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MEDITERRANEE AUDIOVISUELLE Monthly Newsletter

Spotlight of the month: The CMCA is officially launching the 12th International Prize for Mediterranean Documentary and Reportage.

You can send your films to the CMCA up till June 3rd.

We are glad to welcome our monthly newsletter's **5000th reader**... And it gets better! You can now read it in 4 languages; in addition to **French** and **Arabic**, versions in **English** and **Italian** have recently been made available. Therefore,

Happy Reading

قراءة ممتعة - Bonne Lecture - Buona Lettura

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The CMCA is launching the 12th International Prize for Mediterranean Documentary and Reportage

Here we go, the 2007 edition of the **International Prize for Mediterranean Documentary and Reportage**, organised by the CMCA together with RAI, is launched.

Since 1994, the Prize sets itself the goal of promoting a better visibility for audiovisual works (documentary and reportage) and a better knowledge of Mediterranean issues through its history, cultures, traditions and the life of men and women of the Mediterranean basin. The Prize is also the chance for an annual meeting among the audiovisual professionals, thus allowing dialogue and cooperation among Mediterranean countries. It is open to all TV organisations (public or private), production societies (public, private or community-based), authors, filmmakers, documentary makers and journalists.

Two novelties for this 12th edition, a Prize for the best magazine, the "**Faro d'Oro**" and a **Jury's Special Prize**.

THE FARO D'ORO conveys the will to put TV magazines under a spotlight, next to the documentary and reportage genres always highlighted by the Prize since its creation. We have listed more than 70 TV magazines that may enter the competition in the Faro d'Oro category, whether or not it is by a television from the Mediterranean basin, as long as it is on a Mediterranean topic. The Faro d'Oro will reward the best TV magazine dealing with current affairs (society, geopolitics, environment, economy, culture). This award will take into account the quality of the magazine conception, its work of investigation, its contents, and the way it is presented.

The second novelty for the 2007 edition is the creation of a **Jury's Special Prize**. This prize, worth 5000 €, could reward a film particularly distinguished by the Jury members, all categories together.

Besides, you will still find the Prize regular categories.

- **CMCA "Mediterranean Challenges" Grand Prize (Worth 6000 €)**

This prize is awarded to the best film (documentary or reportage) on a current Mediterranean topic. It identifies works that foster a better understanding of the present situation in the Mediterranean area. It rewards the filmmaker's ability to question and relate current events as well as to be attentive to the protagonists.

- **"Memories of the Mediterranean" (Worth 5000 €)**

This prize is awarded to the documentary which, in its treatment, with or without archives, most successfully places historical events into a present day context, connecting individual or collective history of the men and women of the Mediterranean and its symbolic locations.

- **Mediterranean Prize " First Creation" (Worth 5000 €)**

The prize recognizes the talent of a filmmaker who made no more than three documentaries. Works produced as part of a school or training course will also be able to participate.

- **"Art, Heritage and Cultures of the Mediterranean" (Worth 5000 €)**

This prize rewards the documentary that best helps to highlight the artistic expression (music, fine arts, performing, visual arts), heritage (site, monument, work of art, archaeology, architecture) and any other expressions of the Mediterranean culture (folklore, tradition).

Among the finalist works, three broadcasting prizes, all categories together, could be awarded by unquestionable decision of the spokespersons of the TV channels, RAITRE, RAI SAT Cinema and ENTV. The broadcasting of these winning works will be specifically agreed between the channel and the authors of the film.

To enter the competition, you can from now on send the following to the CMCA:

- *A copy of the film on a DVD in two of the Prize three official languages (French, English and Italian);*
- *A synopsis of the work (up to 10 lines) and a biography of the author (up to 10 lines).*

These items must be sent together with the **application form** carefully filled out.

For further information and to get the application form, please contact the CMCA:

Tel : + 33 (0)4 91 42 03 02

E-mail : cmca@cmca-med.org

Or visit the CMCA and the Prize websites

<http://www.cmca-med.org>

<http://www.prix-cmca.org>

CAUTION : Deadline for registration and sending the films,

June 3rd, 2007

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[# France / Beginning of April: Arabic language programs broadcast on France 24](#)

The French international news channel, born on the 6th last December, used to offer its programs up till now in French and in English. From the beginning of April, there will be four daily hours of programs in Arabic proposed to the spectator between 4pm and 8pm. The time slot will start with the news (12 minutes), followed by talk shows and magazines. The editing team is composed of 22 Arabic-speaking journalists.

France 24 should also propose, within the two next years, programs in Spanish.

According to a survey carried out during the channel's first month of existence, in five countries (France, United-Kingdom, Italy, Algeria, Senegal) France 24's identity asserts itself through three major aspects:

Its "openness to the world and ability to raise curiosity", its French character, which "properly conveys French values", its "openness to contradiction and its respect for diversity".



