



OCCUPATION!

**ALAM**  
A film by Firas Khoury

**tiff**





# ALAM

tiff

COMING OF AGE, DRAMA, POLITICAL | ARABIC  
FRANCE, TUNISIA, PALESTINE, SAUDI ARABIA, QATAR | 110

*Written and directed by*  
Firas Khoury

*Production Companies*

MPM Film, Paprika Films, Philistine Films, Red Sea Film Festival Foundation, Metafora Productions,  
Lacydon Bay Productions

*Producers*

Marie-Pierre Macia, Claire Gadéa, Naomie Lagadec

*Co-producers*

Ossama Bawardi, Melik Kochbati, Richard Djoudi, Red Sea Film Foundation, Metafora Productions

*Starring*

Mahmood Bakri, Sereen Khass, Mohammad Karaki, Muhammad Abed Elrahman,  
Ahmad Zaghmouri, Saleh Bakri

*DPO*

Frida Marzouk

*Editor*

Nadia Ben Rachid





### *SYNOPSIS*

**In a Palestinian town, Tamer and his friends lead a typical high school student's life until the arrival of the beautiful Maysaa'. To please her, Tamer agrees to take part in a mysterious flag operation on the eve of Israel's Independence Day which is a mourning day for Palestinians.**





بشعب بالفرن  
ولا الفن بلعب  
بالس...







### *DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT*

**In this film I wish to give prominence to the Palestinian youth, who have willingly and despite all chosen to turn their peaceful struggle against injustice their primary vocation. High school students with courageous souls have become a great source of inspiration to me, since I began following and observing them in recent years.**

**My aim in this film is to expose their struggle to define and reinvent themselves, as well as to bring forth their personal story. I wish to show the world that a Palestinian teenager is no different from any other around the world, they have similar dreams and aspirations, and they seek to embark on new experiences, to find love and recognition while transforming into adults. This, I believe, would contribute to how Palestinians are perceived beyond the eye of the media. It is also an attempt to bring into light under which circumstances the Palestinian youth is forced to develop, the sharp existential contradictions they are subjected to at a young age. In that sense, ALAM is a story of a collective, embodied in the life of a young man (Tamer), who wishes to step out of the safe zone of passive fear into the light of freedom. But as always, freedom does not come without sacrifice. Tamer will know freedom only if he is willing to pay the price.**







## *DIRECTOR'S BIOGRAPHY AND FILMOGRAPHY*

Firas Khoury is Palestinian scriptwriter and director. He graduated with a Bachelor of Arts in cinema. Khoury has several short films to his credit; among them are the award-winning movies *Seven Days in Deir Bu-lus* (2007) and *Yellow Mums* (2010). These films were broadcast in festivals around the world but also on TV channels, including Arte and VVD. In 2019 he finished his next short, *Maradona's Legs*, which has received the Robert Bosch Stiftung Film Prize that year and also the support of Berlin Medienboard. The movie was shown at the Palm Springs Film Festival.

MARADONA'S LEGS, short film, 2019  
SUFFIR/YELLOW MUMS, short film, 2010







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