

Ehab Assal

Yellow Dawn Productions

Nazareth, Israel

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Skills

- Director of photography
- Producer
- Production manager
- Camera operator
- Focus puller

Employment

My first job on a film set? Still photographer. But then the focus puller had to leave suddenly. He showed me how to take apart the camera, clean it, load the mags, how to measure for and set the focus ring and then he was gone. Sink or swim, those were the options. That led me from focus pulling to camera operating, and on to director of photography. In the process, I established my own production company which delivered international co-productions.

Director of photography (8 credits)

Philosopher René Descartes once said, "Cognito, ergo sum" (I think therefore I am). I believe, I feel, therefore I am. Pain, anger, despair, joy, love, inner peace: filmmaking at its best leads us to our innermost feelings. In the process we are set free to imagine, using cinematography to convert these feelings into images to tell the story. As a cinematographer, I feel that the story must touch my innermost being if I'm going to have something to share with others.

Huda's Salon. Director Hani Abu-Assad.	2021
The Idol. Director Hani Abu-Assad. Awards 2 wins and 5 nominations.	2015
Personal Matters (short). Director Maha Haj.	2014
Omar , Director Hani Abu Assad, director. Awards 12 wins and 25 nominations, including an Oscar nomination (Best Foreign Language Film), a Cannes win (Un Certain Regard- Special Jury Prize), and winner of the Silver Frog award at Camerimage International Film Festival, main competition- cinematography.	2013
Elvis Of Nazareth , Director Rany Massalha	2011
Reflection Series. Director Bill Curtis. Awards Winner Gold Crown Award for Best Series, Silver Crown Award for Best Documentary, The Freddie Award from International Health and Medical Media.	2007-2009
Oranges (Burtugal) (short). Director Mah Haj.	2009
Stories on Human Rights. Directors Marina Abramovic, Hany Abu-Assad, and Armagan Ballantyne.	2008

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- Director of photography
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Camera (25 credits). See attached for complete filmography.

During my first 17 years in filmmaking, the productions I worked on won 107 awards and received 159 nominations, including Oscars and Cannes awards. I had the privilege of observing and learning from some of the greats in filmmaking, such as Dante Spinotti, Vilmos Zsigmond, Michael Mann, Elia Suleiman, Hany Abu-Assad, Al Pacino, Antonio Banderas, Ellen Burstyn, and Ali Suleiman.

Within minutes of my first encounter with the camera, I knew this is where I wanted to spend the rest of my life. During those years, I learned how to read a script, visualizing, and preparing how to tell the story. This shaped what camera movement, lens, aperture, filters, and lights to use and to what effect—no detail was insignificant. My goal? To become a director of photography.

The Time That Remains. (Camera operator/line producer) Director Elia Suleiman. Awards 5 wins and 7 nominations	2009
Paradise Now. (Assistant camera/focus puller) Director Hany Abu-Assad. Awards , Nominated for an Oscar, Best Foreign Language Film of the Year; 13 wins and 17 nominations.	2005
Jellyfish. (First assistant camera) Directors Shira Geffen Etgar Keret. Awards 5 wins and 14 nominations.	2007
Late Marriage. (Assistant camera) Director Dover Koshashvili. Awards 18 wins and 9 nominations.	2001
The Body. (Focus puller) Director Jonas McCord. Awards one nomination.	2001
The Insider. (Focus puller, Israel) Director Michael Mann. Awards Nominated for 7 Oscars, 23 wins and 58 nominations	1999

During my first 17 years in filmmaking, the productions I worked on won 107 awards, and received 159 nominations. These productions maintained high standards—the wins and nominations included Oscars and Cannes awards. I had the privilege of observing and learning from some of the industry's greats such as Dante Spinotti, Vilmos Zsigmond, Michael Mann, Elia Suleiman, Hany Abu-Assad, Al Pacino, Antonio Banderas, Ellen Burstyn, and Ali Suleiman.

My goal during those years was to become a director of photography. b

Director of Photography (9 credits)

1.	Huda's Salon. Director Hani Abu-Assad	2021
2.	The Idol. Director Hani Abu-Assad. Awards 2 wins and 5 nominations	2015
3.	Personal Matters (short). Director Maha Haj	2014
4.	Omar. Director Hani Abu Assad. Awards 12 wins and 25 nominations, including an Oscar nomination (Best Foreign Language Film), a Cannes win (Un Certain Regard- Special Jury Prize), and winner of the Silver Frog award at Camerimage International Film Festival, main competition-cinematography.	2013
5.	Elvis Of Nazareth. Director Rany Massalha	2011
6.	First Lesson. Director Areen Aumary. Jerusalem and Paris	2010
7.	Reflection Series. Director Bill Curtis. Awards winner of multiple awards including Gold Crown Award for Best Series, Silver Crown Award for Best Documentary, The Freddie Award from International Health and Medical Media.	2007-2009
8.	Oranges (Burtugal) (short). Director Maha Haj	2009
9.	Stories on Human Rights. Directors Marina Abramovic, Hany Abu-Assad, Armagan Ballantyne	2008

