



DOCUMENTARY

NONE

OF

YOUR

BUSINESS

SALEH TASBIHI

EBRAHIM MONSEFI



Director Camera Edit : kamran Heidari

Written by: Kamran Heidari - Saeideh Keshavarzi | Production Manager: Mohammad Sayebani
Sound: Ali Farmani | Sound Editor: Kamiar Behbahani
Narration by: Kamran Heidari - Anis Sa'adat - Saeid Armat | Darya Sayebani as Amis
Media Manager: Samira Rahi | Executive Producer: Shiva Aba
International Sale: Gabriela Vlckova
Producer: Kaveh Farnam

"Va Kas Che" / None of your business



Director: Kamran Heidari
Script: Kamran Heidari and Saeideh Keshavarzi
Director of Photography: Kamran Heidari
Second camera: Mansour Vahdani
Drone Pilot: Farshad Abbasi
Editing: Kamran Heidari
Editing Assistant: Farshad Abbasi
Color Correction: Hamed Zhian
Assistant Director: Ali Farmani
Production Manager: Mohammad Sayebani
Production Team: Mohammad Saberi - Erfan Karimi - Yaghoub Ansari
Sound: Ali Farmani
Sound Editor: Kamyar Behbahani
Narration Scripts: Kamran Heidari - Anis Saadat - Saeid Armat
Narrators: Saeid Armat - Tayeb Nami
Translation: Mohammad Reza Farzan - Afsoon Alborzi
Actress: Darya Sayebani as Amis
Media Manager: Samira Rahi
Post-production Coordinator: Gabriela Daniels
Poster Designer: Saleh Tasbihi
Consultant and executive Producer: Shiva Aba
Producer: Kaveh Farnam (Europe Media Nest)

Technical details

Shooting format: 4k Screening format: 2k Audio: 5.1 Aspect ratio: 16:9
Frame-rate: 24 Original version/language: Persian Subtitle: English



About

“Va Kas Che” is a documentary about life and death of Ebrahim Monsefi, aka Ebram; a popular singer, songwriter and guitarist from southern parts of Iran. He was born 70 years ago in Bandar-e-Abbas, and passed away at the age of 50. He died in such conditions, that it was not possible to diagnose if it has been a natural death, or a suicide. Twenty years on, the reasons behind his death are still debatable and subject to speculations.

He spent all his life in seclusion, writing songs and composing music. He never used professional studios to record his songs, and preferred to record them himself. It was just after his death that his works were gradually known and published. Suddenly he became so famous that many musicians and singers covered his works. Under his influence, many people in south Iran and especially Bandar-e Abbas started playing guitar or singing his songs.





In personal life, Ebram was in love with a woman for many years, but suddenly lost her for good! Most of his songs are under her influence, and she- as he called her "Amis"-, has got presence in almost all of them.

This film tells the story of their love affair, but through the stories based on the culture, traditions, and music of southern parts of Iran; where the sea reached India and Africa. The story of the film is being told, as if Ebram, himself is narrating it: Walking through the places, where the most important and influential events of his life had happened, talks about the story of his life.

Filmmaking Style

Why Ebrahim Monsefi? Why did you decide to make a film about this character?

I am a documentary maker and most of my documentaries are about the music styles of southern Iran; one of which, is about Ebrahim Monsefi. Considering his influential role in Hormozgan's music, I had to do this. Almost a decade ago, while making a couple of documentaries, I came across his music and really liked the lyrics of his songs; as I found them very strong and progressive! Since then, I started to follow his works and based on the contents of his songs, I began a personal research on his life. The more I researched, the more I realized his influence and impact! Hence I continued my work on him more seriously. Editing of the film was completed last year, and this year, it was screened in Fajr International Festival.

What is the impact of Monsefi on Hormozgan's music?

Currently the best part of music culture of Bandar-e Abbas and Hormozgan province is kind of related to Ebrahim Monsefi's life and work. Most of the singers, musicians, and especially the guitarists are deeply influenced by him. In this documentary, apart from telling the story of his life, I tried to showcase his impact on the current time music of his hometown. Naturally, I found it really interesting to find some of the musicians who have covered his songs, and tell the story of his life through their words and works.

What makes "Va Kas Che" different from your other documentaries?

That's an interesting question, as since the beginning, I have been sort of concerned about it! Contrary to this film, my other documentaries have been about alive characters. Hence, I had to experience a new type or style of filmmaking, which was really stressful! I love South America's magical realism, and especially, I adore Gabriel Garcia Marquez. The atmosphere of his stories are a combination of reality and magical situations. I decided to create the same atmosphere for this film; as Ebrahim Monsefi's life story is very similar to a story in that style! In this documentary, I tried to tell the real life stories, through dream and magical situations.

How do you describe your filmmaking style?

I think my films are very personal and I can say that I make them based on my instincts! I am more influenced by the ordinary people around me, rather than cinema industry or any filmmaking styles. I have always tried to be open about filmmaking, and not to stick to just one style. I love the films which try to find new ways of storytelling through experimental methods. I try to make my films in a way that people from any part of the world – and not just limited to my fellow citizens- can understand and get connected to their stories.



Director's Statement

I've been going back and forth to the southern parts of the country for several years. In fact, I grew up in Gachsaran, Khuzestan province.

Long time ago, I got to know Ebrahim Monsefi through some friends. Around the same era, another friend of mine, produced a film about him, for which, I was the DoP. Even at that time, I had a feeling that he's got more complexities in his character and his life to share. But other work engagements, prevented me from focusing on this project.

