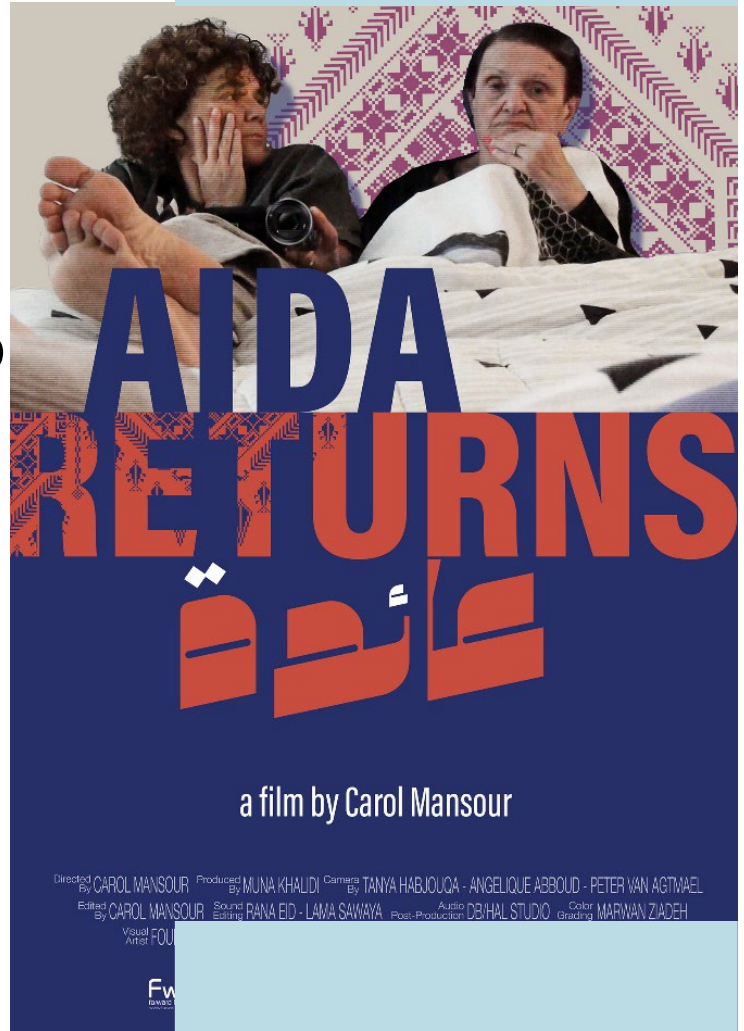


AIDA RETURNS

عائدة

Press Kit



For information please contact:

Muna Khalidi: munakhalidi@fwdprod.com; +961-3-205131

Carol Mansour: cmansour@fwdprod.com; +961-3-420432

Synopsis

This film is a poignant, sometimes sad, sometimes painful, sometimes humorous, often absurd story of a multiple journey: the journey of loss as the director's mother Aida struggled with losing herself to Alzheimer's disease, but finding solace in her repeated "returning" to the Yafa and Palestine of her youth; the journey of the loss of a parent; and the ultimate return journey back to Yafa where Aida would finally find rest and be herself once more.

Close to four years after Aida's passing away, the director's friend and colleague Tanya who lives in Ramallah came to visit Beirut. When she heard about Aida's wishes and yearning for Yafa, Tanya suggested that she herself carries the ashes back. The film accompanies director Carol Mansour as she engineers a way to return her mother to Yafa in search of eternal rest and peace for her. A return that is aided by an unlikely set of friends and strangers all coming together to facilitate what should have been a simple journey. This journey is at the same time very private and personal, while resonating with hundreds of thousands of Alzheimer's sufferers and their families as well as hundreds of thousands of Palestinian refugees awaiting their return home.

This film is a tribute to the lost past of the director's family, an attempt to restore part of both an individual and a collective memory, a poetic nod and affirmation, and a call to action to all exiled Palestinians to defy the structures forbidding from returning to their homes, even after death.

