

FROM SCREEN TO EVERYDAY LIFE: ADDRESSING SOCIAL ISSUES IN CINEMA

In an era where cinema serves as both a reflection and stimulus for societal change, this discussion delves into the significant impact of films addressing pressing social issues. From gender issues in Jordan, racism and women's relations in Sudan, to political complexities in Western Sahara, our panel of directors, Amjad Al Rashid, Mohamad Kordofani, and Anna Klara Åhren, will explain how their work attempts going beyond the screen and dealing with sensitive issues. We will explore how these cinematic narratives bridge cultural divides, start important discussions, and inspire action in communities worldwide while navigating censorship and criticism. From gripping narratives to thought-provoking documentaries, cinema has a unique ability to shed light on the complexities of our world and amplify voices often silenced by mainstream discourse.

MODERATED BY: AMAL AL-AGROOBI

Mohamed Kordofani



Mohamed Kordofani is a Sudanese aircraft engineer turned filmmaker. He made a number of short films, including NYERKUK, which won the Black Elephant Award for best Sudanese Film and the NAAS Award for best Arab film at Carthage Film Festival in 2017. In 2023 Kordofani's debut feature film Goodbye Julia premiered in Cannes Film Festival, where it was awarded the Prix de la Liberté and also celebrated for being the first-ever Sudanese film to be officially featured in the festival. He is also the Co-founder of Klozium Studios; a production house based in Sudan & UAE which co-produced, and executed the production of Goodbye Julia.

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Anna Klara Åhren



Anna Klara Åhren has been involved in the filmmakers collective RåFILM since 2005 and made many documentaries, campaign films and animations, but also developed film education activities and held international video workshops. With a core of video activism, she has experimented with forms of display and distribution alongside the conventional. Her latest production 3 Stolen Cameras (2017) was made together with the media group Equipe Media from occupied part of Western Sahara. Anna Klara Åhren is currently a teacher in documentary filmmaking at Ölands Folkhögskola and about to release a feature documentary "HAIYU- Rebel Singer Mariem Hassan and the Struggle for a Free Western Sahara" made together with Saharawi Voice.

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Amjad Al Rasheed



Amjad Al Rasheed, a Jordanian director and writer born in 1985, has an MFA in Cinematic Arts with a concentration on Directing and Editing. In 2016 he was selected by «Screen International» as one of five «Arab Stars of Tomorrow» highlighting the up-and-coming young talents of the region. He attended the Talent Campus during the 57th Berlinale, after which he directed short films that garnered nominations and won prizes at various Arab and international film festivals

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