



**IT'S ABOUT TO RAIN**  
STA PER PIOVERE      مطر وشيك

A Film by **HAIDER RASHID**



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Said Mahran. Born in Italy. Expelled.

A Film by **HAIDER RASHID**

Italy/Iraq/Kuwait/UAE/Drama/2013/93 Min/HD



## SYNOPSIS

'It's About to Rain' tells the story of Said, a confident and ambitious young man, born and raised in Italy from Algerian parents, who studies and works as a part-time baker. When the director of the factory where his father works commits suicide, the family is suddenly faced with the worrying reality of not being able to renew their residency visa as they have done for the past thirty years and receive a letter of expulsion.

Said's life takes a sudden dark turn: Italy, the country that he has always considered as his, now appears to be a rubber wall that pushes him to 'go home', to Algeria, a place he has never even visited. In the attempt to find a solution and bring attention to a problem that is more and more widespread in nowadays' society, Said embarks on a journey that takes him to lawyers, workers' unions and the press through the meanders of a retrograde legislative bureaucracy, the reconsideration of his identity and a deep dilemma: should he remain illegally in Italy or leave to Algeria with his father, helping him to build a new life in the country he has left thirty years ago?

## CAST

Lorenzo Baglioni  
Mohamed Hanifi  
Giulia Rupi  
Amir Ati  
Michael Alexanian  
Denny Bonicolini  
Francesco Grifoni  
Luca Campostrini  
Lorenzo Batacchi

Said Mahran  
Hamid Mahran  
Giulia  
Amir Mahran  
Luca  
Lawyer  
Giulio Greco  
Factory Director  
Lorenzo

## CREW

Writer, Director  
Producer  
Executive Producers  
  
Assistant Director  
Editor  
Music  
Director of Photography  
1st Assistant Camera  
Set Designers  
Sound Recordist  
Sound Design  
Make-up

Haider Rashid  
Haider Rashid  
Abdullah Boushahri  
Donald Ranvaud  
Daniele Bernabei  
Haider Rashid  
Tom Donald  
Alessio Valori, A.I.C.  
Amos Kahana  
Matteo Cecconi, Gilda Dolmetta  
Manuela Patti  
Giuseppe Pasquinelli, Adrian Shoomashan  
Elena Bucciarelli



Writer, Director, Producer

## **HAIDER RASHID**

Haider Rashid was born in 1985 in Florence, Italy from an Iraqi father and an Italian mother. Since an early age he has been involved in film production, first as an actor in a TV show about the discovery of Arabic heritage in southern Italy, and then turning to writing, directing, editing and camerawork with his short films 'Like Water' and 'Haphazardly' and with the short documentary 'Between Two Lands' about the second generation of Iraqi expatriates based in London.

'Tangled Up in Blue' was his first feature film and the first Iraqi-Italian co-production, which he wrote, produced, directed, shot and edited and continues his search into the lost homeland by telling the story of a second-generation Iraqi. The film was released theatrically in the UK and screened at over fifteen festivals around the world, garnering critical acclaim and winning the Second Prize for Best Film at the 2010 Gulf Film Festival and the Award for Best Film at the I've Seen Films International Festival in Milan, assigned by a Jury comprising actors Rutger Hauer and Miranda Richardson, and director Anton Corbijn.

'Silence: All Roads Lead to Music', a music documentary and his second feature length film, was hailed by Variety as a "superbly wrought" film that "masterfully conveys the magic of improvisation" and screened at several international film festivals including Dubai and Seattle. "It's About to Rain" is his third feature film.



Executive Producer

**DONALD K RANVAUD**

Don is an immensely experienced Anglo-Italian film producer whose track record stretches over almost four decades. From 1976-88, Don taught Film Studies and Comparative Literature in England. He founded the legendary film magazine *Framework* in 1975, which is still being published today. Among his many freelance assignments, he worked for MFB, *Sight and Sound*, *The Guardian*, *La Repubblica*, *Cahiers du Cinema* and *American Film*. He also authored books dissecting the rich heritage of Italian cinema and beyond.

Don co-directed a feature, *Visioni Private*, set in “the film festival to end all film festivals”. In 1989 Don co-founded the European *SCRIPT* Fund, reading nearly 5,000 submissions and supporting 420 projects around Europe. He completed his ‘Eurocracy’ period as Media Advisor to the Presidency of the Council of Ministers.

After embarking on production full-time, Don collaborated with prominent directors such as Atom Egoyan, Wim Wenders, Walter Salles, Pablo Trapero, Paul Leduc, Fernando Meirelles etc and broke new ground by going to hitherto overlooked countries like China in 1989-1993 (including *Life on a String* and *Farewell my Concubine*) and Brasil (including *Central do Brasil* - two Oscars nominations - *Madame Sata*, *Lavoura Arcaica*, *Cidade de Deus* - four Oscars nominations) as well as 40 more films in Latin America.

Most recently he was Executive Producer on *The Constant Gardener* by Fernando Meirelles in Kenya - starring Ralph Fiennes, Rachel Weisz (4 oscar nominations one win) and has developed a number of higher profiles films in the USA, where he lived from 1993 to 2001 and where he still has an office.

As President of Buena Onda Films (UK) since 2002 and sister companies Buena Onda International (Italy, 2008), Buena Onda Argentina (2010), Don has energetically advocated the need to empower filmmakers to find their true creative voices sustainably and cost-effectively. He is a tireless and ever-present ambassador for first time directors and has been advocating the complete overhaul of conventional structures in the film business as head of international of RAIN (Brasil) with the establishment of a digital cinema network, now becoming a reality with *THE FILM BALLOON* together with Abdullah Boushahri.



Executive Producer

## **ABDULLAH BOUSHAHRI**

Abdullah Boushahri is a Kuwaiti-born filmmaker and entrepreneur who first rose to prominence when his short documentary *Kuwaiti Champion* garnered critical acclaim as the first Kuwaiti *cinéma vérité*. After attaining a Bachelors degree in Film from Florida Atlantic University, he made his feature documentary debut, *Losing Ahmad*. It made its World Premiere at Dubai International Film Festival in 2006, won “Best Documentary in the Gulf” in 2007 and toured more than 20 international film festivals.

Driven by an aspiration to make masterpieces that merge artistic merit and global appeal, Abdullah established Beyond Dreams Productions in 2001, expanding to Kuwait in 2006. His unconventional business model was a hybrid of film production and advertising, which earned him an accolade as the British Council Entrepreneur of the Year. Teaming with MBC, the leading Arabic network, he made history by co-producing *The Circle* - MBC's first ever fiction film. His rising prominence saw him commissioned to produce the film and media content for Burj Khalifa, the world's tallest tower - which further propelled him to the top of the film industry.

In 2007 Abdullah and his professional partners established Synq Studios, a Miami-based post-production hub. This brought together an arsenal of creative, technical and digital artists with credits in numerous top-grossing Hollywood films like *Star Wars*, *Ice Age*, *The Mist*, *Underworld Evolution*, *Robots*, *Piranha 3D*, *Battle: Los Angeles* and *Underworld 4*.

Abdullah's most recent short films are *Heaven's Water* and *The Waves Will Carry Us*. He has served on the jury of Dubai International Film Festival, and collaborated with internationally renowned Iranian filmmaker Abbas Kiarostami for a master class at the Gulf Film Festival, to help channel back his vast expertise with aspiring filmmakers. Its *About To Rain* is his first European film as producer.



FOR SALES & DISTRIBUTION



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