Histories of Arab Documentary Conference and Film Screenings

Friday, Oct. 27, 2017
• panels @ LMU (9:00-16:00)
• film screening @ Filmmuseum (18:00)

Saturday, Oct. 28, 2017
• panels @ LMU (9:00-16:00)
• film screening @ Filmmuseum (18:00)

Sunday, Oct. 29, 2017
• film screening @ Filmmuseum (18:00)
Programme

DAY ONE: Friday Oct. 27, 17

9:00 - 9.15  Introduction - Viola Shafik (researcher, filmmaker/LMU) & Kerstin Pinther (professor/LMU)

Panel 1 - Histories and Structures

9:15 - 10:30: Laura Marks Political Economies of Experimental Documentary
               Kay Dickinson Funding the „Creative Documentary”. An Art Cinema of Refugees

Panel 2 - Activism and Revolution

10:45 - 12:30: Jamal Bahmad From Mount Albban to the World. Activism and the Environmental Documentary in Morocco
               Nouri Gana The Will to Expose. Documentary Filmmaking in Postrevolutionary Tunisia
               Donatella della Ratta „The Unbearable Lichtmess of Images”. The Aesthetics, Economics, and Politics of Post-2011 Filmmaking in Syria

12.30 - 13.15 lunch break

Panel 3 - The Filmmaker and the State

13:15 - 14:30 Ali Essay Short History of Moroccan Non-Fiction Film
               Yasmin Desouki Egyptian Newsreels. Poetics, History and Popular Culture

Panel 4 - Directors and Formats

14:45 - 16:00 Shohini Chaudhuri Iraq War Home Movies. Abbas Fahdels Homeland (Iraq War Zone)
               Peter Limbrick Spaces of Dispossession. Experiments with the real in contemporary Algerian cinema

Screening Filmmuseum

18:00 Decolonization presented by Ali Essafi / Viola Shafik / Kerstin Pinther
       Let the World Witness / fa li-yashhad al-àlam by Saad Nadim (1956, Egypt, 20 min.)
       Memoire 14 by Ahmed Bouanani (1971, Morocco, 24 min.)
       Zerda and the Songs of Oblivion / La Zerda et les chants de l’oubli by Assia Djebar (1982, Algeria, 26 min.)

20:30 Dinner (optional)
DAY TWO: Saturday Oct. 28, 17

Panel 5 - Politics of Representation
9:00 - 10:45: Ella Shohat On Palestine and the Arab-Jew. The Cinema of Displacement
Nisrine Mansour The Aesthetics of Othering in Lebanese War Documentaries
Nadia Yaqub Opaque Encounters in Films about Palestine

Panel 6 - Voice and Narration
11:00 - 12:15: Alisa Lebow One for all. First Person Films from the Egyptian Revolution
Viola Shafik Defying the Voice of Authority. Egyptian Documentarists between 1956 and 1982
12:15 - 13:00 lunch break

Panel 7 - Film(ed) History
13:00 - 14:45 Mohamad Soueid Documenting Lebanon
Ahmed Bedjaoui Documentaries Questioning History
Oliver Hadouchi Cinema and the Struggle of Women in Algeria

Closing Session
14:45 - 15:30 Filmmakers Ali Essafi and Mohamad Soueid as well as film initiative representatives Yasmin Desouki (Cimatheque, Cairo, Egypt) and Marion Schmidt (award manager Dox-Box e.V., Berlin, Germany) will lead an open discussion on historical lessons and prospects of development.

Screening Filmmuseum
18:00 Modernisms presented by Ali Essafi / Viola Shafik
Village Doctor / tabib fi-l-aryaf by Khairy Beshara (1975, Egypt, 20 min.)
Return to Agadir / Retour à Agadir by Mohamed Afify (1967, Morocco, 10 min.)
Horizons / afaq by Shadi Abdessalam (1972, Egypt, 39 min.)
20:30 Closing Dinner

DAY THREE: Sunday Oct. 29, 17

Screening Filmmuseum
18:00 Documentary Film in Lebanon before and after the Electronic Turn presented by Mohamad Soueid
The Story of a Village and a War / hikayat qarya wa harb by Maroun Baghdadi (1978, Lebanon, 24 min.)
Cinema Fouad by Mohamed Soueid (1993, Lebanon, 60 min.)
The conference Histories of Arab Documentary wants to examine the diverse histories of film documentary in the MENA region since the 1920s and to serve as a platform for investigating different theoretical approaches with regards to a number of queries, that is: structural development and state intervention, formats and aesthetics, new media, history, politics of representation, auteurs, subjectivity, „Artivism“ and Revolution. Herewith it will unearth and propel hitherto unrecognized scholarly work in the field and shed light on a neglected part of international film history. Moreover, it is giving the opportunity to film professionals from the region and international academia to meet and exchange their experiences.

The conference is held in the framework of Viola Shafik’s research project Spring of Subversion? Independent Arab Filmmaking and its Revolution(s)
Organized by Dr. Viola Shafik (LMU), Prof. Dr. Kerstin Pinther (LMU)
Supported by DFG, Goethe-Institut Cairo, Filmmuseum München

Venue 1
Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität München
Institut für Kunstgeschichte
Zentnerstr. 31 80798 München room 007
How to reach:
Subway: Line U2 stop Josephsplatz or Hohenzollernplatz
Bus: 154 stop Winzererstraße

Venue 2
Filmmuseum/Münchner Stadtmuseum St.-Jakobs-Platz 1
80331 München
How to reach:
S/U-Bahn stop Marienplatz U-Bahn stop Sendlinger Tor Bus 62 stop St.-Jakobs-Platz Bus 52 stop Blumenstraße