



Director Yeşim Ustaoğlu (ARAF-SOMEWHERE IN

BETWEEN, PANDORA'S BOX)

DoP Michael Hammon (STOPPED ON TRACK.

CLOUD 9)

Cast Funda Eryiğit

Mehmet Kurtulus (BIG GAME)

Ecem Uzun Okan Yalabik Serkan Keskin Sema Poyraz

Genre Drama Turkish Language Length 105 min

Produced by Ustaoglu Film, unafilm and Slot

Machine in co-production with Aeroplan Film and ZDF / ARTE











## **CLAIR OBSCUR**

## **SYNOPSIS**

Chehnaz, an attractive, modern woman and her husband Cem live in a hip neighbourhood in Istanbul.

Chehnaz has been assigned to a public hospital in a small, remote seaside town to complete her mandatory 2-year duty as an aspiring psychiatrist. While treating her patients during the week, she's mostly looking forward to the weekend and their Istanbul lives. However during this routine, Chehnaz' sexual problem with her husband becomes more evident - a problem that she is not able to face.

After a stormy night the course of Chehnaz's life is changed forever when she meets Elmas, a young woman from the town, who was married-off to a distant relative. Elmas survives as best she can far away from her family in a hostile environment with an older man she doesn't love.

## THE DIRECTOR

After several award-winning shorts in Turkey, Yeşim Ustaoğlu made her feature film debut in 1994 with THE TRACE (iZ). The international recognition she received for her film, JOURNEY TO THE SUN (GÜNEŞE YOLCULUK) included the Blue Angel Award at the Berlin Film Festival for Best European Film as well as the Peace Prize. Also, this moving story of a courageous friendship undaunted by political cruelty swept the Istanbul Film Festival by winning Best Film, Best Director, the FIPRESCI Prize and the Audience Award.

Her third film WAITING FOR THE CLOUDS confirmed the reputation Yeşim had by now established for herself by traveling many festivals and winning the prestigious NHK-Sundance International Film-maker's award, followed up by her forth picture PANDORA'S BOX, telling the story of an elderly woman suffering from Alzheimer disease, taking Best Film and Best Actress awards at the San Sebastian Film Festival, to name only of its exploits. Pandora's Box was also released theatrically in many countries.

Yeşim Ustaoğlu's last film ARAF won, among others, Best Film in Abu Dhabi Film Festival, as well as Best Performance kudos at Moscow and Tokyo Film Festivals, and Special Jury Award for Best Actress Award in Pune Film Festival.



