



**CINEMA** *Guide*  
2020\_2021

Artwork credit: Adra Kandil

## CONTENT

MESSAGE OF ABBAS MORTADA - MINISTER OF CULTURE	3
MESSAGE OF MAYA DE FREIGE - PRESIDENT OF FONDATION LIBAN CINEMA	4
MESSAGE OF MAZEN SOUEID - PRESIDENT OF IDAL - INVESTMENT DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY OF LEBANON	6
SELECTED FOR CANNES FILM FESTIVAL LABEL 2020	8
LEBANESE FESTIVALS AND EVENTS	11
LEBANESE ASSOCIATIONS	19
FONDATION LIBAN CINEMA CAPACITY BUILDING PROGRAMS - ARTIST RESIDENCIES	22
PRODUCTION HOUSES - POST PRODUCTION HOUSES - LEBANESE DISTRIBUTORS	24-28
SURVIVING THE CRISIS	29-31
FEATURE FILMS	33
SHORT FILMS	49
IN THE PIPELINE	61
SERIES	77



### ABBAS MORTADA - Minister of Culture

The Lebanese cinema is in the midst of a gigantic development cycle, marked by the release of an increasing number of movies over the past few years as well as the emergence of new and talented actor. The country is definitely on the right track, as the strategies promoted by the Ministry of Culture and the Fondation Liban Cinema are now bearing their fruits. Protocols signed with foreign countries have definitely contributed to these results, and will certainly be part of more future expansion.

We are very proud of the successes achieved so far by Lebanon on the international scene. After the successive nominations of “The Insult” by Ziad Doueiri in 2018 and “Capernaum” by Nadine Labaki in 2019 to the Oscars’ best foreign language film award, 2 new movies by Lebanese directors have been selected to feature in this year’s Cannes film festival official list of nominees, as both Jimmy Keyrouz with “Broken Keys” and Danielle Arbid with “Passion Simple” have been selected by what is considered the most prestigious film festival in the world.

We are extremely proud of what has been achieved so far by this sector, thanks to the collaboration of talented private organizations such as fondation Liban du Cinema. That was the initial goal of the Fondation, and we now recognize its success.

Even with the difficult times Lebanon is going through, the Ministry of Culture will always work on reviving arts and culture, and on developing & expanding the various cultural fields of our beloved country. Cinema is unquestionably one of its key constituents.



### MAYA DE FREIGE - President of Fondation Liban Cinema

A year unlike any other year!

It could have been the title of a film if life were just cinema. And the events that marked the autumn of 2019 until the spring of 2020 could have been a script, a fiction that we watched from a distance, to be viewed with a critical eye. But this was not experienced on a screen: it was an extraordinary, unprecedented reality, the stuff of many documentaries to come.

A year unlike any other year: a pandemic has swept the world, and Lebanon has not been spared. Lebanon had already been caught in a whirlwind of revolutionary change starting in October 2019. For over three months, the young people of Lebanon were on the streets demanding their rights to a better life. The battle is not yet won, but it has started, and there is still a long way to go.

There is no doubt that this has been a most difficult period. The end of the tunnel seems far away. The outlook for supporting the arts is dire. But in difficult times artists respond by transforming their experiences into greater creativity. Artistic productivity is born from adversity. Despite everything, Lebanon continues to make films. At the Fondation Liban Cinema, we encourage film-making that questions and shakes up our understanding of the world, challenging the viewer.

For now and into the future uncertainty prevails.

The pandemic will impact both production and consumption patterns, as well as, the way we work and socialise more generally. Will this last forever? Of all the arts, film is perhaps the most capable of responding by seizing this reality.

Film-making will be enriched with stories and insights. The lockdown has given space and time for reflection, changing the habitual lenses we use: people have been able to stop for a while, reviewing priorities and rethinking objectives. Lebanese artists in particular will have to reinvent the world around them and adapt to the big changes the country is going through. That requires creativity and dreams. And film is our dream factory!

At the Fondation Liban Cinema, we will be there with each and every one of these filmmakers, capturing this world as they will be, in all its beauty and madness.



### FONDATION LIBAN CINEMA- FLC

Fondation Liban Cinema is a non-governmental organization that plays a powerful and effective federating role in the Lebanese audiovisual industry. Fondation Liban Cinema is unique by its mission of a Film Commission that links Lebanese professionals locally and abroad among them and with the public sector and advocates to their cause, a mission that no other organization in the field fulfills.

Official cooperation links Fondation Liban Cinema to the public sector giving her the mandate to negotiate coproduction agreements, to attract investments in the media field and help the film industry grow and compete.

#### OUR OBJECTIVES:

- Supporting the development of a competitive Lebanese film industry
- Professionalizing and structuring the sector
- Financing the development of the local film industry with a high level of quality and controlled budgets
- Establishing Lebanon as a prominent international production location
- Facilitating local film production
- Promoting the Lebanese cinema industry locally and abroad
- Preserving Lebanese audiovisual heritage
- Restoring and showcasing audiovisual archives.
- Collecting data and elaborating studies to propose public accompanying measures necessary for the development of the sector.

Fondation Liban Cinema  
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 info@fondationlibancinema.org  
 www.fondationlibancinema.org



**MAZEN SOUEID - President of IDAL - Investment Development Authority of Lebanon**

The Investment Development Authority of Lebanon (IDAL) has always recognized the importance of the film industry and its contribution to the economy. As such, IDAL has been entrusted to support and promote this industry, as part of its overall support to the media sector, as well as highlight the untapped opportunities it offers to local and foreign investors alike.

The successes of Lebanon's film industry are too many to count, and the talent and creativity spans across all stages of production. Two Lebanese films were selected for the 2020 Cannes Film Festival, *Passion Simple* by Danielle Arbid and *Broken Keys* by Jimmy Keyrouz. Let us not forget the recent nomination of *The Insult* by Ziad Doueiri and *Capernaum* by Nadine Labaki, in the Academy Awards' Best Foreign Language Film Category during two consecutive years (2017 and 2018) for the first time in history. All this is nothing but a reminder of how much the Lebanese film industry can achieve.

Despite the challenges faced by global and media industry as a result of COVID we still believe that Lebanon can take a leading role in the Middle East as hub for movie production tapping on its talent, multifaceted scenery, trilingual population and unbeatable lifestyle. IDAL will take the opportunity in this challenging environment to work with all stakeholders to promote the local industry, amend needed legislations to boost filming in Lebanon and ensure that the sector is provided with the right facilities.

With IDAL's support, we hope to contribute to establishing Lebanon as a regional hub for production and post-production, paving the way for many more success stories in the years to come.



IDAL is Lebanon's national investment promotion agency that aims to promote Lebanon as a key investment destination, and attracting, facilitating and retaining investments in Lebanon.

IDAL provides local and foreign investors alike with a range of incentives and business support services across eight productive sectors with growth potential, including the media sector.

If you are involved in the film industry, in either production, post-production or distribution and the size of your investment in Lebanon is USD 200,000 or USD 400,000 (capital investment in land or machinery) and creates a minimum of 25 jobs, you are eligible to benefit from a range of incentives and services including:

- Up to 100% exemption on corporate income tax for up to 10 years
- Up to 100% exemption on profits from dividends for up to 10 years
- 100% exemption on land registration fees
- 50% reduction on work and residence permits for foreign workers
- Meditating contacts between local producers, international funds and distributors
- Providing market information on the film industry and its potential

At any time during the investment process, you can also benefit from IDAL's free legal and financial advisory services. To book an appointment and for more information, visit us on [www.investinlebanon.gov.lb](http://www.investinlebanon.gov.lb)

If you already have an investment project that you wish to launch or have plans to expand your company in Lebanon, email us on: [invest@idal.com.lb](mailto:invest@idal.com.lb)

## Selected for Cannes Film Festival Label 2020



### Danielle Arbid

After being selected twice in La Quinzaine des réalisateurs, what impression does it make to be in the official selection of Cannes film festival amid a global pandemic that prevents this event to take place and what do you expect from it?

I am naturally very happy that "*Passion Simple*" is in the official selection of Cannes Film Festival. It is the most beautiful showcase in the world for a film. A great opportunity to shine. For the past two days, we have received many requests and calls concerning the film. Even without a physical festival, the impact of Cannes label is undeniable. This year, and as an exception, being in the official selection of Cannes Festival will not prevent us from being in any other A

festival, and so my film will be part of other important selections that will be announced very soon... We are very excited !

### Do you consider 2020 a wasted year? What does it mean for independent filmmakers?

2020 was a very complicated year for artists around the world, in France and especially in Lebanon. But nothing will ever stop the dream. During those three months, I was able to continue writing my next scenario. It helped me believe that life will soon resume. I would like to point out that Thierry Fremaux's determination to keep the festival running, his love of cinema and his desire to highlight this year's films and their filmmakers are amazing. He gave hope to the artists and to the cinema industry.

### What are your dreams for cinema after COVID19?

To go back to the cinema theatres very soon!

## Selected for Cannes Film Festival Label 2020



### Jimmy Keyrouz

What does it bring you to have your name associated with Cannes Film Festival for the first time and especially today, in these very particular circumstances of a world pandemic?

Getting recognized by Cannes Film Festival is one of the greatest honors a filmmaker can hope for. I am both humbled and tremendously grateful that *Broken Keys* made the 2020 Official Selection. The festival never stopped promoting films and filmmakers, and this year, despite an unprecedented and historic pandemic, the festival did so by revealing a list of its official selection.

### What a beautiful experience for a first film...!

I was lucky to collaborate with incredible people and filmmakers in the process of making the film. I am grateful to Antoun Sehnaoui and Ezekiel Productions for the opportunity and the trust he granted us, to Frederic Domont and Ginger Productions for all the great work they have accomplished. I am thankful to every single member of the amazing crew and all the hard work they put in under very challenging circumstances. I am honored to have collaborated with Oscar-winning composer Gabriel Yared who has been the most inspiring partner. Last but not least, I wish to congratulate the talented cast filled with Lebanese stars that I had the opportunity to work with. Each one of them has been a significant added value.

### What are your expectations from this prestigious Cannes label for your first film?

My hope is that Cannes' prestigious recognition will be followed by other victories and opportunities that will promote the film further and that the film will resonate strongly with audiences in Lebanon and worldwide.

LEBANESE

*Festivals and  
Events*

## FESTIVALS &amp; EVENTS

## DESCRIPTION &amp; CONTACT



## Arab Short Film Festival

In 2003, Nadi Lekol Nas started screening short student films in different Lebanese universities in a purpose of introducing the audience to the young filmmakers and providing a space for debates and discussions. In 2012, the club made a step forward and changed the Students Film Festival to become the Arab Short Film Festival, in an initiative to providing a platform to more independent filmmakers in Lebanon and Arab countries to show their work.

[www.nadilekolnas.org](http://www.nadilekolnas.org) [info@nadilekolnas.org](mailto:info@nadilekolnas.org)



## Batroun Short Film Festival

Batroun Mediterranean Film Festival (BMFF) has become a yearly cinematic celebration, with a selection of short films from the 21 Mediterranean Sea countries. A lively event that consists of International and National Competitions, special events and hangouts.

[www.batrounmedfilmfest.com](http://www.batrounmedfilmfest.com) [nicolashabbaz@hotmail.com](mailto:nicolashabbaz@hotmail.com)



## Beirut Animated Festival

Beirut Animated is an animation film festival established by the Metropolis Association. Its goal is to enhance and develop the animation production in the region by creating a platform for Arab artists. The festival is not only about screenings: it also hosts animation workshops, roundtable discussions and exhibitions.

[www.metropoliscinema.net/page/beirutAnimated/](http://www.metropoliscinema.net/page/beirutAnimated/)  
[info@metropoliscinema.net](mailto:info@metropoliscinema.net)



## Beirut Art Film Festival

A festival of a fine selections of recent documentaries on Art in major Beirut universities at Metropolis Empire Sofil - Ashrafieh. The most exclusive documentaries assembled shall be screened for the first time in Beirut! They will feature Architecture, Art collections, Cinema, Contemporary Art, Dance, Design, Divas, Fashion, Masterpieces, Museums, Music and Photography.

[www.bafflebanon.org](http://www.bafflebanon.org) [info@bafflebanon.org](mailto:info@bafflebanon.org)

## FESTIVALS &amp; EVENTS

## DESCRIPTION &amp; CONTACT



## Beirut Cinema Days

(Ayam Beirut Al Cinema'iya)

Beirut Cinema Days is a biennial film festival organized by Beirut DC since 2001. Over the years, the Beirut Cinema Days festival has established itself as an important showcase for independent Arab films by increasing dialogue between cultures and civilizations. The festival includes a selection of features, documentaries, student films, animation and experimental films as well as several off-festival events; training sessions, master classes with Arab and foreign experts, platforms, presentations and retrospectives.

[www.beirutdc.org](http://www.beirutdc.org) / [ayam@beirutdc.org](mailto:ayam@beirutdc.org)



## Beirut Cinema Platform

Beirut Cinema Platform (BCP) is an initiative organized by Beirut DC and Fondation Liban Cinema. This platform is designed to bring together Arab independent filmmakers with Arab and international industry professionals, with the aim to encourage coproductions, collaborations and partnerships.

[www.beirutdc.org](http://www.beirutdc.org) / [lab@beirutdc.org](mailto:lab@beirutdc.org)  
[www.fondationlibancinema.org](http://www.fondationlibancinema.org) / [info@fondationlibancinema.org](mailto:info@fondationlibancinema.org)



## Beirut International Film Festival

BIFF is the international festival of Lebanon. It presents a selection of the latest films in every edition and invites an international jury to oversee the competition. Every year, the festival hosts filmmakers and producers from all over world.

[www.beirutfilmfestival.org](http://www.beirutfilmfestival.org) / [info@beirutfilmfestival.org](mailto:info@beirutfilmfestival.org)

## FESTIVALS &amp; EVENTS

## DESCRIPTION &amp; CONTACT



### Beirut International Women Film Festival

Beirut International Women Film Festival (BWFF) is a live screening competition festival, held in Beirut, gathering filmmakers from all over the world under the theme “Women Empowerment”. The festival screens films about women issues and/or done by women. This festival is designed specifically for filmmakers who have invested in films about women, to raise awareness about discrimination, violence, abuse, career, among other topics that matter.

**Sam Lahoud**  
[www.beirutwomenfilmfestival.com](http://www.beirutwomenfilmfestival.com)  
[beirutwomenfilmfestival@gmail.com](mailto:beirutwomenfilmfestival@gmail.com)  
[slahoud74@gmail.com](mailto:slahoud74@gmail.com) +96170169129



### Beirut International Children & Family film festival

(BICAF) seeks to raise awareness about Children and Family issues. BICAF includes special programs for awareness and capacity building around topics such as: Children rights, bullying, cyber addiction, drugs, domestic violence, education, peace, among others.

**Sam Lahoud**  
[www.bicaffilmfestival.com](http://www.bicaffilmfestival.com) [slahoud74@gmail.com](mailto:slahoud74@gmail.com)



### Cabriolet Film Festival

Since its inauguration, the festival has prided itself on creating a unique forum of exchange and dialogue between the public and the filmmaking community through hosting an event that encourages individual talents, brings together artists and filmmakers, champions short films, improves networking between interest groups, and allows the public to interact with filmmakers. Now, the festival is presenting Lebanese shorts in 7 countries in collaboration with other international festival partners.

