### PALESTINIAN FILMMAKERS AND THEIR (LATEST) WORKS

DIRECTOR

FILM - DRAMA | COMEDY

Hiam Abbass is an acclaimed Palestinian actress and film director who was born in Nazareth and grew up in a Palestinian village in the northern Galilee. Abbass has been featured in local as well as international films such as Haïfa, The Gate Of The Sun, Paradise Now, Munich, The Syrian Bride, Amreeka, The Visitor, Miral and Dégradé. She was nominated for Best Actress at the Israeli Film Academy Award for her per-



formance in Eran Rikilis' Lemon Tree. She has also written and directed the short films Le Pain, La Danse Eternelle, and Le Donne Della Vucciria. She has just completed the shooting of two new features, Rock the Casbah, and May in the Summer. Inheritance is her directorial debut.

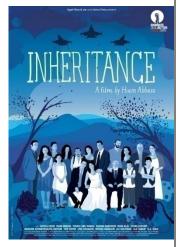
. Mohammed Abu Nasser (known as 'Arab') and his twin brother and partner in filmmaking Ahmed Abu Nasser (known as 'Tarzan') were born in Gaza in 1988. After they both graduated from Al-Aqsa University with BA degrees in Fine



Arts, the brothers began to develop their film works. In 2010, Tarzan and Arab received the A. M. Qattan Foundation's prestigious Young Artist of the Year Award for their project *Gazawood*. They cofounded the "Made in Palestine Project," an independent artists' initiative to create and promote contemporary visual art with a focus on Palestine. Their short film *Apartment 10/14* is part of the documentary *Suspended Time*, which comprised 9 short films made by 9 Palestinian artists looking back at the 20 years that followed the signing of the 1993 Oslo Accords.

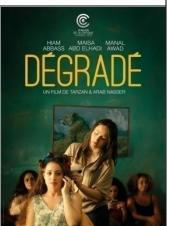
#### Inheritance. 2012. Drama. 88 min

As war rages between Israel and Lebanon, a Palestinian family living in the north of Galilee gathers to celebrate the wedding of one of their daughters. The many family members symbolize a community struggling to maintain their identity, torn between modernity and tradition. When the youngest daughter, Hajar, returns on this occasion, she tells her father and patriarch Abu Majd, who has always encouraged her to learn and to discover the world, about the man she loves, an English art teacher. When the father falls into a coma and inches toward death, internal conflicts explode and the familial battles become as merciless as the outside war.



#### Dégradé. 2015. Comedy Drama. 1h 25min

Filmed in Jordan and inspired by true events from Gaza in 2007, the film depicts Christine's Salon as a sanctuary from the outside world and the banal lives of their female costumers of various ages and backgrounds, who spend the day trapped in a beauty salon while Hamas police fight a gang in the street. Metaphors replace political speeches in a film that shows stories about individuals with personal inner beliefs that are revealed to be not that different.



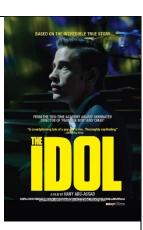
3. **Hany Abu-Assad** is a Dutch-Palestinian film director, who was born in Nazareth in 1961 and emigrated to the Netherlands in 1980, where he entered the world of cinema and television as a producer. He produced Rashid Masharawi's feature film *Curfew*. Since 1998, he has directed *The Fourteenth Chic* after



establishing Augustus Films with Bero Beyer. Later films included the short *Nazareth 2000*, the feature *Rana's Wedding* (2002), the documentary *Ford Transit*, and in 2006 his drama *Paradise Now*, which won the Golden Globe for Best Foreign Language Film and received an Oscar nomination in the same category. *Omar* (2013) was also nominated for an Oscar for Best Foreign Language Film.

#### The Idol (Ya Tayr El Tayer). 2015. Drama. 100 min

The Idol is a fictionalized version of the life of Mohammed Assaf, a wedding singer from a refugee camp in Gaza who sneaked to Egypt to participate in the "Arab Idol" singing competition, winning the second edition. The victory turned him not only into a singing sensation but also a symbol of hope for millions worldwide. Along the film adaptation of his live, the difficulties and limitations faced by Gaza's population as well as the restrictions on the freedom of movement are exposed in a powerful way.



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#### Omar. 2013. Drama/Thriller. 98 min

Stirring drama set in Palestine where an intense young man experiences the torment of distrust in his private and public life. Omar is a baker who is in love with Nadja, the sister of his long-time friend Tarek. After he is humiliated and beaten up by Israeli soldiers, he is ready to join his friends in an attack against those who have made their lives an unrelenting nightmare. Amjad shoots a soldier and after a dramatic chase through the streets, Omar is captured and put in prison. Tortured and blackmailed he agrees to work as an informant, but his true motives and alliances remain hidden.



5. **Rami Alayan** is a Palestinian film director and cinematographer based in Jerusalem. His documentaries brought attention to different issues related to Palestine, such as the several layers of social control faced by young Arab Jerusalemites in *Lesh Sabreen?*; the environmental and health risks posed by the Palestinian stone mining industry tackled



by *Sacred Stones* (2012, co-directed with Laila Higazi); and the domestic violence and its vulnerable victims approached and presented in *Mute* (2010). *Love, Theft and Other Entanglements* is Alayan's first feature-length narrative film, which was co-written and co-produced with Rami Alayan. Together with Rami Alayan, Muayad Alayan is the co-founder of Palcine Productions. He teaches filmmaking and cinematography at Dar Al Kalima College in Bethlehem.

Love, Theft, and Other Entanglements. 2015. Drama/Thriller. 93 min

A Palestinian car thief gets into serious trouble when he steals the wrong car. What he thought was an Israeli car and an easy way to make money in his impoverished refugee camp turns out to be a vehicle with a kidnapped Israeli soldier in the trunk. Caught between the Israeli intelligence and Palestinian militants,



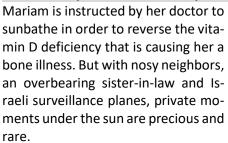
Mousa must chart a delicate path. This black-and-white drama, thriller, and fair-ytale is a universal story of an anti-hero and his journey towards redemption.

Rami Alayan is a Palestinian screenwriter and interaction designer living in San Francisco. Rami is the co-writer and co-producer of the award-winning short film Lesh Sabreen? by Muayad Alayan. Other writing credits include If You Were in My Shoes, the first interactive TV sitcom in Palestine dealing with gender equality is-



sues produced by the Bethlehem Media Center. Alayan is also the writer of *Tamer and Hanan*, an animated series aiming to educate children about concepts of democracy and individual rights. *Private Sun* is Alayan's first directed film.

Private Sun (Uzla Taht al-Shams). 2011. Short Drama. 25 min





Suha Arraf was born in the Palestinian village of Me'lia, near the Lebanese border. She began her filmmaking career as a documentary producer. She has screenwriting credit for the critically acclaimed feature-length films *Lemon Tree* (2008) and *The Syrian Bride* (2004), both directed by



Villa Touma. 2014. Drama. 85 min

Eran Riklis, and directed the documentary *Women of Hamas* (2008) and the drama and comedy short *The Cup Reader* (2012). Her short documentary film *I am Palestine* is used as an educational tool. She is a cofounder of DivineCaroline.com, a publishing platform for women to tell their stories, and is currently a teaching artist with the TriBeCa Institute.

