



N°112 February 2013

PriMed 2013 has been launched! And all its promises will be fulfilled in June in Marseille, thanks to an official selection from a record number of entries.

PriMed is now “the” festival of Mediterranean images, a showcase for the finest current affairs and documentary films about the Mediterranean.

A selection which this year includes memories of the Algerian war of independence, which shows the issues behind the revolutions and the fight for women’s rights and dignity, which shows both the history and daily life in Egypt, which exposes religions, migrations and which exposes the pollution in Mare Nostrum...

31 films and multimedia works of an exceptional quality, in a year which will be no less exceptional for Marseille, one of the European Culture Capitals.

And because television, documentaries and news reports are also part of culture, even popular culture, PriMed 2013 will be part of this celebration of the Mediterranean thanks to the contribution of all these broadcasters, producers, directors and journalists.

Also in this issue you can read a shortened version about the new organisation of *France Télévisions*, the resignation of the head of ERTU, and the creation of the first distribution network in the southern Mediterranean. Enjoy what follows....

François JACQUEL
Managing Director of the CMCA

Méditerranée Audiovisuelle-La Lettre. Dépôt Légal 2 avril 2012. ISSN : 1634-4081. *Tous droits réservés*

Directeur de publication : François Jacquél

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Le CMCA est soutenu par les cotisations de ses membres, la Ville de Marseille, le Département des Bouches du Rhône et la Région Provence Alpes Côte d'Azur.

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The official selection of PriMed 2013 unveiled!

The PriMed pre-selection jury met in Rome between December 17th and the 21st last year. Thanks to the work and help of our Secretary General, Maria DU BESSE, they were able to use the facilities of RAI TV.

At the end of the week, the RAI president, Anna Maria Tarantola (photo), honoured the jury members and the CMCA team with her presence. She used the occasion to stress the importance she attaches to the Mediterranean and to PriMed.



For this 17th PriMed, 440 films were received from 36 countries, a record for the festival.

Among the 440 films there were:

- 63 films in the “Mediterranean Art, Heritage and Cultures” category
- 70 films in the “Mediterranean Memory” category
- 81 films in the “Mediterranean Issues” category
- 72 films in the “First Film” category
- 35 films in the “Investigative Report” category
- 108 films in the “Mediterranean Short Film” category
- 11 works in the “Multimedia” category



The PriMed pre-selection jury included:

Mohamed Nadir AZIZA (Osservatorio del Mediterraneo), **Elisabeth CESTOR** (MuCEM), **Zouhair LOUASSINI** (RAI News), **Fabio MANCINI** (RAI3 / Doc3), **Lorenzo HENDEL** (RAI3/Doc3), **Leila MATTAR** (translator), **Mireille MAURICE** (INA Méditerranée), **Claire DECHAUX** (INA Méditerranée), **Carolina POPOLANI** (producer/director), **Sami SADAK** (Babel Med Music), **Simone SIBILIO** (LUISS university in Rome), **Vanessa TONNINI** (Festival Rendez-Vous / MedFilm Festival), **François JACQUEL** (CMCA), **Valérie GERBAULT** (CMCA), **Paola LANFRANCHI** (CMCA), **Franco REVELLI** (CMCA) and **Julien COHEN** (CMCA).

Here are a few of the jury's reactions at the end of this pre-selection week:



Mohamed Nadir AZIZA (Osservatorio del Mediterraneo): “The thought of being a judge has always slightly scared me, the weight of responsibility seemed difficult to bear, given the simplifications that any judgment inevitably imposes on something so complex it should be assessed before being judged. This is why I always accept an invitation to serve on a jury with some trepidation. But my apprehension disappeared quickly when the work of the PriMed pre-selection jury began.

In fact, the preparatory work of the wonderful CMCA team and their colleagues at RAI had cleared a path, in the best sense, through the jungle of applications – more than 400 films – lightening our load as jury members and making our task much easier. In each category the films were chosen after extensive discussions and democratic voting. But, of course, in this kind of exercise, no one is immune from a mis-judgment. So our congratulations to those whose films will continue in the competition in Marseille in June, and our condolences to those who leave the competition today, hoping we will see their work in the next PriMed.”



Elisabeth CESTOR (MuCEM) : “The creativity of the Egyptian filmmakers, the historical necessity with the 50th anniversary of Algerian independence, and the terrible events in the Mediterranean world (the war in Libya, Syria, but also the crisis in Spain and Italy) are some of the characteristics of this year's documentaries. Having spent an enthralling time watching films which give us a better understanding of what is happening in the Mediterranean, I am once again convinced of the importance of supporting this Mediterranean documentary award. This session

was also an opportunity to meet some very stimulating people on the pre-selection jury and in the CMCA and RAI teams, all of whom I thank warmly.”



Zouhair LOUASSINI (RAI News): “I realized that documentaries can really help you understand the Mediterranean. It's fascinating to see not only the situation in countries such as Syria and Libya, where the news is aggressive and marked by war, but also issues such as the environment, with the situation in the Mediterranean extremely serious.



Lorenzo HENDEL (RAI3 / Doc3) : “The main criterion for making a selection for PriMed is the subject, in the sense that the boundary between documentary and investigative reporting, and between what is interesting and what is not, depends on the subject of the film, not its formal structure, language, or the strength of the story. My experience leads me to think that what makes the strength of a documentary which deserves be rewarded, which is likely to attract a wide audience, is not the subject but the strength of the dramatic structure and characters. Focusing on a problem area is a legacy of journalism, but inappropriate today for assessing the quality of a creative documentary on international markets. I hope in the future we will be able to modify this approach.”



Leila MATTAR (translator): “My first experience on a jury was particularly challenging. Because of my personal tastes and studies, I was fascinated by the biographies of artists, the use of archival images and the melancholic atmosphere of certain works. Working, selecting with experts from all walks allowed me to discover a set of high quality films which deal honestly with the Mediterranean’s problems, issues (from the environment to politics) and its art. For me personally it was hugely enriching.”



Mireille MAURICE (INA) : “A capital year for PriMed at the very centre of a week of Mediterranean broadcasting! A week of rich and rigorous pre-selection to offer the jury and public films of very high quality for a special Marseille Provence PriMed in 2013, where questions of memory, so dear to INA, are more current than ever... A big thank you to the CMCA and to RAI for these moments of shared visual pleasures...”



Carolina POPOLANI (producer/director): "I was struck by the enormous care taken over the pictures and the originality of the subjects in the PriMed documentaries. I thought I knew the Mediterranean, but I did not know for example, that in France, like the "pieds noirs"* there were also the "pieds rouges"**; that in Tunisia well before the revolt of 2011, there had been a major revolt of miners in the south. I knew that the Mediterranean is polluted, but not that it had become a real dumping ground. I watched with pleasure the whole incredible story of Algeria, the Lebanon, the beautiful stories told in Morocco, Serbia, Egypt,

Bosnia... The themes are all interesting, from history to current social or anthropological questions, and the way they're made shows a lot of professionalism. Which is why the choice was so difficult, and I think picking the winners will be just as difficult! Good luck to everyone! "

*French colonists settled in Algeria, forced to return to France in 1962 when Algeria became independent

** French left or far left-wing activists who went to Algeria in 1962 to help the newly independent state



Sami SADAK (Babel Med Music) : "The Mediterranean, which inspires a whole lifestyle, is also a complex entity where contradictions and tensions prevail, but where, despite that, there is a sense of belonging that gives life to the beings of the Mediterranean world. Being on the PriMed jury was, as always, a wonderful moment of discovery or rediscovery of this complexity, through films which achieve an unrivalled degree of richness and eclecticism. For me these day-long screenings have become such an intense time, immersing myself in Mediterranean reality that I cannot do without it anymore."



