THE JORDANTIMES SPECIAL ISSUE 3rd March 2013 Company of the property of the



Thierry BOUËT, photographer.

I'M HERE

In order for a piece of work to be successful, the author must impose a ghostly presence. The equation between this theory and the theme Macro and Me leads to a representation of the artist's work on an infinitely small compared to the immensity of the environment. The photographer is a transmitter of echoes, adding his own orchestration.

While the magic in Jordan landscapes imposes its strength, the physical being of the photographer puts the size of man in perspective to the world. As a contradictory act of humility and as a proclamation, it is vital for the artist to struggle against the unceasing question of existence. Will is the fire starter of a work of art.

What makes the difference in a photograph is its thickness regardless of the weight of the paper. It takes shape in the ability to transform the image. The artist starts with an observation, a feeling, an occurrence or a dream, which he attempts to embody. This is what provides justification to the existence of creation. Emotion, an indefinable melody feels like a wave of warmth in the desert that cannot be captured with tools. As Charles-Henri Gros, director of the Institut français, states, culture is a trilogy of knowledge, thought and emotion.



Photographer Thierry BOUËT chose to include himself in each of the 17 following landscapes so as to illustrate the theme of the festival: Macro & Me. Find him!





Wadi Rum desert. This rock, round as a planet, embedded in the sand, catches my eye. For a moment, I own this planet and I cherish the pleasure of peace.

Thierry BOUËT, photographer

After graduating in Law, Thierry Bouët starts practicing professional photography by assisting fashion photographer Tony Kent. Later on he becomes Art Director at Studio Harcourt. He then finds the independance he is looking for by collaborating with international magazines. In 1995, he exhibits «Hotel People», exploring the stories of lifelong hotel residents. The success of this first convinces him to produce his own work. In 2000, he is voted «One of the five best photographers in the World» by GQ Magazine. Since then, his exhibitions travel around the world, presenting an ironic study of human beings behavior, their relationships and their social backgrounds.

He is granted the chevalier des Arts et des Lettres honor in 2011.















SPONSORS













MEDIA PARTNERS

















Qasr al-Kharaneh. Attracted by this design, I climb this cube planted in the desert while I hear the command of my own humility to stay ashore.

Image Festival program – 1-31 MARCH 2013 – Amman

1- Paris Circle (1 - 31 March)

PILGRIMS TO MAKKAH, 1908 Collection from Jerusalem Biblical School (JBS)

A selection of photographs from the Hussayni Collection recording the pilgrimage to Makkah in 1908, when the political map of the region was



maintained by the skilful equilibrium of the Ottomans. The collection focuses on the pilgrims' crowds, allowing one to accompany individuals in their spiritual journey. It provides a last glance on a world that has since disappeared, a testimony of history of devotion and regional History.

Presentation of the exhibition by Jean-Michel de Tarragon and Jean-Baptiste Humbert (JBS) - 2 March - 5 pm

2- Jordan National Gallery of Fine Arts Garden (1 - 31 March)

GAZA SEEN BY ITS CHILDREN by Asmaa El Mourabiti

6 children* from Khan Yunes and Jabaliya refugees camps received 3 weeks intense photography workshop on how to use a camera. They recorded their basic daily life, its difficulties but also joyful moments. The collection gives us a testimony about their fears, dreams and hopes in a critical environment, far larger than them.



* Walla Abu Musa, Nada Awad, Motassim Bachir, Walla Draz, Abdelfatah Salah, Rami Abu Jalila.

Presentation of the exhibition by Asmaa El Mourabiti - 7 & 9 March - 5 pm

3-Institut Francais (3 - 31 March)

Sat. to Thu. 9 am- 9 pm

I'M HERE Projection by Thierry Bouët (3 - 31 March)

"All men dream to find themselves alone in the desert one day. The chosen solitude is a form of infinitesimal search of identity. To find yourself, you must step out of your self and look at yourself in the cosmos." Thierry Bouët



Official opening on March 3 at 6:30 pm, in the presence of Thierry Bouët.

