

Arash T. Riahi (Director | Scriptwriter | Dramatic Advisor)

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IMDB: <https://imdb.to/2Qor8tK>



Austrian/Iranian Writer, director, dramatic advisor & producer. Studied Film and the Arts, has been working for the Austrian Broadcasting Corporation ORF, from 1995-2001 on a freelance basis. Founded the film production company "Golden Girls Filmproduktion" (www.goldengirls.at) in 1997. His body of work as a director & producer, that won more than 100 international awards, comprises various awarded short and experimental films ("Mississippi" – Winner Leipzig, Fantoche, VideoEx, Melbourne...) documentaries, including *The Souvenirs of Mr. X (Silver Plague Chicago Filmfestival)*, *Exile Family Movie* (Winner Leipzig, Max Ophüls Festival, Diagonale...) or the cross-media project *Everyday Rebellion (everydayrebellion.net)* that he made together with his brother Arman.

His first fiction film *For a moment freedom* (www.foramomentfreedom.com) produced by Wegafilm and Les Films du Losange, has won 31 international awards and was the Austrian candidate for the Academy Awards 2010.

He finished 2013 with his brother Arman the cross-media project *everydayrebellion.net* which was Austria's most successful festival film in 2014 and was awarded 10 times (CPH:DOX audience award, the Cinema for Peace award for the most valuable documentary of the year as well as the CIVIS European Media award for Integration). The next documentary of the Riahi Brothers „KINDERS“, was among others awarded with the special Jury Award at the Sarajevo Filmfestival 2017.

Since 2010 he works as a dramaturg and script advisor for the MEDIA supported programs SOURCES 2, Nipkow, Berlinale Scriptstation, European Documentary Network, Jihlava Institut for Documentary Film as well as held lectures and masterclasses at the EPI-Erich Pommer Institut, Scotisch Documentary Institut, Goethe Institut Dublin, ZKM Karlsruhe, Doc Incubator, Esodoc, CPH:DOX... Since 2014 he is teaching nonfictional storytelling and financing at the Filmschool and the Filmakademie Vienna.

He co-produced in 2019 with Tondowski Film „Born in Evin“, which was awarded the Compass Perspektive award at the Berlinale 2019 and won the German Film-Award “Lola” in 2020. SOLO by Artemio Benki premiered in Cannes 2019 and his latest co-production “Once upon a time in Venezuela” premiered in the competition of the Sundance Festival 2020 and was Venezuela's Oscar Entry 2021. His second fiction feature "Oskar & Lili-Where no one knows us (Ein bisschen bleiben wir noch)" is distributed by Les Films Du Losange and won 10 awards in 2020 (Austria's internationally most successful film of 2020) and is five times nominated for the Austrian Academy Awards 2021 (Best film, directing, Costumes, Set Design & Main Actress). The film is also 5 times nominated for the Romy award 2021 (Best film, direction, script, editing and newcomer actress)

Worklist (selection)

FICTION

Oskar & Lilli - Where no one knows us (Ein bisschen bleiben wir noch), Fiction 2020, Wegafilm, Winner of 13 international awards

For a moment freedom (Ein Augenblick Freiheit) (Fiction, French/Austrian Coproduction of Wegafilm and Les films du Losange 2009) by Arash T. Riahi

Austria's Akademie Awards entry 2010, winner of Montreal, Zürich, Viennale and more than 25 other awards

CINEMA DOCUMENTARY

Everyday Rebellion (Documentary) by The Riahi Brothers about creative forms of worldwide non-violent Protests. Part of the Cross-media project www.everydayrebellion.net

(Winner of CPX-Dox Audience Award, Cinema for Peace award and 8 other awards)

Co-Produktion with Mira Film - Switzerland

Exile Family Movie (Documentary, Austria 2007) by Arash T. Riahi, Documentary about an exiled Iranian Family, organizing a secret family meeting in Saudi Arabia after 15 years of separation

Winner of Leipzig, Chicago, Max Ophüls Filmfestival and 4 other awards

Nerven Bruch Zusammen (Everything will not be fine) (Documentary, Austria 2012) by Arash T. Riahi Longterm-Documentary about the inhabitants of a Women's shelter. A film as an homage to all the women that life didn't treat well enough yet.

