

## Document Citation

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**AAV**  
**(TURKISH-B&W)**

*Variety 5/23/90*

**Istanbul** Produced by Metis Film, Images and Cameras Export Agency, Paris. Written and directed by Reha Erdom. Camera (black & white), Ugur Eruzun; editor, Nathalie Leguay. Reviewed at Istanbul Intl. Film Festival (out of competition), April 13, 1990. (In Cannes Film Festival Market.) Running time: **102 MIN.**

With: Yesim Tozan, Gulsen Tuncer, Nuriniza Yildirim, Munir Ozkul.

■ **The French training and experience of helmer Reha Erdom is evident in this striking luminescent black & white tone poem, a startling departure from traditional Turkish cinema. With proper promo, pic should do well in arthouse release and at fests.**

Yekta (Yesim Tozan) lives with her aunt, grandfather and a lame seagull in an old house on the Bosphorus. Kindly indulged by her elders, she is often on her own and develops a rich imagination, which leads to psychological and mythological interpretation of her dreams, often centering on her dead mother who disappeared in a boat.

When Yekta's mother appears to her, passing by her window on a boat, she brings a playmate over to

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verify it and take photographs. Yekta begins a spiritual communion with the apparition and refuses to be swayed in her belief.

Her well-meaning aunt is exasperated when Yekta balks at being sent off to school. She assumes Yekta is going through a phase and will soon lose interest in her mystical preoccupation.

Dialog is sparse, a moody atmosphere prevails accented by cello and string quartet music. Pic is an homage to the Ottoman flavor of many streets and the wild beauty of much of the Bosphorus. Tozan is a natural in the role that is made sympathetic without being the slightest bit cloying. — *Sam.*