Three unmarried aristocratic Palestinian Christian sisters from Ramallah have been unable to come to terms with the new reality of the occupation and the mass migration of Palestine's aristocracy. In order to survive,



they lock themselves away in their villa, shutting out the real world and clinging desperately to the nostalgia of their former glory. One day, their orphaned teenaged niece, Badia, walks into their lives. Her arrival unleashes a torrent of family secrets and long-held grudges, turning their fossilized world upside down. Oppressive social, religious, and political tensions converge in this absorbing family drama.

8. **Yahya Alabdallah** is a Palestinian-Jordanian independent filmmaker. Yahya was born in Libya in 1978 and was raised in Saudi Arabia. He is a writer, director, producer and literary critic with Masters Degrees in literature and film from ECAIR Cinema School in Paris. He wrote and directed many shorts, such as *SMS* (2008).



#### The Last Friday (Al Juma Al Akheira). 2011. Drama. 88 min

Hampered by old gambling debts, divorced, and despondent, Yousef lives an isolated existence scrambling for every dinar. When he learns he must have life-saving surgery in four days, he is forced to revisit old chapters in his life as he tries to find the money. But everywhere he turns, there are fresh as-



saults on his pride. With an inspiring cast, including Ali Suliman and Yasmine Al Masri, this is an artistic film about the little humiliations of everyday life.

9. **Nicole Ballivian** is a Palestinian-American writer, director and producer who created BintFilm, a film production company, in 2002. Another project of hers is *Sleeping on Stones*, which is still in the process of fundraising.



Driving to Zigzigland. 2006. Comedy. 92 min

A chronicle of a day in the life of a Palestinian cab driver in Los Angeles, *Driving to Zigzigland* portrays the social struggle of the Arab immigrant in post-9/11 America. A film audition typecasts Bashar to play an Al Qaeda terrorist role. The utilities are due and Bashar has twenty-four hours to make the money. For the remaining hours left until tomorrow, an unceasing flow of passengers ride in Bashar's taxi and give the Arab cabbie the run around on issues that deal with suicide bombers, George Bush, Cat Stevens, the war in Iraq, music, and world geography. Bashar's quest to make the money is won until he realizes he has to choose between the Department of Homeland Security and his family.



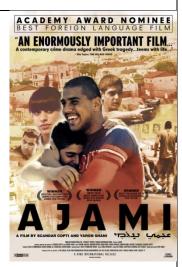
10. **Scandar Copti** is an Oscar-nominated Palestinian filmmaker born and raised in Jaffa. In 2009, his first full-length feature film *Ajami* won the Camera d'Or Special Mention at the Cannes Film Festival. His film was also nominated for the 82nd Academy Awards in the Best Foreign Film category and won more than 15 awards worldwide. Formerly a mechanical



engineer, he has written, directed and edited several fictional works, documentaries and experimental short films. Copti was part of the team that launched the Doha Tribeca Film Festival and the Doha Film Institute (DFI) and he headed the DFI's education department until November 2011.

#### Ajami. 2009. Drama. 120 min

The film contains five story lines that unfold in Ajami, a small section of Jaffa that suffers of high rates of unemployment and crimes: Omar is out to avenge the shooting of his uncle; Dando is a Jewish cop tearing through Jaffa on a mission to find his missing brother; and Malek is a Palestinian refugee in town to make the money needed to help pay for his mother's mounting medical bills. Their stories are presented in a non-chronological fashion, illuminating the complicated coexistence along religious divisions. The film portrays a community which is governed by drug deals, police involvement, high violence, disorder and traditional methods of dispute resolution.



The film was co-directed and co-scripted by Scandar Copti and Yaron Shani.

11. **Cherien Dabis** is a Palestinian-American director, producer and screenwriter. She defines herself as a humanist and seeks to use movies as a medium and powerful tool to discuss and present various issues to a wide audience. Her work includes the short film *Make a Wish* (2006) and the Drama Comedy *May in the Summer* (2013).



#### Amreeka, 2009, Drama, 1h 36 min

It recounts the story of Muna Farah, a Palestinian divorcee who works in the West Bank and her son, Fadi, whom she must pick up every day after school, crossing the Israeli Checkpoint where they are harassed. One day, Muna discovers that she has been awarded a green card though the lottery, taking the opportunity to pack up and leave to the U.S with her son. The film is set following the invasion of Iraq in 2003, and so the pair have some trouble at customs. After discovering that a cookie box containing her life savings has gone missing at the airport, Muna decides she needs to find a job. Alongside this hardship, the film documents the life in



the West Bank and the harsh reality and discrimination many immigrants must face within the post 9-11 and Iraq War context.

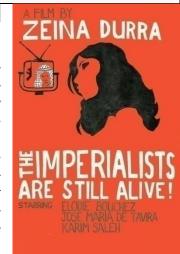
**Zeina Durra** is a Palestinian-American writer/director based between New York City and London. Durra has a BA in Middle East Studies from Oxford University and an MFA from New York University's Tisch School of the Arts Graduate Film Program. She graduated with the award-winning thesis film *The Seventh Dog. The Imperialists Are Still Alive!* is her first full-length feature film.

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# The Imperialists Are Still Alive! 2010. Drama. 1h 30 min

A successful visual artist working in post-9/11 Manhattan, Asya lives the life of the hip and glamorous, replete with exclusive art parties, supermodels and stretch limousines while she carefully follows the situation in the Middle East on television. Asya learns that her childhood friend, Faisal, has disappeared - the victim of a purported CIA abduction. That same night, she meets Javier, a Mexican PhD student, and romance blossoms. Javier finds Asya's conspiracy theories overly paranoid but nothing in Asya's world is as it seems. Her life is reflective of the themes of cultural fusion and



the complications and humor that arise simultaneously out of everyday life.

Palestinian filmmaker Hanna Elias graduated 14. from Hebrew University in Jerusalem with a BA in

is his first full length film.

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Sociology and Middle East Studies before obtaining an MFA in film production from the University of California Los Angeles (UCLA). He

has directed several short films including The Mountain (1992). From 1998 to 1999 he worked for the United Nations on a series of promotional films on democracy and women rights in Palestine. The Olive Harvest The Olive Harvest, 2003. Drama. 89 min

Upon his release from an Israeli prison, Mazen begins to fall in love with Raeda, his childhood friend who is already engaged to Taher, Mazen's younger brother. The two brothers become estranged soon after reuniting as they struggle to win over Raeda's heart. Mazen, with his romantic poetry and simple love for the olive groves that provide his community and family with their liveli-



hood, shares in Raeda's dreams to remain in the village and harvest the olives. Taher, on the other hand, prefers to live in the city and ambitiously seeks to contain the growing Jewish settlement of the territories as a member of the Palestinian Legislative Counsel. Although his love for Raeda is strong, Taher's devotion toward this cause leads him to neglect his commitment to her.

