



KUALA LUMPUR  
PALESTINE  
FILM FESTIVAL

2014

**END THE OCCUPATION!**

- Exciting Activities include:
- Photo exhibition 'Suspended Lives' by Asmaa Seba
  - Talk by Yasmine Perni, producer of 'The Stones Cry Out'
  - Talk and cooking demo by Laila El-Haddad, co-author of 'The Gaza Kitchen'
  - Book launch of 'Remember Us'
  - Charity Bazaar selling food, books, clothes, jewellery and many more

The Charity Premiere  
of 'A World Not Ours'  
will be at 2.30pm on  
6 Sep 2014.



**6-7 SEPTEMBER 2014 BLACK BOX-WHITE BOX AT MAPKL @ PUBLIKA**

Level G2-01, Block A5, Solaris Dutamas, 1, Jalan Dutamas 1, Kuala Lumpur

Organised by



[www.vpm.org.my](http://www.vpm.org.my)

Supported by



A member of the UEM Group

For more information, you may contact: Shida +6 011-1576 6527 or Azra +6 016 209 4500 or visit our website



## VPM Chairman's Message



The recent Gaza invasion is yet one more tragic story in a long, sad tragedy that has befallen a people whose story has been denied and distorted. The people of Gaza have become destitute in their homeland, more so the women and children. The dehumanization of the Palestinians of Gaza has been described as a crisis of human dignity. In the aftermath of the Gaza massacre, fifty NGOs formed the Coalition of Malaysian NGO's against the Persecution of Palestinians which was later renamed Viva Palestina Malaysia (VPM).

Since her inception in Jan 2009, VPM has been unrelenting in her pursuit towards advocating justice and self-determination for Palestine. In more tangible forms, VPM has transferred over RM 6 Million worth of funds to finance various medical, educational, micro-financing and women's projects and recently food, clean water and other emergency relief in Gaza.

Our previous two KL-Palestine Film Festivals (KLFFF) were resounding successes. This altruistic film fest screened to the Malaysian public highlights the sufferings and persecution of the Palestinian people under Zionist occupation of their lands. Our film screenings have opened to full house audiences and we have raised significant funding for various projects in Palestine. We are hopeful to raise a similar quantum through KLFFF 2014 to fund much needed ambulances with medical aid and the second phase of the rebuilding of Gaza after the recent invasion.

It would have been impossible to achieve the many milestones in our 'End the Occupation' campaign, towards a free and independent Palestine without the generous support of our individual and corporate donors, well wishers and sympathisers.

My eternal gratitude to the band of VPM die-hards and volunteers who have worked tirelessly and ungrudgingly to showcase the humanitarian crisis in Gaza through the medium of films and documentaries. We dedicate this KLFFF to the brave people of Gaza, whose resolve and spirit remain unbroken in the face of extreme odds. We salute the brave people of Gaza and together we await the promises of the Al-Mighty when He says, "Help from Allah and Victory is at hand" (Al-Quran 61:13).

Dato' Dr Musa Mohd Nordin

## Schedule Of Events

### Saturday, 6 September 2014

11.00 am	<b>The Stones Cry Out</b> (Black Box)
12.15 pm	Talk by Yasmine Perni about <i>The Stones Cry Out</i> (White Box)
2.00 pm	Talk by Laila El-Haddad (White Box)
2.30 pm	<b>Premiere: A World Not Ours</b> (Black Box)
4.00 pm	Book launch 'Remember Us' (Black Box)
4.30 pm	Book reading 'Remember Us' by Sameeha Elwan (White Box)
4.45 pm	Talk by Asmaa Seba about her exhibition (White Box)
5.15 pm	<b>Omar</b> (Black Box)
5.15 pm	Nakba dance (White Box)
8.30 pm	<b>Inch'Allah</b> (Black Box)

### Sunday, 7 September 2014

10.30 pm	Cooking demo by Laila El-Haddad at PickNik Cafe (Publika)
11.00 am	<b>Omar</b> (Black Box)
12.30 pm	Talk by Asmaa Seba about her exhibition (White Box)
1.00 pm	<b>A World Not Ours</b> (Black Box)
2.45 pm	Book reading 'Remember Us' by Sameeha Elwan (White Box)
3.00 pm	<b>The Stones Cry Out</b> (Black Box)
4.00 pm	Talk by Yasmine Perni about <i>The Stones Cry Out</i> (White Box)
4.20 pm	Book reading 'The Prisoners' Diaries' (White Box)
4.45 pm	Nakba dance (White Box)
5.00 pm	<b>Inch'Allah</b> (Black Box)

Our eternal gratitude to all Malaysians who have embraced the Palestinian cause. We are very grateful to all our donors, big and small, and we sincerely hope that you will continue to support VPM as we need your support for us to do our work. Donations can be made to:

- Pertubuhan Viva Palestina Malaysia
- Maybank account number: 5-64324-601324
- RHB Bank account number: 2-14277-00063582

For more information, visit us at:

- [www.vpm.org.my](http://www.vpm.org.my)
- [www.facebook.com/vivapalestinamalaysia](https://www.facebook.com/vivapalestinamalaysia)
- [twitter.com/VivaPalestinaMY](https://twitter.com/VivaPalestinaMY)
- [www.youtube.com/user/VivaPalestinaMY](https://www.youtube.com/user/VivaPalestinaMY)

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## A World Not Ours Documentary – 93 mins



An intimate, and often humorous, portrait of three generations of exile in the refugee camp of Ein el-Helweh, in southern Lebanon. Based on a wealth of personal recordings, family archives, and historical footage, the film is a sensitive, and illuminating study of belonging, friendship, and family in the lives of those for whom dispossession is the norm, and yearning their daily lives.

