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### A Night in Tehran offers fresh perspective

By Lauren Steadman



FOR a country with such a stranglehold on the media, Iran has produced some pretty fine films over the past decade.

While its global reputation among cinema fans has been boosted by the productive Makhmalbaf dynasty (dad Mohsen, mum Marziyeh and their three kids are directors), new talent is emerging all the time – a fact celebrated in a special event at Cornerhouse on Friday.

A Night in Tehran (PG) is a trio of short films, produced with support from the BBC World Service Trust, offering a fresh perspective on modern Iranian life.

It opens with My City Pizza, a story exploring the hold the humble margherita has over the country's urban young.

#### Pizza

In Tehran, pizza is more than fast food, signifying modernity and desire and potentially threatening traditional values. The second film, Shahriar Siami's Of Men and Motorcycles, follows Abbas, an impoverished migrant from the provinces.

Desperate for work, he ends up working as a motorcycle deliveryman, endangering his life to deliver money to his wife and children back in his small home town.

And Sahar Salahshoori's Behind the Wheel of Life follows cab driver Nasrin's daily struggle as a woman and divorcée.

Screened together, the films open a window to aspects of Iranian life that are seldom reported in the global media.

**A Night in Tehran starts at 6.25pm on Friday, February 6. To book ring Cornerhouse on 0161 200 1500.**

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