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## MEDITERRANEE AUDIOVISUELLE Monthly Newsletter

In the summary of this February issue, the Greek festival at Thessalonica which celebrates its tenth anniversary; a close up on addoc.net, the web-site of documentary film-makers; life at the CMCA with in particular the 13<sup>th</sup> International Festival of Mediterranean Documentary and News Reporting; and, as every month, news about the Mediterranean from Europe and the current productions from the independent producers at Apimed.

Happy reading.....

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## Life at the CMCA

### 13<sup>th</sup> International Festival of Mediterranean Documentary and News Reporting

#### REMINDER

Do not forget to send your films and registration forms to participate in this year's **International Festival of Mediterranean Documentary and News Reporting** organised by the CMCA in partnership with RAI

**At the end of this documentary competition, five prizes will be awarded:**

- **CMCA Grand Prix: "Mediterranean Stakes" (6,000€)**
- **"Mediterranean Memories" (5,000€)**
- **"First Work" (5,000€)**
- **"Mediterranean Art, Heritage and Cultures" (5,000€)**
- **Special Jury Prize (5,000€), any category.**

**A prize for television magazine programmes:**

- **The Faro d'oro Prize for the best magazine programme**

Two prizes are given by representatives of the television channels RAITRE (Italy) and ENTV (Algeria) to the finalists in any category.

For more information, and to obtain the application form, contact the CMCA on 00 33 (0)4 91 42 03 02

Email: [prix@cmca-med.org](mailto:prix@cmca-med.org)

Or go to the CMCA web-site: <http://www.cmca-med.org/fr/le-prix/edition2008.php>

**PLEASE NOTE: deadline for receiving entry forms and works:**

**27th April 2008**

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## [# An appeal for applications for a training workshop on "Writing from archival sources".](#)

CMCA, INA Méditerranée and the Cinéma au Soleil are setting up an audiovisual training workshop on "writing from archival sources".

Supported by the Paca Region through PRIDES Image, the aims of this training are:

- To make people working in the audiovisual business on both sides of the Mediterranean aware of the importance of preserving our audiovisual heritage by targeting the people in television who use the archives every day for news and magazine programmes.
- To acquire and deepen skills in the selection and journalistic narration of items based on audiovisual archives
- To make a short film (2-3 minutes) during the workshop, using INA's archives and those of Mediterranean television companies, all from the same image bank. The theme chosen being the port of Marseille.

The public targeted by this workshop: journalists and audiovisual professionals with at least three years' experience working in Mediterranean-based television companies which are part of the CMCA and ASBU (Association of Arab Television Companies) network, or alternatively working in audiovisual companies and societies of the Paca Region.

### **The number of trainees chosen: 8**

This training draws together professionals working in INA's audiovisual archive, writers, reporters and editors. It will consist of two sessions:

### **The 1<sup>st</sup> training module will be in Marseille and last 5 days, from the 21<sup>st</sup> to the 25<sup>th</sup> April:**

The first day will be dedicated to audiovisual archives (principals of preservation and safe-keeping; the bases of a critical approach to sources; how not to get lost with all the archival images; the technical and legal constraints of using the images).

The second day will make the trainees aware of narrative construction from an archival subject.

The third and following days will be for making a short film from a bank of archival images.

### **The second session will be three days in Marseille from the 15<sup>th</sup> to the 17<sup>th</sup> October with the following programme:**

Training in use of a DV camera, filming an aspect of the port of Marseille and editing a short film using both the specially shot material and archival images of the port from the first module.

The workshop will take place in the premises of the CMCA and INA Méditerranée. It will be held in French.

The deadline for receiving applications: 10<sup>th</sup> March 2008

Applications and all your questions about registration should be sent to the CMCA:  
[cmca@cmca-med.org](mailto:cmca@cmca-med.org)



Created in Paris in 1992, Addoc (Association des cinéastes documentaristes) is a meeting-place and discussion centre open to film-makers, technicians – indeed to everyone involved in making documentaries.

The Association developed with two principal aims in view: firstly to support creative documentaries, from the initial idea to distribution or broadcast; secondly to channel contemporary thinking about cinema documentaries, encouraging thought and discussion, but from a practical starting-point.

