

After showing it in America ... the director of "Manara" reveals the scenes of filming the Lebanese film (photos)

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The film "Manara", directed by Lebanese director Zain Alexander, achieved positive reactions after its premiere in America, through his participation in the short film festival (New Film Makers) in Los Angeles, this December.

The events of the short Lebanese film in southern Lebanon revolve around “Ziyad,” the father who dies suddenly, leaving ?? A family consisting of his wife, “Alia,” and his two sons, Rami and Noura, are the focus of the neighbour's sleep.

While Alia is busy preparing a mourning solely for the sake of social appearance, Rami and Nora are experiencing the trauma of their father's separation. But in order to support each other, the two became more divided, and forced them to open up old problems.

Regarding the scenes of filming and the selection of the participating actors, "Zain" said in a press statement: "The events of the movie" Manara "were filmed in Tire in southern Lebanon. The filming continued for three days in the resort of Fanar, and as I was actors I wanted to play the role of" Ramy ", my friend and colleague Pascal Signori played Nora.

He continues: "As for a senior figure, I searched during the selection process for a person from my close family. My Aunt Hala Basma Safi El Din was the closest choice to the" Alia "character, as she looks like her.



He explains the reason for these choices to embody his dramatic characters, describing, "I tend to work with people who are familiar to me, so I wanted to work with her in this area, and see what she could do with a character who is very similar to her."

Regarding the most prominent difficulties they faced in filming, he says: “As happens in any project with a small budget, the material resources and the schedule were among the biggest difficulties that we faced, and we also dealt with an issue of this sensitivity, which requires extreme caution. Acting was not easy. "

In the same context, he explains that the presence of an amazing team is the reason behind overcoming many of these difficulties, describing: "I am deeply grateful for their great effort and investment of their emotions in this project."

The first screening of the movie "Beacon", which is written and dialogue written by Pascal Cénari in America, was organized by the "Oscar" Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences, the Oscar.

"Alexander" comments on that, expressing his great happiness with this show, describing: "It is a wonderful opportunity to share the film with the American audience, and I am happy that this opportunity came through the Newfilmmakers Foundation in Los Angeles, especially with the participation of the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences" Oscar "in organizing The event ... which will raise the status of the film. "

As for the experience of electronic screening through the festival’s online website in light of the precautionary measures for Corona, he indicates that he would have liked to have it shown in cinemas as well, saying: “Honestly, I miss interaction with other talents in film festivals, I miss sitting in theaters, I miss the material experience. For film festivals, but I would like to express my admiration and respect for all festivals that decided to resort to an electronic solution to keep pace with the current conditions. "

On the other hand, the film "Manara" won several cinematic awards, in addition to its presentation at the 76th session of the prestigious Venice Film Festival, and about the most prominent comments that Zain Alexander received after his world tour, he says: " It was a great experience to share the film with an audience of Various backgrounds several times, and the Italian audience, in particular, reacted very well to the film. To this day, I receive messages from people telling me how much they saw their families reflected in this family, and how familiar and real they are to them in their homes. I am grateful that the film is so touching. He receives this reception from the public regardless of where they are from. "

Regarding his next plan towards "Manara" and the trade-off between presenting it to the public through digital platforms or participating in other film festivals, he says: "I think that" Manara "will continue his tour of various festivals for another 6 months, after which he will be ready to be shown on digital platforms.

It should be noted that the Lebanese short film "Manara" is produced by ZMA Entertainment, and MAD Solutions distributes the film in the Arab world.

