

Original title: CHAHAR SHANBEH SOURI

English title: "Fireworks Wednesday"

French title: "La Fête du Feu"

CAST / LISTE ARTISTIQUE

Hedieh Tehrani..... Mojdeh
Taraneh Alidousti..... Rouhi
Hamid Farokh-Nejad..... Morteza
Pantea Bahram..... Simin
Matin Heydarnia..... Amir Ali
Houman Seyedi..... Abdolreza
Hassan Tasiri..... Simin's ex-husband
Sahar Dolatshahi..... Mojdeh's sister
Ebrahim Javadi..... glazier
Forough Ghojabeyglou..... caretaker's wife

CREW / LISTE TECHNIQUE

Director : Asghar Farhadi
Screenplay : Asghar Farhadi & Mani Haghighi
Director of Photography : Hossein Jafarian
Editing : Hayedeh Safiyari
Sound Recorder : Hassan Zahedi & Hossein Abousedgh
Sound Mixer : Massoud Behnam
Original Music : Peyman Yazdanian
Set Designer / Decors : Asghar Farhadi
Costume designer : Asghar Farhadi
Make-Up : Mehrdad Mirkiani
Producer : Jamal Sadatian
Production Company : Boshra Films

Shooting format : 35mm
Screening format : 35mm
Sound : : Stereo (SR)
Ratio : 1.1:85
Original language : Persian
Subtitled in : English & French
Number of reels : 6
Length : 2852, 72 meters

Fiction – colour - 104 mins – 2006 - Iran.

Synopsis:

In English

Tehran and preparations are being made to celebrate the traditional New Year on March 21 and festival of fire "Chahar shanbeh souri" that falls on the last Tuesday evening before the Iranian New Year. Firecrackers and bonfires light will light the night sky in a profusion of noise and colour.

New Year is also the first of spring, bringing with it the traditional spring cleaning in which Iranian homes are scoured from top to bottom.

A maid is employed for the day to clean a young couple's flat. The maid, Rouhi, is full of the Wide eyed innocence of youth and pleased to be soon getting married. However, despite the general festive gaiety, she discovers that the household of Morteza, his wife Mojdeh, and son Amir Ali, is in crisis.

Mojdeh accuses her husband of having an affair with a divorced woman living on the same landing, accusations that Morteza strongly rejects.

Rouhi thus becomes witness to a series of violent disputes in a modern Iranian couple that could possibly lead her to doubt her own future marital happiness.

En français

Ce mardi est « Chahar shanbeh souri », une fête du feu plurimillénaire. Dans quelques jours arrive le nouvel an iranien, qui a lieu le 21 Mars, premier jour du printemps. Au cours de la soirée de fête qui achève cette journée, les pétards et feux d'artifice fusent de toutes parts, et de nombreux brasiers illuminent la nuit dans la joie générale.

Comme le veut également la tradition, tous les Iraniens s'attellent énergiquement aux préparatifs de fin d'année, et notamment au nettoyage de fond en comble de leur maison.

Rouhi, une jeune aide ménagère qui vit un bonheur complet et va bientôt se marier, est employée pour la journée chez un jeune couple.

Alors que le sourire est sur les lèvres de toute la population, ambiance festive oblige, Rouhi découvre avec surprise, un foyer en pleine crise. Rien ne va plus dans cette petite famille composée de Morteza, de Mojdeh, femme au foyer, et de leur petit garçon, Amir Ali.

Très vite, Rouhi découvre la nature du problème. Mojdeh n'est pas à son aise car elle soupçonne fortement son mari d'entretenir depuis un certain temps des relations extraconjugales avec une autre femme, divorcée, qui habite sur le même palier qu'eux. Morteza nie farouchement les accusations de Mojdeh. C'est dans ce contexte que, malgré elle, Rouhi va être témoin d'affrontements violents au sein de cette famille moderne iranienne, et sera confrontée à certains aspects funestes de la vie conjugale qui pourraient peut être la concerner un jour dans son propre foyer.

Director's statement

In our complex and difficult, modern times, tragedy may be born of the conflict between two forms of good. This is contrary to classical tragedy may be born of the conflict between good and evil.

In the past, people naturally favoured the triumph of good over evil, but things are not so simple nowadays. We find it hard to take sides and it is no longer certain which side will triumph. We want neither the triumph nor the defeat of those involved.

"Fireworks Wednesday" is a film about human beings in conflict, a day in their existence fraught with tension. A day in the life of an Iranian family set against the explosive New Year's festival when things may get out of hand.

