Fragments of War and Animation in Arab Documentaries

Stefaníe Van de Peer Tue 23rd October 2012, 17:15 to 19:00 Arts Lecture Theatre



In the Middle East, with its young demographic and entrepreneurial digital spirit, animated films are becoming more popular and more viable financially. But what are the political implications of the hybrid form, where fragments of animation are inserted in documentaries that actually critique the government's lack of documenting the oppressed?

In this talk, Stefanie will look at the presence and meaning of fragments of animation in two Syrian and Lebanese films, and illustrate the role and function of the hybrid form as a means through which filmmakers and their subjects who have experienced war and trauma, express themselves newly. She will look at Dahna Abourahme's film Kingdom of Women (Palestine & Lebanon, 2010) and Soudade Kaadan's film Damascus Roofs and Tales of Paradise (Syria, 2010) in the context of the contemporary developments in animation in the Middle East.

