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MEDITERRANEE
AUDIOVISUELLE
Monthly Newsletter

In the summary of this year's final issue, the second session of the training programme "Writing News Items from Archival Sources" jointly organised by the INA, *Cinéma au Soleil* and the CMCA; the Consultative Assembly on Mediterranean Culture held in Marseille – its recommendations and projects concerning broadcasting and the audiovisual world; close-ups on the 10th Tangiers National Film Festival and on the web-site belfestival.net

The CMCA dedicates this issue to the man who created our monthly Newsletter, François Werner, who died on the 24th November

Méditerranée Audiovisuelle-La Lettre. Dépôt Légal 5 Février 2008. ISSN : 1634-4081. *Tous droits réservés*

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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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LIFE IN THE CMCA



François Werner died on the 24th November

He was one of the main-stays of our association. In the 1990's he fought alongside our President, Roland Faure, and Jacques Matthey Doret so that the CMCA could move to Marseille and take on a new lease of life – first as regional director of *France 3 Méditerranée* and then, in 2000, as chief executive of the CMCA. He started this Newsletter – and the fund which helps films get wider distribution around the Mediterranean, a project discussed everywhere today. He was always championing the Mediterranean, fighting tirelessly to increase dialogue between peoples – his love for both sides of the Mediterranean keeps us going, encouraging us to continue his work.... And that is the best tribute we could give him.

HEADLINE STORY



Training session for “Writing a News Item from Archival Sources”

The CMCA, *INA Méditerranée* and *Cinéma au Soleil*, plus the *Image Provence-Alpes-Côte d’Azur* network, offered a training workshop on “Writing a News Item from Archival Sources”. Supported by the Provence-Alpes-Côte d’Azur Region, the training programme was spread over two sessions in Marseille: the first from the 21st to the 25th April and the second from the 18th to the 20th November. Seven trainees from the Mediterranean region took part. The programme’s

aims:

- To take a group of professional broadcasters from both sides of the Mediterranean and make them aware of the need to preserve the audiovisual heritage. Designed specifically for people in television who use the archives every day making news and magazine programmes;
- To deepen the skills necessary for journalistic narration
- To make a film using archive material from INA, ENTV (Algeria) and *Cinémémoire*.

This programme brings together journalists who have at least three years’ experience working either for one of the CMCA’s television members or for one of the audiovisual companies from the *Cinéma au Soleil* network. In practice the trainees came from HRT (Croatia), ENTV (Algeria), Tunisian Television, URTE (Egypt) and SNRT (Morocco).

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The instructors were either people working for INA in the preservation of their broadcasting archives, or writers, reporters and editors.

The first module was held over 5 days. On the programme: the principles of keeping and preserving archives; a critical approach to sources; the legal outlines of using archive material. The trainees also made a short film on the history of the port of Marseille.

The second session took place over 3 days with training on how to make a video news report. The trainees shot a film about the port of Marseille and edited it combining their new footage with archive material from the first module.



The Consultative Assembly on Mediterranean Culture (Continued)

On the 4th and 5th November Marseille, future culture capital of Europe in 2013, put culture on the front page by organising the Consultative Assembly on Mediterranean Culture (c.f. Newsletter no. 72, November 2008).

More than 300 people took part in the eight workshops, working over two days to produce recommendations and design projects as part of a Mediterranean Union....of culture.

The CMCA had the honour of organising and coordinating Workshop 2, “Images, Audiovisual, Cinema”, which worked on three themes:

- Producing and co-producing in the Mediterranean region
- Broadcasting and the movement of images across the Mediterranean region
- Structuring supply and demand within the Mediterranean region

Meaningful debates between about sixty professionals from both shores of the Mediterranean, full of respect, all eager to learn from the others.

Discussions about the changing face of broadcasting, revolutionised by digital, and the urgent need to seize this opportunity to push cultural diversity forward since, thanks to digital, production costs are bound to drop.

The workshop’s projects and recommendations

On the first two issues, the workshop stated that there are two recurrent difficulties:

- Transferring news pictures between northern and southern countries, and also between the southern countries;
- Distributing films (cinema films particularly) between the north and the south, but again particularly between southern countries.

The workshop emphasised the problems linked to the language barrier – dubbing and sub-titling: priority must be given to measures which encourage greater inter-change of

programmes and films (FACOM, *Fonds d'aide à la circulation des oeuvres en Méditerranée* – the CMCA's fund to encourage distribution of films around the Mediterranean region).

But the people taking part emphasised that the best way to encourage this inter-change and free movement of films was to produce better films of better quality.

Nevertheless many initiatives and projects are created and sustained by different people. Here are a few:

- + A project to make and broadcast television programmes (news, magazines, documentaries): Euromed News (a project receiving support from the European Commission), with a transnational, decentralised editorial team, whose partners are Algeria, Jordan, Libya, the EBU, the ASBU and *France Télévisions*.

- + A project to create a channel which is a shop window for Mediterranean programmes, with Algeria, Tunisia, Spain, Italy and supported by CopeAm (Permanent Conference of Mediterranean Audiovisual Operators). This will not necessarily be a satellite digital channel but possibly Web-TV with finance yet to be confirmed.

- + *babelmedradio.net*. – a project for a Mediterranean web radio station supported by RFI and the Babelmed web-site, already a reference in Mediterranean culture. The idea is a web portal in French and Arabic on which other radio stations can place their programmes: a project submitted to the European Commission.

