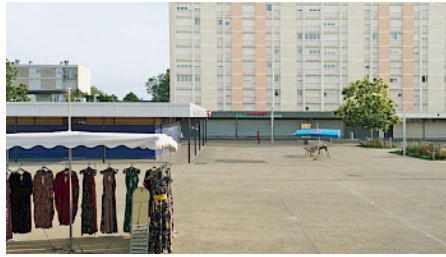


EUROPE

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

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

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DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT