

Memory and Revolution

An Arabic Film Series at the Werkstatt der Kulturen

“Memory and Revolution” is the title of an Arabic Film Series, which is arranged in a cooperation between Mayadin Al-Tahrir e.V., “Europe in the Middle East – The Middle East in Europe” (EUME) and the Werkstatt der Kulturen. The films will be screened on October 8th, 15th and 22nd always at 7pm at the Werkstatt der Kulturen (Wissmannstraße 32, 12049 Berlin) with a discussion afterwards.

Programm:

08 October 2014, 7 pm: *Cursed be the Phosphate (Sami Tlili, Tunisia 2012)*

at the Werkstatt der Kulturen (Wissmannstraße 32, 12049 Berlin)

While the world watched Tunisians ousting their president in January 2011, few have followed key events that preceded this historic event. *Cursed be the Phosphate* takes its audience back to January 2008, in which a group of unemployed youths organized a sit in in the phosphate-producing town Redeyef. The Abu Dhabi Film Festival’s Best Arab Documentary identifies the labor strike as a key precursor of Tunisia’s revolution.

Discussion: **Viola Shafik** (Kairo / Berlin), **Leyla Dakhli** (Centre Marc Bloch, Berlin)

15 October 2014, 7 pm: *Jews of Egypt (Amir Ramses, Egypt 2013)*

at the Werkstatt der Kulturen (Wissmannstraße 32, 12049 Berlin)

Jews of Egypt is a documentary that provides insight into the lives of the Egyptian Jewish community in the first half of the twentieth century until the Suez Crisis in 1956, which led to the grand exodus of Egyptian Jews. In doing so, the film attempts to understand how political events impacted the lives of the Egyptian Jewish community and the perception of Jews by Egyptians.

Discussion: **Najat Abdulhaq** (Berlin) und **Georges Khalil** (Forum Transregionale Studien/EUME, Berlin)

22 October 2014, 7 pm: *ARIJ – Scent of Revolution (Viola Shafik, Egypt 2014)*

at the Werkstatt der Kulturen (Wissmannstraße 32, 12049 Berlin)

Arij – Scent of Revolution explores the past and present of revolutionary Egypt by interviewing four Egyptians with various backgrounds, of whom each tells his or her personal experience. The film maker’s inability to connect the different memories turns out to be correlated with a complex phenomenon: It is the Egyptian nation itself that has lost its aptitude to remember and connect.

Discussion: **Viola Shafik** (Kairo / Berlin) and **Mohamed Elshahed** (Cairo, Art Histories and Aesthetic Practices Fellow 2014/15 of the Forum Transregionale Studien)