

The Lebanese Association for Plastic Arts, Ashkal Alwan, presents

VIDÉO AVRIL

VIDEO WORKS

@ Al-Madina Theater, Hamra Str., Beirut. April 12 to 15, 2007. Open on Thursday at 7:00pm

Thursday April 12

VIDEO WORKS

- 07:15pm Schluss the Warrior – Ziad Saad (3')
- 07:20pm Slippage – Ali Cherri (12')
- 07:35pm As I Recall – Rima Kaddissi (13')
- 07:50pm That "Other" City – Anthony Abou Khalifé (30')
- 08:20pm Raafat Al Hajjan the Third – Ali Kays (14')
- 08:35pm Break
- 08:50pm Affinity – Corine Shawi (30')
- 09:20pm 210 Meters – Ahmad Ghosien (10')
- 09:30pm 2mg of Rotten Blood on Pure White Snow – Rami Sabbagh (20')
- 09:50pm Break
- 10:05pm Please Rewind Me Later – Roy Samaha (33')
- 10:40pm Ghosts Have No Shadow – Malek Anouti (25')
- 11:05pm Brain Cells – Rania Rafei (14')

Friday April 13

TIME LAPSE

- 07:00pm July Trip – Wael Nouredine (35')
- 07:35pm Merely a Smell – Maher Abi Samra (7')
- 07:45pm Nights and Days – Lamia Joreige (17')
- 08:05pm Break
- 08:20pm Mdardara – Ziad Antar (3')
- 08:25pm You Can Come In – Mahmoud Hojeij (23')
- 08:50pm Print 1 – Nadim Asfar (15')
- 09:05pm (Posthume) – Ghassan Salhab (28')

Saturday April 14

SUMMERTIME

- 05:00pm Summertime – Chérine Debs-Harfouche, Joanne Issa, Hisham Jaber, Nadine Ghanem, Rania Majed, Rania Rafei, Halim Sabbagh, Rana Salem, Myriam Sassine, and Corine Shawi (80')
- 06:20pm Break

VIDEO WORKS

That "Other" City – Anthony Abou Khalifé
Aman, obsessed by the idea that a disaster is about to hit Beirut, wanders around planting security cameras to monitor the city. Somewhere along the thin line separating his paranoia from the actual run of events, he starts believing that he was sent to save and protect the city.
[Video, 30 minutes, Arabic with English subtitles]

Ghosts Have No Shadow – Malek Anouti
In the space where I roam, a rectangular glass mutely reflects bodies and mouths, colours and shapes, animals and beasts. I apologize for the silence, even if I had once declared that silence retains another meaning.
[Video, 25 minutes, Arabic & English versions]

Slippage – Ali Cherri
The moment the city spills its guts, the time has come to abandon it, for it will no longer hold places that can cloak us.
[Video, 12 minutes, Arabic with English subtitles]

210 Meters – Ahmad Ghosien
Height of the man: 187cm
His average velocity when walking: 1.4m per second
Distance walked: 210m
 $V = d/\Delta t \Rightarrow \Delta t = d/v = 210m/1.4m/s$
 $\Delta t = 150$ seconds
The time needed for the man, 187cm tall, to cross from one side of the street to the other is 150 seconds.
[Video, 10 minutes, Arabic with English subtitles]

As I Recall – Rima Kaddissi
As I recall, what Jaap Pieters told me of Hussein and Ahmad Shaaban constructs a possible reality. What Ahmad tells me could also fit in this possible narrative. While recounting their memory (ies), the reality (ies) start to twist and alter. Stories people tell me are difficult for me to recall and repeat.
[Video, 13 minutes, Arabic & English with English & Arabic subtitles]

Raafat Al Hajjan the Third – Ali Kays
The illusion of the return to paradise is a striking artifice of life. The more dead there are in paradise, the more the illusion dies. The re-vivification of Raafat Al Hajjan the Third was a futile act. That is, he fell under the charm of the same foreseen illusion. In fact, he enjoys his disguise and nothing will prevent him from wanting to return to paradise.
[Video, 14 minutes, Arabic with English subtitles]

