

# EUROPE

by Philip Scheffner



## SYNOPSIS

A bus stop, a town square, a few blocks of houses in the suburb of a small French town, in Chatellerault. Zohra Hamadi, an Algerian citizen, can stand upright thanks to several metal rods, and now seems free of her debilitating scoliosis – the very reason for her immigration to France. By a twist of fate, this same recovery leads to her residence permit being revoked by the French State: she must consequently disappear, become invisible and inaudible. Choosing to make what he describes as State-coerced fiction, Philip Scheffner (to whom an Atelier was dedicated in 2018) abandons the documentary project he had begun and invents a scenario and a form to convey the violence and absurdity of this situation: Rhim Ibrir – whose story this is, and who had already taken part in one of the filmmaker's previous films, *Havarie* – plays the main role, drawing from her own traumas. Via a simple and ingenious device that consists in particular of isolating the protagonist in the frame,...

## FESTIVALS

2022

Special Mention – FriedensFilmPreis – 72 Berlinale FORUM

Special Mention – Visions du Réel, Burning Lights Competition

Crossing Europe Film Festival, Austria, Panorama

Play-Doc IFF, Spain – International Competition

doclisboa

35 IDFA

39 Kassel Dokfest

## CAST AND CREW

DIRECTOR Philip Scheffner · PRODUCER Caroline Kirberg ·

SCREENPLAY Merle Kröger, Philip Scheffner · SOUND Tristan

Pontécaille · EDITOR Philip Scheffner · DOP Volker Sattel ·

SOUND DESIGN Simon Bastian

DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT

Germany, France 2022

105 min

### FORMAL CATEGORIES

Biographie/Portrait, Current Affairs, Gender, Human Rights, Migration, Politics, Social issues

### CONTENT CATEGORIES

Docudrama, Hybrid

### ORIGINAL LANGUAGES

Arabic, French

### PREMIERE

Germany (2022)

### WORLD SALES

[Square Eyes Film](#)

Habichergasse 39/3

1160 Wien

Austria

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<https://squareeyesfilm.com>

### PRODUCTION COMPANY

[pong film GmbH](#)

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### COPRODUCTION COMPANY

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