Addoc takes a positive part in the debates about public television, what makes a documentary, the support mechanisms, conditions of creation and distribution. It particularly upholds the idea that the film-maker is the originator of the film.

The Association's activities are varied: organising debates in festivals, public workshops based round screenings, publications and events to make people aware of documentaries.

*"Through our activities we try to bring film-makers together, since often they are isolated, and in that way, stronger, we can encourage the many different ways of looking at reality. For us connecting practical problems with aesthetic and political ideas is a natural extension and enhancement of our job as film-makers."*

Addoc's web-site is a window on the association's activities. Everything that's going on at Addoc is shown there. There is also a mass of general information. Brought up to date each week, the site:

- Informs the public about meetings and events throughout France (festivals, screenings, debates)
- Comments on the political and economic situation of documentary films
- Passes on appeals from different festivals for films and participants.
- Gives information about documentary training and grants

Each week the new items on the site are published in a newsletter which had more than 2,000 subscribers at the beginning of this year. Signing up for the newsletter can be done on the site's homepage.

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## LIFE IN THE CHANNELS

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[# Algeria / Project for a Parliamentary Channel](#)



Abdelaziz Ziari, president of the Algerian parliament, the Assemblée Populaire Nationale (APN) has announced: “we are planning to launch our own television channel in partnership with ENTV (Algerian national television).” It would not be exclusively parliamentary, but a themed channel working with ENTV. For, according to the president of the APN, “parliamentary television world-wide has shown its limits. Most projects have failed because a television channel needs money and so it has to work 24 hours a day.” At the moment no date has been given for the launch.

[# France / Creation of a holding company France Monde](#)



Alain de Pouzilhac (photo) has been appointed by Nicolas Sarkozy, President of the French Republic, to prepare and create a holding company called France Monde, which will bring under one umbrella the state participation in RFI, TV 5 Monde and France 24. In a statement from the Elysee it was announced that “*M. De Pouzilhac will head this new company to modernise and re-vitalise French and French-language public broadcasting abroad.*” M. De Pouzilhac said that his “*first step would be to meet everyone concerned with French broadcasting abroad; I shall supervise the creation of this new company in accordance with the instructions I have received, in a spirit of open-mindedness and cooperation.*” Christine Ockrent will join the board of the future holding company as Director General.



[# France / Creation of a commission for a new public television](#)

On the 19<sup>th</sup> February President Nicolas Sarkozy created a commission for a “*new public television*”, the broad outlines of which he has already sketched out. For him it will be a new form of public broadcasting fit for the 21<sup>st</sup> century, a “*major tool in popular culture*”, liberated from “*the tyranny of the audience*”. The commission will decide whether by the beginning of 2009 advertising should disappear entirely or instead be progressively phased out, for example after 8.00 p.m. To make up for the loss of revenue from commercials the commission will have to find a “*mixed bag of resources*”. Composed of professionals and members of parliament, the committee is

headed by Jean-François Copé, Member of Parliament and President of the UMP group in the Assemblée Nationale. The Commission's findings will be made known at the end of May



#### [# Italy / DTT and the European Court of Justice](#)

Last February the European Court of Justice found the 1997 law restricting digital television frequencies to existing channels illegal. At the time that meant only RAI and Mediaset. The case was brought to the Court in 1999 by the private television channel Centro Europa 7, which has never been able to broadcast since it has not been given a frequency, even though it has an analogue concession to transmit over the national territory. All the company's numerous complaints have been rejected by the Italian authorities.

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## PROGRAMMES

### [# France / Shooting the summer 2008 series in Morocco and Provence](#)

Starting in mid-February and continuing until April, the French director Stephan Kurk has been shooting the series "Terre de Lumière" (Land of Light) for the public channel France 2. Shot in Morocco and Provence the four 90 minute episodes will be broadcast in the summer of 2008.

The story takes place at the beginning of the 1930's in the south of France. Aline Boissières is a wild, free young girl whose life is destined to be turned upside down when she meets Arnaud Villers, her brother's army friend, during the 14th July national holiday. Their intense, blinding love binds them for eternity. Fate, however, will play mercilessly with the lovers: Arnaud is killed in Morocco under the eyes of Henry, who has to bear the news back to his sister, pregnant by Arnaud. Later she meets Paul Desmazures, a teacher, widower and father of three. They marry. But a strange curse seems attached to Aline: the men who get close to her die. With the energy of despair Aline leaves for southern Morocco with part of her family.

