

"ONE OF THE GREATEST ACHIEVEMENTS OF THE TURKISH SERIES IS THEIR ABILITY TO BLUR THE LINE BETWEEN REAL LIFE AND THE SCREEN"

ONUR GÜVENATAM

"TURKISH DRAMA IS LIFE ITSELF"

GORYANA VASILEVA

"WHOEVER DARED TO DO SOMETHING UNIQUE AND NEW MADE THEIR MARK IN THE HISTORY OF TV SERIES"

SEMA ERGENEKON

# EPISODE

CONTENT AMERICAS 2024



Calinos  
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# Exploring the World of Content From Türkiye to the Globe

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Oben Budak



**E**pisode, Türkiye's only TV series and content magazine, launched its international publication for the first time at Mipcom 2023. After ATF 2023, we are thrilled to be at Content Americas for the first issue of 2024.

**Farah**, one of the most talked about series of 2023, was the focus of our discussion. We spoke to stars Demet Özdemir and Engin Akyürek about the series, which features intertwining stories, family drama, plenty of action and, of course, love. Goryana Vasileva, Calinos Entertainment Sales Manager for Western Europe & OTT, who sold the rights to **Farah** to more than 30 countries in 2023, is also featured in our pages. We delved into the interactive relationship between Turkish series and viewers, as well as the challenging aspects of production, with Onur Güvenatam, founder of OGM, who was listed by Variety as one of the *500 most influential people shaping the global media industry in 2023*.

Sema Ergenekon, one of Türkiye's most important writers, joins us in this issue of Episode. The screenwriter of **Family Secrets**, which is currently airing its third season in Türkiye, enjoyed by audiences in many countries, and won the "Best Telenovela" award at the 2023 International Emmy Awards, not only answered all our questions about the series but also shared her plans for the future. Liliam Hernandez, one of the founding partners of Universal Cinergia Dubbing (UCD), who played a key role in organizing the Turkish Drama Gala as part of the Content Americas program, is also featured in this issue of Episode International. Hernandez shared her reflections, born out of the industry, about the success of Turkish series and the role UCD plays in this journey.

TV series critic Oya Doğan wrote about the frequently explored toxic relationships, different lifestyles, others, and the conservative-secular war in Turkish series in recent years.

Be sure to read Burak Sakar's article for a comprehensive overview of Turkish series in 2023.

Don't forget to follow us on our social media accounts and [episodedergi.com](http://episodedergi.com)!

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# Turkish TV Series and Figures in 2023

BURAK SAKAR

In 2023, 70 series came to the screens on Turkish television. While 40 of these 70 series finalised within the year, 30 of them continue their broadcasting life.

Just like in 2022, the most watched series of Turkish television in 2023 was **An Anatolian Tale**. The series, which started its airing in 2020, ranked at the top with an average rating of 9.17 in the 20+ABC1 category. Although the series, like **One Love** and **Golden Boy**, did not reach the highest ratings of the year in this category, it maintained its leadership with its stable performance and the effect of maintaining its mass audience.

The phenomenon series **One Love**, which started to rise in 2023 and ranked first in the last quarter of the year, was the closest follower of the summit. The series, which aired 35 episodes throughout the year, ranked second with an average of 9.13, signalling that it will remain in the leadership race in 2024.

## THE BEST DEBUT SERIES OF 2023

SERIES NAME	DATE OF DEBUT	FIRST EPISODE RATING
THE FAMILY	MARCH 7, 2023	8,82
SELAHADDIN EYYUBI	NOVEMBER 13, 2023	7,36
THE PATRIOTS	JANUARY 19, 2023	7,07
STREET BIRDS	JANUARY 13, 2023	7,04
RED ROSES	DECEMBER 18, 2023	5,29
MY WONDERFUL LIFE	NOVEMBER 1, 2023	5,18
ÖMER	JANUARY 9, 2023	5,12

## MOST WATCHED TV SERIES EPISODES OF 2023

SERIES NAME	AIR DATE	FIRST EPISODE RATING
ONE LOVE EPISODE 21	MARCH 31, 2023	13,12
GOLDEN BOY EPISODE 16	JANUARY 6, 2023	12,61
GOLDEN BOY EPISODE 21	FEBRUARY 24, 2023	12,55
GOLDEN BOY EPISODE 20	JANUARY 13, 2023	12,53
ONE LOVE EPISODE 44	DECEMBER 22, 2023	12,29
ONE LOVE EPISODE 35	OCTOBER 20, 2023	12,11



## MOST SERIES STARTED IN SEPTEMBER

Marking the first six months of 2023, **Golden Boy**, which achieved three of the four highest ratings of the year, finished the season in third place with an average rating of 8.92.

In 2023, 36 series started to air. The most series started in September (7 series), followed by January, June and December (6 series each).

**The Family**, which brought Serenay Sarıkaya and Kivanç Tatlıtuğ together, had the highest debut of the season with an 8.82 rating in the 20+ABC1 category. Despite starting the season below the 4 rating limit, **The Brave and Wild Heart** series became the winners of the day with the rise they achieved in a short time.

## RISE IN THE SECOND EPISODE

**Red Roses**, which brought Özgü Namal back to the screens after a 10-year break and shared the lead role with Özcan Deniz, achieved the highest debut of the year with an increase of 2.56 points in its second episode. **I Am Mother**, the drama series starring Özge Özpirinçci and Demet Akbağ, showed a similar success with 2.43 points in its second episode.

**The Ottoman**, **The Shadow Team** and **Family Secrets**, which made an impression with their strong performances last year, continued their successful performance in 2023 and took their place in the list of the 10 most watched series of the year. The new series of the year, **Ömer** and **The Family**, found a place among the Top 10 series with their debut in a short time. **Chrysalis**, which has been in the race for the top in this category for the past two seasons, exceeded the 7 rating average despite being in its final season.



## PRODUCERS AND PLATFORMS THAT HAVE SHAPED 2023

In 2023, 30 different production companies produced series for television. Of these 30 companies, the two companies that produced the highest number of series were OGM Pictures and Ay Yapım with 6 series each. O3 Medya closely followed the summit with five series. Fox TV was the channel that aired the highest number of series (19 series), while Kanal D and ATV shared second place with 11 series each.

In addition to television, the digital platform market continued to be active in Türkiye. While 55 series were broadcast on digital platforms in 2023, the total number of episodes of these series was recorded as 476. Naturally, the digital platform of the public broadcaster TRT 1 was the "platform with the highest number of series", with 29 series broadcast throughout the year. Domestic platform BluTV was the closest follower of the summit with 10 series, while Netflix ranked third with 8 series.

## MOST WATCHED TV SERIES OF 2023

SERIES NAME	EPISODE COUNT	RATING AVERAGES
AN ANATOLIAN TALE	40	9,17
ONE LOVE	35	9,13
GOLDEN BOY	37	8,92
THE OTTOMAN	32	7,69
FAMILY SECRETS	28	7,24
CHYRSALIS	19	7,09
THE FAMILY	26	6,23
THE GREAT SELJUKS ALPARSLAN	22	6,20
ÖMER	37	5,86
THE SHADOW TEAM	30	5,81

- Series with fewer than ten episodes have not been taken into account.



GORYANA VASILEVA, SALES MANAGER, WESTERN EUROPE  
& OTT, **CALINOS ENTERTAINMENT**

# “Turkish Drama is life itself”

By OBEN BUDAK





**G**oryana Vasileva, Sales Manager of Calinos Entertainment (Western Europe & OTT), answered Episode International's questions. Calinos Entertainment is the distributor of *Farah*, the series featured on the cover of Episode International's Content Americas issue. Of course, the *Farah* series was also on the agenda in our interview. We learnt that the series was sold in more than 30 countries in 2023 and new deals are on the way. Vasileva shared with us the results of Calinos' decades of experience, which are critical for the industry, and also gave information about new production projects.

**We would like to start with your trending series *Farah*. How is *Farah*'s international sales journey going? In which countries is it currently on the air and what kind of interest is it attracting?** In 2023 *Farah* was sold to more than 30 countries including Azerbaijan, Albania, Lithuania, Romania and the MENA countries and the deals for many countries in different regions including LATAM; will be finalised in the upcoming days.

**Calinos was founded in 1999 and was actually the first company to sell Turkish TV series abroad and for 25 years you have sold content to more than 105 countries. What do you think has changed the most in the sector in these 25 years in which Calinos has also played an important role?**

"25 years" means two and a half decades so, I can say that the audience has changed, for sure...

Middle aged ones turned into elders, children turned into young & young adults etc... At the moment we have at least three generations among our audience and this already affected the viewership habits.

25 years ago, people were watching only Free TV broadcast from traditional TV devices and the broadcasts were in SD format. Today, people have multiple device options for watching whatever they want and wherever they want, with at least HD quality options. These innovations positively affected the industry and helped to widen the presence of Turkish drama around the world.

**Calinos also represents Turkish TV series that can be called cult series. *Woman*, *Our Story*, *Feriha*, *Cherry Season*, *No 309*... Which Turkish TV series represented by Calinos have sold to the most countries or made the most impact?**

Calinos Entertainment was the first to sell Turkish content abroad, the drama *Wild Heart* to Kazakhstan, in 2001. The success of *Wild Heart* was so big in Kazakhstan that it has already been aired 14 times in the country, which is a world record for a long run series in the same country. And it was always a success.

**Word spread quickly and we started selling in other CIS countries, Georgia, the Balkans, CEE, the Middle East. 10 years ago, Latin America joined, today we are in North America, Asia, Western Europe, now growing in Africa. Every year we add new countries, new partners.**

For the last decade; I can say *The Girl Named Feriha*, *Our Story*, *Woman* and *Forbidden Fruit* are the most successful shows in the globe from the phenomenal Calinos Catalogue. Even at the moment these dramas continue to add new success to their rate cards.



As “The First Turkish TV Series Broadcasted in Primetime on a Western European National Channel” *Woman* has reached more than one million viewers via Spain’s Antena3 and has made a tremendous impact in more than 90 countries it was aired including the U.S.

*Woman* is on air as *Mujer* with its second season in the U.S. on Univision and it is entitled as “The Most Watched Daily TV Show” in the Hispanic prime time.

One of the long-lasting dramas in Turkish drama history, *Forbidden Fruit* continued to widen its fandom around the world in 2023.

In spring it was aired in on Atresmedia’s Antena 3 in Spain and with its afternoon debut, *Pecado Original* had “The Best Fiction Premiere in A Decade” in its time slot and is listed among part of the successful content that brings the network its 16 months of consecutive leadership. Currently screening on Chilevisión in Chile; it is listed among “The Most Watched TV Shows of The Day” with its 3rd & 4th seasons and got 56% share on WAPA-TV in Puerto Rico with its 2nd season. It continues with its 3rd season in Puerto Rico; with its 6th season in Chile.

**What do you think are the reasons why some Turkish TV series have become more prominent than others, why they are watched and loved in more countries, or why they break sales records?**

The classical Turkish drama works as well as it works anywhere around the world because it is based on “LOVE”. Love between men & women, love of a mother, love of a father, inaccessible love, forbidden love, broken love... Love, tears, betrayal, family ties, powerful families... This is a long-lasting list; why does it work? The answer is simple: Because “Turkish drama” is life itself.

**You also represent series produced for digital platforms. Most recently, BluTV’s series *Deeply* started airing in Italy. How are Turkish mini-series produced for digital platforms, such as *Deeply*, being received around the world? Do they have as many chances as TV series in terms of sales and broadcasting?** We are eye-witnessing an explosive growth in VOD. Many com-

panies are launching their own SVOD, AVOD and FAST services around the world and LATAM is still at the very beginning of this trend. Free ad-supported platforms are the fastest-growing part of the streaming business right now.

**A recent report from the research firm Omdia found that FAST channel revenue grew almost 20 times between 2019 and 2022 –and is set to triple again before 2027. We are proud to say that we have done deals with major platforms worldwide such as Disney Plus, HBO Max, Amazon, Pluto etc as well as regional players, too, in almost every corner of this world.**

As you mentioned, one of our dramas *Deeply* had its debut on Serial in Italy on December 6th. As long as the broadcasting industry continues to grow, Turkish content will continue to expand even if they are produced for Free TV or digital platforms.

**Your catalogue also includes formats and programmes. Do Turkish formats and TV programmes attract interest abroad? Among the formats you represent, which ones have been sold the most and to which countries?**

In formats and co-productions, Calinos has doubled its catalogue in two years, reaching 45 scripts out of the original 25 today. Premium Turkish drama *That’s My Life* produced by Pastel Film and *No: 309* the romantic comedy produced by Gold Film, are the leading titles at our format sales.







*Adela*; Romanian remake of *That's My Life* was a great phenomenon in Romania and had four successful seasons on Antena1. Now the channel is broadcasting *Camera 609*, the remake of *No: 309*. We also licensed the format rights of *That's My Life* to Africa and it's currently in production.

**You represent not only TV series and programmes but also Turkish movies. Do Turkish movies attract interest abroad? Which types of films are most in demand?**

The global audience generally prefers long-lasting Turkish Drama. In terms of movies; Rom-Coms are the leading type among Turkish movies around the world.

**You represent not only Turkish productions but also TV series produced in different countries. Is it on your agenda to air these series on digital platforms or channels in Türkiye? Do you also make these sales?**

For the last two years, we have expanded our business and now distribute international content, too. We have acquired content from Canada, Romania, Poland and Serbia, mostly crime series... The global star of the catalogue is *Indefensible*; it was given an award by Academy of Canadian Cinema and TV for "The Best Daily Series" at the 38th Prix Gémeaux Awards. It has just been approved to start filming its 3rd season on TVA Canada.

In addition to *Indefensible* another awarded Pixcom drama *Alert Squad* and six award winning Serbian series from Telecom Serbia; *Tycoon*, *The Clan*, *No Tress-passing*, *The Only Way Out*, *The Name of People* and *The Well* are also a part of our extensive catalogue. We also have the distribution rights in Türkiye for these titles but at the moment we haven't signed any deal in Türkiye.

**Your company also initiated Calinos Film in 2023. In other words, as far as we understand, Calinos will also produce TV series and films. What are your near-term targets and finalised projects on the production side?**

We have been working in two formats from Korea; *Penthouse* and *Lies After Lies* to produce in our 25th years in Türkiye and

in addition to this, our international production team are also working with different local production houses and networks for some of our formats.

**We would like you to tell us a little about your 2023 data. How was 2023 for Calinos Entertainment? Which fairs did you participate in throughout the year, which series attracted the most attention, which series were sold to the most countries throughout the year?**

Celebrating our 25th year; Calinos Entertainment has sold approximately 130,000 hours of TV programming to more than 105 countries on five continents by distributing more than 200 programs. Our phenomenal dramas *Forbidden Fruit* and *Woman* continued to conquer new countries meanwhile a new fandom wave started for *Farah* which we believe will continue to widen in 2024 and *EGO* has been acquired by TC Television in Ecuador and landed in LATAM in the last days of the year and negotiations continue for *Adela* in LATAM, too.

