

Van: Eye On Palestine | Arts and Film Festival
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Monday 31st March | Brussels + Gent



Return to Haifa

Film by Kassem Hawal

Brussels | KVS | 18H

Kassem Hawal's adaptation of the Ghassan Kanafani novella Return to Haifa is a rarely seen gem. Kanafani's seminal allegorical story tells of Safia and Saeed, who are forced by gunfire and artillery to leave their 5 month old son Khaldoun in the city of Haifa when they are expelled in April 1948.

Twenty years on, with the 1967 war and the Israeli occupation of the West Bank and Gaza, the couple are able to travel to Haifa. They discover that Khaldoun, now Dov, was adopted by Jewish immigrants arriving in 1948, and – now 20 – has recently enlisted in the Israeli army. The story, and the film proceeds to pursue impossible questions such as what is a homeland, and whose is it? Or what is the way to Return to Haifa.

[More infos about this event](#)



Laila and the Wolves

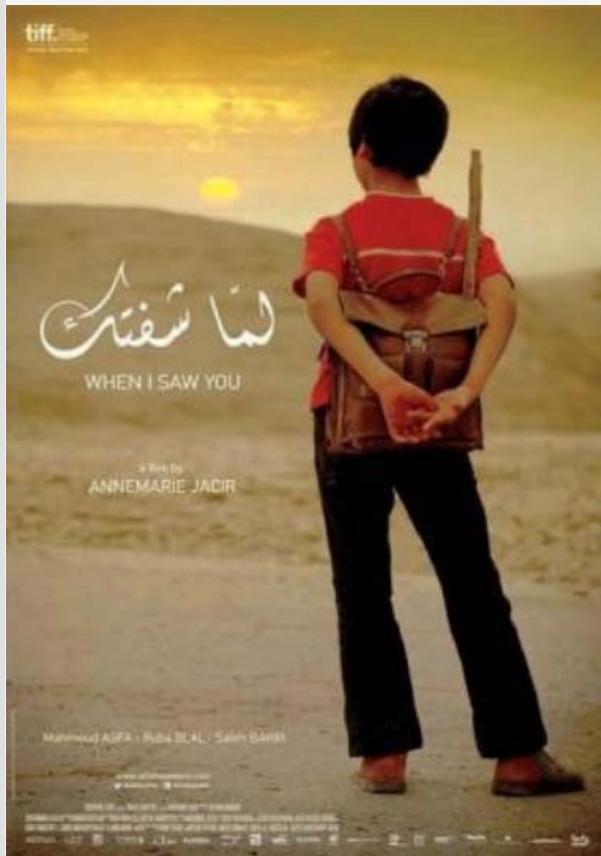
A film by Heiny Srour

**Followed by a Q&A with
Heiny Srour moderated by
Marie Vermeiren
Brussels | KVS | 20H**

Having survived numerous Beirut bombings, Leila's resilience is intended to symbolize the endurance of all Lebanese women. The "wolves," in this instance, are of the human variety: male predators who continue to rattle sabres and wage wars, no matter the price the innocent must pay. Curiously, while offering a feminist viewpoint, the film implies that the "liberated" Lebanese woman is

more a part of the problem than a part of the solution.

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When I Saw You

A film by Annemarie Jacir

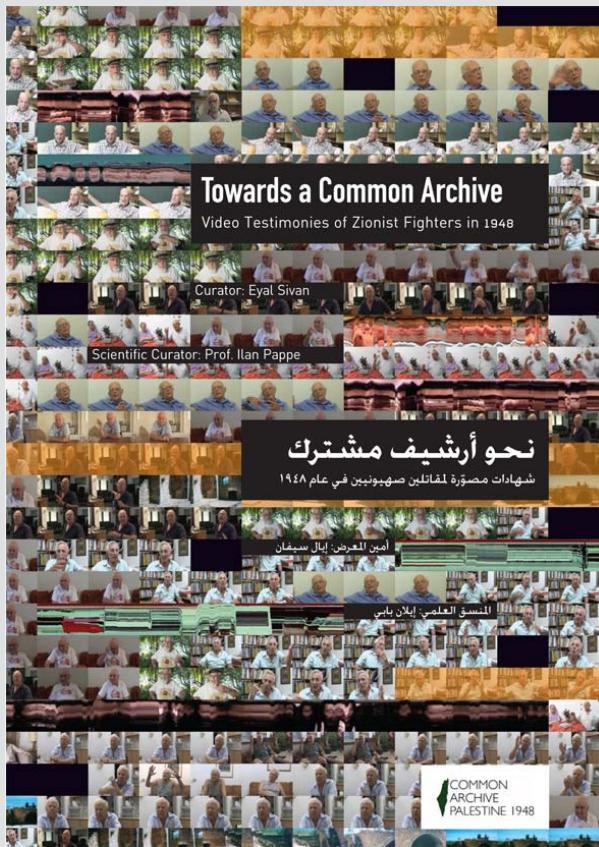
Gent | Sphinx | 20H

Jordan, 1967. Eleven year old Tarek and his mother Ghaydaa have fled Palestine due to the ongoing Israeli assault. They end up in a refugee camp near the Jordanian-Israeli border. In the chaos of their flight they lost track of Tarek's father. Every day more and more refugees arrive at the camp. Tarek and his mother continue to hope that one day his father will be among them. A few kilometres from the camp, even closer to the border, there is a training camp for Palestinian freedom fighters. Tarek is intrigued by what he sees happening there.

[More infos about this event](#)

Towards a Common Archive

Curated by Eyal Sivan and Ilan Pappe



Brussels | KVS | 16H-22H

Composed of 5 visual media installations, “Towards a Common Archive – Video Testimonies of Zionist Veterans of 1948 war” is both a documentary piece and an exhibition. This composite work was produced as a milestone in the development of two ongoing research and archival projects by filmmaker Eyal Sivan – Framing Perpetrators – and – Common Archive, Palestine 1948. Reflecting on a visual interrogation of perpetrators testimonies as primary actors/witnesses of acts of killing, population displacement, and forced exile, “Towards a Common Archive – Video Testimonies of Zionist Veterans of 1948 war” evolves as a spatial and online visual media show and proposes an experimental production laboratory and archive.

[More infos about this event](#)

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