



Greetings from Aleppo

Press information

Paradox presents *Greetings from Aleppo*, the short film by Issa Touma, Thomas Vroege and Floor van der Meulen.

Since 2014, photographer Issa Touma travels back to his hometown Aleppo on a regular basis. For more than two years he captured everyday encounters with fellow citizens of Aleppo, a city torn apart by war.

Touma returns to clear an unexploded bomb from his parents' apartment and to visit artist friends whose works he is collecting for an upcoming exhibition in Singapore. Getting to Aleppo is getting harder every day: at first, he travels by bus from Beirut. The buses are making all kind of detours through the desert to avoid the front lines. When the buses stopped running because of sniper fire, he travelled by car, usually in a convoy.

Greetings from Aleppo is an homage to the resilience of the people who try – sometimes to an absurd level – to continue to live the lives they led before the war. From car lovers who drive their polished classic cars through the devastated streets, to the girls who giggle about the way media report about the situation in their city.

To realize the documentary, Touma worked together with the Dutch film makers Thomas Vroege and Floor van der Meulen. It's the second time the three worked together: in 2015 they made the short film *9 Days – From My Window in Aleppo*, which has been shown on more than 70 film festivals worldwide and won an European Film Award for Best Short Film in 2016.

Screening *Greetings from Aleppo*:

25.01 - 05.02.2017, International Film Festival Rotterdam (NL)
23.03 - 06.04.2017, Vilnius International Film Festival (LT)
24.03 - 01.04.2017, Movies That Matter (NL)
05.04 - 09.04.2017, Go Short - International Short Film Festival Nijmegen (NL)
19.04 - 23.04.2017, Kyiv International Short Film Festival (UK)
04.05 - 14.05.2017, DOCUMENTAMADRID (ES)
10.05 - 17.05.2017, DocuTIFF (AL)
22.06 - 26.06.2017, NexT International Film Festival (RO)
23.06 - 25.06.2017, DIG Festival (IT)
08.07 - 16.07.2017, Curtas Vila do Conde International Film Festival (PT)

Press page & photos

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Credits

Director: Issa Touma, Floor van der Meulen & Thomas Vroege
Story: Floor van der Meulen & Thomas Vroege
Producer: Jos de Putter, Bas Vroege
Cinematographer: Issa Touma
Narration: Issa Touma
Editors: Thomas Vroege & Floor van der Meulen
Sound Design: Tom Jansen
Composer: Darius Timmer
Production: Deepfocus Webdocs & Paradox
Production assistance: Veronica Daltri
Translations: Susan Osman, Herman Te Loo

Specifications

Country: the Netherlands, Syria
Genre: Documentary
Length: 17'11"
Completion: 01/2017
Screening format: DCP, H264, ProRes
Spoken language: Arabic
Subtitles: English

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Press photos

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High res film stills can be requested by sending an email to

Floor van den Elsen
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fvde@paradox.nl

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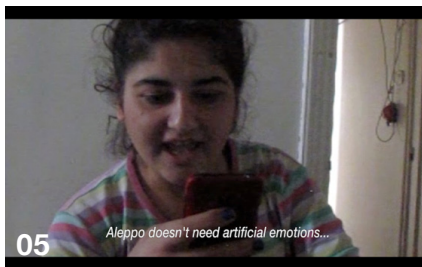
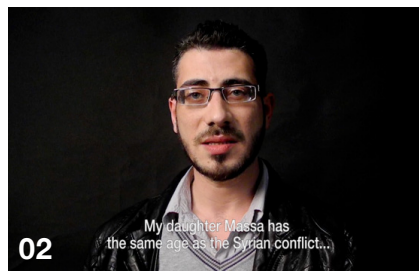
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Paradox creates independent projects in photography, video and media related arts exploring contemporary issues in close collaboration with documentary authors, curators and designers. Activities include travelling exhibitions, multimedia productions, app development, book publishing and organizing workshops and lectures.

M Paradox is supported by the Mondriaan Fund.

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01 Still '...but it didn't explode' from *Greetings from Aleppo*, Issa Touma, 2017. **02** Still 'My daughter Massa has...' from *Greetings from Aleppo*, Issa Touma, 2017. **03** Still 'You can see that short boy...' from *Greetings from Aleppo*, Issa Touma, 2017. **04** Still 'Man and car' from *Greetings from Aleppo*, Issa Touma, 2017. **05** Still 'Aleppo doesn't need artificial emotions...' from *Greetings from Aleppo*, Issa Touma, 2017. **06** Still 'Piece of glass' from *Greetings from Aleppo*, Issa Touma, 2017.