

Closed Curtain (Parde)

Directed by Jafar Panahi and Kambozya Partovi

Iran 2013, 106 min.

Farsi with English subtitles



Silver Bear for Best Screenplay, Berlin Film Festival 2013

They are both on the run: the man with the dog he is not allowed to own because Islamic law deems it to be unclean, and the young woman who took part in an illicit party on the shores of the Caspian Sea. They barricade themselves in a secluded villa with curtained windows and eye each other suspiciously. Why has he shaved his head? How does she know he is being followed by the police? They are now prisoners in a house without a view in the midst of a hostile environment. The voices of police can be heard in the distance, but so too can the calming sound of the sea. One time they look at the night sky full of stars before again withdrawing behind their protective walls.

Are we looking at outlaws, or are the man and the young woman merely phantoms, figments of the imagination of a filmmaker who is no longer allowed to work?

'The very fact that this film exists is cause for celebration.'

Lee Marshall, *Screen International*

'Brave, often fascinating meditation on imprisonment and escape, despair and determination, invention and reality.'

Geoff Andrew, *Sight and Sound*

CAST

THE GIRL (Melika) Maryam Moghadam
JAFAR PANAHI Jafar Panahi
GIRL'S BROTHER Hadi Saeedi
GIRL'S SISTER Azadeh Torabi
AGHA OLIA Abolghasem Sobhani
YOUNGER BROTHER Mahyar Jafaripour
WORKER Ramin Akhariani
WORKER Sina Mashyekhi
WORKER Siamak Abedinpour
ZEYNAB KANOUM Zeynab Kanoum
BOY (the dog) BOY

CREW

Director Jafar Panahi, Kamboziya Partovi
Screenwriter Jafar Panahi
Photography Mohamad Reza Jahanpanah
Editing Jafar Panahi
Sound & Special Effect Javad Emami
Executive Producer Hadi Saeedi
Producer Jafar Panahi
Produced by Jafar Panahi Film Productions