SAND BUBBLER By Linda Al Khoury (12 - 31 March)

The sand bubbler is a micro crab less than 1cm long that lives on the Red Sea shore. It appears during the low tide and scours the sand for food. The artist depicts the tracks left by the bubbler through minimal photography.



Official opening on March 12 at $6:30\,\mathrm{pm}$, in the presence of Linda Al Khoury.

4- Cairo Amman Bank Gallery (4 March -1 April)

Sat. to Thu. 10 am -7 pm

UNDER THE WOUND OF THE SUN By Ahmad Mahseri

Mahseri takes us on a personal journey back to his homeland, Palestine, after long years of exile. Recording the results of the historical tragedy of the Nakba, he transmits the wounds of the Diaspora generation that was never able to live there. He explores the contradicting themes of personal imagination versus reality.



Official opening on March 4 at 6 pm, in the presence of Ahmad Mahseri.

5- Nabad Gallery (5 March -17 April) Sat. to Thu. 10 am -1:30 pm - 4 pm -7 pm

WATCHING TV By Olivier Culmann (5 - 14 March)

"Olivier Culmann photographs people watching TV. And their TV sets. Nothing could be more banal. And nothing more unsettling. Because that is how, in quasi-immobile passivity, when the brain has gone numb, that we, television viewers, receive the world



in its entirety. Not the real world, but an image of that world, a ghostly version of reality." Cécile Cazenave, journalist.

Official opening on March 5 at 6 pm.

ICONOGRAPHIES By Eman Haram (18 March - 17 April)

"Iconographies is an attempt to re-assemble a vanishing homeland outside delineated maps and contentious geographical boundaries. The artist reclaims familiar iconic symbols and narratives, historically connected with Palestine and layers them with added signification, to reach a new vision of a denied homeland beyond the concrete to the mythical and spiritual." Eman Haram



Official opening on March 18 at 6 pm, in the presence of Eman Haram.

6- Jacaranda Images (12 February - 10 March)

Everyday 11 am - 8 pm

PAPER BOATS By Mohammad Shammarey

In this exhibition the artist takes the concept of the game of a flimsy paper boat, destined for one trip down a stream, and reveals a complex array of ideas with far reaching consequences for those who play it. Shammarey explores with satire the complex issue of the business of immigration where boats were the earliest mode of transport for early immigrants from Europe and Africa to the USA either by choice or forced.



Presentation of the exhibition in the presence of Mohammad Shammarey - 6 March - 6 pm.

7-Darat al Tasweer (10 - 31 March)

Sat. to Thu. 10 am – 2 pm – 4 pm – 7 pm

A TALE OF INNOCENCE By Muath Freij

"These children are too small for such big events. The world itself is too vulnerable before such ruthless storms."



In Zaatari Camp, the camera records that mixture of misery and hope, early maturity and sheer innocence, just for the record, another entry in the world's registry of human tragedies.

Official opening on March 10 at 7 pm, in the presence of Muath Freij.

8- Zara Gallery (11 March - 1st April)

Sun. to Thu. 11 am - 7 pm

EXPANSION By Faridon Abida

Taking the Dead Sea as his point of inspiration, the artist's lens brings to the viewer an in depth analysis of the mud and salt crystals native to its coastline. With nuclear-like force, the textures and forms of the minerals



simultaneously implode and explode psychedelically within the confines of his photographs. These artful views capture the mighty - yet quiet - beauty of the shoreline through macro photography.

Official opening on March 11 at 6:30 pm, in the presence of Faridon Abida.

9- Jordan National Gallery of Fine Arts (13 - 27 March)

Everyday 9 am - 5 pm except Tue. and Fri.

PRELUDE By Nadia Bat

Through this series of work, the photographer transmits the magical arrival of a newborn and explores the contradicting paradigm accompanying this event; how such a small human being can suddenly turn our life upside down and take an unprecedented dimension in our lives?



4

Image Festival program - 1-31 MARCH 2013 - Amman

WOMAN OF THE GLOBE By Zein Salti

"My blood is genetically Arab, but I believe I'm a citizen of the Globe."