[# Morocco / Launching of the Terrestrial Digital Television \(TNT\)](#)

Here we go, since the beginning of March, the TNT has been launched in Morocco. The public audiovisual department has announced it will be a two-step process:

The first step has just started and covers the cities of Casablanca, Rabat, Oujda, Fes, Meknes, Tangier and Marrakech, allowing the coverage of almost 54% of the Moroccan population.

The second phase will start in June 2007 and should allow 9 other cities to gain access to the TNT: El Jadida, Safi, Tetouan, Nador, Agadir, El Aaiún, Figuig, El Hoceima and Beni Mellal. This will bring the coverage to almost 77% of the population.

A massive communication campaign should start this month on TV, radio, in the press and on display ads, in order to spark off the spectator's interest for this new broadcasting mode.



[# Spain-France / TF1 exports "J'ai une question à vous poser" \(I have a question to ask\)](#)

The scores of TF1 new political show has not gone unnoticed beyond the Pyrenees. "La primera", first channel of the Spanish public group TVE, has purchased the program concept. The head of the Spanish government, José-Luis Zapatero, was the first guest; it will then be the turn of Mariano Rajoy, the leader of the opposition, to take the heat in April and to answer the questions of a hundred Spanish citizens chosen among a representative sample group by an Opinion Institute. The show will be live and broadcast in prime time. It will also be on the radio, on RN1 from the public group RNE. This is an unprecedented experience in Spain

[# Algeria / 19 March, birth of Radio Algérie Internationale](#)

Last March 19th was the end of the Algerian War of Independence anniversary (March 19th, 1962), and the National Radio Company (ENRS) has started Radio Algérie Internationale, a new news radio, devoted to international current affairs questions. It airs 10 hours a day, in four languages: Arabic, French, English and Spanish, on frequency modulation (FM) and satellite.

At the moment, the ENRS counts three important national channels in Arabic, Berber and French. 37 regional radios air in 37 districts. But according to the director-general, Azeddine Mihoubi, in 2008, there will a radio in each of the 48 Wilayas (provinces) of the countries.



[# France/ Nice start in 2007 for France 5](#)

In this year's first two months, the channel's audience has increased by 3% compared to 2006 at this same time of the year. It now reaches 7,2%. Besides, the website audience has also increased, which confirms "*the complementarities between Web and TV, the channel trademark*" as pointed out by France 5 in a press release.

The daily documentary slot from 2.40pm to 4.40pm, which proposes society and discovery documents, has also increased by 11%.

Concerning the series "Empreintes" which has already been talked about in last month's "Méditerranée Audiovisuelle", almost 400 distinguished celebrities have been proposed to France 5 by more than 80 producers, filmmakers and authors.

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[# Algeria / ENTV: Two calls for projects launched among Algerian producers](#)

The first is about the media planning of the next legislative elections on May 17th: Independent producers are asked to propose written projects for the production of the spot for voter sensitisation.

The second call for project concerns the planning of the Ramadan special programs. Independent producers are asked to present synopses for soap operas on social themes, TV dramas, sitcoms, and cooking, variety, and quiz shows. In the event framework, a Ramadan special talk show (4x 90'), a documentary series devoted to portrayals (25x52'), and religious clips (30x10-15') will be scheduled.

All those proposals will be studied by a Commission within the ENTV.



[# Tunis / Field courses for Imams and preachers about to be on TV](#)

Early March, in the Tunis African Training Centre for Journalists and Communicators was a four-day training workshop designed for Imams and preachers and especially those about to be on TV. Eight religious affairs specialists have taken part in the workshop, including university teachers, preachers and TV producers. To Moncef Ayari, journalism teacher and supervisor of the training program: *"the purpose of the workshop is to give them the techniques that will allow them to convey a message to their audience in a professional and respectable way. Especially since we started noticing a few years ago that the Tunisian people were unsatisfied with public channels and tended to prefer the channels which broadcast speeches lauding extremism and a feeling of disappointment"*. (Source Magharibia)



[# Morocco-Spain / Soon, Shooting of "Rif. 1921-1927"](#)

The Spanish filmmaker Manuel Horrillo, is preparing the shooting of the documentary "Rif.1921-1927", a Spanish-Moroccan co-production. This film relates the story of the Rif War, fought between the Moroccan Rif and J'bala tribes (North Morocco) and the Spanish army. On July 20th, 1921, The Spaniards, who had come to put down the rebels, are defeated. Abdelkrim El Khattabi (Abd el-Krim) meets the tribal chiefs and decides to reject the Moroccan Royal authority. He creates the Confederal Republic of the Tribes of the Rif on the 1st February 1922 and becomes its president. Follows a war against the Spaniards who fall back on the coast until they only occupy, in 1924, Ceuta, Mellilla, Asilah and Larache. The French intervention led by the General Lyautey will cause the defeat of the riffans during spring 1924. In the fall 1925, the French-Spanish troupes push back the Riffans. Abd el-Krim is sent into exile.

