

WHEN THE LINE BETWEEN REALITY AND
DREAM BLURS

DÜNYA
AYDOĞDU

ESİN
GEDİKOĞLU

MIRZA
ELÖVER

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THE MOLLIE PROJECT

A FILM BY AHMET ALIM YILMAZ

ZERDER PRODUCTION PRESENT THE MOLLIE PROJECT STARRING DÜNYA AYDOĞDU, ESİN GEDİKOĞLU & MIRZA ELÖVER, BANU TOPÇU, MUSA ÖZTEP, FATİH SÜZER MUSIC BY BİREY BİLEN SOUND ISMAIL HAKKI HAFİZ COLORIST ÖZKAN ÇALIŞKAN PRODUCTION COORDINATOR BISAR BEKTAS EDITOR ÖMER LEVENTOĞLU ART DIRECTORS SEVCAN BELHAN AND MERT AKSOY PRODUCER HUSEYİN ZERDER EXECUTIVE PRODUCER MENSURE ÖZTÜRK DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY ILKER CAN KARAGÜLLE & HUSEYİN ZERDER PRODUCTION SUPERVISOR ALEX NIKOLIĆ 1ST AD GONCA ÖZTÜRK DIRECTED BY AHMET ALIM YILMAZ





PRODUCTION INFORMATION

Distribution

Zerder Production
info@zerderproduction.com

Production Companies

Zerder Production
Fer Film Production
ICK Film Production

Date of Completion

2024

Format

4K DCI Flat

Ratio

2:39

Country of Production

Turkey

Duration

41 minutes 13 second

Language

English

Genre(s)

Experimental, Fantasy,
Psychological Thriller,
Romantic Drama, Dark
Comedy

CAST

Mollie

Dünya AYDOĞDU

Flora (The stranger)

Esin GEDİKOĞLU

Chantal

Mirza ELÖVER

Suzanne

Banu TOPÇU

Fil

Fatih SÜZER

Gülazer

Musa ÖZTEP

Khalix

Ceren Nur GÜRLER

Karim

Mehmet Zidan AKGÜL

Laura

Esra GÖNEN

Arin

Ömür AVŞAR

Melisa

Alper ÜNAL

CREW

Director, Screenwriter

Ahmet Alim YILMAZ

Producer

Huseyin Zerder

Executive Producer

Menşure Öztürk

1st AD & Casting Director

Gonca Öztürk

Supervisor of Art

Ahmet KARSLI

Art Directors

Sevcan BELHAN

Mert AKSOY

Directors of Photography

İlker Can KARAGÜLLE

Huseyin Zerder

Assistant DOP(s)

Ahmet Ali AKÇAY

Ertuğrul AYYILDIZ

Production Coordinator

Bişar BEKTAŞ

Sound operator

İsmail Hakkı Hafız

Make-up & Hair

Behiye Bilge DERİN

Gaffer

İsmail Aluç

Logline

“When Mollie’s routine between real and surreal gets interrupted by an uncalled visitor, the line between reality and dream blurs.”



Synopsis

Mollie is a deeply personal exploration. Through the character of Mollie, we embark on a captivating journey that challenges conventional storytelling norms. It is a tale of self-discovery, love, and the intricate workings of the human mind. Mollie's experiences and emotions mirror our own inner struggles and desires, inviting the audience to introspect and reflect on their own lives.

