

LAYALINA PRODUCTIONS
PRESENTS
Back From The Brink



USA | Lebanon | Pakistan | 117 minutes | 2011 | English & Arabic with English Subtitles

PRESS KIT

Synopsis, Press Release, Bios, Production Stills, Film Credits, Contact Info & Poster

<http://www.layalina.tv/films/back-from-the-brink/>

SYNOPSIS

Back from the Brink is a feature-length documentary that showcases the efforts of three dissimilar communities around the world countering the spread and high toll of violent extremism. The film explores the complex worlds of Los Angeles gang members and Lebanese and Palestinian militants. It also spotlights community and religious leaders and educators who are facilitating the rehabilitation of radicalized youth. *Back from the Brink* aims to demonstrate that violent extremism and its recruitment methodology and orthodoxy of hate do not pertain to a specific culture, religion, region or nation-state, and that effective methods used to help youth out of the cycle of violence are the same everywhere.

This educational documentary is a valuable teaching-tool for educators and parents in programs to counter violent extremism in diverse cultural contexts and for various ages. *Back from the Brink* was adopted by the King Abdul Aziz Center for National Dialogue and the Security University of Riyadh in Saudi Arabia for use in their de-radicalization programs. In Pakistan, the Sindh Punjab Educational Foundation used the documentary for their teacher training workshops in interior Punjab and Baluchistan. *Back from the Brink* is an International Center for Religion and Diplomacy (ICRD) production in association with Layalina Productions. It is executive produced by Leon Shahabian and Luke Stets and directed by Luke Stets.

FILMMAKER BIOS



Leon Shahabian (Executive Producer & Co-Director) co-founded Layalina Productions in 2002 and currently serves as its President and Executive Producer. Leon executive produced the three seasons of the hit reality series *On the Road in America*, Season I (2007-2008, MBC1 and the Sundance Channel, distributed by Warner Brothers and New Line Television), Season II (2010, MBC1, MBN and OSN), and Season III (2011).

More recently, he created, wrote and executive produced the first season of *Generation Entrepreneur* a youth entrepreneurship reality series (2012-2013, OSN). Currently, he is in production on *Confessions from the War*, a film about former fighters in the Lebanese Civil War who must confront their past for the sake of Lebanon's future. .

He also executive produced *Back from the Brink* (2011), a feature documentary on countering violent extremism, and produced and executive produced the award-winning documentary *Life After Death* (2009, Al-Arabiya and MBN). His other credits include executive producing the Sister Cities documentary *Windy City, White City* (2004) as well as *Araeh* (2003).

PRODUCTION STILLS

Click [here](#) to download the High-Res *Back from the Brink* production stills.



CREDITS

DIRECTED BY

Luke Stets

EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS

Leon Shahabian

Luke Stets

EXECUTIVE IN CHARGE OF PRODUCTION

Marc Ginsberg

Los Angeles Unit

SUPERVISING PRODUCER

Leon Shahabian

PRODUCER

Tatiana Fuster Orozco

Jamie Kallish

DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY

Jonathan Wenstrup

B CAMERA OPERATOR

Cecilia Guerrero

ADDITIONAL PHOTOGRAPHY

Luke Stets

Guy Livneh

Joseph Assi

SOUND MIXER

Paul Orozco

Tad Chamberlain

GAFFER

Castor Fernandez

Enrique Huertes

Mo Jones

DIGITAL DOWNLOADER

JP Urcuyo

Adam Foskey

PRODUCTION ASSISTANT

Myles Collins

Osiris Galicia

Lebanon Unit

SUPERVISING PRODUCER

Leon Shahabian

PRODUCER

Jocelyne Abi Gebrayei

DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY

Karim Ghorayeb

B CAMERA OPERATOR

Luke Stets

Jocelyne Abi Gebrayei

ADDITIONAL PHOTOGRAPHY

Murielle Aboulrouss

Jonathan Wenstrup

SOUND

Myriam Chayeb

GAFFER

Jean Abou Dib

Pakistan Unit

PRODUCER

Babar Talmoor

PRODUCTION COORDINATOR

Fayyaz Adrees

DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY

Fayyaz Adrees

B CAMERA OPERATOR

Luke Stets

SOUND

Asif Ahmad

GAFFER

Imran Khan

PRODUCTION ASSISTANT

Waqas Ahmad

EDITOR

Shawn Thompson

ASSOCIATE EDITOR

Joseph Assi

COMPOSER

Jamshied Sharifi

SUPERVISING SOUND EDITOR/ RE-RECORDING MIXER

Evan Frankfort

ADDITIONAL MIXING

Jesser Muckenfuss

MUSICIANS

Marc Copely- guitar

Brahim Fribgane- oud darbuka

Ole Mathisen- saxophone, clarinet, flute

Jamshied Sharifi- keyboards, guitar, bass, voice

RESEARCH

Anne Hagood

Elodie Liobard

Luke Stets

Rebecca Cataldi

PRODUCTION COORDINATOR

Mirna Oud

PRODUCTION INTERN

Bentley Brown

POST-PRODUCTION SUPERVISOR

Luke Stets

ARABIC TRANSCRIPTION

Joseph Assi

Miass Abdel Aziz

URDU TRANSCRIPTION

Babar Taimoor

Mukhtar Khan

SPECIAL THANKS TO

Denise Jabbour

Murielle Aboulrouss

Lindsay Burr

LA Legacy

Norma Gillette

Anne Costello

Liz Cook

Shanoor Ahmed

Spectrum Communications

Issam Dakroub

Siham Abi Gebrayei

Tony Abi Gebrayei

Taimoor Ahmed

The Taimoor Family

Ken Kushnik

Rich Winter

Rebecca Winter

Karen Putt

Catherine Trombley

Magdalena Sikorska

Marissa Gillette

CONTACT

Leon Shahabian
President & Executive Producer
Lshahabi@Layalina.tv

Facebook: /LayalinaProductions
Twitter: @LayalinaTV
Instagram: @LayalinaTV
www.Layalina.tv



1666 Connecticut Ave NW, Suite #240
Washington, DC 20009
information@Layalina.tv
Office: 202-776-7761

POSTER

Click [here](#) to download a High-Res version of the *Back from the Brink* poster.



www.Layalina.tv/films/Yemeniettes/