- + The Medmem project, preservation of the Mediterranean audiovisual heritage so that it can be used in broadcast programmes. This would be a web-site taking archival material on culture, the arts, tradition, heritage, architecture and music from ten Mediterranean television stations. A project supported by INA and submitted to the European Commission.

- + A project to create a “Mediterranean documentary network”. A light structure bringing together independent producers and broadcasters to encourage the production of Mediterranean documentaries.

Worth noting that the PACA region's vice-president in charge of culture, Alain Hayot, announced his Region's intention of encouraging the establishment of a fund to help projects from the southern shores.

Concerning the 3rd issue “to structure supply and demand within the Mediterranean region”

The point was the need for technological investment to develop DTT, a real challenge but also a real opportunity.

1. To draw up a set of rules relevant to both shores (c.f. the text adopted by the Mediterranean Network of Regulatory Authorities at the beginning of November in Italy: www.Ririm.org)
2. To get to know the Mediterranean audiovisual landscape better, so that the market can be better understood. Do this by creating a tool which makes statistical data about the region's broadcasting readily available (using the expertise of the *Observatoire de l'audiovisuel* in Strasbourg).

Finally, if at the end of the workshop only one recommendation were to be made (unanimously), it would be that the present mobilisation of everyone working in the audiovisual world to ensure the continuation of *Euromed Audiovisuel* (under whatever form) must continue.

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LIFE IN THE CHANNELS

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[# Iraq / UNESCO launches an education TV channel](#)

At the end of October UNESCO and the Iraqi minister for education launched “Iraqi Edu”, an educational television channel designed specifically for primary and secondary school pupils. Broadcast 24 hours day it offers educational sequences which follow the Iraqi school curricula. It is mainly a response to security risks that result in a high rate of absenteeism and the closing of schools. For Koïchiro Matsuura, director general of UNESCO “*education plays an essential role in building peace and reconstruction. “Iraqi Edu” opens new learning opportunities for vulnerable young people.*” He also considers that this experience could inspire similar initiatives in other countries and regions that are in conflict or post-conflict situations.



[# Europe / SNRT, the Moroccan public broadcaster becomes a shareholder in EuroNews](#)

Following the July launch of EuroNews’ Arabic version, the Moroccan broadcaster SNRT, (*Société Nationale de Radio Télévision marocaine*) wanted to join the European news channel by becoming its 23rd shareholder. At the end of September the Board of EuroNews’ consortium of public service shareholders – Secemie – ratified the Moroccan broadcasting company as a candidate. For Philippe Cayla, managing director of EuroNews, “*SNRT is a strategic partner in EuroNews’ move into Arabic; with Morocco and our other partners in Arab countries, we are going to continue expanding the channel and by doing so we shall help to enrich knowledge about and strengthen the links between Europe and the Mediterranean countries.*”

The managing director of SNRT, Faisal Laraichi, declared that for his part the presence of his group within EuroNews “*strengthens the partnerships we are developing to promote international news in Arabic. We shall mobilise every means to make this partnership an example of excellence in the relations between broadcasting companies in Mediterranean countries.*”



[# France / MedMem, a new project from INA](#)

The *Institut National de l'Audiovisuel* is working on a project for a new web-site, MedMem (Mediterranean Memory), which it is hoped will gather the whole Mediterranean region's broadcasting heritage into one site. There are eighteen partners, including ten Mediterranean television stations and three industry organisations, in addition to cultural and scientific partners. Emmanuel Hoog, president and chief executive of INA, in charge of the project, explained that *"the idea is to bring together the maximum number of Mediterranean-based broadcasting professionals who have video archives and combine them all on one shared web-site, initially in three languages – French, English and Arabic."* Israel – and Palestine as well – Libya, Egypt, Jordan, Morocco are all associated with the project each, of course, bringing different points of view on history and current events. To clarify things, Emmanuel Hoog explained: *"we have created an editorial group of broadcasting professionals and academics so that there are historians to put events into context – to accept that history is shared, even if it is history which divides us."*

MedMem will offer a choice of more than 4,000 videos from countries around the Mediterranean basin. These archives will be classified into six large chapters: "Cultural sites" (archaeological sites, monuments, towns, major museums), "Customs, traditions, trades and knowledge", "Landscapes and environment", "Cultural and artistic expressions", "History" and "Tourism".

The proposed web-site has been submitted to Euromed Heritage 4 in response to their appeal for projects.



[# France / Agreement: TF1 and France Télévisions break away from France 24](#)

A protocol for a financial agreement has been concluded between TF1, *France Télévisions* and France 24. The two groups are going to break off from the French international news channel, leaving the State as its sole share-holder. This agreement, which includes a payment of 2 million euro compensation, is the result of legal proceedings between the protagonists. At the beginning of their discussions TF1 was asking 90 million euro. As a reminder, the private group invested a mere 18,500 euro into the channel when it was created.

The government is going to re-organise France 24, Radio France International and its share of the French-language channel TV5Monde into one single holding called France Monde.



[# Germany / Partial ban on the television channel Al-Manar](#)

With effect from the end of November, the German government has forbidden the transmission of Al-Manar, a television channel with links to the Lebanese Hezbollah movement. According to a government spokesperson, the decision was taken because of the “hate” propaganda challenging the State of Israel’s right to exist, in

contravention of Article 9 of the German Constitution which stipulates that no organisation may operate if it violates “international understandings”.

However, this ban is limited: it concerns only the transmission of the channel in hotels and other public places, German television viewers will be able to continue watching it at home. The Shia movement itself is not affected by this ban: it keeps its status as a legal organisation and the 900 active members of the Hezbollah will be able to continue their activities. The ban comes into force just as the United States is threatening to include Al-Manar on its list of terrorist organisations. The channel remains available on Arabsat, Badr and NileSat satellites.

