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Silver Screen Awards

Iran/France, 1996, 75 mins

Director/Screenwriter/ Editor: Mohsen Makhmalbaf

Producer: Khalil Daroudchi, Khalil Mahmoudi

> Cinematographer: Mahmoud Kalari

Cast: Abbas Sayahi, Shaghayegh Djodat, Hossein Moharami, Roghieh Moharami

> Production Company: Sanayeh Dasti/MK2 Productions (France) 90 Avenue Seyboyeh, Shiraz, Teheran, Iran tel/fax: 21-5658672

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GABBEH

In southeast Iran, the nomadic tribes who weave gabbeh carpets are on the brink of extinction. A distictive kind of Persian carpet, the gabbeh's patterns are always creatively original, inspired by the people's lives, the landscapes they pass through and the loves they experience. The film weaves together the process of making the carpets with a fabulous tale of the meaning of life and art through the love story of a young girl named Gabbeh. Considered to be Makhmalbaf's best film to date, *Gabbeh* is certain to be the most magical film you have encountered for some time.

"When you bring a gabbeh home you feel like you've brought nature with it. Nature's at your feet! I'm quite convinced that the gabbeh has much in common with any good Iranian film. That is to say they are both simple, tender, close to nature and to daily reality. That's maybe why Western audiences who are flooded with violent, tough films and who are confronted with the same violence in their highly mechanical daily lives are understandably attracted to the simplicity and quietness one finds in our

closely linked-with-nature Iranian films."—Mohsen Makhmalbaf



Mohsen Makhmalbaf

Born in 1957. Left school to support his family at the age of 15, and soon joined an anti-Shah militant group. Was arrested for an attack on a police station when he was 17. and wasn't freed till the Islamic Revolution in 1979. Directed his first feature Nassooh's Repentence in 1982, having never seen a film before. Other films include: Two Sightless Eyes (1983), Boycott (1984), The Peddler (1986), The Cyclist (1988), Marriage of the Blessed (1989), Time of Love (1990), Nights On Zayandeh Rud (1990), Once Upon A Time, Cinema (1991), Salaam Cinema (1995), and A Moment of Innocence (1996).



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