



Europe Month
in
Saudi Arabia
May 2012



The Delegation of the European Union
to Saudi Arabia, Bahrain, Kuwait, Oman, Qatar and the United Arab Emirates

Photo Exhibition: "Europe Seen through Saudi Eyes"



Date & : 9 - 11 May, at King Abdul-Aziz National Museum
Venue : 12 - 31 May, at King Fahd Cultural Centre
Contact : Federica Casciato (federica.casciato@eeas.europa.eu)

The exhibition "Europe Seen through Saudi Eyes" is a collection of photos of landscapes, architectural features and people taken in the countries of the European Union by nationals of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

Art Exhibition: "Out of Britain"

United Kingdom



Venue : King Abdul-Aziz National Museum
Date : 23 April - 25 May
Contact : abdulaziz.ahamed@sa.britishcouncil.org

The exhibition "Out of Britain" brings together, for the first time in Saudi Arabia, 52 key artworks selected from the British Council Collection. Spanning a period of almost one hundred years of creativity by significant British artists, the works on display take as a common theme the landscapes of the British Isles. Structured around an imagined journey the display begins in the city and leads out into the countryside to follow the coastline before ultimately returning to an urban landscape. The works in the show illustrate individual artists' attempts to find their place amongst an ever-changing environment where they are often driven to challenge traditional ways of interpreting and farming the landscape.



Film: Kongekabale (King's Game)

Nicolaj Arcel, 2004
Duration: 107 min.

Denmark



Venue : Embassy of Germany
Date : 12 May
Time : 7 p.m.
Booking : Mikkel Vinter Henriksen (mikhen@um.dk)

Ulrik Torp is given the opportunity of a life time and made correspondent in Parliament for a daily newspaper. Before long, Ulrik gets caught up in a ruthless struggle for power headed by the largest party's two successors to the leadership. Ulrik barely gets to dip his toes in the water, before all hell breaks loose. Speculation in the press and calculated lies fuel the controversy at great personal cost to many of the people involved. Ulrik slowly uncovers a cynical plot that involves the country's incumbent Prime Minister. He becomes obsessed with learning the truth. But no one will listen to him, be it politicians or colleagues in the press corps, and as election day draws near, Ulrik has to face the power elite on his own.



Film: Das Leben der Anderen (The life of the others)

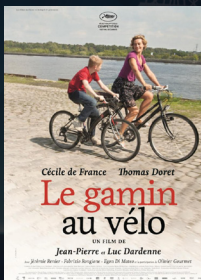
Florian Henkel Donnermarck, 2006
Duration: 137 min.

Germany



Venue : Embassy of Germany
Date : 13 May
Time : 7.30 p.m.
Booking : Thorsten Clausing (ku-s1@riad.diplo.de)

A political thriller set in 1980s' East Germany. Captain Wiesler works for the Stasi, the secret police, and is asked to keep surveillance on a playwright, Georg Dreyman, whose loyalty to the party is under question. During the surveillance Weisler is slowly drawn into Georg's life and begins to question his own ideals. "The Life of Others" won the 2006 Academy Award for Best Foreign Language Film.



Film: Le gamin au vélo (The Kid with a Bike)

Jean-Pierre and Luc Dardenne
Duration: 87 min.

Belgium



Venue : Belgian Residence
Date : 14 May
Time : 8.00 p.m.
Booking : Khalthoum Ben Ali (khalthoum.benali@diplobel.fed.be)

Cyril, almost 12, has only one plan: to find the father who left him temporarily in a children's home. By chance he meets Samantha, who runs a hairdressing salon and agrees to let him stay with her at weekends. Cyril doesn't recognise the love Samantha feels for him, a love he desperately needs to calm his rage. "The Kid with a Bike" won the 2011 Cannes Film Festival Grand Prix.