As a reminder, Al-Manar was banned from broadcasting on French territory in 2004.

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PROGRAMMES

[# Sweden / Halal TV](#)

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[# Sweden / Halal TV](#)

Sveriges Television (SVT) – Swedish Television’s new weekly television programme, “*Halal TV*”, looks at Muslim women in Sweden. Presented by three young women wearing veils, the programme was aired for the first time on the 3rd November, and has already caused a certain uproar. First of all one of the presenters, Cherin Awad, was known at one time for being in favour of stoning of women caught in adultery (an opinion she says she has changed since). Then in the first programme their attitude provoked a wave of protest when two of the women refused to shake hands with a guest because he was a man. In Sweden there are between 250,000 and 400,000 Muslims out of a population of 9.1 million. The radical vision of Islam expressed by “*Halal TV*”’s presenters could harm the moderate Muslim population.



[# Morocco / Two new series broadcast on 2M](#)

“**Kalimat Haq**”, a television series made by Sami Mohamed Ali, is the story of Dina, an innocent witness to a murder. A young man is killed in front of her, the victim of a jilted lover. The killer is the son of a very wealthy businessman who tries to buy Dina by offering her a vast sum of money – which she refuses. Having failed to bribe her, the businessman goes to her husband, who accepts the money and threatens to divorce Dina if she does not do as he says. A woman of honour, she would rather leave her family and make her stand against the blackmailer.

“**Woujae Trab**” Based on Zola’s novel “*La Terre*” (The Earth), this series was made by Chafik S’himi. It tells the story of one Si Ahmed and his family: his sisters, his brother, his children. Above all it tells the story of his attachment to the land, which for several generations has belonged to his family. Feeling his age, he decides to divide up his land and bequeath it to his three children. In return he demands they pay rent for his and his wife’s needs – overlooking the fact that money matters are never simple! His son Lemhaydi reveals his greed – and his cruelty.....

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ECONOMY



[# United Arab Emirates / Launch of “Twofour54”](#)

In mid-October Abu Dhabi launched a media content creation zone called “Twofour54” (the geographical coordinates of Abu Dhabi, its position on the planet) part of which will be dedicated to journalistic work. As a first step, schools will be set up to train journalists and image specialists. The people behind this media zone hope to attract cinema producers, book publishers, television channels or web designers. Established temporarily near Khalifa Park and covering 200,000 square metres, it should employ around 200 people by 2009. For Tony Orsten, CEO of “Twofour54”, the project “*seeks to establish the emirate as a regional centre for culture with a ‘global capital city’ as its hub. We are launching a major initiative that will encourage, stimulate and support Arabic content, creation by Arabs in the Arab world, embracing films, television and music through to animation, digital media and art. Providing a collaborative campus where all types of media company can work together will see Abu Dhabi become a centre and catalyst for content creation and culture throughout Middle East region and beyond.*”

Twofour54 is built around four pillars —

Twofour54 tadreeb (training) will be the region’s premier vocational training academy, targeting young Arabs and graduates considering a career in media industry as well as providing existing media and entertainment professionals with opportunities to develop skills across a comprehensive range of media and content industry disciplines.

Twofour54 ibtikar (innovation) will provide innovative support and funding, promising creative ideas across print, online, mobile and television platforms in the Middle East and North Africa region.

Twofour54 intaj (production) will supply state-of-the-art production and post-production facilities, media asset management, broadcast and technical support services for use within twofour54.

Twofour54 tawasol (communication) will provide technical support and facilitate the relocation and establishment of partner organisations in twofour54.



[# France / TF1’s advertising revenue slumps](#)

TF1’s advertising revenue for the month of October has fallen by 3.7%, according to figures published by Yacast. The three private analogue channels, TF1, M6 and Canal+ together registered a combined drop of 1% in their advertising revenues, to 416.8 million euro. A drop caused by the “significant” fall in TF1’s income (-3.7%), though partly mitigated by a rise in M6’s income and above all by Canal Plus, with a rise of 5.7%. The channels transmitted by DTT, cable and satellite show advertising investment rising by 29%. In volume this variation is at +9%, long term advertising rising by 11%.

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CINEMA

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[# Algeria / start of filming for "L'Andalou"](#)

On the 20th November the Algerian director Mohamed Chouikh began shooting his film "L'Andalou" in the 'Villa Abdelatif', once a home for artists in Algiers. A two hour historical panorama, the film is set at the end of the 15th century – a time when the *Reconquista* was finally about to drive the Moors out of Spain. The principal character, Salim, is an Andalusian dignitary, the son of a Muslim lawyer, Abu Hamza and a Catholic mother, Maria Rodriguez. Salim is part of the court of Muhammed XII, known as Boabdil, the last Muslim king of Granada whose reign ends when he is forced to abdicate before the Christian kings of the *Reconquista*. Salim is furious and refuses to follow the king into exile in Morocco. With his friend Ishac, a Jewish tailor, he tries to get to the Algerian coast in a makeshift boat, but they are shipwrecked. Picked up and taken on by an emir, Salim becomes his steward, then his son-in-law. But the *Reconquista* catches up with him at Oran where Salim finds himself once again at the heart of the battles tearing North Africa apart, a region under the nominal authority of the Ottoman viziers, but also desired by the Spanish crown, only waiting its chance to establish itself there. During the four months' filming Mohamed Chouikh will film in Algeria, Morocco, Spain as well as Tunisia. The film will be released in two languages: classical Arab and Spanish. This full-length feature is produced by ENTV (*Enterprise Nationale de Télévision algérienne*) in collaboration with the Algerian production company Acima Films and the Spanish Aralan Films



