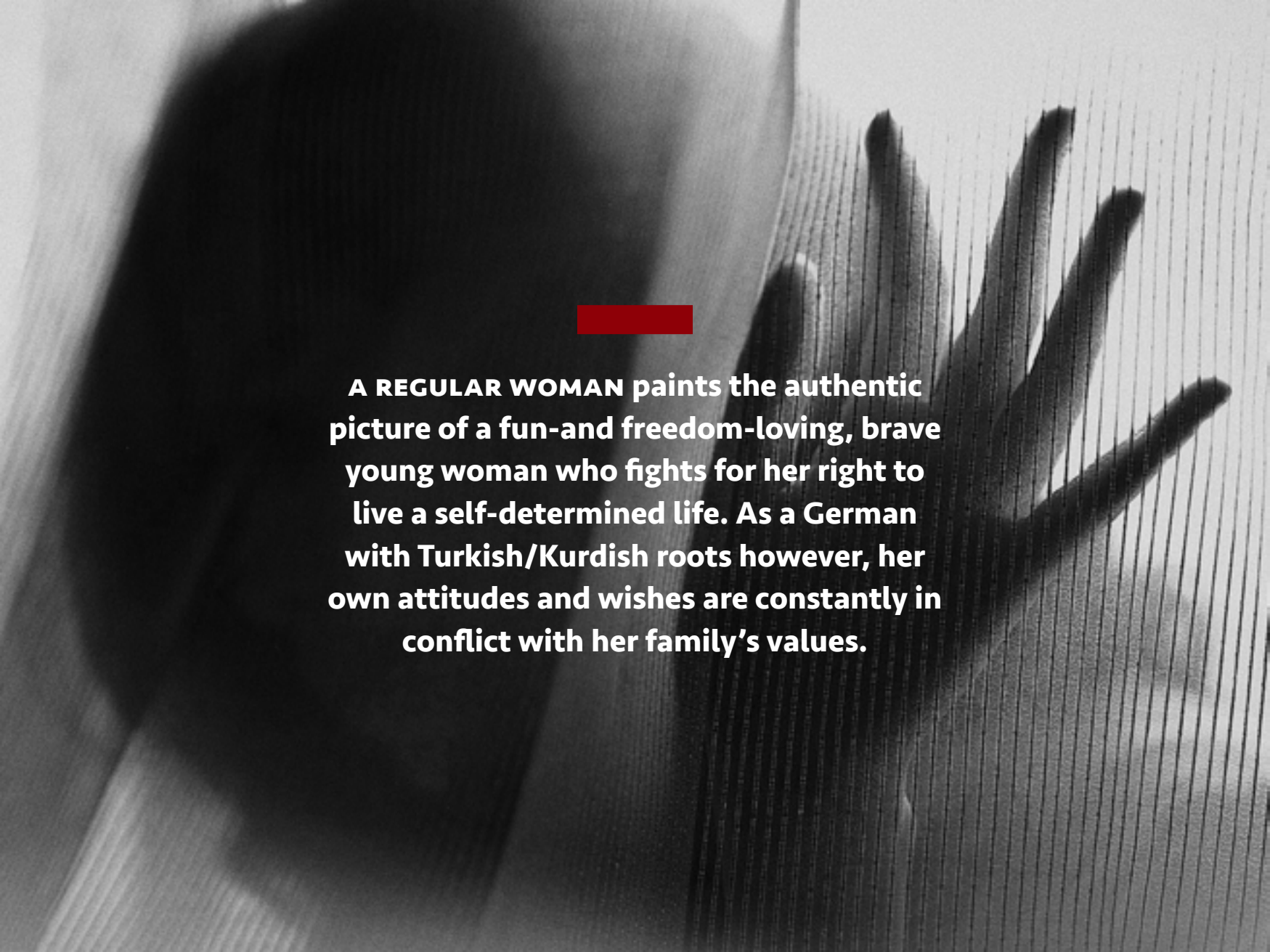




TRIBECA
FILM
FESTIVAL


A REGULAR WOMAN



A REGULAR WOMAN paints the authentic picture of a fun-and freedom-loving, brave young woman who fights for her right to live a self-determined life. As a German with Turkish/Kurdish roots however, her own attitudes and wishes are constantly in conflict with her family's values.