Simone SIBILIO (University LUISS in Rome): "The First Film category gave us a very rich and diverse range of films. Selecting the best was a very challenging but fascinating task, firstly because of the overall quality of work presented, but also because of the complexity and poignancy of most of the problems dealt with in these films. It's no longer a surprise that the most interesting work comes from the southern Mediterranean, which is once again a hotbed of artistic creativity, and where there is a continual need to understand and capture the changes happening around us.



Vanessa TONNINI (Festival Rendez-Vous/MedFilm Festival): "I am thrilled to have been part of the pre-selection jury for the 17th PriMed. And I would like to warmly thank the CMCA: it has been a journey across the Mediterranean in all its aspects, one which involved a large selection of titles reflecting the wealth of documentary cinema in Mare Nostrum. The films chosen by the CMCA show us the complexity and contradictions of this magic space that is the Mediterranean, "*the liquid continent, with solid borders and a mobile population*", as Bruno Etienne wrote.

PriMed 2013 – SELECTION
Click on the picture to access the video extracts.

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PRIX MULTIMEDIA DE LA MEDITERRANEE

- | | |
|--|--|
| - 17 OCTOBRE 1961, LA NUIT OUBLIEE | - UN ETE A ALGER |
| - DANS LES MURS DE LA CASBAH | - UNE JEUNESSE BOSNIENNE |
| - HOMS, AU CŒUR DE LA REVOLTE SYRIENNE | |

MEDITERRANEAN ISSUES

DANCE OF OUTLAWS

82 minutes, 2012

Director: Mohamed EL ABOUDI (Morocco, Finland)

Production : Illume Ltd, Road Movies, Piraya Films As (Finland)



Hind, 22, is a dealer's daughter. Driven from her home at 14 because she had been raped, she dances at weddings and prostitutes herself. Officially Hind does not exist. She can't find her birth certificate and therefore has no right to identity papers. Yet she dreams of a better future: of marrying her lover, regaining custody of her children, getting a job and a real home.

Mohamed EL ABOUDI was born and grew up in Morocco. He studied theatre at Fez University, then cinema and television at Bond University, Australia. Amongst his recent films: "Fight of Fate" (2010), "City Folk Helsinki" (2007), "Inside / Offside" (2006), "Two Mothers" (2005), "Ramadan" (2004) and "My Father, the Freemason" (2003).

FIVE BROKEN CAMERAS

90 minutes, 2010

Director: Emad BURNAT (Palestine) and Guy DAVIDI (Israel)

Production: Guy DVD Films (Israel), Burnat Films (Palestine), Alegría Productions (France)



Emad, a farmer, lives in Bil'in on the West Bank, where Israel has built the "wall of separation" expropriating the 1,700 inhabitants from half their land so as to "protect" the Jewish settlement of Modi'in Illit. The villagers of Bil'in conduct a non-violent struggle for the right to retain ownership of their land, and to coexist peacefully with the Israelis. Since the beginning of the conflict five years ago Emad has filmed

the actions taken by the people of Bil'in. With a camera bought when his fourth child was born, he has created the intimate chronicle of a village in turmoil affected by this endless conflict.

Emad BURNAT is a freelance Palestinian cameraman and photographer. He has filmed for Al-Jazeera, the Israeli channels 1, 2 and 10, as well as for Palestinian television. He works regularly with Reuters, and has filmed sequences of several documentaries such as "Bil'in My Love", "Palestine Kids", "Open Close" and "Interrupted Streams".

Guy DAVIDI, born in Jaffa, is a documentary film director and teaches cinema. He was cameraman on "Hamza" and "Journal D'une Orange" for France 3. He has also made many short documentaries such as "In Working Progress", "Keywords" and "Women Defying Barriers". In 2010, his first feature film "Interrupted Streams" opened the Jerusalem International Film Festival.

ITALY : LOVE IT, OR LEAVE IT

75 minutes, 2011

Directors: Gustav HOFER and Luca RAGAZZI (Italy)

Production : Hiq Productions (Italy)



Two Italians, two different visions of their homeland: while Gustav wants to emigrate, his companion Luca wants to prove that there are still great people on the peninsula. From the worsening working conditions at Fiat to property speculation disfiguring the Calabrian coast, there are many reasons for despair. But when Luca introduces Gustav to a Sicilian entrepreneur fighting the Mafia, or the amazing communist, catholic and homosexual

who governs the region of Puglia, he convinces him that all is not lost. Gustav eventually reconsiders his position and regains hope.

Gustav HOFER was born in 1976 in Italy, Alto Adige (South Tyrol). He studied communication in Vienna (Austria) before studying film in London. He lives in Rome, where he is a correspondent for the television channel Arte. He works as a freelance journalist and independent filmmaker. As a director, he made "Korea Prioritaria" in 2002, "Men for all Seasons" in 2005 and "Suddenly, Last Winter" in 2008.

Luca RAGAZZI was born in 1971 at Rome. He is a journalist, film critic and photographer. He studied literature and philosophy at Rome. "Suddenly, Last Winter" was his first film as director.

LE THÉ OU L'ELECTRICITÉ

93 minutes, 2012

Director: Jérôme LE MAIRE (Belgium)

Production: Iota Production (Belgium)



The arrival of electricity in an isolated, landlocked village in the heart of the Moroccan High Atlas. For more than 3 years, season after season, the director patiently reveals how the web of change is closing inexorably on the inhabitants of Ifri. We watch the arrival of a pitiless modernity to which the village will be connected.

Born in 1969, **Jérôme Le Maire** is a director, writer and cameraman. After studying Journalism and Communication in Brussels, he trained as a director at Louvain-la-Neuve's

Institut des Arts de Diffusion. He has directed several short drama films and documentaries including "Où est l'amour dans la palmeraie ?" (2007), "Un jour, une vie" (2004) and "Volter ne m'intéresse pas" (2003). His feature film, "Le Grand Tour" was selected for the Rotterdam International Festival, the Cannes Film Festival in the section ACID, and the Namur International Festival of Francophone Film. In Belgium it was given theatrical release in 2011.

MAUDIT SOIT LE PHOSPHATE

85 minutes, 2012

Director: Samy TLILI (Tunisia)

Production: Nomadis Images (Tunisia)



January 5, 2008, a sit-in organized by a group of young unemployed in front of Redeyef's Town Hall, in south-western Tunisia, marked the beginning of a movement of civil dissent which lasted six months. 21 years after the *coup d'Etat* which brought him to office, General Ben Ali faced his first popular uprising. Their names are Moudhaffer, Bashir, Adnene, Leila, Adel or Haroun – teachers, unemployed, or youth in despair. Some are in the streets to express their anger, others to support these young people. They came together in a popular movement unprecedented in Tunisia at that

time, "the revolt for dignity".

In this coal mining region the equation is simple, yet absurd: phosphate is produced in an area forced to suffer all the harmful consequences (environmental and other), without receiving any benefit.

Four years later, what remains of this human adventure? Broken souls, wounds still raw – but also pride and dignity.

Born in 1985 in Kairouan (Tunisia), **Samy TLILI** is a young Tunisian director. He is also a lecturer at the University of Sousse. He has three short films to his credit. "*Maudit soit le phosphate*" is his first long documentary.

MEDITERRANEAN MEMORY

GUERRE D'ALGÉRIE, LA DECHIRURE – ÉPISODE 1

55 minutes, 2012

Director: Gabriel LE BOMIN (France)

Production : Nilaya Productions, INA, France Télévisions (France)



50 years after the Evian Accords and Algeria's independence, the time seems ripe to tell the Algerian War as it really was, without taboos or silences.

Using archival images, mostly never seen before and from a variety of sources (the French army, French television but also from British, Algerian and Eastern European television as well as some amateur footage), "*Guerre en Algérie, la déchirure*" attempts to show the conflict from every side, taking the diversity of viewpoints into account to try to understand what really happened.

