



# افغان ستار

IN AFGHANISTAN  
YOU RISK YOUR LIFE  
TO SING



WINNER  
WORLD CINEMA DOCUMENTARY  
AUDIENCE AWARD 2009  
SUNDANCE  
FILM FESTIVAL



OFFICIAL SELECTION  
HUMAN RIGHTS  
WATCH  
FILM FESTIVAL



WINNER  
WORLD CINEMA DOCUMENTARY  
DIRECTOR AWARD 2009  
SUNDANCE  
FILM FESTIVAL



A FILM BY HAVANA MARKING

director of photography PHIL STEERING editor KISH JENKINS executive producers MARTIN HERRING HUME LEBBEY and JARROLD ANDERSON

produced by ROAST BEER PRODUCTIONS, HABIBOYA and REICHTANT MEDIA in association with CHANNEL 4 BROTHERS FOUNDATION and MOREY directed by HAVANA MARKING a ZEITGEIST FILMS release

[WWW.ZEITGEISTFILMS.COM/AFGHANSTAR](http://WWW.ZEITGEISTFILMS.COM/AFGHANSTAR)

Zeitgeist  
FILMS

**"A fantastic documentary!**

about a talent competition in a country where you would  
never dream such a thing is possible!"

—Oprah Winfrey

**"Wonderful movie!**

Takes us somewhere few movies have...the film's hard-won  
good vibes had the audience cheering!"

—Ty Burr, *Boston Globe*

# Afghan Star

A FILM BY  
HAVANA  
MARKING

After thirty years of war and five devastating years of Taliban rule, pop culture is beginning to return to Afghanistan and millions are tuning in to the wildly popular *American Idol*-style television competition *Afghan Star*. Two thousand people audition to compete for a cash prize and a record deal, and when viewers vote for their favorites via cell phone it is, for many, their first encounter with the democratic process. Winner of the Directing and Audience Awards in Sundance's 2009 World Documentary competition, Havana Marking's timely and moving film follows the dramatic stories of four young finalists—two men and two women—as they hazard everything and even risk their lives to become the nation's favorite performer. By observing the Afghani people's relationship to its pop culture, *Afghan Star* is the perfect window into a country's tenuous, ongoing struggle for modernity. What Americans consider frivolous entertainment is downright revolutionary in this troubled part of the world.

WATCH THE TRAILER AT [WWW.ZEITGEISTFILMS.COM/AFGHANSTAR](http://WWW.ZEITGEISTFILMS.COM/AFGHANSTAR)