While researching about him, I found out that apart from world music, he's been deeply influenced by the traditional and local music as well. That's why, I decided to primarily focus on the music of citizens of south Iran, with African descent. "Dingo Maro" documentary was the outcome of that project, which was seen and praised in Europe and the US.

During the first stages of preparation for making the documentary about Ebrahim Monsefi, I was struggling to find a way, avoiding just archive pictures, or interviews with his friends. More importantly, I didn't want this film to look like other conventional documentaries. Eventually decided to let Ebrahim himself, to narrate the film and tell the story of his life...





My style of filmmaking is influenced by literature and life style of southern Iran; A literature, based on reality and the real life stories. I've always loved the style of a number of writers and novelists of that part of the country: from Sadeq Chubak, with stories like "Tangsir" and "the patience stone", to Ahmad Mahmoud, and others, who shape their stories, based on real life events, but through their own personal perceptions from those events: Stories, extremely naturalist and realistic! While these authors and novelists have successfully introduced this style of story-telling, in my opinion, we can do the same in filmmaking as well! Of course, it won't be easy to apply, when it comes to documentary making, as you could be accused of lying and telling a fictional story, rather than the reality! That's why I prefer to focus on making my films, rather than bothering about whether it is going to be a documentary or a drama. However, I try to keep the core as realistic as possible. Using the real life events as the raw material, I try to shape the story around them, and then, make my film.

One of the most influential elements in my love of film making in and about southern parts of the country, is the fluid and dynamic borderline between reality and dream, in literature and life style of people of that area: One might think and feel that they are walking in an environment, similar to the locations of the stories by Gabriel Garcia Marques: A world full of magical realism! "Va Kas Che" is made, based on the same concept: the life of Ebrahim Monsefi, a southern singer, in a world, combined of reality and dream!

Kamran Heidari

Director's Biography



Born in 1976 (or 1977) in Shiraz, Kamran Heidari grew up in Gachsaran, part of the oil-rich province of Khuzestan. While watching some of the world's most famous movies were being screened in the open-air cinema of his hometown, Kamran gradually realized that his dream job would be in the film industry. Without any academic cinematography education, nor taking part in film making workshops, he took the most unorthodox path and tried filmmaking through personal experience. Kicking off his professional work in 2004 with documentary-making, he has also directed a few fictional short films as well. Meanwhile, he's been engaged in street photography, and has held several photo exhibitions in Berlin, Munich, Amsterdam, Dubai, and elsewhere. His main area of interest in documentary-making is the music-oriented documentaries. Based on his own experimental method, he believes in "Easy film-making" and has held workshops in the university of California-Los Angeles (UCLA), Munich, and Tehran. Based on his personal method, he has been directly engaged in script writing, shooting, and editing of all his documentaries. Kamran had produced and directed documentaries including "Dash Akol", "Mohammad Bahman Beigi", "At the end of a full day", "I, Negahdar Jamali, produce western movies", "Dingo Maro", and "Ali Agha".

Kaveh Farnam Biography

Producer Kaveh Farnam, CEO of Dubai based Advanced Media and film enthusiast

His passion for cinema took him to Czech Republic where he founded Europe Media Nest s.r.o. with the mission to produce films, support young talented and independent film makers, and sponsor film festivals and the events that would shed a light on the real and true image of current Iran.

Co-produced "A MAN OF INTEGRITY" Directed by Rasoulof- winner of uncertain regards, Cannes film festival 2017. "A VERY ORDINARY CITIZEN" (2015) - awarded the Sepanta award at the IFF San Francisco. "LIKE MY NAME PEGAH" (2018) – directed by Soudabeh Beizaei – awarded as the best documentary of the year by Iran Cinema House. "LEAKAGE"(2018) directed by Suzan Iravanian – introduced at Karlovy Vary International Film Festival 2018 in a Works in Progress section and premiered in Berlinale 2019 Forum section.



Scriptwriter Biography



Born in 87 (1986) in Shiraz, Saeedeh Keshavarzi received her degree in Business Management and a master's degree in arts research. She is a poet, writer, photographer and journalist. Saeedeh started poetry as a teenager, and a series of her poems published a couple of years ago, under title "A conversation with the voices of wilderness". Photography is also one of her other interests. "Burning positions" and another group exhibition, held in both "Viewpoint" gallery- university of California, and the "Los Angeles Pop Art and Industry" gallery showcased just parts of her activities in the field of photography.

As a journalist, apart from writing for several newspapers and magazines, she's been editor of art and culture departments in a couple of local newspapers. Following taking part in some script writing and directing courses, Saeedeh started to experience with script writing, including the script of a documentary series with more than twenty episodes. Her latest experience in script writing has been her cooperation with Kamran Heidari as the co-writer of the script for "Waxcheh" documentary.



DOCUMENTARY

NONE OF YOUR BUSINESS

EBRAHIM MONSEFI

Director Camera Edit : kamran Heidari



Written by: Kamran Heidari - Saeideh Keshavarzi
Production Manager: Mohammad Sayebani | Sound: Ali Farmani
Sound Editor: Kamiar Behbahani
Written Narration by: Kamran Heidari - Anis Sa'adat - Saeid Armat
Actress: Darya Sayebani as Amis | Media Manager: Samira Rahi
Consultant and Executive Producer: Shiva Aba | Producer: Kaveh Farnam