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The Mediterranean summer has arrived, and with it the long, beautiful days. Just like every year, you will say. Yes, but in this time of crises and tensions perhaps an especially useful opportunity for quiet reflection.

Holidays for some, Ramadan for others, for all of us the chance to change the rhythm of our life. A special moment to set up future projects and meetings to discuss ideas about the broadcasting world around us.

For the CMCA, June 2013 will be a key date in our calendar next year: a week of Mediterranean broadcasting with PriMed in pride of place, as part of Marseille-Provence 2013, European Culture Capital. More on that in September.

Between now and then have a good summer and Ramadan!

François JACQUEL
Managing Director CMCA

In this issue, news of the Mediterranean channels, particularly turbulent in Syria and Tunisia, a focus on the 8th *Rencontres Cinématographiques* at Hergla, a look at the first *crowdfunding* site for artists in the Arab world, as well as all the usual items.

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THE LIFE OF THE CMCA

Tunisian Television's Chairman visits the CMCA



In the middle, Adnane Khedher, with left to right: François Jacquel, Imene Bahroune, Valérie Gerbault (Head of Communication at the CMCA) and Jalel Lakhdar.

Passing through Marseille, **Adnane Khedher**, chairman and managing director of Tunisian Television, accompanied by **Imene Bahroune**, head of the *Nationale 2* channel, and **Jalel Lakhdar**, head of international relations, were welcomed at the CMCA after their visit to France 3's midday news programme, accompanied by Hélène Camouilly of *France Télévision's* department of International Affairs.

This meeting with the CMCA team and its managing director, **François Jacquel**, was an opportunity to deepen the long-established cooperation between the two organizations – Tunisian Television being a founding member of the CMCA.

Adnan Kheder particularly stressed the value of CMCA's training workshops, expressing the hope there would be more workshops in writing and making documentaries soon.

The new managing director confirmed he wants to continue the liberalization process within Tunisia's public television, including setting up regional stations as part of the second channel's vocation as a local channel.



IMPORTANT REMINDER!
**Broadcasters, producers, directors, take advantage of the summer, but
before leaving on your holidays,
register your films
for the...
17th PriMed,
from June 17th to 21st 2013 in Marseille, European Culture Capital!
Dead-line for registering and sending your films: September 30th 2012**



The CMCA has decided to organise the next PriMed from **June 17th to the 21st 2013**, so as to be part of Marseille Provence 2013, European Culture Capital.

PriMed – the International Award for Mediterranean Documentary and Current Affairs Film is for film-makers, directors, producers and broadcasters who, through their films and programmes, help to improve the public's knowledge of the countries of the Mediterranean in its widest sense, from the Atlantic coast to the Black Sea.

The films presented look at the culture, heritage, history, societies and life of the men and women living in Mediterranean countries. They must not contain any advertising or propaganda.

Nine Awards will be given:

- ▲ **The France Télévisions documentary Grand Prix "Mediterranean Issues" (6,000 €)**
- ▲ **The "Mediterranean Memory" Award (5,000 €)**
- ▲ **The "First Documentary" Award (5,000 €)**
- ▲ **The "Mediterranean Art, Heritage and Cultures" Award (5,000 €)**
- ▲ **The "Mediterranean Reportage" Award (5,000 €)**
- ▲ **The Special Jury Award (5,000 €)**
- ▲ **The Young Public Award (5,000 €)**
- ▲ **The Award for the best Mediterranean short film (2,500 €)**
- ▲ **The Mediterranean Multimedia Award (2,500 €)**

There are two web-sites for more detailed information:

- **The CMCA web-site:** www.cmca-med.org
- **The PriMed web-site:** www.primed.tv. You will also find on this site videos, interviews and news films from previous PriMeds.

[CLICK HERE TO DOWNLOAD YOUR REGISTRATION FORM.](#)

LIFE IN THE CHANNELS

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[#Syria / The Arab League blocks the transmission of Syrian satellite channels](#)

On June 17th, the Syrian Foreign Minister condemned the Arab League's decision to stop official and private channels transmitting across the country on Arab satellites. In a letter to the UN, he denounced the decision as an attack “*on freedom for the media to work*”, “*freedom of the press*” and “*freedom of information*.”

At its extraordinary meeting in Doha on June 2nd, the Council of the Arab League had asked Arabsat and Nilesat to take the necessary measures to make sure no Syrian channel is accessible by satellite. In 2011 it enforced a similar embargo on Libyan television.

