

MidEastCut

International festival for alternative film and video
Denmark & Finland 2009

PRESS RELEASE

Free admittance to the first
Middle Eastern film festival
for alternative shorts
29 January – 1 February 2009
with multiple screening venues
across Copenhagen and Roskilde

MidEast Cut

MidEast Cut presents four exciting days of short films and offers an investigation of the cognitive, cultural, social and political 'space' of alternative / experimental film coming out of the Arab world, Iran and Turkey.

Opening conference, The Danish Film Institute,
29 January 2009 at 13.00-17.00

Speakers

Sarat Maharaj, Nadine Khalil, Silke Schmickl
Kaya Behkalam, Khaled Ramadan, Larissa Sansour and Wooloo Production

At the conference, the debate will centre on how alternative film expressions are emerging in the Arab world, Turkey and Iran, that go beyond the recognized classical film and documentary structure. The visual language applied questions notions like time and place and performs in a different and more interactive way.

First festival of its kind

As the first ever festival of its kind in Copenhagen, MidEast Cut presents a wide selection of films by internationally recognized directors and artists specializing in video, alternative documentary and short films with a Middle Eastern focus.

The opening conference hosted by The Danish Film Institute will be followed by an opening reception at VerdensKulturCentret, Nørre Allé 7, between 18.00 – 19.00 after which the screening program will begin.

All films are English subtitled.

Making the marginal central

Acknowledging the need for a wider exposure of alternative films produced in and about the Arab world, Turkey and Iran, MidEast Cut offers new narratives on sociopolitical events by drawing attention to a new and innovative type of filmmaking. Inspired by developments within documentary filmmaking, art, video journalism and blogging, artists embark on visual reflections on a vibrant, thought-provoking and often toppling Middle East. The most urgent aim of these reflections is to make the marginal story central and the invisible visible.

Free admittance

Rapidly gaining international attention, this exciting new film culture now hits screens all over Copenhagen. MidEast Cut invites everybody to discover the dynamic, diverse and pulsating Middle East.

The venues include Cinemateket Danish Film Institute, Nikolaj - Copenhagen Contemporary Art Centre, Vester Vov Vov Bio, Empire Bio, Backyard Gallery, Global / VerdensKulturCentret, Viften Bio and Roskilde Museum of Contemporary Art.

Admittance to the screenings is free throughout the festival. MidEast Cut is organized by the art collective Chamber of Public Secrets.

Curators:

**Khaled D. Ramadan
Larissa Sansour**

Invited curators:

**Nadine Khalil
Mehrva Arvin
Khaled Hafez
Silke Schmickl
Sherif Awad**

Festival team:

**Samaira Ali
Amir Zainorin
Jakob Falk
Suzanne Russell
Sausan Kassis
Nanis Labib
Stine Høxbroe
Nidal Abu Arif**

**Info from Chamber of Public Secrets
M: kdrdk@yahoo.dk T: 61692029**

**Info from VerdensKulturCentret / Global
M: vkc@kff.kk.dk T: 35360528**

Venues & screening schedule

Danish Film Institute: opening conference 29th of January 2009 at 13:00-17:00.
Gothersgade 55, 1123 København K.
T: 33743400. M: dfi@dfi.dk. W: <http://www.dfi.dk>

Viften Bio: 29th of January - 1st of February.
Daily screening between 20:30-22:30.
Rødovre Parkvej 130, 2610 Rødovre.
T: 36704500. W: <http://www.viften.dk>

Empire Bio:
29th of January: 17:30-19:00.
30th of January: 17:30-19:00.
1st of February: 15:00-17:30.
Guldbergsgade 29 F, 2200 København N.
T: 35360036. M: info@empirebio.dk. W: <http://empirebio.dk>

Vester Vov Vov:
29th of January: 16:45-18:30.
30th of January - 1st of February: 14:30-16:45.
Absalonsgade 5, Copenhagen 1658.
T: 33244200. M: mail@vestervovvov.dk. W: <http://www.vestervovvov.dk>

Copenhagen Contemporary Art Center, Nikolaj - Kunsthallen Nikolaj:
29th of January at 17:00.
31st of January: 12:00-17:00.
1st of February: 12:00-17:00.
Nikolaj Plads 10. 1067 København K.
T: 33181780. M: nikolaj@kunsthallenikolaj.dk. W: <http://www.kunsthallenikolaj.dk>

Backyard Gallery:
29-30th of January 2009: 13:00-17:00.
31st of January: 12:00-16:00.
Højbro Plads 21B, 1200 København K.
T: 33 93 67 00. W: <http://www.backyardgallery.dk>

Global/VerdensKulturCentret:
29th of January: 19:00-21:00.
30th of January: 17:00-20:00.
31st of January: 15:00-20:00.
1st of February: 18:00-21:00.
Nørre Allé 7, 2200 København N.
T: 3536 0528. M: vkck@kff.kk.dk. W: <http://www.verdenskulturcentret.dk>

Roskilde Museum for Contemporary Art:
30-31st of January: 19:00-22:00.
1st of February: 19:00-21:00.
Stændertorvet 3D, 4000 Roskilde.
T: 46316570. M: info@samtidskunst.dk. W: <http://www.mfsk.dk>

Sponsors

Main sponsor: Brændstof.
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