



N°98 August-September 2011

One season chases another...

As the Arab **Spring** moves into the Arab **Summer**, the revolutions, especially inside broadcasting, are having difficulty shedding their old habits and moving towards less State and greater (public) service. They're making progress, but at different speeds, depending on whether we are talking Egypt or Tunisia.

It is more and more urgent for the international broadcasting community to make a concerted effort and come up with equipment and know-how.

In the **autumn** – in other words tomorrow – Tunisia's October elections are a huge challenge, and to provide proper television coverage of the campaigns a daring bet. Solidarity is the key, for everyone in broadcasting. That's why, at the end of the year, we shall have to judge the situation on actions and real achievements, not on promises and good intentions.

Where will the revolutions be when **winter** comes ? Make no mistake, we shall there be taking note, giving international cooperation its true meaning. There is a time for each of the seasons.

Meanwhile, waiting for you in this summer issue of the Newsletter, life in the channels and novelties in the Mediterranean broadcasting, with special focus on the programme schedules for Ramadan 2011; this month's Festival, Mediterranean Nights, which will be held in Corsica at the end of September; this month's web-site; Blogs&Docs, an on-line magazine entirely given over to documentaries and non-fiction works; plus of course all our usual items..

Happy reading, and above all have a good **summer** !

François Jacquél
Managing Director of the CMCA

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[# Tunisia / Media managers' union demands more access to information](#)

On June 9th the Tunisian Union of Media Managers (STDM) called on the government to set up a national plan to encourage the use of press officers in public and private companies, and also in establishments created after the Jasmine Revolution. According to the union, not having journalists to

handle a company's media communication hinders access to information and harms the relationship between the government and the administration on one hand and the press on the other.

With the date for parliamentary elections, October 23rd, approaching fast, the STDM has warned that *"In this transitory stage, the media assume no responsibility if there is a failure, if the news black-out and other obstacles continue."*



[# Tunisia / *Télévision Tunisienne*'s former CEO, Mohamed Fehri Chelbi, released](#)

On June 29th the *Tribunal de Première Instance* in Tunis, equivalent of a magistrate's court, ordered the release of *Télévision Tunisienne*'s former CEO, Mohamed Fehri Chelbi. He had been arrested and imprisoned nine days earlier, accused of embezzlement and corruption while he was at ERTT.

When his arrest was announced, several of his former colleagues organised sit-ins in front of the Ministry of Justice and the Prime Minister's office, joined by students from the Press and Communication Institute (IPSI).



[# Libya / France 24 and RFI to help Libyan journalists](#)

At a meeting on June 29th Alain de Pouzilhac, CEO of *Audiovisuel Extérieur de la France* (AEF) reached an agreement with the Information Minister of Libya's National Transitional Council, Mahmoud Shammam, on ways of training journalists.

As from September journalists and technicians working for France 24 and RFI will advise and give training sessions for Libyan radio and TV journalists. They will be based in Benghazi, moving to other towns as they are liberated – but the training sessions will happen whatever the situation in the country – they are not dependent on Gaddafi leaving.

“We have decided to help the people who are making the revolution, for as in Tunisia and Egypt, this request comes from them,” said Frank Melloul, France 24's Director of Strategy and Development.

The journalists' unions have, for their part, voiced some reserves about the initiative, fearing the journalists risk *“being considered as enemies, in the military sense of the word, of the pro-Gaddafi forces.”*



[# Egypt / Judgement delayed in the trial of the former Minister of Information](#)

On July 20th the former Minister of Information, Anas El-Fekki, once again appeared before an Egyptian court. Having been acquitted of one charge on July 4th, namely the *“embezzlement of public funds”*, Mr. El-Fekki this time had to answer charges in the Central Egyptian Courts concerning some 1.8

million dollars which he and another former manager are alleged to have taken from Egyptian state television.

After the hearing, which was broadcast on several satellite channels across the Arab world, the judges decided to delay a decision until September 18th so as to *“carefully study the file.”*

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LIFE IN THE CHANNELS

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La Chaîne Méditerranée

[# Algeria / New programme schedule and new look for Beur TV](#)

Beur TV, a private Algerian channel, has been broadcasting since early July – in France! A first! But that is not the only novelty this summer for Réda Mehigueni's Nilesat-based channel. On July 7th, at a press conference in Algiers, the man who became the channel's major shareholder only two weeks earlier unveiled the new programme schedule for Ramadan. Among the new offerings for August: "*Khatem Souleyman*", a game show presented by Souleyman Bekhlili and Hamid Achouri, in which spectators get the chance to win a gold ring; "*Secteur Show*", a six minute programme for the comedian Abdelkader Secteur; "*Parodies*", in which Hollywood stars speak with an Algerian accent; "*Les Meilleurs Moments du Net*", 15 minutes every day for unusual videos taken off the internet. Given a new visual identity (logo, look), Beur TV wants to "*become more Algerian*", according to M. Mehigueni: "*Beur TV is a Euro-North African channel, it wants to promote the North African cultural heritage, Algerian in particular in the Mediterranean broadcasting context.*"