SYNOPSIS



Aynur is shot to death by her brother Nuri on a busy street in Berlin. Without suspecting anything, she accompanies him to the bus stop down the road, while her five-year-old son Can is asleep in her apartment only a few hundred miles away. How could this happen, what led to this deed?

In A REGULAR WOMAN, Aynur is telling her own story, her perspective of what happened. It is the story of a confident young woman who loves life and knows exactly how she wants to live hers. A woman who escapes the violence of her marriage and refuses to let her brothers and parents dictate what she can and cannot do. She gets

her own apartment and her son, she apprentices as an electrician and she goes out to meet new men and friends. Although she knows that her behavior goes against her family's tradition and it can put her in danger, her desire for freedom is stronger. However, her brothers' insults and threats get increasingly serious and before long, it is ultimately too late.

The film is based on the story of Hatun Aynur Sürücü, whose murder caused an outcry in 2005 and the witness are still in the witness-protection program to this day.



COMMENTS OF THE DIRECTOR

„Right next door, in our midst, a shot rings out in the middle of the street. The life of a young woman is extinguished from one moment to the next because, in the eyes of her family, she's living dishonourably. She's only twenty-three years old and leaves her five-year-old son behind.

Florian Oeller's script meticulously follows the case's court files. We decided to give the deceased woman her voice back. She tells us her story: a German high school girl from Kreuzberg with Kurdish parents is sent to Istanbul at the age of sixteen to marry her cousin. She flees the violence of her marriage there and ends up back at her parents' door pregnant and looking for shelter. Shelter, however, turns into incarceration. The mental violence continues within the family's own four walls. But she escapes this situation too, building a life of her own, the way she wants it. She finds her own apartment, finishes school after all, and trains for a profession that at the time is almost exclusively pursued by men, while also raising her child. It's this incredible will not to live her life on someone else's terms

that drives her and it's also what gives her moments of indescribable happiness.

Nonetheless, she loves her family – her family and siblings that she helped to raise are her nest and her anchor. She does not know that the youngest brothers, whose hand she had to hold so that he might fall asleep, will be her murderer. She does not know that her brothers have since long planned to “eradicate this disgrace.”

A REGULAR WOMAN was about creating a world for someone that no longer exists, because it was ended at 20:55 on that day in Berlin fourteen years ago. The lives of those who survived her death have also been destroyed. Nobody knows what Aynur's son is doing now, because he lives under a new identity. There reigns great wrath, fury, grief and incomprehension that a child should be living alone without mother or family ties all because of an ancient 'tradition'!



AMOS

MOR
EM
MAR



DIRECTOR'S BIOGRAPHY

Originally hailing from Kingston, New York, German-American writer and director Sherry Hormann won a number of awards, including the prestigious Bavarian Film Award and the Max Ophüls Silver Award for her directing debut *SILENT SHADOW* (1991). She had previously written the screenplay for Dominik Graf's *TIGER, LION, PANTHER* (1987). Her feature film *FATHER'S DAY* in 1996, a romantic comedy was a big box office hit.

She then continued shooting comedies such as „*GUYS AND BALLS*“ that won several awards at international Gay and Lesbian Film festivals, such as L.A Outfest.

Sherry Hormann then returned to her origins of writing and directing drama. She went to Africa, did long researches on Female Genital Mutilation (FGM), then wrote the screenplay and directed *DESERT FLOWER* (2009) based on Waris Dirie's bestseller. The film was not only successful in Germany with more than one million admissions, but as well internationally. The movie won among other awards the Audience Award at the San Sebastian International Film Festival. *Desert Flower* changed the public view on FGM sustainably.

Her last feature film *3096 DAYS* is based on the true story of Natascha Kampusch, the 10 year old child from Vienna, that was kidnapped and held in a bunker for 8 years. It was the last project of renowned producer Bernd Eichinger. It was released in spring 2013, highly acclaimed critically and performed also very well at the German box office. Hormann then worked on several prestigious TV projects. *A REGULAR WOMAN* is her ninth feature film.