Gabriel LE BOMIN is an author and film-director. He has several films to his credit, the most recent

documentaries being: "*Les Francs-Maçons et le pouvoir* (2009, 52 minutes), "*Histoire de l'Armée française*" (2006, 2 x 52 minutes), "*La Ligne Maginot*" (2001, 3 x 15 minutes), "*La 2^{ème} Guerre Mondiale et la France Libre*" (2000), "*Le Colosse d'Alexandrie*" (1999, 13 minutes) and "*Rwanda, l'humanité nous appelle*" (1995, 26 minutes).

IN UTERO SREBRENICA

54 minutes, 2012

Director: Giuseppe CARRIERI (Italy)

Production: Natia Docufilm (Italy)



In the middle of the night, in a forest peppered with unexploded mines, Munira is digging with her bare hands to find the bones of her son, killed during the Srebrenica genocide. She and many other mothers continue their fight for justice in Bosnia and Herzegovina, a country that still does not know peace.

Giuseppe CARRIERI was born in 1985 in Naples. He is a film-maker as

well as teaching film. He has made the following documentaries: "*Notturmo Italiano (14 Storie d'Italia dei 150 anni)*" (125 minutes, 2011), "*Tu sali tra le stelle*" (27 minutes, 2012), "*Stelle contate sulle dita*" (52 minutes, 2012) and "*L'alfabeto del fiume*" (52 minutes, 2012).

TINGHIR-JERUSALEM, LES ÉCHOS DU MELLAH

86 minutes, 2011

Director: Kamal HACHKAR (France / Morocco)

Production : Les Films d'Un Jour (France)



The story of an exile, "*Tinghir Jérusalem, les échos du Mellah*" is about what happened to a Jewish community which left the Berber village of Tinghir (Morocco) in the 1950's and 60's. Kamal Hachkar, born in Tinghir, takes us to the crossroads of the two cultures, with songs, voices and stories of this dual identity shared between Jews and Muslims.

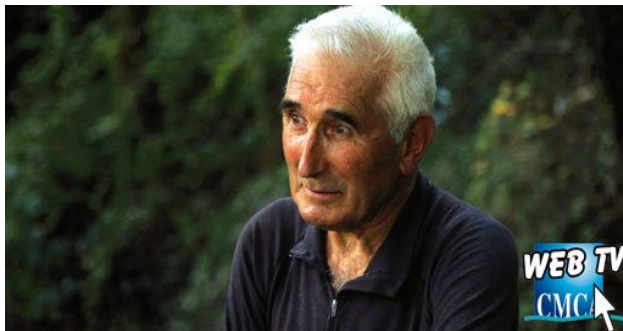
Kamal HACHKAR is a young French-Moroccan of Berber origin and a Muslim. Born in Tinghir, he left Morocco at the age of six months with his mother to join his father, who had immigrated to France in 1968. After studying history at the Sorbonne, he became a teacher. Interested in the Jewish culture and the Judaeo Moroccan heritage, he wanted to discover this culture in Israel and Morocco. Learning Hebrew, he organized cultural evenings with Jewish and Arab poets in Paris. He has participated in debates connecting Israeli and Palestinian students, making them think about what identity and the relationship to clan or tribe really mean.

TROUFIONS

56 minutes, 2012

Director: Thierry DEMAIZIERE and Alban TEURLAI (France)

Production : Falabracks, France Télévisions (France)



50 years after signing the Evian Accord in March 1962, the documentary "*Troufions*" (Squaddies) talks to 5 ordinary French soldiers who fought in Algeria as simple conscripts. Today these men are in the 70's. For all these years they have stubbornly said nothing, they have told their families, their wives or their children nothing. Before it is too late they decided to speak out, for the first time. The film releases these men

from their silence, harvesting the raw but authentic accounts of their secret sufferings and hidden wounds. These men-memories are farmers, workers or civil servants, at the time they were only 20 and simple squaddies.

Thierry DEMAIZIERE is an author and film-director. From 1985 to 1997, he was a senior reporter for radio RTL where he worked until 2011.

Alban TEURLAI is an author, film-director and editor. Together they have made the documentaries "*Troufions*" (2012, 52'), "*Ces Messieurs Dames*" (2010, 52'), "*Thuram*" (2009, 80'), "*Robert Luchini dit Fabrice*" (2009, 52'), "*Lagerfeld, un roi seul*" (2008, 52'), "*Lost in Vegas*" (2007, 60') and "*L'ordre des choses*" (2003, 52').

MEDITERRANEAN ART, HERITAGE AND CULTURE

A HOUSE FOR BERNARDA ALBA

52 minutes, 2011

Réalisation : Lidia PERALTA GARCIA (Espagne)

Production : Producciones Damira (Espagne)



Eight gypsy women living in El Vacie, a Seville slum, have become very popular in Spain after appearing in Federico García Lorca's play "The House of Bernarda Alba".

But have their lives changed? What path led them from being marginalized to popularity?

This documentary is a rare story of adventure and personal development

Lidia PERALTA GARCIA was born in Grenada (Spain) in 1970. She studied translation and interpreting, then spent several years travelling in the

Middle East, Asia and Africa. In 2000 she completed a journalism course in Malaga, then she wrote a doctoral thesis on documentary films. Since 2001 she has been both editor and presenter of "*Tesis*", a *Canal 2 Andalucía* programme about socio-cultural issues.

As an independent film-maker she has made the following documentaries "Sudan, by the way" (2009); "The Caravan of the Manuscripts from Al-andalus" and "Ancient Megastructures: the Alhambra" (2007); "When the Moors ruled in Spain" (2006); "Al-andalus in the mirror" (2005); and "Berbers of the High Atlas" (2003).

IN SEARCH OF OIL AND SAND

58 minutes, 2012

Director: Philippe L. DIB (France / Lebanon) and Wael OMAR (Egypt)

Production: Middle West Films (Egypt)



Fiction meets reality: members of the Egyptian royal family made a film about themselves just a few weeks before the coup that ousted them from power. This 16mm footage shot in 1952 not only predicts their fate, but also - unwittingly - records the last days of a dynasty.

Philippe L. DIB is a film director/producer of Franco-Lebanese origin residing in Cairo. In 1996 he co-wrote and directed his feature debut,

"Welcome Says The Angel", filmed during the outbreak of violence following the Rodney King case in L.A. As recently as 2006 he directed the award-winning documentary "El Tanbura". He also features in the 2012 documentary "½ revolution" where he shot a third of the footage and features as a character, musician and associate producer.

Wael OMAR lives in Cairo. He has worked in film and television for eight years. He has produced several documentaries which have been shown on BBC Storyville, Al Arabiya, CMN, and ITVS. In 2008 he created his own production company, Middle West Films.

LONE SAMARITAN

50 minutes, 2010

Director: Barak HEYMANN (Israel)

Production : Heymann Brothers Films (Israel)



The Samaritans, a tiny religious sect, are disappearing. They remain extremely attached to their rules against assimilation: if anyone leaves the community, they and their family are banished forever.

The Israeli actress Sophie Tzedaka was part of this group, but she and her three sisters have all become Jewish. They were banished from the group, as was their father.

"Lone Samaritan" is a touching journey into the life of a father and his daughter, it explores universal issues of faith and modernity, the role of women in religion, and the individual's right to forge his or her own identity.

Barak HEYMANN is director, script-writer and producer. He has made the following films: "End of the Story" (2012), "Lone Samaritan" (2010), "Dancing Alfonso" (2007), "Debut" (2007), "Bridge over the Wadi" (2006) and "My Village" (2005).

