



THE CROWD BEHIND US

We look at and peer into this program under light refracted from its many sources of inspiration. Many of these sources stem from the unknown, and from the struggle with dark spaces, where we have only started to explore. These spaces, digital and physical, create a consciousness that is layered in previously impossible ways. Time, needs and stories press together and in their contact create. Faces look inward, look at each other and the bodies close around them - and, invisible in the crowd - stare into us as well, sparking actions and desires, and carrying with them a current of those just slightly behind. It is hard to tell, in the refracted light of these new motives, new shining thinkers and leaders and dreams if there is a single source for such vital energy - it clears and multiplies - and we are unable to tell exactly who will be gazed at next.

curated by Ala Younis

I

From the collection of the Arab Image Foundation, Beirut

The photographs depict intentional gatherings (1949 - 1980). They conjure a crowd which resonates with the spirit of public spaces. The photographs create a sense of the energy that is found in, and around these spaces in cities throughout the Arab world. The crowds had set out on a vector that extends past the borders of this presentation. The movement points towards the outside and beyond the edges of this space. In these pictures, the spectator as subject is framed, and is caught in a moment of looking outward, towards the masses.

Photographs by: Hassan Badran, Harout Dirmakarjian, Hashem Madani, Abdel Razzak Muhamad, Chafic el Soussi, Samaan Sahar, Paramount, Photo Maradji A.P.P.M., as well as anonymous photographers and studios.

Mohammadreza Farzad, *Into Thin Air* (Gom O Gour), 2010, 26 min. Farsi with English subtitles

A short film about the 'Bloody Friday' massacre, which took place on September 8th in 1979, concentrates on an excerpt of less than a minute of footage, and documents the shooting of people, unaware of an official curfew, by soldiers in Jaleh Square in Teheran. The film attempts to find out the possible identity of selected victims.

José Luis Martinat, *City*, 2006, 6 min

City is a video work where the artist appropriated old cartoon footage then meticulously removed every feature other than the buildings. The material of the film is a new formation, or 'deformation', which removes the original meaning of the work and creates the possibility of new associations and interpretations.

II

Jonathas de Andrade, *4000 disparos* (4000 shots), 2010, 60 min

One super-8 roll composed of anonymous male faces randomly captured, frame by frame, in the streets of Buenos Aires. The looping exhibition runs through this archive along with sound cycles of growing tension that combine urgency and past; yesterday and today; obsession and gesture repetition.

Vartan Avakian, *ShortWave/LongWave*, 2009, 7 min. Arabic with English subtitles

'Some cities have no voice.' - Vartan Avakian

Neil Beloufa, *Untitled* (Sans titre), 2010, 15 min. Arabic with English subtitles

A cardboard decor and photographs reconstitute a luxury Californian-type villa in Algeria. Neighbors and other protagonists imagine themselves there to explain why and how it was occupied by terrorists in order to hide whilst, paradoxically, it is entirely in glass.

Ahmad Ghossein, *My Father is still a Communist: Intimate Secrets to be Published* (Abi Ma Zala Sheuaayan, Asrar Hamema Leljameea), 2011, 32 min. Arabic with English subtitles

All that remains of Rashid Ghossein and Maream Hmadeh's relationship is a large collection of recorded messages, which capture their 10 years together during the height of the Lebanese civil war.

Maha Maamoun, *Domestic Tourism II* (Seyaha Dakheleyyah 2), 2009, 62 min.

Arabic with English subtitles

Domestic Tourism II explores the ways in which these iconic historical monuments can be reappropriated from the "timelessness" of the tourist postcard and reinscribed into the complex political, social, and historical moment in urban narratives.

Firas Taybeh, *Something from the Valley* (Shay' min al Wadi), 2011, 13 min.

Arabic with English subtitles

Something from the Valley is a comedy that takes place in the future where things go back to a primitive set in a desert where there has been a river that has gone dry, all inspired by folk stories from the Middle East.

III

Charlotte Moth, *Bétonsalon evening, Paris, France*, 2008, 12 min. English

Bétonsalon evening, Paris, France, 2008 was presented initially as a livework at an evening of artists presentations organised by the artist Falke Pisano at the Bétonsalon, Paris in January of 2008.

Marie Voignier, *Le Bruit du canon* (The cannon's blast), 2006, 27 min. French with English subtitles

Each year, a curse hits the Locarn region in Brittany. The sky is filled with blackness. In growing numbers, they taunt the farmers, swarm across the sky in huge, terrifying swoops, waiting for the final assault. The farmers observe their damaged crops helplessly, Abandoned by the public authorities, they are left to fight the war alone.

