

WIP C Forms of Forgetting



COUNTRY/REGION: Turkey, France

GENRE | FORMAT | LANGUAGE | RUNNING TIME:

Documentary | Digital Format | Turkish | 72mins

DIRECTOR:

Burak ÇEVİK

PRODUCER:

Selman NACAR

Guillaume de SEILLE

WIP GOALS:

Funds, Co-producers, Sales agents

TOTAL BUDGET: US\$575,000

SECURED BUDGET: US\$390,000

DIRECTOR'S FILMOGRAPHY

2019 *Belonging*

2018 *The Pillar of Salt*

ONE-SENTENCE SYNOPSIS

Forms of Forgetting is a creative documentary discussing the impact of recalling and not-remembering on living creatures and lifeless things in different times and spaces by pursuing memory.

SYNOPSIS

Forms of Forgetting is a creative documentary focusing on memory. The film consists of several fragments such as an antique city in the middle of Anatolia, a wounded dog in Aegean part of Turkey, plants in an abandoned botanical garden, pillaged empty rooms, a single performance based on a folk story, and a couple's conversation about not being able to remember why they were separated years ago.

DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT

When I started working on *Forms of Forgetting*, I was thinking of the possibility of creating a fragmented narrative language. Is a new narrative possible? For example, my debut *The Pillar of Salt* (2018, Berlinale Forum) was about a woman who is immortal and cannot forget anything completely. My second film, *Belonging* (2019, Berlinale Forum), revisited places by following a real murder story in my family, so the audience can experience the act of remembering with the help of real records of the killer. *Forms of Forgetting* is a creative documentary focusing on memory. The film consists of several fragments. What do all these have in common? Can dreams, memories, and feelings connect us? When I started shooting the film, people were physically distant from each other due to the COVID-19 pandemic. I had lost a friend and was in mourning. Instead of waiting for the pandemic to pass and getting on the set with a large crew, we started shooting with a small crew. As people moved apart, I dreamed of reconnecting with the shared memories and feelings we had. The film is the result of this dream.

DIRECTOR

Burak ÇEVİK

Born in 1993 in Istanbul, Cevik founded Fol Cinema Society and curated experimental and arthouse film screenings. He was Lecturer on Non-Fiction from 2018 to 2020 at Istanbul Bilgi University. His films *The Pillar of Salt* and *Belonging* premiered at Berlinale Forum in 2018 and 2019, respectively. His video works were screened at various festivals such as Locarno, Toronto and New York Film Festivals.

PRODUCER

Selman NACAR

Born in 1990 in Usak, Turkey, Nacar is a filmmaker and producer. He received an MFA in Film Directing at Columbia University, New York, and taught Fiction Filmmaking at the same university. Selman produced *The Pillar of Salt* in 2018 and *Belonging* in 2019, both directed by Burak Çevik and premiered at Berlin International Film Festival's Forum section.

Guillaume de SEILLE

De Seille is one of the heads of Paris-based Arizona Productions, which co-produces art-house feature films directed by non-French emerging talents.

PRODUCTION COMPANY

Fol Film

Burak Cevik and Selman Nacar founded the production company Fol Film in Istanbul in 2018. Focusing on narrative films and creative documentaries, Fol Film presented its first feature *The Pillar of Salt* and second feature *Belonging* at the Forum section of the 68th and 69th Berlinale. Fol Film is currently working on Selman Nacar's directorial debut *Between Two Dawns* and Burak Çevik's third feature film *Forms of Forgetting*.