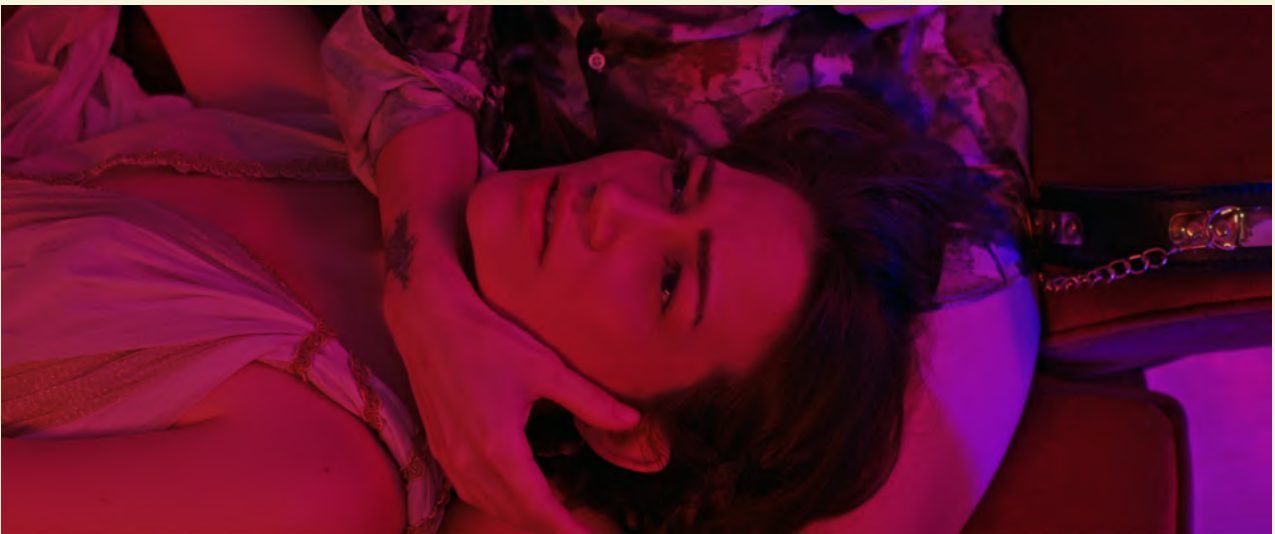
Unveiling the veiled spaces of mental wellness, creativity, and self-exploration, “The Mollie Project” transcends into a cinematic journey of a non-binary pansexual protagonist. The narrative intertwines with imaginary characters, each symbolizing diverse societal facets, reflecting both on the protagonist and society's constructed norms.

Blending elements of fantasy, psychological thriller, and romantic drama. It delves into the complex layers of our subconscious, where desires, fears, and dreams intermingle, often blurring the lines between reality and imagination.



“A surreal journey to complexities of mental health, creativity and self-discovery where the line between reality and dream blurs.”

Oneliner



Approach

We took a specific approach where camera movements and angles are designed to express the protagonist Mollie’s mood and feelings as well as from a view of another character within the story, inviting viewers to be a local within the movie. We used method acting. D nya (played Mollie) says they didn’t leave the character long after the shootings.

Mollie’s house was painted and decorated by the Mollie Project team implementing different emotions to characters and narrative through the set decoration.

We used local and colorful lightings to express certain emotions and add visual harmony.

Production Notes

Mollie was originally planned to be produced in Netherlands in 2022, but shootings were later postponed being completed in Istanbul in 2023.

We worked with a small budget but with many talented creatives who is able to create magic with small number of resources. Ahmet Alim Yılmaz and Gonca Öztürk initially started building the crew. Getting the crew and cast ready, pre-production and rehearsals took 3 months. We had many challenges to overcome on the way. Shootings took 3 days and we had to re-schedule another shooting day a month later the production to get the missing scenes.

The whole set is designed and painted by the Mollie Project team implementing representations of characters. Working with a small budget we went to prop and decor hunting in antique bazaars and flea markets of Istanbul where we could find used canvases to re-paint for €0.03 - € 0.15 a piece, statues or unique pieces to include DIY projects for set decoration. Crafting set decoration for each dramatic day of the movie, art department created such excellent job creating magic with small number of resources.

Help of AI was used in set decoration of the movie, 27 different paintings were created with artificial intelligence and printed to be used on the set, not all of them made it to screen.

It was challenging to sustain support in the current political environment of production country. We had to say goodbye to our main supports along the way and some names were removed from credits due to requests reasoning safety. Post-production therefore was postponed. After five different versions of the movie was created, 41 minutes version of the movie, edited by Omer Leventoglu was selected to be the final version. Now we're in a lookout for the distribution.



Directors Notes

The realm of existence is bound by unseen chains, forged through societal norms, moral codes, and inherited beliefs. As a non-binary, Kurdish-Armenian artist hailing from the eclectic yet conservative terrains of Turkey, my journey is to decipher, challenge, and perhaps, to shatter those unseen chains.

The Mollie Project delves into the nuances of marginalization, LGBTQ+ dynamics, self-oppression, and societal expectations, promoting a discourse that echoes through reality. Through Mollie's eyes, the audience is invited to traverse the uncharted territories of self and societal acceptance.

My artistry is aimed to be a voyage into the heart of human experience, a relentless inquiry into what binds us, what divides us, and what liberates us. Through Mollie, I attempt to unveil the myriad layers of oppression, self-exploration, and the quest for identity. Each narrative I craft is a dialog between the self and the societal, the seen and the unseen, the spoken and the unspoken.

I invite the viewers to step into the unseen, to confront the uncomfortable, and to engage in a dialog that could, perhaps, lead us towards a realm of unyielding exploration, acceptance, and liberation.

