

# « INTEGRATION INCH'ALLAH »

A DOCUMENTARY FILM BY  
PABLO MUNOZ GOMEZ  
- 59 MINUTES -

## PRESS RELEASE



# SUMMARY

<b>SHORT SYNOPSIS</b>	<b>P.01</b>
<b>LONG SYNOPSIS</b>	<b>P.01</b>
<b>INTENTIONS OF THE DIRECTOR</b>	<b>P.02</b>
<b>FILMOGRAPHY OF THE DIRECTOR</b>	<b>P.03</b>
<b>FILMOGRAPHY OF THE PRODUCTION</b>	<b>P.04</b>
<b>TECHNICAL SHEET</b>	<b>P.06</b>
<b>PICTURES OF THE FILM</b>	<b>P.07</b>

## **SHORT SYNOPSIS**

They just arrived in Belgium.

New immigrants from Syria, Irak, Morocco... who will have to participate in a mandatory integration program in Flanders, called « inburgering ».

To obtain their certificate, they will have to learn the habits and customs from Flanders and Belgium.

The film follows these people, with humor and kindness, throughout their journey.

## **LONG SYNOPSIS**

Welcome to Atlas.

You are here because you have to follow an integration program.

Yes, so it is in Belgium, it's a legal obligation.

During the next few months, you will have to follow Dutch lessons, but also citizenship classes that will be taught in your own language, Arabic.

There, you will learn Belgium's history and geography, the basics of democracy, the functioning and politics of Belgium and Flanders.

Don't worry, even if this takes some time, the results will undoubtedly be positive for you.

And finally, if you pass your exams, you will receive an official document as a proof of your integration.

## INTENTIONS OF THE DIRECTOR

Since I was old enough to understand politics, issues around integration have interested and intrigued me. Since my adolescence, I observe anxiously the rise of political extremes, of nationalist views, of isolationism and fear of foreigners.

Increasingly interested, I learn about different integration structures existing in Belgium, both in the north and in the south of the country. During this research I met AHMED BEN SAID, social orientation professor in Arabic and French at Atlas, the centre in Antwerp, and he stunned me. I discover a very active man in his job, politically aware of his duties, and considering the integration program as an essential and unknown tool for the development of a real community.

Getting more involved in Antwerp, I attend a few of Ahmed's courses. I discover that he puts considerable tension in his integration course, giving importance to each obstacle these newly arrived immigrants will have to overcome if they want to obtain their "Inburgering attest". He constantly stimulates the students' reactions, sometimes very vividly, offering the opportunity to each of them to explain their own points of view.

Following an Arabic speaking group during their integration course in Antwerp seemed very interesting and rich to me. Observing their daily lives enables us to overcome possible stereotypes.

I wanted to be close to the people I met, so as to avoid as much as possible biases for the future audience of my film. The film also shows that those integration courses appear pretty useful in many situations, demonstrating an impressive public effort. In other cases they seem very compelling, provoking tensions and conflicting behaviours.

Since 2014, the wave of immigration in Europe has led to multiple and sometimes virulent reactions. How can we cope with the problems of integration?

The film describes this experienced approach of integration in Antwerp, a multicultural city in Belgium.

## FILMOGRAPHY OF THE DIRECTOR

After his filmmaking studies at IAD (Belgium), Pablo Munoz Gomez became successful with his graduation film « Welkom ». Dealing with surrealist humor about language related problems in Belgium, he won the Magritte for the best short film in 2014 (Belgian academy award). He got selected to more than a hundred festivals over the world and received about thirty international prizes.

In 2016, Pablo Munoz Gomez comes back with « Integration Inch'Allah », his first professional documentary, for which he had to undergo three years of immersion. The movie follows Arabic newly arrived immigrants during their integration course in Antwerp. With humor and care, the film patiently observes these individuals' daily lives. This film is already nominated for the next coming Magritte awards in 2017.

Pablo Munoz Gomez is currently preparing his new short fiction film, « The capitalists », that will be shot in december 2016.

