

Memento Films presents



SÉLECTION OFFICIELLE
COMPÉTITION
FESTIVAL DE CANNES

THE WILD PEAR TREE

A film by Nuri Bilge Ceylan



188' / Turkey / France / Germany / Bulgaria / 4K – Scope – 5.1

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SYNOPSIS :

Sinan is passionate about literature and has always wanted to be a writer. Returning to the village where he was born, he pours his heart and soul into scraping together the money he needs to be published, but his father's debts catch up with him.

DIRECTOR'S NOTE :

« To make contact with other entities, every person has to reach out of their sheltered cave and take a certain amount of risk. If one reaches out too much and goes too far, one may lose their own orientation, their own identity. And if one fears this too much, one will start refusing to reach out, restrain themselves and retreat, in turn suspending their own growth and development. Especially if one feels that one is marked by a difference that is essential for oneself but is unlikely to be affirmed in the social scheme, their volition will inevitably be damaged from a moral standpoint. The person will have a hard time understanding the contradictions brought about by their constantly and inevitably alienated life, starting to falter between the insufficiency of putting these contradictions into creative outlets, and the impossibility of denying them.

This film attempts to tell the story of a young man who senses with a feeling of guilt that he is different in a way that he cannot come to accept, that he is being dragged towards a destiny that he cannot embrace, as well as the rich mosaic of people surrounding him, without favoring or being unfair to anybody. As the saying goes, "what a father keeps hidden is revealed in the son". One cannot help but inherit certain traits from one's father: weaknesses, habits, tics, among other things. The film tells the story of a boy being inevitably dragged into the same destiny as his father, in a plot loaded with painful experiences. »

Nuri Bilge Ceylan

Nuri Bilge Ceylan – BIOGRAPHY :

Nuri Bilge Ceylan was born in Istanbul on January 26th, 1959. In 1976, he began studying chemical engineering at Istanbul Technical University, in a context of strong student unrest, boycotts and political polarization.

In 1978, he switched courses to Electrical Engineering at Boğaziçi University. There, he developed a strong interest in image, entering the photography club at the university. This is also where he fed his taste for visual arts and classical music, by means of the vast resources of the faculty librarians. He also began to take film classes and attend screenings at the Film Society, which reinforced his love of cinema, born years earlier in the dark rooms of the Istanbul Cinematheque.

After his 1985 Graduation, he traveled to London and Kathmandu, which allowed him to take the opportunity to reflect upon his future. He returned to Turkey for his 18 months military service and at that moment decided to dedicate his life to cinema.

Thereafter, he studied film at the University Mimar Sinan, and worked as a professional photographer to make a living. After 2 years, he decided to abandon his studies to practice. He started with acting, in a short film directed by his friend Mehmet Eryilmaz, while helping with the technical production process.

In late 1993, he began shooting his first short film, KOZA. The film was screened at Cannes in May 1995 and became the first Turkish short film to be selected for competition.

Three full-length feature films followed - the 'provincial trilogy' ; KASABA (1997), CLOUDS OF MAY (1999) and UZAK (2002).

In all of these films, Ceylan took on just about every technical role himself: the cinematography, sound design, production, editing, writing and direction...

UZAK won the Grand Prix and Best Actor (for the two main actors) in Cannes in 2003, making Ceylan an internationally recognized director. Continuing his tour of festivals after Cannes, UZAK won no less than 47 awards, including 23 international prizes, and thus became the most awarded film in the history of Turkish cinema.

His subsequent films were all awarded at Cannes : CLIMATES won the FIPRESCI Prize in 2006, THREE MONKEYS won Best Director in 2008 and ONCE UPON A TIME IN ANATOLIA won the Grand Prix in 2011.

In 2014, his seventh feature film WINTER SLEEP won the Palme d'Or as well as the FIPRESCI prize.

CAST :

Aydin Doęu DEMİRKOL

Sinan

Murat CEMCİR

Idris

Bennu YILDIRIMLAR

Asuman

Hazar ERGÜÇLÜ

Hatice

Serkan KESKİN

Süleyman

Tamer LEVENT

Grandfather Recep

Akin AKSU

Imam Veysel

Öner ERKAN

Imam Nazmi

Ahmet RIFAT ŞUNGAR

Riza

Kubilay TUNÇER

Ilhami

Kadir ÇERMİK

Mayor Adnan

Özay FECHT

Grandmother Hayriye

Ercüment BALAKOĞLU

Grandfather Ramazan

Asena KESKİNCİ

Yasemin

CREW :

Director	Nuri BILGE CEYLAN
Screenplay	Akın AKSU, Ebru CEYLAN, Nuri BILGE CEYLAN
Photography	Gökhan TIRYAKI
Sound	Andreas MÜCKE NIESYTKA, Thomas ROBERT, Thomas GAUDER
Editing	Nuri BILGE CEYLAN
Assistant director	Yıldız ASANBOGA
Set design	Meral AKTAN
Costumes	Selcen DEMET KADIZADE
Casting	Erkut EMRE SUNGUR
Make-up	Mojca GOROGRANC PETRUSHEVSKA
Hair-design	Emre ÖLMEZ
Production director	Ahmet DEMIRCAN
Producer	Zeynep ÖZBATUR ATAKAN
Co-producers	Alexandre MALLET-GUY, Fabian GASMIYA, Stefan KITANOV Labina MITEVSKA, Mirsad PURIVATRA, Mirsad PURIVATRA Jon MANKELL, Anthony MUIR, Thomas ESKILSSON
Produced by	Zeyno Film, Memento Films Production, Detail Film, RFF International Sisters and Brother Mitevski, 2006 Produkcija Sarajevo, Film i Vast Chimney Pot
In coproduction with	ARTE France Cinéma, Imaj, Türkiye Radyo Televizyon Kurumu (TRT) Doha Film Institute, Nu-Look Yapım, Kale Grubu
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In association with	ARTE France
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