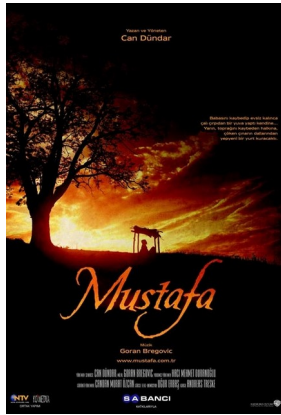
[# Spain / Two films shooting](#)

The Spanish director Isabel Coixet has begun shooting her sixth film "Mapa de los sonidos de Tokio" (A Sound Map of Tokyo). This romantic thriller takes place in the Japanese capital. It's the story of Ryu, a young woman who is given the job of killing a Spaniard, David (Sergi Lopez), while a sound technician, obsessed by the various noises in the Japanese capital, becomes the dumb witness to these events. The film is produced by Mediapro and Versatil Cinema

The directors Jaume Balaguero and Paco Plaza are shooting the follow-up to "Rec", but they are being very cagey about the scenario. The only thing that has leaked out is that the

crew is virtually the same and that the actress Manuela Velasco (Goya for Best Female Newcomer for the first *Rec*) will play the main role again. As a reminder, the first film grossed more than 8 million in Spain alone, with 1.4 million entries – and 21 million worldwide.

(Source Cineuropa)



Turkey / “Mustafa” a film which gets itself talked about

To celebrate the 85th anniversary of the founding of the Turkish Republic, a film on the life of Mustafa Kemal Atatürk, “Mustafa”, was released at the end of October. 470,000 people went to see it in its first five days. The documentary has provoked many hostile reactions amongst ‘Kemalists’ throughout the country, who claim it gives a false picture of Mustafa Kemal. However, in an editorial of the newspaper *Milliyet*, the film’s director, Can Dündar, wrote that he wanted “to show a more human Atatürk than the one we learn about in school or during military service. This man who fought dogma has been turned into dogma by some of his supporters, made into a rigid statue, whereas I would like to show a more realistic Atatürk, a man with

worries, loving women, a man who made mistakes, who was sometimes afraid...”

It was not easy to make a film about the man in a country where he is shown on every public building as an example. This documentary about the father of the Turkish Republic is helping to look behind the legend.

It was co-produced by Komedia and the television network NTV (Nergis TV, the main news channel in Turkey) with the participation of the Sanbaci group.



Algeria / Documentary “Iguer N’Salem – the martyr village”

This documentary made by Mourad Hammami, was presented in Algeria at the beginning of November. The film traces the story of a tiny village, Iguer N’Salem, 40 kilometres from Tizi Ouzou. In the autumn of 1956, at the beginning of the Algerian war, the French secret service ran an operation in Kabylie known as “Blue Bird”. It was supposed to be a “counter-resistance” movement, aimed at discrediting the FLN, but it back-fired to the FLN’s advantage since

the men recruited and armed by the French secret service were in fact rebels. Omar Toumi, born in this village, is one of the heroes of this operation. The director has used archive footage, but also eye-witness accounts of those who took part in this operation.



[# Tunisia / Presentation of the film “Cinecitta” or “7 Habib Bourguiba Avenue”](#)

On the 1st November a film by the Tunisian director Brahim Letaief was given a pre-release screening in Tunis. The film is about the difficulties which directors often face trying to find finance to make a film: budget problems, the need for production grants, the decreasing number of cinemas.....

“In despair because the commission for cinema grants has turned down his long-cherished project for a police comedy, Chahine wonders how he is going to find the money. Then he has the mad idea of going to the one place he knows always has lots of it: a bank vault. Helped by his two accomplices (the producer and his cameraman), he writes the script and then directs a real bank-robbery. Once that is achieved, the three stooges, forced to stay hidden in a flat until things die down, give us first a coup de théâtre, then revelations. After many false starts the film is made, enriched by a whole gallery of characters dear to the Italian cinema to whom the film pays tribute.”
The title “7 Habib Bourguiba Avenue” is a reference to “Studio 38” a cinema on that avenue now turned into a shopping mall.



[# Tunisia / Cinema release of “Thalathoun” \(Thirty\)](#)

The Tunisian director Fadhel Jaziri’s film “*Thalathoun*” (Thirty) had its cinema release at the beginning of November. It relates the struggle of three young friends who have since gained truly mythic status in Tunisian society: Mohamed Ali El Hammi, founder of the first worker’s organisation; his cousin Tahar Hadded, a tireless fighter for personal liberties and Human Rights, precursor of the Tunisian Code of Personal Status, who, through his writings, tried to change the condition of women across the Muslim world; and Belgacem Chebbi who gave poetry a new lease of life, establishing a new relationship with language, at the same time re-thinking the poet’s status and involvement in society. All three met tragic ends – to general indifference. Lasting 111 minutes the film is produced by Nouveau Film and Quinta Communications.

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FESTIVALS

CLOSE-UP ON.....the 10th Tangiers National Film Festival



The 10th Tangiers National Film Festival will take place between the **13th and the 20th December**. Organised by the *Centre Cinématographique Marocain* in collaboration with the relevant Chambers of Commerce, its aim is to encourage film production in the country, to help distribute films produced or made by Moroccan directors and to create an opportunity for people working in the industry to meet, discuss and exchange experiences.