[# Morocco / Finished version of the first Moroccan web-TV at last on-line](#)

Created in October 2010 by Franco-American producer/director Olivier Lefèvre, Yek TV is the first Moroccan television station to be broadcast only on the Internet. Although a beta version came on-line in February, it is only since July that the definitive version of Yek TV has been accessible (<http://www.yek-tv.com/>). Relying on sketches, series, news and cultural programmes, the channel proclaims both its independence and a certain freedom of tone, for example allowing women to express themselves without constraint. Olivier Lefèvre, who has lived in Morocco for three years, wants to make his channel "*a laboratory for the television of tomorrow*," and in the short term is aiming at "*a web public, particularly the young, and all those who surf the web everyday, French or Arab-speakers who are interested in culture, art, humour. Since the Facebook revolution, everything happens on the Web, we are simply taking advantage of that.*"



[# Tunisia / Twelve new FM radio stations open soon](#)

At the beginning of July the High Authority for the Reform of the Media and Communication announced it had passed requests to licence twelve new radio stations to the Prime Minister's office. "By allocating these licences, we are applying criteria adopted in democratic countries," explains Kamel Laabidi, chairman of the Authority. Most of the new stations will cover the interior of the country such as *Radio Karama* (Sidi Bouzid), *Sawt Al Manejem* (Gafsa), *Shaanbi FM* (Kasserine), and *Sabra FM* (Kairouan, photo). The Tunis region will also get some new stations with the probable arrival of *Radio Kalima*, *Radio 6*, *Kiff FM* and *Basma FM*.



[# Israel / France 24 begins to broadcast in French](#)

The public news channel France 24 has been available in Israel since 2007, but only in English. That changed on July 17th when it began transmitting in French. "We are delighted that French-speakers in Israel can now listen to France 24 programmes in French," declared Frank Melloul, France's Director of Strategy for Overseas Broadcasting, who had flown over to Israel for the occasion. "Israel is the perfect typical example of a country where people both speak and love the French language, and from the outset we have wanted to reach these people." France 24 is now available in 18 countries and reaches 165 million homes world-wide.

At the moment however, broadcasting across Israel in Arabic is not on the agenda.



[# France / Increasing the France Télévisions budget for 2011-2015](#)

Rémy Pflimlin, CEO of *France Télévisions*, has managed to increase State funding by 2.2% a year as part of its 2011-15 *Contrat d'Objectifs et de Moyens*. Funding will increase from €2.46 billion in 2011 to €2.69 billion in 2015. Public money represents 85% of *France Televisions* finance. "We have to find the remainder though advertising, digital broadcasting and diversifying," said Martin Adjari, acting managing director of Management, Means and Finance. The *Contrat d'Objectifs et de Moyens* will now be sent to the CSA (Higher Broadcasting Council), the relevant Parliamentary Commissions and then *France Television's Comité d'entreprise*, (roughly, a works' council) before being voted this autumn during a Board Meeting. This September Rémy Pflimlin will also present a new charter for *France Televisions*, a 42-page document defining the role of public service broadcasting through its ethical rules – tackling such issues as respect of copyright on images, the independence of collaborators and social networks.



[# France / Agreements signed and new premises on the way for Via Stella](#)

On June 24th Via Stella's *Contrat d'Objectifs et de Moyens* was signed at the Corsican offices of the CTC (*Collectivité Territoriale Corse*). Signed in the presence of Frédéric Mitterrand, French Minister of Culture, the three year agreement binds the

State, the CTC and the Corsican satellite channel Via Stella for the period 2011-2013.

A second agreement, this one between the State, the *Centre National du Cinéma* (CNC) and the CTC, was also ratified – it concerns broadcasting and film-making development on the island.

Just before that, in Ajaccio, the foundation stone of a new building for Via Stella and France 3 Corsica was laid by Frédéric Mitterrand and Rémy Pflimlin, Chairman of *France Télévisions*.



[# France / Agreement signed between TV5 Monde and the French Institute](#)

On July 21st an agreement was signed between TV5 Monde and the French Institute during the Institute's workshops in Marseille. This agreement is to

strengthen their relationship as far as editorial coverage, production support and exchange of visibility are concerned.

Also in the agreement there is a provision for sharing assets, particularly sub-titling films and VOD platforms, that is *TV5 Monde Plus Cinéma* and *If Cinéma*. Other VOD platforms will be created, aimed at French film libraries outside France.

Finally, still in the realm of broadcasting, TV5Monde will have free use of the French Institute's catalogue of films co-produced in the "*Images de France*" and "*Documentaires sans frontières*" series.