[www.cabrioletfilmfestival.com](http://www.cabrioletfilmfestival.com) / [info@cabrioletfilmfestival.com](mailto:info@cabrioletfilmfestival.com)

## FESTIVALS &amp; EVENTS

## DESCRIPTION &amp; CONTACT



### Ecrans du réel

“Ecrans du réel” is a documentary film festival organized by the Metropolis Cinema Association and the French Institute in Lebanon. The festival, offers a passionate overview of documentaries, with a selection of award-winning films, most of them shown for the first time in Lebanon.

[www.metropoliscinema.net/page/ecransDuReel/](http://www.metropoliscinema.net/page/ecransDuReel/)  
[info@metropoliscinema.net](mailto:info@metropoliscinema.net)



### Festival International du Court-Métrage des Ecoles de Cinéma

“Festival International du Court-Métrage des Ecoles de Cinéma” -FICMEC- organized by IESAV – Institut d’études scéniques, audiovisuelles et cinématographiques, Saint-Joseph University of Beirut, since 2001. This International festival focuses on student projects and gives a chance for young filmmakers from all over the world to share their works and to experience other cultures through cinema. The jury is international.

[www.ficmec.com](http://www.ficmec.com)  
[Communications.iesav@usj.edu.lb](mailto:Communications.iesav@usj.edu.lb)  
[Michel.bejjani@usj.edu.lb](mailto:Michel.bejjani@usj.edu.lb)



### Karama - Beirut Human Rights Film Festival

Karama Beirut Human Rights Film Festival (supported by Movies That Matter and Cinema Without Bordersnetwork) is a film event that contributes, among other well-established and renowned “Human Rights Festivals” in the world, to spreading a “cinema” that denounces racism, hatred discourse, discrimination and injustice.

**Festival director** | Mr. Haytham chamass | +961 3 985 693  
[karmabeirut@gmail.com](mailto:karmabeirut@gmail.com) | **Project manager** | Najwa Kondakji  
 + 961 70 068 654 | [karamabeirut.manager@gmail.com](mailto:karamabeirut.manager@gmail.com)

## FESTIVALS &amp; EVENTS

## DESCRIPTION &amp; CONTACT



## Lebanese Film Festival

The Lebanese Film Festival (formerly né à Beyrouth Festival) was created in 2001 in order to help Lebanese movie makers show their films (shorts, Documentaries, Fiction, Experimental), meet with their audience and acquire basic financial support for their future projects.

During the festival, movie-makers, movie-lovers and professionals from the local film industry meet with the same objective: encourage and expand the Lebanese cinematographic industry. Festival Director: Wafa'a Celine Halawi

[www.lebanesefilmfestival.org/fr/](http://www.lebanesefilmfestival.org/fr/) [info@lebanesefilmfestival.org](mailto:info@lebanesefilmfestival.org)

Maskoon  
Fantastic Film Festival

Maskoon is the first Fantastic film festival in the Middle East focusing exclusively on genre film, bringing the best horror, thriller, fantasy and action films from around the globe to Beirut and, by default, to the Arab World.

Maskoon's primary objective is to offer a wide variety of genre films that usually don't get released in the region, thus satisfying the genre fan base's demands while also introducing the rest of the audience to the artistry of genre cinema. The festival also aims to create a space for Arab filmmakers, technicians and genre film aficionados to meet, debate and possibly collaborate in the future throughout masterclasses, conferences, family screenings and outdoor events.

[www.abboutproductions.com](http://www.abboutproductions.com)  
[maskoonfantasticfest@gmail.com](mailto:maskoonfantasticfest@gmail.com)



## MYFF

Launched in 2016, Metropolis Youth Film Festival (MY FF) is the ideal platform to screen the best of youth cinema's recent productions, presenting it in its diversity. The selection includes local, regional and international feature and short films, both fiction and documentaries. This annual event is a unique opportunity to curate a complete and comprehensive programme, inviting children, teenagers and young people to have a different cinema experience. In parallel to the screenings at Metropolis Empire Sofil, special screenings take place hors les murs to accommodate public schools and underprivileged youth in settlements and refugee camps.

[www.metropoliscinema.net/page/metropolisyouthfilm/](http://www.metropoliscinema.net/page/metropolisyouthfilm/)  
[youngaudience@metropoliscinema.net](mailto:youngaudience@metropoliscinema.net)



## FESTIVALS &amp; EVENTS

## DESCRIPTION &amp; CONTACT

NDU International Film  
Festival  
The Power of Youth

The NDU International Film Festival (NDUIFF), a short film festival founded in 2007 at Notre Dame University-Louaize (NDU), Lebanon; As its theme reflects, the Mission of NDUIFF is to promote young filmmakers by screening their films in front of a large audience base, and to promote their talents and artistic excellence. NDUIFF accepts short films in three categories: Fiction, Documentary, and Animation.

The NDUIFF Mission takes inspiration from the NDU Mission Statement, which believes in providing equal opportunities for Lebanese and foreign participants "in a spirit of openness that embraces all cultures, regardless of race, gender, color, religion, or sect;" NDUIFF "promotes diversity, respect for human dignity and rights, and concern for the common good."

[www.nduiff.com](http://www.nduiff.com) / [submissions@nduiff.com](mailto:submissions@nduiff.com)

Tyre's International  
Cinema Festival for Short  
Films

Lebanon's International Cinema Festival for Short Films is considered an annual cultural event that aims to celebrate the Lebanese, Arabic, and International cinema. This festival is held annually in more than one city (Tyre, Nabatieh – Tripoli). It expresses freedom of expression and cultural convergence and supports cinema for the youth.

[www.tiroarts.com](http://www.tiroarts.com)  
Kassem Istanbouli [istanbouli.kassem@gmail.com](mailto:istanbouli.kassem@gmail.com)



## Tripoli Film Festival

The Tripoli Film Festival aims at enriching the local cultural environment in Tripoli, promoting the rich cultural heritage of Tripoli and its local artists, and branding Tripoli and its region as a highly promising tourist destination. Original projections and premières to be screened over the festival period.

[www.tripoli-filmfestival.org](http://www.tripoli-filmfestival.org) / [info@tripoli-filmfestival.org](mailto:info@tripoli-filmfestival.org)

LEBANESE  
*Associations*



AFAC ARAB FUND FOR  
ARTS AND CULTURE  
الصندوق العربي  
للثقافة والفنون

## (AFAC) ARAB FUND FOR ARTS AND CULTURE

The Arab Fund for Arts and Culture (AFAC) is an independent Arab initiative established in 2007. AFAC funds individuals and organizations in the fields of cinema, performing arts, literature, music, visual arts, and research, training and regional events. In the field of cinema, AFAC currently has three programs: a yearly **general call for cinema**, and two special programs-**The Arab Documentary Film Program** for Arab documentary projects and **Crossroads** for emerging Arab directors working on projects related to possibility and change.

T/F: +961 | 747 761/2 info@arabculturefund.org www.arabculturefund.org



## BEIRUT DC ASSOCIATION

Beirut DC was founded in Beirut, Lebanon in 1999 by a group of cinema professionals and art advocates. The aim of Beirut DC is to provide help and support to Arab independent filmmakers, in facing up and overcoming the constraints facing independently-minded Arab cinema. To promote Arab cinema, BDC organizes every two years "Ayam Beirut Al Cinema'iya" the only non-competitive Arab film festival in Lebanon. With the aim of furthering knowledge and actual practice of all cinema-related Arab professions, BDC launches regularly training workshops for amateurs and semi-professionals.

www.beirutdc.org info@beirutdc.org



Beirut Film Society  
مجتمع بيروت السينمائي

## BEIRUT FILM SOCIETY

Beirut Film Society (BFS) is a Non-for Profit Association that works closely with Lebanese and international filmmakers, and with film associations and/or other entities around the world to empower film industry in Lebanon and the Arab World. BFS organizes film events in Lebanon and abroad, to introduce cinema culture as an educative tool to human rights and ethics; and to spread the Lebanese culture as reflected in Lebanese films when and where possible.

BFS promotes for "Cinema for a Cause", and works on raising awareness among youth about social issues through cinema, such as Gender Equality, Women Causes, Children Rights, and Peace Building.



## METROPOLIS ASSOCIATION

The Metropolis Association was created in 2006 to develop a cinema culture in a country that lacks cultural policy from the public sector: its main goal is to allow cultural diversity, dialogue through cinema, and to promote it by presenting it in its different genres, eras and tendencies. Within the absence of a real cinémathèque that is supported by international institutions, Metropolis is keen on developing the patrimonial cinema by presenting retrospectives, ciné-concerts and film festivals and by welcoming a fervent audience in its strategic location in Ashrafieh in the heart of Beirut.

T: +961 | 332 661 info@metropoliscinema.net www.metropoliscinema.net



## NADI LEKOL EL NAS

Nadi Lekol El Nas is a nonprofit cultural league that works to spread culture of all kinds. It was founded in 1998 and it organizes cinema shows, drawing exhibitions, literature seminars, and music concerts. Moreover, Nadi Lekol El Nas works on supporting local and Arab cinema production through encouraging artists and actors and showing their work. It also archives and saves all artistic and popular heritage where they distribute and issue it in books and DVDs, like Borhan Alawie, John Chamoun, Mohamad Malas and many others. Currently Nadi Lekol El Nas is preparing for its tenth Film Festival that will be held on the 13<sup>th</sup> of May in Al-Madina theater.

www.nadilekolnas.org



## UMAM DOCUMENTATION AND RESEARCH (UMAM D&R)

UMAM Documentation and Research (UMAM D&R) is a Beirut-based nonprofit cultural organization that archives and exhibits material related to the Lebanese civil wars. Since its inception UMAM D&R has engaged in a number of long-term, multifaceted documentation and research projects.

UMAM has just launched its electronic archival directory and its new online database.

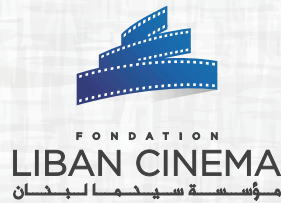
T: + 961 | 273881 T/F: + 961 | 553604 info@umam-dr.org www.umam-dr.org



## VIDEO WORKS- ASHKAL ALWAN THE LEBANESE ASSOCIATION FOR PLASTICS ARTS

Video Works is a production grant and screening program that facilitates the production of new projects by artists and filmmakers residing in Lebanon. It has played a vital role in fostering Lebanon's vibrant video art scene over the past eight years, and aims to offer young and emerging artists the opportunity to realize their work in a supportive framework.

www.ashkalalwan.org



## FONDATION LIBAN CINEMA-CAPACITY BUILDING PROGRAM



**FLC Script Writing workshop:** This workshop targets 5 Lebanese filmmakers and authors from Lebanon and the diaspora, working on a first or second feature film. It is held in twice a year with international consultants, 5 days each session.

Partner: Institut Français du Liban.



**Access to Market:** This workshop represents a 3 part e-coaching for a group of 8 participants selected by FLC with the main objective to acquire skills, competences and reflexes to position their project strategically within the international Audiovisual marketplace, to proceed with applications, to pitch their projects, to foster financing and consultancy opportunities, to approach co-production markets and to negotiate internship or job opportunities.

Partner: Villa KULT oHG



**Creative Production:** FLC hosts the prestigious EAVE for a workshop dedicated to 5 mid-career producers from Lebanon and the diaspora. EAVE is Europe's leading training, development and networking organization for producers. Their objectives are to provide professional training opportunities and to bring producers from different regions of the world together with the aim of facilitating co- production relationships.

Partner: Arab Fund for Arts and Culture



**VFX Workshop:** With the evolution of the technology in the cinema today and the wide possibilities that it can offer to films, a specialization in Special Effects is now required and needed in the film industry. This workshop will give participants a skillset to undertake entry-level professional work in film and television compositing projects under proper supervision. It aims at creating a hub of talents who could work in Lebanon and internationally. The Workshop can take up to 16 persons.

Partner: IDAL- Investment and Development Authority of Lebanon

## ARTIST RESIDENCIES IN PARTNERSHIP WITH FONDATION LIBAN CINEMA



**BerlinAir:** Medienboard BerlinBrandenburg this residency offers a Lebanese filmmaker a 3 months artist residency in Berlin. The residencies are meant to enable free creative time as well as the opportunity to gather international experience and make industry contacts.

Partner: Medienboard BerlinBrandenburg



**Cité des Arts:** The *Coup de Pouce* prize - a 1 month artist residency in La Cité Internationale des Arts de Paris is awarded to the most promised project of the Fondation Liban Cinema annual Script-Writing workshop.

Partner: Mairie de Paris



**Villa Empain:** The *Prix Coup de Coeur* is awarded to a director for the distribution of his movie as well as a 1 month residency in Villa Empain-Brussels to work on his next project.

Partner: Fondation Boghossian



**Groupe Ouest:** Fondation Liban Cinema- FLC is pleased to announce a new partnership with Centre national du Cinéma et de l'Image Animée- France. This partnership will reward one project who had previously taken part in the FLC annual Script-Writing Workshop, and who is still in need of development and consultancy. Through 2 sessions, the *Groupe Ouest* workshop will help the author to deepen and strengthen their scripts.

Partner: CNC- Centre National du Cinema et de l'Image Animée

## PRODUCTION Houses

### About Productions

Georges Schoucair & Myriam Sassine  
contact@aboutproductions.com  
www.aboutproductions.com

### arTrip production

Diala Kashmar  
diala@artrip.me  
info@artip.me

### Beirut DC

Jad Abi Khalil  
jad@beirutdc.org  
www.beirutdc.org

### c.cam production

Carole Abboud  
c.camproduction@yahoo.com

### Crystal Films

Dima Al Joundi  
crystalbis@gmail.com

### Darkside FILM and TV production sarl

Nada Ghanem  
Nada@darksidetv.com  
www.darksidetv.com

### Day Two Pictures

Nouha Choufani  
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## Surviving the Crisis - Joana Hadjithomas & Khalil Joreige - Directors



Do you consider 2020 a wasted year? What does it mean for independent filmmakers?

No we don't, the notion of wasted year is terrible. In our environment, some call it a blank year, but in reality, it's not really that, it's a few months rather than a year. But it is true it created a shock and changes.

Cinema is paralyzed everywhere, at all levels: festivals, shootings, post productions, distribution, movie theaters.

Many films could not be finished, shot or shown. We personally would like to be able to finish our film, *Memory Box*. We fear that the auteurs films, the independent ones will be the first victims of this situation. But in parallel, all of us have been reflecting about our priorities, about the films we would like to do, to see, and about those which are important. What is positive is that this crisis compels us to address the essentials and to do it as a matter of urgency. The crisis refocuses us, it strengthens our convictions and encourages us even more to fight in favor of a certain cinema.

Do you think that the strategy of production will need to change after COVID19?

It all depends on the films and how we decide to produce them. It also depends on the state of the world and on what is happening at the political level around us. Each and every one of us has felt that our world must change (in Lebanon even more than anywhere else). Films will reflect this need. The production of films will be more difficult and those with a spirit of consensus, aimed at large audiences might be even more privileged. We will have to be smart. And to adapt. Both of us are used to make films with all kinds of budgets, some of them microscopic. What is essential is to remain faithful to one's vision and to one's film, even if money is lacking. No giving in and compromise! But what will prove difficult is to shoot in some countries, some kind of stories. For example, how can you film a crowd, or a love scene between two persons in this period of Covid 19 ?It is a global crisis, at the world's level, shared by us all.