The Mollie Project is a labor of love and a testament to the power of cinema as a medium of expression. It is my hope that this film resonates with audiences, igniting conversations, and leaving a lasting impression. I am incredibly grateful to the talented cast and crew who have brought this vision to life, and I am excited to share it with the world.



FILM ELEMENTS



MOLLIE

The protagonist, Works in corporate company as a mid-Senior worker. Mollie sees hallucinations, they call locals and interact with them. In a daily routine of workplace and their imagination, Mollie navigate the challenges of fitting in with society and desire to find their place in the world.

FLORA

A sudden and uncalled visitor to Mollie's world. She feeds Mollie's inner needs. An inspiration with flaws, sincere and pure.



LOCAL CHANTAL

The hedonistic queen, unapologetically themselves. Always around, influencing decisions but they're completely in their world. Mollie's favorite local.

LOCAL SUZANNE

Helps Mollie with tasks, she's loving but responsibilities come first. She is trying to be fit into corporate and pretty successful at it. All these years helped Mollie with making logical decisions.



LOCAL PHIL

A sweet manchild. Very protective of the house and Mollie, He has high social anxiety.

LOCAL GULAZER

All the internalized norms and clues still carrying with Gulazer. She watches the situations but don't interrupt, a view from outside.





Ahmet Alim Yılmaz

DIRECTOR, WRITER (THEY/THEM)

Ahmet is a Kurdish-Armenian filmmaker and visual artist from Turkey. They directed “Yazar-landın!” (Short movie, 2022) and co-directed “#2400” (short movie, 2023) with Huseyin Zerder. Also took the role of Art Director in feature film “Gayda Yolu” (Movie, 2023, director: Bişar Bektaş) and “Saykanot” (Short Movie, 2023, director: Bilge Su Işık). You can learn more about Ahmet and find links through their [bio](#) and [IMDb](#) profile: www.ahmetalimyilmaz.art <https://www.imdb.com/name/nm14892868/>

HUSEYIN ZERDER

PRODUCER, CINEMATOGRAPHER (HE/HIM)

Huseyin is a Kurdish cinematographer and photographer in Cappadocia. He worked as a cinematographer at “Yazar-landın!” (Short movie, 2022) and co-directed “#2400” (short movie, 2023) with Ahmet Alim Yılmaz.

His photography works were published and shown in exhibitions and magazines.



DUNYA AYDOĞDU

LEADING ACTRESS (THEY/THEM)

Dunya Aydogdu was born on June 19, 1989 in Istanbul Turkey. Majored art photography at Marymount Manhattan College and later studied Method Acting at Lee Strasberg Theatre and Film Institute Los Angeles and Performed at the Lee Strasberg Los Angeles and took role in TV Series called Adini Sen Koy and Paramparca.



OMER LEVENTOĞLU

EDITOR (HE/HIM)

Omer is a Kurdish film director and editor from Turkey. He’s known for his 2013 production “The Blue Van” movie which gained him screenings and festival accreditations.

He currently works as editor.





ILKER CAN KARAGULLE

CINEMATOGRAPHER (HE/HIM)

Ilker is a Turkish cinematographer and action director. He worked as a cinematographer in Kelebeğin Çocukları (2022) & The Legend of Zelda (2020). He designed and directed action scenes for many series and films such as 'Dirilis Ertugrul', 'Mehmet Bir Cihan Fatihi' and 'Adanis Kutsal Kavga'. He has about 140 tv series, 5 Cinema Movie, 3 documentaries and many Commercial and Music clip experiences.
<https://www.imdb.com/name/nm8614515/>

ESIN GEDIKOGLU

ACTRESS (SHE/HER)

She is a Turkish actress who studied camera acting at the Müjdat Gezen Art Center and has been in plays at the Müjdat Gezen Theatre. She worked with the Chubbuck method. Later, she specialized in the Eric Morris Method with Tuğçe Tanış. Finally, she worked with Bahar Kerimoglu in advanced classes. She has been dancing since a young age. She currently lives in Turkey.



Mensure Ozturk

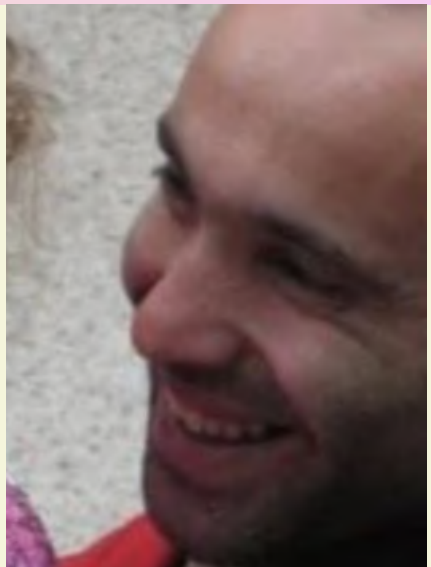
EXECUTIVE PRODUCER (SHE/HER)

Mensure is a Kurdish theatre and film producer and actress.

