

**REFUGEE IN FILMS
FILM FESTIVAL 2008 PROGRAMME**

Sling Shots Hip-hop

Jackie Reem Saloom, 80min.USA (2008)

Official Selection, Sundance Film Festival 2008.

Filmmaker Jackie Reem Salloum spotlights a vibrant Palestinian hip-hop scene as emerging artists discover rap and employ it as means to submit age-old conflicts deepened by occupation and poverty. Armed with the music of revolution, rappers portrayed the hopes and dreams of a new generation of Palestinians defying the boundaries that separate them.

Friday 20th June, St Nicholas Church Hall 6:00 pm free entrance

Sunday 22nd June, Tricycle Theatre 3:00 Pm Tickets £5.00

Persepolis

Directors: Vincent Paronnaud & Marjane Satrapi (2007), 91min. France.

Jury prize Cannes Festival.

Oscar Nominated film, and winner of many awards including the Jury prize at Cannes, The film is a deeply personal account of the story of a spirited and rebellious young girl growing up in Iran during the Islamic Revolution and later in Europe.

Saturday 21nd June 11:00am BFI Studio Free Entrance

Sahara is not for Sale

Enrique Arellano & Joaquín Calderón, 87min. (2008) Spain

Won the People's award from the V International Documentary Film Festival, Documenta Madrid (2008)

In April 2007, during the celebration of the 4th edition of Fisahara, three friends embark on the adventure of running a photography workshop in the refugee camp of Dajla in Algeria. The pictures produced by the seventeen participants allow them to discover how after thirty three years of occupation, Saharawi refugees are on the verge of desperation with no patience left and ready to resume the armed struggle against the occupying Moroccan forces.

Saturday 21st June Tricycle Theatre 4:00pm Tickets £5.00

Sunday 22nd June 11:00am BFI Studio Free Entrance

Q&A with the directors and Dannielle Smith from Sandblast

Short Films

Nadia

Pune Sadegee (2004) 20min UK

Powerful portrait of Nadia, a woman for whom life and politics are one. Her love and firm conviction that a better life is possible for all have turned her into an activist. The film takes us in a journey into the world of this complex and interesting woman.

Transcient

Koutaiba Al-Janabi (2003) 5min Iraq

This beautiful experimental film is a journey through images of the 1991 attack on Kurdish people, and as result, the migration of millions to neighbouring countries in search of safety.

Broken

Vicky Psarias, (2007) 15min UK

This is the story of an uncomfortable reunion of a Cypriot family in London in 1968. Focusing the family's efforts to re-establish a bond with its estranged father, the short film

manages to convey this dislocation concisely, and suggests the beginning of a long struggle to adapt to perpetual soggy and inedible English food.

The cleaner

Noel Kearns (2007) 13min. UK

Stephan works as a cleaner in a hospital, and is often asked to act as a translator. In the emergency and accidents department, where this time he meets people from his own country he meets his worst enemy.

Saturday 21st June 2:00pm BFI Studio Free Entrance

Powerful Refuge Films

The More the Merrier

WorldWRITE, 15min (2008) UK

Produced by a group of young volunteers from WorldWRITE. The film examines the impact of immigration through inspired argument and the story of one young Indian woman's desire to stay in the UK, it lyrically interweaves historical archive with shanty sea songs, presenting a unique pro-immigration case.

My friend Nasir UK

Koutaiba Al-Janabi 8min (2003) UK

Story of Nasir a young Iraqi man who has been the victim of a racist attack, which leads him to an interesting meeting in a London hospital.

Be Roma or Die Trying

Hi8US and group of young Roma people, 20min. (2006) UK

A powerful documentary made by a group of Young Roma people, it explores their own identity and the way they are perceived by others, including the British press.

A Road in my Life

Mohammed Ali, (2007) 10min UK

Mohammed Ali takes us on a wonderful journey through his lost childhood memories triggered by a present by his cousin, a picture of his Mosque on a street in Mogadishu, Somalia.

Sunday 22 June 2:00pm BFI Studio Free Entrance

The Light House

Maria Saakyan (2005) 78min.

A highlight of last years, London Film Festival (2007)

Lena returns home, a war has broken out and her grandparents still live there. Bombs explode throughout the night and people are being killed on every corner. Shortly after her arrival, Lena finds herself trapped; there are no more trains and no communication with the mainland. But she soon discovers that running away does not necessarily mean saving oneself, her brief visit becomes a permanent move.

A highlight of last year's London Film Festival, this poetic reflection on the ravages of war combines documentary with the gorgeous visual tradition of the great Russian cinema and features actors who worked with Andrei Tarkovsky and Sergei Paradjanov (aswell as a startling sequence that was donated by Artavazd Peleshian).

Sunday 22nd June 3:30pm BFI / NFT 1 Tickets £7.60 Concessions £5.25

Film Challenge films

When our paths cross

This film is a beautiful exploration about travelling and displacement made by two young women especially for the film festival.

Jokers from around the world

Short film produced in two days by a group of young people about their first experiences when they arrive in London.

Hype

An inspiration film made by young Somali youths exploring and challenging stereotypes about young people.

Date:

June 20-23 2008

Venues:

British Film Institute

BFI South bank Belvedere Road

South Bank

 **Waterloo**

London SE1 8XT

St Nicholas Church Hall

Aberfeldy Street London

E14 0NU

DLR All saints

Tricycle:

269 KILBURN HIGH ROAD

NW6 7JR

 **Kilburn**