

GRAB AND RUN



A FILM BY

ROSER CORELLA

85 mins / Color / 2017 / Kazakh, English Subtitles / Germany, Spain



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FESTIVALS AND AWARDS

Best International Documentary – Los Angeles Documentary Film Festival (DocLA)

Best film "A Different Tomorrow" – Reykjavik Film Festival

Best International Film Award – Festival of Ethnological Film (Belgrade)

Saratov Region Governor's Award "Harmony Saratov" – Saratovskie Stradania Doc Film festival

Critics Award for Best Film – Festival de Cine de Madrid FCM-PNR

Best film on Gender Equality – Cine Invisible "Film Sozialak"

Special Mention at MARFICI – Festival de Cine Independiente del Mar de Plata

Special Mention Feature Documentary – Evolution Film Festival

Best Documentary film on Women's Rights "Biznaga Award" – Festival de Málaga

Best Ethnographic Film Award – Espiello International Film Festival



SYNOPSIS

After the Kyrgyzstan Independence in 1991, the ancient practice of Ala-Kachuu (“grab and run”) returned. Some women escape the men that kidnap them, but many remain married because of tradition and the fear of scandal.

DIRECTORS’ STATEMENT

Culture is an organic whole where each element is distinguished by the role it plays within the system. Each ritual, each custom, has its own dynamic. They can appear, transform, or disappear when it ceases to make sense. These processes, which develop slowly, are linked to the needs of society, symbolic values and perceptions about what is allowed to be and what is not. Today in Kyrgyzstan the idea that kidnapping marriages are a tradition that reaffirms cultural identity is echoed throughout the country.

My first trip to Kyrgyzstan in 2012 was to attend the Human Rights Festival in Bishkek as an invitee presenting one of my films. During my short stay I witnessed "Grab and Run," the phenomenon of marriage by kidnapping. The open debate among the Kyrgyz society is to consider if the "social" practice a crime or a tradition and whether to acknowledge that this accepted practice affects the rights and freedom of women. I knew this story had to be told.

Taking the dichotomies of tradition and modernity, of legend and reality, “Grab and Run” aims to portray the role of women in the Kyrgyz society and to make space to reflect on the concept of culture as an organic whole with an entity of its own which allows one group to dominate over another.

Roser Corella



DIRECTOR BIOGRAPHY

Roser Corella (Barcelona, 1978) is an independent filmmaker, currently based in Berlin. Roser began her career as video-journalist for Catalan TV, but her interest on human stories on global issues moved her to start produce and develop her personal vision in the medium of documentaries. Her work have been shown worldwide, winning awards such as POYI (Picture of the Year International, U.S.) and the CANAL+ France Award at the Women's Film Festival of Créteil. Her fascination with the documentary genre has led her to travel the world in. To witness, challenge, raise critical questions and search for stories that deserve to be told about contemporary societies.



PRODUCTION CREDITS

Director: Roser Corella

Produced by: Moving Mountains Films

Associate Producers: Poyen Chang, Jean Guillou, Carles Carabí

Director Photography: Roser Corella

Sound: Marta Millet, Alejandro Parody

Editors: Roser Corella, Ariadna Ribas

Director's Assistant: Milan Bath

Music composer: Paul Frick

Local producers: Jaliko Ibraev, Mahabat Toktomusheva

Colorist: Aline Biz, Moonlight Barcelona