Concert: Livistonia Quartet

Clarinet, saxophone, voice: Jaafar AGGIOURI

Guitar: Yacine LAGGOUNE

Guitar: Mathieu CHATELAIN

Double bass: Pierre FRASQUE

France



Venue : King Fahd Cultural Centre

Date : 18 May

Time : 8.00 p.m.

Contact : Fabienne Simon (livistonia.kfcc@yahoo.com)

The Livistonia Quartet celebrates the music of Django Reinhardt and Stephane Grappelli. This kind of music travels through blues, swing, bebop and Brazilian rhythms. During their performance, musicians mix different periods of Jazz History remaining faithful to the rhythm typical of gypsy swing.



Concert: The German-Saudi Music Project

Germany



Venue : King Fahd Cultural Centre

Date : 20 May

Time : 8.30 p.m.

Contact : Thorsten Clausing (ku-s1@riad.diplo.de)

World Music from Germany and Saudi Arabia. Johannes Tonio Kreusch is one of Germany's best known classical guitarists. His brother Cornelius Claudio Kreusch belongs to the country's leading jazz pianists. They will perform together with Arab musicians from Riyadh and Jeddah, who will play classical Arabian instruments like qanun, nay and tabla. The ensuing musical dialogue between Western and Oriental styles is certain to produce a fascinating sound experience and enthuse the audience.



Film: L'Industriale
Giuliano Montaldo, 2011
Duration: 94 min.

Italy



Venue : Embassy of Italy
Date : 21 May
Time : 8.30 p.m.
Booking : italy.cinema@gmail.com

In a foggy, nocturnal Turin, 40-something Nicola owns a factory that is on the brink of closing, a victim of the economic crisis that is hitting the entire country hard. But Nicola is proud and refuses to give up. He has decided to go to any lengths to solve his problems. His wife Laura is more and more remote, but Nicola does nothing to restore their intimacy. With the factory workers pressing him to learn their fate, Nicola realises that something is menacing the only certainty left to him: his marriage. Instead of confronting Laura, though, he follows her to confirm his suspicions, which brings the situation to a head. Nicola is floundering and it brings out his worst. Then all the problems seem to get resolved: the factory, his marriage, his social status. But there are dirty secrets to this success, and the portrayal takes on Dostoyevskian overtones.



Film: Leo
Josef Fares, 2007
Duration: 75 min.

Sweden



Venue : Embassy of France
Date : 22 May
Time : 6 p.m.
Booking : Bjorn Wikman (bjorn.wikman@foreign.ministry.se)

Leo is on his way home with his girlfriend, following a night of birthday celebrations, when the couple are waylaid and attacked by gangsters. The event changes their lives irrevocably and Leo must strive to come to terms with what happened.



Film: The Iron Lady
Phyllida Lloyd, 2011
Duration: 105 min.

United Kingdom



Venue : British Embassy
Date : 26 May
Time : 8.30 p.m.
Booking : Sarah Termsos (sarah.termsos@sa.britishcouncil.org)

“The Iron Lady” tells the compelling story of Margaret Thatcher, a woman who smashed through the barriers of gender and class to be heard in a male-dominated world. The story concerns power and the price that is paid for power, and is a surprising and intimate portrait of an extraordinary and complex woman. The film stars Academy Award-winners Meryl Streep as Lady Thatcher and Jim Broadbent as Denis Thatcher. Their young selves are played by Alexandra Roach and Harry Lloyd. The rest of the cast of family and friends, politicians and advisers, is made up of the very best of British acting talent, including: Olivia Colman, Nicholas Farrell, Susan Brown, Roger Allam, Anthony Head, Julian Wadham, Pip Torrens, Nick Dunning, Richard E Grant, David Westhead, Angus Wright and John Sessions.



Film: Indigènes (Days of Glory)
Rachid Bouchareb, 2006
Duration: 120 min.