[#Syria / Three journalists killed in an attack against the Al Ikhbariya channel](#)



On June 27th three journalists from Al-Ikhbariya, and four other people were killed in an attack on the offices of the official television channel at Drousha, 15 kilometres from Damascus.

Several explosive devices were placed in the studios and offices of the building. Despite the death of its employees and substantial damage, Al-Ikhbariya has nevertheless managed to continue broadcasting.

The Syrian Minister of Information, Omran Al Zou'bi said “*the perpetrators of this crime are applying the Arab League's decision to silence the voice of Syria*” (see article above), he specified that the “*terrorists*” have also stolen technical equipment.



[#Lebanon / Al Mayadeen, new competitor for Al Jazeera](#)

A new pan-Arab rolling news channel was launched on June 11th. Al Mayadeen, based in Beirut, was founded by two former Al Jazeera employees, journalist Ghassan Ben Jeddo (photo) and producer Sami Kleib. The news channel's purpose: to disrupt the domination of news by Al Jazeera and Al Arabiya, the two leading Arabic news channels.

Ghassan Ben Jeddo left Al Jazeera in 2011, arguing that the channel was biased in favour of the Syrian opposition. *"I am against any form of media which calls for any form of uprising or provocation,"* he explained, while affirming that Al Mayadeen will be a channel supporting the Palestinian cause and all forms of resistance. *"We are not the spokesmen for the Syrian regime, nor for Iran, we are a totally independent channel reporting reality as it is."*

Al Mayadeen has a team of 300 employees, thanks to finance from several Middle Eastern businessmen whose identity has not been disclosed.



[#Morocco/Co-operation agreement between Soread-2M and AEF](#)

On June 21st the Moroccan public broadcasting group SOREAD 2M and the French Audiovisual Commission (AEF) signed a cooperation agreement in Casablanca. The main points are a programme to develop the two groups' skills in television, radio and multimedia, and mutual technical and editorial assistance.

"Our alliance is a pioneer in the region, and it shows clearly the values and interests shared by Morocco and

France," said Faisal Laraïchi, managing director of SOREAD 2M. *"This partnership will stimulate the free flow of information, and encourage an exchange of high level expertise."* In particular the agreement should lead to training workshops in Morocco for Moroccan and foreign broadcasting professionals.

France 24, which, with RFI and Monte Carlo Doualiya, is one of the AEF's three channels, is the most popular French TV channel in Morocco for the over 15's, thanks to its Arabic-language programming.

Photo : Alain de Pouzilhac (AEF) and Fayçal Laraïchi, © MAP



[#Algeria / EPTV invests in new equipment](#)

According to *Le Soir d'Algérie*, Algerian public television will soon acquire five new mobile production units and five virtual studios. A proper archive facility is also on the agenda. These investments should enable EPTV to compete better against the new private channels (Echorouk TV, Ennahar TV, El Djazairia, Al Magharibia...)



[#Tunisia / Head of the first national channel fired](#)

On June 30th Sadok Bouaben was dismissed from his post as Director of the Tunisian Television 1 (*Al Wataniya 1*). MPs had demanded his resignation after one of his channel's programmes gave air-time to Abir Moussa, former Deputy Secretary General of RCD (Ben Ali's party), presenting him as an activist for Human Rights.

Mr. Bouaben had been running Tunisian Television since January 2011. It was his second term, having been channel director between 1998 and 2000.



[#Tunisia / New Directors for public radio channels](#)

In a statement on July 1st, the Establishment of Tunisian Radio announced the appointment of new directors for the group's various channels.

Omar Brima is the new head of the National Radio and Donia Chaouche will run Radio Tunis International (RTCI). Radio Tunisia Culture and Radio Jeunes (Youth) channels have also been given new directors, along with five regional channels.



[#Tunisia / Nessma TV wins its case against an Algerian producer](#)

Nessma TV, the Tunisian channel run by Nabil Karoui, won the lawsuit against the Algerian production company *Bella Prod*. In 2011 Nessma co-produced a sitcom called “*Camera Chorba*” with *Bella Prod*, which was scheduled for Ramadan, but the production company then sold the series to EPTV without Nessma's authorization. In both Tunisia and Algeria “*Camera Chorba*” had good ratings for its second season during Ramadan 2011. It's a comedy series written by Karim Khedim, similar in pace and tone to French sitcom sketches such as “*Camera Cafe*” or “*Un Gars, Une Fille*”.



