

Samir

Born in 1955 in Baghdad (Iraq), Samir immigrated to Switzerland in the 1960s with his parents as a child. In the early 1970s, he went to the School of Applied Arts in Zurich before attending an apprenticeship as a typographer. After training as a cameraman, he started making his own films in the mid-1980s, which caused a sensation at various festivals for their innovative character. The list of his works currently includes more than 40 short and feature films for cinema and television. In the 1990s, he also worked for various German TV stations (ZDF, ARD, SAT 1, PRO 7, among others) as a director of series and TV films. The *Swiss Love* pavilion, which Samir created and designed for Expo 02, was also very popular. Together with documentary filmmaker Werner Schweizer, he took over in 1994 the production company Dschoint Ventschr Filmproduktion, which has since made a name for itself as a breeding ground for Swiss film talent.

Samir has been involved in numerous fiction and documentary films as a producer. His diverse productions include the documentary *White Terror* by Daniel Schweizer or the fake documentary *Birdseye*, but also fictions such as *Replica* by Stina Werenfels or *Das Fräulein* by Andrea Staka. In 2012, his production *Operation Libertad* celebrated its premiere at the 'Quinzaine des Réalisateurs' in Cannes.