The Festival has two competitive sections as well as workshops:

- The first is for full-length films made by Moroccan directors in 35mm, either drama or documentary, using French and English sub-titles. There are 12 awards, including the Grand Prix (the final selection has not yet been announced).
- The second is open to short drama films shot on 35mm, with two awards: the Grand Prix and the Best Scenario Prize. 14 shorts have been selected for the official competition, in particular "*Izorane*" by Azelarabe Alaoui Mharzi, "*Un formidable voyage*" by Abdessalam Kelai, "*Le pain amer*" by Hassan Dehani, "*Les poupées en roseaux*" by Ahmed Baidou, "*Liberté provisoire*" by Nawfal Berraoui, "*Flou*" by Youssef Britel, "*Sellam et Déméton*" by A. Benamraoui, "*Double voix*" by D.Rokh et R. Zaki, "*Chant de funèbres*" by Mohamed Mouftakir, "*La route des hommes*" by Hicham El Jebbari, "*Paris sur mer*" by Mounir Abbar, "*Rêve-éveil*" by Ali Tahiri, "*Général*" by Morad Khaoudi and Saad Tsouli and "*Minuit*" by Younès Reggab.

On the edge of this Festival a retrospective of Moroccan cinema, entitled "15 critics, 15 films" will be organised to celebrate the 50th anniversary of Moroccan cinema. Among the films shown will be "*Mille mois*" de Faouzi Bensaidi, "*A Casablanca les anges ne volent pas...*" de Mohamed Asli, "*L'enfant endormi*" de Yasmine Kassari, "*Le grand voyage*" de Ismail Ferroukhi, "*Marock*" de Leïla Marrachi.

The other festivals

[# Italy / 27th edition of Bergamo Film Meeting](#)

[# Italy / 4th edition of the Imperia Video Festival](#)

[# Albania / Tirana International Film Festival "TIFF '08"](#)



[# Italy / 27th edition of the Bergamo Film Meeting](#)

The 27th edition of the **Bergamo Film Meeting** will take place between the 7th and the 15th March 2009 in Bergamo, Italy. The Festival was created by the Bergamo Film Meeting Association to encourage wider distribution of films which deserve to be better known but which,

because of their artistic or cultural nature have difficulty finding an Italian distributor.

Created in 1983 this Festival has two international competitive sections:

- “*Mostra-Concorso*” for full-length feature films: a first or second long film, innovative in style or use of film language but which has not been screened in Italy.
- “*Visti da vicino*” for creative documentaries or research films. Recent documentaries by young independent film makers which offer a personal look at a given social situation.

In addition there is a section on the work of a young European film-maker little known in Italy and a retrospective of a well-known film-maker.

Eastern Europe will also be given special attention, with a choice of long and short films.

There will also be discussions between the public and the film-makers, as well as debates and concerts.

Deadline for registration: **16th January 2009**

For more information: info@bergamofilmmeeting.it

Web-site: www.bergamofilmmeeting.it



[# Italy / 4th edition of the Imperia Video Festival](#)

The International Festival of Digital Art Film – devoted to short films, documentaries and animation – will take place at Imperia in Italy from the 14th to the 18th April 2009

There are four categories:

- Professional: drama, documentary, animation
- Amateur: full-length, short, documentary, animation, video photo album
- International: short, documentary, animation
- Special: documentaries on either tourism or wild-life.

Two deadlines for registering the films: for the Italian films the 26th January 2009

for the international films the 23rd February 2009

Web-site: www.videofestivalimperia.org



[# Albania / Tirana International Film Festival “TIFF ‘08”](#)

The first Albanian International Film Festival, Tiff, was held in 2003, supported by the *Centre National de la cinématographie*. TIFF '08 took place this year between the 1st and the 17th December. Exclusively for short films, the competition accepts all formats (film, video, digital) and categories (drama, animated, documentary and experimental). The only restriction is that the length of the

film must not be more than 30 minutes. The Festival is open not only to established directors but also to students, and is for contemporary, independent and alternative cinema from the whole world. Six prizes were awarded this year at the end of the competition: Best Film, Best Drama, Best Animation, Best Documentary, Best Experimental Film, Best Albanian Short.

Web-ste www.tiranafilmfest.com

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WEB-SITE OF THE MONTH..... www.babelmedfestival.net



The web-site of the **Intercultural Festival** was created as part of a project called “*Meeting the Other: borders, identities and cultures in Europe*”, itself created as part of the European Year for Intercultural Dialogue by the cultural association Babelmed with eight European partners ([La pensée de midi](#), [Lettera Internazionale](#), [Astragali Teatro](#), [IRFAM](#), [IEMed](#), [the CMCA](#), [Qantara.de](#) and the [Istituto Paralleli](#)). The web-site was set up to help younger generations of immigrants get involved with their new society and to encourage intercultural exchanges for a better knowledge of the Other. Through this multimedia space, creative people from immigrant communities and the works they produce will be given greater visibility – it will also be a forum for those who have something to say about immigration. The site is interactive: it draws on articles and other works from a network of young European journalists involved in the project, and also on the blogs of the artists whose work can be seen or heard. This virtual festival also hopes to offer a programme of the most representative productions of intercultural dialogue in Europe.

“The virtual inter-cultural festival web-site is aimed at every artist from the immigrant communities – or those researching immigration in some depth – with the object of making their artistic creations and other works freely available and accessible. Our site is also a way for our network of young European journalists involved in the project to have their work better known, to announce events linked to our inter-cultural theme and to publish their articles about artistic creations coming from the immigrant population. The web-site also wants to be a forum where all those involved in culture (festivals, events, associations or other cultural institutions) can exchange their points of view and share their work connected with intercultural dialogue, their artistic expressions about migration.”