Ahmet KARSLI

ART SUPERVISOR (HE/HIM)

Ahmet is an art director and set designer. He worked in several TV series and movies. He established his art/decor production company in Istanbul, creating products for productions now.





Gonca Öztürk

1ST AD & CASTING DIRECTOR (HE/HIM)

Gonca Öztürk's theater adventure, which started at Bursa Konak House at a young age, lasted 9 years. During the same period, she worked as a theater actress at Kültür Schools. Öztürk, who started studying cinema and television at Bahçeşehir University in 2018, worked as a set manager and cast director in documentary series "Eskiden Beri", TV series "Aze" and clips during this period. He worked as an art assistant, art director and assistant director.

Alex Nikolic

PRODUCTION SUPERVISOR (HE/HIM)

Alex is a Serbian film producer and distributor from Macedonia. He's founded Studios Inc. and Cineland. He's also the founder of Cinemac est in 2021.

<https://www.linkedin.com/in/alexnikolicstudiosinc>

<https://www.imdb.com/name/nm3456386/>



Banu Topçu

ACTRESS (SHE/HER)

Banu is a turkish actress and academician.

Musa Öztep

ACTOR (HE/HIM)

Ahmet is an art director and set designer. He worked in several TV series and movies. He established his art/decor production company in Istanbul, creating products for productions now.



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Ahmet Alim Yilmaz
Director

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**INTERNATIONAL
DISTRUBITION**

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THE MOLLIE PROJECT (IMDb)
<https://www.imdb.com/title/tt27902707/>



Website Film Information
<https://www.ahmetalimyilmaz.art/themollieproject>



Instagram account
<https://www.instagram.com/themollieproject.movie>



Press Kit & Promotional Materials
https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1J1eRQVui67LY-K_rZqAHeFdwlCa-kfWQ

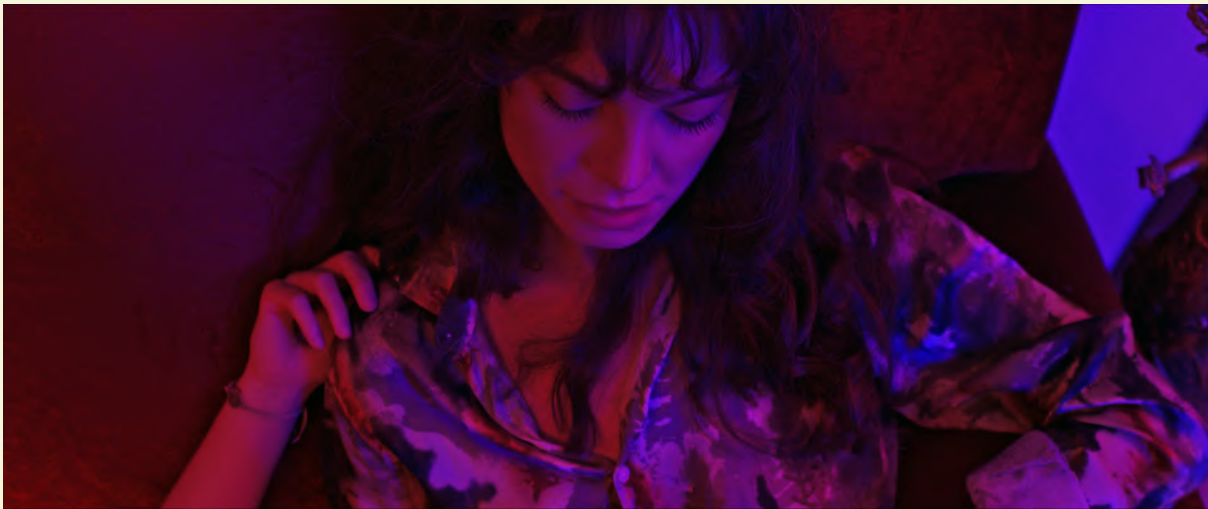


BEHIND-THE-SCENES



BEHIND-THE-SCENES





STILL IMAGES. 01



STILL IMAGES.02

STILL IMAGES.03