[#Cyprus / A home for the broadcasting archives of CyBC](#)

On June 5 the Cyprus Broadcasting Corporation (CyBC) inaugurated a building costing €4.9 million to house the audio-visual archives of its various channels. Thousands of television and radio programmes can now kept in their entirety and in good conditions.

CyBC has an important broadcasting heritage since its first radio programmes date from 1953, while it began broadcasting television in 1957. It now has two national channels (RIK 1 and RIK 2) and four radio stations.

The President of the Republic of Cyprus, Dimitris Christofias, has welcomed this initiative which will enable the companies to “*use archival footage to enrich documentaries and news items, while also giving the public access to Cyprus' audiovisual heritage.*”



[#Romania / Head of TVR forced to resign](#)

On June 12th the Romanian parliament rejected TVR's 2011 Report on Activities, presented by the company's managing director, Alexandru Lazescu (*photo*). Parliament's rejection forced him to resign. Radu Calin Cristea is now the acting chairman.

Mr. Lazescu had been head of the national television group since 2010. In recent months he had been criticised because of TVR's critical financial situation – the group's total debt stands at nearly €130 million and in May the tax authorities froze its bank

accounts.

The Prime Minister, Victor Ponta, confirmed “*the impending bankruptcy*” of TVR, and did not rule out the launch of a new public television channel in Romania before the end of the year.

On June 13th Romania's president, Traian Basescu, even argued for a total reconstruction of the national television: “*The only thing to do is dismantle the state television, and appoint a Director to turn it into a public service.*” He also estimated TVR and Radio Romania's annual budget of €280 million is “*enormous and unjustified.*”

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PROGRAMMES

[#Arab world / The series "Omar", an event in Ramadan 2012](#)

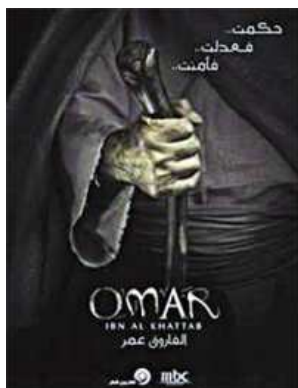
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[#Arab world / The series "Omar", an event in Ramadan 2012](#)

In June EPTV (Algeria), the Tunisian channel Nessma TV and the private Turkish channel Actual TV announced that they had acquired the rights to broadcast the series “Omar”, a Saudi (MBC) and Qatar (Qatar TV) super-production. The 30-episode series is about the life of Omar Ibn El-Khattab (584-644), companion of the Prophet Mohammed and second Muslim caliph.

“Omar” is directed by Syrian Hatem Ali, who made “King Farouk” (2007), a biography of Egypt's last King. The script is by the Jordanian Walid Seif.

One episode will be shown at prime time every night of Ramadan 2012, which will start on July 20th.



[#Algeria / A documentary about the national flag](#)

A team from EPTV is currently shooting a documentary about the history of the Algerian flag, “*Refref Fi Aydek Ya Alam*”. Filming is in Ain Temouchent, Setif, Algiers and Oran, directed by journalist Karim Merchiche. This 26-minute two-part programme, will be transmitted as part of the 50th

anniversary of national independence.

The Algerian flag in its current form was designed in the 1930's by Emilie Busquant, wife of Messali Hajj chairman of the *Etoile Nord-Africaine*. It was adopted by the Republic of Algeria's provisional government in 1958, before being taken up officially by the Algerian state in 1963.



[#Spain / A programme about job opportunities celebrates its 12th birthday](#)

A regular on Spanish screens since 2000, RTVE's "Hay Trabajo Aquí" has just celebrated its 2,000th issue on the second national television channel, . Every morning, Monday through Friday, this public service programme gives a list of job offers and tips for finding work.

The longevity of the programme is largely due to the economic crisis which is hitting Spain with full force, but also to the interactivity of the show, which has listened to its viewers: "We have adapted to the changing labour market and to viewers' needs," says Carmen Alvarez, who runs the programme. "Today we have sections devoted to self-employment and self-entrepreneurship, since the era of lifetime contracts is over."

While Spain had 2 million job seekers in 2000, there are now 5.6 million Spaniards living with unemployment.

Usually, "Aqui Hay Trabajo" is not broadcast in the summer. Given the exceptional context, however, the production decided to keep broadcasting the show through July this year.



