I AM NOJOOM, AGE 10 AND DIVORCED


BEST FICTION FEATURE AT DUBAI INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL
A little girl walks into a court room, looks at the judge straight in the eye and tells him: « I want a divorce ».

In Yemen, where there is no age requirement for marriage, ten-year-old Nojoom is forced to marry a 30-year-old man. The dowry offers the family a small income and one less mouth to feed.

A legitimate and acceptable arrangement for all, except for Nojoom who will soon see her life take a turn for the worse.

A beautiful plea for all these girls forced into womanhood too soon and for their right to a life on their own terms.
THE BOOK

I AM NOJOOD, AGE 10 AND DIVORCED

WRITTEN BY: Nojoud Ali and the journalist Delphine Minoui

PUBLISHED BY: Michel Lafon

DATE OF PUBLICATION: January, 22nd 2009

Translated in 16 languages and sold in 35 countries
Khadija Al-Salami, Yemen’s first female filmmaker and producer, was born in Sana’a. Forced into child marriage at 11 with a man more than 20 years her senior, she rebelled against tribal and family values, daring to leave her husband and seek a divorce. With determination and courage Al Salami confronted the long-established Yemeni tradition and prevailed, gaining her personal freedom and changing her fate. At 16 she received a grant that allowed her to follow her dreams by studying in the United States where she ultimately completed a master’s degree in film production and directing.

Having lived in France for 10 years, Al Salami has made more than 25 documentaries, most of which deal with the roles of women and young girls in contemporary Yemen. She has received numerous international prizes for her work, including the French Legion of Honor. The distinction Knight of the Order of Arts and Letters was conferred on Ms. Al Salami by Frédérick Mitterrand, former French Minister of Culture and Communication. After the release in 2009 of the book relating the true story of “Nojood”, Khadija Al Salami realized that her Yemeni heritage, her knowledge of the country and its culture, her personal history, her passion regarding the topic of forced early marriage, and her extensive background in cinematography designated her as the filmmaker best able to make the public aware that the subject of child marriage is both highly relevant and heartbreakingly real.

60 million women across the world are affected daily by the physical and mental abuses caused by child marriage, with 70,000 young girls dying every year because of this contemporary social evil. Al Salami faced great political and financial difficulties in order to make this film as realistic as possible, shooting it entirely in Yemen and using only Yemeni actors. The breathtakingly beautiful landscapes of Yemen, its people, its music, its culture, and its archaic practice of child marriage and the widespread abuse of women in Yemen are little known in film.

I AM NOJOOM, AGE 10, DIVORCED is a cinematic plea to those countries where child marriages continue to take place to put an end to this primitive and abhorrent practice.
“I found the film fascinating as a study in the practice of child marriage in Yemen, and a testament to the power of the human spirit.”

THE HUFFINGTON POST

“A hard-hitting condemnation of the custom of child marriage.”

“The film is admirably outspoken and direct, full of authentic local color with just a touch of poetry.”

THE HOLLYWOOD REPORTER

“The film’s virtues don’t lie in the technical prowess with which the story is told. “Nojoom” is an important film.”

DAILY STAR

“Powerful, moving and provocative debut drama feature.”

SCREEN DAILY

“This drama also offers a window into Yemen, its landscape and its people.”

GULF NEWS
DIRECTED BY : Khadija Al Salami

GENRE : Drama

LENGTH : 99’

YEAR : 2015

COUNTRIES : France / Yemen / UAE

PRODUCED BY : Hoopoe Film

ORIGINAL LANGUAGE : Arabic

SUBTITLES : French / English

CAST : Reham Mohammed, Rana Mohammed, Ibrahim Al Ashmori, Naziha Alansi, Husam Alshiabali, Sawadi Alkainai, Adnan Alkhader, Samaa Alhamdani

SHOOTING LOCATION : Sana’a, Aljogah and Jabal Bura (Yemen)
CAST

Nojoom (age 10) : Reham Mohammed
Nojoom (age 5) : Rana Mohammed
Father : Ibrahim Al Ashmori
Mother : Naziha Alansi
Husband : Sawadi Alkainai
Brother Sami : Husam Alshiabali
Judge : Adnan Alkhader
Attorney : Samaa Alhamdani
The Sheikh : Khaled Meshoar
Mother-in-law : Munirah Alatas
Father’s Second Wife : Shafikha Alanisi
Judge’s Wife : Rym Sharabeh
Older Sister (n°1) : Malak Albuhaiti
Older Brother : Amro Gadel
Older Sister (n°2) : Sumya Almeiaki
Second Sister : Ayah Ali
CREW

Producers : Sheikha Prohaska Alatas - Khadija Al Salami
Associate Producer : Benoit Jaubert – Lauren Mekhail
Line Producer : Moataz Madi
Assistant Director : Ahmed Almameri
Director of Photography : Victor Credi
Consultant : Alain Massé
Sound Engineer : Emmanuel Zouki
Director of Lighting : Mohamed Fatih Alaasmawy
Lighting Technicians : Abdelkader Mohamed Gomaa
Logistics Manager : Ehab Ibrahim
Clapper Loader : Omro Gaadel
Technicians : Tarek Alsaymi, Waleed Alsayadi, Mohamed Alfakih, Mohamed Alhymi, Yahya Alshakeri, Ali Alshahethi, Nasser Alhayemi
Script Supervisor and Editor : Faten Alfagih
Assistant Script Editor : Afrah Mohamed
Composer : Thierry David
Editor : Alexis Lardilleux
Production Accountant 1 : Mohamed Alrawdhi
Production Accountant 2 : Sameer Algerbani
WORLDWIDE SALES

wide

9 rue Bleue
75009 Paris
FRANCE

T: +33 1 53 95 04 64
F: +33 1 53 95 04 65

CONTACTS

LOÏC MAGNERON
PRESIDENT
+33 6 60 43 96 86
lm@widemanagement.com

MATTHIAS ANGOULVANT
FESTIVALS COORDINATOR
+ 33 7 70 07 64 04
ma@widemanagement.com

GEORGIA POIVRE
INTERNATIONAL SALES
+33 7 61 57 96 86
gp@widemanagement.com

PAUL BOUCHARD
LEGAL & BUSINESS AFFAIRS
+ 33 1 53 95 04 64
pb@widemanagement.com