Curated for the Image Festival 2, organized by Insitut Français, Amman, 11 - 25 March 2012

I Diwan - 12 King Faisal Street. Sat-Fri 9a- 8p

II Containers - King Hussein Street. Sat-Fri 10a - 10p

III Institut Français Extension - Shari'a Street. Sat-Thu 9a - 9p

Left to right: photograph by Abdel Razzak Badran, collection of Arab Image Foundation collection. Video tills from the works of Ahmad Ghossein, Mohammadreza Farzad, Neil Beloufa, and Jonathas de Andrade. Right: Poster of Image Festival 2, 2012.



[RE]EVOLUTION

PEOPLE | NATURE | EMOTION

Awake or asleep, images belong to our knowledge, thoughts and emotions. This second edition of the Image Festival presents photographs and videos upon a specific lens, an editorial theme : « (re)evolution » as far as people, nature and emotions are concerned.

Evolution is a set of movements, considered to be coordinated, or rather a series of successive transformations. Or even, a complex process that allows living organisms to diversify and undergo changes in their shapes and/or in their key functions. The prefix « re » expresses the value of persistence; in spite of obstacles and doubts. The prefix « re » bears a reflection, a quest and awareness. So, as to recognize someone, shouldn't we, previously, know this person? At the very least, « re » expresses and proves evidence of willingness. Is it transgressive? Is it revolutionary?

The 2nd edition of the Image Festival combines works and researches by photographers and video artists who appropriated this editorial approach.

Celebrating 2 years, the Festival is already in (re)evolution.

The Institut Français in Jordan, its partners and sponsors, wish you an intense Festival.

1- ELECTRICITY HANGAR/GREATER AMMAN MUNICIPALITY (1-31 MARCH)

Sat. to Thu. 9 am-7 pm

Projections by Josef KOUDELKA from Magnum Photos Agency

INVASION

In August 1968, Warsaw Pact Armies invaded Czechoslovakia. 5000 tanks and hundreds of thousands of soldiers put down the rising democracy. Josef KOUDELKA took a series of photographs which were credited to «an unknown Czech photographer» to avoid reprisals. They were awarded the next year, the Overseas Press Club's Robert Capa Gold Medal and became icons of the event and symbols of the resistance.

CHAOS

"Chaos" is a selection of panoramic photographs which characterize Koudelka's vision over the past ten years. These images of landscapes are strangely paradoxical: a harsh witness to the anarchy that man has imposed on nature and on himself. It is the rebirth that fascinates the photographer: something that emerges and is still able to reconstruct a world that men must understand and reinvent.

[Re]evolution Art Photography Competition

EDUCATION REVOLUTION by Mohammed AL JOMAILY

The best revolution with the strongest weapon - Rich kids 2012 Jordan. The insistence on learning is the weapon of revolution on reality, which leads to positive changes.

WATER & AL BADIA by Oqba FARAJ

Concentrating on the water issue in Jordan, the exhibition is covering in an artistic eye Al-Badia with its dams and reserved area, showing how important water is to the cycle of wild life in particular and human life in general.

FILMMAKING REVOLUTION IN JORDAN by Dalia NABER

Who is behind the scene of the filmmaking revolution in Jordan? Are they cinema graduate, amateurs or film lovers? Let's meet the young generation who left their professional fields to become the pioneers of the film industry in Jordan.

2- RAS AL AIN GALLERY/GREATER AMMAN MUNICIPALITY (1-10TH MARCH) Sat. to Thu. 9 am-7 pm

[RE]EVOLUTION PHOTOGRAPHY COMPETITIONS

The best 20 photos selected from the regional photography competition and a selection of photographs from the Art photography competition.

3- JORDAN MEDIA INSTITUTE (3-14 MARCH) Sat. to Thu. 11 am-5 pm

LEBANESE CIVIL WAR by Ramzi HAIDAR

From the memory to the memory.

4- JORDAN NATIONAL GALLERY OF FINE ARTS (4-14 MARCH)

Everyday 9 am-5 pm except Tue. and Fri.

GLIMPSE

500 cameras were in the hands of 500 children from all Palestinian camps in Lebanon. This is life as they see it.