Ahmad Habash, a Palestinian filmmaker and animator, was born in Baghdad in 1976. He spent his childhood in the diaspora, traveling from one country to another with his family. In 1997, he obtained his BA in Film Directing. In 2006, he directed and animated Flee, a short sand animation, as part of *Palestine*, *Summer 2006*. In September 2007, he graduated from



Bournemouth University with a Master's Degree in 3-D Computer Animation. The same year he released From the Memory of the Sand. In 2009, he directed and animated Fatenah, the first Palestinian 3-D animated film, which was produced by Saed Andoni.

#### Fatenah. 2009. Animation. 30 min

Fatenah is an animation that was liberally inspired by a true story. The original story was readapted so that Fatenah could represent any young woman from Gaza that embarks on the arduous journey of seeking medical care which is not available within the Gaza Strip. The World Health Organisation for West Bank and Gaza supported this project from the very beginning. Over the last four years, the number of patients that request treatment outside Gaza has been growing due to the lack of specialized health care services in the Strip. This animation took one year to be completed; it was produced entirely in the Palestinian territories.



17. **Annemarie Jacir** is a Palestinian filmmaker and poet. She has been working in independent cinema since 1998 and has written, directed and produced a number of award-winning films including *Until When, A Few Crumbs for the Birds, a Post Oslo History* and *When I Saw You* (2008). She was named one of Filmmaker magazine's 25 New Faces of Independent Cinema. Her short



film *Like Twenty Impossibles* (2003) was the first Arab short film to ever be an official selection of the Cannes International Film Festival and went on to be a Student Academy Awards Finalist, winning more than 15 awards at international festivals. In 2008, Jacir released the first feature film by a Palestinian woman director, *Salt of this Sea*.

#### Salt of this Sea. 2008. Drama. 109 min

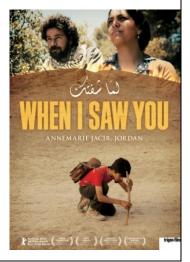
A story that is moved by the emotions aroused by conflicting desires. On the one hand there is Soraya, an American-born Palestinian woman, who heads to Israel and Palestine on a quest to reclaim her family's home and money which were taken during the 1948 Arab-Israeli War and to recover the symbolic past and present that was stolen from her family while looking to be recognized as Palestinian. On the other hand there is Emad, a Palestinian who wasn't granted a visa to go to Canada where he wanted to get away from the political and military confrontation that has filled the region for over half a century. With hyperrealism this



film shows the seriousness of existence in the area, the control that is implanted everywhere and the correlated humiliation in daily situations.

#### When I Saw You. 2012. Drama. 98 min

Jordan, 1967: tens of thousands of refugees pour across the border from Palestine. Having been separated from his father in the chaos of war, Tarek, 11, and his mother Ghaydaa, are amongst this latest wave of refugees. Placed in "temporary" refugee camps made up of tents and prefab houses until they would be able to return, they wait, like the generation before them who arrived in 1948. With difficulties adjusting to life in Harir camp and a longing to be reunited with his father, Tarek searches a way out, and discovers a new hope emerging with the times. Eventually his free spirit and curious nature lead him to a group of people on a journey that will change their lives.



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19. **Basil Khalil** was born in Nazareth to a Palestinian father and an English-Irish mother. His first film job was as second Assistant Director on Elia Suleiman's Divine Intervention. He obtained an MA in Screen Project Development from Screen Academy Scotland, then moved on to London to work in television. In 2005, Basil directed his debut

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feature documentary Replay Revenge for Al Jazeera English, and a number of shorts including the award-winning film Shooter.

Miguel Ernesto Littín Cucumides (born in 1942) is a Chilean film director, screenwriter, film producer and novelist with Palestinian and Greek roots.



#### Ave Maria. 2014. Short Drama/Comedy. 15 min

When Israeli settlers have a car accident in the middle of the West Bank wilderness just outside the convent of the Sisters of Mercy (Arab Christian nuns who have taken a vow of silence) the sisters have to find a way to work together to get their visitors on their way... because the Sabbath has just begun, and observant Jews aren't supposed to use the telephone.



La Ultima Luna (The Last Moon). 2005. Drama. 105 min Set in 1914 on the West Bank in Palestine, this film presents the life story of the director's grandparents before they emigrated to Chile. It explores notions of place and belonging while chronicling a period marked by mounting tensions between Jewish and Palestinian families.



21. **Rashid Masharawi** was born in Gaza. He has directed several features including Curfew (1993); Haifa (1995); Waiting (2005), and Laila's Birthday (2008) as well as Ticket to Jerusalem (2002). His latest film is Palestine Stereo.



#### Palestine Stereo. 2013. Drama. 1h 30min

This ironic drama about two brothers in the West Bank captures the tragicomic absurdities of life under occupation: Stereo and Sami have been camping in the backyard of Sami's former girlfriend, Leila, ever since Stereo's apartment was destroyed in an Israeli airstrike. The bombing did other damage as



well: Stereo's wife was killed, while Sami was left unable to hear or speak. Determined to start over, the two now take odd jobs, hoping to raise enough money to emigrate to Canada. But Leila is unwilling to let Sami go, leading to circumstances that cause the brothers to question their decision to leave. What is the benefit of a new start if everything of greatest value gets left behind?

Palestinian filmmaker who has directed nine films.
Born in Amman, Jordan, Masri was raised in Beirut, where she has lived most of her life. In 1981 she graduated from San Francisco State University. Soon after that she returned to Beirut and began making films. Her films are *Under the Rub*-



ble (1983), Wild Flowers: Women of South Lebanon (1986), War Generation (1989), Children of Fire (1990), Suspended Dreams (1992), Hanan Ashrawi: A Woman of Her Time (1995), Children of Shatila (1998), Frontiers of Dreams and Fears (2001), Beirut Diaries (2006), 33 Days (2007) and 3000 Nights (2015).

23. Rani Massalha was born in France to a Palestinian father and Egyptian mother. He studied at Boston College and the Paris Institute of Political Studies before going on to work for Misr International Films and assisting several directors, including Rachid



Bouchareb. His short film Elvis of Nazareth (2011) won the uniFrance Special Prize at Cannes. Giraffada (2013) is his debut feature. He coproduced Dégradé (2015).

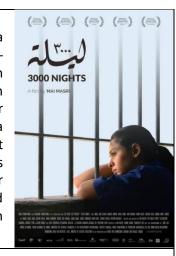
24. **Najwa Najjar** is a Palestinian writer-director who grew up in Saudi Arabia, was educated in the US. Najjar holds a BA in Political Science and Economics, and an MA in Film. She has worked in both documentary and fiction filmmaking, and her work includes the award-winning films Yasmine's



Song (2005) and Naim and Wade'a (2000). Her debut feature film, Pomegranates and Myrrh (2008) won 10 international awards and was sold and released worldwide. Najjar has written articles on Palestinian cinema, has spoken on numerous panels on cinema and has been a jury member of several international film festivals.

