



WORLD PREMIERE

TEN THOUSAND IMAGES PRESENTS

NOWHERE TO HIDE

A FILM BY ZARADASHT AHMED

IDFA SCREENERS

SAT 19	18:30	MUNT 9 (Q&A)
SUN 20	11:45	MUNT 13 (PRESS & INDUSTRY SCREENING)
TUE 22	18:30	TUSCHINSKI 6 (Q&A)
WED 23	16:45	EYE CINEMA 2 (Q&A)
FRI 25	16:45	TUSCHINSKI 2
SUN 27	11:45	MUNT 13

TEN THOUSAND IMAGES PRESENTS "NOWHERE TO HIDE" A FILM BY ZARADASHT AHMED

PRODUCED BY METTE CHENG MUNTHE-KAAS CO-PRODUCERS HANS HUSUM / PASAREMOS AND STINA GARDELL / MANTARAY FILM EDITOR EVA HILLSTRÖM CINEMATOGRAPHER ZARADASHT AHMED
PHOTOGRAPHER NORI SHARIF PRODUCTION CO-ORDINATOR IRAQ FOUAD BAQI LOCATION MANAGER KALAR, IRAQ HIWA AZIZ MUSIC JIWAN HACO AND GAUTE BARLINDHAUG SOUND DESIGN RUNE HANSEN
POST PRODUCTION JOAKIM HAUGE COLORIST TOM CHR. LILLETVEDT POSTER/GRAPHIC DESIGN TORMOD GLOMNES WRITTEN AND DIRECTED BY ZARADASHT AHMED

EAST VILLAGE
FILMS

PASAREMOS

Ten thousand
images

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KUNST

VIKEN
FILMSENTER

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FILM INSTITUTE

FILMKRAFT

MANTARAY FILM

FRITT ORD

ESODUC

**NOWHERE
TO HIDE**



**NOWHERE
TO HIDE**



“The will to build is always stronger than the desire to destroy.”

SHORT SYNOPSIS

Nowhere to Hide follows male nurse Nori Sharif through five years of dramatic change, providing unique access into one of the world’s most dangerous and inaccessible areas – the “triangle of death” in central Iraq. Initially filming stories of survivors and the hope of a better future as American and Coalition troops retreat from Iraq in 2011, conflicts continue with Iraqi militias, and the population flees accompanied by most of the hospital staff. Nori is one of the few who remain. When ISIS advances on Jalawla in 2014 and takes over the city, he too must flee with his family at a moment’s notice, and turns the camera on himself.

LONG SYNOPSIS

36-year-old Nori Sharif is husband, father of four, and a male nurse. He becomes a videographer, documenting over several years life in one of Iraq’s most dangerous provinces and inaccessible areas – the “triangle of death” in central Iraq: Diyala.

By following Nori, we take part in his daily life. We are with him as another war erupts after the American retreat in 2011; a new war without fronts, uniforms or common rules. Not taking sides, Nori records destruction as well as hope in this war zone. Yet, it is the beginning of the end. The film stretches over a period of five years, beginning with the hope for a better future, through witnessing the growth of ISIS (the Islamic State), and eventually the fall of Nori’s home town. As Nori keeps filming throughout this period, he begins to turn the camera on himself.

This is a story of a young man and his family struggling for survival in Iraq, where war has become the norm. The enemy is invisible, and neither women nor children have a safe hideout. Nori’s narrative represents persistence, hope and faith. Yet, in this new reality of being squeezed between two giant forces – ISIS on one side and the Iraqi militias on the other, is it possible to remain impartial and keep his family intact? Will he and his family survive while fleeing, and will they be able to rebuild the country and the oasis that lies hidden behind the smoke and rubble?

NOWHERE TO HIDE



BACKGROUND

Fifteen years after the US-led invasion of Iraq the country continues to dominate the headlines with stories of sectarian violence, bombings, kidnappings, corruption and dire poverty, human displacement and a massive refugee crisis. Institutions and infrastructure are breaking down, and the destabilization of the region continues to expand into new areas. The country has become a breeding ground for new, diverse religious, ethnic and political conflicts that also spread far beyond the Arabian Peninsula. A lot of land is now in the Islamic State's hands; a seemingly undefined army of international jihadists, mercenaries, ex-military and clans that don't seem to have any greater common long-term strategy than power and influence.

During the first years after the US invasion, a pattern was obvious in the war: there were the occupying forces and the opposition forces. But in 2006-8 there was a change in character: ethnic sectarianism flared up, and the violence became increasingly unpredictable and random. Families, tribes and communities were divided, and it became difficult to distinguish friend from foe. How can one paint an accurate picture of this state of war when the local areas are "no-go"-zones, and the survivors are without a voice? Training and directing Nori Sharif to film his environment has enabled this possibility.

NOWHERE TO HIDE CHARACTERS

NORI SHARIF

Nori Sharif is a family man of 36 and the main character of our documentary. He is the father of 4 children, and has worked as a paramedic for nearly 12 years. He lived in the Diyala province, in central Iraq. Director **Zaradasht Ahmed** has trained Nori in both technique and storytelling. Nori has become a talented videographer. His curiosity and energy is what has taken us to the subjects of our stories.