**What are Calinos' expectations for 2024, do you have new series agreements, what will you do in the new year?**

As Calinos Entertainment, we have 24 years of expertise in the global platform as the first Turkish company to export Turkish series. In 2024, we will transfer -our quarter century international distribution expertise- to production and we will start to create stories with the IP rights under "Calinos Films" brand. These stories will lead us to our next 25 years.





DEMET ÖZDEMİR &amp; ENGİN AKYÜREK

# Secrets of the success of “Farah” the series through the eyes of its actors

By OBEN BUDAK

**T**he actors of the Farah series, Demet Özdemir and Engin Akyürek answered the questions of Episode International. A struggling mum, family dramas and, of course, love... The most important thing to get all this right is harmonious teamwork and, of course, believing in your character with all your heart. It goes without saying that this has been achieved in the Farah series. In our warm conversation, Özdemir and Akyürek shared insights about the key to success in their inner world and working environment. You will feel this as you read. Enjoy reading.





# DEMET ÖZDEMİR: IT WAS THE EMOTION OR THE SENTENCE OF THE SCRIPT THAT MOTIVATED ME

**What does the *Farah* series mean to you? What were the elements of the story that motivated you the most when accepting the project?**

In the case of *Farah*, what motivated me the most was a woman's struggle for life with her child, which I can call "the emotion or the sentence of the script". That's why *Farah* holds a special place for me.

Farah was a woman who survived great hardships but fought all kinds of difficulties alone for Kerimşah. She has a very impressive character for the viewers.

**What were the most striking aspects of Farah's performance?**

Farah was the first time I portrayed a mother, let alone a single mother. Moreover this woman was a character who was struggling to survive in a country where she was not a citizen. The fact that Farah was such a layered character has influenced me a lot. Her struggle for the survival of her child alone is admirable. I was also impressed by her protection not only of her son but also of the man she loves and her friends.

**There are intertwined stories, family dramas, plenty of action and of course love in *Farah*. As an actress, writer and viewer, what do you think are the reasons why *Farah* is being watched and loved?**

Maybe it will be a repetition, but first of all, the story. The fact that the drama and action are balanced also has a big impact on the show's popularity. I would also add the harmony between the actors and the energy that comes out of working with a wonderful team.

**Farah and Kerimşah's mom-son relationship, their dialogues and the way they hold on to each other were also very popular. How do you feel as an actress during these scenes?**

Rastin my dear. Just like the characters, we also have a very sweet relationship. I'm used to spending time with my friends' children, but being a "mom" sounded strange at first, but after a few scenes with Rastin, I got used to it :) It's not easy to perform with a small child because you have to be more careful about your dialogues, your movements. Even though Rastin knows that this is a game, I am more protective and careful in the scenes with him compared to the scenes with the other actors both during and after the shooting.

**Your partnership with Engin Akyürek is also followed with attention, how is it on set? What would you like to say about Engin?**

We have a very harmonious partnership with Engin. We have a lot of fun on the set. It may not seem like that from the outside but Engin is very funny.

**You have viewers in many countries around the world and they are eagerly watching *Farah* or waiting for it to be aired in their countries. What would you like to tell them about *Farah*?**

I put *Farah* in a special place in my career. No matter how much I cried in the series, I loved working on it. I am very happy to give life to a strong woman like Farah. I think all viewers of the series, but especially women, will find something from themselves.



## ENGIN AKYÜREK: FARAH HAS A FAIRYTALE WORLD AS WELL AS A REAL STORY

### What does the *Farah* series mean to you?

First of all, *Farah* is a different kind of work in terms of its story and what it wants to tell, it has its own language and its own narrative style. I love the universal codes of stories. As an actor, it is also different from the projects I have been involved in before. *Farah* invites you into its own world. All the characters touch each other in a fateful way, like a projection of the world we live in, and each character represents someone we know in our own world.

### What were the most motivating story elements to accept the project?

*Farah* is really the story of characters who touch each other in different ways, telling that even in despair there can be hope. On a personal level, I love stories of change. *Farah* has a fairytale world as well as a real story. It was also effective that I wanted to play Tahir, but overall I love where the story takes me and the audience.

### While Tahir was a more negative character at the beginning, as the story continued, we realised that he was a character who supported Farah and changed his own life as well. What were the characteristics that influenced you the most about Tahir?

I always feel that the characters I portray are alive somewhere in real life, even if I have never met them, I check whether their feelings, expectations and pains are real or not. Tahir is a man who grew up without parents and tried to raise himself in the dark world of the mafia. Tahir is the character whose change we feel the most. Everything changes when a woman and a sick child enter his life; he questions himself and his world. I think this is very powerful; the fact that a man who is a killer experiences this gives us a story and a situation. With *Farah*, he questions everything he believes in. He feels that there are good things, love and hope. With Kerimşah, he reaches out to his childhood; it is as if he wants to make peace with the child he has lost. As Tahir believes in *Farah* and loves her, we, the audience, move from darkness to light.

### There are intertwined stories, family dramas, plenty of action and of course love in *Farah*. As an actor, writer and viewer, what do you think are the reasons why *Farah* is being watched and loved?

*Farah* has managed to combine many genres... The starting point is interesting, the events and the course of events are not easily predictable, and the original characters are the first things that come to mind.

### Tahir's relationship with Kerimşah and his love for him were also very popular. How do you feel as an actor during these scenes?

We all have a child inside us; we can go on living with a child who has not grown up, who has been hiding, who has been sulking. Kerimşah is like Tahir's childhood; when he heals him, it is as if his own childhood is being healed... Rastin also contributes a lot to the success of these scenes, I think he is a very special talent. His innocent look, which is good for us, seems to represent the childhood of all of us... If the relationship between Tahir and Kerimşah were not such a powerful one, the story would always be missing something.

### Your partnership with Demet Özdemir is also followed with attention, how is it on set? What would you like to say about Demet?

I am very happy to know Demet as a person. Apart from being difficult, the character of *Farah* is not an easy character to carry and maintain as a holistic character. Demet did it very well and *Farah* told us what she was feeling. I can say that she has added a lot to me, both as a human being and as an actor.

### You have viewers in many countries around the world and they are eagerly watching *Farah* or waiting for it to be aired in their countries. What would you like to tell them about *Farah*?

*Farah's* journey around the world is beginning, which makes me both excited and happy. I feel the journey and the audience's reactions will be good. One of the good things about our work is that it will meet a worldwide audience. They will see a beautiful work, full of excitement, action and human stories.





# At first, they were enemies, but over time, their hearts grew together

THE MOST COMMON THEMES IN TURKISH TV SERIES LAST YEAR WERE TOXIC RELATIONSHIPS, DIFFERENT LIFESTYLES, OTHERS, THE WAR BETWEEN CONSERVATIVES AND SECULARISTS, THE REAPPEARANCE OF MISSING CHILDREN AFTER YEARS AND THE DIFFICULTY OF ADAPTING TO A NEW LIFE, THE DISTINCTION BETWEEN THOSE ABOVE AND THOSE BELOW. HOSTILITY WAS THE FIRST STEP ON THE PATH OF EVERY SERIES COMPETING FOR RATINGS ON SCREEN. THOSE WHO HAD EXCLUDED EACH OTHER DREW CLOSER AND OVER TIME, THEIR HEARTS BECAME UNITED. UNTIL ANOTHER ENEMY APPEARED...

OYA DOĞAN  
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“Don’t worry about my order being messed up, my life being turned upside down. How do you know that life wouldn’t be better if it was upside down?” said Şems-i Tebrizi... The drama is also very much fuelled by this quote from Şems. Because it created anxiety, it triggered the idea and the change. And by changing, the Story came to exist.

If we look at Turkish dramas today, almost all the characters are blindly attached to the comfort, the unhappiness, the traumas and the order that they have established, saying that “they are mine” anyway, and they live like devotees of this life. They no longer question, feel, look or see.

They are even afraid, madly afraid, that a stranger will come and change their order in this system they have built for themselves and called life. This makes them more angry, more conservative, more resistant to change. And that’s when the conflict starts...

## BOTH FAMILIES WERE MUSLIM, BUT DIAMETRICALLY OPPOSED

Over the past year, the conflicts in Turkish TV series have evolved in parallel with the country’s agenda. As a Muslim country governed by a republican form of government, Türkiye’s divisions between secular and conservative factions have also been reflected in the TV series. And in a short time, it paid off in the ratings. In a world where everyone was pushing their own values, it was important to understand and listen to the “other”.

Turkish TV series did not stay away from this. *One Love*, which focused on the events that took place after the marriage of Fatih and Doğa, who had families with different cultures, lifestyles and ways of life, was the most popular TV series of 2023. This was because while Doğa was the daughter of a secular family, Fatih was the son of a conservative family that practised Islam to the full.

While Doğa's mother Kivilcim was a divorced, modern woman who worked as a college director, Fatih's mother Pembe was a traditional woman who wore a headscarf, believing men were superior to women and did not work.

Both families were Muslim. But they were diametrically opposed in terms of values, dress, food and drink, and outlook on life. Furthermore, each side pressured the other into believing that their way of life was the right one.

### THEY CONFRONTED THE FACT THAT IT IS NOT ABOUT RELIGION, BUT ABOUT BEING HUMAN

Both families were enemies. But time, exposure to each other, the universality of feelings united them. First they began to understand, then to love, change and respect each other. They looked for a way to live together in peace.

They came to understand that it was not about the headscarf, religion, conservatism or secularism, but about being human. When a woman in a headscarf was the victim of violence by a man, the first person to rush to her side was the secular woman whose lifestyle she was criticising. They were healing each other's pain.

It was this tolerance that increased the audience of the series. However, the Supreme Council of Radio and Television (RTÜK) suspended the series for three episodes following complaints from the conservative sector.

This decision was most opposed by the secular sector. The Turkish people began to realise that they were marginalising those closest to them through *One Love*. As a result of public pressure, the viewer was the winner and *One Love* returned to the screen.

### THE OTHER WAS ALWAYS ABOUT RATINGS

The star of this series, which starred names such as Evrim Alasya, known for the series *Scorpion* and *Sun's Girls*; Barış Kılıç, the actor of the series *The Girl Named Feriha*, *War of the Roses*, *Forbidden Fruit*; Doğukan Güngör, Hamit of *Phoenix*; Sila Türkoğlu, the leading actor of the series *The Promise* and *Legacy*, was actually the Story.

In a short time, every actor in the series became famous. Because the story of each character was feeding the series. However, the peace of two opposite families lasted until a certain date.

Conflict was necessary to go on. So the trump card of the secular woman's love affair with the conservative married man, i.e. forbidden love, came into play. And the tolerance that had been built up was thrown away. The woman became the victim of the woman again, and the other became the other again! Because the other always meant ratings.

### ÖMER'S RELIGION WAS ISLAM; HIS QIBLA WAS HUMANITY

*Ömer*, adapted from the Israeli TV series *Shtisel*, was one of the series that dealt with the theme of "discriminating" and "the other". Starring Selahattin Paşalı, Osman of *Aşk 101*; Gökçe Bahadır, the popular actress of *Yaprak Dökümü*, *Ufak Tefek Cinayetler*, *All About Marriage* and *Kulüp*; and Merve Dizdar, Gülben of *Inocentes*, who won the "Best Actress" award at the Cannes Film Festival in 2023 for her performance in the film *About Dry Grasses*, the series started its airing life with the claim of telling the life and love of Ömer, who works as a muezzin in the mosque where his father is an imam.



In the Turkish adaptation, the impossible love was emphasised. Because there were too many obstacles in the way of this love. Gamze, with whom Ömer fell in love, was an older, divorced, secular woman with children. Reşat, Ömer's imam father, wanted his son to marry a young, conservative and unmarried girl. Not only Reşat, but also Gamze wanted to stay away from Ömer's choice.

In her opinion, this love was wrong. Neighbourhood pressure, family pressures and even his own traumas could not stop Ömer from loving Gamze. In the end, he convinced Gamze that love knows no boundaries. Everyone was against Ömer and Gamze, but they had a love that could blossom even under the snow.

This naive story also made Ömer smile and get rated. Ömer's religion was Islam and his Qibla was humanity. He never deviated from the line he had taken.

### THE INSIDE OF THE TARIQA IS DESCRIBED

Extreme damage, even if it is love... When faith is involved, the situation becomes dangerous. Tariqas that exploit faith and go to extremes are a danger that does not live in front of the eyes of the public in every country. Because they feed on faith and nourish religion.

It is forbidden to question, object or raise a voice. Everything is divided into two with strict rules: Sin and good deeds.

In recent years, series about such sects that exploit faith have become popular in the world!

In the last month of the year, a series on this subject started in Türkiye; *Red Roses*...

The series tells the inside story of an imaginary cult called "Faniiler" (Mortals). In doing so, it both shows how tariqas brainwash people and criticises the mistakes of the secular sector. It scrutinises the excesses of both sides.



While the series is about the intersection of the fates of Levent, a secular Kemalist, and Meryem, who belongs to a tariqa, it draws attention to the unifying power of motherhood/fatherhood when it comes to the child despite differences of belief and opinion.

### LEVENT AND MERYEM WILL PASS INTO LOVE

The series began with a verse from Surah Al-i Imran: "When you were enemies, He united your hearts." In this way, Levent and Meryem have also signaled that their characters will make the transition from enmity to love.

The series stars Özgü Namal, who starred in *Valley of the Wolves*, *Merhamet*, *Hanımın Çiftliği* and Özcan Deniz, who starred in *Asmalı Konak*, *Haziran Gecesi*, *Karagül*, *Kaderimin Yazıldığı Gün* and *Evermore*. Özgü Namal, who has not acted for 10 years, says that she was very impressed by the character of Meryem, who, despite living in a sect, rebelled against this structure in order to send her gifted daughter to school, and that is why she accepted the role. Because what happens in extremism always happens to children.

### THE THEME OF 'THE MISSING CHILD' WAS POPULAR

Another screen theme of last year was missing children. This issue was covered in three series that ranked high in the ratings. *Family Secrets*, starring Pınar Deniz and Kaan Urgancıoğlu, which has been running for two seasons and has reached serious ratings

abroad, received the International Emmy Best Telenovela award in 2023. The third season of the series started with the disappearance of the child of prosecutor Ilgaz and lawyer Ceylin.

The series, which centred on the questions "Is Mercan lost, kidnapped or dead?", left viewers in tears for weeks. Ilgaz seemed to accept the situation, but Ceylin





had hope that they would find her daughter. She even became a prosecutor. So she could get all the permits to search for his daughter. And she succeeded.