This film focuses on these painful times of modern history, in an attempt to analyse the Rif War events through the viewpoint of both countries.

The filmmaker has invited Spanish and Moroccan historians to participate to the film writing. The shooting will take place in Nador, Tetouan and Melilla, Spanish exclave in North Morocco.



[# France / "L'affaire Ben Barka" : Shooting](#)

The filmmaker Jean-Pierre Sinapi is currently shooting a 2 x 90 minutes, about the Ben Barka case, the famous Moroccan opponent. On October 29th, 1965, two French policemen arrest the leader of the opposition of the Moroccan King Hassan II, Mehdi Ben Barka, in front of the pub "Lipp".

Three days later, the press announce the rapt and disappearance of the Moroccan leader. He won't ever be seen alive.

The film, produced by Scarlett Production, with a €5.4 million budget, will be broadcast by France 2. The shooting occurs at a key moment: 60 countries, including Morocco, have just signed the international convention protecting people from forced disappearances.



[# France / Roger Hanin back on the land of his childhood](#)

Roger Hanin came back to Algeria, on the land of his childhood. He was accompanied by the journalist Norbert Balit, also the producer and director of a documentary about this trip with the interpreter of "Navarro", the famous superintendent of the eponymous series. The film will be broadcast on France 5 within the next months. Roger Hanin, very moving in his return to the roots, talks about Algeria like "his own country".

[# France / Mediterraneo : April issue](#)

Near East – Mines of Golan.

The children of Majdal Shams have forgotten how to play outdoor games because war came and stayed. The Syrian plateau of Golan, which abounds with water resources and represents a strategic location at the edges of Syria, Lebanon, Jordan and Israel, was occupied by the Hebrew State in June 1967, and then annexed in 1981. Its inhabitants, the

Syrian Druzes, have refused the Israeli nationality. Those born after 1967 live in a legal vacuum, neither Syrian nor Israeli.

The consequences of this never-ended war are not only legal. Mines, disseminated by the thousand during the war, surround the Druzes' houses in Majdal Shams. They are buried in the ground, and each mudslide, each storm bring them even closer from their front doors. The mere improvised football game can turn tragic. Mediterraneo have gathered the testimonials of these children and their mothers about this particular kind of phoney war.

Algeria – the gigantic project of the *transmaghrébine* expressway.

Connecting, by road, the five countries of North Africa – Mauritania, Morocco, Algeria, Tunisia and Libya – is an old project, gigantic and seemingly unrealistic. However the first stone was laid last February. As of now, the expressway is only built on Algerian territory.

Traffic in the heart of Algerian big cities and in their outskirts has become a problem. The expressway will bring a breath of fresh air and, as expected by the government, will help to open up rural regions and to create new cities and businesses, thus unblocking the seashore where live 70 % of the population.

The construction site has been divided in three sections, two are allotted to the Chinese and one to the Japanese. 100 000 immediate jobs should thus be created.

Algeria again – back to Sidi Merouane

When they came back from Greece, they set up in Cargèse, Corsica. And then, at the time of the French colonisation of Algeria, they left and founded, in the province of Constantine, the Sidi Merouane community. It was in 1874. Their descendants left it in 1962, at the time of the Algerian independence and went back to Cargèse. For the first time last January, some of them came back to Sidi Merouane. Mediterraneo followed them in their reunion with the city of their childhood, its inhabitants, the shared stories and memories. A trip of reconciliation... with a painful history.

Montenegro – more and more tourists...

The independence declared in June 2006, definitely benefits Montenegro. The new State knows how to make news, because tourists have never been so numerous. In Budva, first tourist destination, the number of visitors has increased by almost a third compared to 2005. They are in majority Russian, then Slovenian and Italian. In order to develop, Montenegro relies on the beauty of its landscapes, the low cost of life and an environment still preserved... but till when? The question actually needs to be asked considering the speed at which luxury hotels and tourist complexes are built.

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[# Italia / The Italian Mediaset interested in the Dutch Endemol](#)

The Spanish Telefonica, owner of Endemol, have let know the Spanish stock-exchange authorities that they were considering selling partially or entirely their part of 75% in the company Endemol. Following this news, the Italian private TV group Mediaset, owned by the holding company Fininvest and thus by the former Italian head of State Silvio Berlusconi, evinced interest in this production company, famous for its reality-shows. He could make an offer and ally with John De Mol, Endemol's co-founder. The other candidates are the Australian media magnate Rupert Murdoch, and the French, Lagardère and Bernard Arnault. At the moment, the company is worth €2,6 billion.



