



# INSIDE GAZA

PRESS KIT

A FILM BY HÉLÈNE LAM TRONG

WITH MOHAMMED ABED, MAHMUD HAMS, MAI YAGHI, ADEL AL ZAAOUN CAMERA GAZA BELAL ALSABBAGH, YAHYA HASSOUNA, YOUSSEF HASSOUNA, MAHMUD HAMS  
CAMERA BELGIUM, CYPRUS, FRANCE, QATAR, UNITED KINGDOM BERNARD JALLET SOUND ADRIANO CERONE, GUILLAUME MARTY, GUILLAUME MARIQUE, PIERRE GILLET ORIGINAL MUSIC  
THIBAUT COHADE EDITING NICOLAS BIER, CÉCIL CAHEN COLOR ROMAIN LOISEAU A PRODUCTION FACTSTORY DOCS - YANN OLLIVIER IN COPRODUCTION WITH  
ARTE FRANCE, RTBF - UNITÉ DOCUMENTAIRE WITH THE PARTICIPATION OF L'AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE IMPACT PRODUCER JULIA HAMMETT-JAMART - CATALYST FILMS

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FACTSTORY DOCS

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SANS FRONTIÈRES

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SINCE OCTOBER 7, 2023, THE INTERNATIONAL PRESS HAS BEEN DENIED FREE ACCESS TO THE GAZA STRIP. ON THE GROUND, REPORTERS FROM AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE'S GAZA CITY BUREAU HAVE BEEN AMONG THE ONLY ONES ABLE TO DOCUMENT THIS WAR.

WITH EXCLUSIVE FOOTAGE, INSIDE GAZA TELLS THE STORY OF THE EXTREME DIFFICULTY OF REPORTING, UNDER FIRE AND PROPAGANDA FROM ALL SIDES, WHILE ORGANIZING THEIR OWN SURVIVAL AS WELL AS THAT OF RELATIVES AND FRIENDS.

# TEASER

[HTTPS://F.IO/M4PRNRY](https://f.io/m4prnry)



THIS DOCUMENTARY, LAUNCHED IN DECEMBER 2023, WAS AN UNUSUAL EXPERIENCE FOR US: WE HAD TO BUILD A STORY BASED ON THE IMAGES AND PERSONAL VIDEOS SHOT BY COLLEAGUES IN GAZA, WHO CARRIED ALONE THE BURDEN OF DOCUMENTING THE WAR. THE TOPIC IS SENSITIVE, GIVEN THE POLARISATION AROUND THE ISRAELI-PALESTINIAN CONFLICT. THIS FILM DOES NOT PRETEND TO EXPLORE ITS ROOTS. IT TELLS THE ESSENTIAL STORY OF WHAT HAPPENED IN GAZA, WITH THOSE VERY FEW COURAGEOUS WITNESSES. PROTECTING PRESS FREEDOM IS OUR DUTY. IN THESE TIMES, WHEN FAKE NEWS IS EVERYWHERE AND JOURNALISM UNDER ATTACK, WE FEEL IT IS ESSENTIAL TO REMEMBER, THROUGH THE STORIES OF MAI YAGHI, ADEL ZANOUN, MAHMUD HAMS AND MOHAMMED ABED, THAT PRESS FREEDOM IS PRECIOUS, IT'S A FRAGILE PILLAR OF OUR DEMOCRACIES, AND THAT REPORTERS RISK THEIR LIVES TO ENSURE PUBLIC ACCESS TO FREE, VERIFIED INFORMATION.

HÉLÈNE LAM TRONG

**"AS A JOURNALIST, I WANTED TO STAY. I WAS AWARE OF MY DUTY. THE JOB HAD TO BE DONE. I COULDN'T LEAVE AT THAT POINT."**

**-MAI YAGHI**

**"BEING A WAR REPORTER AMID YOUR REGION, YOUR COUNTRY, YOUR NEIGHBOURS, YOUR FAMILY AND YOUR PEOPLE, IT'S COMPLETELY DIFFERENT FROM WHEN YOU COVER OTHER CONFLICTS. HERE YOU FEAR FOR YOUR OWN CHILDREN AND YOUR OWN FAMILY."**

**-MOHAMMED ABED**

**"WHEN YOU DECIDE TO BECOME A JOURNALIST, YOU KNOW IT'S A DIFFICULT JOB. BUT TO BE A JOURNALIST IN GAZA IS TO BE IN THE HEART OF HELL."**

**-ADEL ZANOUN**

**"IN A CONFLICT, NO BELLIGERENT LIKES THE PRESENCE OF JOURNALISTS. BECAUSE THEY DENOUNCE THEIR CRIMES. WHOEVER TARGETS JOURNALISTS IS DOING SO INTENTIONALLY IN ORDER TO HIDE THE TRUTH FROM THE WORLD."**