[#Spain / Telecinco prepares a biopic on Juan Carlos Ist](#)

Telecinco will soon broadcast a mini-series on the life of King Juan Carlos I (photo).

"El Rey", produced by Videomedia, will look back on the career of the man who came to the throne November 22nd 1975. The actors who will play Juan Carlos at the different stages of his life have not yet been announced.

Although "El Rey" is the first biographical drama entirely devoted to him, Juan Carlos has already been incarnated as a minor character in other Spanish TV dramas: "Sofia" on

Antena 3, "23F" on 1, and "Felipe and Letizia" on Telecinco.



[#Italy / Sky Italia launches its VOD platform](#)

On July 1st the group *Sky Italia* launched Sky On Demand, a video on demand (VOD) platform. 1,200 programmes (films, series, documentaries, sports...) are already available, and by the end of the year Sky On Demand should have close to 2,000. Its catalogue includes recent titles in HD and great classics including some of Pier Paolo Pasolini's films. *Sky Italia* had already developed the application Sky Go, which lets owners of smartphones and digital tablets to see a selection of programmes.



[#France / "Plus Belle La Vie" – more than 2,000 episodes](#)

On June 8th France 3's hit series broke the symbolic barrier of 2,000 episodes. Recorded in Marseilles, in the Friche Belle-de-Mai studios, "*Plus Belle la Vie*" has occupied the prime-time slot on France 3 since 2004.

Although it had a slow start, the series now boasts excellent ratings, averaging 5.5 million viewers every night since early 2012 – a market share of around 20%. In March, the series managed to pull in more viewers than the TF1 news bulletin.

It should continue in France 3's programme schedule for a few more years since the channel has renewed the series until 2016.

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marocmetrie [#Morocco / Médiamétrie is majority shareholder of MarocMétie](#)

Médiamétrie, the French company measuring audiences and doing market studies, now holds 62% stake in *MarocMétie*. In June it bought CSA's share of the capital (28%), a subsidiary of the Bolloré group.

In the tax year 2011, *MarocMétie*, based in Casablanca, had a turnover of €2.3 million. It is primarily concerned with measuring the two Moroccan public service channels (*Al Aoula* and *2M*), and also conducts studies for the *Groupement des annonceurs* and the Association of Moroccan communications consulting agencies.



[#France / TF1 as austerity strikes](#)

According to the weekly magazine *Telerama*, the Directors of TF1 are preparing an economy drive to cope with declining advertising revenue. Nonce Paolini's group plans not to take on any new staff (except in exceptional cases) at least until the end of 2012 and not to replace employees and journalists who leave.

At its subsidiary TF1 Video a redundancy plan is under way with about thirty people set to lose their jobs.

Although TF1 is still leading audiences in France, its market share has gradually decreased (22.7% on average in 2012, 1% less than last year), especially since the arrival of DTT. Its leadership is regularly challenged by France 2 and M6, especially on major events and for news. The channel has already begun to reduce the budgets of programmes on its schedules, for example by renegotiating contracts for broadcasting sporting events.



[#France / Catch-up television hits France](#)

The French market for catch-up TV, allowing customers to watch programmes on the Internet soon after the first TV broadcast, is booming. This new way of viewing programmes or series has clearly become embedded in viewing habits, since 989 million videos have been viewed on sites such as [My TF1](#), [M6 Replay](#), and [France TV](#).

[Pluzz](#) since early 2012.

By the end of the year, more than 3.5 billion catch-up videos should have been viewed, almost twice as many as in 2011.

Also catch-up TV is no longer restricted to computers. More and more viewers watch programmes on their smartphones and touch pads.



[#France / Nearly 400,000 subscribers for the start of BeIn Sport](#)

According to estimates provided by Internet providers, BeIn Sport 1, Al Jazeera's subscription sports channel launched on June 1st, already has between 350,000 and 400,000 subscribers. Broadcasting entire matches in the Euro 2012

soccer championship has ensured the channel a very good start, even though these figures should be qualified.

Since the first two months are free for most cable and ADSL subscribers there will undoubtedly be many who don't take up the subscription option – this often happens with pay TV contracts.

On July 28th BeIn Sport will launch its second channel, BeIn Sport 2, for the opening of the London Olympics. This launch will benefit from a large potential audience, since Al Jazeera has managed to conclude an agreement with CanalSat to transmit its channels. On June 26th both channels were included in Canal Plus' satellite bouquet.

