J. L. Aubert – L. Bertignac

– R. Kolinka – C. Marienneau)

© Editions Téléphone Musique

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LAISSE PAS TRAÎNER TON FILS

(Fabrice Guion-Firmin, Bruno Lopes,

Didier Morville)

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J'ATTENDRAI

Performed by Cécile Cassel

(Holland/Dozier/Holland/Konyn)

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SAUVER L'AMOUR

Performed by Emir Seghir

Lyrics and Music by Daniel Balavoine

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Universal Music Publishing

(Catalogue: Les Editions Musicales Bicycle) 1985

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QUAND ON N'A QUE L'AMOUR

Performed by Leila Bekhti - Benjamin Siksou

Martine Gomis - Gladys Gambie - Selim Clayssen

(J. Brel)

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Jacques Brel

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