

London Film Festival 2005  
Film on the square

from the director of KANDAHAR



a film by Mohsen Makhmalbaf

# sex & philosophy

written, edited and directed by Mohsen Makhmalbaf • assistant directors: Maryam Moshkini, Kaveh Masoumi, Alireza Moshkini • dp: Ebrahim Ghajouri  
cast: Dahn Sazvar, Marjan Ghalibi, Farzaneh Baghizadeh, Tahmineh Ebrahimi, Mahdi Afshari, Ali Akbar Abdolkarim  
music: Farukh Fatahi • mix: Hossein Mafizai • music: Nabil Zaidipour, Dahn Sazvar • still photographer: Hana Makhmalbaf • production manager: Behnam Ahmadi  
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**\* PRESS KIT \***

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# **SEX AND PHILOSOPHY**

A drama by  
**MOHSEN MAKHMALBAF**

With  
**Dalir Nazarov**  
**Mariam Gaibova**  
**Farzova Beknazarova**  
**Tahmineh Ebrahiova**  
**Malohat Abdullo**  
**Ali Akbar Abdulloev**

## **Official Screenings:**

**Sunday 23 October - 20h45- ODEON WEST END - Screen 2**  
**Monday 24<sup>th</sup> October - 15h00- ODEON WEST END - Screen 1**

The informations below and some pictures in high resolution to download are available in our website at [www.wildbunch.biz](http://www.wildbunch.biz) and [www.makhmalbaf.com](http://www.makhmalbaf.com)

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### **INTERNATIONAL SALES**

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## **SEX AND PHILOSOPHY**

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## **SYNOPSIS**

A 40 year old man who has celebrated his birthday alone by himself invites his four lovers to a dance class that he teaches in order to search for the roots of his own loneliness and by reminiscing the memories of how each of his love affairs were evolved and diminished, he realizes that the more the contemporary world has become sexually oriented the farther it has moved away from love..

## **DIRECTORS VIEW**

These four women in fact represent one woman to me in four different phases of the evolution of the meaning of love in a feminine life experience: "Period of romantic innocence" "Period of love revenges" "Period of indulging in sex and forgetting love" and "Period of melancholic maturity and recreation of love" The man however, does not see the different phases of a woman's maturity in every one of these women. In each woman he seeks love but finds loneliness. He does not see his multiple love affairs as reasons for a world satiated with love. He shouts that the contemporary world is incapable of creating absolute love such as the case of Romeo and Juliet. He regards love as every phenomenon resulting from its own circumstances and therefore, regards everything whose birth depends on circumstances as mortal and ephemeral. He feels that there is no love on earth. Only romantic circumstances mislead us to illusion. On the other hand, "Love" and "Time of Love" are a cinematic duet to me. These two films complement each other without repeating one another and interestingly, both speak of love and relativity. Both have been made outside of Iran. ("Time of Love" was made in Turkey and "Love" was made in Tajikistan) and they are both banned from showing in the Iran.

## **CHINGIZ AYTMATOV'S VIEW**

Today's romantic movies have devalued the concept of love in kissing and hugging. Makhmalbaf's "Love", however, is not a sexy film. This film is quite philosophical turning love back to its essential value. "Love" is a modern film that persuades the viewer to think again about the meaning of love. I personally would like to see this film again and have a copy at home to review again and it would be so good that not only the viewers but also artists would see this film and learn from its contents and style. Another interesting point is the Makhmalbaf family as a unique family in world cinema. I have come across families who have all been brilliant in theatre or music but I have never personally encountered such a phenomenon in cinema where all members of one family have become so outstanding in the international cinema and who have created magnificent works.

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## **FESTIVALS**

- Montreal International Film Festival, Canada, 2005
- Eurasia International Film Festival, Kazakhstan, 2005
- Pusan International Film Festival, South Korea, 2005
- Tokyo Filmex International Film Festival, Japan, 2005
- London International Film Festival, England, 2005
- Independant Asian International Film Festival, 2005
- Rio de janeiro International Film Festival, 2005

Sex and Philosophy will be also represent Tadjikistan for the foreign language film Academy Award.

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**CAST**

DALER NAZAROV  
MARIAM GAIBOVA  
FARZANA BEKNAZAROVA  
TAHMINEH EBRAHIMOVA  
MALOHAT ABDULLOEVA  
ALI AKBAR ABDULLOEV

**CREW**

Writer, Director & Editor..... MOHSEN MAKHMALBAF  
Director of photography..... EBRAHIM GHAFOURI  
Assistant's Director..... MARZIEH MESHKINI – KAVEH MOEENFAR  
Camera Assistants .....REZA SHEIKHI – MEHDI AMIRI

Set Designer ..... AKBAR MESHKINI  
Sound..... FARROKH FADAEI  
Sound Assistant ..... FARID PIRAYESH

Editor..... MOHSEN MAKHMALBAF  
Music..... NAHID ZEINALPUR - DALER NAZAROV – VANESA MAI  
Mix ..... HOSSEIN MAHDAVI

Producer .....MAKHMALBAF FILM HOUSE (TAJIKISTAN) - WILD BUNCH (FRANCE)  
Executive Manager..... MOHAMMAD AHMADI

Production date ..... 2005  
Country ..... TAJIKISTAN  
Running time ..... 102 minutes