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CINEMA

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[#Morocco / "Les Ailes de l'Amour" distributed in Italy](#)

Winner of the Best Film Award at the 1st Tolentino International Festival in early June, the Italian-Moroccan feature film “ *Les Ailes de l'Amour*” (Wings of Love) by Abdelhaï Laraki also got a distribution contract for Italian cinemas.

So now this film, produced by A2L (Morocco) and Zen Zero (Italy) and praised in 2011 by Moroccan viewers, is set to be distributed in Italian cinemas through Whiterose Pictures. It will be shown on some of Giometti Cinema's 120 screens.

Les Ailes de l'Amour is about a young Moroccan who much against the will of his father, a religious judge, becomes a butcher, discovering a passion for women and love. The film has already won awards at several international festivals, including Rabat, Tangier, Seville and Dubai. Post-produced in 4K (high definition), the film has been much discussed in Morocco because of its treatment of the love scenes, judged too racy by some.



[#Morocco / National distribution and record entries for "La Route Vers Kaboul"](#)

Released in Morocco in late April, Brahim Chkiri's *La Route Vers Kaboul* (The Road to Kabul) chalked up more than 150,000 cinema entries in its first month.

The success of this popular comedy has encouraged the distributor and the producer Canal4 and the producer Image Factory to launch a national tour from August 20 to present the film in towns and villages without cinemas. Called "Cinema for All", the operation will travel round with members of the cast and crew.

Shot in Casablanca, Tata and Taliouine, *La Route Vers Kaboul* is a comedy adventure, about four friends who decide to emigrate to the Netherlands to escape their family problems. However they change direction and head for Afghanistan when one of their number is detained there.



[#Lebanon / 5 southern Mediterranean film projects will receive Crossroads grants](#)

The Arab Fund for Arts and Culture (AFAC) has announced it has selected six film projects as part of the support programme Crossroads. They include five projects from southern Mediterranean countries, including two documentaries: “*Caravan In A Room*” by Hazem Alhamwi and “*Out / In The Streets*” by Philip Rizk and Jasmina Metwaly.

The first describes the impact of the Syrian regime on the people who live there, the second shows the Egyptian revolution from the point of view of workers. The three drama projects selected are “*The Curve*” by Jordanian Riqi Assaf, the Lebanese “*A Very Dangerous Man*” by Mazen Khaled and the Tunisian Fawzy Jemal's “*Abruption*”. All will be given financial assistance and professional support – from the development of the project right up to its theatrical distribution. AFAC, creator of the Crossroads program, received 142 projects from the Arab world.



[#Spain / Spanish films export well](#)

Pedro Pérez, chairman of the Federation of Associations of Spanish Audiovisual Producers (FAPAE), released the 2011 balance of exports of Spanish films. Last year Iberian productions netted €185 million in the international market (twice as much as in 2010), against only €93 million in Spain.

Several factors should be taken into account to explain such a difference, like the increase in number of films distributed abroad (up 21% compared to 2010), the number of countries where these films were released (up 15%), but also the success of minority co-productions such as Woody Allen's “*Midnight in Paris*”. The majority of this revenue comes from Europe (45%), then the U.S. (32%), and Latin America (18%).

As subsidies for Spanish cinema are becoming increasingly meagre, producers are gradually turning to the international market. Pedro Almodovar's next film “*Los Amantes Pasajeros*” has been financed solely with foreign funds ...

[#Spain / Distribution in Catalonia judged discriminatory](#)



The European Commission warned Spain about the rules for distributing films on Catalan soil. According to Spanish law, 50% of films distributed in Catalonia must be dubbed or subtitled in Catalan. This law does not apply to Spanish films, but represents a significant additional cost for foreign films.

Consequently, the Commission considers the law is discriminatory, inconsistent with the principle of free movement of services, and must be revised within two

months, failing which the Commission will file an appeal with the Court of Justice of the EU.



[#France / Grants questioned by the European Commission](#)

On June 26th the European Commission launched an investigation into a French tax on television services which helps finance film and broadcasting production. Among the companies subject to the tax are TV distributors (Orange, CanalSat, Free, SFR ...), whose contribution has brought in a total of €350 million since 2011, of which

€230 million has been ploughed back into film production via the CNC.

As yet, however, the tax has not been approved by the European Union, and the *Direction Générale Fiscalité* and the Customs Union are both opposed to it. This has led to some operators such as Orange saying they won't pay the tax any more.