[# France / France Télévisions : budget on the rise](#)

According to the French newspaper le Figaro, France Télévisions budget will meet an increase of 3% per year for 2008-2010. The French government pledged to rise the budget in 2008 by 3,5%, in order to take into account the television system switchover from analogical to digital (scheduled for 2011).

In 2009, the rise in budget should be by 2,9 %, and by 2,6% in 2010.

The Objectives and Resources Contract should be officially signed in the beginning of April.



[# France / Arte has signed its Objectives and Resources Contract](#)

In the beginning of March, the channel Arte France and the French government have signed the Objectives and Resources Contract which plans a rise in budget by 2,7% per year for 2007-2011. From €213 million before the rise, the budget will amount to €237 million after it.

The State intends to increase the channel license fees by 3.4% per year. In 2008 and 2009, there will be a more important increase, in order to face the broadcasting costs following the transitional period with both networks: analogical and digital.

On the other hand, Arte France made the pledge to raise its commercial revenues by 10% per year. The budget part devoted to the channel programs will be increased by 5.1% per year, progressively from €93 million to €113 million.



[# France / Canal + France: 11,5 million subscribers estimated for 2010](#)

Canal + France, born from an amalgamation of Canal Sat and TPS, plans to gain 1,3 million subscribers by 2010, for a total of 11,5 million. This should represent €700 million additional revenue. Overall, the group intends to achieve, in 2010, €5 billion total revenue. The new group Canal + France is 65% owned by Vivendi and 20% by Lagardère, 9.9% by TF1 and 5.1% by M6.

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[# Algeria / Filming continues for "Algiers, the Arab Cultural Capital 2007"](#)

Several shootings are currently taking place within the framework of "Algiers, the Arab Cultural Capital 2007".

"Mimezrane, la fille aux tresses" shot in the Wilaya of Adrar, it is a Cine film of Amazigh expression (full length movie, 90 minutes).

"Sur les traces de Jugurtha", documentary movie by the director Zoheir Roubèche, that recounts the lives of the Berber King Jugurtha, Numid chief, who defied Rome at the end of the 2nd century, before the Christian Era, in order to protect his country against foreign forey.

"Des ailes brisées" by the young director Roshd Djigouadi. A young boy and his adoptive father live from picking up trash in a shantytown next to a dump in the outskirts of Algiers...



[# Portugal / "Cristovao Colombo, o enigma" : Shooting](#)

"Cristovao Colombo, o enigma", is the last film by Manoel de Oliveira (photograph), 99 years old, the oldest film director in the world still in activity. His new film is based on the book "Cristovao Colon Era Portugues" by the researchers Manuel Luciano da Silva and Silvia Jorge da Silva. According to them, the famous navigator was born in a small village of the South of Portugal called Cuba, which explains why the biggest Carabean island bears

this name. The film is built around the lives of the two researchers who left Portugal for the United-States. In the main parts: Ricardo Trepa and Leonor Baldaque.

The filming takes place in several Portuguese towns, including Lisbon, and in the United-States, New York, New Port and Berkeley.

The sneak preview should be screened in July, in Washington, on the occasion of a visit of the President of the Portuguese Republic Anibal Cavaco Silva.

[# United-States / "West Bank story" Oscar for the best short film 2007](#)

"West Bank story", a 20 minute-long musical, deals with the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, with a new angle: humor ... It is set in West Bank, and stages two kiosks: one selling hummus, the other falafels. The first one "Kosher King" is kept by Jews, the second "Hummus Hut" by Palestinians. Fatima, the pretty cashier, and David, the handsome soldier, fall in love despite the rivalries between the two families, thus entailing the destruction of both kiosks. Yet, the two families end up working together to satisfy the population's appetite.

The director, Ari Sandel, Israeli-American, lives in Los Angeles. He believes there are too many documentaries about the conflict between Israelis and Palestinians that leave no hope for the future.

Morocco / Support for motion pictures production

The Commission to help the cinematographic production allotted 14.7 million dirhams (€1,317,000) paid as an advance before the production.

Eight film projects have been kept: six full length and two short films.

The full length films before production are:

"Histoire d'un lutteur Mchaouchi" by Mohamed Ahed Bensouda (3.5 million dirhams - €313,550)

"Majid" by Nassim Abassi (3 million dirhams - €268,757)

"Leïla" by Myriam Bakir (2.5 million dirhams - €223,922)

"Française" by Souad El Bouhati (2.5 million dirhams - €223,922) and finally

"Tamazight Oufila" by Mohamed Mernich (1.9 million dirhams - €170,181)

For the short films before production:

"Rêve-Eveil" by Ali Tahiri (250,000 dirhams - €22,392)

"Rires en larmes" by Mohamed Labdaoui (150,000 dirhams - €13,435)

Concerning the advance after their production, one full length film has been kept; it is Driss Chouika's "Le jeu de l'amour". He will receive the amount of 900,000 dirhams (€80,632).