Note as well that TV5 Monde has just launched its Android Market app for Android smartphones and touch-tablets. This free application is already available on iPhone and iPad.

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[# Tunisia / The third season of "Tunis 2050" broadcast during Ramadan](#)

Flushed with the enormous success of its first two seasons (27% of the audience in 2010, with 2.7 million viewers on average), the 3D cartoon series "Tunis 2050" is coming back to Hannibal TV for the first fortnight of Ramadan 2011. This third season will offer 15 new episodes, but will also probably be the last, the animation production company CGS3D having decided not to do more than a trilogy. Told in a fresh, very funny way, the series features an imaginary Tunisian family in 2050, showing a society which, although it has changed a lot, is still hanging on to certain typically Tunisian characteristics and foibles. Completely revolutionising Tunisian television production (the animation techniques, the modern tone, a novel use of sponsoring), the series has become hugely popular since its first broadcast – and success should be assured this year.



[#Algeria / A new series in Kabyle on TV4 for Ramadan](#)

"*Tejra n'Louz*" ("The Almond Tree"), a new series in the Berber language Kabyle, will broadcast in the early evening during Ramadan as one of the Tamazight channel TV4's leading programmes. Presented in 22 30-minute episodes, the plot is about a network of car thieves, combining police intrigue, drama and romance. Director Amar Tribeche has brought together

a cast including Mohamed Adjaïmi, Saïd Mariche and Fadhila Oubdeslam, with music by Djaffar Aït Menguellet – and is confident it will go down well with the public : *"After all the effort that went into it, I think we have made something good. We have just added something to the Kabyle cultural heritage."* The series was shot in Tizi Ouzou, Algiers and M'Sila.



[# Morocco / Entertainment rules the schedules during Ramadan](#)

The general-interest channels, *2M*, *Medi1 TV* and *Al Oula* have unveiled their new programmes for August transmission.

The schedules are largely made up of comedy shows, with on *2M* the return of the sitcom "*Yak Hna Jirane*", re-titled "*Dima Jirane*", about the everyday life of a group of neighbours, and "*Jar Wa Majrour*", a show in which celebrities trap unknown people with a hidden camera.

On *Medi1 TV*, the "*Ramadan Live Show*" will enliven the *ftour* (the moment when the fast is broken) with different guests every day, new stories, "*Sakablanca*", a Moroccan sitcom, hidden cameras and telly zapping.

Finally *Al Oula* offers "*Polygamist despite himself*", an off-the-wall series of 30 26-minute episodes shot in natural locations in Morocco about a man in his thirties who is forced to marry three women for three different reasons.



[# France / France Télévisions buys the exclusive broadcasting rights for the Olympic Games from 2014 to 2020](#)

For the first time *France Télévisions* has managed to buy the exclusive French rights for the Olympic Games between 2014 and 2020, thanks to an agreement finalised with the International Olympic Committee (IOC).

The group will pay out between €40 and €50 million (plus another €10 million for production). Sharing the rights for next year's Olympic Games in London with Canal Plus, *France Télévisions* is planning to pull out all the stops, with more than 400 hours live, plus retransmission on all platforms (TV, internet, mobile phones). The 2014 Olympics will be held at Sochi in Russia, in 2016 in Rio de Janeiro (Brazil) and in 2018 in Pyeongchang (South Korea), while for 2020 the host city has not yet been chosen. Wherever it is, *France Televisions* will be there.

In another move, *France Télévisions* and CNOSF (*Comité National Olympique et Sportif Français*) may soon announce a partnership for a free, sport-based web-TV – the idea being to show sports rarely seen on traditional media.



[# France / Focus on Algerian youth this summer on France Inter](#)

From 7.15 p.m. to 7.50 p.m. every Saturday evening during the summer, the French radio station *France Inter* will broadcast a nine episode series on Algerian youth, focussing on the generation born in the capital amid the optimism of the 1988 revolts but growing up against a background of civil war. "Algiers, New Generation" depicts the new Algiers in a climate where radical changes are once again possible, in the wake of the revolutions in the neighbouring countries. This series allows the 20 to 30 year olds – students, the unemployed, illegal immigrants, artists – the chance to speak out. The last four episodes are scheduled for August: on the 6th : "*La tentation du religieux*"; the 13th: "*L'imaginaire à Alger : créer coûte que coûte*"; the 20th: "*Le cinéma des années 80 à aujourd'hui*"; the 27th: "*La 'place' à prendre*".