What are your dreams for cinema after this crisis?

Cinema doesn't have to prove it is necessary and important. However, we believe this crisis has made it both more vulnerable and more valuable. Apart from the increasing will to make films, there is a solidarity in the cinema community which to us must be essential and we would like to see it strengthened in the future. Mutual help, mutual encouragement. There should be a change in the conception of films, but the showing in movie theater should be privileged. The number of streamers greatly increased during the period of lockdown, and there is a risk of having people consider they have seen a lot of cinema. True, we all saw a lot of films during the confinement, but the cinema, the movie theater, the sharing remain important elements. This experience is unique : the sharing, the debate, the community feeling are essential.

## Surviving the Crisis - Georges Schoucair - Producer



As a very active producer, how do you see the future of the genre of movies produced by Abbout Productions?

We have four projects in post-production. These films should be completed by the end of the year to be ready to launch them. We are waiting for the reopening of the cinema theaters to release *1982* by Oualid Mouaness and *All This Victory* by Ahmad Ghossein.

We are about to start filming a new project this year, but we need to manage the shooting with the new measures imposed by the current situation of the pandemic. The fragility of the banking system and the devaluation of the Lebanese Pound are complicating the situation as well, but we are trying to adapt as much as possible.

**In the absence of any visibility on the short or medium term, how can a producer bounce back? Will the means of production change?**

In Lebanon, we have to deal with many crisis at the same time. So besides the global restrictions caused by the pandemic, the economic crisis and the lack of liquidity are very problematic as well when it comes to filming. It is necessary therefore to rely on co-productions with international countries, obtain fresh money to be able to film on daily basis. Nevertheless, even the access to this money is becoming very difficult with the Lebanese banking system that is imposing new rules every day.

On the other hand, given the interest of international platforms like Netflix to develop new projects in the region, it's very probable to witness the emerging of new series entirely funded by an international platform.

Making a film in Lebanon is already a battle in itself and with all these problems, the struggle will become much harder.

**Does the current economic and financial crisis open new opportunities the industry must seize ?**

Making movies in Lebanon never stopped even during the Civil War. At the contrary, the war witnessed the emerging of a new generation of Lebanese filmmakers who wanted to react to reality through cinema. These films represent the pillars of the Lebanese industry. They redefined cinematographically the coming decades and changed forever the way of thinking and making films.

I think that the current crisis will drive a new generation of artists to use art cathartically and express their anger through films. I imagine that the current situation will encourage the filmmakers to shoot quickly, with simple means, pushing the Lebanese cinema to reinvigorate.

We are already at the very beginning of a new chapter of cinema.

## Surviving the Crisis - Hania Mroué - Distributor



COVID19 has given digital a head start. What do you think of the future of cinemas internationally? Will consumption patterns change?

The COVID pandemic has put all us in a very specific context that makes it difficult to generalize and imagine what the future will look like. I feel we cannot extend the rules and activities that surfaced during this period on a longer post-pandemic time. It is true that the pandemic caused the rise of online platforms and resulted in the temporary closure of cinema venues that are now facing a lot of difficulty and risk permanent closure. For independent cinema, the types of films that Metropolis defends, VOD platforms have helped us in the past expand our audiences beyond the limited circle of cinema lovers and festival goers. VOD platforms form an important share of the commercial film market, and are capable of competing with a commercial circuits in terms of mass consumption. It is not necessarily the case for art house cinemas and independent films, where on the contrary, VOD platforms can help extend the film's reach and prolong its life after its theatrical release.

That said, cinema theaters have to reinvent their selves and re-think its business model in order to adapt to the new context. It is very important that

independent cinemas survive this crisis, because the need to collectively watch films in a dark space did not disappear. What arthouse cinema venues offer is a time and space for human exchange before, during and after the film screening? This is what distinguishes it from commercial cineplex screens. This desire for shared experience through cinema is what makes it impossible for online modes of film viewing to fully replace the appreciation of a cinema-going experience.

**The Film Industry regretted deeply the closure of Metropolis Art Cinema. Are you thinking of Alternatives to replace it?**

The closure of the venue was a shock to us because it came after a very successful fundraiser that would have allowed us to survive during almost a year. However, this closure that was decided without our consultation, offered us the chance to better think the structure of the association and its mission in the current context, thinking especially of a venue that is more adapted to the current financial constraints of the country, a venue that is more independent and that can be collectively programmed with more than one partner. Whilst actively looking for a new home for Metropolis, we initiated partnerships with various spaces in and outside Beirut in order to decentralize our programs a little bit. We hope that these partnerships will continue even after we find a space of our own.

**How do you see the future of independent Lebanese film distribution?**

The last few years saw a boom in production and distribution of Lebanese films in Lebanon and the region. Also, during the last decade Lebanese films have been more and more present on the screens in the country and abroad, creating a curiosity and a thirst for Lebanese films by the local audiences that trusted the quality and relevancy of these films. I believe the current crisis will mostly affect the production and distribution of commercial productions that were more profit oriented and that relied mostly on private funding and investments. The films that will be able to survive are the ones that are born from a real desire of filmmaking, films that are mostly funded by grants and that are present in the festival circuits and are able to find a place on the international film market. One of the reasons that we are eager to have a space again, is to give a platform for these films, that don't make it to the commercial screens, to find their potential audiences.

FEATURE

*Films*

**1982 – by Oualid Mouaness**

Feature Narrative - Current Status: Postproduction - Country: Lebanon - USA - Norway - Qatar Looking for: Distributors



June 1982, Wissam, an 11 year-old boy, is determined to tell Joanna, a girl in his classroom that he loves her. It is the end of the academic year at a school tucked safely in the mountains overlooking Beirut; final exams are underway. As Wissam yearns to express himself, the day is interrupted when an air invasion reaches Beirut. Even though the danger is still far, the school has to shut down and the students are sent home. Wissam gets more determined to declare his love as it becomes clear that no one knows what tomorrow will bring. This story of first love against this backdrop of war portrays a day kids and adults will never forget.

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**ALL THIS VICTORY - by Ahmad Ghossein**

Running time: 93 min / Genre: Feature Narrative / Current status: In Distribution / Countries: Lebanon - France - Qatar  
Looking for: Distributors - Festivals



Lebanon, July 2006. War is raging between Hezbollah and Israel. During a 24h ceasefire, Marwan heads out in search of his father who refused to leave his Southern village. As the ceasefire is quickly broken, Marwan finds himself under the rain of bombs and takes shelter in a house with a group of elders. Suddenly, a group of Israeli soldiers enter the first floor. Trapped in the house and hostages of their own fears, the next three days will see the situation spiral out of control.

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**A LONG BREATH - by Remi Itani**

Running time: 67 min / Genre: Documentary / Year of production: 2019 / Looking for: Sales agent and TV acquisition



In the marginalized neighborhood of Bab Al Tabbaneh in the inner city of Tripoli, Lebanon, Ibrahim struggles with unemployment, the daily threat of war and his own demons. A man torn between the duty to piety and the temptation of hedonism. On one hand, a worried mother trying to save him, and an expecting wife, on the other, a world of misery, war, pills, booze, prison and gambling.

Producer: AL-Joundi Dima DOP: Bassem Fayad, Sebastian Lojo Music: Toufic Farroukh  
Editor: Julien Testa

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**AN OPEN ROSE - by Ghassan Salhab**

Running time: 72 min / Genre: Documentary / Year of production: 2019



And in the darkness, I smile at life." This sentence, written by Rosa Luxemburg in solitary confinement at the end of 1917, gets to the very heart of what characterises her letters from prison: a shining joie de vivre, regardless of the political situation. Her descriptions of birds, flowers, clouds and colours demonstrate an awareness of nature's beauty experienced with all the senses. Numerous excerpts from the radical socialist's lyrical letters in both German and Arabic form the threads running through this essayistic collage. They are joined by modern-day shots of wintry Berlin, a two-person reading in Beirut, archive material from the First World War, a battle song of the labour movement, traces of Nico, Gerhard Richter, Brecht, Breton, voices, sounds, music and the soundless comments of a self. Together, they form a polyphony of visually and acoustically overlapping layers. From this retrospective look at the 20<sup>th</sup> century, at Germany and the Middle East, at the militant struggles that took place both here and there, emerge personal conclusions as well as the acknowledgement that resistance and beauty can indeed co-exist, not least in dark times.

Written and directed by: Ghassan Salhab D.O.P: Khaled Abdulwahed, Mark Khalife  
Editing: Carine Doumit, Ghassan Salhab Music: Nico, Kinematik, The Haxan Cloak  
Sound Design: Ghassan Salhab, Rana Eid Sound: Tatiana El Dahdah Producer: Ghassan Salhab

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**ARE YOU GLAD I'M HERE – by Noor Gharzeddine**

Running time: 85 min / Genre: Drama, Dark Comedy / Year of production: 2018 / Looking for: International Distribution



A millennial American girl befriends a Lebanese housewife and disrupts her ordered life; one night they become accidental partners-in-crime.

**Director / Producer:** Noor Gharzeddine **Screenwriter:** Samuel Anderson **Cinematographer:** Ziad Chahoud **Line Producer:** Elie Deek **Casting Director:** Petra Serhal **Editor:** Alix Diaconis, Katey Spinner, Noor Gharzeddine **Composer:** Simon Toufique **Starring:** Marwa Khalil, Tess Harrison, Aida Sabra, Najeeb Zeitouni, Charbel Makhlof, Nadim Deaibes, Elie Njeim, Wassim el Tom

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**AS ABOVE, SO BELOW – by Sarah Francis**

Hybrid Essay/docu-fiction - Country: Lebanon - Year of production: 2020 - Looking for: Festivals



A group of people roams in a bare landscape around a set of swings as their only settlement, as if mapping, exploring, reorganizing the open territory they are in. As they move, changes in soundscapes make them virtually cross geographies. In the sky, a moon-like satellite roves above their heads, following them like an omen. The moon, once symbolizing cyclical times, myths and new beginnings, is now the satellite waiting to be conquered and colonized. Reality and fantasy intertwine in an existential quest. Is a new beginning really possible? As below, so above.

**Director/Writer/Producer:** Sarah Francis

**With the support of :** Al Mawred Al Thaqafy – Little Lizzard films – Lucid Post.

**Director of Photography:** Bassem Fayad **Sound design:** Victor Bresse **Line Producer:** Jinane Chaaya

**Editor:** Sarah Francis / **Editing consultant:** Zeina Aboul Hosn.

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**AYA - by Khalid EL-Jelailati**

Running time: 65 min / Genre: Psychological Thriller / Year of production: 2019 / Looking for: Distribution (VOD Specific)



AYA plans to meet with BAYODE who she'd met online. This against the wishes and advice of her best friend PAMELA who decides for safety reasons to accompany Aya against Aya's will. However, what they both don't know is that Bayode has other plans, he is planning to take Aya and prepare her to be sold to MIKA.

**Writer, Director:** Khalid Eljelailati **Producer:** Waleed Al-Yamani **DOP:** Jiten Ramlal  
**Editor:** Louis May

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**BROKEN KEYS - by Jimmy Keyrouz**

Running time: 147 min / Genre: War Drama / Year of production: 2020 / Looking for: Distribution (VOD Specific)



Trying to escape his war-ravaged Middle Eastern neighborhood where music has been banned, a musician embarks on a journey to rebuild his piano after it is destroyed by extremists.

**Director/Writer:** Jimmy Keyrouz **Producer:** Antoun Sehnaoui **Composer:** Gabriel Yared  
**Associate Producer:** Frederic Domont **Line Producers:** Able Khoury & Lara Karam Chekerdjian (Ginger Productions) **D.O.P.:** Joe Saade **Production Designer:** Issa Kandil **Editors:** Maria Malek - Yves Beloniak  
**CAST:** Tarek Yaacoub - Rola Baksmati - Mounir Maasri - Ibrahim El Kurdi - Julian Farhat - Sarah Abi Kanaan - Said Serhan - Gabriel Yammine - Badih Abou Chakra - Fadi Abi Samra - Hassan Mrad - Leila Kamari - Michel Adabachi - Rodrigue Sleiman and Adel Karam

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**BEIRUT HOLD'EM - by Michel Kammoun**

Running time: 94 min / Genre: Social Drama / Year of production: 2019 / Looking for: Distribution



Six months in the life of Ziko, a 40-year old ex-con and petty gambler, and his three boyhood friends, in a seedy, lower-middle class district of Beirut. , Ziko is released from prison and wants to restart his life. Ziko and his friends share one passion, besides their boyhood memories. They're all fanatic about gambling and horseracing. And ultimately, they organize a scam they hope will rescue them from their troubles. But everyone knows that, once a gambler, always a gambler. Ziko's biggest fight turns out to be his inner struggle. Should he continue doing what he knows best? Should he surrender to fate? When you have no choice, does it make it easier to choose?

Beirut Hold'em also depicts the destiny of four middle-class "guys," fighting their way into a country on the edge of war and bankruptcy, where instability makes everyday life feel like a circus trapeze, and sheer existence is yet another form of gambling.

**Writer & Director:** Michel Kammoun **Producers:** Sabine Sidawi & Michel Kammoun / **Orjouane Productions & Roy Films**

**Co-Producers:** Abbout Productions, Arab Radio & TV, Bekaa Group, Chart, The postoffice, Treehouse Media **DOP:** Celine Bozon **Sound Recordist:** Rayan Al-Obeidyne **Production Designer:** Hussein Baydoun **Editors:** Pamela Ghanimeh. Michele Tyan, Jacques Comets

**Cast:** Saleh Bakri, Fadi Abi Samra, Issam Bou Khaled, Said Serhan, Ziad Seaiby, Rana Alamuddine, Rita Hayek, Anjo Rihan, Zeina Saab Demelero

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**BEIRUT TERMINUS - by Elie Kamal**

Running time: 82 min / Genre: Feature Documentary / Year of production: 2019 / Looking for: Festivals, VOD platforms, Broadcasters



"Beirut Terminus" explores the notions of borders, identity and belongingness, within a perpetually troubled region of the world. Using Lebanon's discarded railway and what's left of its deserted infrastructure as its core scenery, the film interweaves personal and historical facts while taking a contemplative and geographical journey from the peripheral train stations of the country, towards the central station of its capital Beirut, in an attempt to analyze, question and understand its past, present and uncertain future.

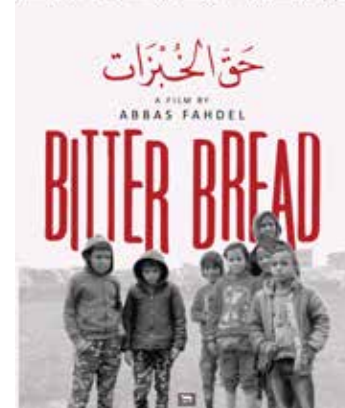
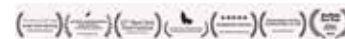
**Writer & Director:** Elie Kamal **Producer:** Jana Wehbe **Cinematography:** Elie Kamal **Sound Designer:** Lama Sawaya **Sound Mixer:** Florent Lavale **Music:** Nadim Mishlawi **Colorist :** Dima Geagea  
**Production Company:** The Attic Productions

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**BITTER BREAD - by Abbas Fahdel**

Running time: 87 min / Genre: Documentary / Year of production: 2019 / Looking for: Buyers : Distributors, TV channels, VOD platforms...



Chronicles of daily life in a Syrian refugee camp in Lebanon.