**-MAHMUD HAMS**

# PROTAGONISTS



## MAI YAGHI

MAI JOINED AFP IN GAZA IN 2008 AS A TEXT JOURNALIST. BEFORE OCTOBER 7, THANKS TO HER SWEDISH NATIONALITY, SHE WAS THE ONLY ONE OF AFP'S GAZAN JOURNALISTS TO BENEFIT FROM A PERMANENT PERMIT TO TRAVEL BACK AND FORTH BETWEEN THE JERUSALEM AND GAZA OFFICES. DURING THE WAR, SHE WORKED ON FACT-CHECKING FIGURES FROM THE HAMAS HEALTH MINISTRY, VISITING MORGUES AND MEETING BOMBING VICTIMS' FAMILIES. HER SON JAD, 11, WAS ABLE TO LEAVE GAZA, BUT MAI WAS DENIED AUTHORISATION TO ACCOMPANY HIM. SHE WAS FINALLY ABLE TO LEAVE 3 MONTHS LATER, AFTER LOSING ALMOST 50 FAMILY MEMBERS AND CLOSE FRIENDS. HER APARTMENT, FOR WHICH SHE HAD JUST FINISHED PAYING THE MORTGAGE, WAS DESTROYED BY A TARGETED STRIKE. MAI NOW LIVES IN LONDON WITH HER HUSBAND AND THEIR TWO CHILDREN.



## MOHAMMED ABED

AT 55, HE IS THE OFFICE'S VETERAN. INTERNATIONALLY RECOGNISED, WORLD PRESS AWARD WINNER IN 2010, SERIOUSLY WOUNDED IN 2018, MOHAMMED HAS COVERED THE WARS IN GAZA, THE ARAB REVOLUTIONS IN TUNISIA, EGYPT AND LIBYA, AND THE WAR IN SUDAN AS A PHOTOJOURNALIST... BUT HE HAD NEVER EXPERIENCED ANYTHING LIKE THE ISRAELI RESPONSE TO THE ATTACKS OF OCTOBER 7, 2023. WHEN HE ACCOMPANIED HIS WIFE AND YOUNGEST CHILDREN TO THE RAFAH BORDER IN NOVEMBER 2023, HE THOUGHT HE WOULD NEVER SEE THEM AGAIN. AFTER LEAVING GAZA IN MAY 2024, MOHAMMED WAS RELOCATED TO CAIRO, EGYPT, AND CONTINUES TO WORK AS A COORDINATOR FOR AFP'S FREELANCERS IN GAZA. HIS ELDEST SON ANAS IS A REPORTER FOR THE AMERICAN PUBLIC RADIO STATION NPR AND REMAINS IN GAZA..



## ADEL ZANOUN

ADEL IS AFP'S LONGEST SERVING MEMBER IN GAZA, WHICH HE JOINED IN 1994 AT THE AGE OF 19. IN THE LAST FEW YEARS, HE HAS TAKEN ON THE POSITION OF THE BUREAU'S CHIEF CORRESPONDENT. HIS WIFE OLA IS ALSO A JOURNALIST, AND IS THE REPORTERS WITHOUT BORDERS CORRESPONDENT IN GAZA. TOGETHER, THEY HAVE 5 CHILDREN. ADEL HAS ORGANISED AND PROVIDED COVERAGE IN EXTREME CONDITIONS, WHILE GUIDING HIS COLLEAGUES AND THEIR FAMILIES THROUGH CONSTANT CHAOS, DEATH AND DISPLACEMENT. ADEL, HIS WIFE AND CHILDREN WERE ABLE TO LEAVE THE GAZA STRIP IN 2024. ADEL IS NOW BASED IN CYPRUS' AFP OFFICE FROM WHERE HE CONTINUES TO CONTRIBUTE TO THE COVERAGE OF THE WAR. HE IS ALSO WORKING ALONGSIDE OLA TO HELP RSF DOCUMENT COMPLAINTS TO THE INTERNATIONAL CRIMINAL COURT (ICC) OVER THE DEATHS OF SEVERAL OF THEIR COLLEAGUES, KILLED BY THE ISRAELI ARMY.



## MAHMUD HAMS

MAHMUD JOINED AFP IN 2003 AND IS THE GAZA OFFICE'S MOST FAMOUS MEMBER, AWARDED WITH NUMEROUS INTERNATIONAL PRIZES. IN 2024, HE WON THE VISA D'OR AND THE BAYEUX FIRST PRIZE FOR WAR CORRESPONDENTS. HE HAS COVERED MANY EVENTS OUTSIDE GAZA, FROM THE ARAB REVOLUTIONS TO THE 2022 FIFA WORLD CUP. EVACUATED FROM GAZA IN FEBRUARY 2024 WITH HIS WIFE AND THEIR FOUR CHILDREN, HE NOW COVERS THE NEWS FOR AFP FROM THE DOHA OFFICE IN QATAR, SWITCHING BETWEEN SPORTS COMPETITIONS, PARTICULARLY MOTOR RACING, AND REPORTS ON THE LIFE OF THE PALESTINIAN COMMUNITY IN EXILE. LIKE ALL THE OTHER MEMBERS OF THE TEAM, HE LOST DOZENS OF RELATIVES AND ALL HIS POSSESSIONS IN THE WAR THAT DESTROYED GAZA.