The Moroccan sequences will be filmed at Ouarzazate and its region, in the Taourirt Casbah, around Ghessate, Lake Fint, Tiouiyine and Oued R'bat.

The overall budget is 2 million euro. In the cast Mélanie Maudran (Aline), Philippe Lefebvre (Henri), Alexis Michalik ( Arnaud). 1,400 shooting days are scheduled for walk-ons.

### [# France / France 5 new Sunday documentary slot](#)

On the 17th February France 5, principal national broadcaster of documentaries with 3,500 hours in 2007 (and a budget of 30 million euro) has launched a new documentary slot "Le doc du dimanche" (The Sunday Doc.) Scheduled for 4.45 p.m., it will offer, according to channel director Philippe Vilamitjana, "enthraling, questing, provoking documentaries which try to make sense of the life of a society, a country, a history."

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## ECONOMY

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[# Spain / Canal + High Definition](#)

SES Astra, subsidiary of SES has announced the launch of Canal + HD, the first high definition Spanish channel, as part of its satellite broadcasting system. This new channel will be part of the Digital + bouquet which belongs to the Spanish pay-TV group Sogecable. Canal + HD's programmes include films, series and important sporting events like the UEFA 2008 European Football Championship, whose 31 matches will be re-transmitted in high definition.



[# Europe / Drop in cinema attendance](#)

According to a study done by the European Audiovisual Observatory, attendance in cinemas in the EU fell last year by 2.2%, or 910 million entries. There are however great differences between the countries. In Germany entries fell by 8.2%, in Spain 7.7% and in France 5.6% - whereas they increased in the UK (+3.7%) and in Italy (+8.4%), which registered its best score for 20 years.



[# France / Cinema: record level of investments](#)

For the year 2007 a billion euro were invested in films originating in France, nearly twice the 1999 level. 228 films were produced, as against 203 in 2006. The main players in French film production today are Gaumont, Pathé, UGC and EuropaCorp. As far as distributors are concerned, the arrival of two new companies, Studio 37 (a subsidiary of France Telecom) and the independent Wild Bunch, both boosted film finance.



#### [# France / INA – TF1](#)

The private French channel TF1 has chosen the Institut National de l'Audiovisuel (INA) to market all its televised news and current affairs programmes produced between 1989 and 2006. The exclusive world-wide deal should benefit other professional news broadcasters.



#### [# France / Football: League One TV rights bought](#)

Canal + and Orange have finally won the bid to broadcast French League One matches from 2008 until 2012. The price was 668 million euro which will be paid by the two companies. Canal+ and Orange thus share the 12 lots put to auction.

Canal+ takes Premium 1 and 2, giving it the rights to the 38 Sunday evening matches and Orange takes Premium 3, the 38 Saturday evening matches.

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## CINEMA

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[# Morocco / Shooting "Green Zone"](#)

The English director Paul Greengrass will begin shooting his film "Green Zone" in Rabat.

Taken from the book by Rajiv Chandrasekaran, the story is about the American wheeling and dealing in Iraq and the way the interim government, put in place by the Bush administration, was made up of the president's loyal friends rather than efficient and capable people. Why was there no one at the head of government who could speak Arabic? Why were no national reconstruction experts employed after the war? The thriller unfolds in the Green Zone, a fortified area where the American troops in Iraq live. In the principal roles: Matt Damon will play an officer trying to find weapons of mass destruction, Amy Ryan plays a New York Times journalist and Greg Kinnear a CIA agent.



[# Morocco / "Adieu Mères" shown in preview](#)

In Rabat at the beginning of February the Moroccan director Mohamed Ismail presented his film "Adieu Mères" (Farewell Mothers) about the friendship of a Muslim and a Jewish family. Friends since childhood, Brahim (the Muslim) and Henry (the Jew) are partners in a saw-mill. Their wives, Fatima and Ruth, are also very close. The calm of their lives is shattered when Henry is seduced by Zionist organisations, present in Morocco since the early 1940's. He decides to return to the "promised land", yet his family carry with them their love and attachment to the land of their birth.