#### 3000 Nights. 2015. Drama. 1h 43 min

Recently married, Layla is arrested for assisting a wounded man on the side of the road in 1980 Occupied West Bank. Unfortunately, he was involved in some terrorist operation so she is sent to prison unjustly for aiding this Palestinian group. Soon after her sentence begins, she discovers she is pregnant, a fact her new husband doesn't see as important enough to keep him from fleeing to Canada. Layla is intent on keeping the child, but when the other Palestinian prisoners launch a massive hunger and labor strike, she is caught between participating in the movement and protecting her child.



#### Giraffada. 2013. Drama. 85 min

Yacine is a veterinarian in Palestine's only remaining zoo. His young son Ziad has a strong bond with the zoo's two giraffes. One night, after an air raid, the male giraffe dies, but the female giraffe can't survive alone. Thus, Yacine must absolutely find a new companion for the beast, but the only zoo that can help him is in Tel Aviv. When a nearby attack leads to tragedy inside the zoo, Yacine has to promise Ziad a miracle that he's not sure he can deliver. An inspirational drama loosely based on a true story.



#### Eyes of a Thief. 2014. Drama. 102 min

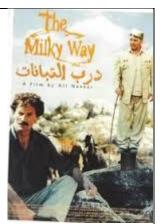
Inspired by a true event, Eyes of a Thief opens at the height of the second Intifada in 2002. Wounded and on the run, the enigmatic Tareq initially eludes Israeli forces when nuns shelter him in a West Bank church crypt. Later captured and imprisoned for a decade, he returns to a world dramatically transformed and sets out to find Nur, the daughter he has never known. It is a search that pitches Tareq into a realm of dangerous secrets and moral uncertainties.



Ali Nassar is an Arab-Israeli film director. Nassar was born in the Galilee village of Arraba and graduated from the University of Moscow in 1981 with a degree in film. Returning to Haifa, he started a theatre group and also worked as a photographer for a daily newspaper. His films include *The Babysitter* (1993), *In the 9th Month* (2002) and *Whispering Embers* (2008).

# The Milky Way. 1997. Drama. 1h 45 min

1964, a village in Galilee. The Mukhtar collaborates with Israeli military rule. Someone is forging work permits, and the Mukhtar's son and a steady metal-smith, Mahmud, want to marry the same woman. These story lines cross when the village teacher is arrested and jailed for the forgeries, with the Mukhtar's approval. Mahmoud discovers who the real forger is and goes to the Mukhtar, whose son assumes Mahmud has come to denounce him. He sets off to burn down Mahmoud's house; tragedy follows. At Mahmud's side through his troubles is Mabruq, the village fool who, like others still suffers from with assing barrers in the



like others, still suffers from witnessing horrors in the 1948 war.

Osama Qashoo is a Palestinian filmmaker, artist, human rights advocate and cofounder of the International Solidarity Movement (ISM). Having studied in the UK and completed further training in the US, France and Cuba, Qashoo is known for his cross-platform work covering the themes

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of identity, diversity, migration, equality and global justice. His films have been broadcast internationally and typically explore the power of youth as a force for social change and creativity, in particular in the Arab world.

Qashoo established 'Olive Tree Films', a multi-disciplinary production company whose primary aim is to expose the un-told stories of minority and marginalised people across the world to a mainstream audience.

#### Samir's Room. 2011. Short Drama. 15 min

Samir returns from college to find that Israeli settlers have occupied parts of his family home in Jerusalem, having erased his past and his memories. In this gentle and life-affirming film, Samir takes an unexpected, touching, and delightful revenge.



Nora Al-Sharif is a freelance director and producer. Born to Palestinian parents, she grew up between Kuwait, Cairo, and Amman. After a career as a graphic designer in Jordan, she decided to pursue filmmaking obtaining a Master in Directing Film and Television from the University of Westminster. Wednesday Afternoons was her graduation film.



#### Ismail, 2013, Short Drama, 28 min

Inspired by a day in the life of the famous and prolific Palestinian painter Ismail Shammout (1930-2006), Ismail depicts the evocative story of a young Palestinian artist struggling to survive and support his parents and young brother after their expulsion to a refugee camp in 1948 by Israeli forces.

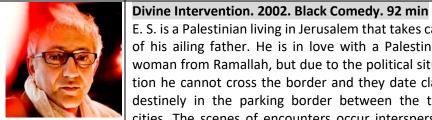


Elia Suleiman, a Palestinian film director and ac-28. tor, was born in Nazareth. From 1982 to 1993, Suleiman lived in New York City. In 1996, Suleiman directed Chronicle of a Disappearance, his first feature film. In 2002, Suleiman's second feature film, Divine Intervention, won several international prizes. Other films include The Time

in post-production is 7 Days in La Habana.

That Remains (2009), To Each His Own Cinema (2007), Cyber Pales-

tine (1999), and The Gulf War: What Next? (1993). His latest project



E. S. is a Palestinian living in Jerusalem that takes care of his ailing father. He is in love with a Palestinian

woman from Ramallah, but due to the political situation he cannot cross the border and they date clandestinely in the parking border between the two cities. The scenes of encounters occur interspersed with scenes of everyday life of Palestinian neighborhoods, portraying with black humor and irony the absurd aspects of life in a territory under occupation that also has to deal with imposed separation.



Palestinian filmmaker **Sameh Zoabi** was born 29. in 1975 in Iksal, a small Palestinian village in Israel. He studied Film Direction at Columbia University. In addition to The Handsome Groom, he has directed the drama Man Without a Cellphone (2010), and the dramatic short Be Quiet (2005), which was selected for the Sundance Festival in 2006 and honored by the Cinefondation at the Cannes Film Festival, Filmmaker

Independent Cinema."



Magazine named Zoabi "one of the Top 25 New Faces of

#### Under the Same Sun. 2013. Drama. 1h 15 min

Shaul, an Israeli, and Nizar, a Palestinian, seem to have little in common but for a shared spirit of entrepreneurship. They create a solar energy company with plans to bring renewable energy to communities in the Palestinian territories. Support for their venture is difficult to gain. From families who question them, to community members who threaten them and government policies that make collaboration nearly impossible, Shaul and Nizar face many obstacles, but grow to respect and trust one another. They take their story to the Internet and inspire others to work together.



What began as a partnership for business becomes a partnership for peace.

#### **DOCUMENTARY DIRECTOR**

Dahna Abourahme is a Palestinian 30. filmmaker who grew up in Abu Dhabi and Amman. She received her MA in Media Studies at the New School for Social Research in New York, where she worked as a filmmaker and youth media educator. She currently teaches at the

Bank.



The Kingdom of Women: Ein El Hilweh. 2010. Documentary Animation, 54 min

After the Israeli invasion of Lebanon in 1982, Ein al-Hilweh (the largest Palestinian refugee camp in Lebanon) was destroved and its male inhabitants were imprisoned. The



Lebanese American University. Her first feature documentary was Until When... (2004), a personal portrait of four Palestinian families living in Dheisheh refugee camp in the West

Kingdom of Women documents the resilience, community spirit, and valor of the women from the camp during this period - how they rebuilt the camp and protected and provided for their families while their men were held captive. Changing between past and present, animation and daily life, Abourahme honors women's contribution to the survival of the Palestinian community in exile.