Mercan was kidnapped when she was two and found when she was four. But she called someone else as mum and didn't remember her real family. Ceylin's job as a mother was difficult, but the situation was complicated for 4-year-old Mercan. She was trying to understand the situation with her child mind and to love Ceylin with his tiny heart.

But she was also fighting with herself because if she loved Ceylin, she would upset the woman she knew as a mother, the woman who kidnapped her. While this conflict increased the ratings, it also pushed the viewers into a completely different question, reminding them to be more careful when trying to enter the pure world of children.

### A STORY THAT ECHOES AROUND THE WORLD

The theme of the lost child is also covered in the series *I Am Mother*, starring Özge Özpırınçci, the star of the world's most watched series such as *Kadın* and *Aşk Yeniden*. Karsu, who has just given birth, sends her 3-year-old son Kuzey, who is jealous of the baby, to Istanbul with his own mother. The series is about the grandmother's loss of her grandson and Karsu's experiences.

What we are actually watching is the story of Karsu, whose life is shattered when she loses her child, who neglects her other children and does not see her husband, rising from where she fell... Because while searching for her son, no one else believes that he will be found, but she does not give up; she finds her son after three years. This time, her adolescent daughter says that she hates her brother. Karsu, who married a rich man at a young age and has never had a job in her life, moves from Adana to Istanbul with her children when she learns that her husband is having an affair with her best friend.

Karsu, who wants to start her life anew, to make up for the time she has lost with her son, now Deniz, to give her daughters a good life and to be reborn from the ashes, realises something very important: Her own strength.

The story of a mother becoming stronger for her children is a story with a global resonance... After all, the strongest woman in the world is a mother.

### THIS HOUSE DOES NOT HAVE THE FAMILY ENVIRONMENT HE LONGED FOR

The highest-rated works of the season were the stories of children who are kidnapped and greeted as criminals when they return home years later.

*Wild Heart*, starring Halit Özgür Sarı, Simay Barlas, Dolunay Soysert and Yurdaer Okur, is another series that started in the September season and uses the theme of missing children.

Yaman, who grows up as a street child, helps everyone who is lower than him, lives in a shack with three people who do not have a family like him and acts as an older brother to them, is actually the child of one of the richest families in Türkiye who disappeared 15 years ago. His real name is Ali. After Ali's disappearance, his mother, Neslihan, becomes resentful of life. She locks herself in her room. She ignores her other children...

The twins, who want to be loved by their mother, try every avenue. But the name Ali always comes out of their mother's mouth. The reason for Çağla and Alaz's lack of love is Ali's ghost, and they hate him so much. 15 years later, by chance, Yaman is revealed to be Ali and moves into his family's house. As a street child, he could not even find hot water to bathe in, but suddenly the best cars, houses and clothes were put in front of him. He is asked to use the name Ali. It is all too much for Yaman. The family environment he longs for does not exist in this house. His mother loves him, but his sisters and his father hate him. In this process, Yaman's belief in the sanctity of the concept of family is tested.



## DIDN'T HESITATE TO GET HIS HANDS DIRTY

"The place where all evil is done with good intentions: the family." *The Family*, starring Kivanç Tatlıtuğ, Serenay Sarıkaya and Nur Sürer, introduced viewers to a mother who would do all the evil in the world for the sake of her son.

Hülya Soykan, a narcissistic character dependent on her son, did not hesitate to get her hands dirty in order to tear her son Aslan away from Devin, with whom she was in love. She imposed her own truths on her children and punished those who defied her. Hülya was a true Machiavellian, believing that "the end justifies the means".

But Devin and Aslan were both strong characters. If one fell, so did the other, and if one roared, the other roared even louder. So there was love, understanding, toxic motherhood and power struggles on screen. The concept of family lost its sanctity in this series.

## RECORD BROKEN FOR TOXIC RELATIONSHIPS

Once again this season, series based on real-life stories dominated our screens.

*Golden Boy*, in which all members of the family live in a waterside mansion and the patriarchal way of life, in which the elders of the family control everyone from eating to entering house, was the most popular series of 2023.

In the series, where Ferit, the rich and spoiled child of the family, was married to Seyran from Gaziantep in an arranged marriage to get away from the fast nightlife, everyone went behind each other's backs.

Ferit and Seyran were both in love and in a power struggle. They were not alone in their relationship with its ups and downs. Everyone from the maid to the great-grandfather interfered in their marriage.

Each man always had another lover from the past. On top of that, Ferit's ex-girlfriend was pregnant. But just like Seyran, the audience was captivated by Ferit's sympathy.

Whenever the two came together, the sound was always screaming. All sorts of intrigues were going on in the family in the name of favour. Seyran's father Kazım wanted money in exchange for his daughter. There was every shade of violence in every environment he entered. Filled with love, forbidden relationships, intrigue, violence, wealth, class differences and narcissistic characters, *Golden Boy* broke the record for toxic relationships.



## UP AND DOWN THEME IS TRENDY

Also based on a true story, *Lost in Love* tells the jealous story of Naz, Mete and İncila, who spent their childhood together.

In this story, all the family members also live in the same waterside mansion. The main thread of the series is Naz's unhealthy psychology, her devotion and hatred for İncila, her obsession with Mete and her fears. The rivalry between Naz's and Mete's families is a driving force in the series.

However, İncila's relationship with Mete while she was Naz's maid turns the series into a story of the upper and lower classes. The lower-class maid falls in love with the rich girl's fiancé, and an unhealthy, screaming, uninhibited relationship develops between the three of them.

Another series with a similar theme is *Safir*.

In the series which is shot in Cappadocia, where the whole family lives in the same mansion, the maid's daughter Feraye falls in love with the son of the mansion, Yaman. Yaman believes that he and Feraye will marry. However, a crime he and his brother are involved in will remain a secret between them. Learning this secret, Feraye's stepmother Cemile forces Yaman to marry her daughter Aleyna.

Life stops for Feraye, and she is also pregnant. Yaman's older brother Ateş also asks her to marry him. Thus, an alternating love quadrilateral is established between the siblings. Thanks to these series, it has been realised that clichés such as the story of the lower coming up, the intrigue and the siblings' love war are always the formula that works.

## EVIL HAS CONQUERED EVERYTHING

Last year there were class differences, impossible loves, conservative and secular conflicts, lost children and adjustment, traumatised individuals, toxic families, noisy loves and an endless power struggle on screen!

Themes were analysed in which everyone creates their own truth, imposes their own lifestyle on others, and where truth mixes with reality and turns into falsehood. The fact that even sacrifice is for profit was clearly shown.

At first, all the characters were enemies, but over time, their hearts grew together. Then evil came and conquered everything again...



SEMA ERGENEKON,  
THE SCREENWRITER OF  
FAMILY SECRETS

**“Whoever  
dared  
to do  
something  
unique  
and  
new made  
their  
mark  
in the  
history of  
TV series”**

By ÖZLEM ÖZDEMİR



**W**e interviewed Sema Ergenekon, the screenwriter of the series *Family Secrets*, which won the “Best Telenovela” award at the International Emmy Awards (IEMMY) in 2023. We discussed the key factors that contributed to the series’ success and her general approach to her work. Ergenekon says that being successful in the TV series industry is related to being courageous about “original and new experiments”. As for her future plans, she intends to leverage her existing credentials wisely and venture into something new.

**Family Secrets is in its 3rd season and has received many awards in Turkey in the last three years, from universities, audience awards, etc. But in 2023 you also won “Best Telenovela” award at the IEMMY. Before the ceremony, I looked at Family Secrets’ competitors, the other nominees, and there were some very strong candidates. It is a well-deserved award, but I think I would have been a bit intimidated when I saw the nominees.**

Everyone was intimidated. A panel was held before the ceremony and of course, there were very major companies there. Additionally, the other nominees are typically one-hour series, even though they are televised. So the writers and filmmakers have that advantage. And indeed, they choose the best non-American television series. And they do in fact choose the best non-American television series. This year, over 50 productions from 20 countries participated. There were shows from England, Korea and all of the European countries.

**Your competitors write 50-minute episodes while you write 130 pages a week. The difference is significant.**

This was also mentioned on the panel, there were people from production companies in different countries, professionals in the industry. I said that in our country TV series are broadcast for 140 minutes every week and I write 130 pages every week; the room suddenly went silent, then they all started to applaud. Then they continued to ask questions, such as how many days you spend writing an episode? How many pages do you write in a day? Everyone was really surprised.

**I also believe that Family Secrets, a crime-drama winning the Best Telenovela Award at the IEMMY, will pave the way for new directions. Turkish TV series are watched and loved worldwide, but viewers and decision-makers around the globe often expect something similar from Turkish dramas. Being a crime-drama, do you think Family Secrets can change global stereotypes about Turkish TV series?**

It will definitely change the perception. At the end of the panel I mentioned, two people who were also on the jury came to congrat-

ulate me. One of them was from Greece and he said: “I’m also a screenwriter. I had to watch one episode. And then I continued for four episodes without blinking for a second. I couldn’t believe what a world and a character you’ve built, I admire you”. So they watch and they know. So it really is possible to change the perception.

**As you mentioned in our first interview, producers and broadcasters had concerns about crime dramas. However, Family Secrets demonstrated the depth of crime drama, showcasing its excellence and widespread appeal, without being merely classified as a “whodunit”. In the last two years, many TV series have started with a murder or a crime and told the stories of the characters defined by that crime/murder. How do you evaluate this change?**

Both channel managers and producers say this. Everyone wants a series “like *Family Secrets*”. That is the biggest focus right now. “Make like *Family Secrets*”. I hear that there are some detective series being prepared right now and they are coded as detective-love series. I would be proud to have opened such a door. Of course, for this genre to continue, other examples need to be made. But I think the expression “like *Family Secrets*” is the wrong one here. I don’t exactly know what they mean by that expression but every series should be unique. It should reflect its own fiction, its own detective sense. If that happens, then this kind of work has a better chance of survival. But if you base it on *Family Secrets* and try to work mathematically, you’re not going to get very far.

I am now 20 years into my career, we moved to Istanbul in 2004 and *Gümüş* aired for the first time in 2005. I have seen, in this sector, the brave always win. *Ezel* was also an example of courage; filling in the missing information with flashbacks was definitely an act of courage for that time. Whoever dared to do something unique and new made their mark in the history of TV series.



**Season three started with a very dramatic storyline. You came up with a lot of brilliant ideas to keep the impact in this new season. How did you feel when the decision was made for a third season ?**

It was actually quite risky to start with the story of a missing child. Kerem Çatay asked me at the beginning, "Isn't this too heavy?" I told him that I can handle it. Disappearance of a child is a very difficult subject but there was a state of hope there, the child was alive. In the finale of the second episode, we realised that the child was alive. So we followed the question of whether they would be able to find the child. If we had started in a different way, I don't know if we could have made the season as popular as it is. There has to be another story; there are millions of stories. I found a story, divided it into eight chapters, rearranged elements, made changes or additions to lines, and reviewed it as a whole to ensure the solidity of the fiction.

**I think changing the timeline -like jumping a year ahead- for the third season was also necessary.**

Yes, emotions and conflicts get old; even the number of fights or dialogues that can be written between characters decreases because you start to repeat yourself. I thought that by jumping a year, I could place them in different stages of their lives; for example, Tuğçe as a cop and the other as a lawyer... Because situations and topics have to change. If they don't, you get the feeling that you've written something similar, and a lot of changes were necessary to avoid that feeling.

**I think what makes you stand out in *Family Secrets* is that you write in such a way that you almost play a chess match with the audience every week. You set up the detective story in this way by putting yourself on a par with the audience.**

I received comments like "you don't look down at the audience, you act like a friend to them", as you said. I don't know how I manage this either, I think it's all about one's instincts or character. I don't begin by calculating the actions I take to evoke specific emotions. I put myself in their shoes; I take into account what I would want to feel or how I would actually

perceive it. Because we have to have a reference point when writing. When discussing the storylines with my colleagues, I think about whether it's understood or has some kind of catch. I proceed completely intuitively, without thinking that we should go down or go up to the audience's perception. One of the most important names of Turkish theater, beloved Sevda Şener, was my teacher. In one of her lectures, she said: "if you are putting a bomb under the table, you will show it; a surprise should come a bit prepared." As an audience, if you don't know that there is a bomb under the table, when it explodes, it may create a momentary feeling of excitement, but when you know that the bomb is there, the tension increases much more. It's like the scene in this season where there is a dead body under the table and the whole family is eating dinner together. That's when you actually feel the tension. There is so much I learnt in school, I can't describe it, but I know it. I always link it to a mother's cooking, when a mother cooks, she eyeballs the ingredients but it turns out to be perfect. Just like that.

If I can't absorb, internalise and transform information, I can't use it; I immediately realise that it looks too awkward, so I immediately eliminate it or try to internalise that information.

**Is there any possibility for a fourth season of *Family Secrets*?**

No, there is not, we are coming to the end with this season.

**So what kind of a series are you planning to write after *Family Secrets*?**

It can sound a bit arrogant or egoistic, I don't know but I get this feeling that I did this, it was good but I am likely to repeat this in everything I do from now on. I will try to find what hasn't been done before and try that. I have this credibility that I have to use properly now. I don't want to do something similar, thinking that I already know legal language or the police procedures. I want to try something new.





**I would still love to watch a detective series where you write eight episodes, one hour each on one of the digital platforms. I think you can play and experiment with much more there.**

I want to write for digital platforms. (Showing her notes and notebook on the table) There are dozens of different plots here, things I'm considering. In detective fiction, I think it's very important to know all nooks and crannies and to be able to look at it from a different POV. This excites me a lot.

I found a story, divided it into eight chapters, moved things around, changed or added lines, looked at it as a whole again to make the fiction as solid as possible... In this sense, if I were writing for a digital platform, I would have the chance to do ten times better than what I did in *Family Secrets*. Actually, I don't have a big ambition to write for digital platforms, I'm not one of those writers who find digital cooler or put it in a different place than TV. But I want to see and experience detective fiction all written and completed from beginning to end. So I will do it.

I also have a women's story that I want to write for a digital platform. It will consist of four episodes and will have a different narrative style. All series are made up of thousands of stories that repeat each other, but when you change the narrative and form of fiction, it becomes something completely different; it's whole flavour and form transforms. I think I want to try new things because the most important thing is narrative on my end.

There are three options I want to do for television; I don't know which one I will go for. I also want to use a distinct narrative for them, I want to do something that hasn't been done. So I think I should use the credibility I have earned in the right direction.

I believe that we all need to try different ways; instead of copying *Family Secrets'* formula, it would be better to create different, original and exciting works. I don't think it would work out if *Family Secrets* is copied too, since crime-dramas are still seen as a high-risk genre, they try to copy *Family Secret's* formula because there is no risk there, it was a hit. But this shouldn't be accepted. We have to resist. When we resist, we either succeed or we fall. And if we fall, at least we fall with pride.

