

SHADY EL-HAMUS – BIOGRAPHY

Shady El-Hamus (1988) is an award winning Dutch director who uniquely graduated from both the Netherlands Film Academy and the Nation Film and Television School in London. Leading Dutch newspaper Volkskrant recognized him as one of three Directing Talents to Watch in 2018.

Shady is the first student in the history of the Netherlands Film Academy who has been allowed to simultaneously graduate in two specializations: directing and screenwriting. He wrote Sam de Jong's award winning graduation film MAGNESIUM (2012) and directed his own film ABOUT SONS (2012), starring Marwan Kenzari (ALADDIN, MURDER ON THE ORIENT EXPRESS) in the lead role.

MAGNESIUM was awarded Best Student Film at the 2012 Netherlands Film Festival, while Shady received the Dioraphte Award for Most Outstanding Graduation Student of the Year. MAGNESIUM has been selected for many international film festivals, including Sundance Film Festival.

That same year, Shady was accepted by the prestigious MA Directing Fiction Course at the National Film and Television School in London, UK. His 2015 graduation film FAIRUZ, starring acclaimed Palestinian actor Mohammad Bakri, premiered at the 2015 Dubai International Film Festival as part of the Main Competition.

Upon returning to the Netherlands, he directed the TV film MALIK (2017) and the short film BEING THERE (2017), starring 2018 Berlinale Shooting Star Jonas Smulders. BEING THERE was funded by the Dutch Film Fund and national broadcaster NTR, and is currently awaiting its international premiere. That same year, Shady directed another short, NIGHTSHADE (2017), which has been selected as the Dutch submission for the Academy Awards 2018.

In the summer of 2018, Shady will be directing his first feature film DE LIBI, for which he also wrote the script.