

PALESTINE



DOCUMENTARY
HUB IDFA 2023



idfa

8-19 November 2023
International Documentary
Film Festival Amsterdam

مؤسسة الفيلم الفلسطيني
PALESTINE FILM INSTITUTE



PFI @ IDFA 2023

PALESTINE DOCUMENTARY HUB

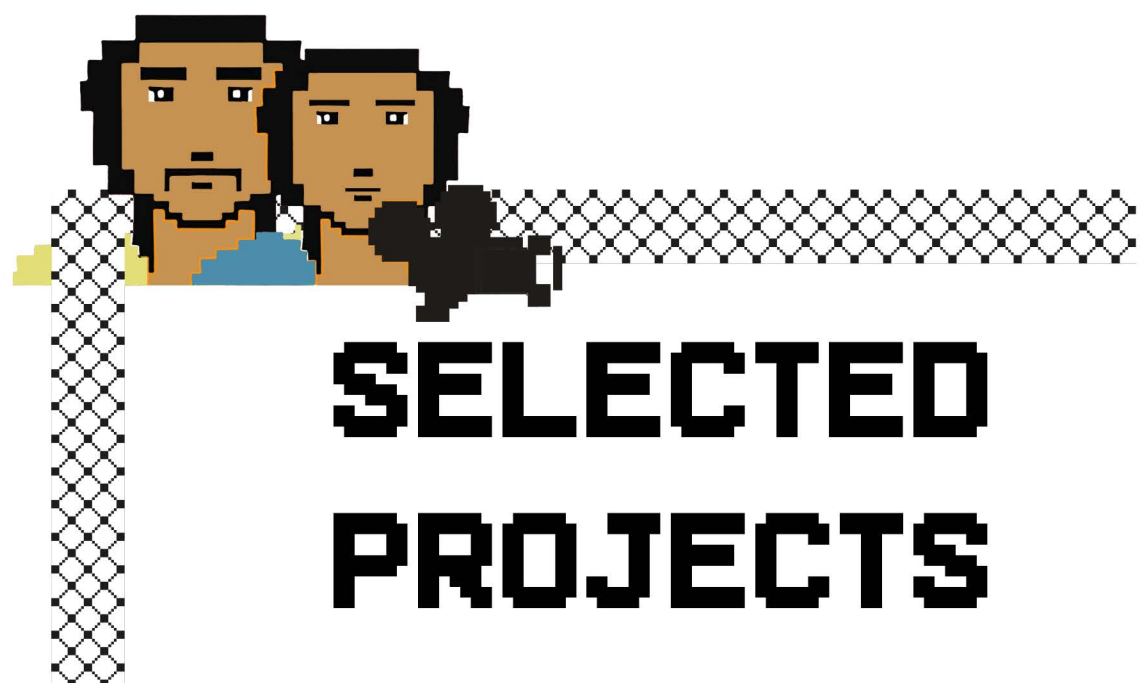
November 12th, Saturday at 14:00 – ITA (Pleinfoyer)

The Palestine Film Institute (PFI) extends an invitation to three Palestinian filmmakers to showcase their upcoming feature documentary projects within the context of IDFA. Alongside renowned international film producers, distributors, and sales agents, selected filmmakers will take centre stage during the Palestine Documentary Hub session at IDFA. In this exclusive opportunity, these visionary directors will have 15 minutes each to passionately present and discuss their projects before a captive audience of influential professionals and decision-makers. PFI is committed to championing and promoting these projects, providing a platform for the selected directors to engage with the global film community and actively participate in the festival's industry events. As part of our delegation, we will facilitate meetings for the directors, allowing them to connect with potential international collaborators and the broader festival network. Each director will receive a personalized program, collaboratively developed with PFI's industry consultants, ensuring their projects receive the attention and support they deserve.

Palestine-Doc-Hub is an initiative by the Palestine film institute (PFI) in collaboration with IDFA. The 6th edition is developed in cooperation with IDA "International documentary Association". The PFI want to extend its gratitude and thanks to the many friends who made this possible, including the filmmakers, the consultants, and the IDFA market team.