[# France / Arte broadcasts a web-series on Ramadan](#)

Made by the documentary director Rachid Djaïdani (photo), "*Une heure avant la dattes*" is a 20-episode web-series, each 2 to 5 minutes long, shot during Ramadan in 2007, 2008 and 2010. Basically it's a series of portraits of Muslims living in Paris, filmed an hour before the end of each day's fast, which they are supposed to break by eating a date. "*We talk about the way they practise their religion,*" the director explains, "*their faith, women, the veil, sex, spirituality....we talk as we walk around Paris. What they say, like where they go, is their choice.*" The series has been on Arte's web-site since July 21st (<http://www.arte.tv/ramadan>)



[# France / Climate change in Tunisia, subject for a documentary on France 5](#)

The documentary series "*Sale temps pour la planète*" has begun its fifth series on France 5. Five 52-minute episodes will be broadcast every Tuesday, starting on August 2nd at 8.35 p.m. Tunisia is the subject of a special episode "*Tunisie, la révolution climatique*" (provisional title) which should be broadcast on Tuesday August 30th. Directed by Morad Aït-Habbouche, the documentary looks at the many tourist infrastructures built in defiance of environmental rules along the 1,300 kilometre coast-line. During the regime of the dictator Zine el-Abidine Ben Ali these environmental issues were never discussed, deemed bad for the economy. But will the Jasmine Revolution allow the new government to create a workable policy to protect the coast?

ECONOMY

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[# Spain / Agreement between RTVE, Mediaset and Telefonica for the launch of HbbTV](#)

Broadcasters RTVE and Mediaset Spain have made a deal with the telecommunications giant Telefonica to try out HbbTV (Hybrid Broadband Broadcast Television) over the next few months. This service has been already tested

in France (by *France Televisions* during the French Open Tennis Championships in June) and in Germany. By using his remote control the viewer can access additional, interactive information about the programme he's watching (statistics, news-updates). An HbbTV compatible set is necessary.

To encourage a generalisation of this format, and to boost the commercial launch in 2012, RTVE, Mediaset and Telefonica have said their tests will be open to other broadcasters.



[# Spain / Telefonica to shed 6,500 jobs](#)

On July 15th the Telefonica group, world leader in telecommunications, announced that 6,500 jobs will go in Spain over the next three years. Redundancy costs,

estimated at 2.7 million euro, will be covered by Telefonica, according to a company statement. The announcement caused stupefaction in Spain, particularly among unions and government – Telefonica's finances are in excellent shape (with a turnover of €10 billion, up 31% against 2010), Spanish unemployment is currently 21% of the adult population. To justify its decision, the company said it will improve "personnel cost efficiency".

Telefonica is particularly present in IPTV with *Movistar Imagenio*, VOD with *Movistar Videoclub* and web-TV with *Terra TV*.



France / Canal Plus and Al-Jazeera share French soccer TV rights

For the first time the Qatari group Al-Jazeera has acquired one package in the sale of French League 1 TV rights for the 2011-2012 season. The package, number 5, will allow Al-Jazeera to broadcast two matches on every day of the championship, one on Friday evening, the other on Sunday at 2.00 p.m. A new channel will be created for the occasion.

Meanwhile Canal Plus retains lots 1 to 4, but lots 6 to 9 have not been attributed, the bids not matching the reserve price. Between them Canal Plus and Al-Jazeera have spent €510 million. In May Al-Jazeera bought the League 1 foreign broadcasting rights for €200 million.



France / TF1 and France Télévisions audiences drop in June

According to *Mediamétrie*, June viewing figures were bad (down 23.3%, or 1.8 points, on June 2010) mainly because France 2 and France 3 broadcast the French Open Tennis Championships. For the two public channels the tennis was a life-saver since both had disappointing figures elsewhere: 15.2% on average for France 2 (against 15.7% in June 2010), while France 3 had the worst score of its history with an average of 9.6% (against 10.5% in June 2010). M6 managed better with 10.5%, while on DTT, TMC (3.6%), W9 (3.1%) and NRJ12 (2.6%) were the most popular.



[# France / Television advertising revenue up](#)

According to a study by Yacast, gross advertising revenue for television for the first quarter of 2011 is at €4.29 billion, an increase of 12% against the first quarter of 2010. The increase has particularly helped the DTT channels (up 36.3%). TFI remains easily ahead, with a turnover of €1.59 billion (up 2.1%). However, this generalised increase has not helped all the public service channels, which cannot show advertising between 8.00 p.m. and 6.00 a.m.: France 2 increased its advertising income by 1.9% to €163 million, but France 3 dropped 4.4% with an income of only 76.1 million.



[# France / TPS Star and Orange Cinema Series merge](#)

On July 15th Bertrand Méheut, CEO of the Canal Plus Group and Stéphane Richard CEO of Orange announced a strategic partnership, created by the merger of TPS Star (Canal Plus) and Orange Cinema, of which Canal Plus has now 33.3%, Orange keeping the remaining 66.7%. Canal Plus thus consolidates its leadership in the French pay-TV market, while gaining a better commercialisation of its channels through Orange, which is the foremost distributor of High Band TV. The fate of Orange Sport, which did not take part in the bidding for French League 1 rights, is yet to be decided. Orange has begun talks with Al Jazeera about possibly passing the channel to the Qatari group, new-comers on the market for the League 1 rights (see page 12).