**Is there a show you have watched recently that you really liked?**

There is an interrogation series called *Criminal*. I recently watched an episode from the second season, and I was very impressed. I think it's very creative. It takes place in a single interrogation room. There is no other room, only the interrogation room, the room where you can watch the interrogation room or the corridor. It successfully gives the audience that feeling and that curiosity in such a limited space. I watch *Criminal* as if I'm taking a lesson. It is the detective series that I have admired the most recently. Apart from that, I watch almost everything on HBO and I also love Nordic detective series.







ONUR GÜVENATAM, FOUNDER OF OGM PICTURES AND OGM UNIVERSE

**“One of the greatest achievements of the Turkish series is their ability to blur the line between real life and the screen”**

By ENGIN İNAN

**W**e interviewed Onur Güvenatam, the founder of OGM Pictures, covering various topics ranging from the Turkish TV series industry to the key priorities in their own productions. Güvenatam underscored the significance of storytelling in content production and highlighted his active involvement in all project stages within his company.

When discussing his inclusion in *Variety's* '500 Most Influential People Shaping the Global Media Industry' list, Güvenatam shared his insights on the factors that contributed to this recognition. Below are Güvenatam's evaluations on the sector, showcasing him as one of the influential figures shaping the Global Media Sector.

**You founded OGM in 2019, and your company, now in its fifth year, has achieved many successes. How did you decide to establish the company, and what is the secret behind the successes you have achieved in the last four years?**

Founded in 2019, OGM Pictures is passionate about storytelling. It has a vision to create high quality content that resonates with audiences and reflects their inner selves. Our success over the past five years can be attributed to a combination of many factors. Firstly, we have a dedicated team of professionals committed to excellence in production. Secondly, our focus on diverse and compelling storytelling has allowed us to connect with a wide audience both locally and internationally. Lastly, we always strive to tell stories that have a purpose and touch people's lives.

**You have produced long-running series like *Inocentes* and *The Red Room*, which are widely watched in Türkiye, but your international success is also significant. For example, *Golden Boy* was sold to more than 100 countries. What are the reasons behind *Golden Boy's* popularity and success worldwide?**

The international success of *Golden Boy* can be attributed to its universal themes, compelling storytelling, strong characters, and high production values. The series resonated with audiences across different cultures due to its relatable storyline and engaging narrative. Additionally, the remarkable cast, the focus on high production values, and the attention to detail ensured the series maintained its quality across different markets. This contributed to its widespread popularity.

One of the greatest achievements of the Turkish series, and perhaps its greatest achievement, is their ability to blur the line between real life and the screen. This aspect likely played a significant role in *Golden Boy's* success worldwide, as it allowed viewers to connect with the story on a deeper level, transcending cultural boundaries and resonating with audiences globally.

**As a result of these international successes, you were listed on *Variety's* 500 Most Influential People Shaping the Global Media Industry. What did you feel, and what does it mean to you?**

It was an honour to be included in *Variety's* list of the 500 Most Influential People Shaping the Global Media Industry. This was the result of our international achievements for both free TV series and streaming platforms. It is a recognition of the impact our work has had on a global scale.

This recognition motivates us to continue pushing boundaries and striving for excellence in the media industry. It also reinforces our commitment to creating content that resonates with audiences worldwide and contributes positively to the ever-evolving media landscape.



**Turkish series have an interactive relationship with the audience, which is uncommon in the world. Audience reactions affect script shaping. How does this production process and the series' success affect you?**

The interactive relationship between the Turkish series and the audience is a testament to storytelling's power. We value our audience's feedback and engagement. However, even though we cannot say that the audience's reactions shape the storyline, they do influence it. This interactive relationship inspires us to continuously improve and innovate, ensuring our content remains relevant and compelling.

**You have not only produced projects for traditional television channels but also Netflix. You have popular works such as *Anotherself* and *The Gift* in your portfolio. Prime Video's first Turkish series, *Düğüm*, is also OGM-signed. What is your approach as a producer in terrestrial and digital works? Do you look for different things in stories? What are the advantages and disadvantages of each, in your opinion?**

Our approach as a producer in both traditional and digital works

is to focus on creating a strong story that resonates with audiences regardless of platform. While storytelling may vary based on platform requirements, our core focus remains on delivering high-quality content with universal appeal. Digital platforms have global reach and flexibility, allowing diverse storytelling formats. However, terrestrial channels offer a more traditional viewing experience with a dedicated audience. By balancing our presence across both platforms, we can cater to a wide range of viewers and maximise our content's impact.

**What do you consider when selecting projects? Which stories/genres are priorities for you?**

When selecting projects, we prioritise stories that have a strong narrative, universal appeal, and the potential to have a meaningful impact. Our priority is to create content that resonates with our audience while pushing storytelling boundaries like telling a hidden story for the first time. The creative aspect, the idea itself, excites me greatly when starting a project. Being able to touch the people with these projects, to say something to them, makes me very happy. In other words, the thought that I can make a difference in people's lives with content is the greatest joy I derive from my work. I am very interested in how I influence people. I am very interested in my creation's contribution to people. Working with people to convey what I know, learn, or feel excites me.

In addition to this, I experience different excitements in all the other production processes. These include the creative process, the development process, the production process, casting, script development, and creating a world. Finally, watching the first episode is a different experience.

**Ömer received higher ratings in the new season. It is one of your company's adaptations. How did you adapt this work? Turkish producers have shown significant success in adaptation works in recent years. What do you think is the secret of this success?**





The decision to adapt *Ömer* stemmed from our belief in its native storyline and potential to resonate with our audience. This is despite the story coming from a different culture. Turkish producers have indeed achieved significant success in adaptation. This can be attributed to the rich source material available in Turkish literature and the ability to adapt these stories to modern audiences. The key to this success lies in staying true to the essence of the original work while making it relevant and engaging for contemporary viewers.

**Are you a producer involved in every stage of projects? What is the most challenging part of working with you?**

As a producer, I am involved in every stage of the project to ensure our vision is realised. The most challenging part of working with me is perhaps the high standards I set for both myself and my team. I believe in pushing boundaries and striving for excellence, which can be demanding but ultimately leads to the most effective results.

**Our country is experiencing a serious economic crisis, and high inflation affects budgets. How has this crisis affected you? Since series are one of our country's most important export items, they must continue to be produced and sold internationally...**

The economic crisis and high inflation have indeed posed challenges for the industry, affecting budgets and production costs. However, we remain committed to delivering high-quality content and adapting to the changing economic landscape. The

success of the Turkish series as a major export item underscores the industry's resilience. We are optimistic about overcoming these challenges through innovation and strategic planning.

**What is the most challenging part of being a producer for you?**

The most challenging part of being a producer is navigating the dynamic and ever-changing entertainment industry. It requires constant adaptation, creativity, and strategic thinking to stay ahead in this competitive landscape. However, these challenges also present opportunities for growth and innovation, which keeps producer roles exciting and rewarding.

**You recently established OGM UNIVERSE. What is the reason for this decision? What are the goals of OGM UNIVERSE?**

The establishment of OGM UNIVERSE was a strategic decision aimed at expanding our reach and strengthening our presence on the global market. By managing the sales and distribution of our projects in-house, we have extensive control over the positioning and marketing of our content, allowing us to maximise its potential. Our goal with OGM UNIVERSE is to establish ourselves as a leading player in the international media industry. We will do this by forging strategic partnerships and delivering compelling content to audiences worldwide.

**Do you think our Turkish series will maintain its success in the future? What are the risks and opportunities for our series and content in the future?**

I am confident that the Turkish series will continue to succeed in the future. This is driven by our rich storytelling tradition and global demand for diverse content. However, this success is not without its challenges. As the industry evolves, we must adapt to changing audience preferences, technological advancements, and global market dynamics. The key lies in staying innovative, adaptable, and true to our storytelling roots. This will open up new opportunities for our series and content in the future.



LILIAM HERNANDEZ, CEO, UNIVERSAL CINERGIA DUBBING

# The Global Dubbing Odyssey of Turkish TV Series

By OBEN BUDAK



**T**oday, the Turkish television industry enjoys widespread international acclaim, with Universal Cinergia Dubbing (UCD) standing as a key player contributing to this global triumph. Liliam Hernandez, one of the founding partners of UCD, has been actively involved in the crucial process of bringing Turkish dramas to the Latin American market and introducing them to audiences worldwide since 2012.

In our conversation with Hernandez, who played a pivotal role in organising the Turkish Drama Gala as part of the Content Americas programme, we delve into the evolution of the Turkish television industry, its current success and the role UCD has played in this journey. We also take the opportunity to inquire about the intricacies of Hernandez's company's work and the lessons they have learned from their experience. This interview opens a window to explore the story behind the surge in global popularity of Turkish drama, and to gain a closer understanding of UCD's role in this success.

**The rise of Turkish TV series all over the world actually started when they were first noticed, loved and watched in Latin America. With the company you founded in 2012, you have been and still are dubbing Turkish TV series in Spanish. Can you tell us how this process started and progressed?**

My partner Gema Lopez and I have been interested in Turkish content from very early on and we decided to take a trip to Istanbul and meet the Turkish content producers and introduce our services. We were the first dubbing company to travel to Istanbul in 2012, and that's how everything started.

**In a short time you have become a company with recording studios in five different countries. You do dubbing and subtitling in different languages. Which of the TV series you dubbed were the most watched/broadly aired TV series? Can you list the top 10 series in this regard?**

Our company has been in business for 11 years, and we have dubbed several titles in this period, not only Turkish content. We have clients all over the world and we dub a very large number of titles into Spanish, Portuguese, English, French, Castilian, German, Italian and other languages. Among the several titles we have dubbed we can mention in no particular order: Golden Boy, Farah, That Girl, Chrysalis, Hicran, Broken Destiny, A Mother's Love, Forbidden Fruit, Our Father, Poison Ivy, Woman, among other successful Turkish titles. Other titles include Bel Air, Outlander, The English, Liar, Sisi, Wynnona Earp, Bolivar, Hotel Portofino, La Brea, El Senor de los Cielos, La Reina del Sur, and so many other titles.

**You provide services not only to TV channels but also to other platforms such as HBO Max and Amazon. Has this changed the way you work?**

Actually the change was for the better, because our workload increased considerably with all the streaming platforms that are now in the market. Streamers need localised content in several languages and we can provide multi language dubbing

solutions, tailored to each Project. We have the capability to handle large projects in multiple languages.

**Many Turkish actors are now particularly followed by viewers in places like Latin America, where Turkish TV series are widely watched. When choosing an interpreter for certain actors, which factors do you pay attention to? Does the same interpreter voice some Turkish actors in different series?**

It really depends on the characters and the story being told. We look for the voice actors that can match the original voice, as well as actors who have experience with the type of content. It may happen that a voice actor will dub a Turkish actor in different series, if that is the artistic director's decision. However we have a very large portfolio of voice actors, so we are extremely careful when casting the voices to make sure that the voices are all different and match the original voice.

**When there are jokes, dialogues, etc. in Turkish TV series that sometimes have a local meaning, do you also take on the responsibility of updating them according to the countries they will be aired in, and localise idioms, jokes or dialogues?**

Yes certainly. Accurate translation is essential, as well as adapting dialogues and jokes to the localised language. We may have to change the joke to make sure that the audience will relate to it. It is an integral part of the adaptation process.

Maintaining consistency and continuity in voice casting across different series or projects is essential to avoid viewer confusion and to maintain audience engagement. Some voice actors may specialise in voicing specific Turkish actors or characters across multiple series, contributing to consistency and familiarity for viewers.

**Why do you think Turkish TV series are in such high popularity? What are your professional opinions?**

The popularity of Turkish content has surged globally over the past couple of decades, capturing the attention of audiences far beyond Türkiye's border. Several factors contribute to their widespread appeal: Production quality, Compelling storylines, Cultural diversity, Talented Actors, Global Themes, Marketing and Promotion. Collectively these elements have contributed to the global appeal and success of Turkish dramas, making them a significant cultural export and entertainment phenomenon.

**You are organising the first Turkish Drama Gala at Content Americas in Miami. Could you please tell us how you decided to organise**

**this event. In addition, could you please provide us with the details of the event?**

We have been planning this gala for a year, it has been an amazing journey! The event was created to celebrate the Turkish content and its success in Latin America and worldwide. We are extremely grateful for the relationships we have forged over the years with all our Turkish clients, and this is an opportunity to express our gratitude for their loyalty, confidence and friendship over the years. There will be a showcase of great content, and a recognition ceremony to the professionals that have contributed to the success of Turkish content. It's a sit down dinner, preceded by a cocktail hour.

**In general, there is a debate about what artificial intelligence can do in jobs such as dubbing and translation. Do you utilise artificial intelligence in your work? What do you think will be the effects of artificial intelligence on the field of dubbing and subtitling in the near future?**

Artificial Intelligence (AI) can be a great tool to maximise productivity and streamline production processes especially in terms of dubbing. We are closely following it and learning about it every day.

The integration of artificial intelligence into the field of dubbing and subtitling holds the potential to transform production processes, enhance quality and accuracy, improve accessibility and inclusivity, and drive cost-effectiveness and scalability. While AI technologies offer promising opportunities for innovation and efficiency, it is essential to consider ethical considerations, cultural sensitivities, and the human element in content localization to ensure authenticity, relevance, and viewer satisfaction. Furthermore, the human element can never be replaced!

**I would like you to focus a bit on WAWA, of which you are the founder. You founded this association for women in the industry to have equal opportunities. How and why did you decide to establish such an association?**

We decided to create an association for women to collaborate, network, exchange opportunities and experiences in the audio-visual industry. It has been a tremendous success and we are very proud of what we have accomplished since the association was

founded. We actively participate in business events, some organised by our group. In a couple of weeks we will have a presence in both NATPE and Content Americas!

**What activities is WAWA engaged in, and what are your goals for 2024?**

The events for 2024 will be announced soon by the PR team in charge of promotions.



## OFFICIAL ANNOUNCEMENT REGARDING THE SALE OF BLUTV TO WBD



The news that Turkey's first local subscription video platform BluTV was acquired by Warner Bros. Discovery (WBD) has been on the agenda for a while. Finally, the expected announcement came on 29 December and WBD announced the acquisition of BluTV.

It was emphasised that this announcement was the result of a comprehensive 3-year partnership that started in 2021, when Discovery+ started broadcasting on BluTV and Discovery Inc. became a 35 percent shareholder of BluTV. Accordingly, the business partnership, which included the option to invest more in the rapidly growing BluTV, resulted in the acquisition of the entire company.