ABU FALLAH AND HIS FAMILY

We have followed this man and his family for several years. In 2009, Abu Fallah was kidnapped along with his oldest son. He was shot in one leg, and his son was seriously injured, suffering permanent brain damage. One year later, a sticky bomb was placed under the family's crane. This time, Abu Fallah lost his other leg.



QATHAN AND HIS FAMILY

A farmers' family, which we have been following for nearly five years. They have been displaced several times and at the end lost their farm. Two years ago, their newborn twins froze to death because they could not afford an oil furnace. Nori's access to the family gives us a close look at a reality that many Iraqis face today.

DR. HUSUM AND DR. MUDHAFAR

They are both war surgeons and anti-war activists working in the war zones of the Middle East and Asia. Today, Dr. Mudhafar is still working in the fields of Iraq. When not in the field, Dr. Husum spends his time in Northern Norway, writing and illustrating manuals of life-saving surgery. Dr. Husum has Europe's only doctorate in War Surgery.



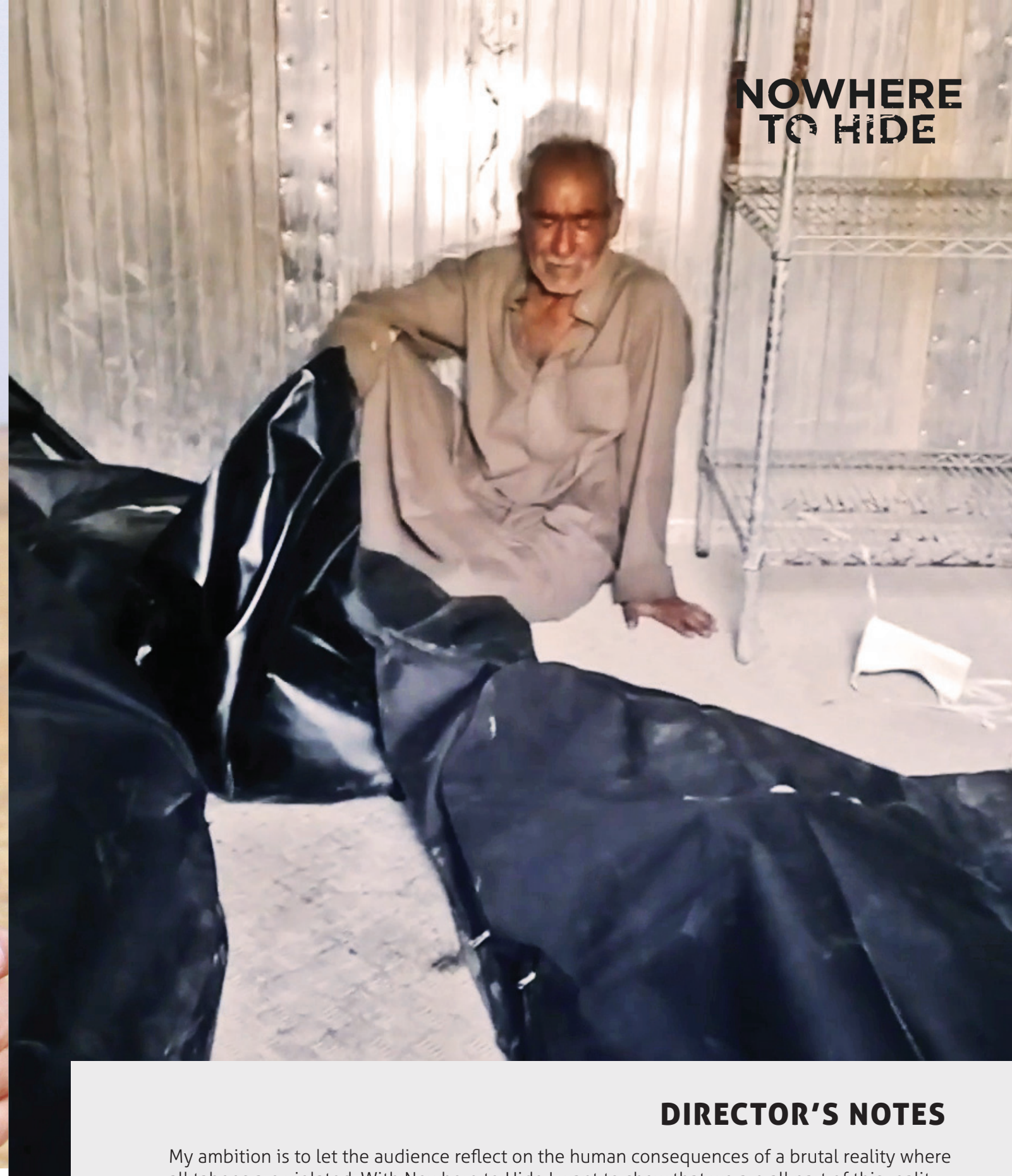
NOWHERE TO HIDE



ZARADASHT AHMED, DIRECTOR

Director and Photographer Zaradasht Ahmed is a Kurdish/Norwegian filmmaker. He was born and raised in Northern Iraq. His previous work includes the award-winning documentary *Road to Diyarbakir*, and he has many years of experience working with documentary filmmaking in the Middle East, North-Africa, and Asia, as well as training local people in documentation. His latest film on the topic of illegal immigration to Europe (for SVT Swedish Television) – *Fata Morgana* – has been screened at several prestigious film festivals.