PALESTINE DOCUMENTARY HUB 2023



SELECTED PROJECTS

WE NEVER LEFT

A FILM BY DALIA AL KURY

PALESTINE, NORWAY, 82 MIN, DEVELOPMENT

Synopsis

What is at stake when one filmmaker from the diaspora takes on the challenge of imagining a liberated decolonized homeland. *We Never left* is a portrait of Dalia's unstoppable imagined Free Palestine and her trials and errors of visualizing this hopeful alternate reality. The protagonist takes the audience through her whimsical imaginary free state, one dream at a time. But is there room for that 75-year-old fossilized collective dream to hear individual voices or is she stepping on the only sacred place that is left.

Director biography



Dalia Al Kury is a film director working on cross-genre projects. Her films explore different cultural taboos in the Arab world. Her first feature "Possessed by djinn" premiered at Hotdocs and was funded by Arte. Her film "Privacy of Wounds" premiered in competition at IDFA. Her film *Syrialism* screened on platforms such as e-flux and the Arab film fest Collab. Previously her work was commissioned by major Arab TV stations as one of the pioneering independent filmmakers from Jordan. She holds an MA from Goldsmiths University and is currently a PhD candidate at the Norwegian film school.

- Producers: Nefise Lorenzen, Jørgen Lorenzen, Ola Hunnes
- Coproducers: Dalia Al-Kury film
- Production companies: Integral Film as
- Languages: Arabic, Norwegian, English
- Budget: 400 000 Euro
- Secured budget: 50 000 Euro
- Expected release date: Nov 2025
- Looking for: Co-production, Sales agent, presales TV
- Contact: integralfilm@gmail.com

THE ROLLER.THE LIFE.THE FIGHT

A FILM BY HAZEM ALQADDI AND ELETTRA BISOGNO

PALESTINE, BELGIUM, 83 MIN, ROUGH CUT

Synopsis

Hazem arrives in Belgium after a painful journey from Gaza. At the same time, Elettra also arrives in Brussels to study documentary film. Their first moments together trigger the desire to get to know each other through the medium of film. The camera becomes the tool for listening to and transforming each other. It is an exile, an inner migration to reach a place where gazes are softer and more equal.

Director biography



Elettra Bisogno was born in Italy and grew up in various European cities. After studying graphic design in Italy, where she specializes in experimental printmaking, she moves to Brussels and instinctively turns to the moving image. She draws inspiration and forges herself from watching and listening to the world, in its beauty and ugliness. Graduating in 2021 from the KASK School of Arts in the cinema section, she emerges as a documentary filmmaker with two short films *Ultima Cassa* (2018) and *Old Child* (2020).



Hazem Alqaddi is from Palestine, he graduates from the UNRWA Schools in Gaza and arrives in Belgium in 2018 in search of a new life outside of a besieged Palestine. In Gaza and until today, he is a passionate rollerblader, kitemaker, chef and storyteller. Driven by a desire to connect with people, he discovered filmmaking in 2019 when he co-directed *Old Child* (2020), and has been recording with commitment ever since to express what's on his heart.

- | | |
|--------------------------|---|
| - Producers: | Rosine Mbakam, Geoffroy Cernaix |
| - Coproducers: | GSARA, CBA |
| - Production companies: | Tândor Productions |
| - Languages: | English, Arabic, Italian |
| - Ebudget: | 93,114 euro |
| - Secured budget: | 68,114 euro |
| - Expected release date: | April 2024 |
| - Looking for: | completion funds, festival programmers, sales agent |
| - Contact: | tandor.prod@gmail.com |

SHEIKH JARRAH

A FILM BY YOUSEF HAMMAD

PALESTINE, 98 MIN, PE PRODUCTION

Synopsis

Once a playground for the children residents, the main street of the Sheikh Jarrah neighbourhood becomes a battlefield with violent confrontations and sewage water filling the smell of the neighbourhood. This experimental and non-chronological documentary film is narrated through a three-generational perspective, shedding light on daily injustices of and the ongoing lawsuit raised against the residents.

Director biography



Noora Said is a filmmaker and contemporary artist. She co-founded Sirdab Studio for audiovisual production in 2017 and has over six years of experience in filmmaking, media, creative arts, project/programme management and coordination. Ms. Said has copious experience producing and directing. She earned her Master's of Arts in Filmmaking and Moving Image from Goldsmiths, University of London. This was preceded by her BA from American University in Washington DC, where she double majored in Film & Media Arts and Sociology.