Producer (3 credits)

1.	Personal Affairs. (Executive producer/co-producer) Director Maha Haj Awards 3 wins and 4 nominations, First prize at the Haifa Film Festival.	2016
2.	Archipel (short). (Co-producer) Director Giacomo Abbruzzese Awards 2 wins	2010
3.	Oranges (Burtugal) (short). (Producer) Director Maja Haj 2009	2009

Production manager (two credits)

1.	Amazing Love. (Unit production manager) Director Kevin Downes Awards 1 nomination	2012
2.	The Time That Remains. (Production manager). Director Elia Suleiman Awards 3 wins and 4 nominations, including 2 at the Cannes Film Festival	2009

Camera (25 credits)

1.	The Time That Remains. (Camera operator/line producer) Director Elia Suleiman. Awards 5 wins and 7 nominations	2009
2.	Jellyfish. (First assistant camera) Directors Shira Geffen Etgar Keret. Awards 5 wins and 14 nominations	2007
3.	To Each His Own Cinema. (First assistant camera) Directors: Theodoros Angelopoulos (Trois Minutes segment) Olivier Assayas (Recrudescence segment) Bille August (The Last Dating Show segment)	2007
4.	Paradise Now. (Assistant camera/focus puller) Director Hany Abu-Assad. Awards Nominated for Oscar: Best Foreign Language Film of the Year, 13 wins and 17 nominations total	2005
5.	In the 9th Month. (Camera operator/focus puller) Director Ali Nassar. Awards 8 nominations	2002
6.	Divine Intervention. (Assistant camera/camera operator/focus puller) Director Elia Suleiman. Awards 6 wins and 2 nominations	2002

7.	Late Marriage. (Assistant camera) Director Dover Koshashvili. Awards 18 wins and 9 nominations	2001
8.	The Body. (Focus puller) Director Jonas McCord. Awards one nomination	2001
9.	Delta Force One: The Lost Patrol. (Focus puller) Director Joseph Zito	2000
10.	The Last Patrol. (Focus puller/second camera) Director Sheldon Lettich	2000
11.	Cyber Palestine. (short). (Camera operator) Director Elia Suleiman	1999
12.	Yolande Remembered (documentary). (Focus puller) Writer Reuven Miran, Producer Dan Wolman	1999
13.	Tzur Hadassim. (Focus puller) Director Gideon Kolirin. Awards 1 win and 7 nominations	1999
14.	The Insider. (Focus puller, Israel) Director Michael Mann. Awards Nominated for 7 Oscars, 23 wins and 58 nominations	1999
15.	Buskila Twins. (Focus puller) Directors Jacob Kotzky and Ze'ev Revachs	1998
16.	You Can Thank Me Later. (assistant camera/focus puller) Director Shimon Dotan	1998
17.	Escape: Human Cargo (TV Movie). (Focus puller/second camera) Director Simon Wincer. Awards one nomination	1998
18.	The Apostle. (Second assistant camera) Director Robert Duvall. Awards nominated for 1 Oscar, 13 wins and 8 nominations	1997
19.	The Milky Way. (Assistant camera) Director Ali Nassar. Awards 2 wins and 12 nominations	1997
20.	Chronicle of a Disappearance. (Focus puller) Director Elia Suleiman. Awards 6 wins and 2 nominations	1996
21.	Sling Blade. (Assistant camera/camera production assistant) Director Billy Bob Thornton. Awards won 1 Oscar, 14 wins and 15 nominations	1996

22.	Haïfa. (Assistant camera) Director Rashid Masharawi	1996
23.	Aqabat Jaber: Peace with No Return? (documentary). (Focus puller) Director Eyal Sivan	1995
24.	The Tale of the Three Lost Jewels. (Assistant camera) Director Michel Khleifi	1995
25.	Curfew. (Focus puller) Director Rashid Masharawi. Awards 2 wins	1994

Within minutes of working with a camera on my first production as a focus puller, I realized this is how I wanted to spend the rest of my professional life. Each production for the next 17 years provided extraordinary opportunities to learn from some of the best talent in the industry. This included Oscar-winning directors, cinematographers, and actors. I chose to wait to take on the director of photography role until I felt ready. *Omar*, my first movie as D.O.P. was nominated for an Oscar for the Best Foreign Language Film of the Year in 2013.