[# Morocco / Creation of a "Film Commission"](#)

Nouredine Sail, president of the Centre Cinématographique Marocain (CCM) will head a new film commission to find ways of developing the film business in Ouarzazate, which already hosts one of the largest film studios in the world. It aims to increase the number of national and international films shot there by making life easier for production companies and promoting locations and local resources, even creating a Ouarzazate label. The CCM's partners in the Commission will include the Souss Massa Drâa Regional Council, the Regional Investment

Centre, the Provincial Tourist Board and other local and regional organisations. The stated aim is to build Ouarzazate as the major film production centre in Africa by 2016.



#### [#Egypt / Shooting “Laylet Al-Baby Doll” \(The Night of the Baby Doll\)](#)

Adel Adeeb the Egyptian director is currently shooting “Laylet Al-Baby Doll” from a scenario written by his late father Abdel-Hay Adib. The story follows Wagdi, a tourist guide. Enmeshed in marital difficulties, Wagdi thinks he has found a solution to his problems when he accepts a job offered by the tourist agency for which he works: to go with a group of American tourists between Washington and Cairo. The day he returns to Egypt, anticipating a night of romantic reconciliation with his wife, he buys her a skimpy, suggestive night-dress (baby doll). But instead he becomes the target of a terrorist attack; his life is turned upside down. In the main roles are Mahmoud Abdel Aziz as Wagdi (photo), Nour El Sherif, Yousra Oloui and Layla Oloui. The film should be released in the summer of 2008.

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## FESTIVALS

### Close Up on the **Thessalonica Documentary Festival**



The Thessalonica Documentary Festival – Images of the 21st Century – was created in March 1999. The important thing for the organisers was to help the public discover the fast expanding and changing world of documentary – changes brought about in part by the rapid advances in digital technology, increasing output both artistic and communication-information, and in part by the rising globalisation which marked the beginning of this 21st century. They were right, for each year the festival draws 22,000 spectators, including a huge participation of foreign and local film industry personalities and professionals. For Dimitri Eipides, the founder and artistic director of the Festival, one of the objectives of this festival was *“to set up a prestige international event, a sort of stepping stone for documentary film-makers. A meeting place for Greek directors where they could discover all the new trends and technologies. The images on offer – social, historical, political but also showing the everyday reality of ordinary people – can shock, move, upset, amuse but that’s the aim of the festival, its purpose, to push people into thinking.*

*“Every March at Thessalonica we encourage thousands of enthusiasts to explore human nature in depth.”*

Every year in collaboration with the European Documentary Network (EDN) the Festival organises a Pitching Forum and the International Doc Market (in partnership with ERT, Greek television). These two activities have both made the event richer and contributed to creating a network of documentary professionals.

The Festival gives 8 awards every year:

Two for films of more than 45 minutes (one Greek, one foreign) of 3,000€ each

Two for films of less than 45 minutes (one Greek, one foreign) of 1,500€ each

One public award for a Greek film

One public award for a foreign film

The Fipresci Prize for a Greek film and another for a foreign film

This year, celebrating its tenth anniversary, the Festival will take place between the 7th and the 16th of March. On the programme Greek and foreign productions, in particular on “the

Rwanda genocide, the Srebrenica massacre, the Cambodian Khmers Rouge, but also on Burma, Darfur, Kenya and even on the recent big fires in Greece.”

## Other Festivals

[# Morocco / National Festival of Amateur Films](#)

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[# Tunisia / 10th International Festival of Very Short Films](#)

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### [# Morocco / National Festival of Amateur Films](#)

The National Festival of Amateur Films which this year celebrates its second edition was started by the “7th Art” Association and the Settat Town Council. It will take place between the 2nd and the 5th April and is organised around three strands:

- An official competition, open to both Moroccan amateur film-makers and people living full-time in Morocco who can present their films. The maximum length is 18 minutes. The three best films are given prizes.
- Three training workshops, one for script-writing, one for filming and one for editing.
- Conferences and debates about issues relevant to amateur film-makers in Morocco and indeed throughout the world.

