

Narrative Encounters Shorts Programme

This programme highlights the work of a diverse group of filmmakers at different stages in their careers, who all have a singular approach to questions that are at once political, intimate and formal. From the humorous to the somewhat tragic, these films offer a glimpse into the distinct cinematic preoccupations of some of the most promising voices in Arab cinema today.

The Trap

Away from preying eyes, a young unmarried couple retreat to the depth of a desolate run-down Egyptian seaside resort, to make love. The power dynamic between them is tested, when the girl reveals she wants their relationship to end.

I Am Afraid to Forget Your Face

After being separated for 82 days, Adam travels down a rough road to be reunited with the one he loves, whatever it takes.

Aziza

This short film follows a newly displaced Syrian couple's drive around Beirut, which then morphs into a hallucinatory and nostalgic trip.

The Bath

When his wife leaves on a business trip, Imed must take care of his 5-year-old son, Hedi, for the first time on his own. While his wife has always taken care of their child's daily needs, Imed ends up enjoying this privileged time with his son, even after showing a little resistance. However, this common and simple event in a family's life unearths dark memories from Imed's past. Little by little, Imed is paralysed with anguish from the most trivial moments, forcing him to lead an unceasing double struggle – against his resurging fears and dire need to hide his turmoil from everyone and especially young Hedi.

Drought

In this erotically charged drama by Lebanese filmmaker Remi Itani, a real estate agent begins to close the gap between her private experiences in a series of empty apartments and the very different life she leads in public.

Maradona's Legs

During the 1990 World Cup, two young Palestinian boys are looking for 'Maradona's legs'; the last missing sticker that they need in order to complete their world cup album and win a free Atari.

Production notes

THE TRAP

Director: Nada Riyadh Egypt 2019 21 mins

I AM AFRAID TO FORGET YOUR FACE

Director: Sameh Alaa Egypt 2020

AZIZA

15 mins

Director: Soudade Kaadan Syria 2019

13 mins

THE BATH

Director: Anissa Daoud Tunisia 2020 15 mins

DROUGHT

Director: Remi Itani Lebanon 2020 15 mins

MARADONA'S LEGS

Director: Firas Khoury Palestine 2019 20 mins

THE TIME IS NEW:

SELECTIONS FROM CONTEMPORARY ARAB CINEMA

The Man Who Sold His Skin (L'Homme qui a vendu sa peau)

Sat 4 Sep 17:40 (+ pre-recorded Q&A with director Kaouther Ben Hania); Thu 16 Sep 20:50

200 Meters

Tue 7 Sep 20:50; Wed 15 Sep 18:10

As Above, So Below (Kama fissamaa', kathalika ala al-ard)

Wed 8 Sep 20:45; Fri 1 Oct 18:10 (+ pre-recorded Q&A with director Sarah Francis)

143 Sahara Street (143 rue du désert)

Sat 11 Sep 11:30; Mon 20 Sep 18:15

It Must Be Heaven

Sat 11 Sep 20:40; Mon 27 Sep 18:00; Mon 4 Oct 14:30

Let's Talk Ehkeely

Mon 13 Sep 18:00 (+ pre-recorded Q&A with director Marianne Khoury); Tue 5 Oct 20:50

Tlamess

Tue 14 Sep 20:40; Thu 30 Sep 18:00

Talking About Trees

Mon 20 Sep 14:30; Mon 27 Sep 20:45; Sun 3 Oct 18:00

You Will Die at Twenty (Satamoto fel eshreen)

Thu 23 Sep 20:30 (+ pre-recorded Q&A with director Amjad Abu Alala); Sat 2 Oct 14:20

Narrative Encounters: Shorts Programme

Fri 24 Sep 20:40; Tue 5 Oct 18:10

Adam

Sat 25 Sep 14:20; Mon 4 Oct 20:50

Abou Leila

Sun 26 Sep 18:00; Sat 2 Oct 20:30

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