

11th
newyork
turkish**FILM**festival



DECEMBER

2.4.5



from the presenters

Dear Friends,

We are proud to present you the 11th New York Turkish Film Festival.

We greet you this year with a series of exciting news. As of December 2009, Moon and Stars Project will operate as the arts and culture program of The American Turkish Society, a pioneer non-governmental organization that has sought to enhance the economic, political and cultural ties between Turkey and the United States for six decades, and one of the first and most prominent supporters of the Moon and Stars Project.

We are confident that operating as part of The Society will give the Moon and Stars Project more strength in its efforts to give Turkish arts and culture more visibility in the United States. The main goal of the New York Turkish Film Festival will remain to be bringing more recognition to Turkish films in the United States, while keeping the Turkish-American audience abreast of the developments in Turkey's film industry.

Presented in conjunction with "Octet: Codes and Context in Recent Art," an exhibition of works by faculty, students and alumni of the BFA Fine Arts Department at the School of Visual Arts, our eleventh festival brings an exciting line-up that presents the current trends in Turkish cinema and prominent themes that interest an increasing number of seasoned and emerging filmmakers.

In addition to the New York Turkish Film Festival, we continue to work with various centers around the United States to make Turkish films available to a broader audience. Madison Association of Turkish Students (Madison, WI), Turkish American Association of Milwaukee (Milwaukee, WI) and Turkish American Cultural Association of Washington State (Seattle, WA) have produced their own Turkish film festivals or screenings by sharing our program. Thanks to a generous grant from the Turkish Cultural Foundation and the determined efforts of these organizations, Turkish cinema is reaching a larger audience throughout the United States.

We would like to express our deep gratitude to each one of you who continue to support our programs. We would also like to thank our grantors, sponsors, advertisers, members and supporters whose contributions helped us come this far. We would like to congratulate our volunteers, who work around the clock throughout the year to make this festival and other programs possible.

Enjoy the show!

schedule

11th New York Turkish Film Festival Screening Schedule

All screenings will be held at SVA Theater *
333 W. 23rd Street (between 8th & 9th Ave.) New York, NY 10011

All Tickets: \$10

For tickets and information please visit www.newyorkturkishfilmfestival.com or call (212) 583-7617

DATE	TIME	SECTION	TITLE
December 2, Wed.	7:00 PM	Debut Films	Mommo / The Bogeyman
December 2, Wed.	9:00 PM	Without Borders & Debut Films	Kara Köpekler Havlarken / Black Dogs Barking
December 4, Fri.	7:00 PM	Debut Films	Sonbahar / Autumn
December 4, Fri.	9:00 PM	Contemporary Turkish Cinema	Hayat Var / My Only Sunshine
December 5, Sat.	6:00 PM	Contemporary Turkish Cinema	Pandora'nın Kutusu / Pandora's Box
December 5, Sat.	8:00 PM	Short Film	Süt ve Çikolata / Milk and Chocolate
December 5, Sat.	8:00 PM	Documentary	Son Mevsim: Şavaklar / The Last Season: Shawaks / Demsala Dawi: Şewaxan
December 5, Sat.	11:00PM	Closing Party	

* Closest subway: C, E to 23rd Street. Walk west on 23rd St. to the theatre.
Please make sure to check www.mta.info regularly for advisories on weekend services.

featured films



SONBAHAR / AUTUMN

2008, 106 minutes, 35mm, color; Turkish with English subtitles

Written and directed by Özcan Alper

Cinematography by Canan Çayır

Produced by F. Serkan Acar

Featuring Onur Saylak, Raife Yenigül, Megi Kobaladze, Serkan Keskin, Nino Lejava, Sibel Öz, Cihan Camkerten, Serhan Pirpir, Yaşar Güven

Yusuf is a 22-year-old college student, just released from prison and headed to his frail mother's small shack located in the Eastern Black Sea region of Turkey. Lonely and dejected, Yusuf's childhood friend Mikail is the only person he reconnects with until he meets Eka, a Georgian prostitute lost in the dreams of a socialist utopia. Though neither the circumstances nor time is right, a love affair with Eka is Yusuf's best escape from loneliness. Set against the post 90s modern realities and urban dysfunction, Özcan Alper's directorial debut is a highly recommended do-not-miss psychological drama.



SON MEVSİM: ŞAVAKLAR / DEMSALA DAWÎ: ŞEWAXAN/ THE LAST SEASON: SHAWAKS

2009, 92 minutes, 35mm, color; Turkish and Kurdish with English subtitles

Written and directed by Kazim Öz

Music by Ardavan Kamkar, Abas Kemendi, Reza Shajarian

Produced by Kazim Öz, Suncem Koçer

Featuring Ağa Erel, Emine Erel, Ayşe Erel, Osman Erel, Simar Erel, Rabia Erel, Yeter İlki, Dilara Erel, Kader Topal

This is a documentary without narration in which filmmaker Kazim Öz depicts a year in the life of members of the nomadic Shawak community who live in the villages of Emigezek and Pertek near Tunceli in Eastern Turkey. The Shawaks divide the year between winter stone houses in villages and summer tents in rural hilltop pastures. The documentary is a true and poignant recount of the cycle of life between seasons, as the Shawak community forges through its humble existence; breeding and raising livestock in the winter, and making cheeses in the summer. In his work, Öz has tirelessly painted a beautiful picture of a way of life that is slowly disappearing.