What impact can distance and city environment have on one's identity building? Zein's work sheds light on the relationship between arts, immigration and the formation of cultural identity.





Official opening on March 13 at 6 pm, in the presence of both artists Nadia Bata and Zein Salti.

10- The Duke's Diwan (14 - 31 March)

Everyday 9 am-8 pm

RETRO Collection from the Arab Image Foundation

We live in a society of mass consumerism, a lively concept quite difficult to embrace. How did it start? With this retrospective of Tufic Yazbek's work, a photographer from Lebanese origins, the exhibition displays commercial photographs of international brands from the 60's -70's when consumerism was still at an early stage.



Official opening on March 14 at 6 pm.

11- Ras Al Ain Gallery/Greater Amman Municipality (15 - 23 March)

Sat. to Thu. 9 am- 7 pm

LOW RESOLUTION By Tamara Awad

With this photography collection, the artist takes us inside the world of a tiny creature, the ant, by letting us see through its eyes. The result accomplishes itself in a collection of low resolution images, where colors and blurry vision absorb us in a conceptual world.



Official opening on March 15 at 7 pm, in the presence of Tamara Awad.

12- Dar al Anda (16 - 31 March)

Sat. to Wed. 10 am - 6 pm - Thu. 10 am - 4 pm

THE ISLAND By Vincent Catala

"Insular, isolated, apathetic yet defiant. A glimpse of a suspended downfall. Such is the backdrop of this ongoing project. Space and individuals are envisaged together in the form of silent correspondences and confronted scales." Vincent Catala.



Official opening on March 21 at 6 pm, in the presence of Vincent Catala.

13- Electricity Hangar/Greater Amman Municipality (17 - 31 March)

Sat. to Thu. 9 am – 7 pm

MEN AT SEA Projection by Jean Gaumy From Magnum Photos Agency

a difficult and disappearing way of life.



In evocative, dramatic black & white photographs, this compelling exhibition depicts the seagoing lives of commercial fisherman as never before. On four long voyages between 1984 and 1998, photographer and sailor Jean Gaumy lived at sea, documenting the fisherman's daily struggle. He braved the high seas on the first open-decked trawlers, remnants of an earlier age. Gaumy's love of the

trawlers, remnants of an earlier age. Gaumy's love of the sea, of boats, and of the thrill of the catch shines through this stirring tribute to

MACRO & ME Art Photography Competition

1ST PRIZE CAN'T SWIM, CAN'T BREATHE By Rasha Amer

One's impact on the environment seems negligible at a glance. But the small luxuries of modern life style are rapidly affecting natural environment. If we knew the exact positive impact each one of us could make, would we be willing to compromise?



2ND PRIZE IN A WORLD SO LARGE, YET FEELS SO SMALL By Mira Khleif

As humanity gets older, the world gets smaller. We shape cities, plant deserts and build on the seas. Our existence in today's world is overriding, and our actions are now what the world relies on. I therefore can't help but wonder: has one's ego become larger than the world?



EXHIBITION SELECTION MY SHOP IS MY WORLD By Hisham Sarsour

"The world out of my shop is the fake world." The Shoe Maker.

Meeting with Jean Gaumy on March 26 at 6 pm & photography competition awards ceremony.



14- Fann wa Chai (25 - 31 March)

Everyday 9 am-12 am

JASMINE NOSTALGIA By Mohammad Nayef

Mohammad Nayef records the life of Kuliat Al Shareah Street in the heart of Jabal Al Weibdeh with a fear that the fast urban progress will erase its character. His work, published in a book, is a poetic eulogy of a street and neighborhood that links Amman's past and present, cultural heritage and modernity.



Official opening on March 25 at 7 pm, in the presence of Mohammed Nayef.

15- Le Méridien Amman (21 - 31 March)

A PHOTOGRAPHER'S JOURNEY A discovery of details from takeoff to turndown

Le Méridien was launched in 1972 by Air France, a leader in design and innovation, with the intention of providing a home away from home for its passengers. A photographer's Journey, inspired by Air France and Le Méridien's shared commitment to innovation, the arts and culture, offers an opportunity to see the details in every journey through the lens of celebrated photographer Jimmy Cohrssen. Facebook fans have curated this exhibition by selecting their favorite photos from Jimmy Cohrssen's journey around the world.



