



### Washington, DC's Longest-Running Arab Film Festival Goes Virtual

50 Films • 35 Countries • 10 Days • 1 Amazing Festival

*The 25th Annual Arabian Sights Film Festival to take place virtually in conjunction with  
Filmfest DC  
Oct 2-11, 2020*

**WASHINGTON, DC** –[The Arabian Sights Film Festival](http://www.filmfestdc.org) is back for its 25th year in Washington, DC, bringing the best and most exciting new films from the Arab World. In the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic, this year's festival will be presented completely online, in conjunction with the Washington, DC International Film Festival (Filmfest DC), Washington's longest-running film festival. This year's festival kicks off on October 2<sup>nd</sup> and runs through October 11<sup>th</sup>.

The 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of *Arabian Sights* will feature 5 films, divided into two series – two of the films will be available in the first 5 days and the rest during the second 5 days.

The films featured in this year's festival include Lebanon's official selection for the 92<sup>nd</sup> Academy Awards, **1982**; the North American Premiere of Najwa Najjar's (director of Oscar entry *Eyes of a Thief*) Palestinian road movie **Between Heaven and Earth**; Toronto International Film Festival's breakout Tunisian film **Noura's Dream** by Hinde Boujemaa; **A Son**, the exciting debut from Tunisian director Mehdi M. Barsaoui, featuring one of the world's best thespians, Cannes Film Festival Best Actor winner Sami Bouajila; and **This is Not a Movie**, a documentary portrait of award winning Middle East correspondent Robert Fisk. All films are screened with English subtitles.

Tickets per film will run \$9. The entire festival – including films, interviews and evening hangouts - will be conducted via Filmfest DC's website. For the full schedule, program and ticket information, please visit the festival website at: [www.filmfestdc.org](http://www.filmfestdc.org)

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For 25 years, the **Arabian Sights Film Festival** has showcased the most intriguing films exploring issues facing the Arab region. The festival has celebrated established filmmakers and also bolstered new voices in Arab cinema. *Arabian Sights* is dedicated to



presenting timely and nuanced films in the hopes of increasing clarity and civil discourse around a region often underrepresented and caricatured in the Western film industry.

Filmfest DC is the parent organization of *Arabian Sights*. Both festivals are made possible by the support of our Board of Directors, sponsors, staff and hundreds of volunteers. Filmfest DC and *Arabian Sights* believe that good movies make the world a better place. [www.filmfestdc.org](http://www.filmfestdc.org)

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