



FESTIVAL DE CANNES
LA RÉSIDENCE

MELLOW PINK

A film by
Baran Sarmad

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Festival de Cannes, La Résidence

Since 2000, La Résidence du Festival de Cannes has provided each year accommodation and support to 12 selected young directors in order to help them prepare their first or second feature film. These young filmmakers are selected 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 Festival de Cannes, to bring their project to co-production status.

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IN THE REFLECTION OF THE PINK LAKE,
HE FINDS HIS FREEDOM



Technical Information

Title: Mellow Pink
Screenplay: Baran Sarmad
Nationality: Iran
Duration: Approx. 100 min
Shooting Location: Iran
Genre: Live-action Fiction/Drama – Feature Film

Production Companies:
MenishFilm
Seven Springs Pictures
Country Partners: Iran, France

Director's Information

Baran Sarmad is an Iranian filmmaker and producer known for her distinctive cinematic identity, often mixing reality and fantasy and exploring complex emotional landscapes.

She directed the short film *Must Black* (2014) before studying dramatic literature at Soureh University of Arts in Tehran. During her undergraduate years, she co-founded an independent film studio with Mohammadreza Mayghani, producing their first film, *Dar* (2015), followed by *Cleaner* (2018).

Baran's first professional short film, *Spotted Yellow* (2019), premiered at the Locarno Film Festival and was screened at numerous prestigious international festivals.

In 2020, she was the producer and production designer of *Orthodontics*, a short film nominated for the *Palme d'Or*. Currently, Baran is developing her debut feature film, *Mellow Pink*.



Synopsis

Roham, a Tehran-based hand model, has reached the peak of his career. Consumed by the wealth and fame he has gained, he has built his entire life around the beauty of his hands, always wearing gloves and avoiding direct touch with the world around him.

However, during a photoshoot, he is attacked by a pink flamingo, leaving a serious wound on his hand.

The incident shatters his professional life and throws him into a cycle of unemployment and despair.

In a moment of anger and impulse, he steals the flamingo – at first for revenge, but ultimately setting off on a journey that takes him far from Tehran.

Along the way, Roham begins to see life from a new perspective, until he eventually finds himself fighting for the flamingo's freedom.

Statement of Intent

When I was a child, I used to run through nature and jump off rocks, feeling a pure sense of freedom. But as I entered urban life, that feeling gradually disappeared; the rules and structures of modern society have distanced me from living freely.

Nowadays, most humans are disconnected from nature, and I believe this creates a deep sense of alienation within us.

This film will be shot live and is rooted in contemporary Iran – a place where man-made values and social rules construct an illusion of order and control. In such a society, a single wound can strip away everything, revealing how fragile and meaningless those values truly are. But that same wound can also open a new understanding of life.

Mellow Pink is a journey toward rediscovering freedom – a new leap, like those I took as a child.



Synopsis

Roham, mannequin main basé à Téhéran, est au sommet de sa carrière. Obsédé par la richesse et la célébrité qu'il a acquises, il a construit toute sa vie autour de la beauté de ses mains, portant toujours des gants et évitant tout contact direct avec le monde qui l'entoure.

Cependant, lors d'une séance photo, il est attaqué par un flamant rose qui lui inflige une grave blessure à la main.

Cet incident bouleverse sa vie professionnelle et le plonge dans un cycle de chômage et de désespoir.

Dans un moment de colère et d'impulsion, il vole le flamant rose, d'abord pour se venger, mais finalement il se lance dans un voyage qui l'emmène loin de Téhéran.

En chemin, Roham commence à voir la vie sous un nouvel angle, jusqu'à ce qu'il se retrouve à se battre pour la liberté du flamant rose.

Note d'intention

Gamine, je courais dans la nature et sautais de rocher en rocher empli d'un pur sentiment de liberté. Puis, citadine, ce sentiment a progressivement disparu ; les règles et les structures de la société moderne m'ont petit à petit éloignée de cette vie. La plupart d'entre nous est déconnectée de la nature. Cela crée un profond sentiment d'aliénation.

Tourné en prise de vues réelles, ce film s'inspire de l'Iran contemporain, un pays où des valeurs artificielles et les règles sociales créent une illusion d'ordre et de contrôle. Ici, une seule blessure peut tout balayer, révélant à quel point ces valeurs sont fragiles et dénuées de sens. Pourtant, cette même blessure peut aussi conduire à une nouvelle compréhension de la vie.

Mellow Pink est un voyage vers la redécouverte de la liberté, un saut, comme ceux que je faisais enfant.