

زمزمه های خانه

WHISPERS OF HOME



NEWFILMMAKERS LA

A group of people, including women and men, are gathered in a traditional Iranian home. They are dressed in traditional clothing, and the room features ornate decor, including a large patterned rug, a chandelier, and a large mirror. The atmosphere appears to be one of a social gathering or a family event.

## LOGLINE

A mother and daughter struggle to live in harmony as they both want different things and have different definitions of freedom. This story addresses the migration and displacement of Iranian women.

# *Whispers of Home*

زمره های خانه

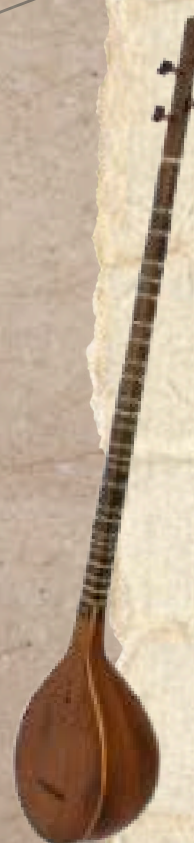
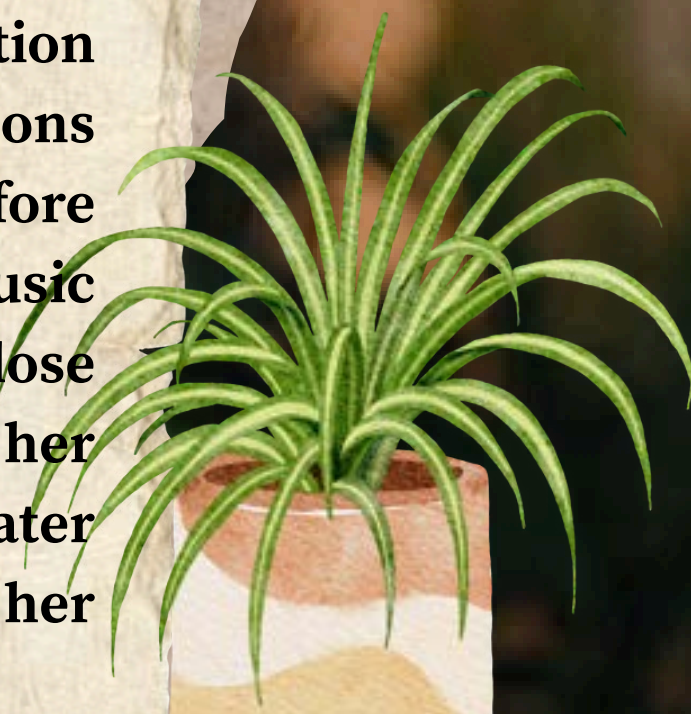
Sixteen-year-old Niousha treasures her Iranian home and heritage, but her relationship with her modern-minded mother, Roya, becomes even more strained after her father's death. When Niousha discovers they are preparing to relocate to Germany, the once-vibrant Tehran home slowly empties, reflecting the growing distance between them. In Frankfurt, they must navigate the challenges of displacement and see if they can rebuild their bond far from the land they once called home.





# NIOUSHA

Niousha, 16, has a deep love for her Tehran home, music, and her late father's greenhouse. Her connection to Persian culture and traditions blossomed through her father before he passed, and now, Persian music and nature are her way of feeling close to him. She often clashes with her mother and finds greater understanding and comfort from her grandmother.







**ROYA**



Roya, 40, is not your typical Iranian mother. She embraces a modern, non-traditional lifestyle and doesn't take life too seriously. While she loves her daughter deeply, her carefree attitude often makes it difficult for others to see the full extent of her affection.





## ZAHRA

Zahra, 71, now lives with her daughter Roya and granddaughter Niousha after the loss of Mehran. She acts as a mediator, easing the tensions between the two and supporting Niousha's passion for music. At the same time, Zahra tries to help Niousha understand her mother's actions, even when they cause pain.

Mehran, 44, was deeply passionate about Persian traditions, music, and teaching Niousha everything he loved, especially his greenhouse and the cultural significance of music. He cherished his family in Iran and hoped for Niousha's success there, in contrast to Roya's desire to move the family to Europe for a better future.

## MEHRAN







## *Directors Statement*

Whispers of Home is a deeply personal story inspired by shared experiences of displacement and healing. Having left Iran at age 10, I saw my parents rebuild their lives from scratch, an emotionally challenging journey that taught me the strength and sacrifice behind starting anew. This film reflects on these struggles, exploring how families like mine navigate the pain of leaving their homeland while rediscovering a sense of home elsewhere. It's a tribute to all the Nioushas and Royas in the world, finding their place far from their roots.





