



## **Documentaries**

### **Asian Film Festival Barcelona | OFF-FESTIVAL**

From the 7<sup>th</sup> of October to the 11<sup>th</sup> of November 2019 | B The Travel Brand Xperience

As a part of what is known as the OFF-FESTIVAL, B The Travel Brand Xperience will become this year for the first time a venue for the Asian Film Festival Barcelona | AFFBCN 2019 holding the screening of six documentaries which are also competing in the different sections of the festival. These productions will be presented by CASA ASIA and will be followed by a colloquium. The films selected deal with different issues ultimately related to the lives of the inhabitants of the production's countries. Therefore, through the moving image they are able to create a window to places which we do not usually have access to. Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Cambodia, Indonesia, Japan and Laos are the protagonists of these documentaries, and also allow us to address different aspects of the daily life of these countries from diverse perspectives, inviting us to discover places, communities, individuals and circumstances which are finally complementary and which contribute to the acknowledge the situations they attempt to address.



## Documentaries

### B The Travel Brand Xperience

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## I. Documentaries

**Wednesday the 9<sup>th</sup> of October, 19h | B The Travel Brand Xperience Barcelona**

**Monday the 7<sup>th</sup> of October, 19h | B The Travel Brand Xperience Madrid**

**1 - A Thousand Girls Like Me** | Sahra Mani | Afghanistan | 2018 | 76' | Documentary | VOSE | **Official Section**

Sexual violence against women became a punishable offense in Afghanistan in 2009. But in practice, women fear the possible consequences of bringing charges. Regrettably, Khatera's story is a prime example of this phenomenon: she and her mother receive various threats, including from her own uncles, and they frequently have to move. Khatera's father abused her throughout her childhood—he got her pregnant several times, so she had a number of abortions and eventually gave birth to a daughter. Acting on the advice of a mullah, she told her story on a TV program and brought charges against her father. When the film begins, Khatera is pregnant again. The child she's carrying is her evidence: proof that her father raped her. *A Thousand Girls Like Me* shows the extent to which Afghan women must fend for themselves.

**Sahra Mani** is an Afghan filmmaker and founder of Afghanistan Doc Film House, a production company based in Kabul, and co-founder of the London-based production company Anahat Vision and Films. In 2013, she helped organize the Afghanistan Human Rights Film Festival. Sahra's films have played at festivals around the world and won numerous awards.

**Wednesday the 16<sup>th</sup> of October, 19h | B The Travel Brand Xperience Barcelona**

**Monday the 14<sup>th</sup> of October, 19h | B The Travel Brand Xperience Madrid**

**2 - Hasina: A Daughter's Tale** | Rezaur Rahman Khan Piplu | Bangladesh | 2018 | 72' | Documentary / Drama | VOSE | **Special Section**

*Hasina: A Daughter's Tale* is a 2018 Bangladeshi independent historical docudrama directed by Piplu Khan, based on the life of Sheikh Hasina, the tenth Prime Minister of Bangladesh. The film was jointly produced by the Centre for Research and Information and Applebox Films. It stars Sheikh Hasina as herself in the title role, and her younger sister Sheikh Rehana as herself. The film covers and refers to the assassination of Hasina's father Sheikh Mujibur Rahman along with most of her family in 1975.

**Rezaur Rahman Khan Piplu** is a filmmaker who was born in Chittagong, Bangladesh and currently lives in Dhaka. Piplu is the founder and managing director of Applebox Films, a production company that shoots commercials and social media advertising. During his advertisement making career, he has worked with some of the major brands in Bangladesh as well as in Mumbai, India. Besides Applebox Films, Piplu also is involved in a number of other media companies and is also a guest lecturer of media and communications at the Independent University of Bangladesh. *Hasina: A Daughter's Tale* is his directorial debut film.

**Monday the 21<sup>st</sup> of October, 19h | B The Travel Brand Xperience Barcelona**

**Monday the 21<sup>st</sup> of October, 19h | B The Travel Brand Xperience Madrid**

**3 - When I Grow Up (Grandir) | Jill Coulon | Cambodia / Laos / Vietnam / Myanmar / Thailand / Indonesia / France | 2018 | 54' | Documentary | VOSE | [Special Section](#)**

On the banks of the Mekong, where access to education is a daily struggle, 6 children of different ages dream of a better future. At the beginning of each story, there is a child who is eager to learn. A child who is determined to take a chance to leave the painful reality of a life that he has been confronted with from an early age. And then there are the men and women who decide to reach out to this child and accompany him to a better future. Assembled like pieces of a puzzle, the paths of Prin, Myu Lat, Phout, Pagna, Thookolo and Juliet come together to tell a great adventure: "Grow" (*Grandir*).