France / Coming soon : "Délice Paloma"

The movie "Délice Paloma" by the director of Algerian origins, Nadir Mokneche (photograph) has been shot in Algiers during summer 2006 and should be released in May.

"Madame Algérie and her team solve people's problems for money. She is not afraid of getting her hand dirty to survive in a catch-as-

catch-can country.

Paloma, the new recruit, creates big effect in the eyes of everyone, to begin with Riyad, Madame Algérie's son. She is working on a case really close to her heart: the buyback of the Thermes de Caracalla, but this will be one case too many. She will this time lose her son and liberty".

In the main part, the actress Biyouna, who has already worked with the director Nadir Mokneche, in "Viva l'Algérie", very welcome by the critics when the movie, produced by the Films du Losange, was released in 2004.



[# France / "Cartouches gauloises" released in June](#)

"Cartouches gauloises" is the story of young Ali, 10, news dealer. Spring 1962, it is the last before the end of the war – the spring before the summer of Independence. Ali's world is the one of war, of childhood. In this world is Zina, a whore he fell in love with. There are bomb attacks. There is arbitrary nature; there is the violence of "pacification". And there is the movie theater where Ali comes and finds peace. And above all, there is Nico, his best friends. The young Moor and the young European hand in hand. But there are also raids, and French buddies who have to

go back home. And Ali more than anything, wants Nico to stay...

The shooting took place in Maghnia, the director Mehdi Charef's native town (photograph), and Tlemcen surroundings.

"Cartouches gauloises" is produced by Constantin Costa-Gavras and Michèle Ray-Gavras. The three of them here repeat their experience of working together, 20 years after "Thé au harem d'Archimède" (awarded César of the Best director of a first creation, in 1986). The release is planned for next June 27th.

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FESTIVALS

ZOOM OF THE MONTH : "Doc à Tunis"

New section in this Letter, a new focus on a festival, the CMCA chose "Doc à Tunis" (2nd édition).



At the initiative of Syhem Belkhodja, the team of the association "Ness el fen" had taken a tricky gamble last year: launching in Tunis a festival entirely devoted to the documentary genre. The gamble paid off... Let's just recall the surprise on Raed Andoni's face, the Palestinian director, after the screening of his film "Improvisation": *There were 400 spectators in Ramallah ... today I can see 2000 of them!*

The audience craze and assiduous presence at the screenings, allowed confirming the project. "Doc à Tunis" will thus celebrate its second anniversary from April 4th to 9th. The team's objective for the festival is to highlight the documentary genre and the originality of the creators' view in order to widely make known the works often neglected in favor of fictions.

Its initiator, Syhem Belkhodja, has created in Tunis a space for meetings and exchanges around the documentary genre to encourage the emergence of young Tunisian documentary makers, like it was the case last year, in particular for "VHS Kahloucha", Nejjib Belkadhi's first film, screened in many prestigious festivals. *"At a time when technology allows most people to gain access to audiovisual expression, the documentary genre is threatened to become poor, easy and to perpetuate what it always fought for: clichés and generally accepted ideas! Even worse, the documentary could come to trivialize the unacceptable, instead of raising awareness. Here is the other side of the coin!"* said the team of the festival about how television deals with war and society problems and about the lack of means Southern filmmakers are confronted with, in order to give their own viewpoint concerning the current topics related to their countries.

This will be one of the major questions of this second edition, that is to say unequal opportunity for the independent documentary cinema confronted to the TV product.

The festival program will be even more demanding this year. In addition to the International selection of "Doc à Tunis", there will be a free hand given to different festivals such as "Documentaire sur Grand Ecran" (Paris), "Docudays" (Beyrouth), the "Festival de Lussas" (France) and the "FID" in Marseilles (International Festival for Documentary). Thierry Garrel, Director of the ARTE Documentary Department will present 3 film from the channel. The opening ceremony will focus on sport. Two films will be screened: one on boxing "J'en ai vu des étoiles...", film by Hichem Ben Ammar, directed with very little means, and "Zidane, un portrait du 21^{ème} siècle" *super production centered on the technical prowess*, and directed by Philippe Parreno and Douglas Gordon.