5- INSTITUT FRANÇAIS (5-31 MARCH)

Sat. to Thu. 9 am-9 pm

THE ARAB SPRING by the Arab AFP photojournalists

With the outbreak of revolutions in the Arab countries, in Tunisia, Egypt and Libya to the massive protests in Yemen and Syria, the AFP photojournalists covered the historic events to show the world what they saw through their lenses, as Mathew Brady said in the 19th century «the camera is the eye of History».

6- DAR AL ANDA (6-13 MARCH)

Sat. to Wed. 10 am-6 pm - Thu. 10 am-4 pm

REAWAKENING THE PAST by Kelvin BOWN

This exhibition offers to cast light on a way of life that is almost forgotten, illuminating past lives and views in areas of the Middle East. According to Kelvin BOWN, we have lost touch with a vital part of the roots of our existence – roots that could have brought creative evolution, rather than revolution.

7- PARIS CIRCLE (7-31 MARCH)

CROWDS

Collection from Jerusalem Biblical school

What bring crowds to gather in one place at one point? This exhibition - based on a collection of the Biblical School in Jerusalem - shows instances of multitudes of persons gathered for different purposes: pilgrimages, official visits, celebrations... from the end of the 19th century up to the 1930s, in different Middle Eastern countries. A testimony of what, at some point of history, constitute crucial stages or moments in the life of a society.

"[...] carried away by the crowd that pulls on us, tied to each other, we are but one single body, without effort, the flow pushes us, (...) and leaves us beaming, exhilarated and happy [...]" (extract from Edith Piaf, La Foule)

8- INTERCONTINENTAL-JORDAN (10-25 MARCH)

EVOLUTIONARY LIGHTS by Jean-Baptiste LEROUX

Jean-Baptiste LEROUX captures moments of eternity which sometimes cross one day, one hour, one second, and invite us to step back from our hectic lives. He chose those photographs for their universal language, their ability to communicate directly, without other intermediary than the language of light, with its subtle and poetic evolutions.

9- DARAT AL TASWEER (12-31 MARCH)

Sat. to Thu. 4 pm-8 pm

16 BARS by Nasser KAJALI

Arabic hip-hop has been the most vocal of the artistic protest movements in the Middle East, playing a significant role in the recent Arab revolutions. In the aftermath of these revolutions, hip-hop has come under the spotlight both regionally and internationally.

10- JACARANDA IMAGES (13-31 MARCH)

Everyday 11 am-8 pm

ABCD – A DREAM OF FOUR CITIES: AMMAN, BEIRUT, CAIRO, DAMASCUS by Charlotta SPARRE

Charlotta SPARRE shares her love of four cities and captures the essence of each. The images hold some parts of the past layered by humans living a modern life; reflecting on four societies holding on to their cultural diversities and similarities despite the continuous change in their economic and political environments.

11- JORDAN PHOTOGRAPHIC SOCIETY (15-31 MARCH)

Sat. to Thu. 10 am-3 pm - Tue. 10 am-9 pm

A collection of photos presented by the members of the Jordanian Photographic Society covering [Re] evolution, each in their own perspective.

12- CAIRO AMMAN BANK ART GALLERY (20 MARCH – 20 APRIL)

Sat. to Thu. 10 am-7 pm

"7x7"

7 Jordanian photographers reflect upon [Re] evolution in an artistic way. Abstract photography, motions and landscapes.

13- THE STUDIO (23-31 MARCH)

Everyday 11 am-8 pm - Fri. 4 pm-8 pm - Closed on Tue.

RE-FRAME

Group exhibition by talented young photographers displaying the [Re] evolution theme.

Venues:

1- Electricity Hangar/Greater Amman Municipality: 06 4736753

2- Ras Al Ain Gallery/Greater Amman Municipality: 06 4736753

3- Jordan Media Institute: 06 5713304/05/06

4- Jordan National Gallery of Fine Arts: 06 4630128

5- Institut Français: 06 4656863

6- Dar Al Anda: 06 4629599

7- Paris Circle: 06 4656863

8- Intercontinental-Jordan : 06 4641361

9- Darat Al Tasweer: 06 4611538

10- Jacaranda Images: 06 4644050

11- Jordan Photographic Society: 06 4632030

12- Cairo Amman Bank Art Gallery: 06 5006000



IMAGE FESTIVAL #2

1-31 MARCH 2012 | AMMAN

[RE]EVOLUTION

PEOPLE | NATURE | EMOTION

PHOTOGRAPHY & VIDEO

50 ARTISTS,
25 VENUES,
2 COMPETITIONS,
WORKSHOPS ...



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