**Jill Coulon** is a director and self-taught chef, with an atypical career. Passionate about photography, travelling and Asia, she has a multifaceted nature and defines herself as "a real Swiss army knife." In 2018, he directed *Grandir* for the association Children of the Mekong, which shows the typical life of a poor child from Asia through the history of six children.

**Wednesday the 23<sup>rd</sup> of October, 19h | B The Travel Brand Xperience Barcelona**

**Monday the 28<sup>th</sup> of October, 19h | B The Travel Brand Xperience Madrid**

**4 - The Song of the Grassroots | Yuda Kurniawan | Indonesia | 2018 | 107' | Documentary | VOSE | [Special Section](#)**

The young Fajar Merah is the son of Wiji Thukul, a poet and human rights activist who was “made to disappeared” in 1998 by The Soeharto Regime. Together with *Merah Bercerita*, a band established at 2010, and supported by his family, he tries to bring back his father’s poems to life and creates a music album. In a dynamic background of 2014 Presidential Election, sixteen years after the 1998 tragedy, Fajar and family develops a new hope on one candidate, Joko Widodo, to solve some Human Rights Violation cases, to find Wiji Thukul and other victims.

**Yuda Kurunawan** is an Indonesian communication studies graduate. Since 2003 in Yogyakarta he has worked in audio visual as video editor and director. In 2006 he moved to Jakarta and became co-director and director for several Film Television, TV Series, Movies and and Documentary series. In 2012, he established Rekam Docs, a group of documentary filmmakers and enthusiasts.

**Monday the 28<sup>th</sup> of October, 19h | B The Travel Brand Xperience Barcelona**

**Monday the 4<sup>th</sup> of November, 19h | B The Travel Brand Xperience Madrid**

**5 - Portraits of a Rainbow | Ayumi Nakagawa | Japan | 2018 | 79’ | Documentary | VOSE | [Special Section](#)**

Leslie works taking celebrities’ portraits like Madonna. He works worldwide and had lived in Japan for the last twenty five years, where there is a rising movement for LGBTQ, however, he has been deeply troubled that they still have to live invisibly. Leslie is gay and can’t tell it to his family in Singapore. Even so, he embarks on an ambitious project to photograph ten thousand LGBTQ people, in order to hold the exhibition *Out in Japan*. His first portraits photo exhibition held in Nara, a conservative city in Japan, was poorly attended but he continues to take portraits.

The filmmaker **Ayumi Nakagawa** followed this photographer for a year, while making the first thousand portraits. She focused on the lives of four people: a same sex couple trying to give birth, a teacher who protects HIV positives, a transgender man who suffers from his partner’s suicide. Along the way, Leslie himself was enduring a self-transformation due to this moving experience.

**Wednesday the 30<sup>th</sup> of October, 19h | B The Travel Brand Xperience  
Barcelona**

**Monday the 11<sup>th</sup> of November, 19h | B The Travel Brand Xperience  
Madrid**

**6 - This Little Land of Mines | Erin McGoff | Laos | 2018 | 64' |  
Documentary / Drama / News | VOSE | [Special Section](#)**

No country deserves to be deemed “the most heavily bombed country in the world”, but if there’s one country that can be considered the least deserving, it’s the humble land of Laos. During the Vietnam War, the U.S. CIA secretly dropped 270 million bombs in Laos, one-third of which didn't explode and kill innocent people today. But Lao people aren't bitter; they are shockingly positive, forgiving, and resilient in the face of this challenge. *This Little Land of Mines* reveals the incredible, true stories of the Lao people as they work to clear 80 million unexploded American bombs in Laos.

**Erin McGoff** is a recent graduate of American University and received her B.A. in Film & Media Arts. She has produced and directed several short films, music videos, promotional videos and has worked on set in Philadelphia, Washington, DC, and New York City. In 2017 she was awarded AU SOC Woman of the Year and a Pulitzer Center Student Fellowship for her work to spread awareness about 80 million UXO in Laos.