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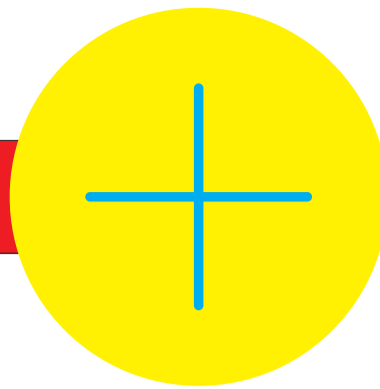
Iranian animation 'Loupetou' hits box office record



Iranian animation, "Loupetou," directed by Abbas Askari, has managed to reach record sales in Iranian cinema history, grossing over 14 billion rials (\$3.57 million), 12 weeks after its release, according to the public relations office of the production studio.

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the idea of the play in my mind, but the world today is facing issues such as economic problems, racism, etc., that do not belong to a specific location. Yet, the most important issue that worries the people of the world today is the issue of war and terrorism and the spread of drugs," he added. Referring to the role of art in creating closeness and friendship between nations, Al-Asadi said that in this section of the Fajr festival, theater and art brought everyone together and made them more connected. "Because of this friendship and unity, we can defeat terrorists and perpetrators of war and bloodshed," he noted.

According to Al-Asadi, the performance of this play in Tehran may be the beginning of further cooperation between actors and artists in the field of theater in the two countries. Recently, a memorandum of understanding was signed between Ahmed Musa, the head of the Iraqi Cinema and Theater Foundation, and Kourosh Zarei, the secretary of the 41st Fajr International Theater Festival, for the development of theatrical cooperation between the two countries, which will definitely be implemented in the future and joint performances and productions will certainly be on the agenda of Iran and Iraq.

'Amal': Play about the dream of a world without war

Sadeq Dehghan
Staff writer

EXCLUSIVE

The international section of the 41st Fajr Theater Festival is currently ongoing in the theaters of Tehran, with performances from Spain, Jordan, Oman, Russia, Brazil, and Iraq. One of the performances, a play named "Amal" from Iraq, directed by "Javad al-Asadi," a well-known director in the Arab world, was performed on stage.

Al-Asadi talked about the play in an interview with Iran Daily. He said that the word 'Amal' in Arabic literally means hope or wish. "This show actually refers to human desire. It is the story of a young couple who will soon have a child, but the mother is worried about the future due to the problems she sees in the world of war, crime and bloodshed surrounding her. Therefore, she hesitates to give birth to her child. She believes that if a child is going to be born, it will prob-

ably perish in the war or its life will be ruined by drugs. Or maybe its head will be cut off and the body will be dismembered by ISIS and other terrorists, so it is better for the child not to be born in the first place. But the husband insists that she should give birth to the child and this has created a big challenge for the life of this couple." The play examines the issue that preoccupies the couple's minds, which is if a child enters this world, with the current situation

of war and bloodshed and other issues that prevail, will it be able to achieve its dreams? According to Al-Asadi, the play raises the question in the minds of the audience: How far will this chaotic situation in the world go on, and what fate awaits the children? "This work was performed on stage for the first time last year at the Baghdad International Theater Festival and won top ranks in almost all categories including acting, writing,

directing, stage design and music. In fact, the best Iraqi actors perform in this play, and two Iraqi stars, namely, Haider Juma, in the role of the husband, and Rabab Ahmad, in the role of the wife, have performed exceptionally well in this play," the Iraqi director told Iran Daily. The second official performance of this play was held at the Fajr International Theater Festival, and in the future it is going to be performed in many festivals including in Germany and

several African countries. "From now on, we are on a long journey to perform this show in different places," Al-Asadi said. In response to the question of how much the idea of this play came from his own personal experience and concerns in Iraq, the director said that the issues examined in Amal are universal issues; they are not limited to a specific geographical location. "The presence of ISIS in Iraq and the war in this country may have fostered

Enjoy fantastic hiking in Abidar Mountain Park of Sanandaj

Put on your mountaineering clothes, today we are going to have a fantastic hiking experience in Abidar Mountain Park, a beautiful recreational complex, in Sanandaj, Kurdistan Province. Don't worry, if you don't speak or understand Kurdish, your hike will be a dream experience, especially if you are interested in traditional Iranian and Kurdish music. But if you want to enjoy much more, try to learn some Kurdish beforehand, tappersia.com reported.

Let's warm up

There is a beautiful boulevard in the region named Abidar Boulevard. Here, people engage in different activities such as walking, jogging, running, biking, and even chatting. That's why you may want to walk among them, stare at the beautiful Abidar Mountain Park from its footstep for a little while, take some photos, have some fun, and enjoy the city's view.

Stairs are waiting for you

Now you have reached Kouze be Shan Square (literally meaning 'carrying an urn on one's shoulder') and your first goal would be to reach Amirieh Square. In order to do that, you have to climb up Amirieh Garden. This is one of the largest gardens of the complex. You should climb up the whole garden using stairs. Huge stones had been used in order to build the stairs and some particular places for families. As you hike, take a rest, look back and

enjoy the view of Sanandaj through the beautiful tree branches.

A huge open cinema

Amirieh Garden has a huge open cinema. If you look back, you will see a huge white wall that could be seen almost from anywhere on the mountain. Therefore, it is possible to watch movies or programs of the national TV channels. Some popular events such as Iranian league soccer matches as well as the world cup games are also screened there. As you climb up further, you will see simple and homely cafés. You can select one of them and enjoy watching the beautiful garden which you have just climbed.

Amir Nezam Garousi

As you start to climb up the first stairs, you will understand that it must have been constructed by a powerful person. Amir Nezam Garousi was a well-known person, not only in Sanandaj, but also in other regions of the country. In the past, powerful Iranian people would try to build structures in order to make their names and reputations permanent. This lovely garden, as well as a mansion in Tabriz, has been constructed on the command of Amir Nezam Garousi.

Amirieh Square

Amirieh Square is a small square similar to Hafezieh Square in Shiraz. In fact,

its official name is also Hafezieh Square, but local people prefer to call it Amirieh Square. There are two small waterfalls which make the atmosphere calming and soothing. However, you will discover that some people are coming up by car. It should be mentioned that if you have selected the other way to reach the park, you would enjoy some other small but pretty gardens.

Jungle path

Don't panic! You are not going through a jungle where dangerous, wild animals live; it is a nice forest park. You can take the asphalt road and enjoy some other parks. The asphalt road is also much longer than the jungle path. So let's get going and enjoy the jungle path of the Abidar Mountain Park. When you reach the end of the path, you will see that you have taken a shortcut.

Resting places

Are you tired? Let's barbeque! The beautiful Abidar Mountain Park and the view of the city make for a fascinating landscape. Select a suitable place, take a rest, and have fun. You may want to barbeque before climbing down the mountain; it would be a great experience. There are also several garden restaurants in different locations of the complex. It all depends on how you want to enjoy your meal.



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