CAROL MANSOUR

Director Biography & Filmography

Carol Mansour is an independent documentary film maker with over 25 years in documentary production who has achieved international recognition and honor for her films, with over seventy worldwide film festival screenings and official selections worldwide. Her films have won numerous prestigious awards. Carol's work reflects her concern for human rights and social justice, covering issues such as migrant workers, refugees, environmental issues, mental health, rights of the disabled, war and memory, right to health, and child labor. Carol is Lebanese/ Canadian of Palestinian origin.



List of Documentary Film

- ◆ **"Aida Returns"** (2023); 77'; End of life with Alzheimer's Disease and "return" to Palestine
- ◆ **"Sisterhood"** (2022); 36'; Migrant Domestic Workers' solidarity in Lebanon
- ◆ **"Shattered: Beirut 6.07"** (2020); 17'; the aftermath of the Beirut port blast
- ◆ **"Thank you Soma"** (2018); 55'; the relationship between a young Lebanese woman and the migrant domestic worker who raised her
- ◆ **"Men on Hold"** (2018); 72'; the plight of Syrian refugee men in Lebanon
- ◆ **"Stitching Palestine"** (2017); 78'; 12 Palestinian women share their stories on the backdrop of traditional embroidery
- ◆ **"It's Just Another Place"** (2016), 36'; experiences of people living with Down Syndrome and their families
- ◆ **"We cannot go there now, my Dear"** (2014), 42'; the double-refugee experience of Palestinians from Syria
- ◆ **"Not Who We Are"** (2013), 71'; Syrian refugee women in Lebanon
- ◆ **"We Want To Know"** (2012), 42'; exploring the memory of the Lebanese civil war
- ◆ **"Where do I begin?"** (2011), 36'; mental health in Lebanon
- ◆ **"All for the Nation"** (2011), 52'; examining the inability of Lebanese women to give the nationality to spouses and children
- ◆ **"I Come from a Beautiful Place"** (2010), 33'; Iraqi and Sudanese refugees in Lebanon
- ◆ **"Maid in Lebanon II: Voices from Home"** (2008), 40'; the connection of female migrant domestic workers with their home countries
- ◆ **"A Summer Not to Forget"** (2007), 27'; chronicling the Israeli war on Lebanon of 2006
- ◆ **"Invisible Children"** (2006), 26'; working children
- ◆ **"Maid in Lebanon"** (2005), 27'; highlighting the plight of female migrant domestic workers
- ◆ **"100% Asphalt"** (2002), 26'; street children of Cairo

CREDITS

Title: Aida Returns

Title in French: Le Retour De Aida

Title in Arabic : عائدة

Director: Carol Mansour

Producer: Muna Khalidi

Camera: Tanya Habjouka, Angelique Abboud, Carol Mansour - Peter van Agtamael

Editor: Carol Mansour

Music: Nai Barghouti
Michael Mansour
Claude Sacre

Sound Editing: Rana Eid

Re-recording Mixing: Lama Sawaya

Dialogue Editing: Vanessa Kanaan

Audio Post Production: DB/HAL Studio

Color Grading: Marwan Zayed

TECHNICAL INFO

Languages: Arabic, English and French (translation English and French) **Color:** Full color