YASMINA & MOHAMMED

63 minutes, 2012

Réalisation : Régine ABADIA (France)

Production : La Huit (France)



Yasmina Khadra's story is rather unusual. Her life is an epic. This best-selling authoress, whose early novels are set against the background of the Algerian civil war of the 1990's, is in fact a man. His real name is Mohammed Moulessehoul. An Algerian army officer, he fought the Islamist wave which plunged Algeria into a bloodbath. He spent his sleepless nights writing novels which were published under a pseudonym made up of his wife's two first names. As a sort of road movie between Algeria and France, this film unfolds

as a journey through Yasmina Khadra's work, his complex personality, and his life story which has been mixed up with the great History of Algeria since independence.

Régine ABADIA made her first short film "*Premier Outrage*" in 1985. She then made several short and medium-length drama films, including "*Les Bêtes*". For the last fifteen years, she has made documentaries, the most recent being: "*Yasmina & Mohammed*", "*Jenny Bel'Air*", "*La tête à l'envers*" and "*Pourquoi marcher quand on peut rouler?*". She is also a photographer.

PREMIERE OEUVRE

ICH LIEBE DICH

75 minutes, 2012

Director: Emine Emel BALCI (Turkey)

Production : Unafilm (Germany), Motiva Film (Turkey), ZDF (Germany)



"*Ich Liebe Dich*" is a film about love and expectation. It shows us the life of peasant women in one of the most remote, impoverished regions of Turkey who dream of learning German. According to the new German law on immigration, to obtain a visa they have to prove they have a basic knowledge of the language. If they want to join their husbands in Germany, these women must work hard to learn the language of Goethe.

Emine Emel BALCI was born in 1984. She studied film and television at Istanbul's Mimar Sinan University of Fine Arts. Having worked as an assistant director and script-writer, she began shooting her own films: the documentary "*Gölün Kadınları – Women of the Lake*" and a short drama film "*Bekleyiş – The Waiting*".

LIVING SKIN

48 minutes, 2010

Director: Fawzi SALEH (Egypt)

Production : AlBatrik Art Production (Egypt)



Watching children working in a leather tannery in Cairo we discover the inhuman conditions which the people who live and work in the tanneries have to endure, surrounded by very dangerous chemicals, harmful to man and the environment.

Born in 1981 in Port-Saïd (Egypt), **Fawzi SALEH** is a script-writer, film-maker and Human Rights activist. He obtained a degree in script-writing at the Cairo Film Institute in 2009 and a

Masters in history at the Suez Canal University in 2003. He has collaborated on several documentary films, drama films, TV series and sitcoms.

In 2006 he made a short film "*Mocha*", and now the documentary "*Living Skin*".

SACRED STONES

52 minutes, 2012

Director: Muayad ALAYAN et Laila HIGAZI (Palestine)

Production : Palcine Productions (Palestine)



Natural stone is often seen as Palestine's "white gold", because it is the Territory's most requested raw material. But what the stone industry produces is largely requisitioned for Israeli needs – which includes the illegal settlements in Palestinian territory. In the villages, towns and refugee camps, the stone is hacked out at incredible speed, causing serious ecological, social and health problems. The only response Palestinian citizens get to their complaints is heavy Israeli repression, the indifference of international organizations or the denial of Palestinian

authorities, powerless in the face of changes in the industry.

Muayad ALAYAN is a Palestinian director and cameraman. Having studied film in San Francisco he returned to Palestine and now lives in Jerusalem. He made a short film "*Lesh Sabreen?*" which has been selected by several festivals. He teaches film at the Dar Al Kalima College in Bethlehem.

Laila HIGAZI is a biologist. Having studied at the Vrije Universiteit van Brussel, she moved to Jerusalem where she trained as a documentary film-maker. She coordinates several environmental projects on the West Bank.

WE ARE HERE

52 minutes, 2012

Director: Abdallah YAHYA (Tunisia)

Production: Perspective Production (Tunisia)



"We are here" is a documentary film about how several young people searched for a way out of their dark reality to find positive energy.

In a Tunis suburb a group of young rappers try to make their voices heard in songs reflecting their daily suffering. Elsewhere a group of school students show solidarity by taking a citizens' initiative ...

Abdallah YAHYA was born in Gafsa (Tunisia) in 1979. He studied at the Manouba Higher Institute of Multimedia Arts. He was assistant director on various series and telefilms for Tunisian television and on foreign film and television productions. He has directed several clips and commercials.

"We are here" is his first documentary.

REPORTAGE

ISLAM RADICAL : LES DJIHADISTES EN EMBUSCADE

52 minutes, 2012

Director: Kamal REDOUANI (France); Production : Tac Presse (France)



They define themselves as Salafi jihadists, similar to those who fought in Iraq and Afghanistan. Yesterday in hiding or in jail, today they want to hijack the Arab revolutions. From Tunisia to Syria, via Libya and Lebanon, this film uncovers the strategy of radical Islamists who are trying to establish themselves as successors to the deposed dictators.

Kamal REDOUANI was a reporter for RFI from 1996 to 2004. He made more than a hundred radio documentaries and reports from all round the world, then chose to move into television. Recently he made "*Retour au Bled*" about returning to one's home country. He was in Tunis when Ben Ali was thrown out and decided to go to meet the young rebels of the Arab world. He made two films about that: "*Jeunesse marocaine : l'appel au changement*" and "*La jeunesse de Bab el Oued*". Then he went to the Turkish-Syrian border and made a film diary for France 3 about the opponents of Bashar al-Assad's regime, and the portrait of a writer who, by the force of circumstance, has become the revolution's poet.

MÉDITERRANÉE, UNE SOUPE DE PLASTIQUE

32 minutes, 2011

Director: Sophie LE GALL (France); Production : Ligne de Mire Production (France)



Could pollution from plastic contaminate the food chain and therefore arrive on our plates? The situation in the Mediterranean is particularly worrying since it is a closed sea, its waters only completely renewed once every hundred years. In addition there is a very strong human pressure on the Mediterranean. Scientists, citizens, fishermen are now blowing the whistle on this increasingly worrying pollution by plastic.

Having graduated from Sciences Po in Lyon and with an MA in political science from the Sorbonne, **Sophie Le Gall** went to the *Centre de Formation des Journalistes*. She began as a reporter for France 2 and France 3, then *Point du Jour*. Then she joined M6's news magazine teams. She has made countless film reports, but also a dozen documentaries, the most recent being "*Du poison dans l'eau du robinet*" (90 minutes, 2010); "*Mauvaises Ondes*" (90 minutes, 2011); "*L'école, une rentrée en question*"; and "*Nadine Morano, la groupie du président*" (30 minutes, 2011).

LE MARTYR DES SEPT MOINES DE TIBHIRINE

75 minutes, 2012

Director: Malik AIT-AOUDIA (Algeria) and Séverine LABAT (France)

Production : Peacock Productions (France)



For the first time, with the rigor of a criminal investigation, based on verifiable facts and exclusive testimonies repeatedly corroborated by heads of the GIA (*Groupe islamique armé*), senior officers of the Algerian army, members of French and Algerian governments and members of the intelligence services on both sides of the Mediterranean, "*Le martyr des sept moines de Tibhirine*" reveals in "World in Action" style the underside of a drama that continues to haunt the world's conscience.

Malik AIT-AOUDIA is journalist, director and producer. In 1997 he made "*Gouverner c'est choisir!*" for ARTE. Subsequently, he worked as a writer for shows such as "*De quoi j'me mêle*" and "*Mots croisés*". At the same time he was making documentaries about delinquent crime and justice for minors, for street children... Passionate about, consumed by the Arab world, particularly Algeria, he has made many films on the subject, including "*Autopsie d'une tragédie : Algérie 1988-2000*". In 2006, he created a production company Peacock in Algeria and France.

Séverine LABAT is a CNRS researcher and a film-maker. She studied political science, and since 1997 has worked at the Paris branch of the CNRS / CADIS as a specialist in urban violence in France, in the Arab World (Algeria, Palestine), and human migration. In 2003 she won the FIGRA Best Investigation Award for co-directing the film "*Vol AF 8969, Paris-Alger : histoire secrète d'un détournement*".

