

BASED ON A TRUE STORY



★★★★★
"GENUINELY TERRIFYING"
"UNMISSABLE"

VICTOR FRAGA | FOUNDER DMOVIES

★★★★★
"WORLD CLASS"
A. R. RAHMAN

A FILM BY NAYLA AL KHATA
THREE

THE FIRST THING YOU LEARN ABOUT EVIL... IT COMES IN THREES

DARK DUNES AND NAYLA AL KHATA FILMS IN ASSOCIATION WITH SULTAN SAEED AL DAMMAKI AND MUNA EASA AL BORS PRESENTS JEFFERSON HALL THREE. FATEH AHMED NOUR AL KHEDIGE SAID ALZAROONI. SCREENPLAY BY NAYLA AL KHATA AND BEN WILLIAMS. MUSIC BY VILJAMIR PERIC. PARTNERS KIASMO. EDITORS YAHYA AL MALKI, SEBASTIEN FAVRE, HANZO AL KHATA. PRODUCTION DESIGNER AHMED ASHAN. CINEMATOGRAPHY MUNA AL ELEN. PROPS SULTAN SAEED AL DAMMAKI, JEAN-CHARLES LEVY, DANIEL ZIRILLI. NAYLA AL KHATA. PROPS MUNA EASA AL BORS, SULTAN SAEED AL DAMMAKI, CHRISTIAN PETER, JEFFERSON HALL, SIDDHARTH THAKKER, RASHI THAKKER. WRITERS JOHN COLLEE, MIOSOUD AMBALLA, JAL ALI, CHRISTIAN PETER. DIRECTED BY NAYLA AL KHATA.

NAYLA AL KHAJA – Director / Producer

Nayla Al Khaja is the first female Film Director in the United Arab Emirates. She is a pioneer and a strong voice from the Middle-East who brings extensive experience and cultural insight to both national and international projects.

Nayla has successfully wrapped up the principal shoot of her debut feature film, "THREE" it features an international cast (Asian and Arabs) and addresses themes that resonate with audiences worldwide.

Two decades ago, Sheikh Nahyan Bin Mubarak Al Nahyan wrote a speech that he recently signed and sent to Nayla, officially acknowledging her as the first lady of film in the UAE.



Nayla has been a top-tier speaker at the London Speakers Bureau, constantly advocating for women's voices and presence in the film world. She speaks 5 languages and is currently studying Mandarin.

Nayla became representative, brand ambassador & endorser of companies through partnerships and promotions such as Honor and Oppo mobile phones and Emirates Airline.





Nayla Al Khaja debut feature film

***THREE* (PG 13)**

Based on a true story.

A boy becomes sick by his inner voices, leading his mother to seek help from an unlikely man, who must put his Western thinking aside to save her son through an intense Arabian strange ritual. A mother's love is tested.

Starring: Jefferson Hall (House of the Dragons), Oppenheimer and Maree Al Halyan.

Film themes: Coming of Age Psychological Drama– Mental Health - East and West.

TWO SAMPLE POSTERS



QUICK GLIMPSE

NAME OF FILM: Three

GENRE: Psychological Drama

Tag line: The first thing you learn about evil...it comes in threes.

Synopsis: A boy becomes sick by his mental voices, leading his mother to seek help from an unlikely man, who must put his western thinking aside to save her son through an intense ritual.

Themes: Mental Well-being, Family Dynamics, Relationships between Parents and Children.

TRAILER <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=usq-FJeutaE>

MAIN CAST:

Jefferson Hall as Dr. Mark Holly

Faten Ahmed as Maryam

Noura Alabed as Noora

Saud Alzarooni as Ahmed

Mohannad Huthail as Mulla

Yousef Abdulrazzaq Al Khaja as Abdulhadi

Mari Al-Halyan as Mulla Ibrahim Al Khati

RUNNING TIME - (in minutes): 93 minutes

ASPECT RATIO: 2.35 : 1

LANGUAGE(S): English, Arabic, Mandarin, Bahasa Indonesia

FILM REVIEWS

<https://www.thenationalnews.com/arts-culture/film-tv/2024/01/28/three-review-this-is-the-emirati-horror-film-weve-been-waiting-for/>

A composite image. The top half shows a woman with dark hair and a serious expression, looking directly at the camera. The bottom half is a screenshot of a video player, showing the same woman in a white dress, with a play button in the center.

<https://theindependentcritic.com/three>

The rest of the ensemble cast is uniformly strong as *Three* immerses us in the world of Islamic exorcism. It's a world that has some similarities to Christian exorcism, though also some very distinct Arab rituals and practices including relentless prayers and chants, ablution, and so much more. I learned much and was completely captivated.

Lensing by Mik Allen captures deep reverence for Islamic faith and yet also the intimacy of the humans within that faith. The exorcism scenes are horrifying and jarring, the seeming immersion of a 12-year-old child within this world amplifies the power and force of it all. *Three* is on the fringes of what would be seen as horror, jump scares are present yet never histrionic and always grounded within the film's spiritual experiences. We become afraid because the story, co-written by Al Khaja with Ben Williams, feels so incredibly human and vulnerable and real.

Ahmed Hassan's art direction is outstanding and costume design by Wantana "Joy" Warintaraweech is culturally aware and immersive. I can't help but notice that I've used the word "immersive" several times in this review, yet perhaps what is so impressive with Al Khaja's direction is that she immerses us respectfully and with great dignity in this world and tells us a story we can't possibly forget.

Continuing on its film festival journey, there's literally no doubt that *Three* will find a distribution home to offer it the audience it so richly deserves.

Written by Richard Proper
The Independent Critic

<https://filmthreat.com/reviews/three-2023/>

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By [Bobby LePire](#) | January 19, 2024

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One fantastic aspect of cinema is how readily it can plop viewers into different countries, cultures, religions, and so on. Director Nayla Al Khaja's debut feature film, *Three*, is an exorcism movie. As such, it hits several expected beats during its 93-minute runtime. But it is three djinns being exorcised from a young Muslim boy. Couple that with some decent characterizations and creepy visuals, and there's more than enough here to recommend.

Written by Nayla Al Khaja, Ben Williams, John Collee, and Masoud Amralla Al Ali, the movie follows Ahmed (Saud Alzarooni). He's a young boy who is close to his mother, Maryam (Faten Ahmed), and aunt Noora (Noura Alabed). Due to a stutter and his mom being divorced, which is highly frowned upon in Muslim culture, he is bullied in his Western school. So, when Ahmed begins to experience persistent headaches and hearing

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Three spends its first half establishing the relationships between everyone. Noora and Dr. Holly's flirtatious repartee is quite delightful. Maryam's love for Ahmed is never in question. This helps establish the personal stakes for all the characters and invests viewers in the exorcism's outcome. Al Khaja lights most of this drama-horror hybrid like a family drama, making the horror elements all the more striking as they increase in volume until the third act. It certainly helps that the cast is good as well.

Of course, this is still an exorcism film. That means typical story points are present. The exorcism is put into peril by someone not following instructions. Ahmed goes from writhing and speaking like an evil entity to normal, only to switch back. If you've seen one exorcism movie, several moments in the last 20 or so minutes are business as usual. Still, they are well done and hold a certain creepiness.

Three might tell an exorcism story, but that doesn't mean it is unoriginal. The use of Muslim and Islamic lore and cultural specifics creates a backdrop that adds deeper meaning than expected. The characterizations and family dramatics that precede the horror are excellently handled and keep all watching engaged. The exorcism itself isn't exactly original, but it is scary and well-filmed.