

HAWALA

documentary by
Enis Mulè & Sabah Benziadi



Present

Hawala

حوالة

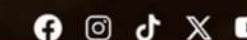
Directed By
Enis MULÉ & Sabah BENZIADI

Production & Post Production © Enis MULÉ - Samara MULÉ - Executive producer Sabah BENZIADI - 2nd Co-Production Khadra BENZIADI
Photography director Sabah BENZIADI - Assistant directors & filming assistants Mario ESTRADA SANCHEZ - Calogero VENZA - Matteo DI GIANDOMENICO
Cristiano GIANPORCARO - Nicola DAINO - Editing Ilias Mohamed LAKHMASSE - Anas JANANE - Screenplay & Casting Samara MULÉ - Sabah BENZIADI
Sound engineer Vincenzo LIPARI - Original music SABAH BENZIADI - ImZad mixed by Khoulane ALAMIN - Social promotion Daniele PUGLIESE
Trick Mariagiovanna PARLAPIANO - Assistent Casting Alice FISCO - Press officer Margherita GIGLIOTTA - International press officer Dr. Khaled ALDHANHANI
Chabsha Establishment FZE & Association Cult Fujairah EAU - Editorial secretary Zoe LUPO - Marine DELMOTTE - Hadhemy ABBASSI - Costume Intidar BHOURI
Distribution: ETS CINE UNION APS & Ass Cult SABAHA.



Dipartimento
per le Politiche Giovanili
e il Servizio Civile Universale
Presidenza del Consiglio dei Ministri

«Progetto finanziato nell'ambito del Bando 'Fermenti' dal Dipartimento per le politiche giovanili e il Servizio civile universale: PRESIDENZA DEL CONSIGLIO DEI MINISTRI»



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Documentario Regia
Enis MULÉ & Sabah BENZIADI

DETAILS

Year of production: 2024

Length: 59'16"

Genre: Documentary/Drama

Country: Italy

Shooting Format: 3840x2160 16/9

Format: DCP

Media form: ProRes MOV

Sound: LTRT Tracks 1/2

Languages: French – Italian - Bambara

Subtitles: English- French – Italian

N. SIAE: 241450005

LOGLINE

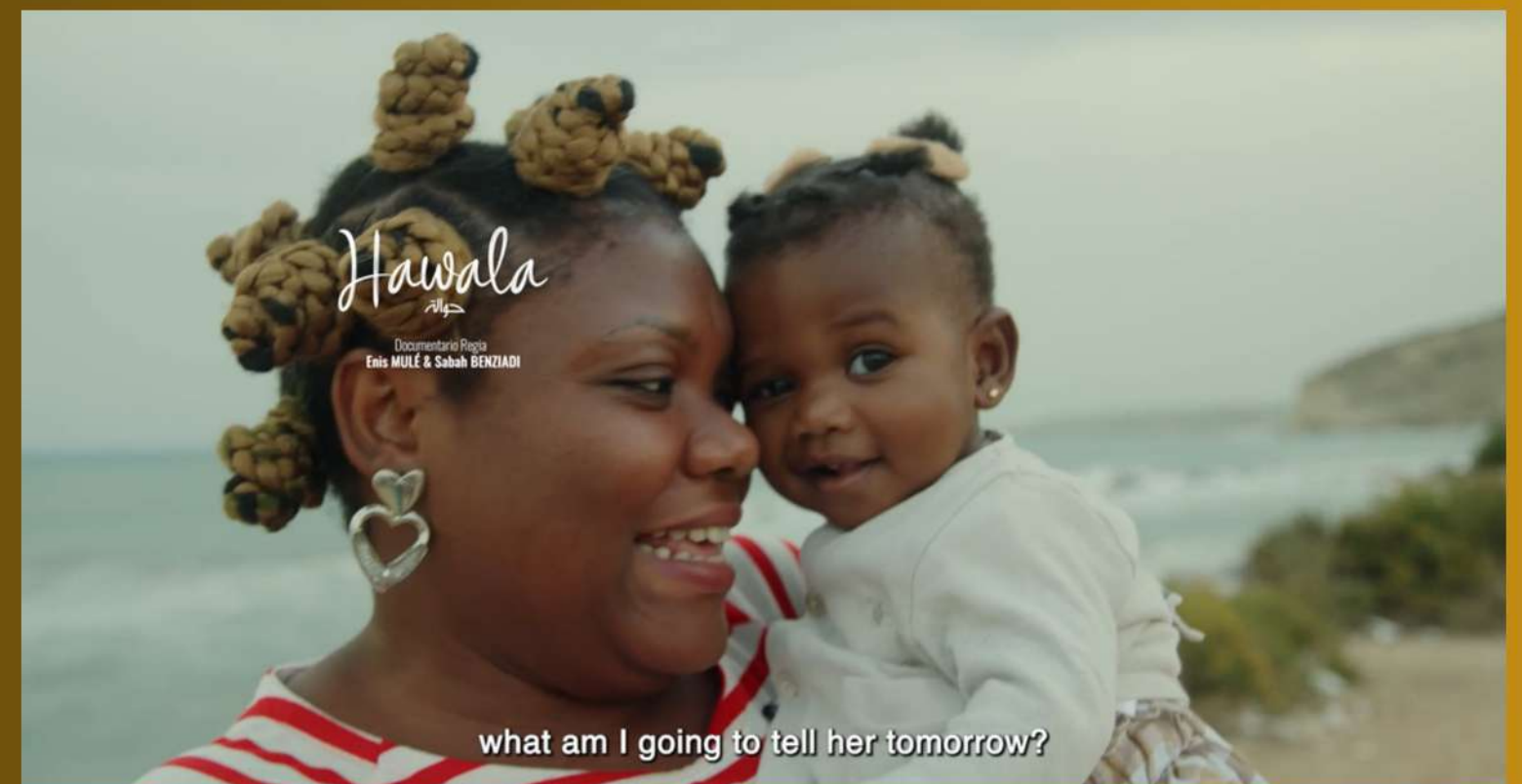
Amid harrowing journeys of abuse, loss, and survival, Hawala unveils the untold stories of African migrants fighting for freedom and dignity, exposing the dark realities of human trafficking while celebrating the resilience and strength of the human spirit.