Translation: (English & French): Rima Jureidini

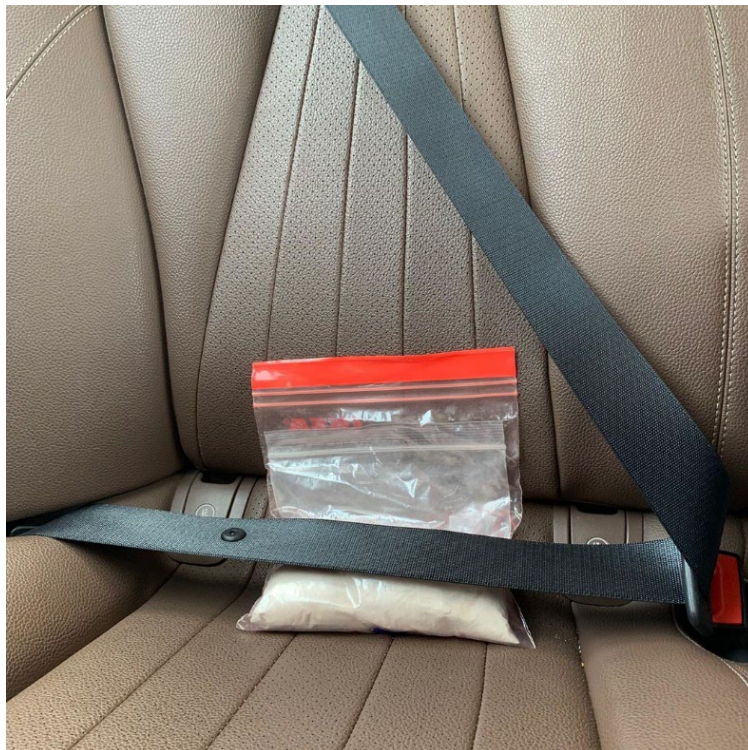
Aspect Ratio: 1.7778

Sound: Video Surround

STILLS (All stills are the property of Forward Film Production)