For more information: [septiemart\\_settat@yahoo.fr](mailto:septiemart_settat@yahoo.fr) or [yagdam@yahoo.fr](mailto:yagdam@yahoo.fr)

Festival International d'Art vidéo  
de Casa



### [# Morocco / 15th Casablanca International Festival of Video Art](#)

From the 19th to the 22nd March there will be the 15th Casablanca International Festival of Video Art. Started by the Faculty of Letters and Human Sciences at the University Hassan II Ben M'Sick, this Festival has several objectives:

- To allow young Moroccan and foreign creators to exchange information and experiences in the worlds of video art and multimedia.
- To promote the works of young artists, giving them the chance to present and debate their works in the presence of artists and professionals working in video art.
- To encourage inter-university exchanges
- To encourage exchanges between students, young artists and professionals so as to make the transition to professionalism easier for young creators.

In the programme this year: presentations of video art, journalism, fiction, a round table, workshops as well as artistic meetings.



### [# Tunisia / 10th International Festival of Very Short Films](#)

The Festival of Very Short Films is organised world-wide by the production company Nanosphere Productions, and in Tunisia with the help of Tunisiana. Its aim is to promote films with a maximum length of three minutes excluding titles and credits. The tenth Festival of Very Short Films will happen between the 28th April and the 11th May 2008 in France, Tunisia as well as in Canada, Belgium, Luxemburg, Germany, Rumania, Mali .....in total in 12 countries.

The Very Short Film Festival selects about 50 films chosen internationally and shows them at a single screening lasting about two hours. It is also a competition, with three awards given by a jury and a public prize. The screenings are organised simultaneously in about 50 towns in France but also around the world.

Deadline for sending your films:

International selection: 3rd March 2008

Tunisian national selection: 3rd April 2008

For more information and registration: <http://www.tunisiana.com>





### [# Egypt / Launch of the 12th Ismailia International Festival of Documentaries and Short Films](#)

The Egyptian Film Centre has just launched the 12th International Festival of Documentaries and Short Films at Ismailia. It will be held between the 15th and the 22nd October this year. The aim of the Festival is to encourage intercultural dialogue and support documentary and short film directors. It consists of two sections:

One is competitive with 5 awards: prize for a long documentary (more than 60 minutes); prize for a short documentary (maximum 60 minutes); experimental short film prize and prize for best animation.

The other is non-competitive, screening films outside the competition, a focus, a retrospective.

Deadline for registration and sending films: 15th July 2008

For more information: 00 202 358 51 613

[www.egyptianfilmcenter.org.eg](http://www.egyptianfilmcenter.org.eg)

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## THE EURO-MEDITERRANEAN WAY



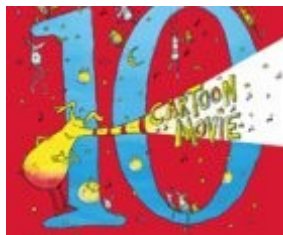
MEDIA (the EU support programme for the European audiovisual industry) has just published the results of two studies:

One concerns dubbing and sub-titling, assessing current practices in the 31 member countries participating in the MEDIA programme (the 27 EU member states plus Norway, Iceland, Liechtenstein and Switzerland). The study consists of benchmarking the current practices and provides recommendations on measures to be implemented at Community level to enable linguistic diversity, while lowering the barriers to the circulation of European audiovisual works on the international market.

The other study concerns continuous training in the European audiovisual industries and was prepared for the MEDIA programme of the European Commission by the strategy consultant Olsberg SPI

For the complete results of these studies:

[http://ec.europa.eu/information\\_society/media/overview/evaluation/studies/index\\_fr.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/information_society/media/overview/evaluation/studies/index_fr.htm)



### [48 Projects chosen for CARTOON MOVIE 2008](#)

For its tenth edition, Cartoon Movie will take place at **Potsdam** in Germany from the **5th to the 7th March**. It will host 48 projects for full-length animation films (completed, in production or in development). French professionals once again lead the number of selections with 20 projects, followed by the Germans with 12, the Spanish with 6, the Belgians and the Danes with 5 each. As a whole the projects offered to

the expected **500 professionals** represent **16 European nationalities** and more than **325 million euros of budget**. The event is supported by MEDIA, and if one of the priorities remains finding financial partners, keeping abreast of the latest developments in the world of animation is equally important.