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# THE TEAM



## HÉLÈNE LAM TRONG / DIRECTOR

HÉLÈNE HAS BEEN A JOURNALIST FOR 20 YEARS, AND BEGAN HER CAREER AT RADIO FRANCE BEFORE STARTING TO DIRECT AND WRITE DOCUMENTARY FILMS IN 2015. SHE WAS AWARDED THE ALBERT LONDRES PRIZE IN 2023 FOR “THE GHOST CHILDREN OF ISIS”.



## YANN OLLIVIER / PRODUCER

JOURNALIST AND FORMER AFP CORRESPONDENT IN BERLIN, BRUSSELS, PARIS AND STRASBOURG, YANN OLLIVIER FOUNDED THE FACTSTORY DOCS DOCUMENTARY UNIT IN 2021. FACTSTORY FRANCE AND ITS SUBSIDIARY FACTSTORY BELGIQUE ARE 100% OWNED BY AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE. THE PURPOSE OF THIS DOCUMENTARY UNIT IS TO COMBINE JOURNALISTIC INTEGRITY WITH HIGH-QUALITY STORYTELLING. THE AGENCY'S WORLDWIDE NETWORK OF 151 LOCATIONS OFFERS PRIVILEGED ACCESS TO MANY PARTS OF THE WORLD THAT ARE DIFFICULT FOR OTHER MEDIA TO REACH.

# RESOURCES

FILM WEBSITE:



[WWW.INSIDEGAZA-FILM.ORG](http://WWW.INSIDEGAZA-FILM.ORG)

PRESS PICTURES:



[HTTPS://WE.TL/T-IRBZP4EUB2](https://we.tl/t-irbZP4EUB2)



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# TECHNICAL SHEET

DOCUMENTARY FILM: INSIDE GAZA

DURATION: 72 MIN - 52 MIN

YEAR: 2025

DIRECTOR: HÉLÈNE LAM TRONG

EXECUTIVE PRODUCER: YANN OLLIVIER

CO-PRODUCTION: FRANCE / BELGIUM

FACTSTORY DOCS - ARTE FRANCE - RTBF-DOCUMENTARIES

WITH THE PARTICIPATION OF AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE (AFP), RTS ET IN PARTNERSHIP WITH REPORTERS WITHOUT BORDERS

EDITING: NICOLAS BIER - CÉCIL CAHEN

ORIGINAL MUSIC: THIBAUT COHADE

HEAD OF PRODUCTION: CLAIRE MILLIÈRE

WITH THE SUPPORT OF CENTRE NATIONAL DU CINÉMA ET DE L'IMAGE ANIMÉE; CENTRE DU CINÉMA ET DE L'AUDIOVISUEL DE LA FÉDÉRATION WALLONIE-BRUXELLES; AND WITH THE SUPPORT PROVIDED BY BELGIAN LEGISLATION RELATING TO TAX SHELTER; WITH THE SUPPORT OF PROCIREP - SOCIÉTÉ DES PRODUCTEURS AND ANGOA; WITH THE SUPPORT OF PROARTI DOTATION FUNDS; IN PARTNERSHIP WITH FLEUR FORTUNÉ

INTERNATIONAL DISTRIBUTION: ARTE DISTRIBUTION

GAZA FOOTAGE

BELAL ALSABBAGH/AFP, YAHYA HASSOUNA/AFP, YOUSEF HASSOUNA/AFP, MAHMUD HAMS/AFP

BELGIQUE, CHYPRE, FRANCE, QATAR, ROYAUME-UNI FOOTAGE

BERNARD JALLET, NICOLAS LOIR

ISRAËL FOOTAGE

NICOLAS GARCIA/AFP, NIR KAFRI/AFP, DAPHNÉ LEMELIN/AFP

AFP PHOTOS

MOHAMMED ABED, MAHMUD HAMS, SAID KHATIB, BASHAR TALEB, EYAD BABA, OMAR AL-QATTAA, YURI CORTEZ, MENAHEM KAHANA, AHMAD GHARABLI, JACK GUEZ, OREN ZIV

# CONTACTS

## PRODUCTION



**FACTSTORY/DOCS**

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## INTERNATIONAL SALES

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