SARAJEVO MON AMOUR

52 minutes, 2011

Director: Frédéric TONOLLI (France); Production : Sunset Presse (France)



Bosko Bric, a Serb, and Admira Ismic, a Bosnian Muslim, are ready to brave all dangers to be with each other. Only seven kilometres separate them, but in besieged Sarajevo there are no more trams, so they travel there and back on foot, by turns, under the shells and shrapnel. On May 18th 1993 they left the city and, hand in hand set off across the Verbania bridge. No more than a few metres without cover, but they

won't make it. Several bullets hit them. He falls first. She, in a final effort crawls towards the body of her lover. They were 25 years old and been in love with each other for 10 years.

Born in 1959, **Frederick TONOLLI** has been a cameraman and director for over twenty years. He has filmed and directed numerous documentaries for public television channels and collaborated on programmes such as "*Faut pas rêver*", "*Thalassa*" and "*Envoyé spécial*". Many of his documentaries have received awards, including the Prix Albert Londres. Recently he has made the following films: "*Les dernières chasses des seigneurs de Béring*", "*Le secret des sept sœurs*" and "*Sarajevo mon amour*".

MEDITERRANEAN SHORT FILM

BULAQ

26 minutes, 2011

Director: Davide MORANDINI et Fabio LUCCHINI (Italy)

Production : Rossellini Film & TV, One People Film (Italy)



Bulag is a district in the historic centre of Cairo. For thirty years the people living there have been fighting the Egyptian government who want to take the area over to build tourism infrastructures. The January 25th Revolution gave them hope... But the situation remains uncertain.

Fabio LUCCHINI is a young researcher in social anthropology and the anthropology of Islam at the *Ecole*

des Hautes Etudes en Sciences Sociales in Paris. He is also a freelance writer and director. He was cameraman and photography assistant on "Rototom Sunsplash" in 2009. "Bulak" is his first film.

A young freelance journalist, working in both Rome and London, **Davide MORANDINI** has written for several international online magazines such as Frontline Club London or Il Sole 24 Ore. During his stay in Egypt, he worked as a photojournalist for the Egyptian periodical *Bikya Masr*. He is a graduate of London's School of Oriental and African Studies, specializing in the Middle East. "Bulak" is his first film.

GARBAGE

18 minutes, 2011

Director: Burak TÜRTEEN (Turkey)

Production : Erciyes University (Turkey)



"Garbage" is about the wretched life of the men who live off landfills. They collect recyclable waste for resale. They can make 10 Turkish Liras per day but have to give half of that pittance to the owner of the landfill. Public authorities and institutions remain indifferent to this inhuman situation.

Burak TÜRTEEN was born in 1990 in Ankara, Turkey. In 2011, he completed

his studies at the Communication Faculty of the Radio, Film and Television department at Erciyes University. He has made three short films as director. He worked for two years as a presenter on Kampus TV and as a presenter and editor on a national television channel.

LIVING IN THE NILE

10 minutes, 2010

Director: Mohamad EL WASSIFY (Egypt)

Production : High Cinema Institute – Academy of Arts (Egypt)



"The Nile...is my home...my work...for me it's everything."
Fares.

Mohamad EL WASSIFY is an Egyptian director. He studied film at Cairo's High Cinema Institute. "Living in the Nile" is his first film.

RESTORED PICTURES

22 minutes, 2012

Director and Production : Mahasen NASSER-ELDIN (Palestine)



A journey through the life of Karima Aboud, Palestine's first professional female photographer. Using her letters and photographs the film looks at the life and work of a woman in the years before the Nakba.

Born in Jerusalem in 1976, **Mahasen NASSER-ELDIN** makes documentary and drama films. She studied film-directing at London's Goldsmiths College. A university researcher and teacher in media production, she concentrates her work on mass communication, social change and women's cinema in the Middle East.

THE BELL RANG

22 minutes, 2011

Director: Salah EL-GAZZAR (Egypt); Production : Egypt Media House (Egypt)



"The Bell Rang" is about three Egyptian children who gave up school for different reasons. But they are each agreed on one thing. What is it? The film gives the answer.

Salah EL-GAZZAR was born in 1975 and has a degree in film-making. He has three films to his credit: "The curtain is up" (2009), "The sketch pad" (2010) and "The Bell Rang" (2011). He has also worked as assistant director and participated in Arab and international festivals.

MEDITERRANEAN MULTIMEDIA AWARD

17 OCTOBRE 1961, LA NUIT OUBLIEE

[Click here to access the web-documentary](#)



"17 Octobre 1961, La nuit oubliée" takes us back to the events which shook Paris on 17th October 1961: fighting broke out between police and a peaceful protest of French Algerian Muslims organized by the FLN.

The content, mostly original (testimonials which combine videos, photos, sound and documents) is organized around four themes to give a comprehensive

understanding of the event and its context ("*dans la manifestation*" – 6 eyewitnesses from the protest march; "*en coulisses*" – 4 men from the corridors of power; "*un jour dans la guerre d'Algérie*" – a day in the war; and "*se souvenir*" – remembering, with Jean-Luc Einaudi).

DANS LES MURS DE LA CASBAH

[Click here to access the web-documentary](#)



"Dans les murs de la Casbah" leads the user through the maze of stairways which characterize the Algiers Casbah. At each intersection, at the corner of every alley, the user has the option of entering a café to listen to old-timers, or open the door of the women's house or sit down with students talking about their dreams of future.

Three virtual tours to immerse the user in this slice of Algeria, allowing him to listen to the people of the Casbah talking.

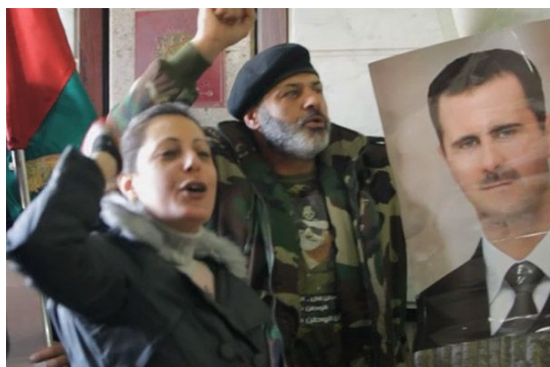
Echoing these testimonies, Algerian

researchers help us understand the Casbah.

"Dans les murs de la Casbah" is based on the work of academics at the universities of Algiers and Rennes researching urban socio-linguistics, that is studying urban characteristics in relation to both space and language. To be accepted in this difficult district, the director worked with Algerian sociolinguist Reda Sebih, who conducted all the interviews in Arabic.

HOMS, AU CŒUR DE LA RÉVOLTE SYRIENNE

[Click here to access the web-documentary](#)



Having entered Syria illegally in late 2011, Caroline Poiron, a photojournalist on *Géopolis*, gives an eye-witness report on the state of resistance in the heart of the rebel city of Homs. For 7 days, she criss-crosses Baba Amr, a district in rebel hands, from combat zones to makeshift hospitals. She meets Tlass, the rebellion's charismatic leader. 3 weeks later, she goes to areas controlled by the regime and its militias.

UN ÉTÉ À ALGER

[Click here to access the web-documentary](#)



"*Un été à Alger*" is a transmedia documentary shot in Algiers during the summer of 2012 - the fiftieth anniversary of Algeria's independence. 4 young Algerian film-makers talk about the city they live in, each with his own point of view, in 6 episodes. Un-ete-a-alger.com, 6 weeks of live cinema: Lamine Ammar Khodja makes a filmed diary in the first person, and questions the contradictions of her country; Hassen Ferhani explores the

working class district of Cervantes, both its reality and its legends (including Tarzan and Don Quixote); Amina Zoubir imposes her femininity and her camera in places reserved for men; Yannis Koussim films Algiers at night, after the Maghrib prayer. Each director makes an episode a week. As it evolves, "*Un été à Alger*" draws a subjective, contemporary and multi-faceted portrait of the city.