NIGHT OF THE YEAR By the *Rencontres d'Arles*

Since 2004, **Night of the Year** – an event created by the *Rencontres d'Arles*, major international photography festival – has been investing Arles streets for a unique photographic stroll where actors of the press, magazines, agencies, collectives of photographers display their past year production on multiple screens.

For the first time, **Night of the Year** will be presented in Jordan, in the framework of the Image Festival! March 29 - from sunset until late at night - Rainbow Street, Jabal Amman.



www.rencontres-arles.com

PUBLICATIONS

Emotions 24 pages supplement in both Al Rai and Jordan Times Newspapers, **I'm Here** by Thierry Bouët - 3rd of March

Image Festival Catalogue, available starting mid-March.

Jasmine Nostalgia by Mohammed Nayef, book in collaboration with Institut Francais celebrating its 50 years anniversary.









Alone in Petra, this achievement allows my mind to teleport itself into time.





Azraq Castle where I am searching for Lawrence of Arabia.



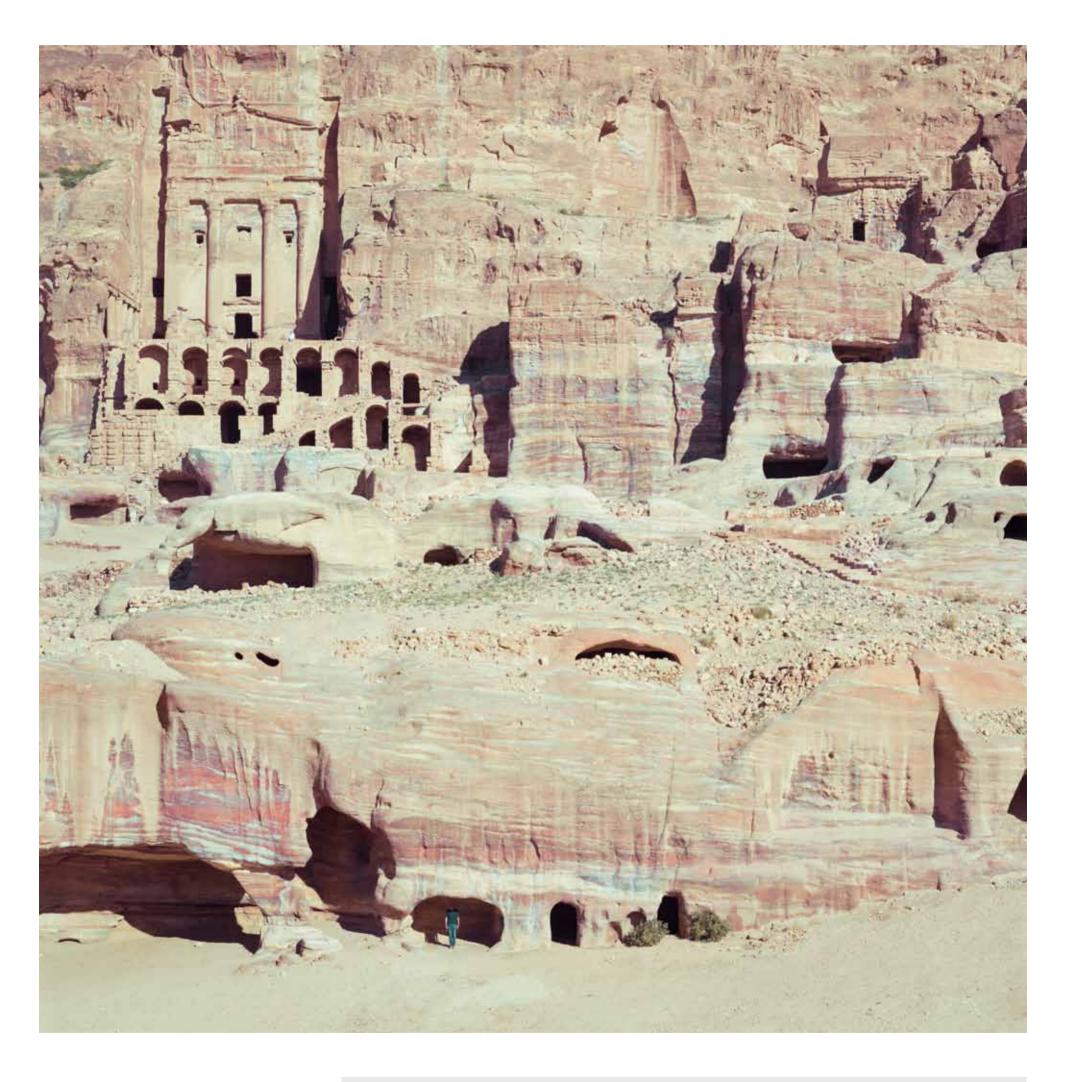


Pistachio tree in Al Bigaaouiyeh where I follow the steps of the Prophet.





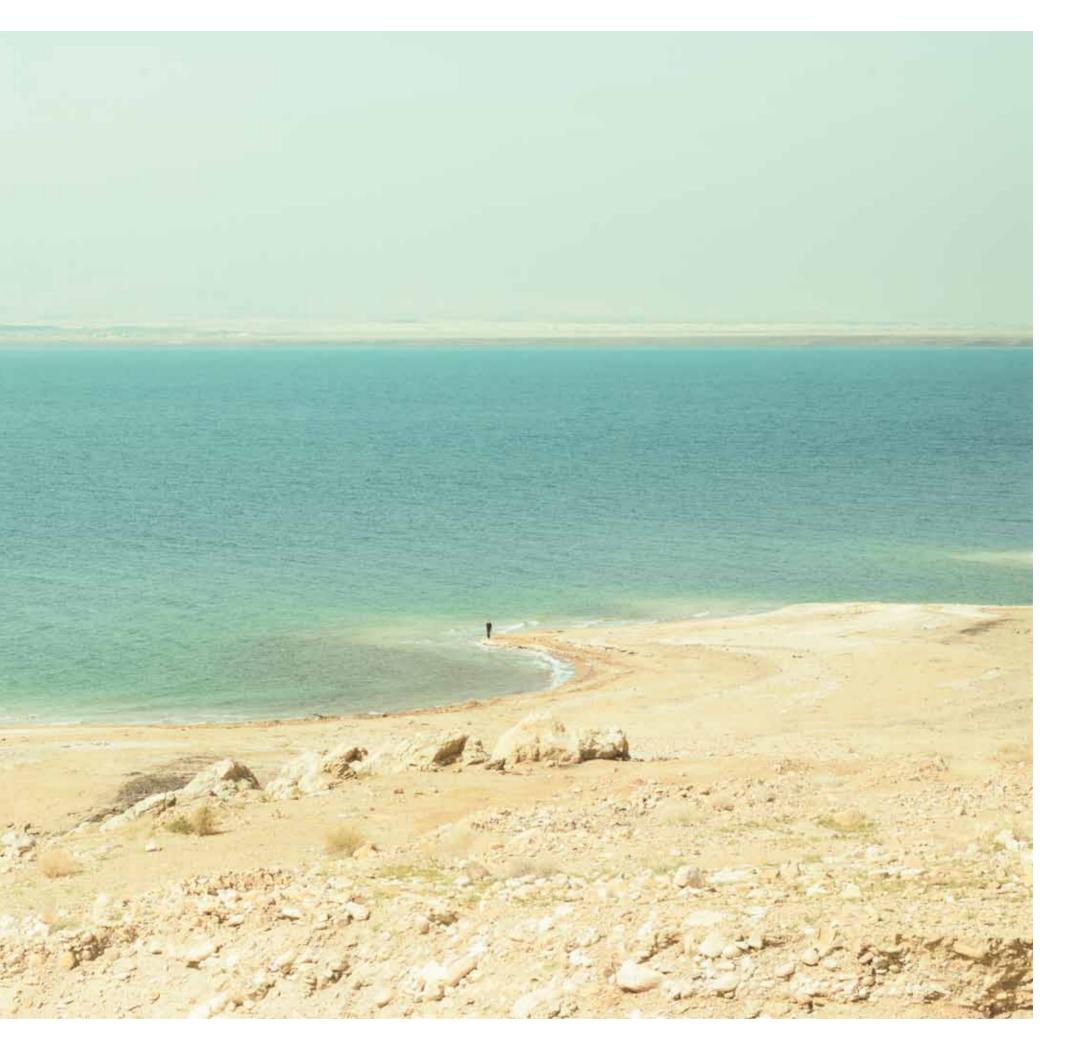
Along the ecosystems in Dana, I discover a garden where manhood defies the savagery of nature.

