

Yanis Koussim is a director that we would call "the young independent film-makers". For about 15 years he has been making films (shorts and documentary) in Algeria. His cinema, pro-active, deals with subjects that prefigured before they appeared, in the Muslim-Arab world these days. His films find a sharp echo with the Arab Spring. It's in this setting that he registers his first feature film ALGER BY NIGHT (EXPERIMENT).



Some words about Khouya, Yanis' last short movie



Three sisters, a brother and their mother: these are the protagonists of KHOUYA (MY BROTHER), a chamber piece that unfolds in a typical Algerian home. The brother beats his sisters up and their mother lets it happen. When one of the sisters refuses an arranged marriage, the violence gets to a point of no return.

*"Koussim really worked on the normality of things, netting very tense threads, arguing cinematographic language and playing-off of the instantaneity of the present. (...)
Something leads us to believe that Koussim is ready for a feature film!"*

Samir Ardjoun

International selection Festivals

Abu Dhabi International Film
Festival du film francophone de Namur
Journées cinématographiques de Carthage
Festival du court-métrage de Clermont-
Ferrand
FESPACO (Burkina-Faso)

Prizes

Cinema & Youth Prize in
Locarno
Prix du public et des détenues
femmes à Amiens
Grand prix à Corte (Corse)
Prix du public à Sao Paulo
Coup de cœur du public à
Besançon

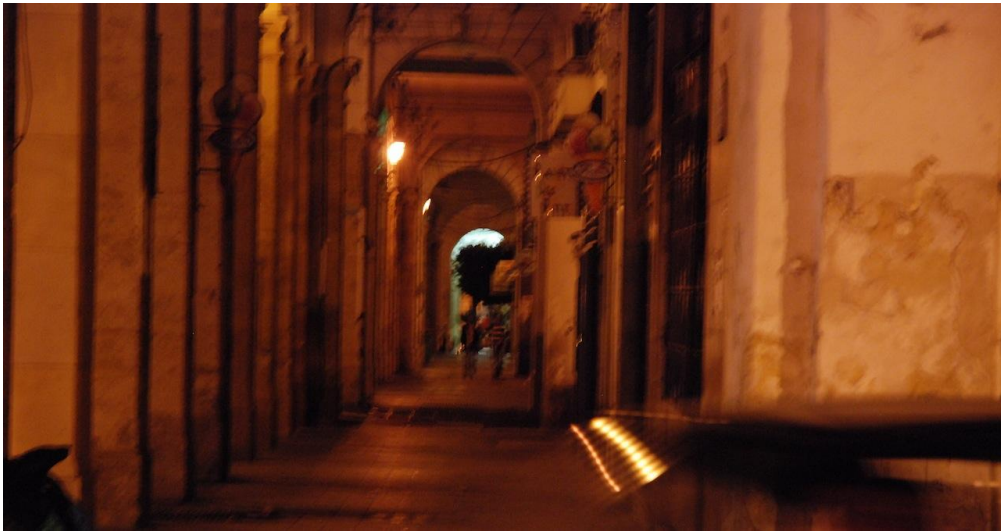
*"The most beautiful Algerian
cinematographic proposition (at
the Cannes festival 2010), all
categories together, comes from
this magnificent short film
directed by the promising Yanis
Koussim: Khouya"*
El-Watan

"This year, *Khouya* truly caught my attention" **Elisabeth Depardieu** (Émergence)

ALGER BY NIGHT (EXPERIMENT)

Filming real life through fiction

Une Chambre A Soi Productions



I love the night. Especially city nights. Since coming to the age of, I live at night; more as an observer than as actor of. I'm not a clubber, nor an insomniac. The night is not bearing on me. I take it. This allowed me meet people, talk to people who shut-up all day.

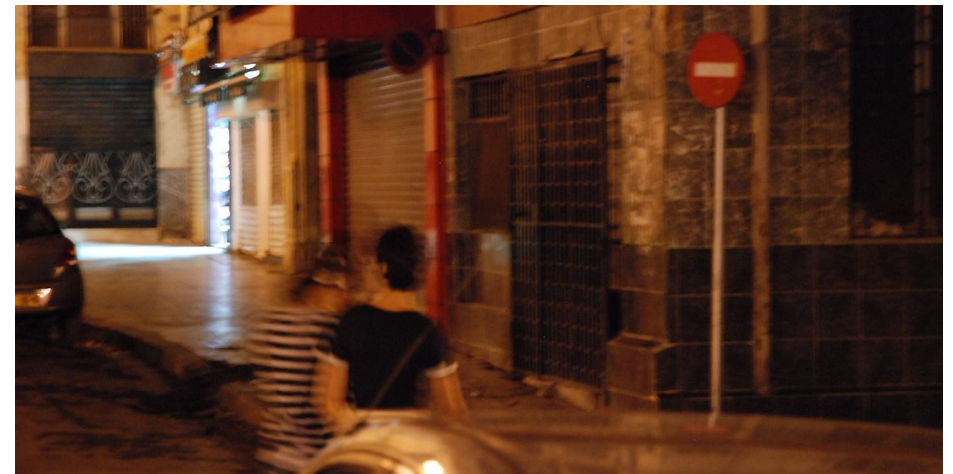
Women and men living as outcasts. When I wanted to film them, they refused. They find refuge in the night; it protects them from a society that doesn't allow them to be who they are, as they are, out of the darkness. The night is their arena, the one where they reveal solitude. They didn't want to talk my camera, but I wanted to talk about them. Since the documentary was no longer possible, I decided to turn them into fictional characters.

As I was writing ALGER BY NIGHT (EXPERIMENT), I could let go of the original documentary; then, fiction and documentary blended together in front of my eyes as make one cinematographic entity. I realized then that life was more than cinema and that the cinema I intend to do was one that got me the closest to life.

ALGER BY NIGHT (EXPERIMENT) is the night of real characters, whose lives I imagined.

When night falls on Algiers 'la Blanche', the city walls turn to grey ... gray as sadness, loneliness, vice, fear and insomnia, as the dull eyes of men and women of the night in Algiers, that Lilia, the photographer, captures for her exhibition: ALGIERS BY NIGHT (EXPERIMENT).

ALGIERS BY NIGHT (EXPERIMENT) is a night time urban drama, using documentary process, to tell some about this people.



Some words about the French partner BALTHAZAR PRODUCTION

Founded by Jérôme Dopffer, Balthazar Production encourages and accompanies demanding cinematographic projects such as "LA NAISSANCE DES PIEUVRES" by Céline Sciamma, "LA REINE DES POMMES" by Valerie Donzelli and "CARNAGE" by Delphine Gleize, amongst many others.