MOMMO: KIZ KARDEŞİM / MOMMO: THE BOGEYMAN

2009, 94 minutes, 35mm, color; Turkish with English subtitles

Written and directed by Atalay Taşdiken

Cinematography by Ali Özel

Music by Erkan Oğur

Featuring Elif Bülbül, Mehmet Bülbül, Mehmet Usta

Based on a true story and debuted at the Berlin Film Festival, Mommo portrays the inner world of two siblings: nine-year old Ali and his younger sister Ayşe. Rejected by their step mother, the pair decides to move in with Hasan, their crippled elderly grandfather. Filmed in Çavuş village, near Konya in central Turkey, Atalay Taşdiken sheds light on one of modern life's most tragic realities using locals as actors, and authentic landscapes as the backdrop for the film.



**PANDORA'NIN KUTUSU /
PANDORA'S BOX**

**2008, 112 minutes, 35mm, color;
Turkish with English subtitles**

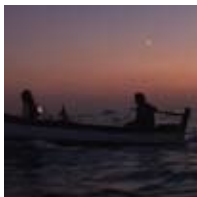
Directed by Yeşim Ustaoğlu

Written by Yeşim Ustaoğlu, Sema Kaygusuz

Produced by Yeşim Ustaoğlu, Muhammet Çakıral, Serkan Çakarer, Behrooz Hashemian, Natacha Devillers, Michael Weber

Featuring Tsilla Chelton, Derya Alabora, Onur Ünsal, Övül Avkıran, Osman Sonant, Tayfun Bademsoy
Devillers, Catherine Burniaux, Michael Weber

Yeşim Ustaoğlu describes Pandora's Box as a story of alienation and isolation. An old woman, Nusret, played by veteran French actress Tsilla Chelton disappears within a small Black Sea town. As her estranged children - living and settled in Istanbul - set out to find her, long kept animosities, fears and false relationships are unleashed like the evils within Pandora's Box. The inner journey of its main characters illustrates the saga of a country in transition in which, sometimes, people are forced to live lives that no longer fulfill them.



**HAYAT VAR /
MY ONLY SUNSHINE**

**2008, 121 minutes, 35mm, color;
Turkish with English subtitles**

Written and directed by Reha Erdem

Featuring Elit İscan, Erdal Beşikcioğlu, Levend Yılmaz, Banu Fotocan, Handan Karaadam

A young teenage girl, Hayat, her father and bedridden grandfather live in a riverside shack near the beautiful waters of the Bosphorus. Hayat's father makes a living fishing but resorts to a number of unlawful acts to get by. Despite harsh circumstances, Hayat has an instinct for survival. Her capacity for courage, endurance and hope in the face of many difficulties affirm that there is life despite the manifold injustices afflicting the world.



**KARA KÖPEKLER HAVLARKEN /
BLACK DOGS BARKING**

**2009, 90 minutes, 35mm, color;
Turkish with English subtitles**

Directed by Mehmet Bahadır Er and Maryna Gorbach

Cinematography by Sviatoslav Bulakovskiy

Edited by Maryna Gorbach, Mehmet Bahadır Er

Produced by Mehmet Bahadır Er

Featuring Cemal Toktaş, Volga Sorgu Tekinoğlu, Erkan Can, Ayfer Dönmez, Taylan Ertugrul, Ergun Kuyucu, Mehmet Usta, Muhammed Cangören, Murat Daltaban

Black Dogs Barking, is the story of two best friends, Selim and Caça whose dreams of wealth turn to nightmares when they get involved with the local mafia. When the cash-strapped friends decide to start a parking lot business near a high-end shopping center, they get a local crime mob to finance the project. Things get out of hand when the police discover their involvement in the underground scene. Filmed in the neighborhood where he spent many years of his life, Bahadır Er beautifully brings his experiences and relationships to life on the big screen.



**SÜT ve ÇİKOLATA /
MILK & CHOCOLATE**

**2008, 20 minutes, Digital, color;
Turkish with English subtitles**

Directed by Senem Tüzen

Screenplay by Senem Tüzen

Cinematography by Senem Tüzen

Edited by Senem Tüzen

Featuring Aysel Gedik, Mihriman Özdemir, Emine Aksoy, Fatma Doygun, Fatma Sabanlı, Ahmet Açıkel, Savaş Uyanıker, Betül Baysal, Deniz Atalay, Habibe Doygun

In her dream her father is stroking her hair. She awakes to a hard day. Her mother's milk has dried up and her young brother is sick. She needs to get some milk. This is the story of Emine, set somewhere between a village and a town, herself between childhood and womanhood.

Presented by



In conjunction with “Octet: Codes and Context in Recent Art”*

An Exhibition of Works by Faculty, Students and Alumni of the BFA Fine Arts Department at the School of Visual Arts



The 11th New York Turkish Film Festival and parallel film festivals in Madison (WI), Milwaukee (WI) and Seattle (WA) have been made possible through a generous grant by



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For tickets and additional information
please call **(212) 583-7617**
or visit **www.newyorkturkishfilmfestival.com**

* Octet exhibition logo designed by TUT