For a complete list of the works chosen: [www.cartoon-media.be](http://www.cartoon-media.be)



### [“The Documentary and the crisis in public television” in debate with Discovery](#)

Between the 7th and 8th March Discovery Campus Master-school 2008 is organising the first symposium on the theme of the crisis in European public television at Brussels. It will be the chance to question European broadcasters, producers and

directors on the causes and consequences of the decline. The discussions will more particularly focus on the documentary sector.

Starting from concrete examples like the BBC’s “Storyville” which had its budget cut by half, debates will focus on the difficulties encountered by most channels to programme documentaries and the irresistible rise of entertainment programmes. Recent original initiatives, like those of Channel 4, ARTE, SVT offering new forms of artistic documentaries, will also be analysed.

**On-line registration:** [www.discovery-campus.de](http://www.discovery-campus.de)

For more information, email: [info@discovery-campus.de](mailto:info@discovery-campus.de)



### [MFI Script workshops \(Mediterranean Film Institute\)](#)

This advanced **screenwriting training** initiative brings together European and international script-writers who will work in four work groups supervised and aided by experienced tutors. Authors, writing teachers, producers, dramaturges can also take part as observers.

In all, **28 participants** are expected, 20 of them bringing their own project. The aim of the four work sessions (of which two are on-line) is to allow participants to **develop their project** from treatment to scenario. An advanced method will be used to guarantee the scenario is compatible with the film industry.

1st session: from the 22nd June to the 5th July, on the Greek island of Nissyros

2nd session: September 2008, on-line

3rd session: from the 12th to the 18th October on the Greek island of Samos

4th session: December 2008, on-line.

**To take part:** [www.mfi.gr](http://www.mfi.gr)

**Deadline for registration:** 15th March 2008

**Contact:** Mediterranean Film Institute – P.O.Box 13759, Athens 10310, Greece

Tel/fax: 00 30 210 645 7223 email: [info@mfi.gr](mailto:info@mfi.gr) Web-site: [www.mfi.gr](http://www.mfi.gr)



### [FACE: the Council of Europe's award](#)

The **Council of Europe**, an institution quite distinct from the European Union with 47 member states, gives the FACE award to a director whose film has best increased the public's awareness of Human Rights. The prize is a **sculpture in bronze** and a **cash prize of ten thousand euro** which will be given to the winner during the "Human Rights" section of the **Istanbul International**

**Film Festival**, between the **5th and the 20th April 2008**. Documentaries and full-length features are eligible in this category.

Last year the Malian film-maker **Abderrahmane Sissako** won the prize for his film Bamako (The Court). The decision to create the FACE prize sprang from the European Council's double commitment to cinema and to cultural diversity. This prize also recognises the film industry's ability to contribute to Human Rights awareness across the globe.

**Contact:** Council of Europe – Philippe Potentini – Tel: 06 14 35 42 66

Email: [philippe.potentini@coe.int](mailto:philippe.potentini@coe.int)

Web-site: [www.coe.int](http://www.coe.int)

And: [www.iskv.org/film](http://www.iskv.org/film)

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**Association internationale de producteurs indépendants de la méditerranée**

In preparation

**Article z (France)** is preparing two productions with France 5 in the MADMUNDO collection.

The first, **Omar: Acceptez-vous mon handicap?** (Omar: Do you accept my handicap?), with, in the title role, Omar Koussih. It has as themes handicap, education, integration, access, discrimination, poetry, love and football. Probable countries: Morocco, France, Japon, Canada, Spain.

Author: Patrice Barrat

Principal partners: ONF Canada, L'APAJH (Association pour adultes et jeunes handicapés)

Omar Koussih will soon be 19 years old. His body-weight is only 16 kilo and he will never weigh much more. Omar can think and - thanks to a special mouse which allows him to activate letters on his computer screen - write. Admirably.

Poems, letters, emails through which he tries to draw attention to his own fate and that of millions of other handicapped people.

Born in Rabat, Morocco, he has watched the muscular disease which afflicts him become much worse: spinal amyotrophy. For a time, because there was no proper treatment available, his parents believed Omar could never survive adolescence. 15 years previously his mother Faouzia, had given up her job in the civil service to provide him with a proper education - by creating a primary school. It was the only way to make sure Omar got into a school. Later it became more complicated. For Omar it meant distance learning, the CNED, with, as always, his mother spending hours at his side.