Line producer: Nour Ballouk

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Nour Ballouk nourballouk@hotmail.com

**BY CHANCE - by Bassem Christo**

Running time: 100 min / Genre: Drama / Year of production: 2019 / Looking for: Festivals, VOD platforms, Broadcasters



Richard, a successful businessman finds his life turned upside down after his suitcase is mugged by a teenager he follows desperately reaching a poor neighborhood in Beirut. Failing to find his robber on a quest to find his suitcase, his entire world changed forever.

**Director:** Bassem Christo **Writer:** Claudia Marchalian **Producer:** Georges Karam **Producer:** Nouha Choufani **Starring:** Carole Samaha, Badih Abou Chakra, Pamela El Kik

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**C SECTION - by David Orian**

Running time: 1h:38m / Genre: Comedy Drama / Year of production: 2019 / Looking for: World Wide Sales



Centered on two families from extremely different social & financial background, unwillingly meet in the same hospital room after delivery, where the events goes completely out of control and unpredictable second by second.

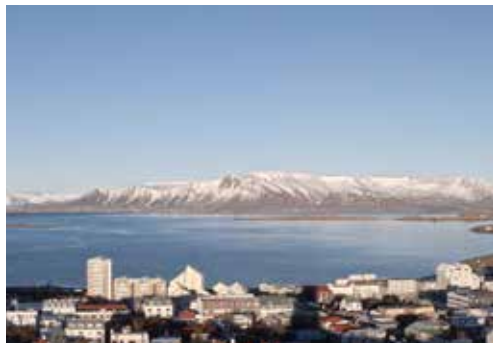
**Director:** David Orian **Screenplay:** Isaac Fahed / Doris Saba **Producers:** Isaac Fahed / Sam Lahoud  
**Cinematography:** Hassan Salameh **Editing:** Youssef Salameh **Music Composition:** Emile Aouad

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**ERRANS - by Mira Adoumier**

Running time: 67 min / Genre: Experimental Fiction / Year of production: 2020 / Looking for: Distribution



A woman arrives in Lebanon in search of a missing man, whom she met in Iceland a few years ago. Here, the buildings and landscapes still bear the traces of past conflicts, and the missing friend's absence is haunting the deserted and labyrinthine streets of Beirut. The siren song of the sea draws her to the south, towards Earth's mystical centre. Mira Adoumier's 'Errans' is an aural and visual essay which evokes the alienating sense of exile that the filmmaker herself grew up with. A beautiful and levitating visual work from a place and a state of mind where myths and cultures occupy parallel spaces. With Iceland's rugged landscapes and Beirut's urban topography as the two coordinates that her film is stretched out between, Adoumier's background as an artist is evident in her first longer film work. But there is also an elliptical narrative embedded in the impressionistic form of 'Errans'.

**Director:** Mira Adoumier **Producer:** Rolly Dib, Mira Adoumier **Producer Consultant:** Carole Abboud **Cinematography:** Mira Adoumier  
**Sound:** Victor Bresse **Voices:** Mira Adoumier, Tatiana El Dahdah, Ziad Chakaroun

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**FAKEBOOK - by Elie F. Habib**

Running time: 2h:5m / Genre: Action-Drama -Thriller / Year of production: 2020



In a world where even his brothers in arms are against him, 38-year-old Major Rawad Fakhoury executes a mission impossible to provide a kidney for his dying daughter. The clock is ticking and there's no one to trust but himself.

**Producers:** Elie F. Habib & Bilal Bou Chakra **Written by:** Elie F. Habib & Dina Hamze

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**FARAH - by Hassiba & Kenton Freiha-Oxley**

Running time: 116 mins / Genre: Psychological Thriller / Year of production: 2020 / Looking for: Sales Agents &amp; Distributors



When depressed college student, Lina, returns home to Beirut, Lebanon, to recuperate after a nervous breakdown, she is prescribed a controversial antidepressant, "Xapa", by her pharmaceutical director father, Nabil, before finding herself losing her grip on reality. Lina begins to believe that she must investigate the truth about her mother, Farah, who is presumed dead after Lina was born, in order to understand why her own sanity seems to be rapidly disintegrating. We follow Lina's quest of self discovery as she navigates a web of family secrets that buries trauma, shame, and Farah's mental illness.

**Producer:** Reine Issa **Producer:** Gabriel Shipton **Executive Producer:** Hassiba Freiha **Executive Producer:** Kenton Oxley **Screenwriter:** Hassiba Freiha **Line Producer:** Pierre Sarraf **Unit Production Manager:** Marie-Lynn Nasrallah **Director of Photography:** Elias Trad **Production Designer:** Hussein Baydoun **Costume Designer:** Talia Nammour **Casting Director:** Najat Adem **1st Assistant Director:** Toufic Khreich **Sound Recordist:** Emmanuel Zouki **Senior Editor:** Marcus D'Arcy **Editor:** Rita Mounzer **Supervising Sound Editor:** James Mather **Composer:** Aidan Lavelle **Colourist:** Max Horton

**CONTACT**

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## LAHON W HABS - by Shady Hanna

Running time: 1h:40m / Year of production: 2019



Riding on the success of Lahon W Bass, Hisham Haddad is a popular prime time TV host with incredible ratings. That all changes when he receives countless lawsuits, turning his life upside down as he faces life imprisonment. Now left with nothing, Hisham must find a way to get back to the top by facing off against his own co-host Jad Bou Karam and anyone who stands in the way of his future.

Written and Directed by: Shady Hanna Producer: Tanya Nasr Executive Producer: Feras Hatoum  
Lead Cast: Hicham Haddad Jad Bou Karam Chef Antoine Hajj Tanya Saab

### CONTACT

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## LEGAL HASH - by Rindala Kodeih

Running time: 80 min / Genre: Social comedy / Year of production: 2019 / Looking for: Distribution on social media, netflix



The movie follows the story of five poor guys with different beliefs as they go on stealing to make ends meet. However, when their last operation to steal a jewelry store becomes the target of a police raid, they are arrested and sentenced to 3 years in prison. Behind the bars, they discover the ins and outs of everyday prison life and as their jail time comes to an end, they set out to re-enter society with a new profession...a quick-earning drug-dealing one. As they become rich and turn their lives upside down, an unexpected turn of events stops them in their track to reveal their true colors and intentions. Will the bad guys get what they deserve? And who are the bad guys, anyway?

Producer : Wise Production Director : Rindala Kodeih Scenarist : Dalia Al Haddad Music : Salim Assaf  
Post- Production : Synergy Actors : Tony Issa Rita Harb Faded Andrawos Majed Geagea  
Hagob De Jerejian Adnan Dirani

### CONTACT

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## NASMET TANGO - by Maya Tabet Noun

Running time: 52 min / Genre: Documentary / Year of production: 2019



Anchored in their own traditions, the inhabitants of a Lebanese village witness a change in their daily life: with the arrival of Monica Orozco, an Argentinian Tango star. Within days, Monica opens her heart and her soul to give unusual Tango sessions.

Will Elie, a suppressed blind man, accept to open up to this wind of change? Will Fadia, his eccentric wife, attract him to dance again with her? Will Ninette, the melancholic housewife, feel attractive again and rekindle the flames of her dying sensuality?

The community will find new means of expression though this Tango Life Coaching.

Writer & Director: Maya Tabet Noun Producers: Sabine Sidawi & Jinane Dagher / Orjouane Productions Executive Producers: May Ogden-Smith, Sylvio Tabet DOP: Dany Chedid Editor: Rana Sabbagha  
Cast: Monica Orozco

### CONTACT

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## NOURHANE, A CHILD'S DREAM - by May Kassem

Running time: 72 min / Genre: Documentary (Biography) / Year of production: 2019 / Looking for: Distribution



Nourhane was a singer and actress in the 1940s, 50s, and 60s.

She put a sudden end to her career and retreated away from the stage in the mid-60s.

From that point on, she never spoke about her past, nor did she sing.

Her grand-daughter goes into the world of filmmaking and at the age of 21 discovers her grandmother's past. From that point on, she is on a quest to find out as much as possible about her grandmother's career and life, and particularly about why her grandmother left a career at its height. Layers and layers of stories emerge through interviews, voice-overs, drawings, and animated sequences in a film centered around passion, and love.

Director, Camera, Sound, Animation, Editing: May Kassem  
Cast: Kheirieh Jarkass & Nashaat Sanadiki

### CONTACT

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**ON THE FOOTSTEPS OF CHRIST - by Philippe Aractingi**

Running time: 77 min / Genre: Docufilm / Year of production: 2019 / Looking for: Festivals, Distributors



This film ventures on a sacred journey across South Lebanon, from Qana to Mount Hermon, Tyre and Sidon. Accompanied by three of their professors, nine children follow a dream of the heart: to find the traces of Jesus, who traversed Lebanon two thousand years ago. The film is an invitation to immerse in Lebanon's immense spiritual and archaeological heritage.

**Director:** Philippe Aractingi **Writers:** Philippe Aractingi, Maya Nassar, Mirna Mounayar, Raymond Aftimos **Producers:** Philippe Aractingi, Rim Chehab **Actors:** Charbel Aoun, Stephanie Ghafarie, Sarah Atallah **Production Managers:** Rosy El-Hajj, Salim Al-Hussein **Director Of Photography:** Marwan Ziadeh, Hadi Bou Ayash **Sound:** Haitham Atme **Art Director:** Ola Achkar **Wardrobe:** Jessica Saber **Editing:** Mirna Mounayar **Sound Editing:** Rana Eid **Post Production:** The Post Office **Music:** Rene Aubry, Wadih El Safi (Georges Wadih El Safi)

**CONTACT**

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**SE3A W NOSS W KHAMSEH - by Nadim Mehanna**

Running time: 95 min / Genre: Comedy Adventure / Year of production: 2019



Abbas Chahine, has literally 1h:35m to get hold of a promised cash amount enabling him to immigrate with his fiancée Rima to Copenhagen. The odds are all stacked against them along with a bunch of crazy friends onboard a "flying" minibus as they race to the money, till they end up facing a very dangerous gang of outlaws!

**Producer and Director:** Nadim Mehanna, **Screenplay Writer:** Claudia Marchalian, **Assisting Director:** Ramez el Khoury, **Production Manager:** Patricia Ibrahim, **Post-Production:** Kolja Digital Works, **Art Director:** Loyal Khawly, **Stylist:** Elie Keyrouz, **Sound Mixer:** Chady Roukoz, **Audio Producer:** Tony Kalaany, **Music:** Jad Rahbani, **Actors:** Abbas Chahine, Tatiana Merheb, Khitam Lahham, Alecco Daoud, Nahla Daoud, Sultan Deeb, Atef el Alam, Georges Diab, Sabine Khaleh

**CONTACT**Nadim Mehanna +961 3 640 033 nadim@nadim.com  
Patricia Ibrahim +961 71 694 603 patricia@nmpro.net**STATE OF AGITATION - by Elie Khalife**

Running time: 75 min / Genre: Comedy / Year of production: 2020 / Looking for: Distribution



Living in Beirut adjacent to a highway ramp, a highly enthusiastic filmmaker is in a state of hyper inspiration characterized by an overflow of contrasting ideas. As a consequence, his characters will go through compelling and extraordinary circumstances. To clear his mind, he heads north where a screening of his short films is scheduled in a rural public school. A series of encounters along the way will turn his world upside down.

**Director/actor/producer:** Elie Khalife **cinematographer:** Fadi Yabroudi **sound engineer:** Jad Asmar **Executive producer:** Ghiwa el Haibe **Assistant director:** Amanda el Kik **Sound mixer:** Samy el Gharbi **Producers:** Elie Khalife, Mahmoud Korek, Nicolas Khabbaz, Antoine Khalife **Production Company:** Taxi Films, The Post Office, Sunnyland Film, Leyth Productions (Tunis)

**CONTACT**

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**THE FIFTH DAY - by Farah ALHashem**

Running time: 80 min / Genre: doc - cinema vérité / Year of production: 2020 / Looking for: Distribution



in the end, one needs more courage to live than to Kill himself, Albert Camus captures the essence of The fifth day, a 80 minutes documentary that is half fiction that follows the secrets behind the suicide of Belgium Director Chantal Akerman and French post nouvelle vague filmmaker Jean Eustache, where they both ended their life on the 5th day but in a different month, and 34 years apart.

The film records conversations and confessions with award-winning filmmakers and actors from Beirut, Brussels and Paris as well as a very interesting afternoon with Jean Eustache's Son Boris who tells us everything.

**Written, directed, edited and produced:** Farah ALHashem

**Guests and cast:** Ahmad Sayyed as himself / Painter Awatif Zain - as herself - author and Journalist Bayan Itani - as herself - Writer Bassam Krillous - as himself - sculptor .Borhan Aloue as himself - Filmmaker Boris Eustache - as himself - Son of Jean Eustache Fadi Abou Samra as himself - Actor Marianne Lambert - Filmmaker and others

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**WE ARE FROM THERE - by Wissam Tanios**

Running time: 82 min / Genre: Feature Documentary / Countries: Lebanon - France / Looking for: Festivals – Distribution



Two Syrian brothers in their mid 20s take a leap of faith and decide to start their lives from scratch in new cities. They leave everything behind except their passion for life, determination, sense of humor and hope for a better future. Their closest cousin, Wissam, decides to film their odysseys for over five years, questioning the true meaning of home, bringing back some childhood memories, while exploring the human ability to cope with change as radical as it may be.

**CONTACT**

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www.lebureaufilms.com

**WEEKEND - by Sami Koujan**

Running time: 100 min / Genre: Comedy / Year of production: 2019 / Looking for: Distributors



Omar and Joanna recently started dating. Enjoying their effortless strong bonding, Joanna invites Omar to spend a few days at her summer house in the mountains, so he can meet her family. Cheerful at the thought Omar agrees, only to realize at his arrival that Samar, Joanna's Mother was his ex-girlfriend. Omar has no other choice but to survive in his own awkward way his 72 hours countdown.

Director: Sami Koujan Writer: Sami Koujan Producer: Georges Karam  
Producer: Nouha Choufani

**CONTACT**

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**WINTER BALLAD - by May Kassem**

Running time: 100 min / Genre: Fiction Experimental / Year of production: 2019 / Looking for: Distribution



The story of a woman who is living, with great difficulty, in a world at war. Wandering between cities and space, news of here and there, through newspapers and radios filters into her world which seems to dip into memories, fantasies, and dreams.

Director, Screenwriter, Camera, Editing: May Kassem

Cast: May Kassem, Robert Kolodny, Patrick Sautin, Christophe Karabache  
also Camera – Christophe Karabache, Robert Kolodny, Varun Bajaj, Lisa Hattori, Léa Najm

**CONTACT**

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**ZEINAB ON THE SCOOTER- by Dima El-Horr**

Running time: 81 min / Genre: Documentary / Year of production: 2019 / Looking for: Distribution



Shot in Lebanon, the film follows Zeinab, 23 years old, a quite rebellious Muslim Shi'a veiled woman who works in an association that grants micro-credits loans to people in precarious financial circumstances in the popular areas of Beirut. For the need of her work, Zeinab browses the city aboard a grey scooter that will become pink, defying her male colleagues who, because they adopted the scooter as mode of transportation, realize higher turnover than girls. In addition, the film follows her in her family and love life, with a main question in mind: How being a young Lebanese woman today, living in the popular neighborhoods of Beirut and wants to assert her individuality in a patriarchal and communitarian society? By displaying her desire for emancipation and freedom, Zeinab manifests not only her singularity but also her contradictions.