UNE JEUNESSE BOSNIENNE

[Cliquez ici pour accéder au web-documentaire](#)



20 years after the beginning of the war, the youth of Bosnia and Herzegovina is liberated from its past. Through several meetings, the web-documentary "*Une jeunesse bosnienne*" shows people facing their fate, struggling to take control of their lives, caught between political corruption and their country's lack of prospects. Some criticize nationalism, others remember their war wounds, many dream of Europe. Most want to move on and flee the commemoration celebrations of the war.

Young people from Bosnia and Herzegovina, from Banja Luka to Tuzla, from Sarajevo to Kupres, not forgetting Mostar, look clearly and honestly at the concerns of a forgotten people living at the gates of Europe.

LIFE IN THE CHANNELS

FRANCE	<u>France Télévisions reshapes its organisation</u>
FRANCE	<u>Rémy Pflimlin appointed chairman of the TV5 Monde board</u>
SPAIN	<u>A new MD for Radiotelevisión Valenciana</u>
EGYPT	<u>Ismail El-Sheshtawi ASBU's new chairman</u>
EGYPT	<u>The head of ERTU resigns</u>
SWITZERLAND	<u>SNRT back on the board of the EBU UER</u>
GREECE	<u>Euronews launches a 24 hour Greek edition</u>
FRANCE	<u>INA archives cheaper for professionnels</u>
MOROCCO	<u>TV5 Monde, most watched French language channel in 2012</u>



[FRANCE / France Télévisions reshapes its organisation](#)

The French public broadcasting group is reorganizing its management structure.

During an executive committee meeting on January 28th **Rémy Pflimlin**, CEO of France Televisions, announced he was getting rid of each channels' separate administration. He has decided to take the company

into a new strategic phase by modifying the way the public group is administered, adapting it to the new technological, competitive, economic and social environment in which it operates.

To drive the company's transformation and rebuild its position as programme maker, the chairman will rely on a President's Council consisting of four members:

Bruno Patino, chief operating officer programmes, channels and digital development;

Martin Ajdari, general secretary, chief operating officer resources.

Thierry Thuillier, chief operating officer information;

Patrice Papet, chief operating officer organisation, human resources and business plan.

Yves Rolland, the CMCA's chairman, is leaving the office of general secretary to become advisor to the chairman, with particular reference to **M. Pflimlin** taking over the chair of TV5 Monde and to the CMCA and Euronews dossiers.

All these changes will come into being on February 25th.

(Source : communiqué du groupe)



[FRANCE / Rémy Pflimlin appointed chairman of the TV5 Monde board](#)

On January 23rd **Rémy Pflimlin** (photo), chairman of *France Télévisions*, was appointed chairman of the board of TV5 Monde. He succeeds **Marie-Christine Saragosse**, who became chairwoman of AEF (*Audiovisuel Extérieur de la France*) in October.

Since the beginning of February, *France Télévisions*, which contributes over 30% of TV5 Monde's programme material, has been officially the majority shareholder of the French channel, with 49% of the capital. AEF has 12.58%, while RTBF (Belgium) and SSR (Switzerland) each keep 11.11% of the shares. Other shareholders include TV5 Monde Radio Canada (6.67%), Télé-Québec (4.44%), Arte France (3.29%), and INA (1.74%).

(Source : AFP.)



[SPAIN / A new MD for Radiotelevisión Valenciana](#)

On January 25th the board of RTVV (*Radiotelevisión Valenciana*) approved the appointment of **Alejandro Reig** (photo) as managing director of this public broadcasting group. He takes over from **José López Jaraba**, who resigned

in December.

Alejandro Reig was previously director of the *Fondation Ciudad de las Artes y Ciencias*, which is currently in liquidation.

He takes over the running of RTVV at a crucial moment, as a collective redundancy threatening 1,198 jobs, is being put in place.

(Sources : El Mundo, VerTele.)



[EGYPT / Ismail El-Sheshtawi ASBU's new chairman](#)

Since January 1st the chairman of ERTU (Egyptian TV), **Ismail El-Sheshtawi** has been the new chairman of the ASBU (Arab States Broadcasting Union). The Kuwaiti **Mohamed Abdulmohsen Al-Awash** becomes 1st vice-chairman, and

Mohamed Meddeb, CEO of the Tunisian Radio is the new 2nd vice-chairman. All three were elected for a term of two years at the ASBU AGM held in Cairo at the end of December. Tunisian **Slaheddine Maaoui** remains the organization's CEO.

During this AGM there was also a debate on public service media which was broadcast on ERTU.

The ASBU plans to hold a meeting in Tunis in June 2013, to reform its statutes.

(Source : UER.)



[EGYPT / ERTU's director resigns](#)

On December 6th **Essam Al-Amir** (photo) resigned from his position as Director of ERTU, the Egyptian state television. His decision was in response to "*the divisions created in [Egyptian] society*" by President Mohamed Morsi's announcement of the new Constitution on November 22nd. He accuses the state media of "*siding with the Muslim Brotherhood in particular and the Islamists in general.*"

His resignation was followed a few hours later by that of **Ali Abdel-Rahman**, director of themed channels, in response to "*the hegemony of the Muslim Brotherhood on the functioning of the state media.*"

Meanwhile two ERTU presenters, **Hala Fahmi** and **Buthina Kamel** were suspended for openly criticizing the Muslim Brotherhood on the channel. In early December, during the programme "*La conscience*" Hala Fahmi brandished a shroud, affirming that her life was "*no dearer than the lives of the martyrs of the Revolution. I do not want this Constitution drafted for slaves.*" **Buthina Kamel** is being suspended because she began an evening news programme by saying "*Welcome to news of the Muslim Brotherhood.*"

(Sources : Al Ahram, Courrier International.)



[SWITZERLAND / SNRT back on the board of the EBU](#)

On December 8th **Laraichi Faisal** (pictured), CEO of Morocco's SNRT (*Société nationale de radiodiffusion et de télévision*), was elected to the executive council of the EBU (European Broadcasting Union and television) for a term of two years, starting on January 1st.

Zeynel Koç and **Marija Nemcic**, representing the TRT (Turkey) and HRT (Croatia), are leaving the Council. **Rémy Pflimlin**, CEO of *France Televisions*, and **Themis**

Themistocleous, DG of CyBC (Cyprus), are amongst those re-elected for another term.

In June this year, **Jean-Paul Philippot**, executive director of RTBF (Belgium), and **Claudio Cappon**, chairman of RAI World (Italy), respectively, were reappointed to the positions of President and Vice-President of the EBU.

(Source : Satellifax.)



[GREECE / Euronews launches a 24-hour Greek edition](#)

On December 18th the international news channel Euronews launched a 24-hour Greek edition, Greek Euronews. Although the programmes are adapted locally, with an Athens bureau staffed by around forty journalists, the programme is put together in Lyon, the city hosting

Euronews.

Greek Euronews is broadcast in Greece via the Nova, ON Telecoms, OTE and Forthnet platforms and across all of Europe via Eutelsat Hotbird 13A satellite. The channel's programmes are also available on the site <http://gr.euronews.com>.

With this new channel, Euronews has 12 non-stop editions across the whole world.

(Source : communiqué.)



[FRANCE / INA archives cheaper for professionals](#)

Since January 1st the archives of INA (*Institut National Audiovisuel*) are no longer sold by the minute but by the second. This pricing change applies to all extracts of more than 30 seconds. "The rigidity

of the indivisible minute has been abolished to allow producers and channels to buy exactly the amount of archives they need," said **Mathieu Gallet**, chairman of INA.

"Our rates have not changed since 2002, they were right for a broadcasting landscape with 6 national channels. We have to take into account the arrival of small DTT channels for whom the price of using the archives was too high," he continued.

