

ROQIA

Venice Critics'Week 2025 – In Competition

ANNOUCEMENT

Screen Anarchy

Acquisition news By Andrew Mack

<https://screenanarchy.com/globalvoices/andrew-mack/>

Acquisition news (exclusive) by Leo Barraclough

<https://variety.com/2025/film/global/venice-roqia-alpha-violet-1236467632/>

GQ Interview – August 27th

<https://www.gqmiddleeast.com/article/in-roqia-yanis-koussim-confronts-algerias-haunted-past>

REVIEWS

Screen Daily

<https://www.screendaily.com/reviews/roqia-review-atmospheric-algerian-debut-filters-civil-war-through-a-genre-lens/5208417.article>

"an effective possession narrative"

"A disquieting soundscape amps up the growing sense of unease"

"Roqia seems destined for further festival play and could well attract interest from an arthouse distributor or streamer."

"Men are not born with evil, Koussim theorises, but are infected with it; that's a resonant, universal message."

Cineuropa:

<https://cineuropa.org/en/newsdetail/482632>

"Under the guise of a dark genre film about possession and exorcism, Yanis Koussim distils an allegory about the timeless dangers of fundamentalism"

"Roqia creates a dark atmosphere conducive to visual and auditory hallucinations"

"An atmosphere of mental and physical confusion is recreated with effective minimalism (probably also linked to a limited budget) to lift the veil, little by little, on the true subject of a film that aims to shed light on the vampires of fundamentalism"

A Shot:

<https://ashotmagazine.com/roqia-allegorical-horror-with-purely-middle-eastern-lore-and-themes>

"a very pleasant surprise"

"an effective and original horror film"

"'Roqia' fits perfectly in a year of allegorically rich and socially aware horror cinema."

Loud and Clear – 3.5 stars <https://loudandclearreviews.com/roqia-film-review/>

"Roqia boasts a tight command of atmosphere and three-dimensional characters that bring its demons off the screen and into the real world."

"the film thoroughly succeeds in building a frightening, unsettling atmosphere that keeps the audience on the edge of their seats throughout."

"Roqia feels like a snapshot of everyday life – until it doesn't"

"Roqia is a very engaging piece of supernatural horror"

Sentieri Selvaggi:

<https://www.sentieriselvaggi.it/roqia-di-yanis-koussim/>

"one cannot help but admire the director's polemical spirit and the obstinacy with which he imbues the grammar of exorcistic cinema"

alpha violet

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TaxiDrivers.it:

<https://www.taxidrivars.it/466971/festival-di-cinema/settimana-della-critica/roqia-settimana-della-critica.html>

IonCinema –

3 stars <https://www.ioncinema.com/reviews/yanis-koussim-roqia-movie-review>

Cineuropa feature.

interview with Yanis and Marta Balaga:

<https://cineuropa.org/it/interview/482889>

Quinlan.it

<https://quinlan.it/2025/09/02/roqia/>

4 star review from Close Up Italy: <https://close-up.info/festival-di-venezia-27-agosto-6-settembre-2025-roqiadi-yanis-koussim-settimana-della-critica-concorso/>

"fascinating and engaging"

"horror, rooted in realism and memory, is used as a tool to confront that past, preserve it, and ensure it is never forgotten"