Director: Dima El-Horr Editing: Catherine Zins Camera & Sound: Dima El-Horr Sound Editor: Benoit Gargonne Sound Mixing: Jean-Guy Veran  
- Mactari Producer: Dima El-Horr & aum Films

**CONTACT**

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SHORT  
*Films*

**ABANDONED - by Samer Beyhum**

Running time: 12:48 min / Genre: Realism/Social Issues / Year of production: 2019



Nour is a 13 year old young girl whose mother, a Lebanese woman, is married to a stateless Palestinian man. On a sunny road trip day, the family is set upon by Antar, a thug with politically affiliated impunity, who, in an instance of road rage, murders the father and mother. Owing to Lebanese law, where Lebanese women married to foreigners may not pass on their citizenship to their children, Nour finds herself abandoned to the streets of Beirut where she finds solidarity and support from Nayla, a prostitute.

**Producer:** Rita Choueifati, **Producer:** Lea Ghalayini, **Assistant Director:** Karim Fayad, **Cinematographer:** Karim El Ali, **Ist Assistant Camera:** Khaled Abi Joumaa, **2nd Assistant Camera:** Lea Ghalayini, **Script Supervisor:** Amin El Khalil, **PA:** Nadim Karanouh, **PA:** Souad Saidi, **PA:** Judy Srouji, **Camera PA:** Marwa Kobeissi, **Data Wrangler:** Sami Shukayr, **Gaffer:** Kourken Papazian, **Key Grip:** Mohamad Tarek Majzoub, **Best Boy (Grip):** Jad Bou Assi, **Sound Recordist:** Melissa Samaha, **Boom Operator:** Luana Tabbara, **Production Designer:** Robert Minasian, **Art Director:** Sarah Fouladkar, **Casting Director:** Rachid Hneineh, **Editor:** Adam Jammal, **Colorist:** Karim El Ali, **Sound Designer:** Samer Beyhum, **Foley Artist & Recorder:** Issa Khanji, **Sound Editor & Re-recording Mixer:** Samer Beyhum, **Assistant Sound Editor:** Sara Barahmeh, **Original Music Score:** Nareg Abajian, **Vocal Improvisation:** Layal Salman, **Storyboard Artist:** Robert Minasian. **Graphic Design:** Layal Salman

**CONTACT**

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**AZIZA - by Soudade Kaadan**

Running time: 13 min / Genre: Drama / Year of production: 2019 / Looking for: Sales in Middle East - Distribution



Ayman, Syrian refugee in Lebanon, teaching his wife how to drive his car, the only thing left for him from his country. The lesson takes a wrong turn into madness and nostalgia.

**Editor - Scriptwriter - Director:** Soudade Kaadan - **D.O.P:** Elsy Hajjar  
**Sound Designer and sound engineer:** Elia Haddad - **Line producer and location manager:** Rosette Stephan

**CONTACT**

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**ANGEL No9 - by Marc Salameh**

Running time: 5 min 40 sec / Genre: experimental/thriller / Year of production: 2019



A man Driven to the point of Confession.

“There are crimes of passion and crimes of logic. The boundary between them is not clearly defined.” (Albert Camus.)

**Dop:** Dany Chedid **AD:** Layal Akiki **Editor:** Zeina El Khatib **Sound Design:** Zeina El Khatib  
**Sound Eng:** Ramzi Khoury **Screenplay:** Marc Salameh **Director:** Marc Salameh

**CONTACT**

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**AN ARABIAN NIGHT - by Pierre Mouzannar**

Running time: 31:21 min / Genre: Drama / Year of production: 2019

Spending his last night as a civilian in his dream-like local tennis club, Michael, a young British soldier confronts a glimpse of the near future waiting for him on the other side of the night.

*The film had its world Premiere at Clermont-Ferrand International Short Film Festival where it received Special Mention of the Student Jury.*

**Director:** Pierre Mouzannar **Producer:** Marianne Hidari **Editor:** Stephanie Nassar  
**Sound:** Haitham Atme **Color:** Belal Hibri

**CONTACT**

**Producer:** Marianna Hidari marianne.hidari@hotmail.com +33 628206961 +9613120797  
**Director:** Pierre Mouzannar pierre.mouzannar26@hotmail.com +96176432232

**AVANT D'OUBLIER HELIOPOLIS - by Valentin Noujaim**

Running time: 22 min / Genre: Creative Documentary / Year of production: 2019

My family have begun to forget their Egyptian roots and on asking my grand-mother Malo, to recount the first part of her life in Cairo, I am confronted by the complex memories of an exiled christian arabic woman, lost in a troubled sea of memories, soon to be erased by the passage of time.

**Director :** Valentin Noujaim **Producer :** Manon Messiant **D.O.P :** Pauline Doméjean  
**Director's Assistant :** Muhammad Taymour **Editor :** Benjamin Hameury & Gabriel Gonzalez

**CONTACT**

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**BARAKAT - by Manon Nammour**

Running time: 14 min / Genre: Fiction - Drama / Year of production: 2019 / Looking for: Film Festivals



People hold the memory of their cities, and vice versa. After-war modern Beirut and its people have lost their anchors towards a memoryless relationship. Vacant luxury stores and overpriced unoccupied apartments have made the rebuilt city a costly monument of vanity, commodified heritage, and social-delusion.

**Director:** Manon Nammour **Producer:** Nicolas Khabbaz **Cast:** Mounir Maasri, Rudy Ghafari and Camille Salameh **Executive Producer:** Samir Syriani **Director of Photography:** Pauline Maroun **Sound Designer / Music Composer:** Cedric Kayem **Editor:** Ornella G. Maalouf **Line producer:** Mabelle C. Khalil **Assistant Director:** Nathalie Moussa **Colorist:** Belal Hibri

**CONTACT**

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**CLUSTIFER - by Karim Araman**

Running time: 14 min 26 sec / Genre: Drama, Thriller / Year of production: 2019



When cluster headache illness takes over, all hell breaks loose and life becomes a living inferno, will Karim be able to overcome his Clustifer?

**Director:** Karim Araman **Producer:** Rawad Kansoun **Director of Photography:** Hassan Daher **Sound:** Saad Faran **Vocals:** KABARNOS **Music Composer:** Jack Berro **Editing and Post Production:** Karim Araman

**CONTACT**

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**DISCONNECTED- by Loyal Jomaa**

Running time: 16 min / Genre: Psychological Drama / Year of production: 2020



Suffering from insomnia, Ibrahim spends most of his nights accompanied by his neighbours' conversations due to his broken landline that eavesdrops over his entire neighbourhood in Beirut. Lisa, a sleepless neighbour, connects often to Ibrahim's line.

**Director/Producer:** Loyal Jomaa **Cinematographer:** Jihad Saade **Sound Recordist/Post-Sound:** Anthony Ghazel **Editor:** Renée Awit **Assistant Director:** Remy Haddad **Art Director:** Chelsea Chouceir **Script Supervisor:** Yara Lahoud **Original Score by:** Def Twogee & Tyler Rydosz **Art Direction Team:** -Noha Abou Hanna -Michele Sabbagh -Gaïa Geha -Nour Fakhoury -Elie Samra -Kevin Assaf -Tracy Boutrous -Charbel Raffoul **Stylist:** Rea Khoury **Production Managers:** Jawad Mezher -Rania Salameh -Nisrine Khoury -Karim Gemayel **Production Assistants:** -Alex Saad -Charbel Raffoul -Charbel Issa **Ist Assistant Camera:** Rawad Saad **2nd Assistant Camera:** Bakhos Najm **On-set Editor:** Tarek Merhi **Ronin Operator:** Eric Tabcharani **Assistant Ronin:** Reiss Nehme **Gaffer:** Hussein Fneish **Lighting Assistants:** -Moaz Habli -Abdo Akiki -Ramy Hankach **SFX Make-up:** -Samantha Ayoub -Krissy Toubia -Chloe Alam **Colorist:** Charbel Matar **VFX Artist:** Audrey Ayoub **Cord Animator:** Aref Merhi **Credits Animator:** Gaby Milky **Sponsor:** Mohammed Jomaa **Behind-The-Scenes:** -Dimitri Nassar -Georges Matar **Catering:** -Carla Abou Mershed -Antoinette Kehdy **Prop Master:** Chady Waked **Pet Owner:** Mahmoud Alama **Script Doctor:** Jawad Mezher

**CONTACT**

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**EXIT BEIRUT - by Eli Salameh**

Running time: 7:20 min / Genre: Drama / Year of production: 2019 / Looking for: Distribution, Film Festivals and programmers



Even the rarest of connections can seldom define a person's life. When your heart is somewhere else, you will always live a paradox... This is a story of a special connection between Angela and Joan happening at night. Welcome to Beirut...

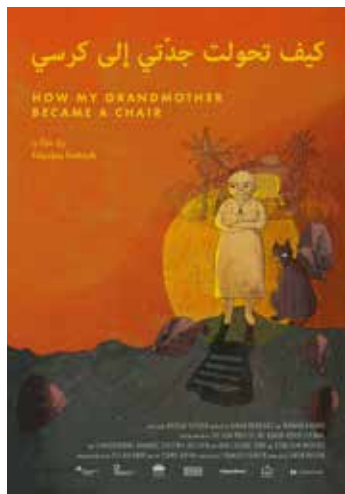
**Director:** Eli Salameh **Producer:** Sandy Salameh Touma **Sound Engineer:** Loyal Akiki **Script & continuity:** Christelle Ceaser **DOP/ Editor & Sound designer:** Eli Salameh **Catering:** Jamileh Salameh **Cast:** Angela Khalil - Joanna Kaii

**CONTACT**

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**HOW MY GRANDMOTHER BECAME A CHAIR - by Nicolas Fattouh**

Running time: 9 min 55 sec / Genre: Animation - Drama - Family / Year of production: 2020



Grandmother is deteriorating after her greedy children left her. Rose, her thorny housekeeper beast, is unable to prevent her transformation into a chair as Grandmother loses her senses one by one. Hierarchy dissolves into equality between the two women when Rose regains her human figure and turns out to be the real family member Grandmother was always looking for. This story is about life, death and the truths revealed when social stigmas fall off.

**Director, Design, Script:** Nicolas Fattouh **Producers:** Fabian Driehorst, Nermine Haddad  
**Animation Supervisor:** Frédéric Schuld **Animation Director:** Till Machmer  
**Animation:** Adrian Jaffé, Alba Dragonetti, Augustina Morici, Carlo Palazzari, Florian Maubach, Friedrich Schäper, Markus Rockstroh, Meike Fehre, Nicolas Fattouh, Rebecca Blöcher, Shadi Adib, Yann Le Bot  
**Backgrounds:** Markus Rockstroh, Nicolas Fattouh, Rebecca Fattouh  
**Compositing:** Till Machmer **Editing:** Frédéric Schuld **Music:** Cedric Kayem **Sound Design & Sound Editing:** François Yazbeck **Sound Design Supervisor:** Rana Eid **Sound Mixing:** Simon Bastian  
**Audio Postproduction:** db Studios, Beirut **Sound Mixing Studio:** Zeigermann Audio, Hamburg

**CONTACT**

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 Production Nermine Haddad +961 3 963 524 nerminehaddad@hotmail.com  
 Director Nicolas Fattouh +961 70 371 389 nicolasfattouh94@gmail.com

**KLEID - by Elio Zeaiter**

Running time: 7 min / Genre: Drama, Poetry / Year of production: 2019 / Looking for: Festivals, Publishers



A girl wants to choose between two colors, black and white, and each color has its own philosophical and deep dimensions.

**Writer, Director:** Elio Zeaiter **Executive Producer:** Ali Ghamloush **Director of Photography:** Hussein Farhat **Production designer:** Bilal Khodor **Sound and music:** Mohamad Khalife **Editor:** Elio Zeaiter

**CONTACT**

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**MANARA - by Zayn Alexander**

Running time: 15 min / Genre: Drama / Year of production: 2019



Tragedy strikes when the Zayyad family loses its patriarch under mysterious circumstances, leaving the surviving members to fend for themselves within a judgmental community in Southern Lebanon.

**Director:** Zayn Alexander **Writer:** Pascale Seigneurie **Cinematographer:** Aron Meinhardt  
**1st AD:** Dahlia Nemlich **Make-up & Hair Artist:** Marita Akl **Art Direction:** Marita Akl and Laura Menassa **Sound Design & Sound Mixing:** Haitham Atme **Colorist:** Belal Hibri (Lucid Post)  
**Editor:** Stephanie Nassar **Script Supervisor:** Valentin Domont **Digital Imaging Technician (DIT):** Valentin Domont **Equipment:** Media Square **Composer:** Simon Taoufik  
**CAST:** Hala Basma Safieddine Zayn Alexander Pascale Seigneurie

**CONTACT**

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**MÉMOIRES OF CEMENT - by Josef Khallouf**

Running time: 3 min / Genre: Experimental / Year of production: 2020 / Looking for: Distribution



"Mémoires Of Cement" explores the resemblance of the feeling between a present, where most of humanity is confined because of a killer virus, and a past where I, a 6 year-old child, was confined at home because of the war.

Totally homemade, "Mémoires Of Cement" is the result of some digging work into the faded memories of a child.

**Writer, Director, Composer, Editor:** Josef Khallouf **Subtitles:** Nadia Labidi

**CONTACT**

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**NOT FAR FROM HERE - by Jihad Saade**

Running time: 16 min / Genre: Drama / Year of production: 2020 / Looking for: Festivals



A filmmaker stumbles upon an unexpected acquaintance at a conference, and suggests they catch-up in a nearby coffee shop. However, inevitable circumstances make their meet-up problematic, disrupting their ability to reconnect.

**Produced By:** P.r.l. Films **Written and Directed By:** Jihad Saade  
**Starring:** Rabih Al Ahmar **Lea Jreij** **Executive Producer:** Mohammad Sammak **1st Assistant Director:** Layal Jomaa **2nd Assistant Director:** Yara Lahoud **Director Of Photography:** Leo Malek  
**Camera Assistant:** Rawad Saad **Lighting Assitant:** Hussein Fneish **Sound Engineer:** Elie Samra  
**Line Producer:** Marianne Merhi **Casting Director:** Layal Jomaa **Art Director:** Yara Sablouny **Editor:** Nathalie Moussa , Marie Louise Elia **Colorist:** Adrien Heylen **Sound Designer:** Francois Yazbek

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**OMÉ - by Wassim Geagea**

Running time: 17 min / Genre: Drama-Social / Year of production: 2019



Following the death of his mother, 9 years old Elias goes to extreme lengths to naively bring her back from Jesus' heaven all while defying his faith...

**Producers:** G. Zarazir for Madame Le Tapis (LB) and Gabriel Chamoun for The Talkies (LB)

**CONTACT**

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**ONE SEA, 10 SEAS - by Nour Ouayda**

Running time: 42 min / Genre: Experimental / Year of production: 2019



There are all in all eight tapes dating from 2014 to 2018, each containing footage of the Mediterranean Sea, more precisely a small section of the coast around Beirut. Three women examine the recorded images and sounds, looking for traces of what they call "apparitions".

