

LEEDS PALESTINIAN FILM FESTIVAL 2017

Non-classified films

All of the non-classified films that we are showing are documentaries. In various ways they illustrate different aspects of life in the Occupied Palestinian Territories and some contain newsreel-type images of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. Having read the BBFC classification guidelines and taking into account that some of these images may be distressing for younger children we suggest that all of the films be classified as suitable only for 15 years and older.

The films are listed below with brief synopses and links to the relevant websites.

Tricia Griffin, Leeds Palestinian Film Festival

THE OCCUPATION OF THE AMERICAN MIND

Saturday 18 November 5-8pm
The Carriageworks, Millenium Sq, LS2 3AD

“One of the most compelling and important documentaries in recent years” John Pilger

The film features leading observers of the Israeli–Palestinian conflict, exploring how the Israeli government, U.S. government, and the pro-Israel lobby have joined forces (often with very different motives) to shape American media coverage of the conflict in Israel’s favour. It provides a sweeping analysis of Israel’s decades-long battle for the hearts, minds, and tax dollars of the American people. Narrated by Roger Waters, lead singer of rock band Pink Floyd.

Loretta Alper & Jeremy Earp 2016 85mins USA
<http://mediaed.org/occupationmovie/about.html>

FIREFIGHTERS UNDER OCCUPATION

Film, food & talk night
With West Yorkshire Fire Brigade Union (FBU)

Friday 24 November
7pm Middle Eastern buffet 7.30pm Film and Q&A

The Old Fire Station, Gipton Approach, LS9 6NL

In 2011 a FBU delegation delivered fire fighting equipment to vastly under resourced firefighters in the West Bank. This new FBU supported documentary made by a South Wales firefighter and filmmaker, gives a unique insight into the life of firefighters in the world's longest running military occupation and why they say "our first enemy is the occupation – our second enemy is the fire".

Q&A session with the Director Ciaran Gibbons and retired firefighter Jim Malone.

Ciaran Gibbons 2016 100mins UK

<https://www.fbu.org.uk/blog/firefighters-under-occupation-0>

THE ACTIVIST AS FILM-MAKER

Saturday 9 December 2:00 pm - 4:30 pm

Blackwells Bookshop, 21 Woodhouse Lane, Leeds LS2 9HJ

THE FORGOTTEN

In a period of catastrophic human displacement in the Middle East, it is sobering to be made aware that the largest single refugee population in the world remains that of the Palestinians, ejected from their lands in 1948 to make way for the founding of the state of Israel. How has the politics of power rendered these long-term dispossessed and stateless people a largely forgotten reality?

Jon Pullman 25 minutes 2015 UK

<http://jonpullman.com/films/the-forgotten>

EXISTENCE IS RESISTANCE

An evening of three short films, photographic exhibition and conversation on the theme of 'Sumud' or 'steadfastness'.

Friday 8th December 7:00 pm - 10:00 pm

Inkwell Arts, 31 Potternewton Lane, LS7 3LW

Sumud: Everyday Resistance

Life under Israeli military occupation in the West Bank told through the stories of Palestinian women, not as victims but as drivers of change, proactive, engaged and dignified.

Bryan Gerard Duffy 2016 12 mins Subtitled

<http://www.bryangerardduffy.com/sumud-everyday-resistance-2016/>

Journey of a Sofa

We may think getting a newly purchased sofa home is tricky. But in the Shatila Palestinian refugee camp in Lebanon, it becomes a Sisyphean journey revealing the complexities and absurdities of everyday life in the camp.

Alaa Al Ali 2014 9 min Palestine Subtitled

<http://idiomfilm.com/movies/journey-of-a-sofa/>

Shireen of al-Walaja

An intimate, inspiring portrait of the day-to-day life of a dynamic popular resistance leader from Palestine who quit her job with the UN to return to her home village of al-Walaja and fight for its survival.

Daz Chandler 28 mins 2015 Australia/Palestine

<http://www.origamiflight.com/projects/shireen-of-al-walaja/>