

SHADY EL-HAMUS – BIOGRAPHY

Shady El-Hamus is an award winning Dutch director and screenwriter. In 2012 he graduated from the Netherlands Film Academy as the first student in the history of this school to simultaneously graduate in two specializations: directing and writing. Dutch newspaper Volkskrant named him one of three directing talents of 2018. For his first feature film ABOUT THAT LIFE (o/t DE LIBI, 2019) he won Best Screenplay at the Netherlands Film Festival 2019.

He wrote Sam de Jong's award winning graduation film MAGNESIUM and directed his own film ABOUT SONS, starring Marwan Kenzari (ALADDIN, MURDER ON THE ORIENT EXPRESS) in the lead role. At the 2012 Netherlands Film Festival, MAGNESIUM was awarded Best Student Film, and Shady received the Dioraphte Award for Most Outstanding Graduation Student of the Year. MAGNESIUM was selected for many international film festivals, including the Sundance Film Festival.

After graduating from the Netherlands Film Festival, Shady was accepted by the prestigious MA Directing Fiction Course at the National Film and Television School in the United Kingdom. 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. His most recent short film NIGHTSHADE is the Dutch submission for the Academy Awards 2018, and is selected for the competition of Clermond-Ferrand International Short Film Festival, the biggest international film festival dedicated to short films.

Shady directed and co-wrote his first feature film, ABOUT THAT LIFE, about three friends being driven apart by the looming end of high school life, only to learn their friendship does not depend on their chosen paths. The film was released in June 2019 and came out to rave reviews.