Navigation round the Festival site is free, but direct access can only be made through a **blog**. Anyone wishing to upload his work and chat to other artists must first of all create his own blog, which will then constitute his personal virtual space (information on how to create a blog is available on the Festival site). From the moment your blog is created you can upload photos, video and audio files as well as texts. Being an interactive site, you can also leave your comments on the work of the other registered artists.

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MEDITERRANEAN WAY



[A MEDIA umbrella stand at the European Film Market of the 2009 Berlinale](#)

The Marketplace will be running a MEDIA Umbrella Stand as part of the next European Film Market (EFM) which will take place during the Berlinale from the 5th to the 15th February 2009. People working in the European film industry can benefit from Marketplace's front desk, message service, DVD viewing, internet access as well as expert advice, guidance and other services.

Marketplace's offer is free, but does not include accreditation to the EFM or to the Berlinale. So it's essential to register separately and before the 15th December 2008. All information is available on the following web-sites:

http://www.berlinale.de/en/service/akkreditierung_/festivalakkreditierung_/index.html

<http://www.efm-berlinale.de/en/service/registration/registration.php>.

The number of participants to the MEDIA stand is limited to **200**. Companies interested are thus invited to register with the Marketplace straight away at the following address:
<http://212.190.125.114/mp/2009/berlin/index2.htm>

Contact : The Marketplace – Pierre Hupin - Loefzij 39, 1276HJ Huizen – Holland - Tel : 00 31 35 695 01 96 - Fax : 00 31 35 695 04 49 - E-mail : pierre@marketplace-events.com
– Web-site : <http://www.marketplace-events.com>



TRAINING THE MANAGEMENT
OF TOMORROW'S MEDIA

[ETMA : New management training scheme](#)

Supported by MEDIA, the new European Television and Media Management Academy (ETMA) is

launching a distance learning scheme for management in January, targeted at people working in television and the new media. 20 people from Europe will do a 12-month management course which includes 4 one-week seminars in Strasbourg (in January, April, July and September 2009), with distance learning during the rest of the year. 8 work modules have been set up: the sector's key players; marketing and communication; legal environment; creative guidance; managing projects; financial aspects; business strategies and innovation. Those taking part will get tuition from some forty international experts involved in the industry and the work will be centred round practical cases. The teaching will be directly organised by partner European universities including the University of Bournemouth's Media School and the University of Cologne.

Contact : European Television & Media Management Academy (ETMA) – 22a avenue de l'Europe – 67300 Schiltigheim – Tél : + 3 88 37 26 50 – Fax : + 3 88 37 26 01 – E-mail : info@etam-academy.eu – web-site : www.etma-academy.eu

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[8th Rencontres of European cinema at Vannes: appeal for films](#)

For the seventh year, *Cin'Ecran* is organising competitions for European short films and for first documentaries as part of the 8th *Rencontres du cinéma européen* at Vannes (Brittany) – to be held between the 25th and the 31st March 2009.

Those eligible:

For the short film competition: European works of no more than 15 minutes duration. There is no restriction on format, but the films must have been completed after 1st January 2008.

For the documentary competition: they must be first works (produced or grant-aided), not more than 60 minutes long, on DVD, Beta SP or

DC Cam and made after the 1st January 2007.

For both categories registration is free. Candidates must contact the Association before the 31st December 2008.

Rules and registration form can be down-loaded at the *Cin'Ecran* web-site

Contact : Association *Cin'Ecran* – 6 rue Porte Poterne – 56000 Vannes – Tel/Fax : 02 97 63 67 73 – E-mail : cinecran56@wanadoo.fr – web-site : <http://www.cinecran.org>



[EURIMAGES : New rules in 2009](#)

The Management Board of Eurimages, a support fund for European co-productions, has adopted new regulations which will come into force at the beginning of 2009:

- Art 7.5 The appointment of a collecting agent for receipts shall be obligatory for co-productions with a production budget of 3 million € or more. For co-productions with a budget of less than 3 million €, Eurimages reserves the right to request the appointment of a collecting agent
- Art 7.1.1 : Distribution minima guarantees financed by “Sofica” and/or other financial institutions shall not be recouped before Eurimages.
- For a trial period the Board has decided to take on two external readers for each project. The readers’ reports will be added to the secretariat’s briefing file on the production.
- Faced with a certain number of difficulties getting the balance right between member States’ investments and the return on profit of their projects, the Board has decided to establish a work group to find new ways of calculating these contributions. The work group will meet each month until April 2009 so as to have a recommendation to transmit first to the Plenary Committee then to the Council of Ministers so it can be applied to the 2010 budget calculations.

Contact : Eurimages – Conseil de l'Europe – Avenue de l'Europe – 67000 Strasbourg –
Tel : 03 88 41 26 40 – Fax : 03 88 41 27 60 – E-mail : eurimages@coe.int - Site web :
<http://www.coe.int/t/dg4/eurimages/>



[The 9th Songes des nuits DV](#)

Organised by **Altermedia** and sponsored by French writer/director Coline Serreau, the **9th Songes d'une Nuit DV** will take place

between the **9th and the 17th December** in the Ile-de-France. It will focus on the following themes: "alternatives and otherness, the state of the world and the new world disorder". This year there will be around one hundred films – French, European and international – of all types (drama and documentary), short, long, **shot on digital** HD and DV – but with the single common denominator that they have not been seen in Paris or the Ile-de-France region. The competition has 3 competitive sections: long drama (the Beaumarchais Prize), documentary (the Alga Panavision Prize) and shorts.