SYNOPSIS

Hawala is a documentary that serves as both therapy and a journey into the human soul, recounting the harrowing experiences of Mohamed, Yeyinou, Natacha, and Zakaria, African migrants who are victims of trafficking. Through their voices, stories of abuse, violence, and betrayal emerge, faced along dangerous paths leading to Italy. The film portrays their shift from an initial reluctance to share their experiences to an emotional catharsis, revealing the indelible scars left by these events.

The testimonies include Natacha's story, seven months pregnant, who discovers she contracted HIV and transmitted it to her daughter; Yeyinou, a victim of sexual violence and ritual mutilation, struggling against trauma and suicide attempts; Mohamed, who fled political instability in Côte d'Ivoire, surviving slavery and torture; and Zakaria, a minor abandoned in the desert and subjected to violence, now at risk of losing his sight.

The universal voice of Binta, speaking in Mandinka, amplifies shared grief without the need for translation. The documentary denounces the trafficking and exploitation system associated with "Hawala," once an ancient money transfer method, now turned into a nightmare of violence and corporate profits. At the same time, it celebrates the resilience of those undertaking these perilous journeys to claim freedom and dignity, urging reflection on the dehumanization of lives reduced to the value of a wad of cash.



***Enis Mulè Director of the documentary HAWALA**

Enis Mulè ventures into the world of directing with his first documentary movie HAWALA. While it is his first experience as a director, he had had accumulated a significant artistic experience. He had debuted as a mime in theatre shows and in experimental dance notably in the TaoArt of Taormina and a programmer at the "MigrArti Film Fest" Film Festival in Sicily in 2018. This festival focused on crucial themes such as integration, peace and brotherhood among peoples, thus reflecting Enis' commitment to promoting positive messages through cinematic art.



***SABAH BENZIADI Director of the documentary HAWALA and director of photography**

Sabah, born in Algiers, Algeria. HAWALA is the first documentary feature film that I've directed together with the son Enis Mulè, an experience that has enriched me humanely and emotionally. My artistic career spans different areas: I am a theater, dance and short film direction teacher. I am also a choreographer and director of photography. For years I have passionately dedicated myself to the research and experimentation of the movements of the body and the visual arts in experimental cinema. I have had the privilege of being a dancer and choreographer for the maestro Franco Battiato and to play the role of Artistic Director of the festival of cinema MigrArti Film Fest at Caltabellotta. I have collaborated with various television and film festivals, and multimedia productions, contributing to my creative vision. I am the author of multiple works of drama, dance and experimentations that I've had the opportunity to give life to on the stages of antic theatres. Moreover, I have had the honor to be part of the jury of the 71st edition of Mostra del cinema di Venezia, in the session Orizzonte C I C A E, and of being the president of the jury at the International Festival of Zagora. These roles allow me to actively contribute to the valorization and the promotion of cinematographic art at the international level



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Main CAST

Directed by: Enis Mulè & Sabah Mulè

Producer: © CINE UNION aps

Enis Mulè Sabah Benziadi Samara Mulè

Written: Samara Mulè & Sabah Benziadi

Director of Photography: Sabah Benziadi

Production Esecutivo: Sabah Benziadi

Editing: Ilias Lakhmas

Music: Khoulan Lamine & Sabah Benziadi

Actrice: Khadra Benziadi

Protagonists

YEYINO

Dumbia Zakaria

Traore Mohammed Fadel

Cesay Binta

Natacha Ngaha Ysmalle

Interviews

Prefect of Agrigento

Doc. Filippo Romano

Prosecutor Dott. Salvatore Vella

Attorney Ali Listi Maman

Maria Angela Savarino

Santa Chiara di Palermo

Don Domenico Luvarà



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CINE UNION APS



is an association dedicated to social inclusion, education, and culture. Our activities include the production of films, documentaries, and short films, as well as the organization of film festivals and screenings.

Winner of the 2019 Fermenti Grant from the Italian Presidency of the Council of Ministers with the project and docufilm *Hawala*, we are a dynamic group of young filmmakers and international citizens deeply committed to shedding light on contemporary social issues through investigative documentaries.

Engaged in connecting with other social organizations and cultural initiatives, we facilitate the dissemination of documentaries, reports, and dossiers on a national and international scale.

Our fruitful collaboration with the cultural association Sabah, already established as organizers and partners in various cosmopolitan film festivals, further enhances our mission to promote social dialogue through the powerful language of cinema. We aim to challenge, inspire, and connect—step by step—for a meaningful impact on society.



Main Crew



COLLABORATION PARTNER



Presidenza del Consiglio dei Ministri
DIPARTIMENTO PER LE POLITICHE GIOVANILI E IL SERVIZIO CIVILE UNIVERSALE



Contact

We will be pleased to answer any further queries you might have

Phone

+393392190606

Email

cineunion2022@gmail.com

WebSite

<https://www.hawala-movie.com/>