Mustafa Abu Ali, who was born in 1940 31. in Maliha, Palestine, attended UC Berkeley before studying film in London. He was a founder of the PLO's film division first in Jordan and then in Lebanon where the organization re-located after Black September. He wrote four screenplays and directed more than 30 films,



for which he won more than a dozen awards. Mustafa Abu Ali died on 30 July 2009 in Jerusalem.

### They do not exist. 1974. Documentary. 25 min

Salvaged from the ruins of Beirut after 1982, Abu Ali's early film has only recently been made available. Shooting under extraordinary conditions, the director covers conditions in Lebanon's refugee camps,



the effects of Israeli bombardments, and the lives of guerrillas in training camps. Now recognized as a cornerstone in the development of Palestinian cinema, the film only received its Palestine premiere in 2003, when a group of Palestinian artists "smuggled" the director to a makeshift cinema in his hometown of Jerusalem (into which Israel bars his entry). Abu Ali, who saw his film for the first time in 20 years at this clandestine event noted: "We used to say 'Art for the Struggle', now it's 'Struggle for the Art'".

Born in Tira, Israel, 1980, Mamdooh 32. **Afdile** graduated with Honors from the Sam Spiegel Film and Television School in 2005, where he majored in directing and scriptwriting, cinematography and editing. He has worked as cinematographer and as a freelance editor for prominent TV channels. Genies and Madness



(Jinn Wa'Jnoon) is his first documentary feature film.

Genies and Madness (Jinn Wa'Jnoon). 2012. Documentary. 87 min

An invitation to embark on a magical journey into the filmmaker's amusing life, this humorous film is a mixture of reality and imagination: Mamdouh Afdile is a recent film school graduate waiting for his big break while his brother has other plans and his parents believe in ghosts and demons.



Genies and Madness is a wild, comical ride inside one family's lunacy. The filmmaker tries to come to terms with his family's demons and to confront his own.

33. Mohammed Alatar is a Palestinian-American filmmaker who founded "Palestinians for Peace and Democracy" in 2002. His past working experiences include positions such as Future Stories Director for CBS News and Media Advisor to UNDP and the Ministry of Jerusa-



lem Affairs. Another documentary of his is The Iron Wall (2006).

Jerusalem - The East Side Story. 2007. Documentary.

The film documents Palestinians' everyday life under Israeli occupation in East Jerusalem. It uncovers Israel's policy of Judaizing the city in order to gain Jewish majority control by driving out Palestinian people. The documentary includes interviews with Palestinian as well as Israeli political leaders, political analysts and human rights activists.



34. Emad Burnat is a Palestinian freelance cameraman and photographer with experience filming for Al Jazeera and Palestinian Television. He has contributed to several documentaries, including Bil'in My Love, Palestine Kids, Open Close, and Interrupted Streams.



5 Broken Cameras. 2011. Documentary. 94 min

When his fourth son, Gibreel, is born in 2005, Emad Burnat, a Palestinian villager, gets his first camera. While recording the growth of his son in the village of Bil'in in the West Bank, the Israelis begin bulldozing village olive groves to build a barrier to separate Bil'in from the Jewish Settlement Modi'in. Struggle and peaceful pro-

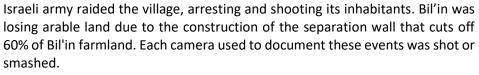


tests of the inhabitants of Bil'in rose and lasted for several years in which the

36. **Cherien Dabis** is a Palestinian-American director, producer and screenwriter. She defines herself as a humanist and seeks to use movies as a medium and powerful tool to discuss and present various issues

the short film *Make a Wish* (2006) and the Drama Comedy *May in the Summer* (2013).

to a wide audience. Her work includes



The film was co-directed by Palestinian Emad Burnat and Israeli Guy Davidi.

#### Amreeka. 2009. Drama. 1h 36 min

It recounts the story of Muna Farah, a Palestinian divorcee who works in the West Bank and her son, Fadi, whom she must pick up every day after school, crossing the Israeli Checkpoint where they are harassed. One day, Muna discovers that she has been awarded a green card though the lottery, taking the opportunity to pack up and leave to the U.S with her son. The film is set following the invasion of Iraq in 2003, and so the pair have some trouble at customs. After discovering that a cookie box containing her life savings has gone missing at the airport, Muna decides she needs to find a job. Alongside this hardship, the film documents the life in



the West Bank and the harsh reality and discrimination many immigrants must face within the post 9-11 and Iraq War context.

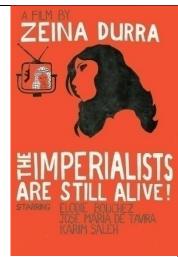
37. Zeina Durra is a Palestinian-American writer/director based between New York City and London. Durra has a BA in Middle East Studies from Oxford University and an MFA from New York University's Tisch School of the Arts Graduate Film Program. She graduated with the award-winning thesis



film *The Seventh Dog. The Imperialists Are Still Alive!* is her first full-length feature film.

The Imperialists Are Still Alive! 2010. Drama. 1h 30 min

A successful visual artist working in post-9/11 Manhattan, Asya lives the life of the hip and glamorous, replete with exclusive art parties, supermodels and stretch limousines while she carefully follows the situation in the Middle East on television. Asya learns that her childhood friend, Faisal, has disappeared - the victim of a purported CIA abduction. That same night, she meets Javier, a Mexican PhD student, and romance blossoms. Javier finds Asya's conspiracy theories overly paranoid - but nothing in Asya's world is as it seems. Her life



is reflective of the themes of cultural fusion and the complications and humor that arise simultaneously out of everyday life.

39. Born in Dubai in 1979, **Mahdi Fleifel** was raised in Ain el-Hilweh refugee camp in Lebanon and later in the suburbs of Elsinore, Denmark. In 2009, he graduated from the National Film and Television School in London. His firstyear film, *Arafat & I*, was screened at festivals around the world and won nu-



merous awards. In 2010, Fleifel and Irish producer Patrick Campbell established the London-based production company Nakba Filmworks. A *World Not Ours* is Fleifel's first feature-length documentary. Other works include *A Man Returned* (2016).

A World Not Ours (Alam Laysa Lana). 2012. Documentary. 93 min

A World Not Ours is an intimate, humorous portrait of three generations of expatriates in the refugee camp of Ain el-Helweh, in southern Lebanon, a place hastily built in 1948 that now houses



70,000 refugees in one square kilometer. Based on a wealth of personal recordings, family archives, and historical footage, the film is a sensitive and illuminating study of belonging, friendship, and family.

Filmed over more than 20 years by multiple generations of the same family, *A World Not Ours* is more than just a family portrait; it is an attempt to record what is being forgotten and to preserve collective memory.