Trailer: <https://vimeo.com/335796568>**Writing and Editing:** Carine Doumit and Nour Ouayda**Translation to Arabic:** Ziad Chakaroun**Sound Recording:** Tatiana El Dahdah**Sound Design and mixing:** Shakeeb Abu Hamdan**Distribution:** Collectif Jeune Cinéma**CONTACT**

Distributor: Collectif Jeune Cinema t.deliyannis@cjcinema.org

Director: Nour Ouayda nourouayda@hotmail.com

**PACIFIC - by Angie Obeid**

Running time: 23 min / Genre: Documentary / Year of production: 2019 / Looking for: Distributors, Festival programmers



Whenever I walk through the dark reddish hallways to reach my apartment, whenever I would look out of my windows and dive into that expended view of the city of Brussels, unusual feelings would emerge... until the day I read an article about my building PACIFIC, entitled "the suicide tower".

In an ongoing conversation between myself and several people from different origins and social backgrounds residing in the PACIFIC, a floating presence will take us in a journey through which we explore a microcosm of the Belgian society.

**Director:** Angie Obeid **Director of photography and Sound Recording:** Angie Obeid  
**Editor:** Dani Abo Louh **Sound mixing:** Arne Thomas **Color grading:** Monica Bustamante  
**Producer:** Angie Obeid (DOC NOMADS)

**CONTACT**

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**REGARDE-MOI - by Davina Maria**

Running time: 3 min 50 sec / Genre: Experimental/Essay / Year of production: 2020



« (re)garde-moi » is a celebration of the gaze, love and cinema, it's a super 8 film shot mostly with the in-camera editing technique (tourné-monté) and a sound design that was done separately before the development of the film.

« (re)garde-moi » is an 8mm short visual poem that could mean « look at me », « watch me », « see me » in the English language. « Le regard » means « the look », « the stare », or even « the glance ». In this film, the verb « regarder » means « to gaze »: to look at someone or something for a long time. However, when we dissect the verb « regarder », it is composed of a prefix « re » (used for repetition; to show that something is done again) and a root « garder » which means « to keep ». The verb is, therefore, hard to translate to English as it hides other definitions that I mean to express while using it throughout the film.

Director, DP, Editor and Sound: Davina Maria

**CONTACT**

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**SAINT RISE - by Bassem Saad**

Running time: 14 min / Genre: Experimental / Year of production: 2019 / Looking for: Inclusion in festivals, screening programs, and exhibitions



In August 2017, Lebanon looks with mixed feeling at a giant statue of Saint Charbel as it is transported and erected on the highest mountaintop in Faraya. The project's contracting company, Beirut International Marine Industry and Commerce S.A.R.L, is otherwise known for its techno-industrial feats in the field of marine engineering and for plans to build the "first floating island in the Middle East."

**CONTACT**

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**SOUKHOON - by Farah Shaer**

Running time: 14 min / Genre: Drama / Year of production: 2019 / Looking for: Sales and Distribution



Mariam's marriage is in turmoil when she discovers she's pregnant. Trapped in a prison of lies and societal pressure in present-day Beirut, Mariam yearns to break free. One day she revolts against the oppression and seeks ways to take back control of her own body and life.

Producer: Lucien Bourjeily Cinematography: Marcus Patterson Sound Designer: Victor Bresse

**CONTACT**

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**STOVE - by Jad Andari**Running time: 55 min / Genre: Documentary  
Year of production: 2019

Shot through the eyes of a native who returns to rediscover images from his childhood, Stove takes the form of a visual poem, journeying through and examining the spirit of rural Mount Lebanon and the people who live there.

Director: Jad Andari Director of Photography: Ramzi Hibri Sound Recordist: Ralph Atallah  
Editor: Carine Doumit Sound Editor: Shakeeb Abu Hamdan

**CONTACT**

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**TO NOWHERE - by Pamela Nassour**

Running time: 8 min 15 sec / Genre: Experimental / Year of production: 2020

Bringing into being another planet formed by astonishing landscapes, mysterious caves, and high mountains to get carried away to a world of the virgin territory of pure skin.

Director: Pamela Nassour Cinematographer: Joseph Abdo Writer: Fawzi Yammine Editor and Colorist: Ziad Mazraany Making of: Moris Zoghby Graphics: Rita Mazraany Music composer: Jimmy Mannah Sound designer: Maurice Abdallah Male Voice over: Fawzi Yammine Female Voice over: Salma El Hage

**CONTACT**

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IN THE  
*Pipeline*

**AFTER THE END OF THE WORLD – by Nadim Mishlawi**

**Creative Documentary - Current Status:** Post-production - **Country:** Lebanon - **Looking for:** Post-Production Funds – International sales – Festivals – Distribution

After the End of the World is a cartography gathering the testimonies of different characters as they try to make sense of Lebanon's capital, Beirut, 20 years after the civil war left it ruined. Focusing on the frenzied urban development (and destruction) of the reconstruction period, the film is built around the exploits of a photographer who is convinced that the city of Beirut is disappearing. Exploring the possibility of a "science fiction" documentary, the film uses an array of different visual and audio material including Betamax tape, 16mm, news archives, still photography, and digital cinematography, transforming the screen into a plane of information depicting events, anecdotes, moments, and ideas, spiraling into a modern dystopia.

**CONTACT**

Producer: Georges Schoucair (About Productions) +961 | 58 78 24 contact@aboutproductions.com www.aboutproductions.com

**AGATE MOUSSE – by Sélim Mourad**

**Tale/Personal Essay - Current Status:** Post-production - **Country:** Lebanon - **Looking for:** Post-production Fund Festival distribution

Beirut, summer 2019  
 One eye opens and then closes.  
 The pineal gland dries up.  
 The time of ceremonies has run out.  
 Slowly the community falls apart.  
 Its traces disappear.  
 Two men and a woman play with precious stones  
 They do not know their dance is sacred  
 Amethyst, ruby, emerald, aluminium pass like magic from hand to hand  
 A golden triangle is born in the middle of plastic

**CONTACT**

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**AYN AND BAAL – by Elio Zeaiter**

**Feature Documentary - Current Status:** Production - **Country:** Lebanon **Looking for:** Funding

Baalbek lives in conditions not suitable for a city that is more than 4,000 years old. This is what drives us to search for the reasons through the point of view of its indigenous people, who see in Baalbek: the greatness, the glory, the originality, and the origin of the arts, This is not noticeable in any other Lebanese city.

**CONTACT**

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**BARKA – by Wassim Geagea**

**Current Status:** Development - **Looking for:** development funds, script labs, European co-producers and markets

While dealing with the mysterious death of his brother, Luay explores his clandestine feelings for Majd, an elder classmate. Together, they decide to escape the country in a plan that promises Luay freedom, but tests the limits of his family.

**CONTACT**

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**COMMEDIA – by Myriam El Hajj**

**Feature Narrative - Current Status:** In development - **Countries:** Lebanon, France - **Looking for:** Development Funds – Writing workshops & residencies - International co producers

Following the arrest of her father accused of a terrorist act, the idyllic world of a commedia dell'arte actress is shattered leading her to rebel against the corruption of her family, her lover and her country.

**CONTACT**

Producer: Myriam Sassine (About Productions) +961 | 58 78 24 contact@aboutproductions.com www.aboutproductions.com

**COSTA BRAVA LEBANON – by Mounia Akl**

**Feature Narrative - Current Status:** In Production - **Countries:** Lebanon, France, Denmark, Sweden, Norway  
**Looking for:** Production Funds – Private Investors

Fed up from the pollution and corruption, the Badri family has chosen to live in total isolation in the picturesque Lebanese mountains. But as the government begins to build a garbage landfill right outside their fence, everything they ran away from catches up with them. The family has to choose between staying and resisting, or running away once again. As the trash of a whole country piles up on their doorstep, hidden tensions among the three generations arise, threatening not only to destroy their perfect home but also to explode their family.

**CONTACT**

Producers: Myriam Sassine and Georges Schoucair (About Productions) +961 | 58 78 24 contact@aboutproductions.com www.aboutproductions.com

**DAY OF WRATH: TALES FROM TRIPOLI – by Rania Rafei****Hybrid - Current Status:** In development - **Countries:** Lebanon - **Looking for:** financing, co-production, funds

"The Day of Wrath, Tales from Tripoli" is a hybrid documentary shedding light on five moments of uprising during different historical eras of the city of Tripoli. Those instances have been crucial and influential in the life of the city and its people.

**CONTACT**

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**DEAD DOG – by Sarah Francis****Narrative - Current Status:** In development - **Countries:** Lebanon, Qatar - **Looking for:** Co-producers / financing

When a 55-year-old expat man visits his wife in Lebanon, he learns that their beloved dog died earlier that year but that she had hidden the information from him. As they go look for the remains of the animal buried somewhere in the mountains, the couple explores their relationship for the first time in years. The country is collapsing economically and the financial and emotional survival of their couple is at stake. And yet, the news of the animal's death seems to be getting out of proportions.

**CONTACT**

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**DO YOU LOVE ME – by Lana Daher****Documentary - Current Status:** Development and early Production - **Countries:** Lebanon, Germany - **Looking for:** Potential co-production, world sales agents, distributors, broadcasters

'Do You Love Me', is an archive-based documentary named after the widely popular Bendaly Family song that was released during the Lebanese Civil War, which started on April 13, 1975. It is about the generations of Lebanese that grew up during and after the war. The film tells the story of this society through the country's musical and cinematic archives.

Using mainly archive footage and no talking heads, the film weaves the stories and anecdotes of the men, women and children who remained in Lebanon through these years. The soundscape of the film (interviews, radio archives and songs) will bind the different narrative lines together and serve as a link between the past and the present.

Interweaving the songs of then and now, with intimate personal stories of both the artists of the time and the youth, we re-tell the history of a country and people with no written history. At the end of the Lebanese Civil War the same warlords who ran the country during the war were re-elected to form a government. Since October 17, 2019, people are revolting and that government has finally been overthrown. Despite awakening, the Lebanese are unable to agree - neither over what happened during the war and nor about what should happen next.

**CONTACT**

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**EMBODIED CHORUS – by Danielle Davie & Mohamed Sabbah****Creative Documentary - Current Status:** In Financing - **Countries:** Lebanon, Germany, Luxemburg - **Looking for:** possible co-production (France or other). Distribution partners, including special interest organizations, further funding possibilities and markets, festivals.

An HIV positive woman and a gay man who lived with HPV open a cinematic conversation about living with Sexually Transmitted Infections in Lebanon. They share their own stories and those of other individuals; surpass the shame and step into resilience.

**CONTACT**

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**FACES OF WAR – by Josef Khallouf****Documentary - Current Status:** Development - **Countries:** Lebanon - **Looking for:** Funding

"Faces of War" revisits and portrays the Lebanese Civil War and its episodes using Zajal Rivalries, which is improvised poetry in the form of a dispute between members of two rival groups and, at the same time, it explores the possibilities of whether or not the Lebanese Revolution will be the proper Reconciliation, which Lebanon waited for thirty full years!

**CONTACT**

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**FIASCO – by Nicolas Khoury****Creative Documentary - Current Status:** Post Production - **Countries:** Lebanon - Netherlands - **Looking for:** Post-Production Funds & Distribution Funds

Through a video journal, Lebanese director Nicolas Khoury questions with humor the loneliness that seems to run through his family, while going through personal archives and his past amateur genre teenage films. This intimate film shows the strong and, at time, dysfunctional relationship that binds Nicolas, his mother Nelly, and his sister Tamara after the father's death in 2005. Tamara's marriage in 2018 and her departure from the family home leaves the single mother face to face with her son. Through a humorous and sarcastic routine that settles between the two of them, Nelly questions the relationship path that Nicolas doesn't seem to be following, highlighting the anxieties and worries that exist between mother and son.

**CONTACT**

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**FLYING ELEPHANTS – by Mona Khaouli****Creative Documentary - Current Status:** Development - **Looking for:** Development Funds, Script labs and Markets

Flying Elephants is the story of Munir, a retired Lebanese musician whose life has been shaped by his love for the sea and for music. A revolutionary spirit, Munir has borne witness to the everchanging social, political and urban landscape of his hometown, Beirut, over the past 60 years.

**CONTACT**

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**HARVEST– by Ely Dagher****Feature Narrative - Current Status:** In Post-Production - **Countries:** Lebanon- France – Belgium – USA**Looking for:** Post-production Funds – Film Festivals.

After a long time gone, a young woman suddenly returns to Beirut and finds herself reconnecting with the familiar yet strange life she had once left.

**CONTACT**Producers: Arnaud Dommerc (andolfi) +33 9 50 65 23 05 andolfi@andolfi.fr www.andolfi.fr  
Georges Schoucair (Abbout Productions) +961 1 58 78 24 contact@abboutproductions.com www.abboutproductions.com

**HIGH HEEL HAKAWATI – by Christophe Nassif****Musical, Drama - Current Status:** Development - **Country:** Lebanon **Looking for:** Producers

After years of losing at the Beirut Storytelling Festival, the drag-queen Sasha Warma tries to win over a highbrow jury with a love story. “All is well for golden-boy Christian Sfeir: assisting his father win a political election, living with his girlfriend Tamara... until he falls for a new flatmate: David.”

**CONTACT**

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**I AM HERE BUT YOU CAN'T SEE ME – by Feyrouz Serhal****Feature Narrative - Current Status:** Late Development - **Country:** Lebanon - Spain - **Looking for:** Co-producers - Sale Agents

In the fictitious city of Beirut lives Viola, a singer and a member of an underground movement that assassinates corrupt politicians. In the same city lives Farah, a spoiled son of a banker politician, who roams the city with no goal and destination. At the beginning of the film Farah gets to see Viola while she is opposing the authorities in a very daring gesture. Her strong energy and light attracts him like a magnet.

From that moment on he keeps on noticing her everywhere, but Viola keeps on disappearing from his field of vision.

When they at last meet, like a moth following the light, Farah is drawn to her like magic thinking that her light will save him. Viola on the other hand uses him; at the end of the day he is the son of one of her targets.

However with Farah in front her, Viola perceives her deeds magnified through a fragile human being.

As Viola contemplates her actions, she realizes that this operation she is undertaking is repeating the pattern of violence she is fighting.

Viola changes.

Her pursuit for life is now within her and now she is the strongest of all.

**CONTACT**

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Felipe Lage Coro +34 662046454 felipe.lage@zeitunfilms.com

**IN A DREAM YOU SAW A WAY TO SURVIVE AND YOU WERE FULL OF JOY – by Remi Itani****Drama - Current Status:** Development - **Country:** Lebanon - **Looking for:** Producer - Co-producer

In A Dream You Saw A Way To Survive And You Were Full Of Joy, is a portrait of guilt and denial of a young Lebanese adolescent, Layal, who finds the gap between her daily life and internal state is growing when she discovers that she's pregnant. Coming from a conservative semi-devout Muslim background, she knows she has to keep her situation a secret from her family whom she shares the same house with. Her childhood friend comes to the rescue and desperately persuades Layal to have an illegal abortion in clandestine clinics in the suburbs of Beirut. Layal lives her last moments before the abortion date exploring her maternal instincts, she starts realising what's happening inside of her, she develops a connection but she also knows she will have to live with its absence. The day arrives and Layal is alone in a clinic under a clandestine name. The procedure takes place, Layal goes back home and waits for the first sign of the procedure success. She bleeds. The film drifts through a series of contemplative and melancholic scenes, renditions of landscapes and an unsentimental vision of Beirut. It is a slow burning thriller emphasizing moments that carry on a meditative dark mood that externalizes the inner emotions of the silent.