Brain Cells – Rania Rafei
The light of a TV screen penetrates my brain cells.
The image imprints itself on my eye.
I try to save myself from brain damage... with a dance.
[Video, 14 minutes]

Schluss the Warrior – Ziad Saad
This is the story of Schluss the Warrior who asked to be dematerialized. He ended up in heaven, transformed into an image.
[Video, 3 minutes]

2mg of Rotten Blood on Pure White Snow – Rami Sabbagh
In the mid 80s, Beirut is at war. A group of young men wearing neat black clothing wander around the city by night. They occupy empty houses for a few hours and gather what they can of the furniture. In the darkness of the night, they move the goods to the mountains and sell them back to their owners. Each night after midnight, the young men meet in an empty movie theatre. There they watch films, smoke cigarettes, discuss cinema, and receive orders from an old man.
"I have one thing to tell you: one of these days I am going to cut myself into dear little frames and feed them into a live transmission. Alive again."
[Video, 20 minutes, Arabic with English subtitles]

Please Rewind Me Later – Roy Samaha
This project is intended as a way to investigate one's own past. It reconnects childhood homes, dreams, and VHStape to form a body that remembers. How to make a self-portrait without giving into the clichés of historical archiving?
"Make a map, not a tracing." (Gilles Deleuze & Félix Guattari)
[Video, 33 minutes, Arabic with English subtitles]

Affinity – Corine Shawi
I seek closeness just short of intimacy. I dwell in this liminal space, taking pleasure in writing myself into a melancholy fiction.
[Video, 30 minutes, Arabic with English subtitles]

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Special thanks to: Nadia Abu Mrad, Randa Asmar, Mohamad Ayoub, Negar Azimi & Bidoun, Youssef Bazzi, Odile Chenal, Igor Dobric, Fariba de Bruin, Bashir El Khoury, Mohammed Farhat, Wael Jamaledine & Dar El Kotob, Moukhtar Kocache, Vasif Kortun, Wietske Maas, Leila Mroue, Antoine Schweitzer, Rasha Salti, Roy Samaha, Raghida Tawileh & l'Agenda Culturel, Fadi Toufayli, Fadi Toufiq, Els van der Plas, Anton Vidokle & e-flux, Tammam Yamout, Rima Abou Chakra & Penguin Cube, and Zico.
Project team: Ghassan Salhab, Lina Saneh, Chaza Charafeddine, Masha Refka, Samar Kanafani, Mansour Aziz and Christine Tohme.

All events are free and open to the public
For more information: 01-360251 / 03-393807
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Video Works is produced in the framework of ALMOSTREAL (www.almostreal.org), a project initiated by the European Cultural Foundation (www.eurocult.org) and an integral part of its arts programme.

■ european cultural foundation

ALMOSTREAL

VIDEO WORKS

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Sunday April 15

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Biographies

Anthony Abou Khalifé
Born in Lebanon in 1981, Anthony Abou Khalifé is a video artist and musician who lives and works in Beirut. He majored in film studies at the Holy Spirit University of Kaslik (USEK), Lebanon. His video works include Dancing Was the Only Way of Avoiding Deafness (2006), The Final Act (2006), 3345 Frames to Nil (2005), Same Room with No Exit or Windows (2004), and We Suck Young Blood (2003).

Malek Anouti
Malek Anouti was born in Beirut in 1980. He studied graphic design at the Lebanese American University (LAU). His video Dislocating Beirut was screened at Beirut DC's Ayam Beirut Al Cinema'iyafestival in 2004.

Ali Cherri
Ali Cherri was born in Beirut in 1976. He studied graphic design at the American University of Beirut (AUB), and performing arts at Das Arts in Amsterdam. His work includes the videos Untitled (2006), and Un cercle autour du soleil (2005), and the performances Give Me a Body Then (2006), and As Dead as Ever (2005). Cherri has also worked as a set designer on a number of performances and plays such as The Anthem (2006) by Gabriel Yammine, 10/20 Irrelevant (2003) by Abla Khoury, and Biokhraphia (2001) by Lina Saneh and Rabih Mroué.