The spot-light this year will illuminate film-making in South Africa and Zimbabwe. This year will also be the chance to discover **final year films** from the main **European Film Schools** (INSAS, ESAV, IAD), and from several international film schools as well, including, for the first time, African schools (in partnership with the "*Rencontres Henri Langlois*" – focus on the film schools of Africa).

Running at the same time as the main programme, and as part of a **professional conference**, there will be a discussion on the challenges of digital. In partnership with the *Forum des Images*, *Songes d'un Nuit DV* will also create educational events in the Ile-de-France region aimed at teaching pupils in secondary schools and lycées about images and how to appreciate them.

Contact : Altermédia - 13 rue Fontaine – 93200 Saint Denis – Tel : 01 42 43 10 30 - E-mail : songesnuitdv9@live.fr - Site web : www.altermedia.org

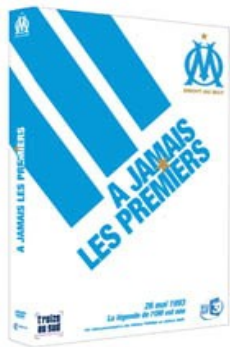
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INDEPENDENT MEDITERRANEAN PRODUCERS' WAY

Treize au Sud, a Marseille-based production company, member of the CMCA, is bringing out two of its documentaries on DVD :

OM, A JAMAIS LES PREMIERS (Olympique Marseille, forever first)

A documentary by **Gilles Rof** and **Gilles Perez**
A **Treize au Sud/France 3** production – 90 minutes. 2008



Release on DVD (19.90€) on December 5th across the country (in partnership with *France Télévision Distribution*) and from November 5th direct from *Treize au Sud*.

15 years after the victory of *Olympique Marseille* in the final of the League of Champions over Milan AC, that catch-phrase still sends a shiver through thousands of people.

Boli, Deschamps, Desailly, Sauzée, Voller, Barthez, Eydelie, Bernès.... The greatest stars of OM 1993 speak as never before about their defining moment. Their interviews, and those of the club's directors, journalists, artists – Patrick Bosso, Massilia Sound System, Marcel Maréchal, Michel Aliaga, Pape Diouf, Christophe Bouchet, Soprano, Eugène Saccomano, Jean-Pierre Foucault – combine to paint the portrait of an epoch and a unforgettable journey.

But it's a tale which includes corruption, French football's dark side, the suspicions of doping – in the end the film draws a picture of a club and a set of people apart.

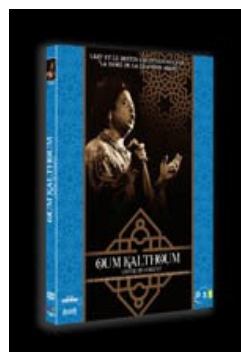
An DVD collector's edition with 90 minutes of film, more than 20 minutes' of archive material and 90 minutes of extras: "*OM dans la peau*", "*Les joueurs, encore plus !*", "*Goethals, le Vieux*", "*Le match dans le match, Berlusconi-Tapie*", "*Le Club-Med avant Munich*", "*Les guerriers naissent à Glasgow*", "*Quand le monde parle marseillais*", "*Les fadas*", "*L'OM, tu chérras ton fils*", "*Depé*", "*Un soir au bar*", "*Une chanson douce*".

Sales and further information on the web-site : <http://www.ajamaislespremiers.com/>

OUM KALTHOUM L'ASTRE DE L'ORIENT (Oum Kalthoum, Star of the East)

A documentary by **Feriel Ben Mahmoud** and **Nicolas Daniel**

A **Treize au Sud/Alegria Productions/France 3** production : 52 minutes : 2008



Release on DVD(16.99€), in partnership with *France Télévision Distribution*. On sale now across the country – film sub-titled in English and Arabic

A documentary tracing the extraordinary life of this Egyptian singer, symbol of a broken dream. As well as being an artist with an incomparable voice and singing poetry and passionate love – so close to the Arab heart – like no one else, she became known throughout the world as the “voice of the Arabs”: both symbol of their identity and ambassador of their cause.

Using archive images and many interviews recorded both in France (Armande Altaï, Marie Laforêt, Jean-Michel Boris, Sapho...) and in the Arab world (Omar Sharif, Elias Sanbar, Gamal Ghitany...), the film allows you to re-discover the art (and extraordinary life) of this woman through the cult-following which she still inspires today. Although she died more than 40 years ago, Oum Kalthoum (1904-1975) remains the symbol of the shattered dream of a politically united Arab people.

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L'apimed

Association internationale de producteurs indépendants de la méditerranée

Five films from GRENADE PRODUCTIONS were selected for the International Amiens Film Festival, which was held from the 7th to the 16th November

