

# KHARTOUM OFFSIDE

Feature Documentary Film  
Sudan 2019

ORE PRODUCTIONS PRESENTS  
SUDAN 2019

# KHARTOUM OFFSIDE

A FILM BY  
MARWA ZEIN

#Sudan\_Uprising  
تسقط بس

اوفساييد الخرطوم

Hala Balatoun  
Hinda Gaddal  
Sara

69<sup>th</sup> Internationale  
Filmfestspiele  
Berlin  
Forum

OFFICIAL  
SELECTION  
CPH:DOX  
2019

VISIONS  
du REEL  
2019

idfa

Sheffield  
DocFest  
Official  
selection  
2019

OFFICIAL SELECTION  
hotdocs  
2019 OUTSPOKEN OUTSTANDING

AMAA  
2019  
AFRICA  
MOVIE  
ACADEMY  
AWARDS

Special  
Mention  
Documentary  
Competition  
MALMO ARAB  
FILM FESTIVAL  
2019

FESTIVAL  
DE CINE  
AFRICAIN  
FCAT  
2019  
BEST DOCUMENTARY  
FILM AWARD

BEL  
DOCS  
International  
Documentary  
Film Festival  
OFFICIAL SELECTION

Cinematographer  
Marwa Zein

Sound Recording  
Marwa Zein  
Burhan Tesfay

Sound Mix  
Marcel Knuth

Colorist  
Johan Eklund

Editor  
Mohammed Emad Rizq

Sound Design  
Sara Kaddouri

Composer  
Tunde Jegede

Associate Producer  
Jihan El Tahri  
Big Sister Productions

Co Producer  
Henrik Underbjerg  
Stray Dog Productions

Producer & Director  
Marwa Zein  
Ore Productions

STRAY DOG  
PRODUCTIONS

big sister  
PRODUCTIONS

good film and post

idfa

Bertha  
Fund

AFAC ARAB FUND FOR  
ARTS AND CULTURE  
التمويل العربي للفنون  
والثقافة

ONE  
production

FILMOTER

Poster Design: Adam Shaalan

## **Marwa ZEIN** Director – Producer BIO



Award Winning Sudanese Film Director, Script Writer and Producer for her acclaimed debut 'Khartoum Offside' and acclaimed short fiction films 'A game' and 'One week, Two days'.

'Khartoum Offside' is Awarded Best Documentary for 2019 by The 15<sup>th</sup> Africa Movie Academy Awards AMAA 2019. Carthage International Film Festival JCC awarded the film best 1<sup>st</sup> work by TV5 Monde. The film won Best Documentary award in FCAT Spain 2019 and Special Mention Award at Malmo Arab FF Sweden 2019.

The film had its World Premiere at **Berlinale Forum** 2019 and officially selected in the most prestigious international festivals; Visions Du Reel, CPH DOX, Hot Docs and Sheffield, JCC, IDFA & CIFF 2019.

Zein was born in Saudi Arabia & lived in Egypt. Quit studying Chemical engineering in Cairo University after 3 years to study Cinema in Academy of arts in Cairo, Egypt in 2005. Graduate with honorable mention 2009. Now she's doing her masters in Film in Germany.

Worked as Assistant Director to many acclaimed Egyptian directors such as: Halah Khalil, Khairi Beshara, Dawoud Abdelsayed and Shady Fakharany between 2009 and 2015. Worked as festival programmer for Sudan Independent Film Festival between 2014 and 2017.

She established her own production company 'ORE Productions' in 2017 based in Khartoum, Sudan.

<https://vimeo.com/marwazein>

<https://www.imdb.com/name/nm7723936/>

## KHARTOUM OFFSIDE



### SYNOPSIS

A group of exceptional young ladies in Khartoum are determined to play football professionally. They are prepared to defy the ban imposed by Sudan's Islamic Military government and they will not take no for an answer. Their battle to get officially recognized as Sudan's National Woman's team is fearless, courageous and often laughable. But their struggle is unwavering. Through the intimate portrait of these women over a number of years we follow their moments of hope and deception. Despite the National Football Federation getting FIFA funds earmarked for the women's teams, this team continues to be marginalized. However, there is a new spark of hope when the elections within the federation could mean real change of the entire system.

