

سبتمبر الجنوب العالمي

2025 المبرمجين A PROGRAMMER'S MEETING ملتقى ٢٠٢٥

CINEMA OF THE GLOBAL SOUTH

2-3 June

٢ - ٣ يونيو

SPEAKERS

AHMED REFAAT

Ahmed Refaat is a visual arts researcher, Film programmer and curator. With a focus on long term research projects, his work has produced film programs, discursive events, exhibitions, workshops and publications. In 2019, Refaat co-founded de*sync an experimental film night followed by a meal and a long discussion. He also reflects on art and cinema critically through writing reviews and research articles, published in outlets like Madamasr, Alam El-Kotob, Malafat NAAS and others.



ALIA AYMAN

Alia Ayman is a film curator, maker and scholar. She is a cofounder of the Cairo-based Zawya Cinema and an independent film programmer who has contributed to the programs of Berlinale Forum, The International Documentary Film Festival Amsterdam (IDFA), Flaherty NYC and Images Festival, among others. Currently, she is a Postdoctoral Teaching Fellow at New York University where she has also received a PhD in Anthropology, Culture and Media. She is a programmer for BlackStar Film Festival and The Arab Women Film Festival in Brazil. She lives and works between Cairo and New York.



AMAL SAADALLAH

Amal Saadallah is the co-founder of CinéMadart, a key institution for cinephilia and Art & Essai cinema in Tunisia. She holds academic degrees in French literature, sign language interpretation, and environmental communication. In 2007, she co-founded Cinéfilms, an independent film collective in Tunisia, and has been actively involved in the curation and organization of numerous festivals and cultural events since 2008. She has served on juries and steering committees for various film funds and festivals, including Khatawat, Doc House, and others. She also works as a translator and subtitle adapter for both films and theatrical productions.



In 2013, she co-founded HAKKA Distribution, a company committed to promoting and distributing Tunisian and international independent cinema in Tunisia. She is also a founding member of the non-profit association Echos Cinématographiques.

BUTHEINA KAZIM

Butheina Kazim is the founder of Cinema Akil, the only independent arthouse cinema in the Gulf region programming repertory cinema programs at their flagship home in Alserkal Avenue, at their new outpost in 25 Hours Hotel in Dubai and through the nomadic cinema across the GCC. She was awarded the title of Chevalier de l'Ordre des Arts et des Lettres by the French Ministry of Culture, an Asia21 Asia Society Fellow and was named by Fast Company Middle East as one of the Most Creative People in Business and a member of the Network of Arab Alternative Screens. As a Fulbright Scholar, Kazim obtained an MA in Media, Culture and Communication from New York University and she lives and works in Dubai. Instagram @butheinahk | X @butheina



BUNGA SIAGIAN

Bunga Siagian is an artist, curator, and cultural producer. Her current research and practices explore Indonesian leftists' internationalism and political-cinematic commitments during the decolonization era in the 1950s and 1960s. She is a co-founder of BKP, a study agency of land that situates its practices at the nexus of the arts, community, and legacy of colonialism.



CHRISTINE BOATENG

Christine Boateng is a filmmaker & film programmer based in Accra, Ghana. Her work and ideas often draw from her dreams, experiences, memories and intimate stories shared by people. She believes in the power of collaboration and in the beauty of belonging in a community or spaces that can harness her craft. She loves visually appealing work that captures the essence of family dynamics, identity, girlhood/sisterhood as well as culture which influences her filmmaking approach and style. Her work has found a way to audiences through Nowness, Indie Memphis Film Festival, Aesthetica Short Film Festival and International Festival of Films on Art.



Christine is the Operations Manager and Film Curator at Africa Film Society.

GREG DE CUIR JR

Greg de Cuir Jr is an independent curator, writer, lecturer and translator with 10+ years of experience in top-tier arts institutions and universities worldwide. He has organised programs for Anthology Film Archives in New York, Metrograph in New York, Eye Filmmuseum in Amsterdam, Locarno Film Festival and others. His writing has been published in MUBI Notebook, Metrograph Magazine, Cineaste, Millennium Film Journal and numerous anthologies and catalogs. He has lectured at Universität Basel, Universität Zürich, Goldsmiths, University of London, Universität Mainz, University of Chicago, Stanford University and others. De Cuir is co-founder + artistic director of Kinopravda Institute in Belgrade.



HANIA MROUE

Hania Mroué is the founder and director of Metropolis Cinema, Lebanon's first art house movie theatre, opened in 2006. She started in 2010 MC Distribution, a company dedicated to selling and distributing Arab and International independent titles in the MENA region. She is a founding member of Aflamuna (formerly Beirut DC) created in 1998, to promote and support independent Arab films. For 10 years she was the Managing Director of the Arab film Festival "Ayam Beirut al Cinema'iya". From 2010 to 2012, she was Chief Arab Programmer at the Doha Tribeca Film Festival. She served as jury member at several prestigious film festivals around the world such as Cannes (Semaine de la Critique), Berlinale, Cinema Du Réel and others. She is a consultant for Arab film programming and industry events at the Marrakesh International Film Festival since 2020.



JANAÍNA OLIVIERA

Janaína Oliveira is a film scholar and curator. Professor at the Federal Institute of Rio de Janeiro (IFRJ) and consultant for JustFilms - Ford Foundation, she has a PhD in History and was a Fulbright Visiting Scholar at the Center for African Studies at Howard University. Since 2009, she has been developing research and curating film programs, mainly focusing on Black and African Cinemas, as well as working as a consultant, jury member, and lecturer at various film festivals and institutions in Brazil and abroad. She is the founder of the Black Cinema Itinerant Forum (FICINE - www.ficine.org). Currently, she is a member of Fespaco's (Ouagadougou's Panafrican Film Festival) Selection Committee (Burkina Faso) and of Criterion Channel's curatorial board. She programmed the Flaherty Film Seminar in 2021 and will program again in 2025. Samples of her work can be seen at https://linktr.ee/jana_oliveiraa



KAIS ZAIED

Kais Zaied was born in Tunis in 1984. He is the co-founder of CinéMadart, an art-house cinema in Carthage (member of the International Confederation of Arthouse Cinemas and The Network of Arab Alternative Screens). Co-founder of Hakka Distribution, a distribution company specializing in independent cinema.

He is a founding member of "Association Echos cinématographiques"; specialized in the dissemination of film culture in schools and alternative environments. He directed 4 short films. He was the Director of the European Film Days in 2013 and he was also a member of the organizing committee of Carthage Film Festival (2010 and 2014). He was jury member in several film festivals as for the Art cinema award at Cannes Film Festival 2023 and Annecy Italian Cinema in 2021.



MOHANAD YAQUBI

Mohanad Yaqubi is a filmmaker, producer, and one of the founders of Idioms Film, an Arthouse production based in Ramallah since 2004. He is also a member of Subversive Film, a curatorial collective focused on researching and redistributing militant cinema from Palestine and beyond. Since 2017, he has been a lecturer and researcher at KASK School of the Arts in Ghent.



With a background in mechanical engineering and a Master's in Feature Films from Goldsmith University, London, Mohanad's research explores archival practices within transnational solidarity movements. His work examines the politics, aesthetics, and cinema,

while also considering imperfect archives as a way to connect living memories. His first feature film, *Off Frame AKA Revolution Until Victory* (2016), premiered at Toronto IFF, Berlinale, Cinéma du réel, Dubai IFF, and Carthage, among numerous other international premieres and screenings. His second feature, *R21 AKA Restoring Solidarity* (2022), debuted at Documenta 15, IDFA, Marrakesh FF, True/False, and Melbourne IFF, among others.