Ahmad Ghosien
Born in 1981 in Nabatieh, Lebanon, Ahmad Ghosien studied theatre at the Lebanese University. He has performed in several plays, including War on the Balcony (2003) by Omar Rajeh, and A Crime of Passion by Walid Fakhreddine (2003). His video works include Jump Cut (2006), Ashoura (2005), and Operation N... (2003). Ghosien's videos have been screened at Beirut DC's Ayam Beirut Al Cinema'iyafestival in 2006, the Carthage Film Festival in 2004, and the European Film Festival, Beirut in 2004. He was selected best short film director for Operation N... at the Middle East Film Festival, Beirut in 2004.

Rima Kaddissi
Born in 1978, Rima Kaddissi studied theatre directing at the Holy Spirit University of Kaslik (USEK), Lebanon, and performing arts at Das Arts in Amsterdam. She has worked in performance, video, and sound installation. Her installations include Let's Pretend that the Plastic Body Bleeds (2005), and An Unfinished Shower (2004). Her performances include Ac-tress (2006), and Post(er)-Body (2004). Her video works include Maquette (2006), Monologue (2004), and Five Minutes (2002). She has also made the web-based project, Download the Flesh and Blood (2004). She currently teaches performing arts at the Lebanese Academy of Fine Arts (ALBA).

Ali Kays
Ali Kays was born in Beirut in 1978. He studied fine arts at the Lebanese University and the Lebanese Academy of Fine Arts (ALBA). He has worked in painting, video and installation. Kays' video, Nothing Matters (2005), was shown in 2006 at NOMAD's screening program, Conscious in Comain Istanbul, at the Oberhausen International Short Film Festival, and the Festival International de Film et Vidéo de Création, Beirut. It was also featured in 2005 at Le TARMAC Festival, Paris, and at the Lebanese film festival "...né.à Beyrouth".

Rania Rafei
Rania Rafei was born in Lebanon in 1979. She majored in audiovisual and cinema studies at the Lebanese Academy of Fine Arts (ALBA). She has written and directed the short movies Smoking Kills (2006), Minimum Precautions (2006), The Dish (2005), Manchette (2005), and Harissa Texas (2004). Her interactive multimedia installation, The Light Traveller, was featured in the 2006 Festival Arborescence, in France.

Ziad Saad
Ziad Saad was born in Beirut in 1979. He majored in audiovisual and cinema studies at the Lebanese Academy of Fine Arts (ALBA), and has worked in film, video, and experimental music. He has written and directed the short 16mm films St. Michel Beach (2004), and Fucidin (2003). His music projects include I Pee Blue (2004), and Pop Will Save Us (2006), which was produced within the framework of a grant awarded by the Akademie Schloss Solitude, Stuttgart, in 2005-2006.

Rami Sabbagh
Born in 1979 in Beirut, Rami Sabbagh majored in audiovisual studies at the Institute for Performing Arts and Audiovisual Studies (IESAV) at Saint Joseph University (USJ), Lebanon. He has made the documentary film The Sound of Memory (2001). Since 2006, he has been making posters as part of an untitled street art project.

Roy Samaha
Born in Beirut in 1978, Roy Samaha majored in film studies at the Holy Spirit University of Kaslik (USEK), Lebanon. His videos include Pharmakon (2002), and the triptych Untitled for Several Reasons (2003), Pink White Green Black: Noise/Silence Insinuated (2005), and Video for the End of Time (2006). His work was screened at the Singapore Biennale in 2006, Beirut DC's Ayam Beirut Al Cinema'iyafestival in 2006, Disorientale in 2006, the House of World Cultures, Berlin in 2003, Videobrasil, Sao Paolo in 2003, Home Works II, Beirut in 2003, and the Lebanese film festival "...né.à Beyrouth" in 2002.

Corine Shawi
Born in Lebanon in 1981, Corine Shawi completed audiovisual and cinema studies at the Lebanese Academy of Fine Arts (ALBA). Her works include the documentaries Recycling Mentalities (2006), and What is Good for Us is Good for All (2005), and the videos Les femmes bonnes (2006), Daniela (2006) and Demain peut-être (2004).