This second edition will, without a doubt, give life to the city centre and will fill the movie theaters of Tunis "Mondial", "Colisée", "Parnasse" and "Africa" where the festival will take place. It will turn Tunis, already a pioneer in the diffusion of cinema with the Journées Cinématographiques de Carthage, into a Southern capital for the defense of Cinema.
<http://nesselfen.org>

[# United-States / 6th edition of the Chicago Palestine Film Festival 14-26 April](#)
[# Africa / 20th FESPACO 24 February-3 March.](#)
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[# France/ 29th Cinéma du réel - International Documentary Film Festival 9-18 March](#)
[# Morocco / 13th Tetouan International Mediterranean Film Festival 24-31 March](#)
[# Israel / 9th Docaviv, the Tel-Aviv International Documentary Film Festival 15-24 March](#)
[# Greece / 9th Thessaloniki Documentary Festival 16-25 March](#)
[# France / 5th edition of the Panorama of Contemporary Greek Cinema 21-27 March](#)
[# France/ 14th Grand Reportage Film Festival \(FIGRA\) 21-25 March](#)

[# United-States / 6th edition of the Chicago Palestine Film Festival 14-26 April](#)

The sixth edition of the Chicago Palestinian Film Festival starts on April 14th. The film "Leïla Khaled: Hijacker" by a director of Palestinian origin, living in Sweden, Lina MakBoul, will be screened during the opening ceremony. It is a portrayal of Leïla Khaled, who in 1969 made history by becoming the first woman to hijack an airplane ...

This year, the festival proposes to value debates, with several guests: Hamid Dabashi, Hagop Kevorkian, As'ad Abukhalil (teachers in different prestigious American universities), Jennifer Bing-Canar, coordinator of the program for Peace between Palestine and Israel... Fifteen films have been selected to enter this year competition : among others "Good morning Qalqilia" by the Palestinian director Dima Abu Gush (26 minutes), and especially "It's not a gun" by Hélène Cotinier and Pierre-Nicolas Durand (France - 67 minutes), also selected for the 11th edition of the CMCA International Prize for Mediterranean Documentary and Reportage. The film recounts the story of the first school of music for Palestinian kids: in September 2005, the association Al Kamandjati (the violinist) opens its first free school of music for children from the Palestinian camps of refugees. Since summer 2003, its President, a young Palestinian who's been studying music at the conservatoire in Angers for 5 years, sends French musicians to initiate the kids to music. "It's not a gun" follows the dream of those young people and confronts it to the reality.

[# Africa / 20th FESPACO 24 February- 3 March](#)

This festival which took place from February 24th to March 3rd in Ouagadougou, has rewarded the following Mediterranean films:

In the full length fiction category, the Algerian director Djamila Sahraoui won three prizes for her film "Barakat": First creation, Best Script and Best Music.

"Making off", by the Tunisian director Nouri Bouzid has been awarded the prizes for the Best Montage and the Best Actor.

The Prize for the Best Documentary went to "Ejido, la loi du profit" by the Moroccan director Rhalib Jawad.

In the short film category, two awards went to the Moroccan director Mohamed A Bensouda for "R'DA" and to the Tunisian Mohamed Ben Attia, director of "Kif Lokhrim".

Noticeable event of the festival: Unesco has rewarded the FESPACO for its militancy in favour of cinematographic arts, with the highest distinction granted to cultural institutions throughout the world, the medal *Fédérico Fellini*.

<http://www.fespaco.bf>

[# Italia / 17th edition of the African, Asian and Latin American Film Festival 19-25 March](#)

Two Mediterranean films have caught the Jury's attention during the African, Asian and Latin American Festival, held in Milan from 19 to 25 March:

The award for the African full-length film was given to "La tendresse du loup" by Jilani Saadi (Tunisia) for the modernity of its cinematographic writing and the realism with which is handled the topic of the conflict between men and women and the macho society in which they live.

In the African documentary category, a special mention has been granted to "Une mémoire en miroir" by Cheikh Djemaï (Algeria/France)

<http://www.festivalcinemaaficano.org/>

[# France/ 29th Cinéma du réel - International Documentary Film Festival 9-18 March](#)

This festival 29th edition has proposed 24 films from 19 different countries, all previously unreleased, a majority of which was from Asia and Europe, but only three from Mediterranean countries (Greece, Italy, Israel).

12 French films have been selected for the competition. All sized-works, which, in their contents, paint a rather dark portray of the planet, and, in their forms, pose as acts of "*resistance to television formatting*". "*I rejected many films where nothing stuck out, visibly created to end up in a precise time slot on TV*", said the festival manager, Marie-Pierre Muller.

A free hand had been given to Bouchra Khalili, manager of the film library in Tangier and a member of the Festival International Jury, who was presenting a selection of Moroccan and Spanish films.

Le Grand Prix du Cinéma du réel went to "Santiago" by Joao Moreira Salles (Brazil), le Prix International de la Scam to "L'école de cirque" by Guo Jing et Ke Dingding (China) and "Et après II" by Hosup Lee (South Korea).

