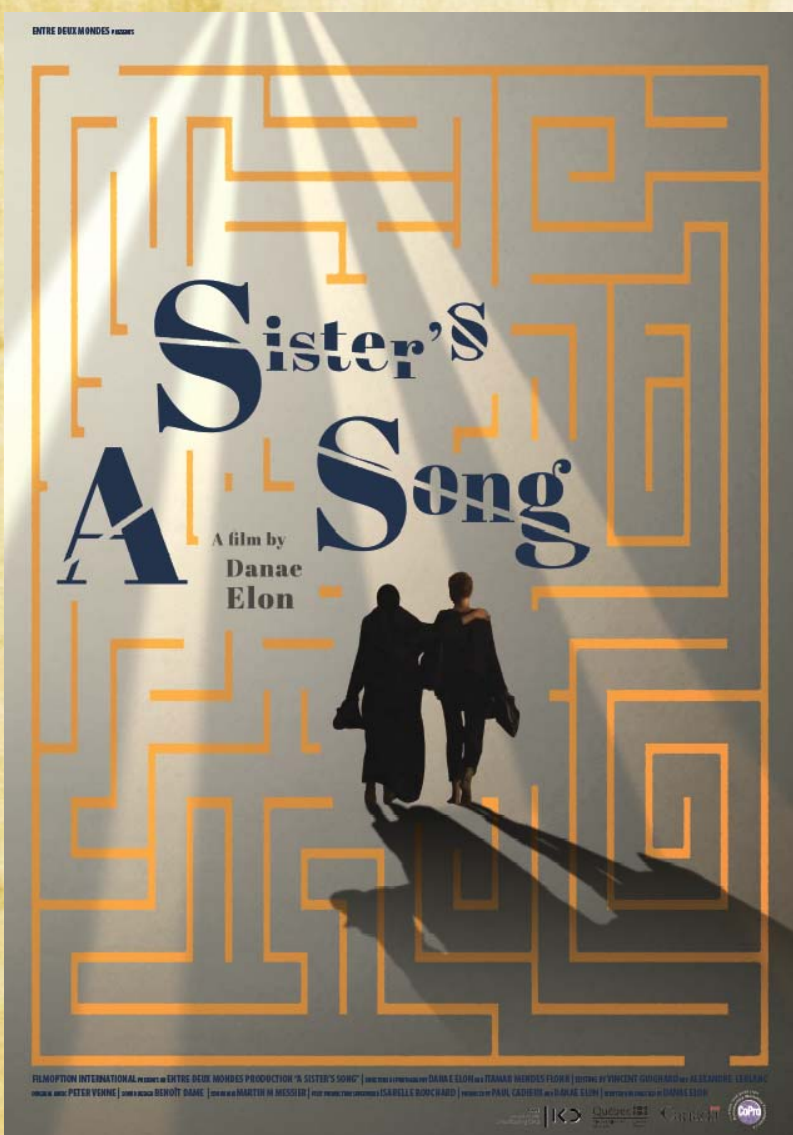


A Sister's Song

a film by Danae Elon



Synopsis

Can we ever truly know what's in a loved one's heart? *A Sister's Song* is the intimate story of two sisters, Marina and Tatiana, who are separated by Tatiana's choice to become a nun. Marina, who has barely seen or spoken to her sister in twenty years, senses that something is now wrong. She journeys to a cloistered monastery in Greece to find the sister she has lost. A dramatic turn of events will lead them both on a path, that neither knows where it will lead.



Director Danae Elon
Producers Paul Cadieux and Danae Elon
Editors Vincent Guignard and Alexandre Leblanc
Cinematographers . . . Danae Elon and Itamar Mendes Flohr
Writer Danae Elon
Original Music Peter Venne
Sound Design Benoît Dame
Sound Mix Martin M Messier
Post Production Supervisor Isabelle Bouchard

82 minutes / DCP / HDCAM

Director's Statement

In *A Sister's Song* I wanted to make a film that spoke about the connection between women not only as a story but also in its form. It is not only a film about women but also attempts to tell a story as woman's perspective would express it. The realities in which my two heroes live are complex, mysterious, multi layered and flawed as life can be - the answers we find to their pursuit are emotive and not absolute. I feel strongly about developing a form of documentary film where we are not answering questions to complex notions in our lives but rather enabling the complexity to prevail. The notion of truth exists in what is not said explicitly it cannot be found in an absolute conclusion. When Sister Jerusalem does not wish to express her feelings to Marina she is constrained by the path of faith she has chosen. To divulge any part of her soul would mean betraying her faith in God. But her sister does not relinquish and attempts to help her despite her refusal. Does she have the right to do so? Does her desire to have a sister burn the last bridge to their connection? The answer to these questions is left to the audience, but what the audience does remain with is the pain or rupture or two lives that despite their love cannot co-exist. Is this a personal choice of Sister Jerusalem? Who is truly behind her actions?

The process of making the film was a process of discovery to which I had no prior answers. I was attempting to respect the two points of view without judgment. I think it shows the immense sacrifice and fragility of the human condition in the face of faith and a believed in God. But if God is taken out of the equation and all we are left with is our emotions in face of our decisions, a grander human drama is revealed, one which takes this very intimate portrait of two women to a universal scale of sufferance. The story of Marina and Sister Jerusalem can be found in any faith, in any path of extremism where families are torn apart by the individual's declaration before a God.



Danae Elon - Director, Producer, Writer, Cinematographer



A Sister's Song is director Danae Elon's fifth feature documentary film. Her films *Another Road Home* (2004), *Partly Private* (2007), *P.S. Jerusalem* (2015) and *The Patriarch's Room* (2016) have been showcased at TIFF, Berlinale, Tribeca, IDFA, Hot Docs and many other international film festivals. They have also been theatrically released in the US and Canada and broadcast on the BBC, ARTE, RADIO CANADA, YLE, HOT TV, CHANNEL 1, AL JAZEERA and others. She is the recipient of Guggenheim fellowship in film in addition to winning numerous awards for her films.

Paul Cadieux - Producer



Paul Cadieux is one of Canada's leading and most active film and television producers. Among numerous other awards, he has won a Genie Award for Best Motion Picture for the Oscar-nominated *Les Triplettes de Belleville*. Paul also produced Danae's previous film *Partly Private*. In his more than three decades as a producer, co-producer, executive producer and distributor, Paul often prefers to operate out of the limelight yet has been centrally involved in dozens of major Canadian and international projects and hundreds of television episodes ranging from children's animation series to thriller feature films, romantic comedies, travel shows, reality programming, international coproductions, feature documentaries and TV series of pretty much every stripe in both English and French.

Entre Deux Mondes Productions

Entre Deux Mondes Productions is a film/TV production company based in Montreal dedicated to the making of POV documentary films with compelling stories and characters that challenge our perception of the world we live in. Both in form and in content, we believe in challenging the ways in which we tell stories and they way we tell them. Our team nurtures international productions and co-productions of stories that engage audiences on challenging political and social levels.



International Distribution

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