NOWHERE TO HIDE



DIRECTOR'S NOTES

My ambition is to let the audience reflect on the human consequences of a brutal reality where all taboos are violated. With *Nowhere to Hide* I want to show that we are all part of this reality - war, explosions, victims, terrorism, they affect us globally, and we are all responsible, despite our geographical whereabouts. Meanwhile, I want to show the human resistance that is growing among these survivors; to show the hope of rebuilding after the breakdown of civilization. In the end, as humans, the only thing that can help us survive is to believe that the will to build will always be stronger than the desire to destroy.

ABOUT THE PRODUCTION COMPANY



Based in Norway, Ten Thousand Images A/S was founded by Mette Cheng Munthe-Kaas in November 2014. Our vision is to create films highlighting stories that address contemporary challenges in a way that inspires and challenges the audience toward reflection as well as action. Today, we have completed several documentaries, including the award-winning feature-length documentary by Runar Jarle Wiik, *No Word for Worry* (2014) <http://projectmoken.com/> and *Nowhere to Hide* (to premiere in November 2016 in the Feature-Length Documentary Competition at IDFA).

METTE CHENG MUNTHE-KAAS Producer & CEO

Mette is an award-winning producer, interactive producer, and editor of independent documentary films. She started her career as an editor and has been doing that for the last 20 years. In 2014, she founded her own production company, Ten Thousand Images AS, based in Norway. Within Ten Thousand Images, she has produced and edited the award-winning feature-length documentary *No Word for Worry*, as well as *New Words for Worry* and *Kabang – Nordic Origins*. Her recent production *Nowhere to Hide* is premiering at IDFA in the feature-length Documentary Competition.



OTHER KEY TEAM MEMBERS:

EVA HILLSTRÖM Film Editor

Eva Hillström is an internationally acclaimed and highly experienced film editor based in Stockholm, Sweden. With a special focus on short and long documentary form, she has also edited several of Zaradasht's previous films, including *Fata Morgana* and *The Road to Diyarbakir*.



CIWAN HACO Musician

Musician Ciwan Haco is a renowned Kurdish singer born near Qamishlo in Syria, now residing in Sweden. Haco is well-known in the Middle East, and has also given concerts in many parts of Europe. He has composed the music for *Nowhere to Hide*, along with **Gaute Barlindhaug**.



CREDITS

English title	Nowhere to Hide
Type	Documentary
Duration	86 min / 52 min
World Premiere	IDFA Competition for Feature-Length Documentary, Autumn 2016
Format	DCP and HD-formats
Screen ratio	16:9
Sound format	5.1 surround and stereo
Languages	Arabic with English, Norwegian or Swedish subtitles
Director / Writer	Zaradasht Ahmed
Producer	Mette Cheng Munthe-Kaas
Co-Producers	Hans Husum, Stina Gardell
Editor	Eva Hillström sfk
Photography	Nori Sharif, Zaradasht Ahmed
Additional Photography	Fouad Baqi
Production Co-ordinator, Iraq	Fouad Baqi
Location Manager, Kalar, Iraq	Hiwa Ali
Main Character	Nori Sharif
Production Company	Ten Thousand Images
Co-Production	Pasaremos, Mantaray Film
Distribution Services	East Village Entertainment Diana Holtzberg
Audience Development	Kouzi Productions Dimitra Kouzi
Production Country	Norway, Sweden
Financed by	Norwegian Film Institute, Fond for Lyd og bilde, Fritt Ord, Nordnorsk filmsenter, Viken Filmsenter, Filmkraft Rogaland
Broadcasters	NRK (Norwegian Broadcasting), SVT (Swedish Television)
Production Company	Ten Thousand Images
Contact Person	Mette Cheng Munthe-Kaas (<i>Attending IDFA 18-24 Nov</i>)
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NOWHERE TO HIDE

EPK Design by Adrienne Seet | be.net/aseet

FESTIVAL DISTRIBUTION & SALES AGENT

Festival Distribution Norwegian Film Institute (NFI) and East Village Entertainment

Distribution Services [East Village Entertainment](http://EastVillageEntertainment.com)

Distribution Contact Diana Holtzberg (*Attending IDFA 17-23 Nov*)

Email diana@eastvillageentertainment.com

Telephone Office: +1 (212) 614-2808
Mobile: +1 (917) 757-1444

Festival Contact Norwegian Film Institute (NFI) | Toril Simonsen

Email ts@nfi.no

Links www.nfi.no/english

Audience Development [Kouzi Productions](http://KouziProductions.com)

Contact Person Dimitra Kouzi (*Attending IDFA 19-24 Nov*)

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Mobile +30 694 6060862



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***All screenings will be followed by a Q&A with the director (except Sun 20, Fri 25, and Sun 27)**
***AVAILABLE ALSO AT DOCS FOR SALE**