

BAAB

UAE trailblazer Nayla Al Khaja joins forces with two-time Oscar winner A.R. Rahman to deliver an atmospheric, emotionally charged film with worldwide appeal.

[Watch Trailer](#)



A woman with long dark hair, wearing a yellow dress with large black polka dots, is shown from the chest down. She is looking down at her hands, which are clasped together in front of her. The background is dark and out of focus.

Logline

Some doors should never be opened.

BAAB Synopsis

When her twin sister dies without explanation, a woman sets out to uncover the truth. But a haunting sound in her left ear leads her into a mountain world of visions, secrets, and dangerous revelations. BAAB is a tense psychological drama where the path to closure opens a door that should never have been opened.



FILM INFORMATION

- Original title: باب
- English title: BAAB
- Year: 2026
- Country of production: United Arab Emirates
- Duration: 97'
- Film Status: Locked picture

FILM CLASSIFICATION

- Type: Fictional Feature Film
- Genre: Psychological Drama, Mystery

FILM TECHNICAL INFORMATION

- Camera: Arri Alexa
- Image: Color, Scope 2.39:1
- Language Format: Arabic with English subtitles
- Available formats: Encrypted DCP, MP4 file, Pro Res file

Releasing Theatrically in Gulf Countries, Egypt, and Turkiye in 2026

CAST AND CREW

Direction & Production

Director: Nayla Al Khaja

Producers: Nayla Al Khaja, Jude S Walko &
Sultan Saeed Al Darmaki

Cast

Shaima Al Fadl

Huda Alghanem

Meera Almidfa

Sabiha Majgaonkar

Mansoor Alnoamani

Creative Team

Cinematographer: Rogier Stoffers
(ASC,NSC)

Music by: Two-time Oscar winner A.R.
Rahman

Writers: Masoud Amralla Al Ali & Nayla Al
Khaja

Editor & Co-producer: Sebastian Funke

A woman with long, dark, wavy hair is shown from the chest up. She is wearing a light-colored, long-sleeved dress with a delicate floral pattern in shades of orange, red, and white. Her eyes are closed, and she has a serene, slightly melancholic expression. Her hands are clasped together in front of her chest, resting on her arms. The background is a textured, green wall with some faint, darker green rectangular patterns. The lighting is soft and directional, coming from the right, which casts a gentle shadow of her head and shoulders onto the wall behind her. The overall mood is contemplative and artistic.

KEY CREW



Director, Producer & Writer
Nayla Al Khaja

Nayla Al Khaja, the UAE's first female director, is known for her bold, rich, moody visuals and layered storytelling. Her debut feature *Three* was the longest-running independent film in MENA, with 120 days in cinemas. With films on Netflix, her work blends psychological beauty and horror, tackling social taboos like grief, divorce, and identity while presenting Arabic Gulf culture in a raw, unsanitized way.

Composer

Two Time Oscar Winner - A.R. Rahman

A.R. Rahman is an internationally celebrated composer, singer, and music producer whose groundbreaking work has redefined contemporary Indian music on the global stage. Widely known as the "Mozart of Madras," Rahman has composed scores for over 150 films in multiple languages. He made history by winning two Academy Awards for *Slumdog Millionaire*, Best Original Score and Best Original Song, alongside two Grammy Awards and a Golden Globe for the same project. His ability to seamlessly blend Indian classical music with electronic sounds and world influences has made him one of the most respected composers worldwide. Rahman's collaborations span from Hollywood to Broadway, and his music continues to inspire, elevate, and transcend borders.





Director of Photography

Rogier STOFFERS ASC,NSC

Rogier Stoffers, ASC, NSC, is an acclaimed Dutch cinematographer known for his striking visual storytelling across global cinema. He won a Golden Frog at Camerimage and shot *Character*, which won the Oscar for Best Foreign Language Film. His diverse credits include *Quills*, *John Q*, *School of Rock*, *Disturbia*, and *Mongol*, which earned an Academy Award nomination for Best Foreign Language Film and a Nika Award for Best Cinematography. Stoffers also received an Emmy nomination for HBO's *Hemingway and Gellhorn*. A member of both the American and Netherlands Societies of Cinematographers, he brings unparalleled depth and beauty to every frame he creates.

Key Cast



A woman with long, dark, wavy hair is lying down, her head resting on a patterned pillow. She is wearing a vibrant, floral-patterned headscarf in shades of blue, red, and yellow. The background is a soft, warm-toned fabric with a subtle pattern. The lighting is gentle, creating a serene atmosphere.

Shaima Al Fadl

as Wahida / Nisma

Saudi actress known for her roles in Gulf and Egyptian–Saudi films. She gained recognition for her performance in *Bahr Al Maas*, where she portrayed a diver after learning to swim and dive in just two weeks. Passionate about the craft, she also teaches acting across theatre, cinema, and television.

IMDb

Huda Alghanem

as Umi Fatma

Emirati actress who began her career in 1991, performing across theatre and television. Known for her expressive performances, she received the Best Actress award at the Abu Dhabi Film Festival for her role in the film *Dreams of Rice*.

IMDb





Meera Al Midfa

as Amal

Emirati actor, director, and producer from Dubai. A graduate of the American Film Institute Conservatory, she starred in the award-winning *The Remaining Time* and the upcoming UAE–Saudi feature *Best Holiday Ever*. She is currently developing new film projects and works as a Creative Producer with Abu Dhabi Media.

IMDb

Sabiha Majgaonkar

as Surooji

An emerging actress who has appeared in three short films. *BAAB* marks her feature film acting debut, bringing her talent to the big screen with a fresh and compelling presence.

IMDb





Mansoor Alnoamani

as Tariq

An Emirati talent who has appeared in numerous television commercials. *BAAB* marks his film acting debut, showcasing his transition into narrative cinema with a charismatic on-screen presence.

IMDb

ARTICLES & NEWS

'Baab' Filmmaker Nayla Al Khaja & Composer A.R. Rahman On Teaming For Art-House Fantasy – Cannes Studio

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A.R. Rahman, Nayla Al Khaja Talk 'Baab' Project at Cannes

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Nayla Al Khaja's BAAB Becomes First Emirati Female-Directed Feature at Cairo Film Festival

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