



DO YOU LOVE ME

A film by Lana Daher

دو يو لوف مي

Produced by
Films de Force Majeure (France)
My Little Films (Lebanon)

Co-produced by
Wood Water Films (Germany)
Studio Lemon (France)

International sales
Lightdox

World Premiere: Venice 2025 - Giornate degli Autori

Synopsis

Do You Love Me is a playful and personal journey through Lebanon's audiovisual memory, composed entirely of archival footage.

It is a love letter to Beirut, spanning 70 years of film, TV, home videos, and photography, exploring the Lebanese collective psyche – marked by joy and intimacy, destruction and loss.

Through the eyes of citizens, filmmakers and artists, the film reconstructs a fragmented history in a country without a national archive, celebrating creative expression as both resistance, renewal and a way to preserve memory.



Director's statement

Lana Daher

I was born in 1983, in the middle of the Lebanese Civil War. The same cycles of aggression and relative calm that shaped my childhood still define life here. Having lived through endless waves of conflict, I've witnessed their impact on generations before and after me.

In our schools, we have no shared history book, our past remains unspoken. This absence pushed me to the archives to search, collect, and listen—to understand not only what came before, but our present.

Beirut is home. A city suspended in the in-between: between violence and endurance, fragility and renewal. It carries a strong sense of identity and perseverance, yet a deep vulnerability. Living here means navigating extremes, again and again.

Do You Love Me is a reflection on Beirut today. By reinterpreting fragments of films, songs, and photographs, I hope to distill this city's layered reality—its memory, resistance, joy and tenderness—and give these images new life, opening a space to explore, remember, and simply feel.





Lana Daher

Lana Daher is a filmmaker and multidisciplinary artist based in **Beirut, Lebanon**.

With a background in fine arts and graphic design (BFA, American University of Beirut) as well as filmmaking (MA, Goldsmiths, University of London), she has long been active in Beirut's vibrant art and music scenes, working across sound, image, and archival practices.

Her work is grounded in deep research and intuitive storytelling, exploring the space between documentary and fiction by bringing different time periods and emotional landscapes into dialogue.

Do You Love Me is her debut feature, an archive-based essay film built from Lebanon's rich but fragmented audiovisual history. Alongside the film, she created a website, a curated index of the resources and materials behind the project, aimed at reconnecting Lebanese film heritage with both local and wider audiences.

An IDFAcademy alumna, Lana also co-produced the film through her company, **My Little Films**, founded in 2024.

Producer's statement

Jean-Laurent Csinidis

Lana Daher's relationship to *Do You Love Me* is deeply personal, grounded in lived experience, and multi-layered. She stands not only as an observer but as an active participant in the very story she's telling. As a Lebanese filmmaker living and working in Beirut, she approaches the film as both an intimate conversation with her city and a generational reckoning with Lebanon's unresolved past.

Using 70 years of archival footage from various sources—including Lebanese cinema, television, and private collections, including those of her own family and friends—she channels a distinctly female perspective that weaves personal memory with collective trauma. Lana doesn't just revisit history—she reclaims it.

Through bold, intuitive editing, the film reconstructs an emotional landscape shaped by cycles of violence and silence. This is both an artistic and existential journey that speaks from—and to—a generation of Lebanese youth demanding access to their own history.

By reconnecting audiences with the richness of Lebanon's audiovisual memory, *Do You Love Me* becomes both a cinematic act of remembrance and a collective statement of presence.

Press

"Exhilarating ... A remarkable rhythm that fluidly moves between calm, exuberance and disorder... [An] ode to the collective courage of Lebanese people."

- The Guardian

"an important step towards building a shared audiovisual memory ... Do You Love Me confirms that in Lebanon, life can be very sad, but also very beautiful."

- Cineuropa

"Do You Love Me is a gripping personal cinematic essay that captures a country's emotional memories with a subtle eye, but it's also an entertaining, playful journey that reflects on the springs of collective memory."

- En Primera Fila





Festivals

World Premiere — Venice Film Festival (Giornate degli Autori), 2025

2025 — Hamburg Film Festival • Middle East Now Festival • Doclisboa • Sao Paulo IFF • Cinemed • IFFMH Internationales Filmfestival Mannheim-Heidelberg • Movies on War • Cairo International Film Festival • IDFA • RIDM • Festival des 3 Continents • Marrakech International Film Festival • Watch Docs

2026 — Goteborg Film Festival • DocPoint Helsinki Documentary Film Festival • DocPoint Tallinn • Antenna DFF • Documental Ambulante • CPH:DOX • SXSW • Docville • Arab Film Days Oslo • Hong Kong International Film Festival • New Directors/New Films

Awards

Political Film Award of the Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung
Hamburg Film Festival 2025

“Director Lana Daher achieves something extraordinary... a poetic film in a form we have never seen before.”

Honorable Mention — Doclisboa 2025

Special Mention — Cinemed 2025

Best Film in International Competition
DocPoint Helsinki Documentary Film Festival 2026

“This film stands out for its distinctive approach to national history and collective memory... revealing moments of everyday experience and memory that are rarely found in books but remain powerfully present in moving images.”



Main crew

A film by Lana Daher

Written by Lana Daher & Qutaiba Barhamji

Editing Qutaiba Barhamji

Sound Pierre Armand

Post-production manager Denis Liakhov

Archive producers Denis Liakhov, Lana Daher

Colorist Alexis Lambotte

Post-production supervisor Nora Bertone

Delegate producer Jean-Laurent Csinidis

Associate producers Jérôme Nunes, Nora Bertone
Nadi Lekol Nas

Produced by Films de Force Majeure
(Jean-Laurent Csinidis, France)

My Little Films
(Lana Daher, Lebanon)

Co-produced by Wood Water Films
(Jasper Mielke, Karoline Henkel,
Arto Sebastian, Germany)

Studio Lemon (France)

Technical info

Title Do You Love Me

Length 75 min.

Year of production 2025

Languages Arabic, French, English

Format Color/B&W, 16:9, 25 fps, 5.1/stereo

Countries of production France, Lebanon, Germany, Qatar

Supported by ARTE France – La Lucarne (Fabrice Puchault, Rasha Salti) | IDFA Bertha Fund | Centre national du cinéma et de l'image animée | Robert Bosch Stiftung | Fonds Image de la Francophonie | Sundance Institute Documentary | Europe Creative MEDIA (Union européenne) | Al-Jazeera Documentary | Doha Film Institute | The Arab Fund for Arts and Culture – AFAC | Région Provence-Alpes Côte d'Azur (en partenariat avec le CNC) | PROCIREP - Société des producteurs & ANGOA | Lebanese Film Fund | AFLAMUNA

Projet selected by RIDM Documentary Forum 2019 | Dok.Fest Munich Marketplace 2019 | IDFA Project Space 2020 | IDFA Forum 2021 | Qumra 2023 | Cannes Docs 2023 | Al-Jazeera Balkans Industry Days 2022 | IDFA Rough-Cuts 2024

Contact

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Production

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