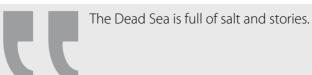




Just like history I am dragging on around the site of Petra.





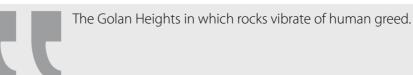






The Baptism site is certainly the smallest landscape of this series related to great history.









Between Wadi Rum and Petra. On the road.





Wadi Araba. Just like baron Italo Calvino, highly perched, I settle in a tree.



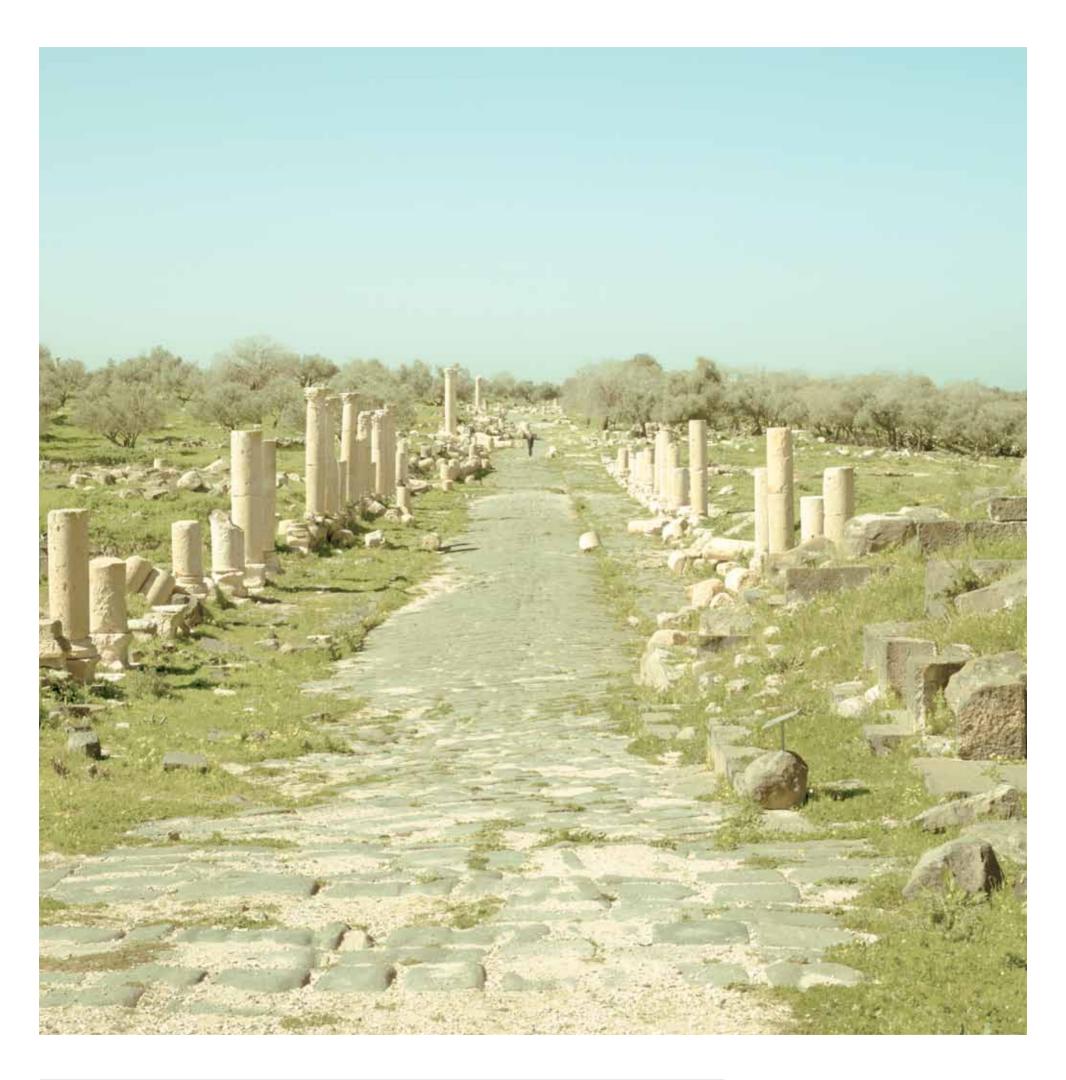


Mukawir. John the Baptist was beheaded in this temple a night of festivities. Only later do I realize that subconsciously I have lost my head, my mind there too.





The church being built on the Baptism site gives forever a face that will never be the same.



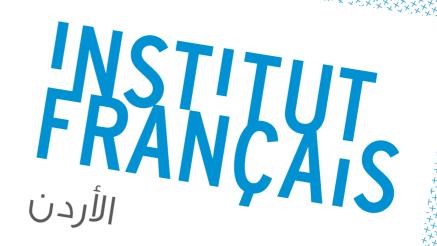


Umm Qais. The main street there runs towards the Mediterranean. All roads lead to Rome.





Al Qadisiyya. In this city that has no historic past, a restaurant feeds me dinner for free for no apparent reason. I feel extremely honored. That's what Jordan is like.





L'Institut français de Jordanie célèbre un demi-siècle à vos côtés يحتفل المعهد الثقافي .. الفرنسي بمرور نصف قرن .. على وجوده إلى جانبكم The Institut français in Jordan celebrates half a century by your side

WWW.IFJORDAN.COM



🕜 Institut Français d'Amman

SPONSORS









Halfacentury by your side



he Institut français in Jordan

(IFJ), located, since 1963, on the cultural hill of Jabal Webdeh, witnessed the fast evolution of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan. In fifty years - such a short period of time in the scale of History - Jordan experienced huge and intense changes. Within half a century, the Jordanian population grew by 6.5 and the city kept expanding.

n fifty years the IFJ welcomed nearly a hundred and fifty thousand students and probably more spectators who attended our events, as well as the many readers who have taken advantage of our library. It is a fact: since 1963,