- “***L’Instituteur et l’âne bibliothèque***” a 90 minute film by Carlos Rendon Zipaguta, pitched at the 2006 *Marché de Documentaire Euro-Méditerranéen* (MEDIMED). Each week Luis Soriano, on his own initiative but with the help of his two donkeys Alpha and Beta, goes to villages in northern Columbia’s back of beyond to teach children how to write. Whether they are ordinary peasants or the children of the Farc guerrillas, Luis Soriano reads to them and gets them to read his books, makes sure they have at least some schooling and puts on puppet shows....
- “***Carlos raconte sa mer***” (Carlos and the sea, his sea) a 52 minute documentary by Jean-Pierre Daudet. Carlos shows us his world...his home, Paris, Deauville or Brittany, always the places he loves and which have marked his life. He talks to us about his love of journeys, his passion for fishing, boats and above all the sea....
- « ***Biotrek Africa, sur la piste de la croisière noire*** » an 85 minute film by Luc Ferdermeyer and Nathalie Charles. In 2007 the Biotrek Africa expedition set off to retrace the route of Citroën’s 1924 Central Africa Expedition. The expedition sets off to discover the dark continent, crossing 17 African countries, and on the way meets some encouraging initiatives for sustainable development.
- “***Autour de Luisi***” a 52 minute film by Sébastien Burnet. Jean Luisi belongs to a long line of supporting actors, those other characters as essential to the final evocative power of the film as the stars. The documentary is a tribute to these actors who have lived through whole epochs, been close to the great cinema families, lived alongside the greatest....
- “***James Lee Burke, Louisiana Stories***” a 60 minute film by Jacques Lévy and Frédéric Le Clair. This documentary is the portrait of James Lee Burke, the man as much as the remarkable novelist, seen through his personal universe and that of his fictional *alter-ego*, the Cajun Dave Robichaux, against the back-drop of their native Louisiana. His screen presence, his humour, his awareness and his gaze shatter stereotypes and conventional phrases, generous yet uncompromising as he is about Louisiana, America and the world.

Grenade Productions : Tel.: + 331 48 18 04 04 Fax: + 331 48 59 30 96

By email: contact@grenade-medias.eu / www.greande-medias.eu

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International premiere of the new feature by Rashid Masharawi

The latest film by Palestinian director Rashid Masharawi, "**Laila's Birthday**", was given an international premiere at the Toronto Film Festival, having been also selected for the San Sebastian Festival, the Abu Dhabi Middle East International Film Festival and the London Film Festival. A *CinéTéléfilms*, Sweetwater Pictures, Cinema Production Centre and Fortissimo Films co-production, the producers were Mohamed Habib Attia in Tunisia, Peter van Vogelpuel in Holland and Rashid Masharawi.

"**Laila's Birthday**" is Rashid Masharawi's fifth feature. His previous films, "Curfew", "Haifa", "Ticket to Jerusalem" and "Waiting" have been selected for the world's most prestigious film festivals – Cannes, Venice, Toronto, New York, Tokyo – and have been shown in cinemas and on television in many countries.

A judge, Abu Laila (Mohamed Bakri), works as a taxi driver because the government cannot pay him. On his daughter's 7th birthday his wife asks him to be home early – and to buy a present and a cake for Laila. Abu does his best, but the reality of Palestine gets in the way.

International Sales: **FORTISSIMO FILMS** Amsterdam, Holland
Telephone: + 31 20 627 32 15 Fax: + 31 20 626 11 55

The documentary "**Bonne à vendre**" (Maid for Sale) by Dima Al Joundi was screened at the **Courrier International Film Festival in Paris**

Produced by *Les Films du Soleil*, the film condemns the treatment of female cleaners and maids and the conditions in which they are forced to live. In particular it looks at Sri Lankan maids exploited in the Lebanon.

Human Rights pressure groups continue their fight to change the laws – which do not protect servants in the Lebanon. A situation strongly condemned by director Dima Jouni. In her film these women, who have suffered what she calls modern slavery, are given the chance to speak out about their lives for the first time

The film was pitched at the 2003 MEDIMED project forum.

For more information:

Les Films du Soleil

Tel : +334 91 49 14 00 Fax : +334 91 34 24 70

pat@filmsdusoleil.com / www.filmsdusoleil.com

For all information : Sergi Doladé, Director of MEDIMED (+ 34 93 244 98 50)

Fax: (+ 34 93 247 01 65) info@apimed.org www.medimed.org

Postal : MEDIMED c/Girona, 20, 5 Planta, 08010 Barcelona, SPAIN

Paule Hérades, MEDIMED office (+33 6 07 78 61 04)

Email: paule.herades@gmail.com

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STOP PRESS...

-  On the 19th November, Abdelkader Eulmi was named Chief Executive Officer of Algerian Television, replacing Habib-Chawki Hamraoui who had been called to other functions. Abdelkader Eulmi began his career as a journalist for Algerian radio before becoming Senior Editor of Channel 1 (Algerian radio). In 1990 he was appointed Head of Channel 1 before being designated Director of Regional Radio. Then Director of Algerian radio in 1999. He has also worked for the former Ministry of Communications as Director of the written press, Director of Broadcasting and finally Secretary General to the Ministry.
- Bouchra Benyoussef, journalist at the MAP (Maghreb Arab Press) in Morocco, won the FANA Prize (Federation of Arab press agencies) for the best agency article in 2008: an article entitled “The movement of people, a serious handicap to any attempt to bring the two shores of the Mediterranean together”. The article begins like this:
“Attempts to reconcile the two shores of the Mediterranean will founder as long as the northern countries continue to impose restrictions on the freedom of movement of people from the south to the north – for this is a region whose history has been forged by the interaction of people....”
- On the 20th November “*Europeana*” – the European digital library – went on-line, giving access to more than two million books, maps, recordings, photographs, archive documents, paintings and films from national libraries and cultural institutions of the 27 member states of the European Union. This unique virtual library offers new means to explore the European heritage: by going through a portal which uses every European language, any person interested in literature, art, science, politics, history, architecture, music or cinema can get free access to Europe’s greatest collections and masterpieces. <http://dev.europeana.eu/>

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