Khaled Hourani is a Palestinian artist, curator, and art critic. He is the initiator of the project Picasso in Palestine. He attained a BA in History from Hebron University and was awarded the title of Cultural Management Trainer by al-Mawred Culture Resource and the European Cultural Foundation (Egypt). He has had sev-



eral solo exhibitions locally and internationally and participates frequently in group exhibitions. He was the curator of the Palestinian pavilion for the Sao Paolo Biennale, Brazil and the 21st Alexandria Biennale in Egypt.

Picasso in Palestine. 2012. Documentary. 52 min

In June 2011, Picasso's painting Buste de Femme (1943) was brought from its home in Van Abbemuseum in the Netherlands to the Exhibition space at the International Academy of Art Palestine (IAAP) in Ramallah for an unprecedented and ambitious exhibit. As the film depicts, even great works of art are subject to the vicissitudes of the occupa-



tion, and this effort was fraught with unimaginable bureaucratic and logistical obstacles and challenges.

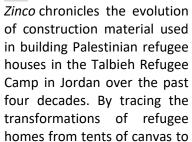
The documentary was directed by Rashid Masharawi and produced by Khaled Hourani, the Director of IAAP.

42. **Serene Husni** is a Palestinian-Jordanian filmmaker and multimedia journalist. She has an MFA in Documentary Media from Ryerson University and is currently based in Toronto. Before that she lived in Amman, where she was a founding member of aramram.com, a web televi-



sion channel targeting Arab youth. Zinco is her first documentary film.

# Zinco. 2013. Documentary. 21 min





buildings of reinforced concrete, the film looks for visible evidence of displacement. 'Zinco' is an Arabic slang word for the corrugated tin that still makes up most of the camps rooftops today. The film is an invitation to reflect on the universal need for a home.

Khaled Jarrar, born in Jenin, com-43. pleted his studies in Interior Design at the Palestine Polytechnic University in 1996, and then entered the field of photography in 2004. In 2011, he graduated as a visual artist from the International Academy of Art – Palestine. His first exhibition took place in



public spaces at the checkpoints of Huwarra and Qalandya in the West Bank and Jerusalem. Jarrar started making films and videos in 2008, among them Journey 110. He has participated in international art events such as Art Basel 41, Instant video, London Palestine Film Festival, the International Contemporary Art Fair "FIAC" in Paris, the Berlin Biennale 7 in 2012, and the Sharjah Biennial 11 in 2013.

Laith Al-Juneidi, who was born in 1978 in Hebron, is a Palestinian film director and producer. He studied at the Coventry University Department of Media and Communication and produced a number of short fictional and factual films as well as training videos and commercials. Despite its short dura-

44.



tion, his film War vs. Peace got international recognition as a bold statement questioning the representation of war in mainstream media.

#### Infiltrators (Mutasaliloon). 2012. Documentary. 70 min

Infiltrators is a visceral and haunting "road movie" that chronicles the daily travails of Palestinians as they seek routes through, under, around, and over a bewildering matrix of barriers erected by Israel in the West Bank/Jerusalem area, including the 7-meter-high wall. Filmmaker Jarrar follows this high



stakes "game" of cat and mouse with a handheld video camera.

### The Invisible Policeman (Shurti ala al hamesh). 2012. Documentary. 59 min

Palestinian Lieutenant Nidal lives an extremely paradoxical life. He is either a figure of authority that provides people with much-needed security or a father of many children, but not the two simultaneously. A rare case where a man provides what he lacks and struggles to live a normal life, facing endless efforts to cope with daily pressure and manip-



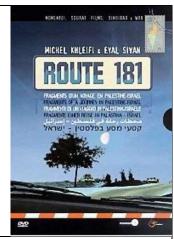
ulative mind games. A case where someone's determination and belief could be seen as a form of insanity by some.

Michel Khleifi was born in 1950 in Naza-45. reth. He is a director and writer, known for The Fertile Memory (1980), Wedding in Galilee (1987), The Tale of the Three Lost Jewels (1995) and Route 181: Fragments of a Journey in Palestine-Israel (2004).



## Route 181: Fragments of a Journey in Israel-Palestine. 2004. Documentary. 4h 30 min

Capturing the fragments of a land shattered by politics, history, and colonialism, the filmmakers present oral history from a wide variety of people who live along the 1947 partition line, while also including minutes-long footage of the monotonous grey concrete wall that quietly runs along one of the region's main roads. Thus, Route 181 portrays both the divide of the physical landscape and that of the humans that inhabit it.



46. Ibtisam Ma'araneh was born and raised in the Arab village of Fureidis in Israel. For the past 10 years, since founding Ibtisam Films, she has been creating documentary cinema that advances women's rights and speaks to the relationships of women within Palestinian-

77 Steps (2010).

dise Lost (2003), Al-Jiser (2004), Lady Kul El Arab (2008) and



#### Badal. 2006. Documentary. 56 min

'A Badal deal marriage' usually means that a brother and sister from one family marry a sister and brother from another family - interlocking the two couples forever. Divorce on the part of one couple will immediately lead to the divorce of the other part of the deal. This is common practice in Muslim families in the



Middle East. The film follows a family during the process of putting such a deal together. It portrays the lives of Palestinian women living within Israel: their struggles in being a part of their traditional society vs. the quest to maintain their full rights as women and citizens of a Jewish state.

47.

### Three Times Divorced. 2007. Documentary. 1h 15min

The film deals with the fate of a Palestinian woman from the Gaza Strip who marries an Arab Bedouin from Israel. After bearing her husband six children, he divorces her and maintains custody of the children, while the woman, whose residency status in Israel becomes uncertain, is left with nothing.



49. **Jumana Manna** was born in 1987, in Princeton, New Jersey, USA and grew up in Jerusalem. Having studied in Los Angeles and Oslo, she now lives and works in Berlin. Working primarily in video and sculpture, Manna explores the construction of identity in relation to historical narratives and uncertain



states of contemporary communities. Her videos weave together portraits of various characters and events. In her sculptural practice, she employs a language of minimalism and abstraction to reformulate familiar objects into a state of ambiguity, navigating between negation and seduction. In 2012, Manna was awarded the Young Palestinian Artist of the Year Award for her short film A Sketch of Manners.

#### A Sketch of Manners. 2012. Creative Documentary. 12 min

Alfred Roch, Jaffa's biggest landowner and member of the Palestinian National League, was a politician with a bohemian panache. In 1942, at the height of WWII, he threw what turned out to be the last masquerade ball in Palestine. Inspired by an archival photograph taken



the event, A Sketch of Manners recreates and re-imagines an unconventional bon vivant aspect of Palestine's lost pre-1948 past. A multilayered work that reflects on the history of photography, notions of modernity within the region, and the role of artifice and farce in society.

### The Goodness Regime. 2013. 21 min

Shot in Norway and Palestine by Jumana Manna and Sille Storihle, *The Goodness Regime* creatively explores the foundations of the ideology and self-image of modern Norway—from the Crusades to the diplomatic theatre of the 1993 Oslo Peace Accords. Archival footage of political speeches and



clips from Hollywood films are woven together with a series of enactments by children, in which they recount the myths, historical events, and cultural personae that have propelled this understanding of the Scandinavian nation.

50.