### 'A UNIQUE FORMULA FOR LOCAL SUCCESS'

Jamie Cooke, Managing Director of WBD CEE, MENA and Türkiye, said: "We are excited about the new era ahead. Türkiye has been an important investment area for us for more than 20 years and the acquisition of

BluTV adds the country's first local subscription video platform to our portfolio. The combination of engaging Turkish content and WBD's broad range of top international series and programmes offers a unique formula for local success. Together, we are offering Turkish viewers the most compelling viewing experience while expanding access to Turkish content globally."

### 'WE ARE HAPPY TO BE ONE OF THE WBD BRANDS'

BluTV CEO Deniz Şaşmaz Oflaz said the following: "As BluTV, we are very happy that our strategic partnership, which started with Discovery Inc. in 2021, has resulted in us becoming one of the WBD brands today. As Türkiye's leading local subscription video platform, we are proud that our steady rise since day one has made us part of one of the world's largest media companies. From now on, we will blend the best local stories we have ever presented to our viewers with the world's best foreign content to create Turkey's strongest digital platform library and bring our most successful local stories to the world."



## FOR MY FAMILY REMAINS POPULAR IN LATIN AMERICA AS IT ENTERS SEASON 4

ATV Distribution announced that the series *For My Family* continues to maintain its ratings success in the countries where it is broadcast in Latin America. The most important indicator of this is that TVN (Panama), TVN (Chile) and Latina TV (Peru) have acquired the licence rights to season 4 of *For My Family*. The programme was on air last August on Telefe Argentina, TVN (Panama), TVN (Chile) and Latina TV (Peru), receiving high ratings in each country. Also in August, ATV Distribution gave Televisa Univision the rights to the series so that US Hispanic viewers could watch it on Univision and VIX channels.



## STREET BIRDS AND STOLEN LIFE ARE SET TO MEET EQUATORIAL AUDIENCES, FOLLOWING THE SUCCESS OF A LITTLE SUNSHINE

While the series *A Little Sunshine*, which airs on TC Televisión (Ecuador) under the title *Giras Del Destino*, is being watched with great interest, it has been announced that *Street Birds* and *Stolen Life* will soon be aired on the same channel.

According to the announcement made by ATV Distribution, *Street Birds* and *Stolen Life* will also be aired soon in Ecuador by TC Televisión. As a result of the popularity of the series among Ecuadorian viewers, it is thought that other Turkish series may be brought to the agenda by the channel.

## URUGUAYAN CANAL 10 ACQUIRES THE RIGHTS TO LIFELINE SERIES



The Uruguayan television channel Canal 10 has acquired the right of the series *Lifeline*. ATV Distribution announced the acquisition of the rights of *Lifeline* by Uruguayan TV channel Canal 10.

ATV series are popular in many countries in Latin America. Previously, different series were sold in countries such as Panama, Chile, Argentina, Peru, Ecuador, and finally it was reported that Uruguay will also buy the *Lifeline* series.



## WILD HEART SOLD TO 44 COUNTRIES

FOX's popular series *Wild Heart*, signed by NTC Medya, is opening to the global market after Türkiye.

Starring Halit Özgür Sarı, Simay Barlas, Yurdaer Okur, Dolunay Soyser, Bertan Asllani, Tayanç Ayaydın and Şebnem Hassanisoughi, the series broke a record by selling to 44 countries in a short time. The series was sold to MENA Region, Serbia, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Moldova, Russian Federation, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan, Romania, Croatia, Bulgaria, Montenegro, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Spain and Andorra.

## MISSING CHILD RETURNS TO HIS FAMILY

The series, directed by Çağatay Tosun and written by Hilal Yıldız, is about a child who is kidnapped from a deep-rooted family and falls to the streets, and his struggle to re-exist himself when he returns home after years.



## NETFLIX'S NEW SERIES İSTANBUL ANSİKLOPEDİSİ IS ON SET

The Netflix series *İstanbul Ansiklopedisi*, produced by Tims&B Productions and written and directed by Selman Nacar, commenced shooting on set. The shooting of the series started in Istanbul.

Nacar, the director of the series, has previously won awards from many international festivals with his films *Hesitation Wound* (2023) and *Between Two Dawns* (2021).

## THE CONTRASTS OF NESRİN AND ZEHRA

Produced by Timur Savcı and Burak Sağyaşar, the series focuses on the story of two characters named Nesrin and Zehra. Coming from different generations and raised in different cultural atmospheres, Nesrin and Zehra harbour many contrasts with their completely different desires, secrets and lies. Featuring gripping characters like Nesrin and Zehra, this new production is already highly anticipated.

Canan Ergüder portrays the character of Doctor Nesrin and Helin Kandemir portrays the character of Zehra in this new Turkish series, whose shooting started in the unique atmosphere of Istanbul. The cast of the series also includes important names such as Müjde Ar, Tolga Tekin, Nezaket Erden and Kaan Miraç Sezen.



## GADDAR'S POSTER FOLLOWED BY A NEW TRAILER

The countdown continues for FOX's new series *Gaddar*, signed by Ay Yapım. Another new trailer of the series, which created excitement with its first trailer and poster, attracted attention with its different story and strong cast, was shared.

In the cast of the series starring Çağatay Ulusoy, Sümeyye Aydoğan and Onur Saylak, names such as Erdal Özyağcılar, Laçın Ceylan, Hakan Salınmış, Müge Bayramoğlu, Deniz Özerman, Neslihan Yeldan, Fatih Berk Şahin, Aytek Şayan, Musab Ekici and Uğur Yıldırım met. In the last trailer of *Gaddar*, attention is drawn to the great love of Dağhan (Çağatay Ulusoy) and Aydan (Sümeyye Aydoğan).

## THE BRUTALISATION PROCESS OF THE LEAD CHARACTER

The series revolves around the story of Dağhan, who turns into a brutal (*Gaddar* in Turkish) as a result of his experiences. It is seen that clues about this transformation process are given in the new trailer.

The poster of *Gaddar*, written by Hürer Ebeoğlu and directed by Sinan Öztürk, was recently released and attracted attention.

## THE STORY OF THOSE WHO HOLD ON TO TIGHTER TO LIFE: BAHAR

Show TV will soon meet its audiences with a new series: *Bahar*. The team of the series recently went on set.

In the cast of the new project called *Bahar*, produced by MF Yapım, Neslihan Yeşilyurt in the director's chair, written by Ayça Üzümlü; Demet Evgar, Buğra Gülsoy, Mehmet Yılmaz Ak, Hatice Aslan, Ecem Özkaya, Elit Andaç Çam, Demirhan Demircioğlu, Nil Sude Albayrak, Sena Kalıp, Alisa Sezen Sever and Füsün Demirel.

### WHEN DEATH CAME KNOCKING...

It is stated that the series *Bahar*, which will soon appear on Show TV, offers a story with high viewing pleasure under the guidance of the defeated but brave main character.

When Bahar (Demet Evgar) faces death, she will encounter another face of her family, especially her husband Timur (Mehmet Yılmaz Ak), who seems "perfect" from the outside. Bahar's sudden illness will change all dynamics in the family. In this process, Evren (Buğra Gülsoy) will become Timur's rival in every sense. Bahar's rebuilding of her life will give hope to the audience with often tragicomic stories.

Show TV's new series claims to remind us that it is possible to start over despite everything...



### ONE LOVE ON THE VERGE OF MEETING ITS LATIN AUDIENCES

Chile's TVN channel has acquired the hit series *One Love* from Global Agency, and it is announced that it will start airing in early January. Already acquired in Puerto Rico, Panama and Honduras, the new deal marks another step in the global expansion of the hit drama.

### CONFLICTS AND ADAPTATION EFFORTS OF TWO DIFFERENT FAMILIES

The captivating hit drama is the most talked about series of Turkey in the last two seasons. It's achieving great results, maintaining its first place in the commercial demo every week. It tops the rankings with many of its episodes. The drama shows the conflicts of two different families, cultural differences and adaptation efforts. It deals openly and courageously with a subject that was never explored before in Turkey.

With a star cast featuring Barış Kılıç, Evrim Alasya, Sıla Türkoğlu and Doğukan Güngör, *One Love* is now set to hit the screens in Chile.

The drama is produced by Gold Film, which is one of the top producers in Turkey and has a proven record with previous series such as *Daydreamer*, *Iffet*, *Dila* and *Never Let Go*.

## TV8'S NEW SERIES IS ON AIR: AŞKA DÜŞMAN

Produced by Acunmedya, directed by Mesude Erarslan, written by Eylem Canpolat and Ozan Aksungur, the series *Aşka Düşman* started to be aired on TV8 on 4 January. In the cast of the series starring Nazan Kesal, Buse Meral and Cem Yiğit Üzümoğlu; Merve Nur Bengi, Esra Ruşan, Ebru Aykaç, Bedia Ener, Barış Aytaç, Bihter Dinçel, Lavinya Ünlüer, Beste Kanar, Pelin Bahsi, Mehmet Çepiç, Jale Yücel, İbrahim Şahin, Mustafa Arhan, Berkan Bulut and Sermet Yeşil are also included.

### IMPOSSIBLE LOVE STORY?

Will İnci and Uygur be able to live their love despite Bahriye and Mahur in *Aşka Düşman*, which tells the story of İnci's love with Uygur, who was raised by a mother hostile to love? Or is this an impossible love story?





# LISTINGS

## CONTENT AMERICAS

2024





## FARAH

Adapted from the award-winning Argentinian series “La Chica Que Limpia”; “Farah” is the story of an Iranian woman, who had to run away from her country and is struggling to live in Istanbul, working as a cleaning lady in order to maintain the treatment of her son. Farah was one of the brightest students at one of Iran’s leading medical schools, until months before she had to flee. But she and her entire family ruthlessly pay the price for a man’s failure to reciprocate her love, and Farah flees to Türkiye, unaware that she is pregnant with a boy. Seven years later, this woman with a bright future is forced to work as a cleaning lady in order to provide for herself and her son. Farah’s son Kerim has a disease called “Bubble Boy Disease”. He spends most of his time at home, in a sterile room free from germs, since his innate immune system is very weak. He can only go out in his special costume for an hour or two once a week, and it takes Farah’s momentary carelessness when Kerim’s health suddenly deteriorates. One night while cleaning, Farah witnesses a mafia murder. She begs the hitman Tahir to let her go, promising to keep her mouth shut and offers to clean the murder scene. That’s what she does best, and in order to escape death, she cleans the crime scene without leaving a trace. The following day, Farah finds out that the victim of the crime is a policeman; a dear friend to her neighbour Gonul and her big brother Chief Inspector Mehmet (Firat Tanış). Farah decides to testify and goes to the police station where she meets Tahir, who has been detained by Mehmet. Leaving the station at once, Farah decides to leave the country, however, fate has its own way and she suddenly finds herself at a hospital. While she tries to get away, a deadly injured man is being brought to the E.R. Farah intervenes in order to rescue him, unaware of the fact that the man she tries to rescue is the leader of the mafia and Tahir’s boss - Ali Galip. This instinctive act takes her to the middle of the mafia-police war and an unpredictable love with her hunter Tahir, in the first season. With Farah’s son Kerim, all three together, create a family, against all odds around them. But the love between Farah & Tahir will be tested even harder in the second season when Kerim’s dead father Behnam comes back to Istanbul to get his “family” back.

**Title:** Farah

**Duration:** S1: 47 TV Hours / S2: 42 TV Hours

**Genre:** Drama

**Production Company:** O3 MEDYA

**Cast:** Demet Özdemir, Engin Akyürek, Firat Tanış, Rastin Pakhanad, Feyyaz Duman, Hatice Aslan, Sera Kutlubey, Senan Kara, Lale Başar, Oktay Çubuk

## INDEFENSIBLE

Awarded by The Academy of Canadian Cinema and TV as “The Best Daily Series” at the 38th Prix Gémeaux Awards “Indefensible”; is an engaging, unifying and captivating new daily legal series. It plunges us into the world of Lapointe-Macdonald Law Firm and its criminal defence team. A realistic universe built of human dramas, from the smallest to the largest, all imbued with the same emotion: fear. Fear of being condemned for an act that the accused may or may not have committed. From ordinary citizens to career criminals, everyone is entitled to full answer and defence and the presumption of innocence. At the heart of the series, a combative, endearing team of criminal lawyers passionate about justice. A tight-knit family, full of contradictions, crooked and endowed with great humanity. The cabinet is the home of countless twists and turns, rich in emotions and tensions. Our criminalists bring to life the human story behind crime: murder cases, intertwined with countless criminal cases that make their hearts beat faster. “Indefensible” takes viewers on a real adventure, who is undeniably trying to find out who is telling the correct version of the facts. He becomes a “juror”, seeking to discover what will become “his” truth. What verdict would he have given? We will be captivated by the touching and disturbing causes they defend as well as by their personal, ethical, emotional and psychological issues.

**Title:** Indefensible

**Duration:** S1: 120 x 30' / S2: On Air / S3: Approved

**Genre:** Crime Drama

**Production Company:** Pixcom & Quebecor Content

**Cast:** Sébastien Delorme, Anne-Élisabeth Bossé, Michel Laperrrière, Martin-David Peters, Nour Belkhira, Marilyse Bourke



## EGO

The Koraslan Family is one of the most well-known families in the tourism industry in Türkiye. Sibel and Tuncay are both involved in their family business. On the other hand, the Ozturks are a middle-class family, Burhan being the father, who lost his beloved wife 2 years ago, his daughter Elif and son Arda. Elif is engaged to Erhan, a frank and brave man who works in the finance department at the Koraslan Family's firm. Burhan loves Erhan as his own son and relies heavily on him. When Erhan asks for money to invest on the stock market, he hypothecates his house in return for a huge loan. Things turn for the worse and Erhan loses the all money. The Ozturk Family could lose their house unless Erhan mends the situation. Meanwhile Sibel, who got unexpectedly abandoned by the man, who she had fallen in love with for the first time in her life, suddenly learns that she has a cyst in her womb and if she doesn't conceive soon, she will not be able to bear children. Elif, Erhan and Sibel's lives will completely change, when Sibel decides to get pregnant with Erhan's baby and makes an indecent proposal in the amount of 3 million.

**Title:** EGO

**Duration:** 40 TV Hours

**Genre:** Drama

**Production Company:** Pastel Film

**Cast:** Alperen Duymaz, Melisa Aslı Pamuk, Ahmet Kayakesen, Rüya Helin Demirbulut, Derya Beşerler

## ADELA

Adela and Andreea are two sisters, who were raised by their parents, Nuti and Mitu, in their poor home in a slum near Bucharest. One day, the secret identity of Adela is about to be revealed, when her biological grandfather decides to repair his past mistakes. However, before bringing Adela to her real father, the old man dies and Nuti and Mitu bury him in the garden, and the truth seems to be forever buried along with him. Presented with this new opportunity, Nuti and Mitu decide to send their own daughter Andreea in Adela's place, since the real father of Adela is the powerful media mogul, Paul Andronic. Nuti becomes increasingly obsessed with living in the mogul's mansion, and when she realises she is not welcomed by the rich, snobbish family, she begrudgingly accepts to live in the annex house for the time being. Although Nuti and Andreea seem like strong allies and committed to take what is owed to Adela, they will face a lot of trials and tribulations in keeping the secret.

