

case  
DOCUMENTARY

Her second life matters... for our earth!

# Lioness Heart

## MEDIUM SYNOPSIS / CONCEPT NOTE:



# “God created trees out of his love for birds, men created cages for them.”

A well-travelled and polyglot daughter of a diplomat family, **Aslihan Gedik** serves as a **banker in Frankfurt**. She is among the attendees of the annual IMF meetings in Washington and of the exclusive balls held in the French Riviera. However, though not as easy to scrutinize as her professional life, Aslihan Gedik's 'real story' unfolds around her **second life** - the one that matters for the future of our planet.

A **die-hard animal rights advocate**, Aslihan leaves the comfort of her surroundings at least for 2 months a year, to crusade for the rights of abused and endangered species.

From the steppes of **Zimbabwe** and **Zambia**, where Aslihan works as a part of **ALERT** (African Lion & Environmental Research Trust) to conduct hands-on preservation work towards rehabilitating the **king of beasts** to a courageous

pursuit to save the **Orang-utans** in Indonesia; from a two year fight to rescue **monkeys** in **Nepal** to expeditions in the polar region, Aslihan fights to put an end to human cruelty against animals and the exploitation of the earth's environment.

And every instant in her struggle proves that hers is a **labour of love and devotion...**

**LIONESS HEART** is planned to be a thrilling journey in the footsteps of a heroine, an **“ambassador of wildlife”** from Frankfurt to Aslihan's battlegrounds in Africa, Asia and the Arctic, engaging a string of issues from the effects of **global warming** to the situation of **endangered species** with the intention of documenting the immediate dangers our planet faces and one woman's passionate struggle to prevent them

# THE BATTLEFRONTS OF THE LIONESSE

Aslıhan Gedik's life and struggle offers a panorama-wide picture of the most contemporary and alarming dangers our planet faces across a string of different geographies. Aslıhan Gedik is affiliated with a number of organizations from **ALERT to Orangutan Outreach** and her areas of interest range from Lion Rehab and Release in Zimbabwe and Zambia to Struggling against Animal Testing

and Humanitarian efforts in Africa. A die-hard vegan, **Aslıhan Gedik** adheres to a life-style and consumption choices that reflect the care she devotes to wildlife meanwhile her goals include erecting the necessary structure and organisations to facilitate the already delayed and hindered efforts to save wildlife and endemic species in Anatolia.



# DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT

Having embarked on making a character-driven documentary that focuses on issues that are larger than every of us, it would not be a surprise to say that Aslihan Gedik has been the one who led me and **transformed my whole vision of a documentary.**

While my initial goal was to follow and document Aslihan Gedik's work in the rescue, rehab and releasing of African lions in their natural habitat, learning about the expanding dimensions of her involvement in saving the wildlife on our planet led me to an immensely joyful path of learning.

Aslihan's dedication to take a stand against the sort of consumption that supports market-based, urban lifestyles; her decision to **work within the system and to utilize its tools toward the goal of protecting life** and giving back to nature are tremendously impressive. The struggle she



passionately believes in, the networking she utilizes toward these ends and the amount of her own resources she spends to achieve her goals become the main motivating factor for me and added a profound amount of depth and meaning to the development of the story I intended to convey.

Aslihan's objections against the **anthropocentric way of life** that ultimately led to our alienation and estrangement from the very planet we inhabit and the nature we are surrounded with



has broadened my horizons and enriched the texture of the main story. The most fascinating lesson I myself have derived from Aslihan's life style is that she teaches us that we should not only "protect" but also should **live in harmony** with nature and the entire planet.

Aslihan is an exceptional figure, and her life and work serve as the basis of the larger story and the greater questions that this documentary aims to explore. **Her life serves as the central thread that leads us along this quest.** Following a woman's struggle for the protection of lions, focusing on the difference that one dedicated person can make, delving into the inherent **conflicts and dichotomies that exist between the materialist world and nature**, witnessing the over-exhaustion and depletion of wildlife and natural habitats from her own eyes, all led to inspire this story and urged me into a process to search for the ways to help create general awareness in people's minds about what they-**WE-can all do to have a positive impact on the planet, and do our own part to right the wrongs that have been done for centuries.**

DIRECTOR

# ÇAĞLAR MALLI



## Biography

Çağlar Mallı was born in 1982 in Turkey. In 2000, he moved to Istanbul to study towards a BA degree in Political Science at Bilgi University, where he got a chance to indulge in his lifelong passion, cinema. Until graduating from university in 2005, he worked on the production and filming of numerous short film projects in various capacities.

He began his professional career in film with the television program “Film Koptu” in 2007. As the creator of the concept, he worked as co-director and producer for one season. In 2009 he co-wrote and produced a critically-acclaimed short film “Bugün Yok” which was screened and received awards at many leading film festivals, both national and international. That same year he started serving Case Productions. From 2010 on, he directed various types of international projects including programs for the Class 1 World Powerboat Championship, the Professional Windsurf Association (PWA) World Tour, the ISAF Volvo Youth Sailing, and various hi-octane, record-breaking Red Bull events in different fields and locations around the world.

Throughout his work, Çağlar has sought to delve into the strains and conflicts that underlie the dichotomy between human nature and the outside world. In 2014, he decided to carry this investigative style of storytelling into documentary film making. Now working as an independent director, Çağlar has set out on his first full-length documentary feature project, one which gives him the opportunity to explore the often violent clash of materialism and nature and the struggles undertaken for the protection and preservation of natural habitats in the face of an increasingly destructive industrial, consumption-based global economic system.

## Filmography

### SELECTION OF SPORTS FILMS, TVCS AND TV PROGRAMS:

- PWA World Tour Highlights 2010 - 2011 Alacati - Turkey
- Red Bull Speed Street 2011 - New Delhi - India
- Red Bull X-Fighters Jams 2011 - Colombo Sri Lanka
- Class 1 World Powerboat Championship 2011
- Aquabike World Championship 2011
- Red Bull BC ONE CYPHER 2013 - Baku - Azerbaijan
- Ryan Doyle Baku Project: The Story Behind 2013 Baku - Azerbaijan
- Red Bull Seven Star Spin Story 2013 - Dubai - UAE
- Luxor 2013 - Istanbul - Turkey
- Jaguar Style Stakes 2014 - Istanbul - Turkey and Dubai - UAE
- Karujet 2014 - Guadeloupe - France



## CASE PRODUCTIONS WE WILL ROCK THE DOC

Case Productions is a full service production company with 15 years of industry experience, dedicated to provide both professional and personalized services of the highest standard.

The creative division of Case, **Case Productions Documentary Development Department** is committed to the conceptualization and production of high-end creative documentaries and the exploration of new channels of exhibition.

The Documentary Development Department translates the expertise and ever-innovative

passion of **Case Productions** into the creation of documentaries that are distinguished not only for their artistic courage and unique subject matter but also for the inspiring vision they convey.

With an ambition to blur the boundaries between genres and niches and to locate genuinely inspiring subject matters, **Case Productions** plans to cater to world film markets, a slate of innovative titles by Autumn 2014. Case slate will be presented in major film festivals of the world.



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[www.caseproductions.com](http://www.caseproductions.com)

The title is a working title and is subject to change