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[# Spain / Fernando Trueba to film in southern France](#)

The Spanish director Fernando Trueba ("*Belle Epoque*", "*Chico & Rita*") will start shooting his first film in French in September. Based on a script co-authored with Jean-Claude Carrière and set during the German occupation, "*L'Artiste et son modèle*" is about the relationship between an ageing painter, played by Jean Rochefort, and his muse, played by Aïda Folch.

The film, produced by *Fernando Trueba PC* and *Bonne Pioche*, will be shot around Ceret in southern France. "I owe a lot to French culture," Señor Trueba explains. "During Franco's time France was the nearest place we could see films and buy forbidden books."



[# Spain / €59m, Spanish cinema's revenue from television in 2009](#)

Since 2000, Spanish television stations showing films produced less than seven years previously have had to pay 5% of their income towards European film production, including 3% to Spanish films. According to a report from the Spanish Ministry of Industry, Tourism and Commerce,

in 2009 Spanish cinema received €58.8 million from the country's main broadcasting groups (Telecinco, TVE....).

However, during the same year investments in the cinema dropped (44.7% less than in 2008) in favour of more films for TV (up 73.2%). Of the €58.8 million, 77% comes from purchasing rights (against 38% in 2008), while the percentage of direct investment dropped to 23% (down from 62%). Since 2000 a total of €1,376 million has been invested by television companies into television productions.



[#Italy / Cinema, the most profitable form of entertainment in 2010](#)

The Annual Yearbook of the Italian Society of Authors and Editors, released in June, shows that cinema is the form of entertainment which generates most sales in Italy. In 2010 the income from Italian cinemas was €773 million, way up on the previous year (+ 16.4%). Overall, Italian cinemas registered 120,500,000 entries in 2010 (up 10.4%), the best since 1986. The success is explained in part by the marked increase in screenings (2.5 million, up 43.3%), but also by the rise in the price of tickets plus the surcharge on films in 3D.



[# Greece / "Tu Honoreras Ta Mère", a Franco-Greek production shooting in September](#)

The French director Brigitte Roüan will film a new comedy "You Will Honour Your Mother" starting on the Greek islands on August 24th, then moving to France and completing on October 5th. Linked to the current financial crisis in Greece, the film is about a woman, played by Nicole Garcia (photo), who arrives in Greece to find the festival she created has been cancelled because of the crisis. With her four sons she takes over an empty house and eventually puts on a different sort of play.

Produced by Agat Films, France 2 Cinéma, ISF Cinéma and les Grecs de Boo Productions, "Tu Honoreras ta Mère" is Brigitte Roüan's fourth feature, after "Outremer" (1990), "Post-coïtum, Animal Triste" (1997), and "Travaux" (2005).

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FESTIVALS

Festival of the Month...

***Les Nuits Méditerranéennes*, Short Film Festival at Corte in Corsica, from September 26th to 30th 2011**



Now celebrating its fifth year, Alix Ferraris defines his Mediterranean Nights Festival as a “*centre for young Mediterranean cinema*”. In partnership with *France Televisions*, *Via Stella* and *Sesama Productions*, his event spotlights short films (drama, documentary, animation, experimental) made in the Mediterranean region, with particular emphasis on films set in Corsica.

The jury, chaired by the French director Gabriel Le Bomin ("*Les Fragments d'Antonin*", "*Insoupçonnable*") will choose short films in three different categories:

- The **Tri-regional Competition** (screenings on Monday September 26th) rewards a short produced in or supported by the regions of Corsica, Provence-Alpes-Côte-d'Azur and the Languedoc-Roussillon. The majority of these films are co-produced by *France Télévisions*, a Festival partner.
- The **Film School and Workshops' Competition** (screening on Tuesday September 27th), whose aim is to shop-window young Mediterranean cinema. This section focusses on film schools around the Mediterranean and more generally across Europe. The films chosen this year come from schools in Corsica, Morocco, Tunisia, Algeria, Israel and Italy.

- The **International Competition with a Mediterranean Flavour** (screenings on Wednesday September 28th). The choice for this category will be announced in early August.

Every director in the competition will be invited, to foster meetings and networkings between young film-makers. All the screenings will be at the Alba Cinema in Corte.

Running in tandem with this is a script competition "**Med In Scenario**", open to all script-writers but particularly students. **Registration is open until Wednesday August 10th** (rules and registration form: <http://www.lesnuitsmediterraneennes.com>). The script jury will consist of Christophe Taudière, head of short films at *France Télévisions* and Roland Nguyen. The winning script-writer will be given professional advice and shooting facilities on Corsica in early 2012, helped by Sesama Productions. The finished film will be shown at next year's Festival and on *France Televisions*.



