



Technical Information

Working Title: Asia
Director: Ruthy Pribar
Screenplay by: Ruthy Pribar
Nationality: Israël
Genre: Drama
Length: 90 min.
Shooting Location: Israël

Production company: Gum Films
Tel Aviv, Israel
Producers: Aurit Zamir, Yoav Roeh
Email: aurit@gumfilms.com
Website: www.gumfilms.com

Director's Biography

Born in Beer-Sheva, Israel in 1982. Ruthy Graduated with honors from *Sam Spiegel Film School* in 2012. During her studies she received a scholarship from "The America-Israel Cultural foundation" for promising director. Her diploma film **Last Calls** was screened and awarded at numerous festivals including Montreal, Créteil and Biarritz.

Alongside her work as a film director, Ruthy works as an editor on both fiction and documentary films. She is currently developing her first feature film **Asia**, supported by the *Israel Film Fund*.

ASIA

A FILM BY
RUTHY PRIBAR



FESTIVAL DE CANNES

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Since 2000, the Festival Residence has provided each year accommodation and support to twelve selected young directors in order to help them prepare their first or second feature film. A jury presided by a film director sits twice a year, selecting these young filmmakers on the basis of their short films, or

even first feature film, and the merits of their feature film project. During their 4-and-a-half-month stay in Paris, they work on the writing of their feature film project, have meetings with professionals and try, with the support of the Cannes Film Festival, to bring their project to co-production status.

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cinéfondation
LA RÉSIDENCE

Still photography by Assaf Shir



With the support of HP. Printed on an HP Indigo Digital Press.

Synopsis

Asia is a rootless immigrant, struggling to make ends-meet. Her biggest concern though is for her teenage daughter, Vika, who has been diagnosed with an incurable progressive disease. The two go through life as if nothing's wrong, quarreling over Vika's studies and friends; but when Vika's health starts deteriorating, life ultimately changes.

Vika's illness turns out to be an opportunity to reveal the great love within this small family unit. Out of all the pain and anger, Asia and Vika find one another.

This is a story of a mother, taking responsibility; first for her daughter's life, and eventually for her death.

Director's Statement

Asia is a very strong, restrained female heroine. She has a hard time showing emotions, never allowing herself to lose control. I connect to her silence of pain, as opposed to melodramatic tears.

Asia's motherhood is not an obvious instinct but more of an ongoing struggle. When Vika turns increasingly dependent, Asia needs to fully commit to her – physically and emotionally. In that way Asia becomes a modern martyr, sacrificing herself for the sake of her daughter.

Although dealing with pain, grief and separation; Asia and Vika manage to share moments of joy and laughter under the shadow of Death. Even in their most agonizing moments, there is beauty, there is life.

Synopsis

Asia est une immigrante sans racines qui lutte pour joindre les deux bouts. Sa plus grande préoccupation est sa fille Vika, adolescente diagnostiquée d'une maladie évolutive incurable. Toutes les deux vivent leur vie comme si de rien n'était, se querellant sur les études et les amis de Vika; mais en fin de compte, quand la santé de Vika commence à se détériorer, la vie change. La maladie de Vika fournit l'occasion de révéler le grand amour au sein de cette petite unité familiale. Malgré toute la douleur et la colère, Asia et Vika se retrouvent. C'est l'histoire d'une mère qui assume ses responsabilités, d'abord pour la vie de sa fille et finalement pour sa mort.

Note de la réalisatrice

Asia est une héroïne féminine très forte, sobre. Elle a du mal à montrer ses émotions, et ne perd jamais le contrôle. Je veux comprendre le silence de sa peine, par opposition aux larmes mélodramatiques. Le côté maternel d'Asia n'est pas quelque chose de naturel mais plutôt une lutte permanente. Lorsque Vika devient de plus en plus dépendante, Asia doit se consacrer entièrement à elle, physiquement et émotionnellement. Ainsi, Asia devient une martyr moderne, se sacrifiant pour le bien de sa fille. Malgré la douleur, le chagrin et la séparation; Asia et Vika parviennent à partager des moments de joie et de rires dans l'ombre de la mort. Même dans leurs moments les plus angoissants, il y a la beauté, il y a la vie.