Filed over more than 20 years by multiple generations of the same family, *A World Not Ours* is more than just a family portrait; it is an attempt to record what is being forgotten, and mark what should not be erased from collective memory.

## Inch'Allah Drama – 102 mins



*Inch'Allah* looks at the emotional and psychological tolls that war has on the individual. A Canadian doctor named Chloé (Evelyn Brochu) find herself caught on both sides of the concrete wall that separates the two territories, both literally and figuratively. Chloé is hired to work in a clinic in Palestine and she lands the side job of being the personal nurse to a pregnant young Palestinian woman. As Chloé tends to

the wounds of Palestinians, she sees firsthand the violence and destruction that ravages the land through war.

Anchored by an excellent performance by Evelyn Brochu, through Chloé's strained and war-worn eyes, the audience sees a need to end the violence because it corrupts all.

## The Stones Cry Out Documentary – 56mins



Palestine is the cradle of Christianity, but 'the living aspect of Christianity in Palestine is disappearing,' warns Palestinian politician Hanan Ashrawi. Christianity was born in Palestine 2,000 years ago. From there it spread throughout the Middle East and the rest of the world. Yet many are unaware Christians still live in the land. For more than 60 years, the Palestinians, Christians and Muslims have suffered displacement, expulsion, wars, occupation and oppression. The voices of Palestinian Christians have all too often been drowned out in the turmoil of events. This is their story, in their voices, from the Nakba of 1948 until today as they recount the unwavering and sometimes desperate struggle of all Palestinians to resist Israel's occupation and stay on their land.

## Omar Drama Thriller – 96mins



Nominated for best foreign language film at the Academy Awards 2014

*Omar* tells the story of the Palestinian-Israeli conflict from the Palestinian point of view in a way that no movie has done before. A young Palestinian freedom fighter agrees to work as an informant after he's tricked into an admission of guilt by association in an Israeli soldier's killing.

The central theme is the relationships between people on both sides of the fence, be it family, lovers, friends or schoolmates. The separation wall play a visible role in the plot, a literally high obstacle to be crossed to maintain contact.

This movie contains elements that one looks for in a movie: it has action scenes, dramatic events of betrayal and honesty, a pure and naive love story, friendship, funny scenes, and above all, it makes the audience ask questions and think.

## The Exhibition

A photo exhibition by Algerian-Belgian photographer **Seba Asmaa El Mourabiti** who spent 6 months in Gaza. It comprises



A Suspended Life, an exhibition introduced by photographer, Asmaa Seba.

24 portraits of Palestinian women – all former detainees of the Israeli State and it's the first time the subject is being photographed!

Each portrait is presented with the individual's story giving the viewer unique access to each prisoner's experience. The stories



reveal how harshly the lives of these Palestinian women were disrupted. Some ex detainees had to give birth in prison and their child stayed with them in prison for 2-3 years. Some never got married because they were too old by the time they went back to their families... each story shows how their lives were broken hence, 'Suspended lives'.

The women photographed were asked to hold an item that represents something precious in their lives as a way for them to share their beautiful memories, their hopes and dreams.

## The Speakers



**Yasmine Perni** moved from her native Italy to the Middle East when she was 13 years old, living in Sudan, Egypt, Saudi Arabia, Syria, Jordan and Jerusalem. A graduate of the University of London's School of Oriental and African Studies, she has worked as a journalist, photographer, television producer and mother. She speaks Italian, English, Swedish and Arabic.

Perni went into documentary filmmaking inspired by the Christians of Palestine, whose story of perseverance and pride has been largely obscured by the headlines. For this documentary, she conducted extensive research, combed through official Palestinian, Israeli and United Nations film archives, and traveled the length and breadth of historic Palestine.

Married and with three children, she recently returned to live in Italy but frequently travels back to the Middle East.



**Laila El-Haddad**, author of *Gaza Mom: Palestine, Politics, Parenting, and Everything In Between* and co-author of *The Gaza Kitchen: A Palestinian Culinary Journey*, is a talented blogger, political analyst, social activist, and parent-of-three from Gaza City. She is also a contributing author to *The Goldstone Report: The Legacy of the Landmark Investigation of the Gaza Conflict*, and a policy advisor with al-Shabaka, the Palestinian Policy Network.



*The Gaza Kitchen* is a cookbook which serves as an introduction to daily life in the embattled Gaza Strip: a visit to the intimate everyday spaces which never appear in the news. The recipes present the enticingly herby, peppery, lemony tastes of Gazan home-cooking,

largely unknown to outsiders, while conversations with cooks, farmers, economists and others provide an extraordinary glimpse into daily life for the 1.7 million inhabitants of the isolated enclave. The book brings Gaza and its people to life.

"An important book on an egregiously under-appreciated, under-reported area of gastronomy. This is old school in the best possible meaning of the term."

— **Anthony Bourdain**

chef, author, and host of "Anthony Bourdain: No Reservations"

## Utilisation Of Funds To Be Raised

Proceeds raised through this KLPFF will be used to fund ambulances with medical aid which is badly in need after the last attack on Gaza and also to fund the second phase of the 'Rebuilding of Gaza'.