

**“17”**

**a film by Widad Shafakoj with the support of AFDP**



**ELECTRONIC PRESS KIT**



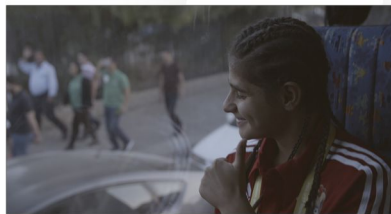
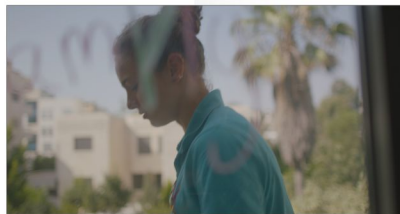
## about

Running time .....	73 mins
Genre .....	Documentary
Year .....	2017
Language .....	Arabic
Subtitles .....	English
Format .....	UHD 3840x2160 25fps
Available in .....	DVD / BluRay / DCP / Online Screener
Website .....	<a href="http://www.17thefilm.com">www.17thefilm.com</a>

# synopsis

"17" follows the Jordanian under-17 women's football team as they prepare for the FIFA U17 Women's World Cup Jordan 2016. Coming from different backgrounds, each of the girls has faced a different set of challenges as a national team player. But now they come together to face their biggest challenge yet. "17" is a social exploration into the lives of young women who are passionate about a sport they have been told was only for men.

Will Anoud make it in the final squad? Will Leen be ready to play in this world-class event with so little time to prepare? Will the odds finally start working for the team?



## 17 - ELECTRONIC PRESS KIT

It all started when HRH Prince Ali Bin Al Hussein introduced me to 26 girls trying to accomplish one goal: win the world cup. For the first time in the region, an Arab country hosted the World Cup. Jordan being the host automatically qualified the teenage team to play against world-class squads, and that's where I saw a chance I couldn't miss.

Filmed in 2016, "17" is a documentary that follows Jordan's under-17 women's team during the most crucial months leading up to the World Cup, featuring cameos by Olympian Gold Medalist Ahmad Abu Ghosh and former Barcelona player Xavi Hernandez, tension was high as every player had her eyes on the prize, and capturing this on film was hectic and intense.

The film focuses on the girls' journey in a society that perceives football as a male sport, and the support they lack socially and culturally.

The film has been shot in quite a feminine, raw, empowering way, using the impeccable ARRI Alexa and Amira models. No lighting was used during the filming of "17" whatsoever, which helped me capture some real moments.

As a Jordanian film, "17" has proudly worked with an all-Jordanian crew, it is the product of local blood, sweat, and tears... It simply could not get more inspiring.

## director's statement

..... Widad Shafakoj

## producer's statement

I started on this film alongside director Widad Shafakoj in its earliest days, back when it was only a notion, an idea. What began as a straightforward project, developed into a fully-fledged epic of its own; young women defying social norms, going against all odds when those in charge of the team were too busy with office politics. “17” is a social exploration about dreamers, youngsters, athletic achievement, and these young women are at the very heart of it.

So how do you interest the public in 17? Well, you start with the basics: are they interesting characters? Yes. Do you care about them as human beings? Yes. Is there something unique and special about what they've done? Yes. Do you care if they succeed or not? Yes. While this could be a football film to some, it goes beyond that to tell you a story about a few young ladies, each representative of a certain segment of Jordanian society. It shows us the challenges they face on a regular basis – from safety on the field, to education, to transportation, to team spirit... They are indeed remarkable.

**Muna Fityani** .....



*Rand Bustanje  
First World Cup match*





Jordanian team,  
Leigh Sports Village UK



Anoud G. and Anoud E.  
Manchester UK





*Farah Zaben  
Bisham Abbey*



*Coach Robbie Johnson and team manager Soleen Zoubi*



*Anoud Ghazi  
Amman Jordan*



*Yasmeeen Zabian,  
Jordan - Manchester United match*



# credits

Director  
Widad Shafakoj

Producer  
Muna Fityani

Cinematography & Coloring  
Ali El-Saadi

Editor  
Yahya Al Abdallah

Sound Recordist  
Amer Dwaik

Assistant Camera  
Shahzad Saleem

Sound Design  
Wissam Tubeileh

Assistant Director  
Zeid Fanous

Production Assistant  
Saad Abdel Aziz

Production Accountant  
Sahel Khoury

Legal Counsel  
Diana Sarhan

Special Thanks  
Prince Ali Bin Al Hussein  
Fluid Productions  
Paces Charity  
The Hattabs

The International Community School  
The Jordan Football Association  
The Royal Film Commission  
Abd Al Salam Al Haj  
Adnan Muradovic Bushnaq

Amro Hatahet  
Dalia Naber  
Dareen Naber  
Dima Naber  
Faris Atiyeh

Ghaith Battikhi  
Layan Al Salhi  
Majd Hijjawi  
Nader Abu Yaghi  
Sarah Hatahet



team  
& staff



Robbie Johnson

Neil McDonald

Maher Abu Hantash

Anis Shafiq

Khader Eid

Sawsan Al Hasaseen

Soleen Al Zoubi

Yanal Malkosh

Zaid Al Arami

Hamza Abu Hamra

Al Anoud Ghazi

Al Anoud Imad

Joel Srouji

Rouzbahan Freij

Sara Abu Sabbah

Suzan Abu Qirq

Tala Awwad

Tasneem Abu Rob

Tasneem Isleem

Yasmine Zabian

Zeena Fakhouri

Farah Al Zaben

Jana Abu Ghosh

Jeeda Al Naber

Dina Sarairah

Joud Shanti

Lana Mashkhaj

Leen Abbadi

Leen Btoush

Luna Sahlool

Nour Abu Kishk

Nour Zoqash

Rahmeh Abzakh

Rama Hamed

Rand Al Bustanji

Raya Hariri

**WIDAD SHAFAKOJ**  
FILM STUDIO



**ASIAN  
FOOTBALL  
DEVELOPMENT  
PROJECT**



الهيئة الملكية الأردنية للأفلام  
The ROYAL FILM COMMISSION  
JORDAN

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