(Award of Excellence & best international documentary at the International Festival Jakarta)

KINDERS (Documentary, Austria 2015) by The Riahi Brothers, Longterm Documentary about a singing program to empower children

Winner of Sarajevo Filmfestival & Diagonale Audience Award 2016

The Souvenirs of Mr. X (Die Souvenirs des Herrn X) 2004, 100 minutes www.MrX.com,

Winner of the Silver Plaque Award at the Chicago Filmfestival

SHORTFILMS

That has been bothering me the whole time (Short experimental dance-film, Austria, 2014) by Arash T. Riahi, Premiered at the Rom Filmfestival, Shanghai Filmfestival, and more than 20 others

MISSISSIPPI (Short experimental film, Austria 2005) by Arash T. Riahi

(Winner of Leipzig, Odense, Fantoche Filmfestival and 4 other awards)

THIS HUMAN WORLD (Short film, Austria 2012) by The Riahi Brothers

Awards (Selection)

Ein bisschen bleiben wir noch (Oskar & Lilli-Where no one knows us) Fiction, 2020

- Grand Prix de Montreal - Montreal International Children Filmfestival 2021
- INIS Prize for Innovation - Montreal International Children Filmfestival 2021
- Romy- Best Female Shooting Star Anna Fenderl – Austria 2021
- Audience Award at the Max Ophüls 2020
- Joseph Vilsmaier- Award for best film – Filmfestival Kitzbühel 2020
- Special Jury Award-International Migration Festival 2020
- Premio Ciak Scuaola Award – Taormina Film festival 2020
- Best Main Actress Rosa Zant, Molodist Festival Kiev, 2020
- Best Costumdesign Monika Buttinger, Diagonale 2020
- Best Film Olympia Filmfestival 2020
- Teen Screen Award - Film'on: International Children's Film Festival Brussels 2020
- Winner Diamant Award for Rosa Zant und Leopold Pallua - Schlingel Filmfestival Germany 2020

Kinders (Riahi Bros.), Cinema Documentary

- Special Jury Award – Sarajevo Filmfestival 2017
- Audience Award – Diagonale Filmfestival Austria 2016

Everyday Rebellion (Riahi Bros.), Crossmedia Documentary

- ARTE Pixel Pitch Prize, London 2012, Best Cross-Media project
- B3 Biennale Frankfurt, Ben Award Best Transmedia award 2013
- CPH:DOX Politiken Audience Award 2013
- Cinema For Peace Award, Berlin 2014, Most valuable documentary 2014
- Audience Award Biografilmfestival Bologna 2014
- Civis European Online Media Award for integration 2014
- Horizont Award 5 See Festival Germany 2014
- Dovey Award 2014
- Erasmus Euro Grand Media Award 2014

„ For a moment freedom „ (Ein Augenblick Freiheit“), Fiction *(developed at eQuinox/Sundance)*

- Austrian candidate for the Academy Awards/ Oscar 2010
- Best foreign film, Beverly Hills Filmfestival, 2010
- Jury Award best film & Audience Award Festival Nuovo Cinema, Genua, 2010
- Silver Audience Award, Tromso International Film Festival, 2010
- Audience Award, Films from the South Festival, Oslo, 2009
- Young Jurys Price, Festival Cine Junior Val de Marne, 2009
- Thomas Pluch Award Best Screenplay /Diagonale, 2009
- Best Direction & Flying Ox for best film/ Filmfest Schwerin,, Germany 2009
- Award of the Saarland Ministry & Interfilm Award of the Max Ophüls Festivals, 2009
- Canvas Award & Youth Jury Award Open Doek Film Festival (Belgien), 2009
- Special Jury & Special Audition Award. 10. Festival del Cinema Europeo Lecce (Italien), 2009
- Best Film & Publics Award, 5. Amazonas Filmfestival Manaus/Brasil, 2008
- Best screenplay at the 2. San Luis Cine Filmfestival/Argentina, 2008
- Grand Prix & Publics Award & Student Award, Prix du Film D'histoire de Pessac, 2008
- Publics Award & Student Award / Cinessonne Festival/Paris, 2008
- Vienna Filmaward / Viennale, 2008
- Beste Direction, Festival de jeunes realisateurs, Saint Jean de Luz/Frankreich, 2008
- Golden Eye for best debut feature, Zurich Filmfestival, 2008