Personal Affairs (2016)

Haj, director

1.	Cannes Film Festival, 2016	Nominee: Golden Camera Nominee: Un Certain Regard Award
2.	Haifa International Film Festival, 2016	Winner: Best picture
3.	International Film Festival of India, 2016	Nominee: Golden Peacock Best film
4.	Philadelphia Film Festival, 2016	Winner: Archie Award for Best First Feature
5.	Zurich Film Festival, 2016	Winner: Special Mention International Feature Film Nominee: Golden Eye Best International Feature Film

The Idol (2015)

Hany Abu-Assad, director

1.	Antalya Golden Orange Film Festival, 2015	Winner: International Feature Film Competition Award, Best Director Nominee: Golden Orange, Best Actor
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2.	Asia Pacific Screen Awards, 2015	Winner: UNESCO Award
3.	Minneapolis St. Paul International Film Festival, 2016	Nominee: Audience Choice Award, Best Feature Narrative
4.	New Zealand International Film Festival, 2015	Nominee: Audience Award
5.	Rotterdam International Film Festival, 2015	Nominee: KNF Award Nominee: Movie Zone Award

<p style="text-align: center;">Omar (2013) Hany Abu-Assad, director</p>		
1.	Academy Awards	Nominee: Oscar for Best Foreign Language Film of the Year, Palestine
2.	Adelaide Film Festival	Nominee: International Feature Award, Best Feature
3.	AFI Fest	Nominee: Grand Jury Prize
4.	Asia Pacific Screen Awards	Winner: Best Film Nominee: Achievement in Cinematography Nominee: Best performance by an actor
5.	Antalya Golden Orange Film Festival	Winner: International Feature Film Competition Award, Best Director
6.	Asian Film Critics Association Awards	Winner: NETPAC Award, Best Director
7.	Camerimage	Nominee: Golden Frog main competition Winner: Silver Award, main competition
8.	Cannes Film Festival	Winner: Un Certain Regard, Special Jury Prize Nominee: Un Certain Regard Award
9.	Carthage Film Festival	Winner: Tanit d'Or, Narrative Feature Film
10.	Chlotrudis Awards	Nominee: Best Actor, Adam Bakri
11.	Cinema Bloggers Awards, Portugal	Nominee: Best Asian Film
12.	Dubai International Film Festival	Winner: Muhr Arab Award; Best Director for Feature; Best Film, Feature

13.	Ghent International Film Festival	Winner: Youth Jury Award
14.	Human Rights Nights Film Festival	Winner: HRNs People's Award, Best Movie
15.	Malmö Arab Film Festival	Winner: Feature Film Competition Best Actor, Adam Bakri
16.	Melbourne International Film Festival	Nominee: Most Popular Feature Film
17.	Palm Springs International Film Festival	Nominee: FIPRESCI Prize, Best Foreign Language Film
18.	Traverse City Film Festival	Winner: Founders Prize, Best Drama
19.	Tromsø International Film Festival	Winner: Norwegian Peace Film Award
20.	Valladolid International Film Festival	Winner: International Jury Best Director Award
21.	War on Screen International Film Festival	Winner: International Jury Best Director Award

Paradise Now (2005)

Hany Abu-Assad, director

1.	Academy Awards, 2006	Nominee: Oscar for Best Foreign Language Film of the Year, Palestine
2.	Argentinean Film Critics Association Awards, 2007	Nominee: Best Foreign Film, Not in the Spanish Language , Palestine/France/Germany /Netherlands/Israel
3.	Awards Circuit Community Awards, 2005	Nominee: ACCA, Best Foreign Language Film
4.	Berlin International Film Festival, 2005	Winner: Blue Angel Winner: Amnesty International Film Prize Winner: Reader Jury of the "Berliner Morgenpost" Nominee: Golden Berlin Bear
5.	Broadcast Film Critics Association Awards, 2006	Nominee: Critics Choice Award Best Foreign-Language Film

