



ADRIANA MATOSHI      JASON DE RIDDER

# T'PADASHTUN UNWANTED

WRITTEN & DIRECTED BY  
EDON RIZVANOLLI

1244 PRODUCTIONS presents a ASFALTFILMS production "T'PADASHTUN" supported financially by  
KOSOVA CINEMATOGRAPHY CENTER & made with the support of the NETHERLANDS FILM FUND



## **LOGLINE**

A lonely teenage boy, who lives in Amsterdam with his refugee mother from Kosovo, keeps getting into trouble while yearning for her acceptance. But the traumas caused by the war, which his mother initially hides away from him, turn his world upside down.

## **SYNOPSIS**

Unwanted is a drama set in present day Amsterdam that tells the story of ALBAN and his mother ZANA. Alban is a troublemaker and a misfit who often ends up in fights with other kids. But he is also a dreamer and spends a lot of his time alone on a rooftop of a building. Zana is a war refugee from Kosovo whose main worry is to bring food to the table. One day Alban ends up in a fight which gets out of hand. To keep him out of trouble, Zana arranges a job for Alban at a bicycle store. There, by chance he meets Ana, and starts a relationship with her. Soon after they find out that they share a common background, as Ana's father is a Serb from Kosovo. The fact that Albanians and Serbs were at war with each other does not impress them. After all they both feel Dutch. But when Zana finds out about it she reacts unpleasantly surprised and shocked. One day when Alban comes home he finds Zana crying. Her mum has died and although Zana is reluctant to go to the funeral, which Alban does not understand, they leave anyway.

In Kosovo, Zana mourns together with other women when her father, after discovering her presence, asks her to leave. Alban is confused and wants to know what's going on. Later during dinner Zana tells Alban that she is unwanted because she ran away with Alban's father which was against her father's will.

Back in Amsterdam, Alban and Ana are happy to be together again but Zana is still against their relationship and even threatens with leaving for another city. However she gets convinced by Sandra, her friend at the flower store, to "let the kids have fun". During a party at Ana's place Zana goes to pick up Alban and meet her parents. But when Zana greets Zoran at the door she notices a tattoo on his arm. Back at home Zana reveals to Alban that she and other girls have been raped by Serbian paramilitary forces who had the same tattoo. That is when she got pregnant with him. Alban is angry, shocked and confused. He leaves the house, provokes a fight, lets himself to be beaten up and sits on the rooftop alone.

## **DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT**

UNWANTED is a social drama, set in present day Amsterdam, which deals with the aftermath and the trauma caused by the 1999 war in Kosovo, as experienced from two different perspectives. It also addresses the issues of belonging and identity of the second generation of migrants living in Western Europe.

I left my home country Kosovo as a teenager. Since then I lived in several different countries and have experienced what it is like to be a foreigner. And also what it is like to turn into a stranger in your own country. I grew up in a state which was filled with hatred for "the others" who spoke a different language, "looked" differently and thought differently. And all of these experiences are now part of my personality and influence my every day life. They also spill over into the lives of the people around me; my family and friends. Living in various places for such a long period of time meant also a constant fight to reject identities which were forced on me, identities which, to me, felt fake. Moreover it was a continuous struggle to embrace values which I appreciated but had not yet been accustomed to. Most of all however, it was a struggle to accept and be accepted.

And acceptance is also the main theme in UNWANTED.

## **THE CAST & CREW**

ADRIANA MATOSHI (Zana) is one of the most versatile actresses of her generation from Kosovo. She was a well-established theatre actress, performing in Kosovo as well as abroad before moving into the medium of film. Her first memorable role was in the short film "KTHIMI" which won the Sundance Audience Award. This performance was followed by other roles among which also her performance in "BABAI" which won the best director in Karlovy Vary.

JASON DE RIDDER (Alban) is an up and coming young actor from the Netherlands. He is mainly known from various Dutch TV series such as "Penoza" "Van God Los", "Petticoat" etc.

EDON RIZVANOLLI (writer & director) born in Pristina (Kosovo), started his acting career in 1992 in Austria. In 1998, after having studied method acting for two years at the Lee Strasberg Theatre Institute in NYC, he directed his first short (experimental) film "Blown away", which was followed by "Shuffle - politics, bullshit and rock 'n roll" an award winning documentary about alternative music scene in Pristina. Since 2007 he lives in Amsterdam where he works as an actor, director and editor. "T'padashtun" (Unwanted) is his first long feature film.

Credits:

Adriana Matoshi  
Jason de Ridder  
Nikki Verkaar

Also starring:

Celia Nufaar &  
Hugo Koolschijn

1244 Productions  
ASFALTFILMS

Written & directed by:  
Edon Rizvanolli

Director of Photography:  
Danny Noordanus

Sound Design & Mix:  
Pellumb Ballata  
Ranko Paukovic

Editing:  
Edon Rizvanolli

Producer:  
Edon Rizvanolli

Associate Producer;  
Meriton Ahmeti

Co-producers:  
Annemiek van Gorp  
René Goossens

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