many of you have kept in memory and heart a clear image of your stay at the Institut français.

n the occasion of this half-century, it is you, that the IFJ is willing to celebrate. It is you, that the IFJ wishes to thank for the messages of sympathy and encouragement you gave us through time. Moreover, we would be keen in publishing your stories and anecdotes so as to maintain and share this common memory. Thanks to the quality of the work that has been done by the successive staff members and teachers, the IFJ has become what it is today. We are grateful to all of them, ancient and new colleagues, and we actually warmly thank them today on your

o celebrate this anniversary properly, the IFJ had to develop and expand in order to welcome in better conditions, those who, each year, push the doors of the "Markaz". This is done: The Café des lettres et des images will soon open. Come for a visit, for a snack or a drink! Have a look at one of our 10,000 books at the library! Come and read French daily newspapers on digital tablets! The brand new theatre ("Markaz Theatre") offers 130 seats and is now open! The number of classrooms has increased. A multimedia training room is available and Campus France desk welcomes Jordanians wishing to study in France.

he 2013 events will contribute to celebrate this halfcentury. In addition, a special concert by French renowned singer, Jane Birkin - organized with our partner InterContinental-Jordan, also celebrating its 50th anniversary - will be held on March 19th at the Al Hussein Cultural Center / Ras Al Ain. Free tickets for this exceptional concert will be available within a few days at the IFJ reception desk (in the limit of available seats).