Making the winning script from last year's Festival

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[# Spain / Call for candidates for *mujerDOC* 2012](#)

The NGO *Mujeres del Mundo* (Women of the World) is currently preparing the 3rd *mujerDOC*, an international festival of documentaries on gender equality. Set for

March 2012, the Festival will be held in Soria, Spain.

The appeal for films is open until September 30th. Anyone may send in their film, though it must have been produced after 2008, and if it was not shot in Spanish it must have Spanish (Castilian) or English sub-titles. This year the emphasis is on documentaries about cultural or sexual diversity and miscegenation. Three awards will be made for a total value of €5,000.

Registration and rules: <http://www.mujerdoc.es/>



[# Belgium / Workshop during the Namur Festival for writer-directors from North Africa and the Near East](#)

For the fifth year running the Namur International Festival of French-language Film (Wallonie) is organising a script-writing workshop "From the Written Word to the Screen" aimed at writer-directors from North Africa and the Near-East (including sub-saharan Africa and the French-speaking West Indies).

The six-day session, from October 2nd to 7th, will offer writers professional guidance on drama scripts of less than 30 minutes. A maximum of four projects will be chosen. Next year each will be made in the writer-director's home-country. Among the projects which have already been made through this system, "*Sektou*", by the Algerian Khaled Benaissa, won the Poulain d'Or at FESPACO in 2009.



[# Jordan / Appeal for films for the Karama Human Rights Festival](#) now open

The Karama Human Rights Film Festival (KHRFF) will be held for the second year running at Amman in Jordan, from December 5th to 10th. The call for films is open, and any drama, documentary or short film may enter as long as it was produced after 2008 and touches on Human

Rights. The registration file must be sent-in before September 2nd.

Rules and registration form: <http://karamafestival.org/>



[# Croatia / Appeal for candidates for the 8th ZagrebDox](#)

For the 8th year running, from February 26th to March 4th 2012, Zagreb will host ZagrebDox, a major festival of documentary film. The official competition is open to documentaries of any length, but they must have been made in 2011. The call for films is open until October 1st.

Every year ZagrebDox receives over one thousand films and gets 20,000 visitors. As well as screening the films in competition, it offers a platform for professional

documentary makers, ZagrebDox Pro.

Registration forms and rules: <http://www.zagrebdox.net/en/>

Find the complete list of all the Festivals of the month on our website:

<http://www.cmca-med.org/fr/festivals-et-marches/>

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[WEB-SITE OF THE MONTH...](http://www.blogsandocs.com/)
<http://www.blogsandocs.com/>



Blogs&Docs is a bi-monthly on-line magazine entirely given over to documentaries and non-fiction films.

Created in 2006 in Barcelona by Marti Freixas and Elena Oroz, it wants to fill the gap caused by the acute lack of information about documentaries in Spain. An association was set-up in 2007, the *Asociación de Cine Blogs&Docs*, not only to encourage the artistic practices of film and multi-media but also to broadcast documentaries.

- Currently only available in Spanish, Blogs&Docs offers in depth articles written by a team of some 20 enthusiastic and committed editors.
- The site also offers, in a section called "Docs On Line", themed files which give access to web articles on documentaries. The most recent file, for example, has links to a dozen documentaries made during the *Democracia Real YA* demonstrations throughout Spain in May this year.
- The section "Entrevistas" publishes interviews with directors, but not just Spanish ones: recently the Austrian Mara Mattuschka ("*Burning Palace*"), the American John Gianvito ("*Profit motive and the whispering wind*") and the Lebanese Nadim Asfar ("*Everyday Madonna*") have all talked at length to the Blogs&Docs editors.

- The "Festivals" section takes a look at documentaries screened at major festivals, both mono-themed (FID Marseilles, the Dok Leipzig, or Pamplona's *Punto de Vista*) and general (the New York Festival, Mar del Plata, Cannes...).
- The section "Publicaciones", is a broad view of everything published on or about documentaries.
- In "Underdocs", the Blogs&Docs team offers us a look back at the documentaries of the past, some well-known, others less so – John Huston's 1946 "Let There be Light", for instance, made for the US army, Jacques Tati's "*Forza Bastia*" about a 1978 football match between Bastia and PSV Eindhoven.
- Then "Vlogs" lets us discover for ourselves some atypical documentaries chosen by the editorial team. Most recently "*Tropica #1*" by the Chilean Txalo Toloza-Fernandez, an experimental montage of people asleep on the Tokyo subway, filmed with a cell-phone.
- And lastly, Blogs&Docs provides links to blogs and scientific magazines, the web-sites of production companies, distributors and training centres and other organisations.

