



## SPORT

## سپورٹ ریاضة

### ISRAELI – PALESTINIAN CINEMATIC PROJECT

Four filmmakers, Israeli and Palestinian, created short films, both documentary and fiction, on the subject of SPORT.

Produced in creative freedom and in mixed crews of Palestinian and Israelis, the films reflect a personal, courageous point of view on reality.

SPORT is a continuation of WATER which opened Settimana Internazionale della Critica at the Venice International Film Festival, 2012. WATER is the winner of France Amnesty International Award 2013.

<http://waterproject2012.wix.com/film>

Producer and Artistic Director: Yael Perlov

Producers: Kobi Mizrahi and Ahmad Barghouthi

Co-Producer: Nabil Ayouch and Edgard Tenenbaum

## Synopses (Fiction and Documentaries)

### **1. Blue Eagles Doc (18 min)**

**Director: Ahmad Barghouthi**

Wadi a-Nes is a tiny village near Bethlehem. In 1984, a father and his 12 sons created a football team to represent the village in the Palestinian Cup and called the team “Blue Eagles.” All the players are construction workers in the nearby Jewish settlement until 4 pm, and then go directly to training. During the first Intifada, they had to stop competing for 5 years. Thanks to their incredible win in 2000 in the Palestinian Cup, the team became famous and managed to finance and build the school, the mosque and bring electricity to Wadi a-Nes. The team is only comprised of football players living in the village. Of the 12 brothers who founded the team, 6 still remain and the rest are nephews and cousins.



### **2. Wourod Doc. (18 min)**

**Director: Ahmad Barghouthi**

**Assistant Director: Nihad Sabri**

A day in the life of Wourod Sawalha, a 22 year old runner, who starts every morning training on the mountain roads between her home in Nablus and the land of the family farm. Wourod was chosen to represent Palestine at the London Olympics and the World Championship in Turkey. Before each competition, she paints each fingernail with a tiny Palestinian flag to express her personal, as well as national identity. Her daily, grueling workouts, including running in the neighborhood fields, have made her a role model in the little village where she grew up, a symbol of freedom for all.



**3. Ziva and Amal Fiction. (13 min)**  
**Director: Tal Oved**

Ziva is a longtime inmate and prison has become her natural environment. She shares a cell with Amal, a young Arab woman who dreams of a better life and yearns for freedom. Ziva is deeply attached to her, and when Amal is about to get released, Ziva decides to test their friendship once and for all, during a yoga class in prison.



**4. Jisr Boys Doc. (18 min)**  
**Director: Matan Gur**

Jisr a-Zarka – The only Arab village in Israel located by the sea, one of the finest surfing locations in the country. Unemployment and crime in Jisr a-Zarka are rampant, generating a choking, stifling sensation. The sea is the only refuge, the only open space. And when the tide rises and the surf comes in, nothing else matters. The surfers of Jisr a-Zarka drop their fishing nets, which are empty as it is, gather up their surfboards and run into the sea. Maybe this time they'll catch the long awaited wave, the wave that will take them as far away as possible.



**5. Just a Man Fiction. (19 min)**  
**Director: Lily Sheffy Rize**

Adam, a junior police officer, surprises his 7 year old son with a birthday present - tickets to the Israel football Cup. It's the first time they will watch a game together. But on the day of the game, Adam's commander assigns him the task of transporting a Palestinian illegal alien from the hospital where he received medical treatment to his family in the Palestinian territories. What seemed to be a simple assignment turns out to be very complicated, when Adam finds out that the Palestinian is seriously injured and his identity is unknown. Adam is extremely anxious to attend the game. He tries to find solutions but the incompetence and indifference of his superiors and his own helplessness lead to a tragic end. Based on a true event.



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AT JERUSALEM FILM FESTIVAL

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NEWS



## Sawalha runs with Sport

BY MELANIE GOODFELLOW

Palestinian Olympic runner Woroud Sawalha is expected at Jerusalem Film Festival on Tuesday for the premiere of collective film *Sport*, an Israeli-Palestinian project featuring short documentaries and fiction films capturing Palestinian sporting endeavours in Israel and the West Bank.

Sawalha, who represented Palestine at the London Olympics in 2012 and the World Championships in Turkey, is the subject of a short documentary by Palestinian director Ahmad Barghouti, entitled *Woroud*, about her gruelling training sessions in and around her home city of Nablus and role as a symbol of freedom.

Spearheaded by Yael Perlov of Tel Aviv University, *Sport* follows on from the 2012 collective film *Water*, which premiered at Venice. "*Sport* is the same idea as *Water*. It is a mixture of young Israeli and Palestinian film-makers," said Perlov. "Young Israelis can be quite indifferent to the conflict and it is becoming more and more difficult for young Israelis to come into contact with Palestinians."

Tel Aviv-based Kobi Mizrahi is co-producing the project alongside Edgard Tenenbaum of Paris-based Tu Va Voir Productions.