**Title:** Adela

**Duration:** 159 TV Hours

**Genre:** Drama

**Production Company:** Dream Film Production

**Cast:** Mara Oprea, Oana Mosneagu, Alecsandru Dunaev





### TYCOON / TAJKUN

Vladan Simonović is a tycoon, hated in Serbia because of the wealth he gained during the disintegration of Yugoslavia in the 1990s. Although he was able to run his company from the shadows, and to some extent the economy of the entire country, the politicians now in power, put him on a kind of pillar of shame, using him to strengthen their political authority. At the same time, the same politicians are cooperating with Simonović's rivals and plan to turn themselves and people from their closest surroundings into a new class of tycoons who are unconditionally loyal to them, with a seemingly clean past. Therefore, the assassination attempt on Simonović will not make him a victim in the eyes of politicians and the media under their control. On the contrary, that attack will make him even more isolated and vulnerable, making him conduct the investigation into his assassination attempt by himself. He is a persecuted man, forced to take drastic measures to preserve himself and his company. Besides his public and secret enemies, he is in conflict with his son, but also with the rest of the family, which is only kept together by his wealth.

**Title:** Tajkun

**Duration:** S1: 10x50' - S2 In Production

**Genre:** Action

**Production Company:** TS Media powered by Telekom Srbija

**Cast:** Dragan Bjelogrić, Tihana Lazović, Vuk Jovanović

### ALERT SQUAD

Behind each disappearance lies a hidden reality. Every single minute counts when the Missing Persons Unit is working a case. Driven by hope, bound by courage and determination, the team investigates with one clear objective: to recover the missing alive. "Alert Squad" is a police-driven series built on human drama. With its 3rd season it was awarded by The Academy of Canadian Cinema and TV as "The Best Annual Series" at the 38th Prix Gémeaux Awards.

**Title:** Alerts

**Duration:** S1: 24 TV Hours - S2: 25 TV Hours

**Genre:** Crime Drama

**Production Company:** Pixcom

**Cast:** Mylène St-Sauveur, Frédéric Pierre, Sophie Prigent





## THE WELL / BUNAR

"The Well" is an existential story. The search for deeper meaning. Search for an answer to the question why we exist in this world. The main protagonist, a philosophy professor Radomir Pavlović is in search of the meaning. He is at the peak of his powers in the beginning of the road. He is young enough, in his forties, by Selimović's standards, yet not old enough to understand what he will encounter in his path. He is into everything, and yet not up to anything.

**Title:** The Well / Bunar

**Duration:** 12x50'

**Genre:** Drama

**Production Company:** TS Media powered by Telekom Srbija

**Cast:** Milica Janevski, Denis Murić, Boris Milivojević, Nataša Ninković, Igor Đorđević



## THE CLAN / KLAN

The murder of Tigar, the biggest mafia boss in this part of Europe, shook the Serbian underground to its foundations. Many want to take his place. The cards are open again. Everyone wants their piece of booty and they are ready to do anything to win it... On the margins of that world, Shock and Pasha, provincials and not overly successful petty thieves, are just beginning their careers which will take them to unimaginable levels... This is their path; their story.

**Title:** The Clan / Klan

**Duration:** 24x50', 3 Seasons

**Genre:** Thriller, Crime

**Production Company:** TS Media powered by Telekom Srbija

**Cast:** Gorica Popović, Aleksandar Cvetković, Srđan Timarov, Petar Benčina, Dejan Karlečik, Feđa Štukan, Nedim Nezirović, Aleksandar Dimitrijević

## NO TRESSPASSING

When the police detain his daughter Miona together with a well-known Belgrade dealer, Dejan Matić decides to stop working in his architectural bureau, and together with his daughter moves to Dol, his father's home village. Despite Miona's resistance, he is carrying on with his idea, hoping to separate his daughter from bad company and habits, and to renew the mutual closeness, lost during Miona's growing up and Dejan's career building. Uncle Velibor is waiting for them in the family house in Dol, ready to help them adapt to the new environment. He also introduces them to the conflict divided Dol - a returnee from abroad and a wealthy entrepreneur, Maksa wants to cut down a forest in the area known as 'ban' in order to erect a modern hotel complex. He has the support of Borivoj, the owner of a local shop and cafe, the self-proclaimed "mayor" of Dol. On the other hand, he is resisted by Dejan's uncle Velibor, but also by Vera Jakovljević, a teacher from Dol, and Dejan's love from his youth.

**Title:** No Trespassing

**Duration:** S1: 10 TV Hours & S2: In Production

**Genre:** Crime Drama

**Production Company:** TS Media powered by Telekom Srbija

**Cast:** Nataša Ninković, Vojin Ćetković, Milutin Mima Karadžić, Branka Pujjić, Žarko Laušević, Ivana Zečević





### SAFİR

Feraye, a textile design student and housekeeper at the mansion of the wealthy Gülsoy family in Cappadocia, has a flaw in her affection for one of the family's heirs, Yaman. Feraye's father, Muhsin, has married Cemile, who constantly tortures the family. The eldest child of the Gülsoy family returns to Cappadocia, where his grandfather has big plans for him. Yaman plans to propose to Feraye, but she meets Bora, a shady character. Bora is hospitalised and Yaman keeps silent to protect his family. Yaman is now forced to marry Aleyna because of threats from eyewitnesses.

Aleyna deceives Feraye. This leads to her insane behaviour. Ateş rescues her and they learn that she is expecting a baby. Both lovers are unable to reveal their truths, and Ateş will eventually fall in love with Feraye.

**Drama, 45 min, In production**

### THE OTTOMAN

With Ertugrul Gazi's sickness, the Kayı tribe started to struggle both with outside enemies such as the Byzantine Empire and Mongolians and power struggles between the youngest son of Ertugrul Gazi, Osman, and uncles of him, Dündar and Gündüz. The young and brave Osman will fight both internally and externally to defeat his enemies and empower the Kayı tribe in Anatolia.

**Drama, 45 min, 422+ Episodes**



### THE FATHER

Cezayir Türk, a member of secret service must now avenge his brother. He fakes his own death for the two things dearest to him in this world: his family and his nation. As he tries to start over and start a family in Tashkent, everything starts to fall apart when he is made and forced to return to Istanbul.

**Drama, 45 min, 113+ Episodes**





### **A LITTLE SUNSHINE**

Hakan and Elif were a happy couple until one day an accident reveals all Hakan's lies. Firat, brother of Dila and uncle of Güneş is behind this accident. Güneş sheds a bright light on Elif's dark life and Elif takes Güneş under her wings with the support of Firat and their story begins.

**Drama, 45 min, 117 Episodes**



### **FOR MY FAMILY**

When both their parents die on the same day, Kadir has to assume responsibility and care for his little siblings. The unfortunate siblings have to face everything life throws at them. They navigate ups and downs of life through poverty and homelessness.

**Drama, 45 min, 315+ Episodes**



### **STREET BIRDS**

Homeless, living off of selling handkerchiefs to passersby, five friends find a baby lying in a trash bin. The motherly instincts of Mercan kick in and the buddies decide to take the baby under their care. They name the baby Gülayşe. When the bully Çatal notices the baby, he moves to hurt her, and the chaos begins. While they were trying to escape Çatal, the friends hurt him and accidentally caused the death of a woman who was looking for the baby. Time flies and the five are now adults. They own a café called "Ateş Kuşları" as the things seem to have settled down. This will soon change and everything will soon start to fall apart when Barbaros, a policeman, comes looking for Gülayşe.

**Drama, 45 min, 67+ Episodes**



## Series

**ANOTHER LOVE**

“Another Love” tells the powerful story of an anchorman and a prosecutor, drawn into an affair filled with tension and passion as they seek to reveal the dark truth about a mysterious serial killer. The gruesome murder case hits the headlines thanks to coverage by Kenan, who crosses paths with Leyla when they both go in pursuit of the killer. While the two fall in love, Leyla uncovers uncomfortable truths about her father that leave her in the midst of a gut-wrenching dilemma, facing a tough choice between justice and her family. As the dramatic and fast-paced drama evolves, dark secrets reveal grim past ties between Leyla’s father and Kenan and a time of reckoning between them approaches.

**Tims&B Productions**  
Drama  
Ongoing Production

**ONE LOVE**

“One Love” tells the captivating story of the idealistic Doga falling hopelessly in love at university with the charming Fatih, a man from a devout family whose values clash with those of her mother, creating a moving drama as they seek to overcome their differences. Doga’s life plans are turned upside down and her mother is shaken to the core when she refuses to have an abortion and instead marries him. With her devastated mother convinced that religion will doom their marriage, Doga and Fatih face a battle for their love to triumph over this culture clash. Her mother too faces a struggle that triggers major changes in her attitudes, enriching a complex love story that brings together two families who are worlds apart but share the same deep truths.

**GOLD FILM**  
Drama  
Ongoing Production

**VENDETTA**

Vendetta tells the moving story of Dilan and Baran and the marriage they are forced into to end a blood feud, triggered by an attack on Baran’s parents, which leaves him struggling to bring peace to a conflict-filled family. The powerful drama revolves around a treacherous uncle’s plot to get his hands on the family fortune by pressuring Baran to take revenge. Desperate to prevent a spiral of violence, Baran vows instead to marry his enemy’s daughter and, discovering that this is Dilan, finds himself torn between love for her and hatred of her family. Despite hostility around them, Dilan and Baran realize the spark between them is set to erupt into a passion that will either blossom into love or bring devastation.

**Unik Film**  
**Rains Pictures**  
Drama  
Daily, Access Prime Time

### UPRISING KITCHEN

“Uprising Kitchen” is an intriguing and entertaining cooking show in which a first-class chef, a housewife, and a novice compete to produce the best dish, with the experienced cooks facing unique challenges to even out the contest. The amateur cook has \$100 to spend on ingredients, the housewife \$20, and the master chef just \$5, filling the show with fun, frustrations and ingenuity. The master chef must work with a tiny counter, while the rivals have bigger areas, and cards drawn from a lottery machine enable contestants to set challenges for their rivals. Culinary experts finally pass judgement on the dishes, bringing disappointment or joy in a show as inspiring for viewers as it is for the contestants.

**Cooking show**  
**Weekly, Prime Time**



### OUR SONGS

“Our Songs” is a thrilling singing contest with an innovative scoring system that fires up 10 contestants to perform at their best, showcasing weekly themes such as golden oldies, rock or folk songs. The five judges rate the singers in two groups of five, awarding 10 points to one singer and 7, 3, 5 and 1 to the others. As each judge grades them, singers have the chance to rise or sink further, sharing their delight or sadness with their families as they sit together in the audience. The two highest scorers battle it out in the night’s final with the winner earning a place in the end-of-series grand finale and the chance to be crowned the “Our Songs” champion.

**Singing talent show**  
**Weekly, Prime Time**

### MATCH THE FAMILY

“Match The Family” is a fun and fascinating contest challenging two teams of three players to use intelligence and quick wits to identify family members of a person in the studio. With prize money rising to \$50,000 over five rounds, teams race against time to pick out the person’s father based on a childhood photo shown on a screen. They then identify the person’s mother, sibling, child and partner over four more rounds, based on close-up examinations, voices, questions and stories the candidates tell. The top team competes in the final quick-fire quiz, answering personal questions about the family in a show full of high tension, thrills and entertainment.

**Gameshow**  
**Weekly, Prime Time**



### THE ROLLING KITCHEN

In “The Rolling Kitchen” couples must create dishes on a stage which rotates 180 degrees every 10 minutes, battling for a cash prize in a contest which requires agility and a cool head. Couples cannot discuss the cooking process and must read each other’s minds as they are rotated to face their partner’s dish, which they must then complete. The sudden change in setting is a source of confusion for the contestants and amusement for the viewers. With their eyes on the 40-minute deadline, contestants may rescue failed dishes or ruin promising ones, but only the judges can rule who has come out on top.

**Cooking / Game Show**  
**Weekly, Prime Time**





### I AM MOTHER

"I Am Mother" tells the gripping story of Karsu, a resilient mother of three who relocates from Adana to Istanbul, and bravely starts anew in the bustling city after enduring a life-altering trauma. This drama navigates her journey of resilience and renewal, as she confronts the challenges of rebuilding her life. It portrays the complicated dynamics of family bonds, the strength of a woman's spirit, and the journey towards liberation from a burdensome past. "I Am Mother" is a story of mothers and daughters, laughter and tears, and the universal quest for self-discovery. A series where every viewer will find a piece of themselves reflected in the heartwarming and sometimes heartbreaking moments of life.

**Duration:** 80 x 45 min

**Genre :** Drama

**Rights Holder:** O3 Medya

**Commissioning/Originating**

**Broadcaster & Country:** Show TV

### CHRYSALIS

Nalan is a young, beautiful and innocent girl who works as an architect in a big hotel. She has started dating Sedat, a young and good looking man, and the successful heir of said hotel. Nalan soon sees that Sedat is not necessarily the prince charming she had been dreaming of. But even when Nalan finds out that his former affair is still ongoing, she chooses to ignore it, desperate to start her new life, and blossom into the woman that she hopes she is destined to be.

**Duration:** S1: 150 x 45 min, S2 103 x 45 min.

**Genre:** Drama

**Rights Holder:** OGM Pictures

**Broadcaster & Country:** Kanal D (Türkiye)



### KARA

In '98, a single night became the turning point for Kara and Zeynep. It's a night that casts a shadow over Kara's family, altering their lives forever. Years later, seeking revenge and closure, the grown-up Kara infiltrates the world of Zeynep, where love blossoms amidst the echoes of that fateful night.

**Duration:** 85 x 45 min

**Genre:** Drama

**Rights Holder:** Most Production

**Commissioning/Originating**

**Broadcaster & Country:** Show TV



## ÖMER S2

Ömer's life turns upside down when he falls in love with Gamze, a relationship that his conservative father will never approve of. Gamze is a middle aged woman who returns to her old neighbourhood after her divorce. While struggling to start over her life as a single mother, she finds an unexpected comfort in Ömer's love, who is much younger than her. We will witness over time the struggles that Ömer and Gamze will try to overcome, their fight against the strict rules and the conflicts that both of their families will go through.