6.	Dallas-Fort Worth Film Critics Association Awards, 2005	Winner: DFWFCA Award, Best Foreign-Language Film
7.	Emden International Film Festival, 2005	Nominee: Emden Film Award, Best Foreign Language Film
8.	European Film Awards, 2006	Nominee: EFA People's Choice Award, Best European Film Winner: Independent Spirit Award, Best Foreign Film, Palestine/Netherlands/Germany/France
9.	German Film Awards, 2006	Nominee: Film Award in Gold, Outstanding Feature Film, Best Screenplay
0.	Gold Derby Awards, 2006	Nominee: Gold Derby Award, Foreign Language Film, Palestine
11.	Golden Globes, USA, 2006	Winner: Golden Globe, Best Foreign Language Film, Palestine
12.	Golden Trailer Awards, 2006	Winner: Golden Trailer, Best Foreign Dramatic Trailer
13.	National Board of Review, USA 2005	Winner: NBR Award, Best Foreign Language Film, France/Germany/Netherlands/Israel
14.	Nederlands Film Festival, 2005	Winner: Golden Calf, Best Film Winner: Golden Calf, Best Editing Nominee: Dutch Film Critics Award, Best Director of a Feature Film Nominee: Golden Calf, Best Screenplay of a Feature Film
15.	Online Film & Television Association, 2006	Nominee: OFTA Film Award, Best Foreign Language Film, Palestine
16.	St. Louis Film Critics Association, USA, 2005	Nominee: SLFCA Award, Best Foreign Language Film of the Year, Palestine
17.	Tallinn Black Nights Film Festival, 2005	Nominee: Grand Prize
18.	Turkish Film Critics Association (SIYAD) Awards, 2006	Nominee: SIYAD Award, Best Foreign Film
19.	Vancouver Film Critics Circle, 2006	Winner: VFCC Award, Best Foreign Language Film, Palestine

The Time That Remains (2009)

Elia Suleiman, director

1.	Asia Pacific Screen Awards, 2009	Winner: Jury Grand Prize Nominee: Asia Pacific Screen Award, Best Film
2.	Cannes Film Festival, 2009	Nominee: Palme d'Or
3.	Cinema for Peace Awards, 2010	Nominee: Cinema for Peace Award, Cinema for Peace Award for Justice
4.	Dublin Film Critics Circle Awards, 2010	Nominee: DFCC, Best Director (Tied with Roman Polanski for The Ghost Writer (2010), Sylvain Chomet for The Illusionist (2010) and Martin Scorsese for Shutter Island (2010) in 9th place)
5.	Granada Film Festival Cines del Sur, 2010	Winner: Audience Award Winner: Best Director Nominee: International Competition, Best Film
6.	Tokyo International Film Festival, 2009	Nominee: Asian Film Award

Jellyfish (2007)

Shira Geffen, Etgar Keret, directors

1.	Awards of the Israeli Film Academy 2007	Nominee: Best Film; Best Actress; Best Supporting Actor; Best Director; Best Screenplay; Best Art Direction Best Editing; Best Costume Design; Best Sound
2.	Bratislava International Film Festival 2007	Winner: Prize of the Ecumenical Jury Winner: Special Mention Nominee: Grand Prix
3.	Cannes Film Festival 2007	Winner: Golden Camera Winner: SACD Award Winner: Young Critics Award Nominee: Critics Week Grand Prize

4.	Chlotrudis Awards 2009	Nominee: Chlotrudis Award, Best Performance by an Ensemble Cast
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Divine Intervention (2004)

Elia Suleiman, director

1.	Bodil Awards 2004	Nominee: Bodi for Best Non-American Film
2.	Cannes Film Festival 2002	Winner: FIPRESCI Prize, for its sensitive, amusing and innovative vision of a complex and topical situation and the tragic consequences that result from it. Winner: Jury Prize Nominee: Palme d'Or
3.	Chicago International Film Festival 2002	Winner: Silver Hugo, Special Jury Prize
4.	Cinemanila International Film Festival 200	Winner: Best Screenplay Winner: Netpac Awarest Screenplay
5.	European Film Awards 2002	Winner: Screen International Award

The Insider (2000)

Michael Mann, director

The Insider received 23 wins and 58 nominations. The following is a sampling of those awards.

1.	Academy Awards USA 2006	Nominee: Oscars for Best Picture; Best Actor in a Leading Role; Best Director; Best Writing (Screenplay Based on Material Previously Produced or Published); Best Cinematography; Best Film Editing; Best Sound
2.	BAFTA Awards 2000	Nominee: Best Performance by an Actor in a Leading Role
	Screen Actors Guild Awards 2000	Nominee: Outstanding Performance by a Male Actor in a Leading Role

3.	American Cinema Editors, USA 2000	Nominee: Best Edited Feature Film, dramatic
4.	American Society of Cinematographers, USA	Nominee: Outstanding Achievement in Cinematography in Theatrical Release
5.	Awards Circuit Community Awards 2000	Nominee ACCA, Best Actor in a Leading Role, Russell Crowe
6.	Bodil Awards 2000	Nominee: Best American Film
7.	Boston Society of Film Critics Awards 2000	Winner: Best Supporting Actor
8.	Broadcast Film Critics Association Awards 2000	Nominee: Critics Choice Award, Best Actor Nominee: Best Picture