**CONTACT**

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**IT'S A SAD AND BEAUTIFUL WORLD – by Cyril Aris****Fiction, Drama - Comedy - Current Status:** In Development - **Country:** Lebanon - Germany - **Looking for:** Financing, co-producers

It's a Sad and Beautiful World explores the love story and improbable romance between two antagonistic forces of nature with opposite approaches to life: Nino, a warmhearted idealist, and Soraya, a wounded cynic, throughout their childhood, adulthood and married life, set against the backdrop of Lebanon's tumultuous history and its bittersweet milestones over the past 40 years.

**CONTACT**

Producer: Georges Schoucair (About Productions) +961 | 58 78 24 contact@aboutproductions.com www.aboutproductions.com

Director: Cyril Aris +1 917 664 4164 cyril.aris@gmail.com

**KK – by Nadim Mehanna****Social - Current Status:** Script done and pre-prod WIP - **Country:** Lebanon **Looking for:** Local and International markets

The movie will be tackling a very serious addiction syndrome that's becoming a sickness for some people, across the world

**CONTACT**

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**LA CONGOLAISE – by Pierre Aboujaoude****Drama - Country:** Lebanon - France - **Looking for:** Financing, French Co-producer

Angelique, Congolese, dreams of opening a fashion boutique in Kinshasa. To gather the money, she decides to work as a maid at the Khoury household in Beirut. Elias is a known surgeon, Danielle, his wife, lives in Elia's powerful shadow. They have a 10-year old daughter Leyla who bonds with the new nanny. Everything seems to go well for Angelique, until the day she starts suspecting that Elias is sexually abusing his daughter. Angelique decides to help the little girl despite the risks she faces.

**CONTACT**

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**LABAN: THE FALSE PROPHETS OF JOHANN SEBASTIAN BACH – by Daniel Joseph****Feature Narrative - Current Status:** In Development - **Country:** Lebanon - France - Georgia - Germany - **Looking for:** Development and production Funds – International sales

Lebanon, 1920's... Faced with a government-mandated flooding, a tiny musical village slips into absurd chaos after realizing they don't officially exist in the country's records.

**CONTACT**

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**LES QUINZE – by The Zarazir brothers****Comedy - Current Status:** In advanced development - **Financing** - **Country:** Lebanon - France

1941 - Europe is ruled by Hitler, Mussolini and Stalin... Meanwhile, in Lebanon, Matile brings her eleven kids, the Cardinal (supreme Church authority in the Middle East) and even the French Army occupying Lebanon to her rules...

**CONTACT**Nadia Turincev and Omar El Kadi for Easy Riders Films (FR) and The Zarazir Brothers for Madame Le Tapis (LB)  
Contact: info@madameletapis.com P.O. Box: 60-78, Jal El Dib, Metn, Lebanon**MACHTAT – by Sonia Ben Slama****Documentary - Current Status:** Early production - **Country:** Lebanon - France - Tunisia - Qatar - **Looking for:** broadcasters, distributors

In a working-class neighbourhood of Mahdia, Tunisia, time passes at the pace of harvests and weddings. Fatma and her daughters, Najeh and Waffeh, are different from the other women around. They swear, they smoke, and they earn their own money during summer: they are "machtat", wedding musicians.

Najeh, divorced for 12 years, is looking for a new husband to escape the authority of her brothers. Waffeh wishes to divorce her violent husband but doesn't know where to go with her four children. And Fatma navigates between the two, praying that things will go better and she can retire one day.

**CONTACT**

Khamsin Films / Tania El Khoury khamsinfilms@hotmail.com

**MEMORY BOX – by Joana Hadjithomas and Khalil Joreige****Feature Narrative - Current Status:** In Post-Production - **Country:** Lebanon - France - Canada - Qatar - **Looking for:** Finishing Funds - Distribution - Festivals

Maia, a single mother from Montreal, thought she had left her past behind when she receives an unexpected Christmas present: a handful of notebooks, audiotapes and photographs she had exchanged with her childhood best friend, Liza. Maia keeps this Pandora's box and its painful past unopened. But her teenage daughter Alex secretly delves and gets lost into her mother's teenage years in 1980s Beirut.

**CONTACT**Georges Schoucair and Christian Eid (About Productions) +961 | 58 78 24 contact@aboutproductions.com  
www.aboutproductions.com**MIAKHARA – by Mark Karam****Feature Narrative - Current Status:** Development - **Country:** Lebanon - France - **Looking for:** Investors, Funds, Sales Agent

People often tiptoe on the thin line between normalcy and madness.

Meanwhile, the Andriotty family has been shamelessly mixing Zorba moves and belly dancing on that very fine line. With that assumption in mind, Mark attempts to make a documentary about his Greek-Lebanese family over a weekend. It's only two days, what could possibly go wrong?

All of the events in this film will be seen through Mark's camera as he tries to reveal the secrets of his aunts: Semella, Lena, Voula, Beba and ... Yolla ...who is the reincarnation of ... La Divina Maria Callas.

**CONTACT**

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**NIGHT IN A GLASS OF WATER – by Carlos Chahine****Comedy Drama - Current Status:** Development - **Country:** Lebanon - France

Summer 1958. While revolution rages in Beirut, a six-year old boy in a village looks on helplessly as his mother, who has discovered desire with a stranger, turns her back on him and walks out.

**CONTACT**

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**PERHAPS WHAT I FEAR DOES NOT EXIST – by Corine Shawi****Creative Documentary - Current Status:** In Post-Production - **Country:** Lebanon - Qatar - **Looking for:** Post-Production Funds – International sales

While spending four years in different hospitals taking care of my dad who became suddenly paraplegic, I started filming the rehabilitation process and observing the routine of the new life imposed on us.

I found myself confronting past and present troubles, worrying about the future, as I was losing track of who I am.

**CONTACT**

Producer: Myriam Sassine (About Productions) +961 | 58 78 24 contact@aboutproductions.com www.aboutproductions.com

**PIGEON WARS – by Dania Bdeir****Drama - Current Status:** Rewriting the screenplay - **Country:** Lebanon - **Looking for:** Creative Producer

RANA (20) is a feisty, hypercompetitive and self emancipated student living alone and wreaking havoc in the patriarchal streets of Beirut. When she stumbles upon "Pigeon Wars", the male-dominated competitive sport, she becomes obsessed with dominating that world and reclaiming the skies. She sets her mind on a beautiful rare bird that she wants to capture to gift to her only friend in the world, her little sister NADINE (14).

To infiltrate this subculture, Rana needs to work with the dutiful and compliant HASSAN (21), a young man from a very conservative and politically charged part of Beirut. The king of pigeon wars, Hassan practices in secret so as not to disappoint his demanding family.

After a rocky start in which they both butt heads at every turn, Rana finally lowers her defenses and lets Hassan in. Their bond and genuine connection teaches them about themselves and about each other. Rana ends up realizing the underlying tension behind her relentless drive and her need to stop running and start facing her own demons.

**CONTACT**

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**PORTS OF CALL – by Atiq Rahimi****Drama - Current Status:** Financing - **Country:** Lebanon, France, Italy, Luxemburg - **Looking for:** Financing, Distributor, Sales

Ports of Call is the story of two ill-starred lovers who meet in Paris during WWII: Ossyane, the principal narrator and Ottoman prince with a Muslim upbringing, and his beloved Clara, a Jewish freedom fighter from Vienna.

**CONTACT**

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**RABIES – by Sandra Tabet****Horror - Current Status:** Development - **Country:** Lebanon - **Looking for:** Producer

Julia, a history professor, struggles with her sanity as she alone seems aware that Beirut's past has come back to haunt it, through the return of the war's rabid dogs. When her student Ghassan, gets bitten, Julia drives him through the night of a quarantined Beirut and watches as the city inexorably descends into the clutches of madness, disease, and grotesque transformation.

**CONTACT**

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**ROADBLOCK - by Dahlia Nemlich****Fiction - Drama / Looking for:** Distributor, Festivals & TV sales

Beirut 2019 – During the Revolution

On her way back from a protest, Farah, a young Lebanese woman and her French - Lebanese boyfriend, Anthony, are stopped at a roadblock held by two armed militiamen. A small mistake could have dreadful consequences.

**CONTACT**

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**SIRO – by Dima El-Horr****Documentary - Current Status:** Post Production - **Country:** Lebanon - **Looking for:** Distribution

The film takes place at a precise period in Siro's life, 84 years old, painter and actress: I follow her in her mourning period, when she lost her husband, the stage director Berge Fazlian, in her loneliness, but also when she turns again to life and breathes again. While reflecting on the present, Siro moves in time, and without dramatization, returns to major events in her life which leads her to assess her life and try to understand the meaning of her existence. And it is precisely the doubts and the disappointments that conceal her assurance and emancipation that I would like to bring out. How is a woman with such a modern mindset and spirit, who offers a highly emancipated thought of the twentieth century, has all her life managed with the demands of a macho society? It is the paradox of this tragic and "Romanesque" character which seems to me essential to question and deepen. Thus, this film becomes not only a nostalgic reflection but also a self-criticism.

**CONTACT**

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**SHE WHO LIVES STILL – by Ghina Daou****Feature Documentary - Current Status:** In Production - **Country:** Lebanon - France - **Looking for:** Producer

I have always observed my neighbor Najla, from the window of my house in Karchima, my village in Lebanon. Najla is an eighty-year-old woman living alone in a small two-room house where she raised her four children. I remember her strong character and her courage. In fact, she was nicknamed "the sister of men" (Ekht l rjel - اخت الرجال), she did not let herself be overawed, especially not by men. This woman endured more than fifteen years of civil war, she gave everything for her cause and ended up losing everything. Today, Najla finds herself abandoned, in extreme precariousness. What would have happened if, Najla had left Lebanon before the war permanently impacted her life?

After several years of political activism, after having lost any hope of change in Lebanon, I moved to France for my Masters' in cinema in 2014. Six years later, I'm still here.

The October 2019 Revolution renewed my faith. I feel the urgent need to return, to invest again in my country. Am I ready to pay the price, like Najla did? Will my old-age resemble hers?

**CONTACT**

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**SILENT OF THE PLAINS – by Zeina Sfeir****Documentary - Current Status:** In Production - **Country:** Lebanon - **Looking for:** Fund

It was an article in today's paper. Following Prime Minister Rafiq Hariri's assassination, the international tribunal would be open to investigate previously unsolved war crimes. The Rayak massacre was mentioned. It would officially be the first mention of the crime in a newspaper. The article circulated among the family. It was over 40 years ago.

Bekaa Valley, Lebanon, 1976. Four men are murdered by a faceless militia and their bodies dumped in a church square near the Rayak train station. One of this victims was my uncle Georges Chababi. Who were these men that committed this horrible atrocity? More importantly, why do killings like this continue to haunt the Arab experience to this day?

The central figure in this tragedy is my cousin Elias Chababi. After his father Georges was murdered, Elias lived in our place for 5 months. Throughout this period no one told Elias that his father was murdered. He was a boy of only 13 years. It was one of the most painful silences our family ever had to endure. It's through Elias's eyes that we will retrace the story to reveal the moments that led up to this murder. We will hear the living testimonies of friends and family and open new paths to this case. Just as this tragedy was central to the historic landmark of Rayak train station in the Bekaa, these stories will lead us from stop to stop in an attempt to reach a final destination and put this tragedy to rest.

It's a journey to understand and to heal ourselves in the absence of national reconciliation.

**CONTACT**

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**THE BLUE INMATES – by Zeina Daccache****Documentary - Current Status:** Image locked/ still needs sound mixing and color correction/ English subtitles**Country:** Lebanon - **Looking for:** Distribution

The film follows inmates in Roumieh Prison who took the roles of their fellow inmates suffering from mental illness and residing in the same Prison. Mentally ill offenders in Lebanon are sentenced "until cured". Unfortunately the Lebanese Penal Code, enacted in 1943, stipulates that "Insane", "Mad" or "Possessed" offenders shall be incarcerated in a special psychiatry unit until evidence of "being cured".

**CONTACT**

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**THE DANCING PLAGUE – by Malek Hosni****Documentary - Current Status:** In Production - **Country:** Lebanon - **Looking for:** Producer - Distributor

Set against the turbulent atmosphere of Lebanon, The Dancing Plague is a feature documentary that plunges headfirst into the country's nightlife, the characteristics of which reflect the different social evolutions the country has experienced. The film takes its name from an ancient plague that infected various populations across the world, causing them to dance hysterically in the streets, and explores the phenomena by studying the dancers, their movements, and their impetus.

The Dancing Plague is more than just a film about nightlife- it is an illustration of a country and its soul, a reflection on the formations of myth, and unique insight into the current revolutionary movements that sparked across the globe and plunges into the depths of the collective unconscious of a society in flux.

**CONTACT**

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**THE MAIDEN'S POND – by Bassem Breche****Feature Fiction - Current Status:** In Post-production - **Country:** Lebanon - **Looking for:** Sales and distribution

The Maiden's Pond tells the story of Salma and her returning daughter Thuraya, and their attempt to preserve, maintain and reconstruct their lives with and against each other. Salma survived many years by protecting her independence, she reached her peace through letting go of any attachments. But the past does not let go of Salma and brings back Thuraya, defeated, divorced, and pregnant.

**CONTACT**

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**THE PUPPETEER – by Abboudy Mallah****Romance - Drama - Comedy - Current Status:** Production - **Country:** Lebanon - **Looking for:** Director

A wealthy bachelor conquering the finance world in Dubai, William is the master of his own destiny until the day he receives a life-altering diagnosis. As he struggles to come to terms with the news, he takes under his wing Jack, a dedicated physical therapist eager to make amends with his estranged wife, Sofia. But all is not as it seems as truths come to light of lost loves and devastating betrayals. With William's time running out, will Jack be able to forgive those closest to him and build anew?

A bittersweet journey filled with unconditional love, biting humor and heartwarming friendship, "The Puppeteer" is the story of one man's awakening and another's redemption.

**CONTACT**

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**THE RIVER – by Ghassan Salhab****Fiction - Current Status:** Post-Production - **Country:** Lebanon, France, Qatar, Germany

It's autumn. A man and a woman are about to leave a restaurant situated in the heart of the Lebanese mountains. They are surprised by fighter planes screaming past at low altitude. In the distance, war seems to be breaking out once more. Losing sight of the woman, the man starts looking for her. He finds her on the other side of the mountain. Together they sink deeper into nature, which becomes increasingly spectral, just like the slender thread that ties them to each other.

**CONTACT**

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**THE SAD LIFE OF HAPPY PIG – by Christy Whaibe****Drama - Comedy - Current Status:** In the writing - **Country:** Lebanon - **Looking for:** Producer - Co-production

Chady a 35-year-old guy, works as an entertainer. He wears masks and costumes at events and birthdays. When he discovers the identity of the killer of his father, he decides to take revenge, while disguised as "Happy Pig".

**CONTACT**

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**THE TOUCH – by Rindala Kodeih****Social - Romantic Drama - Current Status:** Pre-Production - **Country:** Lebanon - **Looking for:** Producer and Distributor

A young woman " NARA " was born blind; deaf and dumb. There was no way to communicate with her, but she was more like a 'sculpture' rioting when eating, bathing and during her life in general .. With a very beautiful and charming innocent face ; NAJEM her neighbour (an 18-year-old young man) felt in love with her.