<http://www.cinedureel.org>

[# Morocco / 13th Tetouan International Mediterranean Film Festival 24-31 March](#)

Created in 1985 by the association of Moroccan cine clubs, this festival which now takes place every two years, has considerably widened its audience by welcoming 40 000 spectators. And it is among more than 500 films from the countries from the Mediterranean basin that have been selected the 38 films of the competition.

The 11 full-length film in competition for the Grand prix de la ville de Tétouan represent Spain, Croatia, Egypt, France, Greece, Italy, Morocco (2 films), Serbia, Syria, Tunisia.

Concerning short films, let's note the vitality of the Moroccan production with films in this short film competition.

As for documentary, it constitutes this year a competitive section with 11 films coming from Algeria, Belgium, Egypt, Italy, Lebanon (2 films), Morocco (3 films), Tunisia and Syria.

A particular attention is given to young cinema, especially through a program of film school projects, such as the Femis (France), Ecam (Spain), IESAV (Lebanon) and the Polish national film school de Lodz.

Less well-known, Caribbean cinema will appear in a program entitled "l'invité de la Méditerranée".

<http://www.festivaltetouan.com>

[# Israël / 9th Docaviv, the Tel-Aviv International Documentary Film Festival 15-24 March](#)

Created in 1998 to promote the documentary genre in Israel, *Docaviv 2007* has started on March 15th in Tel-Aviv film library, with the screening of *Shalosh Paamim Megureshet* ("Three time divorced") by Ibtisam Mara'ana, which obtained the Prize for the Israeli Film. Let's recall that this director was the laureate of the CMCA International Prize for Mediterranean Documentary and Reportage in 2006, with her film "Badal", rewarded with the Broadcasting Prize "RAI TRE.Mediterranean"

The Prize for the Best School Film went to "Reaching Hedva", by Nadav Noah, Israel (2006). Serge Toubiana, manager of the French film library was a member of the International Jury of the competition that rewarded his prize to Georgi Lazarevski, for "Voyage in G Major", France (2006).

<http://docaviv.co.il/2007/>

[# Greece / 9th Thessaloniki Documentary Festival 16-25 March](#)

Entitled "Images du 21^{ème} siècle", this festival proposes a wide range of Greek and international documentaries definitely socially oriented.

Furthermore, several special Prizes are awarded: four Audience Awards, a Critics Award (FIPRESCI Award), the Award by WWF and the Human Rights Award.

Let's note that the films of four directors who have taken part into the CMCA workshop or series (Eva Stefani, Pandora Mouriki et Marco Gastine) are among the international and Greek selected works.

The "DocMarket", now held for nine years during the festival, has become an international event, with this year 480 films on the festival list, meant for the buyers of the 47 countries represented on the market.

Within the framework of "DocMarket", EDN (European Documentary Network) is the organiser of the script pitching, where are presented 20 projects, among which the films of directors from Bosnia, Bulgaria, Croatia, Greece, Italy, Portugal, and Serbia.

Moreover, workshops and conferences, Master Class, on various topics related to documentary direction and production and new media are proposed to professionals and to the festival audience.

<http://www.filmfestival.gr/>

[# France / 5th edition of the Panorama of Contemporary Greek Cinema 21-27 March](#)

Consulate General from Greece in Paris, together with the French Directors and Producers Association (ARP) and the Greek Film Centre (CCG) organises this event since 2000. This year, it was held at the *Cinéma des Cinéastes* in Paris, with the support of the filmmaker Costa Gavras, and it offered the opportunity to see Greek films (full-length fictions and documentaries) hardly broadcast in France. Let's note that Marco Gastine, Greek director of the 6th documentary series coordinated by the CMCA; was presenting a long version (87') of the film he directed in Marseilles, 2004, about French people with Greek origins who live in this city.

[# France/ 14th Grand Reportage Film Festival \(FIGRA\) 21-25 March](#)

Since its creation in 1993, the FIGRA strives to promote the news Grand Reportage and the society Documentary. It proposes, during five days, a diversified program around the TV and film industries, photography, punctuated with audience meeting professionals to debate.

On the festival list this year, 95 society documentaries and grand reportages produced in 2006, 23 films in competition and 16 films in the category *Autrement vu*.

The Grand Prize / Audience Award was given to "La malédiction de notre fille" by Manon Loizeau and Alexis Marant

The Reporters Without Borders Award went to "Pas en notre nom" by Philippe Borrel and Dietklind Lerner, 57'(France – co-production. Dissidents/Arte France)

The Award Best Film Editing to "Le photographe de l'exode" by Justin Webster and Ricard Belis, 28' (Spain – co- production Televisio de Catalunya and JW Productions)

The FIGRA 2007 edition was dedicated to Christophe de Ponfilly, producer and director, faithful to the FIGRA, who tragically died right after finishing his first fiction "L'Étoile du soldat", set and directed in Afghanistan.

