

IAFF08 Opening Film

HEAVY METAL IN BAGDAD

Dir. Suroosh Alvi, Eddy Moretti

Documentary - USA – 2007 – 84 min.

www.heavymetalinbaghdad.com

Produced by Spike Jonze and Shane Smith for VICE Films, HEAVY METAL IN BAGHDAD is a feature film documentary that follows the Iraqi heavy metal band Acrassicauda from the fall of Saddam Hussein in 2003 to the present day.

Playing heavy metal in a Muslim country has always been a difficult (if not impossible) proposition but after Saddam's regime was toppled, there was a brief moment for the band in which real freedom seemed possible.

That hope was quickly dashed as their country fell into a bloody insurgency. From 2003-2006, Iraq disintegrated around them while Acrassicauda struggled to stay together and stay alive, always refusing to let their heavy metal dreams die.

Their story echoes the unspoken hopes of an entire generation of young Iraqis.

Presented in collaboration with VICE.