He accidentally saw her when he was standing on the window of his room, she got into an accident and that pushed NAJEM to risk his life and help her... he made sure that this girl had felt him when he touched her. From here the story begins after he finds that he can help her. And change her life.

**CONTACT**

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**THE VILLAGE CHILD– by Daniella Saba****Drama - Current Status:** Development - **Country:** Lebanon, France, Brazil - **Looking for:** Development funds, Co-producers

Florence, 42-years-old, feels like she's drifting. She is dragging things out, between her frustrating job in TV magazine and her move with Paul, whom she is not sure of loving. Before him, she was married to Antoine from whom she must divorce. But suffering from a serious illness, Antoine announces to Florence that his state of health has worsened, and that his life depends on a bone marrow transplant. Florence finds herself embarked by Antoine on an improbable adventure in the depths of the Brazilian Sertão, to look for his biological family, in order to try to find a compatible donor. Together on the road through the desert landscapes of Brazil, they will find particular characters but most importantly they will confront themselves with the wounds of the past

**CONTACT**

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**VALLEY OF EXILE – by Anna Fahr****Drama - Current Status:** Late Development - **Financing - Country:** Lebanon - Canada - **Looking for:** Financing, sales agent distributor

Two sisters, whose parents were killed in Syria, escape to a refugee camp in Lebanon's Bekaa Valley after fleeing war-torn Damascus. While Rima, who is seven months pregnant, is set on reuniting with her husband and rebuilding their lives in Lebanon, her younger sister Nour is determined to find their missing brother and eventually return home to Syria. In the camp, the sisters form alliances with other women who have lost their fathers, sons and husbands to the war. These friendships propel them onto separate paths: Rima works odd jobs so that she can rent an apartment before her baby is born while Nour sets out to investigate their brother's whereabouts, risking her own safety in the process. As conditions in the camp worsen day by day, Rima and Nour begin to realize that their journey together into exile is not only a struggle for survival but ultimately a test of loyalty to their country, their family and each other.

**CONTACT**

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**VANISHING – by Lucien Bourjeily****Drama - Current Status:** In Development - **Country:** Lebanon - **Looking for:** Sales Agent - Distributor - Co-Production

In modern-day Beirut, single mother Rita juggles her work as an investigative journalist and as the caregiver to both her eight-year-old daughter and her elderly mother. A balance made possible only with the crucial help of Zofan, an Ethiopian helper, who has lived with them for several years. However, one day, while Rita is busy filming a report about illegal and corrupt quarries, Zofan mysteriously disappears without a trace. Rita becomes totally engulfed in this intriguing mystery.

**CONTACT**

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**VISA – by Dima AL-Joundi****Fiction - Current Status:** Late Development - **Country:** Lebanon - **Looking for:** European Co-producer & TV co-production

Ali is a Syrian labourer working in Lebanon, while his wife and children live in war-torn Syria. As Isis invades his family's village, he brings them to Lebanon. Ali carries the burden of his family's safety and starts to look for extra work. Ali and his family will spend a year full of obstacles, as his working permit won't be renewed. Unable to accommodate with the harsh reality of Beirut, Ali's wife, Nada, convinces him to smuggle them illegally to France. Ali spends his life savings in the process, but he refuses to leave with them in case they are caught & sent back by the police. Nada is finally given asylum in France. As Ali plans to join them, using a reunion visa, at the French Embassy in Lebanon, he discovers that its counter is closed, and he is denied the visa. Ali's journey will start with the seeking of a Schengen visa with the help of Yasmine, who will end up rejecting him. Ali ends up in Tanzania, the only country granting him a visa, where he'll try to reach France in a rubber boat.

**CONTACT**

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**WARCHE– by Nadim Tabet****Feature Narrative / Horror - Current Status:** In Development - **Countries:** Lebanon - **Looking for:** Funds - International co-producers - International Sales - Distribution

Escaping the Syrian conflict, Tarek joins a construction site set nearby a Lebanese village. He is soon confronted to the racism of the villagers. Having suffered from the Syrian military occupation in the 90s, the locals are not keen on the presence of Syrian workers in their neighborhood. Some of the laborers start disappearing without an explanation. While most of the Syrian workers suspect the villagers, Tarek is subject to strange visions and the apparition of a feminine figure haunting the site and the forest around it. He questions his sanity yet also feels driven to know more. With the help of Rana, a local guide, he sets to find out the truth and by doing so resurfaces the hidden past of the village.

**CONTACT**Producers: Georges Schoucair and Myriam Sassine (About Productions) +961 1 58 78 24 contact@aboutproductions.com  
www.aboutproductions.com**WHEN THE REBELS HAVE WON (SUZANNE & OSMANE)– by Danielle Arbid****Feature Film - Current Status:** Pre-Production - **Countries:** Lebanon, France, Germany - **Looking for:** Investors, Funds

Suzanne, a 60-year-old widow, meets Osman one rainy night in Beirut. He's young, black, Sudanese, an immigrant worker without papers. She's white, Lebanese, twice his age, forgotten by all in her well-ordered existence.

They instantly fall in love.

Unable to marry because of his illegal status, Osman moves in with Suzanne.

But the couple is shunned. Their love has everyone up in arms. Suzanne's children, her neighbours, her co-workers, people in the street... Everyone is scandalised by this relationship. The same people who threw the country into civil war now stand there, judging. Even if the community later realises how much they need the couple.

The ambition of this film is to marry the poetry of this couple with the bleakness of their world.

And of our own...

**CONTACT**

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**YALLA, BABA! – by Angie Obeid****Feature Documentary - Current Status:** Pre-Production - **Countries:** Lebanon - Belgium - **Looking for:** Funds - Pre-sales

In their newly bought car from Belgium, Angie (32) takes her father Mansour (72) on the same journey he made 40 years ago from Brussels to Beirut. The path once taken is no longer the same, and neither would be their relationship.

Yalla, Baba! is a dialogue between father and daughter. An encounter of two different times in a moving space. An outlook on 40 years of History of Europe and the world, through a road trip from Brussels to Beirut.

**CONTACT**

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**YASMINE'S DIARY– by Christian Abboud****Documentary - Current Status:** Financing - **Countries:** Lebanon - **Looking for:** Financing, Sales

Are we allowed to take justice in our own hands when the interest of our children is at stake?

**CONTACT**

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*Series*

**3AHD EL DAM - by Karim Al Shenawi**

Producer: Eagle Films / Genre: Drama / Country: Lebanon / Scriptwriter: Iyad Abou Shamat



The life of Salim Fayad, the owner of a drug distribution company, is changing after he survives a car accident that kills the daughter of a ruthless drug dealer.

Actors: Basel Khayat , Rodney Haddad , Alain Saadeh , Nadine Tahssine Bek , Aya Teba , Nada Abu Fahrhat  
D.O.P: Mahmoud Youssef Sound Engineer: Avedis Kalazian Head of Production: Joelle Bitar

**CONTACT**

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**AL HAYBA SEASON 3” (THE HARVEST) - by Samer Berkawi**

Producer: Cedars Art Production (Sabbah Brothers) / Genre: Drama, Romance, Action, Thriller, Crime / Country: Lebanon  
/ Scriptwriter: Bassem Salka



It's "The Harvest" season in the famous Hayba village. Events will escalate between the families upon Shaheen's injury in Season I. Nour Rahme will enter the life of Jabal, shaping a new relationship where love will meet conflicts and where romance will go side by side with thriller. Circumstances will drag Nour into Haybe's world and she will become part of it by choice.

But, what's the price to pay this time?

Actors: Taim Hassan - Cyrine Abdelnour - Mona Wassef and others

**CONTACT**

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**AL KATEB - by Rami Hanna**

Producer: Eagle Films / Genre: Drama / Country: Lebanon / Scriptwriter: Reem Hanna



Al-Kateb series, listed as "The Writer" on Netflix, tells the story of a best-selling crime novelist whose real life begins to eerily imitating the plot of his own books. Younis Jubran (Bassel Khaiat) is the famous writer accused of murdering an actress. Attorney Magdalen (Daniella Rahme), who is influenced by his writings and ideas, defends him.

Actors: Daniella Rahme, Bassel Khayat, Nada Bou Farhat  
D.O.P: Nicolas Khoury Sound Engineer: Samer El Saidi Head of Production: Joelle Bitar

**CONTACT**

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**AWAKE (W3EET) - by Mazen Fayad**

Producer: Mazen Fayad / Genre: Sci-fi Social / Country: Lebanon / Scriptwriter: Nadia Tabbarra



After 12 years in a coma because of a massive explosion in Beirut, Dana wakes up to a new world where technology has taken over and everyone she has ever loved is completely different. Family secrets and past lies begin to unravel themselves, as Dana struggles to make a life of her own in the ever-chaotic and always unstable Beirut.

Actors: Flavia Bchara, Tarek Yaacub, Mohammad Akil, Stephanie Attallah, Camille Salameh, Joseph Bou Nassar DOP: Tony Al-Khazen Co-Director: Sandrine Zeynoun

Line Producer: Antoine Taimour Sfier Production Designer: Cesar Hayek Production Manager: Nagham Abboud

**CONTACT**

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**AWLAD ADAM - by Laith Hajjo**

Producer: Eagle Films / Genre: Drama / Country: Lebanon / Scriptwriter: Rami Koussa



Dima who works as a judge has failed in her pregnancy attempts and she accidentally runs over a young boy. Ghassan helps the boy's mother but he did not know that his wife is the one who hit him. The boy dies and Dima is devastated. Sa'ad helps Maya after she gets shot.

Actors: Maxim Khalil, Maguy Bou Ghosn, Qays Sheikh Najib, Daniella Rahme, Nada Abu Fahrat, Rodney Haddad, Talal Jarday, Carol Abboud.

D.O.P: Nicolas Khoury Sound Engineer: Samer El Saidi Head of Logistics: Hisham Salameh

**CONTACT**

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**BEIRUT CITY - by Serge Oryan**

Producer: Serge Oryan – Fadi Abou Chedid / Genre: Romantic comedy / Country: Lebanon / Scriptwriter: Nadia Tabbara Mirna Mounayar



Lebanese women are amazing. They are unlike any other women in the world, in so many ways.

Let us introduce you to four very real, very different Lebanese women as they live and love in Beirut. We follow them as they deal with the contradictions of Lebanese society, each in their own way. We get to know them and relate to their joys and their downfalls. Light-hearted and fast-paced, we tackle heavy issues that all Lebanese men and women care about, but always in an entertaining way: friendship and relationships, dating and traditional set-ups, money and work, boyfriends and ex-husbands, families and obligations.

Throughout the first season, we watch each woman go through her own journey of self- discovery as she is faced with her own challenges.

Jessica Hanna: Line producer Marc Khalife: DOP Wael Dib: First AD Art director: Carla Kamel – Cynthia Zgheib Nay Tabbara: Second AD Lara Khamis: Wardrobe Nadine Oryan: Make up Pixel Mob: Post production Dima Geagea: Colorist Gamma Engineering: Equipments Teddy Naser: Music composition Cedric Kayem: Sound design Myriam Chayeb: Sound engineer

**CONTACT**

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**BERDENEH ANA - by Nadim Mehanna**

Producer: Nadim Mehanna / Genre: Thriller, Social, Adventure and Romance / Country: Lebanon  
Scriptwriter: Claudia Marchalian



Inspired from true stories Drama TV Series tackling violence against women, lots of emotions and love though.

Producer and Director: Nadim Mehanna, Screenplay Writer: Claudia Marchalian, Assisting Director: Ramez el Khoury, Production Manager: Patricia Ibrahim, Content Supervisor: Ranya Rahbani, Script Supervisor and Assistant Director: Tania Khoury, Post-Production: Kolja Digital Works, Art Director: Laya Khawly, Stylist: Nour Hassan, Sound Recordists: Tania kammoun and Avedis Kelzy, Music Composer: Jad Rahbani, Actors: Carine Rizcallah, Badih Abou Chacra, Wissam Hanna, Roula Hamadeh, Joseph Bou Nassar, Nahla Daoud, Aleco Daoud, Janah Fakhoury, Assaad Rechdan...

**CONTACT**

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**DAKIKAT SAMT "MOMENT OF SILENCE" - by Shawki El Majiri**

Producer: coproduction Cedars Art Production (Sabbah Brothers) and Ebla / Genre: Drama, Suspense, Action  
Country: Syrian- Lebanese / Scriptwriter: Samer Redwan



It's 3:00 AM. The prison warden arrives. An unpredicted visit with an unexpected order: to execute the death sentences of the prisoners Amir Nasser and Adham Mansour... Immediately and disregarding all the protocols. A series of strange events will follow: the prisoners' cell starts burning and a new warden is directly appointed. It is just later, when the new warden leaves and that the condemned prisoners find themselves in the back of his car that all what happened will start to make sense.

Amir and Adham are now left with an officer to guard them until the sun rises. Sensing the long imagined freedom, the two will do everything that it takes to escape and never go back to jail. Looking for forged passports, the two outlaws, Amir and Adham, find themselves at Atouf's house where the skilled Samara will do her perfect job... for free. Samara's personality and beauty will leave Amir in awe.

Actors: Abed Fahed - Stephanie Saliba - Fadi Sabih - Fadi Abou Samra and others

**CONTACT**

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**DOLLAR - by Samer Berkawi**

Producer: Cedars Art Production (Sabbah Brothers) as a Netflix Original / Genre: Action / Country: Lebanon  
Scriptwriter: Hisham Hilal



Beautiful executive assistant Zeina reluctantly teams up with the self-assured Tarek to chase down an elusive dollar bill worth \$1 million.

Actors: Adel karam – Amal Bouchouha and others

**CONTACT**

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**KHAMSE W NOSS “FIVE THIRTY” - by Philippe Asmar**

Producer: Cedars Art Production (Sabbah Brothers) / Genre: Drama, Romance, Action / Country: Lebanon  
Scriptwriter: Emame Saïd



Getting married to the powerful political leader Ghimar el-Ghanem should have been every girl's dream, but Bayan's dream soon becomes a nightmare when he turns her life into a living hell. Her only way out will be to throw herself in the arms of her handsome bodyguard who won't resist the temptation.

Actors: Nadine Nassib Njeim - Kousay Khawli - Motasem Al Nahar - Rafic Ali Ahmad - Roula Hamadeh

**CONTACT**

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**MA FIYYE “LOVE ME NOT SEASON 1” - by Rasha Sharbatji**

Producer: Cedars Art Production (Sabbah Brothers) / Genre: Drama, Romance, Action / Country: Lebanon  
Scriptwriter: Claudia Marchalian



Fares returns to his village after long years of disappearing since his parents died. He falls in love with Yasma, but their relationship is harshly tested when he finds out who is the person behind his parents' death.

Actors: Valerie Abou Chakra - Motasem Al Nahar - Rozina Lazkani - and others

**CONTACT**

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**ZYARA - by Muriel Aboulrouss**

Producer: Denise Jabbour / Genre: documentary series (5mins per episode / 12 episodes per season) / Country: Lebanon



Zyara is the original creation of Home of Cine-Jam. It is an award-winning documentary series that paints poetic portraits of people. Through 5-minute episodes, Zyara manages to engrave parts of its subjects' souls, some of their stories and most of all, their emotions.

Liliane Hanbali Editor Rachele Noja/Elsy Hajjar / Bachar Khattar: Camera assistants  
Sevine AbiAad: English subtitles Khalil Abourrousse: Colorist

**CONTACT**

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