



## Rojek

**Author/Director: Zaynê Akyol**

Producer: Metafilms

Country: Canada

Length: 127'

ROJEK encounters members of the Islamic State, women and men detained in prison-camps, who are sharing a common dream: establishing a caliphate. Confronted with the fundamentalist beliefs of the jihadists, the film attempts to trace the beginning, the rise and fall of the Islamic State (ISIS) through their personal stories. These conversations are the thread along which the documentary evolves, as it is intertwined with various sequences depicting current, post-war Syrian Kurdistan.

ROJEK offers an intimate gaze at an unknown reality, testifying of pivotal moments experienced by the actors of this conflict. The film tackles how this ideological war is only the beginning of a new kind of threat.

Awards: DGC Special Jury Prize - Canadian Feature Documentary @ Hot Docs, Toronto, Canada / Jury Special Mention - Regional Panorama @ Golden Apricot, Yerevan, Armenia / Warner Media New Voices Award for an underrepresented Filmmaker @ Gimli International Film Festival, Manitoba, Canada / 1st Prize - TOPICS Category @ Docville, Leuven, Belgique / Best cinematography @ MIRAGE - Art of the Real Festival (Oslo Norway) Given by Roger Deakins and James Ellis Deakins / Prix Nouvelles Vagues Acuitis @ Festival La Roche sur Yon (France) / Segundo Premio Tiempo de Historia @ Seminci (Festival international du film de Valladolid, Spain) / Best Film Testimony Special mention @ Ji.Hlava IDFF (Czech Republic) / Espressione Artistica Prize @ MedFilm Festival, Italy / Mention of Honor, International Features Competition @ International Documentary Film Festival of Buenos Aires (FIDBA), (Buenos Aires, Argentina) / Prix du syndicat de la critique du cinéma @ Festival international du film politique de Carcassonne, (France) / Main Award Feature Length Competition @ BDF (Hungary) / Special jury award, EBS international documentary festival (South Korea) / Director's Award - Documentary Film - Quebec Director's Association, Montreal, Canada

2024: Canada's choice to represent the country in the Oscar Race

Festivals:

WORLD PREMIERE at Visions du Réel, Switzerland / Hot Docs (Toronto, Canada) / Golden Apricot (Yerevan, Armenia) / RIDM, Montréal Canada / Gimli International Film Festival (Manitoba, Canada) / Filmfest Hamburg, Germany / Duhok International Film Festival (Iraqi Kurdistan) / DokuFest, Kosovo / Underdox, Munich (Germany) / La Roche sur Yon (France) / Kurdish Film Festival Berlin (Germany) / Seminci (Festival international du film de Valladolid, Spain) / MIRAGE - Art of the Real Festival (Oslo Norway) / Ji.Hlava International Documentary Film Festival (Czech Republic) / BDF, Budapest, Hungary / Docpoint Helsinki, Finland + Tallinn, Estonia / MedFilm Festival, Rome Italy / Kasseler Dokfest, Kassel Germany / Terraviva Film Festival, Bologna e Casalecchio (Italy) / this human world, Wien Austria / Documentaria, Palermo, Italy / Festival International du Film Politique, Carcassonne France / FIDBA, Buenos Aires, Argentina / Miradasdoc, Tenerife, Spain / Quebecine MX, Mexico, Mexico / Luxembourg City Film Festival, Luxembourg / ZagrebDox, Zagreb, Croatie / Censurados Film Festival, Lima, Pérou / Docville, Leuven, Belgique / Kino in der Reitschule,

Bern Switzerland / EBS international documentary festival (South Korea) / -  
Festival Vues sur mer (Gaspé, Canada) / Festival du Film de Knowlton  
(Knowlton, Canada) / Inconvenient Films Human Rights Film Festival Vilnius  
(Lithuania, Vilnius) / Windsor International Film Festival (Windsor, Canada) /  
PriMed - Le Festival de la Méditerranée en images (Marseille, France) / Kino  
in der Reitschule (Bern, Switzerland) / PriMed - France / Festival Des Films  
Kurdes De Paris - France / Arizona International Film Festival - Usa /  
Düsseldorf Kurdish Film Festival - Germany / Independent Film Festival  
Boston - Usa / L'outaouais Film Festival - Canada

Original version: ARABIC, ENGLISH, FRENCH, KURDISH

Versions available:

Originale version

Credits:

Author, Director: Zaynê Akyol. photography: Nicolas Canniccioni, Arshia  
Shakiba. Sound: Sylvain Brassard, Arshia Shakiba. editing: Mathieu  
Bouchard-Malo. music: ROGER TELLIER-CRAIG

<http://www.andanafilms.com/catalogueFiche.php?idFiche=1321&lang=en>