

Wednesday, 07 June, 7pm

01

Third world liberation & the moving image: A brief introduction to Militant Cinema by Mario Hamad

Starting with manifestos of 1960s Latin America, traversing expressions from Paris to Palestinian refugee communities and Japanese leftist radicalism, and culminating with the pixelated atrocity footage captured on cell phone cameras in Syria half a century later, this lecture provides a contextual overview of the numerous manifestations of politically engaged film praxes from around the globe that came to be known as – or could be considered to be – Militant Cinema.

Thursday, 15 June, 7pm

02

(Wujoud) – embodied resistance. A lecture-screening of works by Wujoud Collective

Drawing from a long-standing engagement with Syrian civil society activists, the films of Wujoud Collective are situated at the intersection of a militant and expanded audio-visual practice. Conceived as forms of activism intended to resist the narrative component of the Assad regime's campaign of genocide, these films are manifested through intermedial processes designed to induce their audience to experience levels of embodied awareness via strategies that range from the intimate, to the unsettling, to the participatory. Underpinning this series is the concept of wujoud (Arabic: presence/existence) which takes on an inherently political significance in the context of genocide in Syria, emerging as a praxis and ethos of resistance embodied in the very being of a Syrian opposition, and manifested in these films by the presence of Syrian civil activists and an audience's engagement with these very individuals.

Thursday, 22 June 8 pm

03

Palestine In The Eye (1977). Directed by Mustafa Abu Ali, restored by Azza El-Hassan. 28'

A/e

Palestine In The Eye chronicles the profound impact of Hani Jawharieh's death for the PLO Film Unit. The film reflects on his life through interviews with family, colleagues, and his own cinematography, including the moment of his death while filming for the Unit in 1976. Although the film has later been attributed to Mustafa Abu Ali, the Unit's method of work was to describe everyone as a collective of "workers," and we see this in the film titles, which collectively list the names of all those who participated as a non-hierarchical collective. Through this reflection on Jawharieh, we are offered an understanding of the workings of the Palestine Film Unit and its international connections.

Thursday, 29 June, 8 pm

04

Off Frame AKA Revolution Until Victory (2016). Directed by Mohanad Yaqubi. 62' A/e

Off Frame AKA Revolution Until Victory is a meditation on the Palestinian people's struggle to produce an image and self-representation on their own terms in the 1960s and 1970s, with the establishment of the Palestine Film Unit as part of the PLO. Unearthing films stored in archives across the world after an unprecedented research and access, the film begins with popular representations of modern Palestine and traces the works of militant filmmakers in reclaiming image and narrative through revolutionary and militant cinema. In resurrecting a forgotten memory of struggle, Off Frame reanimates what is within the frame, but also weaves a critical reflection by looking for what is outside it, or what is off frame.