## SAHAR WRITER&DIRECTOR

**Sahar Ghorishi** is a British-Iranian multidisciplinary artist and filmmaker based in Los Angeles. She holds a BA in Fine Arts from Goldsmiths, University of London, and an MFA in Film Production with a focus on directing. She works across film, documentary, illustration, and photography, using each medium to explore womanhood, identity, and diasporic memory. Her illustration practice blends fine art and storytelling, centering women and cultural narratives. She has created film illustrations for the Locarno Film Festival, and her design work has been featured in publications such as The Guardian and Harper's Magazine. As a filmmaker, Sahar is the founder of Journey of/to Dawn, a creative platform dedicated to narrative films, documentaries, and visual series that examine Middle Eastern beauty, identity, and truth. Her documentary The Fall of the Standard of Beauty: The Iranian Nose delves into beauty politics and cultural perception. Her recent short film A Breathless Flower centers on the Woman, Life, Freedom movement in Iran, while Whispers of Home explores displacement and the meaning of home. Sahar's work is known for challenging Western beauty standards and amplifying underrepresented voices through a poetic, visually driven lens. She continues to dedicate her art to her heritage, using storytelling as both cultural preservation and resistance.





## ISIOMA- PRODUCER

**Isioma Oramah** is a Nigerian American producer. She has recently graduated from Chapman University having produced seven short films and a music video. Her creative vision is deeply informed by her diverse cultural background, including her upbringing in Egypt. Isioma is passionate about bringing stories from underrepresented communities to the forefront, often employing humor as a universally accessible tool for connection. Looking ahead, she is committed to collaborating with African storytellers on the continent and across the diaspora to develop and share authentic narratives.





## BINGCHENG - DP

**Bingcheng Pan** is a Los Angeles-based cinematographer and recent MFA graduate from Chapman University's Dodge College of Film and Media Arts. With a background in Chinese watercolor painting, graphic design, and still photography, he crafts visually expressive and emotionally grounded work across narrative, commercial, and documentary projects. As a minority filmmaker, Bing is dedicated to telling authentic stories that highlight underrepresented perspectives with sincerity and depth.

**Luna Naseh** is a production designer and illustrator from Iran, with a background in industrial design and MFAs in both fields. At Dodge College, she designed and built sets ranging from an 18th-century tavern to a retrofuturistic motel, exploring storytelling through space, texture, and detail. Her path into film grew out of her love for storytelling and years of design work, including international exhibitions and collaborations with brands like UNICEF and the Tehran Municipality.



## LUNA - PD







## JADE - EDITOR

Huiyu holds a double major in Design and Cinema & Digital Media from the University of California, Davis, and earned a Master's degree in Film Editing at Chapman University's Dodge College of Film and Media Arts. She is a multi-award-winning film editor with a focus on stories that amplify underrepresented voices and explore the complexities of modern identity. With a background in both creative storytelling and technical editing, Huiyu brings sensitivity and precision to every project. Their work often highlights themes of family, resilience, and the challenges women face in today's world.



Chaewon Suh grew up in South Korea and studied Film, TV, and Multimedia at Sungkyunkwan University in Seoul. There, she gained hands-on experience in directing, editing, cinematography, and producing. During her time at university, she also worked as an assistant director for K-pop live broadcasts, further developing her on-set skills.

After graduating, Chaewon officially entered the film industry by joining as AD in Korean Academy of Film Arts (KAFA) feature films, Disney+ series, and other professional productions.

In 2022, she moved to Los Angeles to pursue an MFA in Directing at Chapman University, where she directed three short films and worked as an assistant director on numerous narrative projects.

## CHAEWON - 1<sup>ST</sup> AD







SOUND MIXER  
HAOQIAN (ERIC) HE



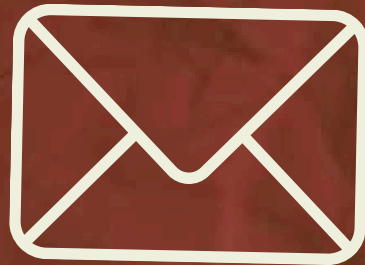
COMPOSER  
HADI RAHMANI



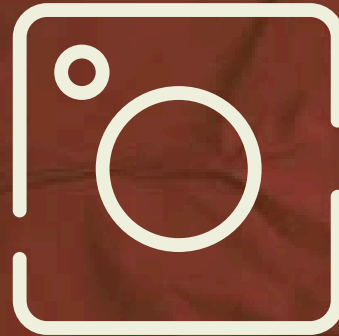
SOUND EDITOR  
OLIVER BOON



## CONTACT US:



journeyoftodawn@gmail.com  
sahar.ghorishi.kh@gmail.com



@journeyoftodawn / @sahar\_ghorishi.x



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