



RETURN TO HOMS

by Talal Derki



SYNOPSIS

Filmed between August 2011 and August 2013, this is a remarkably intimate portrait of a group of young revolutionaries in the city of Homs in western Syria. They dream of their country being free from President Bashar al-Assad and fight for justice through peaceful demonstrations. As the army acts ever more brutally and their city is transformed into a ghost town, the young men become armed insurgents. The protagonists are two friends: Basset, the charismatic 19-year-old goalkeeper of the national soccer team whose revolutionary songs make him the voice of the protest movement, and the 24-year-old media activist and cameraman Ossama. The close-up camerawork takes the viewer right into the group. Scenes of lively protest parties make way for panicking civilians on the run, followed by grim battles in a deserted city, and rising numbers of fallen loved ones. Basset's a cappella protest songs are the only soundtrack, apart from the "silence, interrupted only by birds and bullets."...

FESTIVALS

2014

Sundance Grand Jury Award for World Documentary, IDFA Opening Night Film, George Polk Award for Documentary, Golden Horn at the Krakow Film Festival... among many others.

2022

35 IDFA - Top 10

CAST AND CREW

DIRECTOR Talal Derki · PRODUCER Hans-Robert Eisenhauer, Orwa Nyrabia · EDITOR Anne Fabini · DOP Orwa Nyrabia, Kahtan Hassoun, Ossama Al Homs, Talal Derki · ASSISTANT EDITOR Martin Reimers

Syria, Germany, Sweden 2013
91 min

ORIGINAL TITLE

HOMS – EIN ZERSTÖRTER
TRAUM

FORMAL CATEGORIES

Current Affairs, Conflicts,
War/Peace, Human Rights, POV

ORIGINAL LANGUAGES

Arabic

PREMIERE

Germany (2013)

PRODUCTION COMPANY

VENTANA FILM GMBH

Meinekestr. 24

10719 Berlin

Germany

hre@ventana-film.com

<http://www.ventana-film.de>

COPRODUCTION COMPANY

NO NATION FILMS GmbH

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FILM LOCATION

Syria

LINKS / REFERENCE

WORLD SALES

Journeyman Pictures

<https://www.journeyman.tv>

<http://www.ventana-film.de>