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THE EURO-MEDITERRANEAN WAY

[# Romania / Film-maker Cristian Mungiu Honorary president of Europa Distribution](#)

[# Spain / Fourth literary competition "A Sea of Words"](#)

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[# Romania / Film-maker Cristian Mungiu president of honor at Europa Distribution](#)

Europa Distribution, the network of independent European distributors, held its Annual General Meeting on July 5th in Paris. The Romanian director Cristian Mungiu (Palme d'Or at Cannes in 2007 pour "4 Months, 3 Weeks and 2 Days") agreed to become the organisation's president of honor, in accordance with the members' wishes. The AGM also elected the Belgian Annemie Degryse (Lumière Distribution) and the Pole Jakub Duszynski (Gutek Films)

to the presidency.

Created in 2006, Europa Distribution brings together about one hundred independent distributors from 26 European countries.



[# Spain / Fourth literary competition "A Sea of Words"](#)

IEMed (*Institut Européen de la Méditerranée*) and the Anna Lindh

Foundation have launched their fourth literary competition "A Sea of Words". The competition is open to any author under 30 living in one of the 43 countries of the Mediterranean Union and writing in one of the Union's languages. It encourages the creation of short stories which show in an intimate way the different realities of the Euro-Mediterranean region, seen from the point of view of young people living there.

This year's theme is "Participation, Citizenship and Democracy in the Mediterranean and in Europe", in keeping with the aims of the Anna Lindh Foundation's campaign "Believe in Dialogue, Act for Citizenship". Texts should be sent by email before July 31st at midnight. For more information: <http://www.iemed.org/seaofwords/>



CROSSROADS
CO - PRODUCTION FORUM

[# Greece / Appeal for projects for Thessalonika's CrossRoads Co-production Forum](#)

Organised each year as part of the Thessalonika International Film Festival, CrossRoads is a

forum for co-productions. It offers a privileged arena in which projects for feature films that look towards the Mediterranean, South East Europe and, for the first time, Central Europe can be displayed, discussed and funded. Any project produced by an established production company in these regions may take part. Producers whose projects are chosen will be put in touch with potential financiers and partners. The best project will receive €10,000, have accreditation for the Producers Network at the 2012 Cannes Film Festival and be shown at the Sofia Meetings in March 2012.

For more information: http://www.filmfestival.gr/crossroads/index_uk.html

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INDEPENDENT MEDITERRANEAN PRODUCERS' WAY

apimed

Association internationale de producteurs indépendants de la méditerranée



Media Business School and APIMED present ACCESS, a training programme for the development and expansion of the audiovisual industry in countries in the southern half of the Mediterranean.

As with the Euro-Mediterranean development programme Medea (2001 to 2004) and its successor the Mediterranean Film Business School (2006), the Media Business School receives the support of Euromed Audiovisuel III for its training initiative **Access**. This new training programme is aimed at independent producers with a project for a feature film or a documentary who come from one of the following southern Mediterranean countries: Algeria, Egypt, Jordan, Israel, the Lebanon, Morocco, Palestine, Syria and Tunisia.

With its partners (APIMED, the Red Sea Institute of Cinematic Arts and *Sud Ecriture*), the Media Business School makes available experts and equipment to help the Mediterranean audiovisual industry expand, develop and maximise its professionalism in finance, co-production, distribution and marketing.

Access and 5 other projects chosen by the European Commission, all part of the Euromed Audiovisuel III programme, have a common aim: to contribute to the development of the region's audiovisual industry. An industry considered not only a tool for cultural expression and inter-cultural dialogue, but also a motor for the region's socio-economic development.

Professional Coaching, networking and itinérance

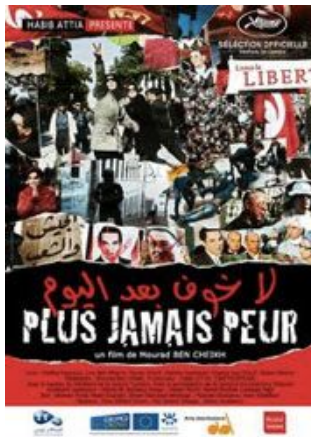
Whether it be through tutorials, workshops, case studies or plenary sessions, the producers taking part in Access will be able to develop their project with the help of experts and mentors. Access will improve each producer's understanding and technique in developing and financing a project, but it will also help him create his own professional network, and that in turn will help his films get distribution across the world. The training modules of Access take place in various southern Mediterranean countries so as to assure international visibility and the participation of experts and observers from the four corners of the Euro-Mediterranean zone.

Blended learning and innovation as regards training

Access is one of the first Euromed Audiovisuel training initiatives which combines residential training modules with long-distance training – two 5-day sessions with tutors and experts, and a third which uses the open source “moodle” on-line e-learning platform to provide virtual workshops for the chosen producers.