Commentaire du réalisateur :

De nos jours et en temps difficile et complexes, la tragédie naît du conflit entre les forces du bien et celle du....bien. C'est à l'opposé de la tragédie classique qui elle résultait du conflit entre les forces du bien et celle du mal. A l'époque, le publique aspirait naturellement au triomphe du bien, mais ce n'est plus le cas aujourd'hui. Le public est incapable de choisir son camp et ne sait plus qui doit sortir vainqueur de cette lutte. « Chahar shanbeh souri / Fireworks Wednesday » est un film sur le conflit des êtres humains. C'est une journée de leur existence pleine de tensions. Nous ne souhaitons la victoire ni la défaite d'aucun des nos protagonistes. Une journée dans la vie d'une famille iranienne, alors qu'une antique fête nationale bat son plein et se transforme peu à peu en défoulement extrême.

Biography:

In English

Asghar Farhadi was born in Isfahan, Iran in 1972. Whilst at school he became interested in writing, drama and the cinema, took courses at the Iranian Young Cinema Society and started his career as a filmmaker by making super 8mm and 16mm films.

He graduated with a Master's Degree in Film Direction from Tehran University in 1998. During his studies, he not only wrote and directed student plays, but also wrote plays for national radio and directed for television with such shows as the hit series *Tale of a City*. In 2001, Farhadi wrote the screenplay for Ebrahim Hatamikia's box-office and critical success *Low Heights*.

His directorial debut was with 2003's *Dancing in the Dust*. This film went on to participate in the Moscow Film Festival, where it won both the Best Leading Actor and Film Critics awards.

Farhadi made his second feature film, *Beautiful City*, in 2003 which won the Best feature film award at the Warsaw Film Festival 2004, the India International Film Festival and Moscow's Faces of Love Film Festival.

2006's *Chaharshanbeh Suri (Fireworks Wednesday)* is his third feature film.

En français

Asghar Farhadi est né en 1972 à Ispahan en Iran. Durant ses études scolaires il s'intéresse à l'écriture, au théâtre et au cinéma et suit des cours au centre de la formation de L'Institut du Jeune Cinéma iranien.

Il réalise ainsi des courts métrages en formats 8mm et 16mm.

Asghar Farhadi continue ses études à l'université de Tehran, faculté du Cinéma et du théâtre et obtient une maîtrise de metteur en scène en 1998.

Durant ses études il écrit divers scénarios et réalise également pour la télévision des œuvres à large audience, telles que « Conte Urbain »

En 2001, Farhadi écrit le scénario du long métrage « Ertefa-e past » (Low heights) pour Ebrahim Hatamikia, un film qui a été très favorablement accueilli en Iran par le public mais aussi par les critiques.

Farhadi débute sa première réalisation long métrage en 2002 avec « Raghss dar Ghoobar/ Danse dans la poussière »; qui a obtenu entre autres le prix de la critique et le prix du premier rôle masculin au Festival du film de Moscou en 2002.

Farhadi réalise en 2003 son deuxième long métrage « Shahr-e Ziba / Belle Ville » qui a obtenu beaucoup de succès dans de nombreux festivals internationaux.

« Chahar shanbeh souri » est son troisième long métrage.

Filmography:

Short Films

- 1988** : Janali : Fiction - 20 min - Iran.
1989 : Radio : Fiction - 15 min - Iran.
1990 : Donyaye divarha / *The World of Walls* / *Le monde des murs* : Fiction - 10 min - Iran.
1991 : Majerahaye Filmsaz/ *The adventures of Mr Filmmaker* / *Les aventures d'un metteur en scène* : Fiction - 18 min - Iran.
1992 : Cheshm-ha / *The Eyes* / *Les yeux* : Documentary - 15 min - Iran.
1998 : Sim / *The Wire* / *Le Fil* : Fiction - 20 min - Iran.

Features Films

- 2003** : Raghss dar ghoobar / *DANCING IN THE DUST* / *Danse dans la poussière* : Fiction - 35mm – Colour - 105 min - Iran.
2004 : Shahr-e Ziba / *BEAUTIFUL CITY* / *Belle Ville* : Fiction - 35mm – Colour – 102 min - Iran.
2006 : Chahr shanbeh souri / *Fireworks Wednesday*: Fiction – 35mm – colour – 104 min – Iran.