France



Venue : Embassy of France
Date : 27 May
Time : 7.30 p.m.
Booking : Fabienne Simon (reservations.indigenes@yahoo.com)

During WW II, four North African men enlist in the French army to liberate that country from Nazi oppression, and to fight French discrimination. In World War II, the Muslims from French colonies enlist to fight for their motherland France. In the 7th battalion commanded by the tough Sergeant Roger Martinez, the soldier Abdelkader has leadership with the troop and seeks promotion and recognition from the command; Said Otmani is a servile and illiterate private, happy in serving his sergeant; Messaoud Souni is the sniper of the group and has fallen in a corresponded love with the French Irène; and Yassir is fighting together with his brother to raise some money. Along the campaign in Italy, France and Alsace, they realise that French soldiers are promoted, have better food and have leaves to visit their families, while the Arab soldiers are shamefully discriminated and treated like second ranking soldiers.



Film: Ogniem i Mieczem (With Fire and Sword)

Jerzy Hoffman, 1999

Duration: 175 min.

Poland



Venue : Polish Residence
Date : 28 May
Time : 7.00 p.m.
Booking : Agnieszka Kanclerz (riyadh@msz.gov.pl)

At the time of its release in 1999, this lavish historical epic was the most expensive Polish film ever made. Based on a novel by Henryk Sienkiewicz (*Quo Vadis?*, *Trilogy*), this grand drama is set in 17th century Poland during the Cossack uprising against the Polish nobility. As the violent confrontation builds and unveils, there is also a battle for the heart of a beautiful Helena between a brave Polish Colonel Jan Skrzetuski and a brutish, wildhearted, Cossack Lieutenant-Colonel Bohun. This was the first novel in a trilogy of historical adventures by Sienkiewicz; the others (*Colonel Wolodyjowski* and *The Deluge*) have also been brought to the screen by director Jerzy Hoffman.



Film: Todo lo que tú quieras (Anything you want)

Isabel Coixet, 2010

Duration: 101 min.

Spain



Venue : Embassy of France
Date : 29 May
Time : 8.00 p.m.
Booking : Alia Terkawi Notivoli (alia.terkawi@maec.es)

Leo is immediately set adrift by his new found responsibilities as a single parent, a feeling increased when Dafne, his daughter, who was understandably confused and heartbroken by her mother's absence, asks for an "artificial" mother to help her to fall asleep at night. Suffice it to say that Leo's actions are both surprising and potentially dangerous, as they require Leo to subsume his own identity to the point where he almost loses it.



Film: A Costa dos Murmúrios (The Murmuring Coast)

Margarita Cardoso, 2004

Duration: 120 min.

Portugal



Venue : Embassy of France
Date : 30 May
Time : 8.00 p.m.
Booking : Maria Dulce Ferreira (riade@mne.pt)

At the end of the 1960's, Evita arrives in Mozambique to marry Luís, a student of mathematics, who is doing his military service. Evita quickly understands that Luís is no longer the same and that, troubled by the war, has become a sad copy of his commander, Captain Forza Leal. Men departed to a great military operation in the north. Evita is left alone and, desperate to know what happened to Luís, she looks for the company of Helena, the wife of Forza Leal. Broken and humiliated, Helena is a prisoner in her own house, where she fulfils a promise. She will reveal to Evita the dark side of Luís. Lost in a world which is not her own, Evita realises how violent the colonial era at the edge of abysm can be. A time of war, of lost, of guilt.



Film: Waveriders

Joel Conroy, 2008

Duration: 75 min.

Ireland



Venue : Embassy of Germany
Date : 3 June
Time : 8.00 p.m.
Booking : Amani Borno (amani.borno@dfa.ie)

Waveriders showcases the world class surfing destinations available off the North West coast of Ireland. Skilled Irish surfers link up with world champion surfers including Kelly Slater, soul surfer Kevin Naughton and the Malloy brothers to ride some of the most exciting surf Ireland has to offer. This story climaxes with an attempt to ride a big wave off the West coast of Ireland using the newly developed technique of tow surfing.