In another move, buyers broadcasting archives before 5.00 pm on weekdays now receive an additional discount. A group rate has been set up to allow several channels from the same group to use the same archive material.

(Source : Le Point.)



[MOROCCO / TV5 Monde, most watched French language channel in 2012](#)

For the second year running TV5MONDE is the French-speaking channel in Morocco with the highest viewing figures, according to the latest TNS Maghreboscope. With a cumulative weekly audience of 7.6% of the 15 + age group and 26.5% of managers and executives, TV5MONDE consolidates its lead over the other French satellite channels watched in Morocco. From 2011 to 2012, TV5MONDE increased its audience share by 50% with the 15 + age group.

The TNS Maghreboscope study also shows that the public Moroccan channels are ahead, although, like all the international channels, there has been a slight decline compared to 2011. Some channels lost 10 to 20 points.

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PROGRAMMES

TUNISIA	<u>The Ben Ali-Trabelsi duo on the billing of a series for Ramadan</u>
TURKEY	<u>Parliament withdraws a soap from the channel</u>
ITALY	<u>The Scampia district refuses the series "Gomorra"</u>
ISRAEL	<u>Huge audience for the "MasterChef" final</u>
FRANCE	<u>The contents of <i>Mediterraneo</i> in February</u>



[TUNISIA / The Ben Ali-Trabelsi duo on the billing of a series for Ramadan](#)

In January filming the Egyptian series "*Al Gamila wal moughamer*" ("The Beauty and the Adventurer") began in Tunisia. This series, which is scheduled for broadcasting during Ramadan 2013, is about **Leila Trabelsi**, played by

Dorra Zarrouk (pictured) and her meeting with **Zine El Abidine Ben Ali**, who will be played by the Syrian actor **Jamal Suliman**.

"The Beauty and the Adventurer" is about the origins of the Trabelsi family, as well as the major events in the lives of the former presidential couple, from the seizure of power in 1987 to the Jasmine Revolution in 2011. The screenplay is by the Egyptian **Faisal Nada**.

Several filming sessions are planned in Europe and other Arab countries.

(Source : Tunivisions.)



[TURKEY / Parliament withdraws a soap from the channel](#)

On December 27th the Turkish Parliament voted to definitively ban the series "The Magnificent Century". The series, about **Suleyman the Magnificent** and broadcast on the private Star TV channel, had made Turkey's prime minister, Recep Tayyip Erdoğan, extremely angry: "We don't recognize **Suleiman the Magnificent**. This great man, who spent 30 years of his life on horseback, making war for the greatness of the Muslim caliphate, is reduced in this disaster to a libertine, obsessed with sexual conquests and female slaves."

Produced by Tims Production, 3 seasons of "The Magnificent Century" have been transmitted in 40 countries, including 22 in the Middle East: a total of 80 episodes. Shooting a fourth season now seems unlikely.

(Sources : Emarrakech, Hürriyet.)



[ITALY / The Scampia district refuses the series "Gomorra"](#)

Film crews working on the series "Gomorra" have been refused access to Scampia (photo), a suburb of Naples. The series, adapted from Roberto Saviano's book, is being produced by Catleya and Fandango for the Sky group.

"The time has come to say No to the instrumentalised exploitation of Naples and of this district in particular," said **Angelo Pisani**, chairman of Scampia's town council. *"It solves nothing to emphasise continually and only the negative aspects [...], but rather exacerbates the problems and bad reputation which dogs Scampia in spite of itself."* **Ricardo Tozzi**, series producer, claimed he was "surprised" by the decision, since scenes shot in Scampia would represent only "5% of the shooting." In 2008 Roberto Saviano's novel, a vitriolic portrait of the Neapolitan mafia, was adapted for the cinema by **Matteo Garrone**. The filming for the series finally began on January 28th (Source : Il Corriere del Mezzogiorno.)



[ISRAEL / Huge audience for the "MasterChef" final](#)

The final of the reality show "MasterChef" in January drew 43% of viewers. The programme, which pits several participants against each other in a cookery competition, saw its ratings soar thanks to the participation of **Salma Fayumi** (photo, right), an Israeli Arab candidate who is a nurse in the village of

Kafr Qassem. Her friendship with another candidate, **Elinor Rahamim** (photo, left), who lives in a Jewish West Bank settlement, has visibly marked the minds of Israeli viewers, since the viewing figure is a record for a reality TV show in the country.

In particular 121,000 Arab viewers were glued to the screen during the final, 5 times more than for the final of the previous season.

(Sources : Le Point, Cool Israel.)



[FRANCE / The contents of Mediterraneo in February](#)

Catalonia and its dream of independence

A referendum in Catalonia on self-determination in 2014, that is the wish expressed forcefully by the chairman of the Catalanian Regional Government, **Artur Mas** (photo), re-elected last December for a four year term thanks to the support of the left-

wing independence party ERC. **Artur Mas** has decided to continue his battle with the Spanish government, which considers the project contrary to the Spanish constitution. A film report at Sant Pere de Torello, where the mayor and a majority of the population have already made their choice.

Cyprus and the wounds of history

To avoid the disappearance of part of the religious heritage of the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus a special commission is trying to find and save vandalized or abandoned churches. Cyprus was Christianized very early on but in 1974, when the island was divided in two, Christians moved to the southern part. The abandoned buildings have not fared well and today, even though the authorities in both political entities have decided to do something, a real recovery will take time.

Tunisia and the disappointed hope of journalists

Cradle of the Arab Spring, Tunisia is today undergoing a transition to democracy. But many hopes have been disappointed, particularly with regard to freedom of the press. Journalists denounce recent appointments to the head of public broadcasting and some print titles. A team from *Mediterraneo* followed the struggle of the editorial staff of the magazine *Assabah*.

Cartoons in the Mediterranean

The events in the Arab countries over the past two years have inspired the 33 cartoonists exhibiting their works in Paris. An initiative of the association "Cartooning for Peace" which lets us see drawings from various countries dealing with themes that define the Mediterranean today. Each artist describes his hopes and fears in his own way.

The Marseille Opera

Marseille, European Capital of Culture for 2013, is very proud of one the most prestigious stages in the city: the Opera – home of Bel Canto. For this very special year programming has been focused on the Mediterranean. The stated aim is also to mend ties with other opera houses on both sides of the sea. A report about those who are making and have made the reputation of this mythical place.

Culture and arts in Rome

Culture is also spreading to the 4 corners of Rome. The Italian capital is full of exhibition spaces, but is also investing in the restoration of works of art which have been damaged by Mediterranean wars and conflicts. Through the arts and culture, Rome is witnessing a convergence of initiatives to unite different peoples.

"Mediterraneo" is broadcast on France 3 Corse-ViaStella every Saturday at 11.30 a.m., on France 3 Provence-Alpes and France 3 Côte-d'Azur every Sunday at 11.30 a.m., and every week also on TV5 Monde.

To find the schedules for North Africa [click here](#).

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ECONOMY



EGYPT / Naguib Sawiris sells his ONTV channel to Tarek Ben Ammar

In December Tunisian producer **Tarek Ben Ammar** (photo), already a shareholder in Nessma TV, acquired the private Egyptian channel ONTV, which until now belonged to businessman **Naguib Sawiris**.

He set out his business-plan at a press conference, explaining that ONTV will remain “*an independent news channel, unattached to any political party.*” **Albert Shafik**, director of ONTV, confirmed that **Mr. Sawiris** will remain chairman of the channel’s Board of Directors.

Mr. Ben Ammar’s ultimate purpose is to create a network “*dedicated to freedom of speech and expression*” connecting North Africa, Egypt and Europe.

With this in mind, he intends to distribute Nessma TV on French screens in 2013.

(Source : AFP.)