- **Golden Zenith-Best first film, Montreal World Filmfestival, 2008**
- **Honorable Mention Carl Mayer Screenplay Award, 2003**

„Exile Family Movie“, Cinema-Documentary

- **Max Ophüls Award for best documentary, Saarbrücken, 2007**
- **Interfilmaward of the Max Ophüls Festival, 2007**
- **Golden Dove for best Documentary, 49. Leipzig Documentary and Animation Festival, 2006**
- **FIPRESCI-Award, Leipzig Documentary & Animationsfestival, 2006**
- **Silver Hugo for best Dokumentary, Chicago Film Festival, 2006**
- **DIAGONALE award for best Austrian documentary, 2006**

„MISSISSIPPI“, Experimental Short

- **Best Experimental Shortfilm, Melbourne Film Festival, 2006**
- **Most Surprising Film, Odense Film Festival, 2006**
- **Mainaward, Experimental Film Festival Videoex / Schweiz, 2006**
- **Golden Dove for best Animationsfilm, Film Festival Leipzig, 2006**
- **Award for best Script/Idee, Film Festival Fantoche/Schweiz, 2005**



Arman T. Riahi

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Arman T. Riahi was born in Iran and grew up in Vienna, Austria, where he directed his first short films as a teenager. He studied media technologies and worked as a screen- and graphic designer in London & Vienna. His first cinema doc *Schwarzkopf (Dark Head, 2011)* opened the documentary competition of the 17th Sarajevo FF, won the Audience Award at the Diagonale Festival of Austrian Film and the Special Jury Mention Award at the Docudays Beirut Int'l Documentary FF. His second cinema doc *Everyday Rebellion (2014)*, co-directed with his brother Arash, was screened at over 60 international film festivals. In 2013, Riahi was granted the START-Scholarship for Film Arts of the Austrian Federal Chancellery of Arts with his feature film treatment *Fox in a Hole*. Riahi's first feature film, the comedy *The Migrumpies*, has won Audience Awards in Nashville and Saarbrücken, the ROMY for Best Script and was one of the most successful Austrian cinema movies of 2017 with over 90.000 admissions. In 2019, it was successfully adapted by Riahi, Petrović and Rahoma for theaters. For his second feature film *Fox in a Hole (2020)*, Riahi won three awards at the 42nd Filmfestival Max Ophüls Preis, including Best Script and Best Director. Since 2013, Riahi is a lecturer at the masterclass Film/TV of the University of Applied Sciences for Media Technology in St. Pölten.

Selected Works

- 2020** *Fox In A Hole* (Drama, Written & Directed by Arman T. Riahi, 103 Min.)
Award of the Youth Jury, Best Director and Best Script (Fritz-Raff-Drehbuchpreis) at 42nd Filmfestival Max Ophüls Preis
- 2019** Stage play of *The Migrumpies* for Viennese Theater in der Josefstadt
- 2017** *The Migrumpies* (Comedy, 90min, Written & Directed by Arman T. Riahi, co-written by Aleksandar Petrović and Faris Rahoma)
- 2016** *Kinders* (Cinema Documentary, 90min, co-written and -directed with Arash T. Riahi), Special Jury Prize Sarajevo Film Festival 2017, Diagonale '16 Audience Award
- 2014** *Everyday Rebellion* (Cinema Documentary, 52/118min, co-written and directed with Arash T. Riahi), CPH:DOX 2013 Politiken Audience Award, Cinema for Peace Award, IDFA Panorama, Biennale 2013 BEN Best Transmedia Project, ARTE Pixel Pitch Prize 2012 Best Cross-Media Project & over 60 international film festivals)
- 2011** *Dark Head* (Cinema Documentary, 90min) Diagonale 2011 Audience Award; Special Jury Mention Award Docudays Beirut Int'l Documentary Film Festival; Opening Film documentary competition Sarajevo FF)