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2012 DEMOCRATIC



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The Attack: Telluride Review

3:58 PM PDT 9/2/2012 by Stephen Farber

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The Bottom Line

Taut, engrossing film looks at the aftermath of a suicide bombing in Tel Aviv.

Venue:

*Telluride Film Festival
(Cohen Media Group)*

Cast:

*Ali Suliman, Reymonde
Amsellem, Evgenia
Dodina, Uri Gavriel,
Karim Saleh, Dvir
Benedek*

Director:

Ziad Doueiri

The film, from Lebanese-born director Ziad Doueiri, centers on a Palestinian surgeon who learns about his wife's secret life as a terrorist after she kills 17 people in a suicide bombing.

TELLURIDE, Colo. -- Although the subject of Arab-Israeli tensions is almost a staple at film festivals, *The Attack* manages to find a unique and compelling slant on a well-worn theme. The latest film from Lebanese-born director **Ziad Doueiri** (*Lila Says, West of Beirut*) brings a pointed human focus to a subject drenched in anguish. This picture was a big draw in Telluride over the weekend, and it will be released by Cohen Media Group in the coming months, where it will face some resistance from audiences because of the painful subject matter.

OUR EDITOR RECOMMENDS



**Telluride 2012: Sights and
Sounds at the Saturday Parties**

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The film begins on a deceptively quiet note, as Dr. Amin Jaafari (**Ali Suliman**), a Palestinian surgeon fully assimilated in Tel Aviv, is honored to be the first Arab ever to receive a coveted Israeli medical prize. He is eager to share the news with his wife Sihem (**Reymonde Amsellem**), but she is out of town visiting family members. Soon afterward, Amin is called to the hospital to assist the victims of a suicide bombing at a popular restaurant, which claimed 17 lives. But he is even more shocked when police inform him that the suicide bomber has been identified as his own wife. Hauled in for brutal questioning as a potential accomplice, Amin is quickly cleared of any complicity in the bombing, but then he must try to fathom his wife's secret life as a terrorist.

**PHOTOS: Telluride 2012: Sights and Sounds at the
Saturday Parties**