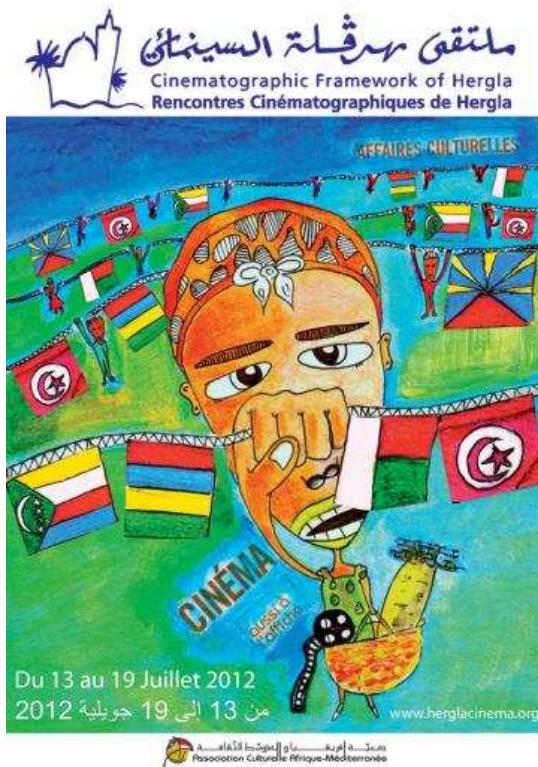
"This will destabilize the whole system," laments Eric Garandau, managing director of CNC. "We had found a way of reintegrating Free into the virtuous circle of French cinema. [...] This distorts the competition between those who pay and those who don't."

In a separate move, the Commission is preparing a draft notice about cinema, stating that a film financed by an EU country will only have to shoot scenes in that country in proportion to the amount of finance. Which could undermine the way the CNC apportions finance and encourage productions to relocate to countries where costs are lower.

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FESTIVALS

FESTIVAL OF THE MONTH:



The 8th *Rencontres Cinématographiques* at Hergla, Tunisia, from July 13th to 19th 2012

Each year a few kilometres north of Sousse (Tunisia), the *Rencontres Cinématographiques* at Hergla brings together young film-makers, writers and film fans from both sides of the Mediterranean and Africa.

Created in 2005 by the Africa-Mediterranean Cultural Association, the discussions are an opportunity for open-air screenings, debates and forums for exchanging ideas for people from Africa and all round the Mediterranean. There are also exhibitions and workshops attended by people with experience working in film and broadcasting.

For this 8th year, the Guadeloupian film-maker Sarah Maldoror (“Sambizanga” 1972, “The Passenger Tassili”, 1981) will be guest of honour. On the opening night there will be a film-concert

with the Italian group YoYo Mundi offering an orchestral adaptation of Eisenstein's “The Strike” (1925).

As every year, a selection of Mediterranean, African and European documentaries and short-films will be shown to young film-goers. A special section, “Hergla meets the Indian Ocean islands” will show audiences recent productions from Madagascar, Mauritius, Comoros and Reunion. The atmosphere at the screenings in Hergla is still rather unusual, since they are held in the courtyard of an oil mill, the seats arranged amongst the trays of olives.

THE OTHER FESTIVALS

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[#France / Call for films for FIFDH in Paris](#)



[#Egypt / Call for participants for the Cairo Festival](#)

This year the Cairo International Film Festival celebrates its 35th year. Taking place between November 27th and December 6th, it will now host three competitions. Apart from the traditional sections of international feature films and Arab feature films, a Tahrir Square Award will be given this year for the Best Film

about Human Rights.

The films in competition must have been produced after December 2011. The deadline for applications is August 31st.

For more information: <http://www.cairofilmfest.org/>



[#Italy / The 12th Festival of Border Cinema in danger](#)

Originally scheduled for July 23rd to 29th, the 12th Festival of Border Cinema in Marzamemi (Sicily) may be cancelled.

In a statement issued on the festival's web-site July 2nd, Turi Pintaldi, chairman of the *Cincircolo Baia delle Tortore*, announced that €40,000 grant promised by the town of Pachino had not been paid, putting the event at risk. The organizing committee has ceased its activities, unable to pay its suppliers.

A paradox, since the festival was a significant tourist attraction and source of income. According to a study by the University of Catania, in 2011 it brought one million euros into the region.