The **deadline** for presenting your candidacy is **September 30th**, directly on the website: www.euromed.mediaschool.org

For more information: www.mediaschool.org or contact the coordinator via access@mediaschool.org



HABIB ATTIA SHOWED THE LATEST DOCUMENTARY PRODUCED BY CINETELEFILMS AT THE CANNES FESTIVAL

Mourad Ben Cheikh's full-length documentary "**PLUS JAMAIS PEUR**", follows three people, representative of Tunisian society, going about their everyday lives just after the Jasmine Revolution, when the documentary was made.

The film was produced by Habib Attia at *Cinetéléfilms* (Tunisia), and since its world première at the **Cannes Film Festival** is on the international film festival circuit. It will be released in French cinemas on October 4th.

Because of its importance in relation to the Arab Spring, the film will be given a special screening on the opening day of **MEDIMED'11**.

For more information:
cinetelefilms@cinetelefilms.net
T. + 216 70 731 985
www.cinetelefilms.com



**MOUSS AND HAKIM,
“ORIGINES CONTROLÉES” :
A NEW DOCUMENTARY FROM
ALIF PRODUCTIONS**

Mouss and Hakim, formerly singers with the group Zebda, have launched an experiment, a new band and even a festival called “*Origines Controlées*”. They’re re-interpreting songs that were an integral part of the Algerian migration into France in the 1960's, songs their parents listened to and sang, but adding a flavour of today. The musicians are passing on their cultural heritage to a large and varied public who come together to celebrate universal values.

With their music the group from Toulouse have succeeded where many politicians, intellectuals or even artists have failed: they've made their parents' immigrant culture not only known, but really liked. The way Mouss and Hakim do it, the whole subject of immigration is no longer a politician's speech, even less a “problem”.

The film raises the issue of passing one generation's cultural heritage down to the next.

A co-production by Alif Productions and *France Télévisions*.

For more information:
alif productions@wanadoo.fr
T. : + 331 56 08 32 00

**For more detail about this information, please contact the APIMED office:
Tel: + 34 93 244 98 50 / Fax: + 34 93 247 01 65 / info@apimed.org**

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STOP PRESS...

[# Palestine / A young film-maker given award by the UN](#)

[# Lebanon / A web-documentary in production on young Lebanese artists](#)

[# Tunisia / Abdelkarim Hizaoui nominated Director of the CAPJC](#)

[# Tunisia / Nadia El Fani wins the International Secular Award](#)



[# Palestine / A young film-maker given award by the UN](#)

On June 20th, World Refugee Day, the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestinian Refugees (UNRWA) gave an award to a 25-year-old film-maker, Tahani Awad as part of its annual short film competition. The competition, whose theme this year was "My World", was open to any young Palestinian film-maker living in the Middle East.

Tahani Awad's film, "*The Incredible Juicer*", is about a family of Palestinian refugees who return to their house in Nahr el Bared, the Lebanese camp, to find it has been devastated

by the succession of Israeli offensives. The film can be seen at: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-yUDgPeY8Pw>



[# Lebanon / A web-documentary in production on young Lebanese artists](#)

Dreamt up in September 2010, "*Libalel*" is a project for a web-documentary which will create a portrait of several young artists living in the Lebanon. Made by Barbara Coffy and Maël Le Tolguenec, its originality comes from its

participatory nature: everyone can add his or her part, either through the official blog (<http://libalel.wordpress.com/>), or by helping in the direction, post-production or translation, or obviously with a financial contribution.

The first phase of shooting will take place in the Lebanese capital, Beirut, starting on July 20th and continuing until August 23rd. The second phase will take place next December and January. Some interviews are already on the blog, which is in French, English and Arabic.



[# Tunisia / Abdelkarim Hizaoui nominated CAPJC director](#)

On July 11th Abdelkarim Hizaoui was nominated the new director of the African Centre for Training Journalists and Communicators (CAPJC). At present a lecturer at Manouba's *Institut de la Presse et des Sciences de l'Information* (IPSI) in north-east Tunisia, where he also graduated, he has written several books and many essays on the issue of news and communication. As well as his teaching activities he is also an expert on the legal aspects of news information, liaising with several international organisations.



[# Tunisia / Nadia El Fani wins the International Secular Award](#)

On June 29th the Tunisian film-maker Nadia El Fani was presented with the International Secular Award, given each year by the Secular Republic Committee. Nadi El fani made a documentary "*Laïcité Inch'Allah*" (formerly "*Ni Allah Ni Maître*"), analysing Tunisia's relationship with Islam and suggesting a secular constitution.

The screening of the film on June 26th at Tunis' Africart Cinema, was marred by serious incidents: around a hundred Salafists tried to get the screening stopped by forcing their way into the building and attacking several of the audience. "*Laïcité Inch'Allah*" will be released in French cinemas on September 21st.

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Translated from the French
by
Tim King