51. Carol Mansour, a Lebanese of Palestinian origin, founded Forward Film Production in 2000 in Beirut, Lebanon. With over 20 years in documentary production, Mansour has covered the world from Sri Lanka to Lebanon to Uzbekistan. Her work, such as the film on the 2006 Israeli war on Lebanon, A



Summer Not To Forget, have won numerous prestigious awards. Mansour's work reflects her concern for human rights and social justice, covering issues such as migrant workers, refugees, environmental issues, mental health, war and memory, right to health, and child labor.

We Cannot Go There Now, My Dear. 2014. Documentary. 42 min

Palestinian refugees have been living in Syria since they were forced to flee Palestine in 1948. As the Syrian crisis intensifies, they alongside the Syrians - have been affected by the war. Their story, however, is more complex. By fleeing Syria and seeking refuge in Lebanon, they are becoming a



special category: the twice-displaced. This film tells part of their story - a story in which memories have been awakened between one exodus and the next; loss permeates all things and invades the soul and lives are continuously being reimprovised, awaiting a return to the homeland.

52. Hanna Musleh (born in 1958) is a Palestinian film maker and university professor. He studied at Leningrad State University in Russia for a degree in anthropology and at Manchester University in England afterwards. Since 1980 he has worked as a professor at Bethlehem University teaching



cultural studies, history, anthropology film appreciation, religion and philosophy. His films include *Sahar's Wedding* (1991), *We are God's Soldiers* (1993) and *Memory of the Cactus*.

In the Spider's Web. 2004. Documentary. 45 min

'In the Spider's Web' was produced by the Ramallah-based human rights organization Al Haq in order to provide a visual overview of collective punishment as it affects the daily lives of Palestinians in the West Bank and Gaza Strip. The film tells many stories, but focuses on two in particular,



namely those of a woman in Nablus and another in Hebron. Each of them talks of the impact that the compounded measures of intimidation and other collective penalties has on their lives. This powerful film directly confronts the audience with the connections between Israeli violations of international law and the social consequences suffered by many women, some of whom end up blamed for their own plight.

filmmaker with extensive experience in direction and film production. He is a graduate of the FOJO Institute in Sweden (2009) and has worked for many news organizations. He is currently the Director of the Palestinian Satellite Channel Palestine and teaches



filmmaking at Al Azher and Birzeit University.

54. **Khaled Soliman Al-Nassiry** is a Palestinian-Syrian writer and director who was born in Damascus in 1979 and has lived in Milan since 2009. He is also a poet, literary critic, and graphic designer and currently works

as the editorial director and graphic

designer for the Noon Publishing



House in the United Arab Emirates. Another film of his is Katie Chats (2011).

#### The Gaza Mono-logues. 2011. Documentary. 25 min

The Gaza Mono-Logues is a global project organized by Ashtar Theatre in Palestine. Following Augusto Boal's Theatre of the Oppressed methods, 31 Gazan youths aged 14-18 engaged in intensive workshops and developed monologues expressing their dreams, fears, frustrations, and aspirations before, during, and af-



ter the 2008-9 war. They deliver memoirs of 22 days of living hell during which at least 1,380 Palestinians died, 431 of whom were children. The film follows the group in their training and shows how they were affected by the experience.

# On the Bride's Side. 2014. Documentary. 89 min

This documentary was realized by Khaled Soliman Al Nassiry, Antonio Augugliaro and Gabriele Del Grande, who portray the sorrow, regret, hopes, and dreams of five Syrian and Palestinian refugees who attempt to reach Swe-



den after surviving the Mediterranean passage to Italy while fleeing the Syrian war. It depicts the challenging proposition of a Palestinian poet and an Italian journalist who offer them to stage a wedding procession with friends to help them cross borders and complete their illegal journey. Along the way, an intimate portrait of the "migrants" emerges through the 3,000-kilometer road movie. Meanwhile, the act of defiance against immigration laws under which the assistance to refugees is considered a smuggler activity, challenges European morality and its reaction to the refugee crisis.

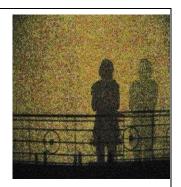
55. **May Odeh** was born in Birzeit, Palestine in 1981. She received her BA in Television and Radio Studies from Birzeit University. She worked as a correspondent for several Arab Television Channels including Al-Jazeera Children's Channel for several years. She worked on the production of



many Palestinian feature films such as Laila's Birthday, Salt of This Sea, Rico in the Night, and Five Minutes from My Home. Diaries is her first full-length documentary. She is now working on another, Oslo, I Love You.

Diaries. 2010. Documentary. 53 min

Diaries chronicles the intimate daily lives of three young women living in Gaza who face a double siege: One is the Israeli occupation, the other the quasi-religious authority that controls the torn city.



56. **Abdallah Omeish** is director and coproducer of *The War Around Us,* and co-director of *Occupation 101* (2006).



The War Around Us. 2012. Documentary. 75 min

The War Around Us is the true story of the only two international journalists on the ground in Gaza as Israel bombarded and invaded it in 2008-9 during the 'Operation Cast Lead'. Al Jazeera's Cairo-born, Arab-American Ayman Mohyeldin and Arab-British Sherine Tadros reported from Gaza City throughout the 22-day assault. This riveting and introspective award-winning film chronicles the bonds of friendships under stress, the ethics of journalism in conflict, and people's resilience during war. It also provides a window into understanding the catastrophic experiences of Palestinians in Gaza.



57. Pary El-Qalqili was born in 1982 in Berlin. She has studied in Munich, Frankfurt/Oder and Buenos Aires. In her artistic work, El-Qalqili deals with issues of migration and identity. Her first feature documentary, The Turtle's Rage, has been shown at



international festivals, has won several awards and was released in German cinemas. Currently, she is a fellow at the Academy of Arts in Berlin and has received a scholarship by the Robert-Bosch Foundation for research in Egypt.

The Turtle's Rage. 2012. Documentary. 70 min

When director Pary El-Qalqili was 12 years old, her Palestinian father left his German wife and children in Berlin and returned to Palestine. Years later, he turned up on their doorstep and now lives in the basement of their small row house, lonely, withdrawn "in his turtle's shell", and filled with rage. In this



tender and sorrowful film, the filmmaker strives to understand her estranged father, even embarking with him on a road trip to meet family members spread all over the Middle East.

58. **Osama Qashoo** is a Palestinian filmmaker, artist, human rights advocate and co-founder of the International Solidarity Movement (ISM). Having studied in the UK and completed further training in the US, France and Cuba, Qashoo



is known for his cross-platform work covering the themes of identity, diversity, migration, equality and global justice. His films have been broadcast internationally and typically explore the power of youth as a force for social change and creativity, in particular in the Arab world.

Qashoo established 'Olive Tree Films', a multi-disciplinary production company whose primary aim is to expose the untold stories of minority and marginalised people across the world to a mainstream audience.

Soy Palestino. 2007. 65 min

Qashoo travels to Cuba and discovers Havana's own "Palestinos", as poor, black migrants are labeled in local racist parlance. He befriends Luisito, a clown-singermusician and homeless Palestino who lives in a wooden box. When after many years away from home, Luisito sets off to reconnect with his family, Qashoo tags along for what becomes a musical-comedic journey into the politics of today's Cuba.