f one of the IFJ mission is to promote French language by offering language courses and access to French examinations throughout the year, the "Markaz" also intends to maintain and develop the links between

our both countries, so that the notion of cultural exchange goes beyond the concept to become reality: a true combination of knowledge, thoughts and emotions. Therefore, for the past few years, the Franco-Arab Film Festival, the French Gastronomy Week, the Image Festival and Animae Musica (Sacred Music Festival) have been attempting to drive authentic and professional artistic exchanges.

priving this strategy for change, we are aiming at raising the standard of our institution to line it up with your expectations, after half a century of drastic changes Jordan went through.

Aware that more always needs to be done, we

nevertheless want to do it right, along with you and along with the precious support of partners such as Greater Amman Municipality, the Ministry of Culture, the Ministry of Education (and its French Department), as well as Air France-KLM, InterContinental-Jordan and Société Générale Banque de Jordanie. The IFJ also wishes to thank its media partners who contribute to the success of its activities: Beat FM, Mood FM, Mazaj FM, Roya TV, TV5 Monde, VIVmag, Layalina magazine, Al Rai, Jordan Times and Al Rai Center for Studies. We are ready for a second halfcentury by your side!

Charles-Henri GROS

Director of the Institut français in Jordan

ALRA CENTER FOR STUDIES

A IRai Center for Studies (ARCS), an independent research agency affiliated with the Jordan Press Foundation, work in accordance to a vision aiming at "setting the basis of an enlightened thought relying on more knowledge and deeper understanding". The center aims to achieve its mission through organizing seminars, conferences and lectures and conducting researches and studies on strategic and development issues on strategic and development issues. The center also seeks to present an objective and comprehensive interpretation of the political, economic and cultural events impacting Jordan in particular and the Arab region in general in a way to help create a stat of social enlightenment on several issues and support the process of drifting policies and decision making locally and regionally. The center contributes to serving the comprehensive development process in various fields through its comprehensive development objective, comprehensive and analytic studies on all political, economic, social and cultural events taking place locally and internationally.

n this endeavor to raise awareness and speak knowledge in society, the center aims, through its various activities, to boost public awareness on several issues, overcome obstacles hindering the social development and enhance the comprehensive development process in the political, economic, social and cultural spheres.

ollowing up on international developments and changes, and publications in all fields of human thought, communication and interaction worldwide is also another major task of ARCS whose various activities are centered around providing decision making institutions and possible scenarios about various issues and events, taking into consideration the "right to know" principle.

n order to achieve these goals, the center works on translating several intellectual achievements, the center seeks to document all sort of human interaction with other Arab and International search centers.

n such a context lies the center's contribution to publishing "Emotions" supplement for the 3rd year, which comes as part of the Image Festival organized by Institute français and in partnership with Darat Al Tasweer, Greater Amman Municipality and the Rencontres d'Arles. In general, the project aims at boosting cultural exchanges between Jordan and France on the one hand, and between journalists at AL Rai and The Jordan Times and their French peers, on the other, through meetings and field visits arranged by Al Rai Center for Studies for the French photography team. We hope that the supplement, which is not anymore the first step in a series of projects to be jointly implemented between Institut français and AL Rai Center for Studies, will offer the Jordanian public and journalists at Al Rai and The Jordan Times the opportunity to see several Jordan's landscapes through the eyes of others.

Many Thanks to:

Dr Khaled Shogran, director of Al Rai Center for Studies, Samir Barhoum, editor-in-chief of the Jordan Times, graphic designer Bassam Hamdan, Ahmad Zalloum Thierry Bouët, Carl Diner, Mu'ath Freij, Pauline et Thibaud de l'IFPO, Christian Augé, Peugeot, Airfrance-KLM, InterContinental-Jordan, Guides: Ali Zabalia, Adelsalam, Raed Khawaldeh, Mahmoud Bani Moustafa



USA & CANADA 644 JD
starting from 644 Inclusive)

airfrance.com.jo