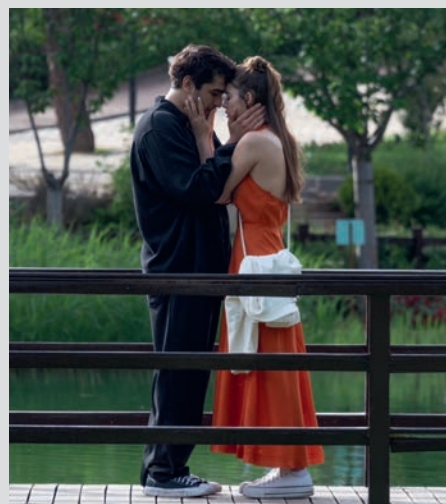
**Duration:** 80 x 45 min.

**Genre:** Drama

**Rights Holder:** OGM Pictures

**Commissioning/Originating Broadcaster &**

**Country:** Star TV



## GOLDEN BOY S2

Seyran returns to Gaziantep to marry Tarik. However, Ferit decides to go after her, to save her from the marriage. When Seyran and Ferit are finally reunited, Tarik appears, and a conflict breaks out, ending with Tarik shooting Ferit. He is badly injured and rushed to the hospital, where Seyran is met by Ferit's family, who are all very angry. Ferit makes it through surgery and when he wakes up, he insists on marrying Seyran. Although his family opposes at first, Ferit's love for Seyran is undeniable, and the two get married.

**Duration:** 131 x 45 min.

**Genre:** Drama

**Rights Holder:** OGM Pictures

**Commissioning/Originating Broadcaster &**

**Country:** Star TV



## REDEMPTION S2

When Hira is lying in the morgue, she suddenly wakes up. She leaves the hospital, walking down the road, when she's hit by a car. Realising Hira has lost her memory, the driver, Esin, decides to substitute Hira for the dead wife of her disabled brother, giving Hira the name Firuze. Orhun, who thinks Hira is dead, is devastated. One day while walking on the beach, he sees Hira but she doesn't recognize him and runs away. After the encounter, Orhun asks for Hira's grave to be opened and a DNA test to be done, convinced Hira is not dead.

**Duration:** 273 x 45 min.

**Genre:** Drama

**Rights Holder:** Karamel Yapım

**Commissioning/Originating Broadcaster &**

**Country:** Kanal 7



## DECEPTION

Güzide Yenersoy is a respected family court judge in Istanbul. Married for 30 years and having two children, Güzide Yenersoy has what could be called a perfect family. Her husband, Tarik, is an experienced and successful lawyer. He runs his own law firm. Their son, Ozan, is a construction engineer in a renowned firm and their daughter, Oylum, is studying medicine in Holland at the insistence of her mother. From the outside, the Yenersoy family lives a picture-perfect life based on trust and love. But the truth is completely different from this false reality. Although everything seems to be going well, Güzide is unaware that the buried events of the past are coming to light again: every member of her family, whom she loves and to whom she dedicates her life, is lying to Güzide. Unbeknownst to her, Oylum has decided to go to the USA to pursue her dream of studying modern dance. Oylum is counting down to the day she leaves for New York, and her family friend Tolga, whom she meets by chance at the airport, becomes her secret partner. Oylum is not the only one who is lying to Güzide. After not getting the promotion he expected, Ozan follows his friend's advice to invest in cryptocurrency, but gets into big trouble by losing his father's friend's money. But it is her husband whose betrayal will change Güzide's life forever. Tarik has a second family that he has kept secret for five years. When Tarik's betrayal is revealed, Güzide is forced to confront the reality that she's been lied to all her life.

**Title:** Aldatmak

**Duration:** TBA

**Genre:** Drama

**Production Company:** Tims&B Productions



## THE IVY

Ezgi's life back then seemed magnificent from afar. She had a marriage that everyone envied, and a husband full of attention and love: Kerem. However, Ezgi was experiencing unresolvable problems in her marriage. Ezgi was tired of dealing with these problems and was on the verge of ending everything, when she started to feel that she was being followed. When the man after her managed to reach Ezgi, he would say something unbelievable to her: Your husband wants to kill you...

Ezgi wouldn't want to believe this man, she would run away from him, but the man wouldn't let go of her, he was always telling Ezgi about secrets that no one would know. Ezgi started to believe in Kerem one day and in this man the other day because of what Kerem did. Who was Kerem really? Was he the man she fell in love with or the psychopath who wanted to kill her?

While Ezgi couldn't trust her friends whom she had known for years, Arzu, who had just moved to the housing complex, became her closest friend, and became the person with whom she shared her darkest family secrets. However, Arzu would turn the lives of everyone living on this housing complex upside down, happy marriages would be destroyed by big fights, close friends would become enemies, deviant thoughts would replace the healthy psychology of children, and no one would trust anyone. But neither Arzu nor the people in the housing complex knew what was going to happen... Their friendship would end with Arzu's murder. The police investigating Arzu's murder would witness the entangled criminal relationships, anger born of jealousy, secret affairs, lies told in this housing complex; and would see the real faces of the residents while they were questioning these relationships that had turned into an ivy. No one was who they seemed to be, but one of them was a murderer and the police wouldn't stop until they got that person...

**Title:** Sarmaşık Zamanı

**Duration:** 16 x 60 min. available in HD

**Genre:** Drama, Crime, Mystery

**Production Company:** TOD Original

**Cast:** Burçin Terzioğlu, Onur Tuna, Hazal Türesan, Yiğit Kirazcı





## TUZAK

“Tuzak” tells the story of three siblings, Mahir, Umut and Umay, whose childhood has been taken from them. Who is bad, who is real, who is fake? In such a confusing world, the three siblings Umut, Mahir and Umay come together for a common purpose. They find out that they don't have the bond they thought they had. On the other hand, Güneş, Güven and Mete are the siblings, each of whom believed that the approval of their father and their comfortable lives were more important than each other. Umut is going through his biggest conflict thanks to Güneş, the girl he believes to be the love of his life, as he takes revenge on the family he hates. Güneş doesn't know Umut's true identity and purpose. She knows her as the dirty lawyer Çınar Yılmaz. She is going to entrust the future of her

family and of herself to this man with whom she has fallen in love.

**Title:** Tuzak

**Duration:** 82 x 45 min.

available in HD

**Genre:** Drama

**Production Company:** Acun Medya & Fabrika Yapım

## POISON IVY

Macide is the daughter of a poor family who has studied psychology. She is not happy in business life and her true calling is to heal others. She falls in love with Ahmet's older brother, Kazım Işık, who is known as the smartest and most successful businessman in the country. She has just met the man and has fallen in love with him with a morbid passion. Kazım Işık is also married to Nermin. Macide's love is not unrequited. Kazım passionately embraces Macide, who is at his side in his weakest moment... But will he be able to protect her from the cruelty of the rich and powerful life he has created? Will Macide be able to preserve the pure, innocent and sensitive girl she was when she first met Kazım? Or worse, even if everyone makes her a “queen” out of false reverence... This is the story of a young woman who falls in love for the first time on her way to heal herself by healing others after the healing she received from her father. It is the story of a man who has everything he wants in life, but who, perhaps for that very reason, is looking for a companion in his unhappiness and loneliness... Poison Ivy is a love story that tells of what happens when two souls find each other in spite of the whole world, even themselves. Everything is in front of them, but still they meet. But neither of them can light up the darkness of the other.

**Title:** Gecenin Ucunda

**Duration:** 83 x 45 min.

available in HD

**Genre:** Drama

**Production Company:** TMC Film & Alim Yapım

## ANOTHER CHANCE

Most of the time, life happens the way it does. This is also the case for Sadi Payaslı, a crime boss from Ankara. Sadi Payaslı's past will follow him to Karabayır High School, where he has been appointed as a geography teacher, leaving his sordid past behind. One of the children enrolled in Karabayır High School, coming from reformatory, has special significance for Sadi. But the two of them are yet to discover this fact. Another thing that Sadi Payaslı is not aware of is the love and interest of Songül, the unruly policeman with whom he came from Ankara. His life is about to take another turn when he meets Derya, the love of his life from 17 years ago. He never wanted to leave her behind. And he never forgot her. But with his unshakable sense of justice, he will balance his life and take care of 5 troubled students from the reformatory.



**Title:** Gelsin Hayat Bildiği Gibi

**Duration:** 138 x 45 min.

available in HD

**Genre:** Drama

**Production Company:** BKM







### HICRAN

Hicran is a young woman trying to hold on to life. She believes that her stillborn daughter is not dead, despite everyone else's better judgement. She wakes up to the new day with the nightmare she sees every night: trying to catch up with her daughter.

As if all the mishaps were not enough, the encounter with Melek, locked in the car and having a respiratory attack, will make this otherwise ordinary day different from the others. Hicran saves the little girl at the cost of being injured, but finds himself in jail for "child abduction" due to a misunderstanding with Melek's father. Although it is difficult for Hicran to prove her innocence due to Melek's inability to speak, Hicran is released by the police after watching the footage.

Believing that his daughter owes her life to Hicran, Emre convinces Hicran to be Melek's babysitter when he learns that she needs a job. Hicran comes to the mansion where she lives as a babysitter, not knowing that she saved her own daughter's life.

Unaware that he caused his ex-wife's death and his child's silence, Emre got engaged to his late wife's distant relative, Yeliz, so that his daughter would not be left without a mother. Emre will not be able to remain indifferent to Hicran's charm, as she illuminates the life of Melek and the mansion. He will not stop trusting Hicran despite all the machinations of Yeliz and Aliye. He will also prevent the attempts of Hicran's ex-husband Soner, who is involved in illegal activities. Soner will try to kidnap Hicran after his release from prison but will be stopped by Emre.

Melek and Hicran will try to get to know each other and embrace each other with love, unaware of the true nature of their relationship amidst the intrigues, power struggles and chaos surrounding the family in this seemingly perfect mansion.

**Title:** Hicran

**Duration:** 210 x 45 min. available in HD

**Genre:** Drama

**Production Company:** Filmevi

### LEYLIFER

Meryem, formerly known as Maria, travels to Istanbul with her husband Kemal and their children for Kemal's sister's wedding. But their plans to return to their home in Spain are abruptly disrupted when Kemal goes missing and is later found dead in a car fire with a woman Meryem has never met. Believing that Kemal was murdered, Meryem vows to stay in Istanbul until she finds his killer. But she must navigate a new life in a foreign country, with a family suspicious of her and a community struggling to accept her. Despite the challenges, Meryem finds unexpected love with Aziz, the designer of her wedding ring, Leylifer. Their paths are illuminated by Leylifer's light, and Meryem begins to reclaim her identity in this new home.

**Title:** Leylifer

**Duration:** 120 x 45 min. available in HD

**Genre:** Drama

**Production Company:** Alim Yapım





## THE TRUSTED

Marashli is an ex-soldier who left the Special Forces to open a second-hand bookstore and spend more time with his sick daughter, Zelis. His life changes when the beautiful Mahur Turel enters his bookstore. Mahur's life is saved by Marashli that day when she accidentally gets herself into trouble. From then on, the fates of the two characters are irrevocably intertwined. Mahur is the precious daughter of Aziz Turel, one of the most powerful businessmen in Türkiye. She gets into trouble because of a photo she takes that day, which puts her life in constant danger. But her fearlessness and curiosity are almost impossible to contain... at least by anyone other than Marashli, who is now tasked with protecting Mahur as her personal bodyguard. Mahur is a workaholic who has been a recluse

since her mother's untimely death. She watches the videos her late mother recorded for her to fill the emotional void in her life. The veil of mystery behind her family connections begins to unravel around the same time Marashli is hired as her bodyguard. She will begin to discover the true and dark intentions of those closest to her. Along the way, Marashli will become her closest ally, the person she trusts the most, and her lover. At least until she finds out who Marashli really is...

**Title:** Maraşlı

**Duration:** 74 x 45 min. available in HD

**Genre:** Drama

**Production Company:** Tims&B Productions

## SCORPION

Perihan Emgen lives with her daughter, her grandchildren and her son-in-law Fikret, whom she only tolerates for the sake of her daughter Berna. They lead a comfortable and prestigious life as Perihan has literally clawed her way to the top. Ferda, daughter of the famous Perihan Emgen, who was abandoned at the age of one, runs a hair salon with her daughter Merve and is deeply loved by all the women in her neighbourhood. Ferda blames her mother's abandonment for all her troubles. Her step-sister Berna is married with three children. To avenge her mother, Ferda has an affair with Fikret, her step-sister's husband. No matter how hard Perihan tries to prevent this relationship, she never succeeds. Ferda is determined to take back the life that was stolen from her. In the process, she accidentally causes the death of her sister. Berna's death changes everyone's life forever. As the news hits like a nuclear bomb, Perihan's granddaughter Duru, who is studying in the United States, arrives at the house for the funeral. Not to be outdone, as the Emgen household mourns Berna, Ferda pays a surprise visit to the family with her daughter Merve. Calling Perihan "mother" shocks everyone in the family. Now everyone in the family knows Perihan's secret. Ferda's stubbornness and Perihan's reluctance to accept her lead to a great battle between mother and daughter. This war will also change the lives of Ferda's neighbours Ipek and Aras and drag all the young people into a drift between love and hate.

**Title:** Akrep

**Duration:** 91 x 45 min. available in HD

**Genre:** Drama

**Production Company:** 1441 Productions

## LAST SUMMER

Idealistic prosecutor Selim Kara receives an offer too good to refuse from the mafia leader Selcuk Taskin, whom he put in prison 8 years ago. Selcuk Taskin wants to testify against his organisation in a case that prosecutor Selim Kara is investigating. But he has one condition. Selim Kara will protect Taskin's son, Akgun Gokalp Taskin. Growing up in a world full of crime and danger, Akgun, an emotional young man behind a tough exterior, finds this situation too difficult to accept. Suddenly, life tests Selim in the most unexpected way; his wife Canan, who lives in Izmir with their children, wants to file for divorce. Between his work and his family, prosecutor Kara must now take Akgun, whom he identifies as a troublemaker, to the "Justice Residence" where his family lives in Izmir, Cesme. Selim's unexpected guest Akgun will cause all the members of the residence to be thrown off balance; this wind that started in the Aegean region will become a storm that will change everyone's lives.



**Title:** Son Yaz

**Duration:** 93 x 45 minutes available in HD

**Genre:** Drama

**Production Company:** O3 Medya







### LOVE UNDER THE RAIN

Angsar and Nazym are on the same plane that flew from Almaty to Nur-Sultan. This flight changed their fate radically. Both of them are going to defend a project related to a case that is very important to them. However, the direction and purpose of the projects are contradictory. Angsar is a great businessman's son. He is going to receive millions of funds to build a hotel complex in Arshaly Sai Natural Park on the slopes of the mountains in case his father defends the project to the board of directors of the investment corporation "BEKINVEST". The entrepreneur is on the board, too. Nazym is an active member of the volunteer group that protects the Arshaly Sai area in the nature reserve where the hotel complex will be built.