Festivals and Awards: For "*Dancing in the Dust*" and "*Beautiful City*"

Dancing in the Dust

- Fajr International Film Festival – Iran, 2003: **Best Film**
- Moscow International Film Festival - Russia 2003
 - **Best Actor (Faramarz Gharibian)**
 - **Special Prize of Russian Film Critics (Asghar Farhadi)**

- Iranian Cinema Ceremony - Iran, 2003
 - **Best actor (Faramarz Gharibian)**
 - **Best Script (Asghar Farhadi)**
 - **Best Sound Recorder (Hassan Zahedi)**
 - **Best Film (Iraj Taghipour)**

- Pousan International Film Festival – Iran, 2003 (Competition)
- AFI Cultural Center special screenings – USA, 2003
- Gene Siskel Film Center special screenings – USA, 2003
- Boston College special screenings – USA, 2003
- Hyderabad Film Festival – India, 2003 (Competition)
- Roshd Educational Film Festival –Iran, 2003 (Competition)

- Asia - Pacific Film Festival – Iran, 2003 (Competition)
 - **Best script (Asghar Farhadi)**
 - **Best Director (Asghar Farhadi)**

CHAHAR SHANBEH SOURI by **Asghar Farhadi**

- Best Actor (Faramarz Gharibian)
- Washington DC Film Society screenings – USA, 2003
- FabioFest Film Festival – Slovakia - 2004
- Annonay Festival Int'l du Premier Film – Annonay, France (competition)
 - Special Jury Prize (Asghar Farhadi)
- UCLA Persian Film Festival – USA, 2004
- Cantor Film Center – USA, 2004
- 16th Beaver Film Screenings – USA, 2004

Beautiful City

- Fajr International Film Festival – Iran, 2004 (Competition)
 - Best sound Recorder (Hassan Zahedi)
- Montreal International Film Festival –Canada, 2004 (Competition)
- Warsaw International Film Festival – Poland, 2004 (Competition)
 - Best Feature Film
- School of Chicago – USA, 2004
- Chemnitz International Film Festival – Germany, 2004 (Competition)
- Sao Paulo International Film Festival – Brazil, 2004 (New Filmmakers Competition)
- Cinema Tout Ecran – Geneva - Switzerland, 2004 (Non Competitive)
 - Winner of the Egli Prize
- Museum of Fine Arts – Boston – USA, 2004
- International Film Festival of India, 2004 (Competition)
 - Best Director (Asghar Faradi)
 - Best Actor (Faramarz Gharibian)
- Pune International Film Festival – India, 2005
- Bangkok International Film Festival – Thailand, 2005 (Competition)
- Tromso International Film Festival – Norway, 2005

Worldwide Sales & Distribution:

DreamLab Films

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06110 Le Cannet – France

Phone/fax: +33(0)4 93 38 75 61

Email : info@dreamlabfilms.com

www.dreamlabfilms.com

Fireworks Wednesday's SUCCESSES AND SELECTIONS "Chahar shanbeh souri"

Director : Asghar Farhadi
Producer : Jamal Sadatian
Production Company : Boshra Films
Fiction, 35mm, Colour, 104mins, 2006.

Original Language Persian, subtitled in English and French

International sales:
DreamLab Films
Phone/Fax : +33(0)4 93 387561
E-mail : info@dreamlabfilms.com
www.dreamlabfilms.com

1- Locarno International Film Festival - Switzerland "Official Competition"
August 2 – 12, 2006. www.pardo.ch

*** Junior Jury Award**

2- Festival des Films du Monde de Montréal – Canada. "Non competitive section"
August 24 – September 04, 2006. www ffm-montreal.org

3- 43rd Antalya International Film Festival (Golden Orange) – Turkey "Competition"
"Critic's Award" section. September 16 – 23, 2006. www.altinportakal.org.tr

4- 42nd Chicago International Film festival – USA "Official Competition"
October 05 – 19, 2006. www.chicagofilmfestival.com

*** Winner of THE GOLD HUGO for Best Feature Narrative**

5- FILMFEST Hamburg. – Germany. October 5 – 12, 2006. www.filmfesthamburg.de
"Non competitive Festival"

6- 33rd Flanders International Film Festival-Ghent – Belgium. October 10th to 21st,
2006. www.filmfestival.be "Non competitive section"

7- 50th London Film Festival – UK. 18 October - 2 November 2006. www.lff.org.uk
"Non competitive Festival"

8- The Museum of Fine Arts, Boston – USA November 10 to December 3, 2006.
www.mfa.org "Non competitive Festival"

9- 47th Thessaloniki International Film Festival– Greece "Independent days section"
"Competition". November 17 – 26, 2006. www.filmfestival.gr

10- 28^{ème} Festival 3 Continents de Nantes – France. Du 21 au 28 novembre 2006.
«Official Competition». www.3continents.com

*** Special Jury Prize for the Best Screenplay Award**

11- 37th International Film Festival of India (Goa). November 23 – December 03 2006,
"Non competitive section" www.mib.nic.in

12- 11th International Film Festival of Kerala - South India. December 8th - 15th
2006. «Official Competition». www.keralafilm.com