Yousef Hammad is an established Director of Photography (DoP) and the co-founder of Sirdab Studio, an audiovisual production company. He is a committed film production crew member who is focused on his role across the film production cycle. He has produced films and videos with prominent directors and artists, such as Dalia Kury, BLTNM, and cooperated with leading art institutions, human rights organizations, and private sector companies, such as Qattan, Alhoash, ACPP, and Oredo.

Producers:

Production:

Languages:

Estimated budget:

secured budget:

Expected release date:

Looking for:

Contact:

Noora Said

Sirdab Studio

Arabic, English, Hebrew

70,000 Euro

8,000 Euro

Nov. 2025

Co-producers, Production Funds

sirdabcreative@gmail.com



Jihan El Tahri

She is an Egyptian-born, French filmmaker, author and news correspondent. Writer, director and producer, her films include the Emmy-nominated *House of Saud* and *Do They Feel My Shadow*, *The Price of Aid* and the recent *Behind the Rainbow*. She has authored, directed and produced award-winning documentary films, authored books and reported on political conflicts in the Middle East and Africa.



Raed Andoni

He produced a number of films acclaimed in international festivals and markets. In 2006 he directed his first 60 minute documentary *IMPROVISATION* which was screened in various international festivals and TV channels.

His feature *FIX-ME* premiered in the official competition at the Sundance Film Festival in 2010, was in the *ACID* selection at Cannes festival 2011 and many others festivals and was released in theaters in France and Switzerland. Andoni's latest film *GHOST HUNTING* premiered at the Berlin International Film Festival 2017 and won the Glashütte Original Documentary Award and the people's choice award. *GHOST HUNTING* took part in over 150 festivals and won 20 prizes before it became Palestine's Official ticket to the OSCARS in 2019.

PROJECTS CONSULTANTS

ABOUT PFI

Palestine Film institute (PFI) is a Palestinian voluntary and independent non-profit organization established in 2019, The PFI was born from a shared desire among active film professionals who identify as Palestinians, to create an inclusive body with the mission to develop, promote and empower the community and industry of film in Palestine and for Palestinians worldwide and preserve its cinema.

THE PALESTINE DOCUMENTARY HUB TEAM



Mohamed Jabaly
PFI.DOC.HUB Coordinator.

Mohamed Jabaly is a Palestinian filmmaker, producer and artist from Gaza City who came to Norway in 2014. His first full-length documentary "Ambulance" was shown at several of the world's largest film festivals. He won several awards, including One World Media as Best Feature Documentary at BAFTA (2017), BBC Arabic Journalist Award, SunBird Award at Days of Cinema in Palestine. Mohamed has held workshops in filmmaking for young people and served on juries for several film festivals. He has a BA in Moving Images from Nordland Film & Art College in Northern Norway. Jabaly joined Stray Dogs production as a director in 2019.

jabaly@palestinefilm.institute.org



Dorota Lech
PFI.DOC.HUB Session Moderator

Dorota Lech is a Polish-born, Toronto and New York-based film programmer, independent curator, and consultant. Since 2013 she has worked for the Toronto International Film Festival, where she is an International Programmer selecting films from Central, Eastern, and Southern Europe as well as the Caucasus and Western Asia.

She is also a programmer at the Tallinn Black Nights Film Festival and holds a double M.A. in Political Science and Gender Studies from McGill University.



Hamza AbuAyyash
PFI Designer.

Hamza AbuAyyash is a Palestinian activist artist living in Jordan since 2023. He obtains a master degree in Autonomous and social design from KASK in Gent, Belgium. As a multimedia artist, Hamza uses different art forms: calligraphy, painting, sculpture, video, photography, projection and graffiti, also he was a scenic artist and art director in some productions. Together with other artists and engineers, he developed the inflector, a tool for digital calligraphy and projection. Since the beginning of PFI, Hamza was the main graphic designer for the publications of the institute, he established Open Space production house in Jordan.

hamza@openspacejo.com



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