### CREDITS

Sudan | Norway | Denmark | France     2019 | 75' minutes

Feature Documentary Film, Color and Digital

Arabic with English ST, French ST, Spanish ST & German ST

Screening Format | DCP | HD MOV



## **Starring**



Sara Edward Ernest Jubara      Nedal Fadlallah (Henda)  
Halah Zakariya |      Fatma Gaddal (Gaddal) |      Elham Balatoun

Director – Producer Marwa Zein | Co-Producer – Henrik Underbjerg |  
Associate producer –Jihan El Tahri | Cinematographer – Marwa Zein | Editor –  
Mohammed Emad Rizq | Sound Design – Sara Kaddouri Film Fixers - Ibrahim  
Komik | Abdallah Osman | | Sound Mixer – Marcel Knuth | Colorist – Johan  
Eklund | Film Score – Tunde Jegede |

Shooting Location: Khartoum, Sudan | Shooting Date: 2014 until 2018

Post-Production & Film Release: 2019

## **Official Teasers:**

<https://vimeo.com/352971729>

<https://youtu.be/pJ-IDY9TzoU>

## ***SALES AGENT: FILMOTOR***

[Michaela@filmotor.com](mailto:Michaela@filmotor.com)

Tel. +420721006421

<http://filmotor.com/khartoum-offside/>



## Official Selection Film Festivals & Awards;

### BEST 1<sup>st</sup> Work Award: JCC Carthage 2019 Int. FF by TV5 Monde



<https://www.jcctunisie.org/eng/jccPrix.php>

### BEST DOCUMENTARY AWARD: African MOVIE Academy Award 2019.



[https://www.ama-awards.com/amaa-2019-winners.html?fbclid=IwAR2SuymKSkORE6--2rotu39q5sRxiwj3zAH60QQMBdSX\\_MyPE8F\\_elikZ7U#](https://www.ama-awards.com/amaa-2019-winners.html?fbclid=IwAR2SuymKSkORE6--2rotu39q5sRxiwj3zAH60QQMBdSX_MyPE8F_elikZ7U#)

### \*SPECIAL MENTION AWARD: Malmo Arab Film Festival 2019

### \*BEST DOCUMENTARY AWARD: Festival du Cine African- FCAT



**1- BERLINALE Feb. 2019 WORLD PREMIERE**

[https://www.berlinale.de/en/programm/berlinale\\_programm/datenblatt.html?film\\_id=201914803&fbclid=IwAR3np7b0YVaDtRKiFXgyDN3VvisCxcgkpPiCr\\_NFZud8C7c1-kknhhhGVgaU](https://www.berlinale.de/en/programm/berlinale_programm/datenblatt.html?film_id=201914803&fbclid=IwAR3np7b0YVaDtRKiFXgyDN3VvisCxcgkpPiCr_NFZud8C7c1-kknhhhGVgaU)

**2- CPH:DOX March 2019 NORDIK PREMIERE**

[https://cphdox.dk/en/programme/film/?id=1048&fbclid=IwAR0mMCqS-VC58ILyLwEl2BQOe0Zhlv\\_VMbL7OgvxwZRRRa2CiYgSSLRPaYs](https://cphdox.dk/en/programme/film/?id=1048&fbclid=IwAR0mMCqS-VC58ILyLwEl2BQOe0Zhlv_VMbL7OgvxwZRRRa2CiYgSSLRPaYs)

**3- VISIONS DU REEL April 2019 SWISS PREMIERE**

<https://www.visionsdureel.ch/en/2019/film/khartoum-offside>

**4- FRAUEN FILM FESTIVAL April 2019**

<https://www.frauenfilmfestival.eu/index.php?id=2>

**5- HOT DOCS NORTH AMERICAN PREMIERE April/May 2019**

<https://boxoffice.hotdocs.ca/websales/pages/info.aspx?evtinfo=89994~6052eab3-8904-4c72-8914-433e6b8b62f1&epguid=2157979d-886e-46a2-ace8-e46670981e8a&>

**6- FCAT SPAIN PREMIERE May 2019**

<https://www.fcat.es/peliculas/oufsaiyed-elkhortoum/>

**7- BELDOCS May 2019**

<https://beldocs.rs/en/kartum-ofsajd/>

**8- SHEFFIELD UK PREMIERE June 2019**

<https://sheffdocfest.com/films/6674>

**9- Turkish Premiere June 2019**

<http://www.documentarist.org/en/node/639>

**10- Köln Premiere Afrika Film Festival Sept. 2019**

<http://afrikafilmfestivalkoeln.de/programm-2019/oufsaiyed-elkhortoum/>

**11- Sweden Premiere Malmo and Stockholm Oct. 2019**

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<http://maffswe.com/khartoum-offside/>