Jacqueline Reem Salloum, originally from Beit Jala in the West Bank, is a New York-based artist and filmmaker who holds an MFA from New York University. Drawing on her Palestinian and Syrian roots, Salloum's pop-infused work focuses on challenging the stereotypes of

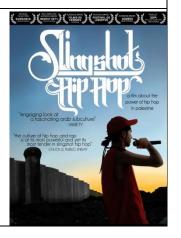
59.



Arabs in the media. She has directed several shorts exploring this issue, including *Planet of the Arabs* and *Yala to the Moon* (2011).

Slingshot Hip Hop. 2008. Documentary. 1h 20min. Slingshot Hip Hop braids together the stories of

Slingshot Hip Hop braids together the stories of young Palestinians living in Gaza, the West Bank and inside Israel as they discover Hip Hop and employ it as a tool to surmount divisions imposed by occupation and poverty. From internal checkpoints and Separation Walls to gender norms and generational differences, it tells the story of young people crossing the borders that separate them.



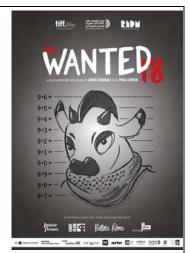
60. Amer Shomali is a Palestinian multidisciplinary artist, using painting, digital media, films, installations and comics as tools to explore and interact with the sociopolitical scene in Palestine focusing on the creation and the use of the Palestinian revolution ico-



nography. He holds a Master's degree in animation from the Arts University Bournemouth in the United Kingdom and a Bachelor's degree in architecture from Birzeit University, Palestine. He was born in Kuwait in 1981, and is currently based in Ramallah, Palestine.

# The Wanted 18. 2014. Animated Documentary Film. 75 min

It's 1987 and the first *Intifada* is rising. In the Israeli-occupied West Bank, Palestinian residents want local alternatives to Israeli goods such as milk. Activists in filmmaker Amer Shomali's village of Beit Sahour, a suburb of Bethlehem, decide to buy 18 cows and produce their own milk as a cooperative. The cows became legendary and the "Intifadamilk" (sometimes distributed under cover of darkness) becomes a part of daily life. But this act of defiance does not go unnoticed. The Israeli Army raids the dairy, photographs the cows, and declares the farm a threat to Israel's national



security. Employing an impressive mixture of media- clay animation, comic strips, reenactment, archived video footage, sketches, photographs, interviews and voiceover narration, Paul Cowan and Amer Shomali capture the spirit of the first Palestinian uprising through the personal experiences of those who lived it.

61. **Hind Shoufani,** who was born in Lebanon as a refugee in 1978, is a Palestinian writer/filmmaker currently residing between Dubai and Beirut. For the past 17 years, she has been a reporter, teacher, writer, producer, director, translator and editor, working in NYC, DC, Beirut, Amman, and Dubai. She is



currently working on her second narrative feature film script, *This War on Love.* 

In 2007, Shoufani founded the Poeticians collective, an elastic group of writers who perform in monthly events that she curates. The first anthology of the Poeticians collective is *Nowhere Near a Damn Rainbow* (2012), which includes works by 31 Middle-East-based poets.

### Trip Along Exodus. 2015. Documentary. 120 min

This film explores the last 70 years of Palestinian politics seen through the prism of the life of the filmmaker's father, Dr. Elias Shoufani, a leader of the Palestinian Liberation Organization and an academic and leftist intellectual who was one of the leaders of the opposition to Arafat within Fatah for 20 years. To try

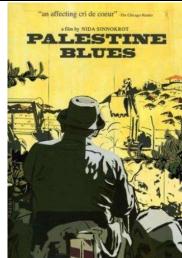


and understand his choice to give up a tenured position at a US university and join the underground PLO in Beirut, the filmmaker made a documentary that traces her family's evolution through Palestine's 20th century history, starting in 1948. The film recreates Palestinian history using archive, family photos/8mm films, old photos, cartoons, animation, macro-photography footage, worldwide interviews, and multimedia formats in a video-art style documentary - a personal and political memoir.

62. **Nida Sinnokrot** (1971) is a Palestinian-American filmmaker and artist, focusing on installation art. Of Palestinian origin, Sinnokrot grew up in Algeria and moved to the United States of America as a teenager. His films, installations and sculptures increasingly explore the traumas generated by the Israeli-Palestinian conflict.



Palestine Blues. 2006. Documentary. 1h 20 min Palestine Blues follows the repercussions of the Israeli security wall and settlement expansions in the engulfed/annexed Palestinian farming communities of the West Bank and the Gaza Strip. Instead of focusing on the object of the Wall, the documentary examines the grassroots resistance movement that has sprung up against it. However, it is not a 'traditional' political reportage but rather an interminable road trip across hard and liquid borders - across a terrain that is being erased as it is being traversed.



63. **Mouna B. Stewart** is a Palestinian artist whose first foray into filmmaking was with *It's Better To Jump*. She played a central role in the project, serving as producer, interviewer, and translator.



It's Better to Jump. 2013. Documentary. 73 min

It's Better to Jump gives voice to Arab inhabitants of the ancient walled city of Akka (located on Israel's northern coast) as both the people and their town face a very uncertain future. The film weaves together a magical story of an historic place, its people, and the hopes they hold beyond all limitation to make giant leaps of faith in life.

The documentary was co-directed and co-produced by Gina Angelone, Patrick Stewart and Mouna Stewart.



64. **Elia Suleiman**, a Palestinian film director and actor, was born in Nazareth. From 1982 to 1993, Suleiman lived in New York City, where he directed two short films: *Introduction to the End of an Argument* and *Homage by Assassination*, which won numerous awards.



In 1996, Suleiman directed *Chronicle of a Disappearance*, his first feature film. In 2002, Suleiman's second feature film, *Divine Intervention*, won the Jury Prize at the Festival de Cannes and the International Critics (FIPRESCI) Prize, as well as the Best Foreign Film Prize at the European Awards in Rome. Other films include *The Time That Remains* (2009), *To Each His Own Cinema* (2007), *Cyber Palestine* (1999), and *The Gulf War: What Next?*(1993). His latest project in post-production is *7 Days in La Habana*.

# Muqaddimah Li-Nihayat Jidal (Introduction to the End of an Argument). 1990. 41 min

Introduction to the End of an Argument deals with the distorted picture we have of Arab culture in general and of the Intifada in particular. It combines fragments of image and text taken from Hollywood, European and Israeli films, documentaries and news items with material which co-director Jayce Sal-



loum personally recorded in Israel, the West Bank, and the Gaza Strip. The videotape mimics the dominant media's forms of representation, subverting its methodology and construction. A process of displacement and deconstruction is enacted, attempting to arrest the imagery and ideology, decolonizing and recontextualizing it to provide a space for a marginalized voice consistently denied expression in the media. Suleiman and Salloum, a Lebanese-Canadian video artist, have compiled an incisive argument for the need to think and look beyond.