

Film Festival

part of the 2004 Middle East & Central Asia Conference

Thursday Sept. 9th All shows at Univ. of Utah Union Theatre, unless otherwise indicated.

9:30 am "THE LADIES ROOM" (Iran: Mahnaz Afzali 2003) 55 min.

A women's washroom in a Tehran park becomes a meeting point where various troubled women swap stories.

1:00 pm "SEARCH FOR FREEDOM" (Pakistan: Munizae Jahangir 2003) 54 min.

A social and political history of Afghanistan from the personal accounts of four remarkable women.

2:00 pm "WOMEN LIKE US" (Iran/USA: Persheng Sadegh-Vaziri 2002) 60 min.

A revealing portrait of four ordinary Iranian women against the backdrop of Islam, revolution, repression, and war.

3:00 pm "PALESTINE IS STILL THE ISSUE" (USA: John Pilger 2002) 53 min.

Palestinians and Israelis shed light on what has become the longest military occupation of modern times.

4:00 pm "DIFFERENT DRUMMERS: DARING TO MAKE PEACE IN THE MIDEAST"

(USA: John Michalszyk 2003) 51 min. Some consider them heroes. This is a story of several Israeli peacemakers.

5:00 pm "ARARAT" (Canada: Atom Egoyan 2002) 115 min.

A dramatic film on the emotional topic of the 1915 massacres of ethnic Armenians living in Ottoman Turkey.

Friday Sept. 10th

9:00 am "PAYING THE PRICE: KILLING THE CHILDREN OF IRAQ" (USA: John Pilger 2000) 74 min.

The devastating double effects of bombings and UN sanctions on the ordinary peoples of Iraq during the 1990s.

11:00 am "BREAKING THE SILENCE: TRUTH AND LIES IN THE 'WAR ON TERROR'" (Pilger 2003)

What the mainstream media have avoided when reporting on the US-led 'war on terror' in Afghanistan and Iraq. 51 min.

12:00 noon "AFGHANISTAN: THE LOST TRUTH" (Iran: Yassamin Maleknasr 2003) 64 min.

A female Iranian film maker travels from Heart to Balkh surveying the post-Taliban perspectives of Afghani people.

2:00 PM PERSPECTIVES ON THE POST-9-11 WORLD in Union Building Saltair Room

Not a film. A special panel of experts featuring Michael C. Dunn (MidEast Institute, D.C.), Shirin Akiner (U. of London), Steve Zunes (U. of SF); and Ambassadors to the US: H. E. Kh. Zaripov of Tajikistan and H. E. I. Moustapha of Syria.

4:00 pm "HARAM" (Yemen: Fibi Kraus & Godrun Torrubia 2003) 52 min.

"... emotionally poignant and ... light-hearted portrayal of gender power dynamic" in contemporary Yemen. -S. Day

5:00 pm "RACHIDA" (France/Algeria: Yamina Bachir-Chouikh 2002) 100 min. In OSH Auditorium.

A dramatic portrayal of atrocities and terror in Algeria as experienced by a young woman.

Saturday Sept. 11th

8:00 am "AFGHANISTAN UNVEILED" (Afghanistan: Brigitte Brault 2003) 52 min.

The dual effects of the Taliban's repression and the U.S. military invasion on Afghanistan's women.

9:00 am "IRANIAN JOURNEY" (Iraq/UK: Maysoon Pachachi 1999) 54 min.

Transition in an Islamic society seen via Massoumeh's story, the first female long-distance bus driver in the MidEast.

11:00 am "OMAR KHAYYAM" (USA: Hassan Sherkat 2003) 30 min.

Life and times of the Persian poet, Khayyam. This session will also feature several presentations on poetry, music and the arts.

2:30 pm "FOR A PLACE UNDER THE HEAVENS" (Pakistan: Sabiha Sumar 2003) 53 min.

The coping mechanisms of Pakistani women in an increasingly fundamentalist civil and political atmosphere.

3:30 pm "IMMORTAL FORTRESS: A LOOK INSIDE CHECHYNA'S WARRIOR CULTURE"

(USA: Dodge Billingsley 1999) 52 min. When a great power's insistence on sovereignty and territorial integrity is in conflict with the resilient culture of national self-determination. Screening followed by Q & A with film maker.

5:00 pm "ANGEL ON THE RIGHT" (Tajikistan: Djamshed Usmanov 2002) 88 min. In OSH Auditorium.

Charm, imagination, bitterness, morally open ending, an enjoyable, idiosyncratic treat. -Anton Bitel