

THIS IS NOT LIVING

A video-essay by Alia Arasoughly



Documentary, 2001, Palestine
42 minutes, Video, Color
English Subtitles

Credits:

Producer & Director: Alia Arasoughly
Camera: Majdi Bannoura
Assistant Camera: Tayseer Mahmoud - Muhannad Bannoura
Sound: Iyad Asi
Lighting: Muhannad Dhoha
Editor: Tareq Eid
Score: Said Murad
Mix: Jalal Hasan Ali



Synopsis

This Is Not Living features portraits of 8 Palestinian women from different social and religious backgrounds exploring how they live war and imagine peace in the profound depth of lived realities and felt pains. These are not unusual women, women leaders or exceptional women in the news media sense. They are media and theatre professionals, farming women, a cleaning woman, a boutique owner, a university student, a high school teenage girl, and housewives. These are the ordinary lives which make up the news and which the news makes invisible. They speak with passion, bewilderment, anger, rage and outrage...they situate themselves in a life of dignity and productivity, where their lives and actions are not reduced to a bundle of fear. They speak of profound losses - of self and direction, livelihood, land, homes and family members. They do not want the degrading, terrorizing drama of war.

Biography

Alia Arasoughly is a filmmaker, curator, film theorist and sociologist of culture, based in Ramallah. She served as a Media Consultant for two years, and now holds the same post with The Palestinian Initiative for the Promotion of Global Dialogue and Democracy - MIFTAH on the UNIFEM (United Nations Development Fund for Women) project Empowerment of Palestinian Women Leadership.

Festivals

Festival Internazionale Cinema delle Donne – *Festival's Peace Prize & Jury Honorable Mention*
Munich International Documentary Film Festival
Oberhausen International Short Film Festival
Melbourne International Film Festival
Milan International Film Festival, Italy
Sao Paulo International Film Festival
Rabat International Film Festival
Cinema Texas Film Festival

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