

The Stanford Summer Human Rights Program, the Stanford Arts Institute and the Camera As Witness Program present three unique films demonstrating that the language of culture and arts are sometimes stronger than any other diplomatic tool.

## **CAMERA AS WITNESS: REFLECTIONS ON ART THROUGH DOCUMENTARY FILMMAKING**

Moderated by Jasmina Bojic, Camera As Witness Program Director and Founder of the international documentary film festival, UNAFF

**Thursdays at 7:00PM, CERAS Room 101, Stanford University**  
**FREE admission and OPEN to the public**

**Thursday | July 16 | 7:00PM**



*(Film screened at UNAFF 2012)*

### **Axis of Light**

*(60 min) Algeria/France/Iran/Jordan/Lebanon/Tunisia/UK*

Director: Nichola Bruce, Pia Getty

Producer: Pia Getty

A poignant observation through the work of eight leading artists discovering the beauty of the Middle East, which is often ignored, especially today where strife, anger and violence demand center stage in our media, and where stereotypes and prejudices distort our view of this region. Through their eyes, the film moves between the worlds of both the East and the West and the past and present, exploring the meaning of their existence, identity, conflicts of sexuality, the isolation of woman and the fragility of home and place. It is a story of hope, but one that recognizes the power of expression, often against all odds.

**Thursday | July 23 | 7:00PM**



*(Film screened at UNAFF 2013)*

### **The Noise of Cairo**

*(56 min) Egypt/Germany*

Director: Heiko Lange

Producers: Heiko Lange, Alexander von Sturmfeder

A cinematic adventure, following the interplay between art and the revolution in Egypt. Protest of any kind was punished violently in pre-revolutionary Egypt and artistic expression was considered nothing but a threat to the status quo. Since the fall of the Mubarak dictatorship, the art scene in Cairo is flourishing once again. How did the revolution of 2011 change Egyptian artists and their work? Twelve inspirational individuals from Cairo's cultural scene lead us on a journey to understand the unique role artists played during the revolution in Cairo. This documentary bears witness to Cairo's vibrant artistic underbelly, as it raises its voice once again. The artists of Cairo, who refused to quiet down, come together to be heard. These individuals create The Noise of Cairo.

**Thursday | July 30 | 7:00PM**



*(Film screened at UNAFF 2012)*

### **Going Up the Stairs**

*(52 min) France/Iran*

Director: Rokhsareh Ghaem Maghami

Akram is an illiterate, fifty-year-old Iranian woman who became a painter unexpectedly when her young grandson asked her to work on a drawing. That simple moment tapped into an explosion of powerful, primitive and colorful paintings, which she hid from disapproving eyes. When invited to exhibit in Paris, she is at the mercy of her conservative husband: Will he let her go showcase her raw talent or give in to his sense of tradition and keep her home?