

# THE CULTURAL EMBASSY OF PALESTINE

## PALESTINIAN PHOTOGRAPHERS

19. 9. 2022 – 23. 9. 2022

### Ljubljana

Join us in the events of the eleventh edition of the Cultural Embassy of Palestine. This year's focus is on Palestinian photographers and photography as a medium to report on socio-political and cultural issues. Although we are often surrounded by images from Palestine we know little about the Palestinian photographers who authored them. This year's edition of the Cultural Embassy of Palestine will be held in collaboration with the Janez Boljka Gallery, Pritličje, the institute Divja misel Vodnikova domačija and the Slovene Cinematheque.

The Cultural Embassy of Palestine is an annual event intended to give voice to the Palestinian story, encourage a reflection, and advance the understanding of the ongoing events in Palestine through its culture, history, food, music and, ultimately, the Palestinian voice.

#### Monday, September 19 at 6:00 pm

Janez Boljka Gallery, Gornji trg 16, Ljubljana

#### Opening of the Cultural Embassy of Palestine

#### Images from Palestine: Palestinian Photographers from 1920 to the Present

The photographic exhibition is a tribute to the little known and therefore rarely showcased rich Palestinian photographic production. We will be joined by the director of photography, Ashraf Dowani.

Light refreshment.

#### Tuesday, September 20 at 7:30 pm

Vodnikova Domačija, Vodnikova cesta 65, Ljubljana

The event is also part of the Palestine in the Written Word series of events

#### Palestinian Photographic Archives in Israel

Screening of the documentary **Looted and Hidden – Palestinian Archives in Israel**, 46', 2017. The documentary, directed by the visual historian Rona Sela, is the result of a lengthy research into Palestinian archives looted or seized by Israel during the 20th century. The screening will be preceded by a conversation between Nada Pretnar from the Campaign for the Rights of the Palestinian People (in situ) and the Palestinian photographer Fatima Abbadi (online). Together they will discuss the significance of photographic archives in preserving historical memory. The event will be held in English.

#### Wednesday, September 21 at 7:00 pm

Pritličje, Mestni trg 2, Ljubljana

#### To Be a Palestinian Photographer Today

A panel discussion on photography as a means of reporting, of story telling and of documenting and witnessing human rights violations. As part of the events of the eleventh Cultural Embassy of Palestine, we will be hosting in situ the Palestinian photographer Fatima Abbadi who focuses both on street photography as well as on documenting the traditional Palestinian art of embroidery through photographic projects. We will be joined by the renowned Slovene photographer Jošt Franko, who began his photo-journalistic career in Gaza, Palestine and has recently turned to the visual recounting of stories of men and women forced either into seeking a new home in the Balkans or crossing the Balkan route on their way to a new home. Atia Darweesh will be joining us via Zoom from the Gaza Strip, in its 15th year of Israeli imposed blockade. From the south Hebron Hills we will be joined via Zoom by the photographer, activist and journalist Basil Al Adraa.

The discussion, facilitated by the journalist Kristina Božič, will be held in English.

#### Thursday, September 22 at 8:00 pm

The Slovene Cinematheque, Miklošičeva ulica, 28

#### Screening of the feature film **200 Meters (200 متر)** Palestine, Jordan, Qatar, Italy, Sweden, 2020, 96', directed by Ameen Nayef, English subtitles.

The film highlights how the more than 55 year ongoing Israeli military presence in the Occupied Palestinian Territories has created paradoxical and absurd everyday situations which shatter any chance of a normal life. The screening will be followed by a discussion with the Palestinian director of photography, Ashraf Dowani who worked on the shooting of the film. In conversation with Igor Prassel from the Slovene Cinematheque and Nada Pretnar from the Campaign for the Rights of the Palestinian People. The event is in English.