## FILMOGRAPHY OF THE PRODUCTION

The belgian company Simple Production was created in 1990 by Kathleen de Béthune. Its aim is to produce films both at Belgian and at international level. Films which question reality in all of documentaries' creative forms : investigation films, historical films, societal films, personal stories, televisual series, with the concern of a large televisual broadcasting, as well as in numerical networks.

Production plan : films in progress

« **Totems et Taboos. The Royal Museum for Central Africa** » by Daniel Cattier (in production)

« **Letter from a ghost** » by Manu Riche and Patrick Marnham (in developpement)

« **The empire strikes back** » by Jean-Michel Carré (in production)

Documentaries 2016

« **Integration Inch'Allah** » by Pablo Munoz Gomez (59')

Production : Simple Production, Wallonie Image Production, with the support of the FWB

Broadcasters : RTBF, VOO et Be tv

« **Behind the stage. La Monnaie / De Munt** » by Frédéric Laffont (52' and 90')

Production : Simple Production, Caméra Magica, La Monnaie / De Munt, with the support of the FWB

Broadcasters : RTBF, ARTE, VRT

Documentaries 2014

« **Putin is back** » by Jean-Michel Carré (70')

Production : Simple Production, Les Films Grain de Sable, RTBF, FWB, France2

Broadcasters : CNC, Procirep-Angoa, MDR, TSR, NRK, LRT, ERR, SVT, TVP, YLE, CBC, SBS, LTV, Czech TV, Al Jazeera, RDI Radio Canada, 2M, Media diffusion tv

Documentaries 2010/2013

« **Welcome to Fukushima** » by Alain de Halleux (52')

Production : Simple Production, Crescendo Films, L'Indien Productions, RTBF, Fédération Wallonie-Bruxelles, WIP

Broadcasters : VPRO

« **China, the new Empire** » by Jean-Michel Carré (2x52' and 90')

Production : Les Films Grain de Sable, Simple Production and RTBF

Broadcasters : TVV3, TSR, NRK, LRT, ERR, VTV, TV Uruguay, Media Diffusion TV, SVT

« **It's a bet** » by Hervé Martin Delpierre (52' and 72')

Production : Crescendo Films and Simple Production

Broadcasters : RTBF, VRT, Belgacom, ARTE France, TSR, RDI, Middle East news, Al Arabiya

« **The Boy is Gone** » by Christoph Bohn (75')

Production : Off World, Simple Production and Serious Film

Broadcasters : RTBF, BRF

« **Stories from Fukushima** » a web series by Alain de Halleux (8 x 8')

Production : Simple Production, Crescendo Films, L'Indien Productions, RTBF, ARTE France

“ **Chernobyl Forever** ” by Alain de Halleux (56')

Production : Simple Production, Crescendo films, RTBF, Arte France, WIP

Broadcasters : UR (SVT), TSR, VRT, VPRO, VOO, NHK

“ **War is not a game** ” by Lode Desmet (52' and 87')

Production : Simple Production, VAF, RTBF, VRT, Media Diffusion, Lieurac Productions, CNC, Arte France, Point Prod avec TSR, Ciné Qua Non avec ONF, Belgacom, FWB, YLE TV1, Libérations films

# TECHNICAL SHEET

Titel *Integration Inch'Allah*

Duration 59'  
Format HD 16/9  
Genre Documentary  
Country of production Belgique

Author / Director Pablo Munoz Gomez  
Release datum 2016

Delegate producer Simple Production / Kathleen de Béthune

Coproducers RTBF – Unité documentaire  
VOO et Be tv  
Wallonie Image Production

Financers

**Produced with the support of**

Centre du Cinéma et de l'Audiovisuel de la Fédération Wallonie-Bruxelles

**and**

Tax Shelter du Gouvernement Fédéral de Belgique – ForMovies.

Image Erika Meda  
Sound Maarten Leemans  
Sound & image editing Matthieu Jamet  
Mix Rainier Buidin  
Music Alexander L'Estrange and Ben Parry © Audio Network  
Graphics and titling Sonia Bonvoisin  
Color grading We electric  
Producer Kathleen de Béthune  
Production assistant Caroline Verhaegen

Available versions French subtitles  
Dutch subtitles  
English subtitles



## Pictures of the film