The second, **Bachtiar: A qui appartient notre pétrole ?** (Bachtiar : Who Owns Our Oil ?), with in the title role, Bachtiar.

Themes: Oil, black gold, conflict, energy, OPEC, barrel, consumerism, companies.

Probable countries: Iraq, Kurdistan, Norway, UK, USA, Venezuela

Authors : Baudouin Koenig and Fulvia Alberti

Bachtiar is angry. His elderly computer has just cut out: the old electricity generator has broken down again and of course there is no electricity. We follow him to the street corner where the street sellers offer bottles of petrol on the black market. Bachtiar buys a litre and a half - the price: a dollar!

*"Do you realise what's happening? Under our feet are the biggest oil reserves in the world, yet in our garages petrol is rationed and the only way to get some is to buy it on the black market. And what a price!"*

Bachtiar lives in a northern suburb of Kirkuk in Iraq. After studying economics and a failed attempt to join his uncle in Germany, he opened an internet café. He has also created a web-

site: <http://www.babagurgur.org> on which he mixes cultural information with links to oil-related issues. Babagurgur is the name of a village close to Kirkuk where, in 1927 black gold gushed from the bowels of the earth. "But today, who does the Kirkuk oil belong to?" That's the question Bachtiar asks on his web-site. It is also the question to which Madmundo's investigators hope to find an answer.

**For more information, please contact the Apimed office: Tel: +34 93 244 98 50/ Fax: +34 93 247 01 65 / [info@apimed.org](mailto:info@apimed.org) / [www.medimed.org](http://www.medimed.org)**

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Pôle Media Belle de Mai – 37 rue Guibal 13003 Marseille – 04 91 05 81 04

In this beginning of a new year the Cinéma au Soleil team has grown! We have been joined by Fabrice Reynard in administration and finance, Sébastien Lallemand, project manager in information and networking, and Sabine Cuinet in communication and events.

Our news:

We shall take part in the **Forum Media** on the 13th and 14th of March 2008, a Forum for professionals, creators, producers, editors and distributors from the world of film, television and audiovisual [www.euomed-marseille.com/forummedia2008](http://www.euomed-marseille.com/forummedia2008)

We shall also take part in the **13th Rencontres de l'Orme** on the 2nd and 3rd of April. There will be conferences and workshops around the theme: "Content and digital media: those concerned speak". Cinéma au Soleil will help organise a conference to show what has happened to scientific communication since the arrival of digital on [www.orme-multimedia.org/2008/](http://www.orme-multimedia.org/2008/)

We shall also go with our members to two well-known international professional events: the next **Location Trade Show**, in Los Angeles from the 7th to the 12th of April [www.locationmanagers.org](http://www.locationmanagers.org) and to **MIPTV MILIA** at Cannes, also on the 7th to the 11th April [www.miptv.com](http://www.miptv.com)

Finally we have enlarged our network, with an additional 15 new members since January, making 70 members in all.

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## TELEGRAMMES

An international short story competition “A sea of words” has just been launched within the framework of the “1001 Actions for Intercultural Dialogue” initiated by the Annah Lindh Foundation. The contest is aimed at the production of short stories whose content is related to intercultural dialogue as an instrument for the resolution of contemporary crises, particularly those of a political, socio-cultural, economic and environmental nature. It is open to those under 30 from any region of the Euro-Mediterranean. For more information: [http://www.iemed.org/seaofwords/fr/presentacio\\_intro.html](http://www.iemed.org/seaofwords/fr/presentacio_intro.html)

The Reuters Institute for the Study of Journalism in Oxford University is looking for candidates of Middle Eastern origin wishing to benefit from the Mona Megalli Fellowship. The Fellowship for the academic year 2008-2009 is open to a practicing mid-career journalist from the Middle East region interested in researching and publishing material about professional standards and journalistic ethics in the region, how these have an impact on the practice of journalism there, and also what changes are needed or could be contemplated to improve the practice of journalism in the region. To be considered, applicants are asked to submit a proposal which gives details of the proposed research topic and the planned output. The deadline for applications is the 30th March 2008.

For more information:

<http://www.foundation.reuters.com/newsarchive/news.asp?newsid=363>

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Translated from French by Timothy KING