



The Washington, DC
International Film Festival

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MEDIA ADVISORY
For September 4, 2009

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Arabian Sights Film Festival 2009
Contemporary Arab Cinema

WHAT: The 14th Annual Arabian Sights Film Festival offers a diverse selection of the newest, most provocative, and inspiring films from today's Arab world. Films are Washington, DC premieres and are screened with English subtitles. This year's selection includes:

- **FAWZEYA'S SECRET RECIPE**, Egypt (Taormina Film Festival Winner and guest director Magdy Ahmed Aly in attendance)
- **A FIANCÉ FOR YASMINA**, Morocco/Spain
- **FRANÇAISE**, Morocco/France
- **HASSAN & MORCOS**, Egypt (starring Omar Sharif)
- **LAILA'S BIRTHDAY**, Palestine
- **LONDON RIVER**, Algeria/UK (Jury Award and Best Actor Winner, Berlin Film Festival)
- **THE LONG NIGHT**, Syria (Best Film at Taormina Film Festival)
- **THE LOSING BET**, Yemen
- **MASQUERADES**, Algeria (Best Film at Dubai Film Festival, Algeria's 2009 Oscar submission, Oct 17th screening followed by a reception at The National Geographic Society)
- **NUMBER ONE**, Morocco
- **OPEN SHUTTERS IRAQ**, Iraq (Documentary with guest director, Maysoon Pachachi, in attendance)
- **A ROAD TO MECCA**, Austria (Jury Award, 2008 FIDADOC Film Festival, Morocco)
- **WELCOME**, France (Jury Award Winner, Berlin Film Festival)

For more information on this series call 202-234-FILM or visit filmfestdc.org and click on the *Arabian Sights* link.

WHY: The *Arabian Sights* Film Festival showcases films that demonstrate the range and commitment of Arab directors, a number of whom will be present at their screenings, who invariably manage to tell moving stories while exploring issues facing their region.

WHEN: October 9 - 18, 2009

WHERE: Screenings will be held at **Landmark's E Street Cinema** (555 11th Street, NW, Metro Center or Gallery Place/Chinatown Metro) and **The National Geographic Society** (1600 M Street, NW, Farragut North Metro).

COST: \$10 per person unless otherwise noted. Discount Package – 10 tickets for \$85 (not including October 17th screening of **MASQUERADES** and reception).

MORE INFORMATION: A complete slate release with descriptions, special guests and dates will follow mid-September.

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