XXIV Fano International Film Festival

18 | 19 | 20 OTTOBRE 2012

[#Italy / Call for short films for the Fano Festival](#)

Fano, a town in Italy's Marche region, will host its 24th international festival of short films from October 18th to 20th. The competition is open to all film-makers wishing to submit one or two short films. The maximum length is 30 minutes. A jury will decide which films are in the competition and give three awards to films on 16mm

and 35 mm, and three others to films shot on digital. There are also other prizes, such as the Special Jury Award and the Best Documentary Award.

The films and the applications must be submitted before Sunday September 1st.

More information:

<http://www.fanofilmfestival.it/bando/english.pdf> or <http://www.fanofilmfestival.it/>



[#France / Call for films for FIFDH in Paris](#)

The International Human Rights Film Festival in Paris is already preparing its eleventh edition, which will be held from February 5th to 12th 2013. As every year, the focus will be documentaries about human rights issues. Each screening will be followed by an audience discussion.

To enter the competition, documentaries must have been produced after January 1, 2011. Films under 45 minutes will be included in

the short film category, the others in the feature film section.

Registration is free until August 1st 2012 on the festival web-site [by clicking here](#). It is also possible to register up to August 31st on the web-site withoutabox.com, with a charge of 10 euros.

For more information: <http://www.festival-droitsdelhomme.org/paris/>

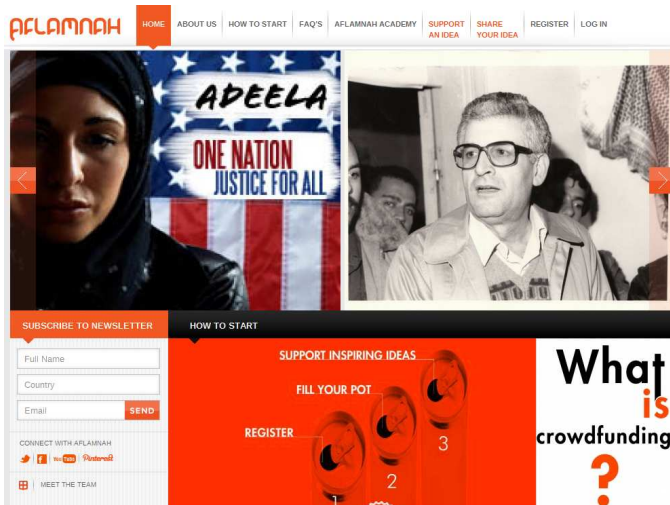
Find the list of all the festivals during July and August on our web-site:

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

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WEB-SITE OF THE MONTH

AFLAMNAH : www.aflamnah.com



Aflamnah is the first site dedicated solely to crowdfunding art projects in the Arab world. Launched on July 1st, it gives the general public the chance to finance and support creative works, whether in film, television, music, graphic arts or photography ...

If you want to support projects:

Just create a personal account and choose a payment option. You can then browse the various projects offered on the site and support the one or ones which sound most interesting to you. The

project developer often gives a thank-you present in exchange for the financial support (a poster, DVD...).

If you want to suggest a project:

Once you have an account, there is a registration fee of \$100 for each project you are putting forward. You then enter all relevant information about your project, particularly the minimum budget you want to raise through the web-site. You can also upload a video presentation. This information will be first validated by the site's administrators, then posted on the site where it will remain for 28 days.

If the target amount is reached, the funds raised will be paid within four weeks.

"Money has always been an obstacle to creativity, and raising finance for a project is often difficult," says the site's co-founder Vida Rizq. *"Aflmanah is here to encourage promising young film-makers and artists to raise money so their works can find an audience."*

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WEBDOCUMENTARIES

[#Algeria / Four directors film Algiers through the summer](#)

[#France / Call for candidates for the Webdocumentary Award 2012](#)

[#France / "Terres communes", Emmanuel Vigier's transmedia project](#)

[#Algeria / Four directors film Algiers through the summer](#)

TV5 Monde, *Libération* and *Algérie Focus* are offering a web-documentary on their websites: "A Summer In Algiers", to which content will be added until the end of July. Co-produced by *Narrative* (France) and *Une Chambre A Soi* (Algeria), it gives four young Algerian film-makers an opportunity to share their view of their city. Amina Zoubir, Lamine Ammar-Khodja, Hassen Ferhani, and Yanis Koussim will be adding a weekly video to the webdoc over the 6 week period.