ITALY / Discovery buys Switchover Media

On January 14th the American company Discovery Communications announced the acquisition of Digital Switchover, owner of 4 free channels and one pay

channel in Italy.

After its recent entry into the capital of some of the French TF1 Group’s themed channels, Discovery thus acquires two masculine channels (Focus and the pay channel GXT), a women’s channel (Giallo), and two children’s channels (K2 and Frisbee).

Discovery Communications already had seven television channels in Italy, including Discovery Channel, DMAX and Real Time. It thus becomes the country’s third largest television operator, after RAI and Mediaset.

(Source : Rapid TV News.)

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CINEMA



[NETWORK / Creation of the first distribution network for the southern Mediterranean](#)

On December 10th twenty southern Mediterranean distribution companies met in Dubai to create the MEDIS network. Their main objective is to develop common tools to help the distribution of films by southern Mediterranean companies.

Moroccan **Mohamed Layadi** (photo, Marrakech Spectacles) was elected the association's chairman by members of the General Assembly, while film-maker **Nabil Ayouch** was appointed Honorary President. Among the structures represented by this network, which is supported by the Euromed Audiovisual programme, are Canal 4 (Morocco), Misr International Films (Egypt), Cirta Films (Algeria), Shashat (Palestine), Jordan Pioneers Multimedia Production Company (Jordan), MC Distribution (Lebanon) and Hassala Productions (Egypt). The creation of MEDIS, the first network of its kind in the region, will allow distributors to act *"in concert to make national and international governments aware of the importance of distribution,"* according to **Mr. Layadi**. Several definite projects will also be set up to help southern Mediterranean distributors adapt effectively to the changes in the broadcasting sector.

(Source : Euromed Audiovisuel.)



[ALGERIA / Lyes Salem to direct a film](#)

Five years after *"Masquerades"*, which represented Algeria at the Oscars, **Lyes Salem** (photo) is in Oran preparing to shoot his second feature film as director, *"El Wahrani"* (The Man from Oran), a fresco spanning the years 1962 to 1988. The scenario depicts the friendship of two Oranais, one a member of the FLN (*Front de Libération National*) who returns to the country after fighting for the Algerian cause across the world, the other a fighter from the NLA (National Liberation Army). *"El Wahrani"* is set in a *"victorious Algeria, full of dreams and promises"*, explains the director, who will probably also take one of the two leading roles, alongside **Khaled Benaissa**.

The film is produced by Leith Media (Algeria) and Dharamsala (France).

(Source : APS.)

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FESTIVALS



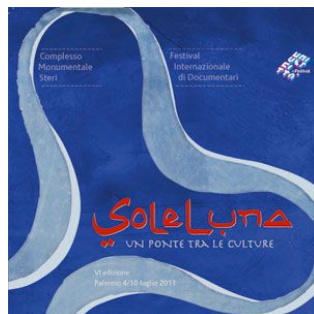
[BELGIUM / Call for films for the Made in Med competition](#)

The European Union's Euromed Audiovisual III programme is organizing a competition of short films about the Mediterranean. Three separate competitions have been set up, each defined by a different theme: "Talking 'bout (A) rab Revolution - The Arab revolutions in Focus", "Euro-Med-itation – Tales from the Mediterranean" and "Preserving the Med – Environmental heritage around the Mediterranean".

The competition is open to all film-makers from Algeria, Egypt, Israel, Jordan, Lebanon, Libya, Morocco, Syria, the Palestinian Territories, Tunisia (or residing in one of these countries). The length of each film must be between 2 and 10 minutes.

The winner of each category will win a pass for the 2013 Cannes Film Festival and its parallel section for short films, the Short Film Corner.

The application deadline is February 28th. [Click here](#) for the rules, [and here](#) to register your film via the Reelport platform.



[ITALY / Call for films for the Sole Luna festival](#)

Registration is open for the 8th Sole Luna Festival – a bridge between cultures running from September 16th to 22nd in both Palermo and Tunis.

This festival features two competitions: *In Med-Doc*, for documentaries about Mediterranean issues and *Out Med-Doc*, open to documentaries from anywhere not centred on the Mediterranean.

Several prizes will be awarded, including Best Film, worth €3,000 for the director.

Application deadline is March 15th. [Click here](#) for the rules, and [click here](#) to fill in the registration form.

Find the list of all February festivals on our web-site:

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

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ON THE WEB



ALGERIA / A web-documentary about women at work

The TV5 Monde web-site offers a new web-documentary by **Carole Filiu**, “*Fatea - Working Women in Algeria*”, about Algerian women and their professional activities. Through the portraits of nine women, using pictures and audio testimonies, the director shows us a kaleidoscopic

view covering the four corners of Algeria and all kinds of professions: Fatma, a farmer from Timimoun; a shopkeeper, Abba, from Tamanrasset; or Nadjat, the head of a textile firm in Touggourt.

In the film each of these women has the opportunity to share her daily life, her hopes and dreams.

Produced by 24 Images, “*Fatea*” was made as part of TV5 Monde’s special programming on Algeria in 2012, to mark the 50th anniversary of independence.

<http://fatea.tv5monde.com/>



MOROCCO / MedMem presented at Rabat

On January 21st the MedMem web-site, devoted to audiovisual memories of the Mediterranean, had the second stage of its launch in Rabat, having been officially

opened in Marseille on October 12 by the INA.

The project’s Moroccan partners, including SNRT and SOREAD 2M, were represented at this presentation.

Seven agreements were signed with institutions across the country, allowing wider dissemination of the archives’ site in Morocco. The public will be able to consult medmem.eu at Rabat’s National Library, at Casablanca’s Hassan II University and at Cadi Ayyad University in Marrakech.

Medmem.eu currently offers 4,000 film documents from broadcasting archives right across the Mediterranean, including 600 documents provided by Morocco.

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STOP PRESS

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FRANCE [Olivier Schrameck new chairman of the CSA](#)



[ISRAEL / Final chance to enroll for the Greenhouse training course](#)

Founded in 2005, the Greenhouse programme offers an annual series of seminars for documentary directors and producers from the southern Mediterranean.

A dozen projects will be selected for the 2013 course. The directors and producers of these projects will take part in three seminars to help them develop a production plan and a professional trailer.

Each team applying must consist of a director and a producer from the southern Mediterranean (Algeria, Egypt, Israel, Jordan, Lebanon, Libya, Morocco, Palestinian, Syrian or Tunisia).

Registration closed on February 12th.

[Click here](#) to consult the rules and download the entry form.



[FRANCE / Jack Lang to head IMA](#)

On January 25th former French Culture Minister, **Jack Lang**, was appointed chairman of the *Institut du Monde Arabe* (IMA), by the Board of Directors and the Institute's High Council. His name was put forward by the Government on January 8th.

With his appointment the principle of one chairman has been restored, for since 2009 IMA, based in Paris, has had two chairmen. **Jack Lang** takes over from both **Renaud Muselier**, who left the chair of IMA's High Council last November, and **Bruno**

Levallois, who has been chairman of the Board of Directors since 2009.

Inaugurated in 1987, IMA has worked for over 25 years to help the public get to know Arab culture in all its forms.

(Source : AFP.)



[FRANCE / Olivier Schrameck new chairman of the CSA](#)

Appointed on January 14th by President **François Hollande**, **Olivier Schrameck** (photo) officially took over as the new chairman of the CSA – the French broadcasting watchdog – on January 24th.

In particular this 61 year-old senior civil servant is remembered as the director of **Lionel Jospin's** cabinet office from 1997 to 2002, when the latter was prime minister.

Among the priorities he outlined during his hearing before the French Parliament on January 23rd, include a strengthening of ties between the CSA and ARCEP (the telecommunications authority), closer relations with the CNIL (*Commission Nationale de l'Informatique et des Libertés*), and the setting up of digital terrestrial radio, which should be on air in Paris, Marseille and Nice by late 2013.

(Source : AFP.)

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