

Omer video spif

Iraqi doctor now Fulbright Scholar and Ball State student shares documentary on the big screen.

B:roll—premiere

DR. OMER SALIH MAHDI, A MEDICAL DOCTOR FROM IRAQ, IS NOW A JOURNALISM STUDENT AT BALL STATE.

HE CAME TO THE UNIVERSITY THROUGH A PRESTIGIOUS FULBRIGHT SCHOLARSHIP AFTER RISKING HIS LIFE TO MAKE THE DOCUMENTARY, "BAGHDAD HOSPITAL: INSIDE THE RED ZONE."

Quote from Omer.

ALREADY AN INTERNATIONAL EMMY AWARD WINNER AND A RECENT FEATURE PRESENTATION ON HBO, THE FILM SHINES A LIGHT ON THE DANGEROUS CONDITIONS IN WHICH IRAQI DOCTORS HAVE TO WORK IN AL YARMOUK HOSPITAL IN THE HEART OF BAGHDAD.

WATCHING HIS PATIENTS DIE ON A DAILY BASIS FILLED DR. MAHDI WITH FEELINGS OF HOPELESSNESS AND DREAD. MAKING "BAGHDAD HOSPITAL," HOWEVER, EMPOWERED HIM, ENOUGH TO SURVIVE BEING BEATEN, HAVING HIS CAMERA FORCIBLY CONFISCATED ... AND EVEN BEING THREATENED WITH DEATH.

IN MAKING THE CAREER CHANGE FROM MEDICAL DOCTOR TO FILMMAKER, DR.

MAHDI BELIEVES HE CAN HELP MORE PEOPLE BY EXPOSING THE PLIGHT OF HIS FELLOW DOCTORS.

Quote from Omer on feeling weak as doctor and wanting to do more.

B:roll of premiere

TO HELP PROMOTE THE FILM, HBO AND BALL STATE CO-HOSTED TWO GALA PREMIERES IN NEW YORK AND INDIANAPOLIS, GIVING SELECT AUDIENCE MEMBERS AN ADVANCE LOOK AT THE FILM AS WELL AS A CHANCE TO MEET THE COURAGEOUS FILMMAKER IN PERSON.

(@ 18:40)

i: Loraine: why HBO likes Ball State/rep of film school without film school

B:roll of premiere

ALTHOUGH DR. MAHDI HAS ENJOYED HIS TIME IN THE SPOTLIGHT, HE IS NOW LOOKING FORWARD TO RETURNING TO STUDENT LIFE AT A PLACE WHERE HE FEELS AT HOME.

(@11:50)

"Belonging at Ball State."