The end result will be an original portrait of Algiers, its streets, its people, its youth, its customs, which will become clear to web-surfers over time – a 52-minute documentary broadcast on TV5 Monde in the autumn.

<http://un-ete-a-alger.liberation.fr/>



[#France / Call for candidates for the Webdocumentary Award 2012](#)

France 24 and RFI, in partnership with the Perpignan's *Festival Visa pour l'Image* are organizing the 4th Web-documentary Awards. Every year the choice and original treatment of a current subject together with the appropriate use of new multimedia tools is given an award.

The France 24-RFI Web-documentary Award is worth €8,000.

Registration is open until July 25th at:

<http://www.france24.com/fr/FRANCE-24-RFI-prix-du-webdocumentaire-2012>



[#France / "Terres communes", Emmanuel Vigier's transmedia project](#)

The director and journalist Emmanuel Vigier (*photo, "Mediterraneo"*) is currently mounting a web documentary project called "*Terres communes*" (common land). This transmedia work will pay tribute to those groups of volunteers who accompany the homeless until they die, using associations such as *Marseillais solidaires des Morts Anonymes* (Marseille people in solidarity with the anonymous dead) and "*Le*

collectif des Morts de la Rue" (Action Group for those who die in the street) in Paris.

For this project Emmanuel Vigier has been joined by photographer Alexa Brunet and by David Bouvard, who has designed several sound pieces from his experiences during the filming.

"*Terres communes*", produced by *Les Films du Tambour de Soie*, will be transmitted from October on the web-sites of *La Croix*, *Rue 89*, and *Chez Albert*, a site for information about Marseille. An exhibition is also planned at the *Friche Belle-de-Mai*, and a special programme on Radio Grenouille.

A page has been set up on the site Kisskissbankbank to complete the project's finance: <http://www.kisskissbankbank.com/terres-communes>

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STOP PRESS

[#Tunisia / INRIC stops its activities](#)

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[#Tunisia / INRIC stops its activities](#)

L'Instance Nationale pour la Réforme de l'Information et de la Communication (INRIC – National Forum for the Reform of Information and Communication) ceased its activities on July 4th. “We do not see the point in continuing our work,” explained Kamel Labidi (*photo*), the organisation's director. Accusing the government of “resorting to censorship and disinformation,” he also said the Ennahda party did not take into account INRIC's reports and recommendations to fight against “the systematic destruction of the media.”

INRIC was created in the wake of the Tunisian Revolution to initiate reforms for media independence.

On July 2nd, Reporters Without Borders had already accused Moncef Marzouki's government of trying to control the public media.



[#Tunisia / The press agency Anatolia set up in Tunis](#)

The Turkish news agency Anatolia, which in April celebrated its 92nd year, announced the forthcoming opening of an office in Tunis. In total, Anatolia wants to set up 22 bureaux for correspondents in the Arab world by the end of the year.

The bureau in Tunis will provide free information to Tunisian media for 6 months, with subscriptions starting at the beginning of 2013.

Currently the Anatolia news agency has 580 journalists of whom 38 are international correspondents, and publishes 600 news reports every day in Turkish, English, Arabic and Serbo-Croatian.



[#Lebanon / AFAC launches a project call for films](#)

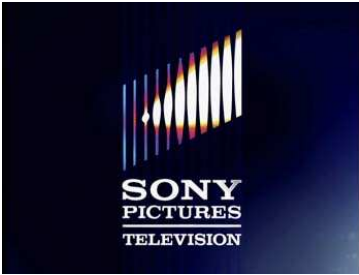
As part of its programme for financing projects, the Arab Fund for Arts and Culture (AFAC) is calling for film projects from producers and directors in the Arab world. Bursaries will be awarded for the development, writing, production or

post-production of animated films, documentaries, experimental films, or drama films, long or short.

Applications must be submitted online between July 31st and October 21st, in Arabic or English.

For more information [click here](#).

To submit an applications: <http://www.afac-applications.org/>



[#Croatia / Sony Pictures Television opens an office in Zagreb](#)

The global broadcasting giant, Sony Pictures Television, will soon set up an office in Zagreb. This relay point will cover not just Croatia, but also Serbia, Slovenia, Macedonia and Montenegro where the group's channels are broadcast.

Sony Pictures Television wants to develop its activities in the Balkans, so as to produce and distribute all kinds of programs.

Translated from the French

**by
Tim King**