Aida Returns: Aida and Carol in the mirror

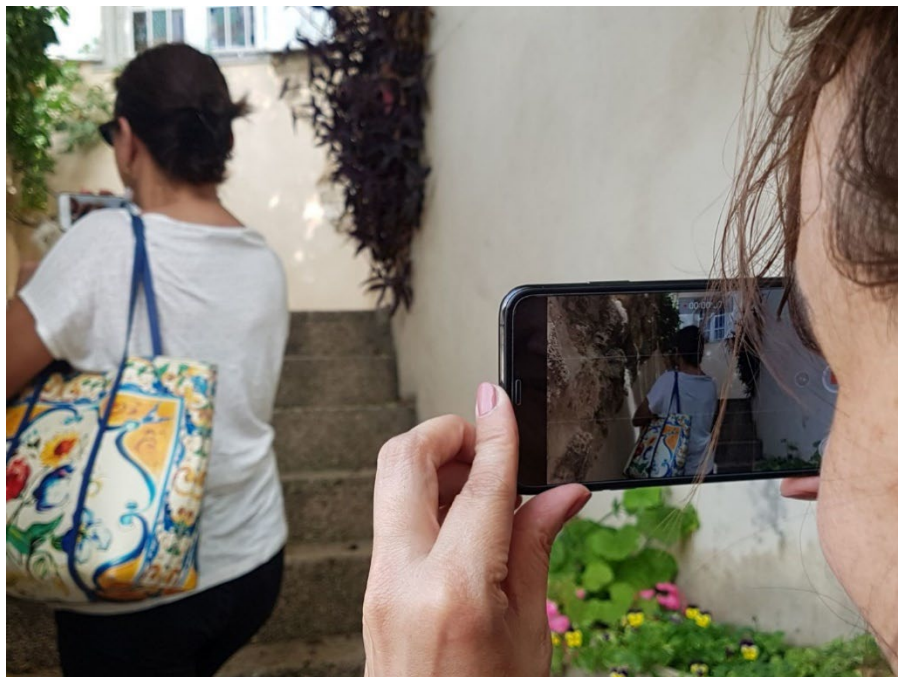


Aida Returns: Aida en route to Ramallah

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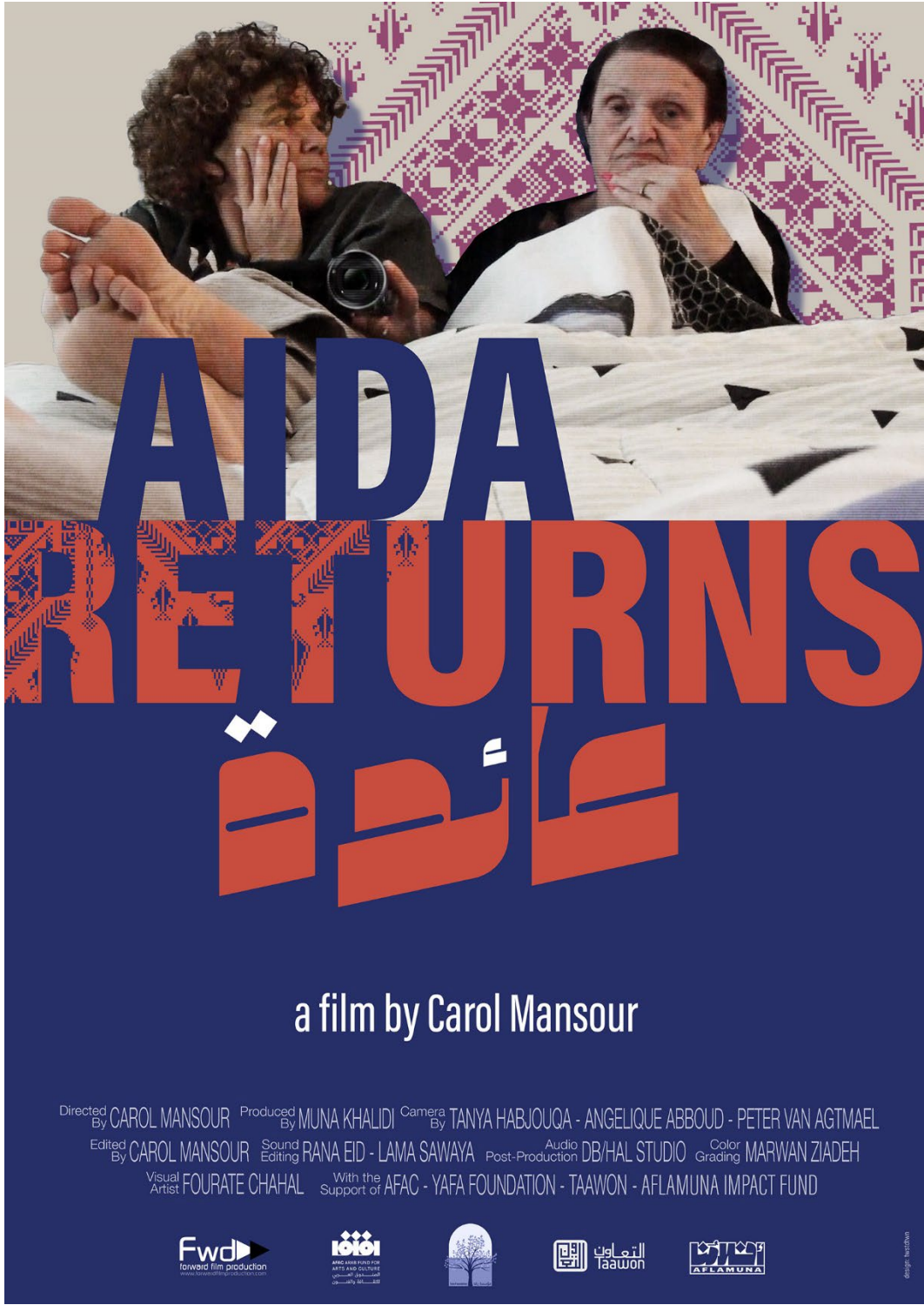


Aida Returns: Tanya, Raeda, & Carol video call



Aida Returns: Walking up the stairs to the Abboud

FILM POSTER



AIDA RETURNS عائدة

a film by Carol Mansour

Directed By CAROL MANSOUR Produced By MUNA KHALIDI Camera By TANYA HABJOUQA - ANGELIQUE ABOUD - PETER VAN AGTMAEL
Edited By CAROL MANSOUR Sound Editing RANA EID - LAMA SAWAYA Audio DB/HAL STUDIO Color Grading MARWAN ZIADEH
Visual Artist FOURATE CHAHAL With the Support of AFAC - Yafa Foundation - TAAWON - AFLAMUNA IMPACT FUND



design: taawon