Zafer Yorgancı (born 1993, Istanbul, Turkey) is a Turkish documentary photographer, filmmaker, 3D artist, and creative designer. He has been actively pursuing his creative work since 2012. Raised in Istanbul, he first studied graphic design and later worked as a designer for various companies. Alongside his professional career, his passion for film and photography led him to take film and screenwriting courses in Istanbul.

In 2016, Yorgancı gained recognition as one of twelve photographers from Turkey selected for the photography collective #BridgingStories, mentored by renowned photographer John Stanmeyer (National Geographic). Their joint work was exhibited in Turkey, France, and Armenia and published in **The New York Times**. The collective also released a globally distributed photobook in 2017. Notably, Yorgancı's contributions were archived in 2018 by the International Centre for Photojournalism (CIP) in Perpignan, France.

In addition to photography, Yorgancı expanded his work into filmmaking, working as an editor and cinematographer on various short films. In 2015, he directed his first short documentary, "The Dispossessed" (2015), which received the Jury Special Award in Turkey and gained international festival recognition.

His academic journey led him to a degree in Creative Media – 3D Animation and Visual Effects for Film, which he completed in 2021 with the short film "Frames" (2021), supported by EU funding. Throughout his studies in photography and film, Yorgancı has consistently focused on capturing the essence of human life, addressing themes such as refugees, the working class, poverty, and human rights.

In October 2026, Yorgancı completed two fully AI-generated art-house short films: "The Roof" (2026), a social realist drama adapted from Sabahattin Ali's short story exploring class disparity in 1939 Istanbul, and "Muhtar" (2026), an evocative narrative examining human obsolescence, automation, and state authority in a remote Black Sea village. Currently in their festival submission circuit, both works have garnered strong industry interest for their pioneering synthesis of cinematic storytelling and artificial intelligence.

Zafer Yorgancı's diverse skills and dedication to storytelling reflect a deep commitment to using his creative talents to raise awareness of important social issues.

FESTIVALS, AWARDS AND EXHIBITIONS

THE ROOF (2026, AI Short Film)

- 2026, Sparknify Human vs. AI Film Festival

FRAMES (2021, Short Film)

- 2023, International Film Festival Glasgow, United Kingdom
- 2021, Taste of Anatolia – Films from Turkey, Cambridge, United Kingdom
- 2021, IIUSFF Film Festival – Runner Up Short Film Award on Refugee, Bangladesh
- 2021, EU funding support for the short film "Frames" with University

THE DISPOSSESSED (2015, Short Documentary)

- 2016, Golden Sun Short Film Festival – Screening in Malta
- 2016, 10th International Second Hand Film Festival – Screening in Turkey
- 2016, Doc Sun Back Film Festival – Screening in the USA
- 2016, Jury Prize – Gençöncüler Short Film Competition, Turkey
- 2015, 9th Istanbul International Architecture and Urban Films Festival, Turkey

PHOTOGRAPHY (2016–2018)

- 2018, Photography work archived by the International Centre for Photojournalism (CIP), France
- 2018, Visa pour l'Image – Perpignan Festival, France
- 2017, Published in The New York Times – "Building Bridges Between Turkey and Armenia"
- 2017, Bridging Stories – Group exhibition in Armenia
- 2017, Bridging Stories – Photobook published worldwide
- 2016, Selected photographer for BridgingStories (one of 12 photographers from Turkey)
- 2016, "Bin Varmış Bir Yokmuş" – Group exhibition in Turkey