

The Japan Foundation Arab Film Festival 2007

The Japan Foundation will present the third annual Arab Film Festival. This year's highlight is the first major retrospective in Japan on films made in Egypt, known as the Hollywood of the Arab world. Other programs will include the first screenings in Japan of films from Saudi Arabia and Yemen, two countries with emerging film industries, and symposiums with diverse international guests.

Dates: Friday, March 9 to Sunday, March 18, 2007

Venue: OAG Hall, First Floor, OAG Haus

7-5-56 Akasaka Minato-ku Tokyo

Nearest station: Aoyama-itchome (Ginza, Hanzomon, and Oedo subway lines), Exit 4

Admission: Single tickets 800 yen (1,000 yen at the door)

New Arab Cinema

Introducing five films from Algeria, Morocco, Saudi Arabia, Tunisia, and Yemen released in 2004 and 2005.

Egyptian Film Retrospective: Celebrating 50 Years of Japan-Egypt Cultural Exchange

Presenting 12 masterpieces old and new from Egypt, the leader of Arab cinema, including *Feud in the Valley* (1954), the first film starring Omar Sharif, and *The Yacoubian Building* (2006), winner of the grand prix at the Biennale of Arab Cinema in Paris.

Symposiums

Guest lists are tentative. Admission is free.

1. Symposium on Egyptian Cinema 2007 (16:30, Saturday, March 10, 2007)

Guests: Daoud Abdel Sayyid, director of *Land of Fear* (Egypt)

Ali Abou Shadi, Egyptian Film Center, Cairo (Egypt)

Magda Wassef, Institut du Monde Arab, Paris (France-Egypt)

Al-moamen Abdalla, Daito Bunka University, Japan (Egypt)

Mitsuko Sano, Keio University, Japan (Japan)

2. Symposium on Arab Cinema 2007 (16:30, Sunday, March 11, 2007)

Guests: Nacer Khemir, director of *Bab'Aziz* (Tunisia)

Abdullah Al-Muheisen, director of *Shadow of Silence* (Saudi Arabia)

Ahcene Benzerari, actor (Algeria)

For more information, please see: http://www.jpff.go.jp/e/culture/topics/movie/arab_2007.html

Inquiries and media contact: PIA Corporation (Secretariat for the Arab Film Festival 2007)

Tel.: 03-3265-1040 (Mon. to Fri., 10:00-18:00)