<http://www.figra.fr>

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THE PRODUCERS' WAY

This section is written in collaboration with the APIMED, the Association for Mediterranean Independent Producers, and is devoted to their projects, film and documentary shootings, to come or in process.

"VIVANTES" (Alive)

The Algerian producer and member of the APIMED Governing Board, **Nadia Cherabi** has just produced the full-length fiction "**Vivantes**" by the director **Said Ould Khelifa**, it is his 3th film.

It is based on a true squalor story that occurred on 14 July 2001. In Hassi Messaoud, a big oil-producing city of Sahara located at 1000 kilometres southward from Algiers, many women go to this Eldorado to earn a living, often as house cleaner, and provide for her family who stayed in Algerian Western villages. Housed in garages or sheds often rented at a very high price by less-than-scrupulous owners, they meet every night to sing and dance together, but above all to forget their grinding poverty. On the 14 July 2001, at night, three hundred men between 15 and 30 attacked them, beat them up and raped them, giving as a pretext that they were women "without men" and thus inevitably under suspicion of being loose women. This is the tragedy the director recounts, with, in the background, a love story.

In the main parts: Rym Takoucht, Farid Bentoumi, Samia Meziane, Hadjila Khelladi, Faïza Kouaïl...

It is a co-production ENTV (Algerian TV) and Procom international together with Mact Productions.

This film belongs to the event "Algiers, the Arab Cultural Capital 2007".

COLLAGE FILMS, Palestinian Territories

Dima Abu Ghoush, from Collage films in the Palestinian Territories, currently works on a documentary project devoted to a young Palestinian whose family left the Palestinian Territories to go to the United-States, after the long siege of Ramallah in 2002.

Her film, "Good Morning Qalqilia" has been selected for the Barcelone Women Film Festival and also for the Chicago Palestine Film Festival (starting next April 14).

For further information, please contact the APIMED office:

Tel. : + 34 93 244 98 50 / Fax : + 34 93 247 01 65 / info@apimed.org

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TELEGRAMS...

- Patrick Péchoux, the deputy director of France 3 programs died on March 13th at the age of 41. He had started to work for France 3 in 2001, and had been successively advisor for the programs department and director of the fiction unit. He is the initiator of the program "Plus belle la vie", very popular in France, with almost 6 million viewers who every night follow the life of the inhabitants of a working-class (fictional) area of Marseilles.
- Frédérick-Louis Boulay has been appointed, beginning of March, general deputy director in charge of TV Monde news, succeeding to Philippe Dessaint. Born in May 1953, he started his career in 1972 working for the ORTF, then TF1 for 3 years, responsible for the evening news editing. Afterward, he became deputy Director of the editing team for the group Canal+, then director of airtime for Canal+ Belgium and in charge of the programs for Canal+ Africa.
- Eric Stemmelen has been appointed director of airtime and programs of France 2. Born in 1952, he started working for France Télévisions in 1994; he was then director of the research and study department of the group, and director of the programs on France 2. In October 2005, director of the programs harmony of France Télévisions and in July 2006, in charge of France Télévisions international co-productions. Since January 2007, he is director of France 2 programs.

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INITIATIVES

[# Transdocumentales 2007 – Call for programmes](#)

The Transdocumentales, a place to exchange and think about training, creation, diffusion, and professionalization and promotion of the documentary genre, launch their third edition of training for young authors-directors, postgraduate and self-taught. Twelve trainees will be chosen: 6 Italian, 3 from the Mediterranean basin and 3 French.

The aim of this training is to offer the opportunity to young budding scriptwriters and directors to learn new forms of scriptwriting, new ways of filming reality by directing short film between 6 and 12 minutes, shot in Marseilles, in pairs of people from different nationalities, thus encouraging innovating scheme of international coproductions collaboration.

For 2007, the Transdocumentales theme is "Thirst".

This year's edition surrounds itself with acknowledged professionals who supervise and help the 12 trainees in their projects. The films shot early September in Marseilles, will be screened during the Transdocumentales, before the people involved in the audiovisual sector and the audience of Marseilles.

To be able to participate, you must send:

- The application form
- A Curriculum Vitae
- A cover letter
- A video (Max. 10 minutes)
- A synopsis and a few lines on your intentions.

For further information, you can contact:

Cinéma en lumière Tél. : 00 33 4 95 04 96 22

E-mail: reel@cinemaenlumiere.asso.fr

Website: <http://www.cinemaenlumiere.asso.fr>

Deadline for subscription: 15 May 2007

(The training costs (i.e. teaching costs) are fully paid by the Transdocumentales partners.)

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