**Genre:** Melodrama - 23x45'  
2021



### BAHAR

Mankind has been tested for centuries on the verge of good and evil. Our identity is determined by our destiny, and our destiny is determined by the choices we make on the verge of both. Co-produced by MISTCO and ÜS Yapım, "Bahar" is the story of a young girl who is struggling to keep the goodness inside despite all darkness around. After witnessing the murder of her father, she is trying to prove that Aysun (her stepmother) committed the murder. On the other hand, the love between Bahar and Demir who met just days before the murder grows day by day but becomes even more impossible since Aysun is obsessively attached to Demir and determined to win Demir at any cost.

**Genre:** Drama - 114x45'

**Original Title:** Kader Oyunları

**Producer:** MISTCO & ÜS Yapım

**Cast:** Ali Yasin Egemen, Türkü Su Demirel, Hilal Yıldız, Isabella Damla Güvenilir



### THE WAVE OF FATE

18-year-old Tolkyñ, burdened with familial struggles due to her father's gambling, which leads to threats and insurmountable debts. After her mother's tragic death, Tolkyñ faces danger from debt collectors. Seeking refuge with family friend Kanysh, she discovers a complex history: Kanysh and her father had a promise of becoming in-laws. To honor this pact, Tolkyñ reluctantly agrees to marry Ali, facing resistance from Kanysh's wife, Zature. As the narrative unfolds, the plot delves into Tolkyñ's challenges, including conflicting emotions and societal expectations, raising questions about her ability to find happiness amidst adversity.

**Genre:** Melodrama - 20x50'  
2021





**WILD HEART**  
**NEVER UNDERESTIMATE THE POWER OF FAMILY**

“Wild Heart” follows the remarkable journey of Ali, who was abducted as a boy and ended up working for the gang who kidnapped him. After enduring years of hardship, Ali renames himself Yaman and escapes his captors to build a new, better life together with his three friends. A twist of fate eventually reunites him with his wealthy parents, but their world is very different from the life he’s known. Caught between the family he made and the family that was stolen from him, he must decide: Is he Yaman or Ali?

(YABANI) – NTC MEDYA



**THE FAMILY**  
**FAMILY; WHERE DAMAGE IS DONE WITH THE BEST INTENTIONS**

Aslan Soykan may be the head of Istanbul’s most notorious crime family, but at the dinner table his mother Hulya rules with an iron fist. All that goes up in smoke when Aslan disrupts family dinner for the sake of a woman he just met, the beautiful psychologist Devin. Devin and Aslan fall in love, and as they become closer, the psychologist can’t help but diagnose his discordant family. But can a psychologist thrown right in the middle of a battlefield heal everyone? And can she deal with a narcissist like Aslan without fully recovering from her own wounds?

(AİLE) – AY YAPIM



**MY WONDERFUL LIFE**  
**BENEATH THE GLAMOUR LIES AN UGLY TRUTH**

From the shimmering skylines of Dubai to the sun-soaked shores of Miami, “My Wonderful Life” follows the journey of Şebnem, an anti-heroine born from adversity. With a dash of plastic surgery and unwavering ambition, Şebnem lands a rich husband and claws her way to the top of society’s ladder. However, the illusion crumbles when the ghosts of Şebnem’s past resurface, threatening her picture-perfect existence. Between protecting her family, preserving her status, and reconciling the darkness in her past, Şebnem’s life becomes a twisted dance as she finds herself fighting battles on multiple fronts.

(ŞAHANE HAYATIM) – AY YAPIM



**DIRTY LAUNDRY**  
**A DOWNSTAIRS-UPSTAIRS STORY**

Every rich neighborhood takes an army of poor women to keep it running. All these cleaners, caregivers and household help live by the same rule: Be invisible. “Dirty Laundry” is about one such group of resilient women whose lives are spent cleaning up the messes left by others. Meryem, one of these women, tragically falls to her death while working in a house, an event that goes unnoticed by the people she served. One by one, her friends realize the hidden complexities of the households they work for, shining a light on the walls between “us” and “them” in society. The houses these ladies clean may appear spotless, but behind closed doors are many secrets, hidden injustices and forbidden desires.

(KİRLİ SEPETİ) – MEDYAPIM

**THE BRAVE**  
**FROM THE ASHES OF LOVE, A HERO IS BORN**

“The Brave” is the story of Halil İbrahim Karasu, who returns to the Black Sea village of his birth to marry his childhood sweetheart. But when the son of a local crime boss kills Halil’s fiancée, he becomes a one-man army whose sole purpose is destroying the mob. Halil gains some unlikely allies in this private war, including the don’s daughter, who falls in love with her father’s enemy – and there is nothing more dangerous than a Black Sea woman in love.

(HUDUTSUZ SEVDA) – MEDYAPIM





### AN ANATOLIAN TALE

Taner, a young inventor in Gedelli, supports his family after missing the Science High School after losing his father. His mother puts pressure on him to get married, but Taner cannot forget his childhood sweetheart, Dilek. Taner, along with his cousins Veysel and Ramazan, nurtured a dream of building an aeroplane for years. They finally achieved it and successfully convinced a company to see their creation and invest in it. An engineer is sent to Taner without his notice. This engineer is his long-lost love, Dilek. He returned years later. Taner now finds himself in a moor, surrounded by love from all sides, on the verge of being reunited with his beloved Dilek.

### SALADIN: THE CONQUEROR OF JERUSALEM

In the 12th century, amidst the Crusader invasions, Nureddin Zengi adopts Yusuf, renaming him Saladin, entrusting him with liberating Jerusalem. Saladin's journey unfolds amid conflicts within the Ayyubid family, adversarial clashes, and the complexities of love. Jerusalem, the linchpin in both the Islamic world and Saladin's personal odyssey, continues to be a sought-after objective, with Saladin holding the key to its liberation. Throughout these struggles, Saladin remains steadfast in his commitment to the mission bestowed upon him by Nureddin Zengi. Unbeknownst to him, a significant secret gradually unravels, adding an unforeseen layer to his life and the unfolding narrative of his quest for Jerusalem's freedom.



### THE SHADOW TEAM

Following a terrorist attack on a Turkish SIHA (Armed Unmanned Aerial Vehicle) factory, the country is increasingly the target of foreign intelligence services. It is revealed that the attack was organised by foreign intelligence services. Senior government officials appoint Mr. Mete to eliminate this threat once and for all. After his appointment, Mr. Mete assembles a team of the best in their respective fields. However, there is only one condition to become a member of this team: the team members will be officially considered dead and no one, not even their loved ones, will know they are alive. From now on, these heroes will live in the shadows among the crowds.



## SECRETS OF AN ANGEL

The story unfolds around a Usak family's migration to Istanbul. Cennet, a diligent worker preparing for marriage, married to her beloved Yilmaz, embarking on a journey from her village to Istanbul as a bride. Their marriage, which lasted for approximately forty years ends tragically with Cennet's paralysis and death, leaving three grieving children and a husband. After the funeral, a letter written by Cennet emerges that reveals shocking truths. Cennet's blame on Yilmaz divides the siblings: Feride, unwaveringly loyal, Birsen, compliant to avoid harm, and estranged Halil. Over time, Cennet's lawyer uncovers evidence of Yilmaz's cruelty, known but silenced by all. The siblings confront painful decisions, but they begin to struggle to become a family again. Meanwhile, lawyer Zeynep falls in love with Halil and fights for the justice of both Halil and Cennet.



## MY LOVELY FAMILY

Canan and Rasim, the parents of the Akyol Family, live in a detached but middling house in one of the neighbourhoods of Istanbul that still preserves its neighbourhood culture and historical texture. With 4 children and 3 grandchildren, they are an exemplary couple with over 40 years of marriage... When the story begins, the wedding of Damla, the last child of the family, and Sina is just days away and the family is in a great hurry. While the preparations are in full swing, one interesting incident after another awaits the family.



## CODE NAME: SWIFT

After his parents passed away Yiğit Efe, an aspiring aeronautical engineer living with his grandmother and aunt, participated in a technology competition organised by "Company", aiming to develop a drone named "Swallow." The company recognizes Efe's talent linked to his parents' past work and assigns Selim to take over Efe's project. Selim, becoming close to Efe, resigns from the company due to ethical concerns. Efe forms "Team Swallow" with a diverse group to overcome challenges posed by a malevolent engineer, Aspar, ensuring the project's success.





### MIRACLE OF LOVE

Ali Tahir was a brave commander who fought in the Battle of Sakarya in 1921. During the battle, he made a costly mistake that led to the death of many of his soldiers. However, he managed to turn the tide of the battle and was shot in the process. Miraculously, he was resurrected by the "Water of Life" and never aged again. In the following years, he became an agricultural educator and married Leyla. However, Leyla couldn't handle his never-aging and committed suicide. In 1968, he changed his name to Esref and became a school inspector. He fell in love with a teacher named Süreyya and they got married. However, their marriage ended after Süreyya discovered hints from his past. In 2023, he changed his name to Kemal and met Harika, a young and beautiful writer who entered his life unexpectedly. Will Harika be able to help Kemal find the answers he has been searching for over a decade?

**Original Title:** Yüz Yıllık Mucize

**Director:** Hilal Saral

**Cast:** Birkan Sokullu, Ebru Şahin, Zerrin Tekindor, Necip Memili, Hümeyra

**Year:** 2023

**Production Company:** OGM Pictures

**Broadcaster:** Star TV

**Genre:** Drama

**Duration:** 38 x 45 min.

**Year:** 2023

**Language:** Spanish & Arabic



### BROKEN DESTINY

After five years in a coma, Toprak wakes up to a family he doesn't remember. Aydan, his fiancée, has loved him since they were kids, but he has amnesia. His mother, Keriman, encourages him to marry Aydan and move on with his life. Five years ago, Fidan lost her husband and baby in a terrible car accident. She lives in Şile with her sick father and stepmother, working to pay off the huge debt they owe the loan shark who wants to marry her.

When a twist of fate brings these two together, Fidan cannot believe her eyes. Toprak looks exactly like her dead husband, although he doesn't recognize her. Yet, something stirs within Toprak... Toprak and Fidan unravel the mystery of Toprak's past and his uncanny resemblance to Fidan's deceased husband as Fidan becomes Burak's nanny.

**Original Title:** Toprak ile Fidan

**Director:** Eray Koçak and Atilla Cengiz

**Cast:** Osman Aydın, Hazal Adıyaman, Asuman Bora, Hilal Tüfekçi

**Year:** 2023

**Production Company:** Stellar Yapım

**Broadcaster:** Star TV

**Genre:** Drama

**Duration:** 121 x 45 min.

**Language:** Spanish & Arabic

### STICKMAN

Tamer faced early life challenges, working to support his family while his peers played. He turned adversity into a game to preserve his inner child. After a tragic incident, he excelled academically and became a successful game developer.

He married Berrin, and when his game struck gold with a \$300 million investment, he bought a mansion. This reunited his family, including his estranged parents Aysel and Bülent, bringing immense joy. Peri, a private bank manager with a traumatic past, endured her mother's abandonment and cared for her ill sister, Naz. After a heartbreaking betrayal, she contemplated ending her life but unexpectedly crossed paths with Tamer. They discovered their shared pain and found solace in each other's company.

**Original Title:** Çöp Adam

**Director:** Çağrı Vila Lostuvalı

**Cast:** Engin Altan Düzyatan, Elçin Sangu, Sedef Avcı, Salih Kalyon, Füsun Demirel

**Year:** in production, 2022

**Production Company:** OGM Pictures

**Broadcaster:** Star TV

**Genre:** Drama

**Duration:** 88 x 45 min.

**Language:** Spanish & Arabic



# EPISODE

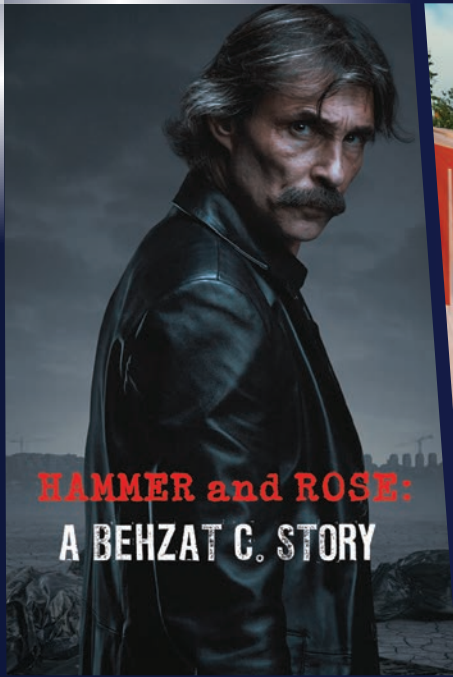
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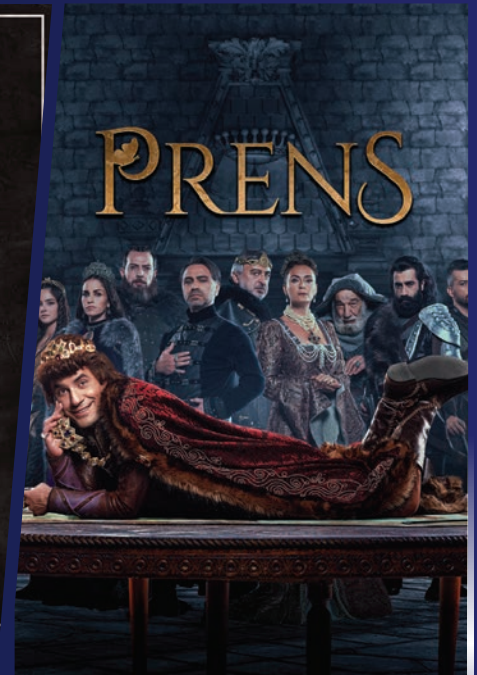
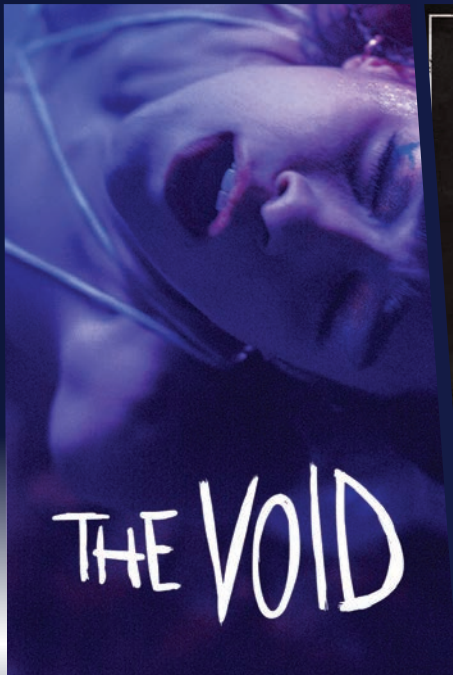
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