<http://cinemafrika.se/evenemang/khartoum-offside/>

**12- Latin America Premiere Chile**

<https://ficvaldivia.cl/>

**13- Arabic Premiere JCC Qarthag Film Festival Tunis Oct 2019**

[https://www.jcctunisie.org/eng/filmsDetail.php?id\\_film=31](https://www.jcctunisie.org/eng/filmsDetail.php?id_film=31)

**14- Tubingen Film Festival 03.11.2019 YOUTH JURY AWARD  
NOMINATION"**

<https://franzoesische.filmtage-tuebingen.de/film/khartoum-offside/>

**15\_Hamborg African Film Festival 07:15.11.2019**

<http://www.augen-blicke-afrika.de/blog/programm-2019/filme-2019/khartoum-offside/>

**16- IDFA 2019**

<https://www.idfa.nl/en/film/4ada80bc-68ce-4835-8062-77ac0d77c2d7/khartoum-offside>

**17- SORFOND FILM FESTIVAL NORWAY 2019**

[https://www.filmfrasor.no/filmbase/2019/Khartoum\\_Offside\\_.html](https://www.filmfrasor.no/filmbase/2019/Khartoum_Offside_.html)

**18- CAIRO International Film Festival EGYPT 2019**

<https://www.ciff.org.eg/horizons-of-arab-cinema-competition/>

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'Marwa Zein's debut is at once cinematic proof of the power of female friendship and a Sudanese filmmaker's concerted effort to rectify stereotypical perceptions of her country. '

\_ **Dorothee Wenner**

Berlinale Forum programmer

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"Marwa Zein's debut is a brave film that asks important questions with great visual flair. It succeeds at exploring different layers of reality while opening all the time new possibilities of interaction with the world. A highly political and poetical work.'

\_ **Giona A. Nazzaro**

Visions du reel programmer

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" In Zein's lively, touching and, at times, poetic documentary, the heroines are fighting for the right to play and form the national women's football team. The movie has just world-premiered in the Forum section of the 69<sup>th</sup> [Berlinale](#).

\_ **Valdan Petkovic**

CINEEUROPE

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"Strong-willed, refreshingly liberated and ferociously independent, Zein's footballers defy the mainstream perceptions of Sudanese women.

\_ **Joseph Fahim**

MIDDLE EAST EYE

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" From Berlin to Venice, Sudanese cinema is thriving at its best with well-established, talented and persistent filmmakers, Zein, Gasim and Abuela."

\_ **Hauvick Habéchian**

THE INDEPENDENT

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"Sudanese cinema: Reviving a forgotten art" – Al Jazeera

## Producers and Partners



### Producers

ORE Productions  
Producer: Marwa Zein

Stray Dog Productions  
Co-Producer: Henrik Underbjerg

Big Sister Productions  
Associate Producer: Jihan El Tahri

### Partners

Royaa for feminist studies  
Founder: Taghreed Awouda Hamour

### Funders – Film grants

**IDFA | AFAC | SORFOND | IMS | Takmil | MAFF | Alter-cine |**

**Contact:** ORE Productions

Contact for more info and press:

[marwazeinfilm@gmail.com](mailto:marwazeinfilm@gmail.com) | [henrik@straydogproductions.org](mailto:henrik@straydogproductions.org) |  
[jihan\\_tahri@hotmail.com](mailto:jihan_tahri@hotmail.com)

Film page on FB

<https://www.facebook.com/Khartoum-Offside-1086792474825828>

## Director Statement



Identity questions and the idea of "home" for years drove me to reflect about Sudan. I was born in Saudi Arabia lived there my childhood and then moved to Cairo, Egypt. And it is this chapter of my life that brought me closer to my native Sudan and nourished the desire to dig deeper into my own country.

Every aspect of life in Sudan under holds a woman back from doing what she wants; the do's and don'ts are designed to contain our freedom. For me, even holding the camera in the street was a struggle!

Between 2014 and 2018 I was not allowed to shoot freely and the girls & myself got caught three times while shooting. It was clear that it's a challenge and it is a tough path that we both took. But these girls; their power & resistance fired me up to 4 years to reveal their courage that often they don't even see!

As an African Arab woman, I fought to be a filmmaker I fought the conservative society, the religion, the patriarchal society to be able to be and for that I believe making this film about those exceptional young ladies is exactly what I was meant to do just to raise a voice that represent me and many more in our silenced countries.

Making this film is my way of reflecting about Sudan and its people whom I share a lot with. It is a unique journey to rediscover myself through the other's struggle.