DIRECTOR'S FILMOGRAPHY



- 2019 • A Regular Woman
- 2013 • 3096 Days
- 2011 • The Pursuit Of Happiness
- 2009 • Desert Flower
- 2004 • Guys And Balls
- 1999 • Widows
- 1996 • Fathers Day
- 1994 • Women Are Simply Wonderful
- 1990 • Silent Shadows



MAIN CAST BIOGRAPHY



Born in 1990 in Ankara and raised in Berlin, Almila Bagriacik played her first role in the award-winning drama *Die Fremde* (*When We Leave*) (2009). She has since then appeared in numerous TV and film productions. Almila Bagriacik's first lead role in a film was in the feature film *Hördur* (2015), for which she was nominated for Best Actress 2015 by the German Film Critics Association. She played the lead role of Semiya Simsek in the second episode of *Mitten in Deutschland: NSU* (*NSU: German History X*), a 2016 three-part mini-series about the National Socialist Underground (NSU) murders produced by German TV network ARD. For her performance in *NSU: German History X*, she was named the Best Young Actor at the 2017 German Screen Actors Awards (DSP) and was also nominated in the Best Actress in a Mini-Series category. She was also nominated for Best Newcomer for the Bunte New Faces Award in 2016. In the highly praised and multi-award-winning TNT mini-series *4 Blocks* (2017), Almila Bagriacik plays the female lead of Amara Hamady. The drama series was awarded by the German Television Academy in six categories. In addition, the series received the 2018 German Television Award in three categories as well as the 2018 Adolf Grimme Award and the 2018 Golden Camera for Best Series. A second series followed later that year and a third series is planned for 2019. Since 2017, Almila Bagriacik has played Commissioner Mila Sahin in the Kiel episodes of long-running police procedural *Tatort*. A recent project is her starring role in the international movie production *Im Feuer / Friendly Fire* (scheduled for release in 2019). In addition to her work for film and television, Almila Bagriacik can also be seen on stage. In the 2017-18 season, she played a leading role in the world premiere of *Träum Weiter* at the renowned Schauspielhaus Bochum.

MAIN CAST

Almila Bagriacik • Aynur
Rauand Taleb • Nuri
Meral Perin • Deniya
Mürtüz Yolcu • Rohat
Armin Wahedi • Aram
Aram Arami • Tarek

MAIN CREW

Director • Sherry Hormann
Scriptwriter • Florian Oeller • Editor • Bettina Böhler
Cinematographer • Judith Kaufmann
Sound • Rainer Gerlach • Photographies Mathias Bothor
Co-Producers • Rolf Bergmann (RBB), Marc Brasse (NDR), Eric Friedler
(NDR), Ulrike Becker (SWR), Gerolf Karwath (SWR), Esther Schapira (HR),
Christiane Hinz (WDR) • Producer • Sandra Maischberger
Production Company • Vincent TV
Supported by • Deutscher Filmförderfonds,
Medienboard Berlin-Brandenburg, Nordmedia





**Vincent TV GmbH in Co-Production with RBB, NDR, SWR, HR, WDR,
supported by Deutscher Filmfonds DFFF, Medienboard Berlin-Brandenburg, nordmedia**

**With Almila Bagriacik, Rauand Taleb, Aram Arami, Meral Perin,
Mehmet Ateşçi, Mürtüz Yolcu, Merve Aksoy, Armin Wahedi**

**Director - Sherry Hormann, Writer - Florian Oeller, Cinematography - Judith Kaufmann,
Montage - Bettina Böhler, Casting - Simone Bär, Photography - Mathias Bothor,
Production Design - Uli Friedrich, Costume Design - Jessica Specker,
Make-Up - Isabelle Neu & Christna Birnbaum, Music - Fabian Römer,
Light Design - Timm Brückner, Original Sound - Rainer Gerlach, Sound Mix - Dominik Rätz,
Sound Design - Thomas Neumann, Production Management - Peter Effenberg,
Executive Production - Patrick Dresen, non-fiction book by Matthias Deiß & Joachim Goll
Editing - Rolf Bergmann (RBB) Marc Brasse (NDR), Eric Friedler (NDR) Ulrike Becker (SWR)
Gerolf Krawath (SWR) Esther Schapira (HR), Christiane Hinz (WDR),
Producer - Sandra Maischberger, World Sales The Match Factory**

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DEUTSCHER
FILMFÖRDERFONDS

THE MATCH FACTORY

TECHNICAL DETAILS

Original title: Nur Eine Frau

International title: A Regular Woman

Duration: 92 min

Aspect Ratio: 1.85:1

Format: 2K

Sound: 5.1

Year: 2019

Original Language: German and Turkish

Country of Production: Germany

Production Companies: Vincent TV

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