*** The Rajata Chakoram Award for the Best Director**

13- 20^{ème} Rencontres Cinéma de Manosques – France. Du 30 Janvier au 04 Février
2007. "Non competitive Festival". www.oelzele.net

14- 24th Film Festival “Cinema Novo” – Brugge, Belgium. From March 8th to 18th
2007. "Non competitive section". www.cinemanovo.be

15- 8th Las Palmas de Gran Canaria International Film Festival – Spain. From
March 16 to March 24 2007. «Official Competition». www.festivalcinelaspalmas.com

*** Winner of THE GOLD LADY HARIMAGUADA for Best Feature.**

16- Febiofest International Film Festival, Prague - Republique Tcheque. From
March 22 to 30 2007. "Non competitive Festival". www.febiofest.cz.

17- 18th NatFilm Festival – Copenhagen, Sweden. From March 23rd - April 1st 2007.
"Non competitive Festival". www.festivalcinelaspalmas.com

18- Tribeca Film Festival, New York – USA. April 25 - May 6, 2007.
<http://www.tribecafilmfestival.org>. "Non competitive section".

19- 8th Jeonju International Film Festival – Korea. April 26 – May 4, 2007. "Non
competitive section". <http://eng.jiff.or.kr/main/index.php>

20- Los Angeles Film Festival, Los Angeles – USA. June 21 through July 1, 2007.
"International Showcase section". www.lafilmfest.com

21- 29th Moscow International Film Festival – Russian. June 21st – 30th, 2007.
"Non competitive section". www.moscowfilmfestival.ru

22- 8^{ème} Festival International du Cinéma d'auteur de Rabat – Maroc. Du 21 – 30 Juin, 2007. www.festivalderabat.ma "competition"

*** Best Director Award**

23- Traverse City Film Festival – Michigan – USA. July 31 – August 5, 2007
<http://www.traversecityfilmfest.org/>

24- 23th Rencontres cinéma de Gindou – France. August 18th - 25th, 2007.
"Non competitive Festival". http://gindou.free.fr/2007.rencontres_presentation.htm

25- 10th Iranian Film Today, High Museum of Art, Atlanta – Georgia, USA. August 24 - September 29, 2007. "Non competitive Festival".
<http://www.high.org/experience/films/nowplaying.aspx>

26- Date Palm Film Festival – New Zealand. From August 30 – September 17, 2007
"Non competitive Festival". www.datepalm.co.nz

27- 17th Films from the South film festival, Oslo - Norway. From October 4 – 11, 2007
<http://www.filmfrasor.no/> "competition"

28- Third Eye 6th Asian Film Festival, Mumbai, India. From November 1 - 8, 2007
www.affmumbai.com "Non competitive section".

29- 13th Medfilm Festival, Rome – Italy. From November 8 to 18, 2007.
www.medfilmfestival.org "Non competitive section".

30- 20th Rencontres Cinématographiques de Cannes – France. Du 10 au 16 décembre 2007. <http://www.cannes-cinema.com/-Rencontres-Cinematographiques-de->

*** Prix du 20^{ème} anniversaire RRC**

31- 5th Muscat International Film Festival- Sultanet of Oman. From January 22 -29, 2008. "competition"

32- UNIVERSITE DE TOULOUSE « LE MIRAIL » – France. 5 mars 2008.
Intervenant : Philippe Ragel, maître de conférences en Lettres Modernes.

http://www.univ-tlse2.fr/1203689399817/0/fiche_actualite/&RH=

33- Ciné club de Genève / Suisse. March 17, 2008. Association ILLA

www.illa-association.org/

34- OFF CAMERA International Film Festival, Cracow – Poland. From October 2 - 5, 2008. www.offcamera.com.pl

35- CARTHAGE FILM FESTIVAL, Tunis – Tunisia. From October 25th to November 1st 2008. C/O NOMADIS IMAGES. www.jccarthage.org

36- Third edition of the Berlin Independent Filmfestival AROUND THE WORLD IN 14 FILMS – Berlin – Germany. From November 28 - December 6, 2008.
www.berlinbabylon14.net

Distributors:

USA & Canada: **Facets Multi-Media, Inc.**

<http://www.facets.org/asticat>

<http://www.facets.org/asticat?function=web&catname=facets&web=cinematheque&path=/archive/jan2008/fireworks>

<http://www.facets.org/asticat?function=web&catname=facets&web=cinematheque&path=>

France:

Les Films du Paradoxe

<http://www.filmsduparadoxe.com/>

<http://www.filmsduparadoxe.com/fetedufeucat.html>

TV :

- Maroc
 - Poland
-



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