



AGAPS

Association for Gulf
and Arabian Peninsula
Studies

MESA FilmFest 2014

AGAPS proudly presents

Seven Films from the Gulf



Pause (Kuwait)

Directed by Shekoufeh Behbehani, shekoufeh.b@gmail.com, +44-07423-336361

The dehumanizing routine of a Filipina maid working in a Kuwaiti home is put under scrutiny when time stops and the roles are reversed. Behbehani is a graduate of Kuwait University. This is her first film. (2014, 5 min)



Rumors of Affluence (Kuwait)

Directed by Monira al-Qadiri, monira1@mac.com, +965-9008-3307

This short explores the link between rumors, corruption, and affluence in Kuwait, from the stock market crash of the early 1980s to more recent scandals. Al-Qadiri holds a PhD in inter-media art from Tokyo University of the Arts. (2012, 4 min)



SOAP (Kuwait)

Directed by Monira al-Qadiri, monira1@mac.com, +965-9008-3307

This short interrogates the erasure of migrant labor in Gulf soap operas by superimposing the bodies of these absent workers on various scenes from Gulf television dramas. Al-Qadiri is a member of the artist collective, GCC. (2014, 8 min)



To Rest in Peace (Kuwait)

Directed by Fawaz al-Matrouk, fawaz.al@gmail.com, +1-213-590-6319

Two dead bodies lie in a street in occupied Kuwait. Everyone passes them by, afraid to stop, except for one man. Inspired by true events. Al-Matrouk's award-winning films have played at over thirty festivals worldwide. (2010, 19 min)



The Brain that Sings (UAE)

Directed by Amal al-Agroobi, alagroobifilms@gmail.com

This award-winning documentary follows the lives of two boys living with autism and the effects music therapy can have. It investigates the stigma of special needs children in the region. Al-Agroobi is founder of Alagroobi Films. (2013, 62 min)



Cardboard Roof (UAE)

Directed by Bashayer al-Mahmood, Huda al-Majidi, Fatema Sultan

Produced by Shahin Yazdani, phoenix.digi.film@gmail.com

This short offers a glimpse into the mundane daily routine of two foreign laborers working as cardboard collectors in the UAE. (2013, 16 min)



Sound of "Silence" (UAE)

Directed by Balqess Sabir, Eman Sharif, Lateefa al-Tenajji

Produced by Shahin Yazdani, phoenix.digi.film@gmail.com

Three female Emirati media students decide to make a documentary about the plight of Syrians in the face of the ongoing catastrophe in their country. Their suffering is contrasted with the indifference of Emiratis. (2013, 26 min)