

Arab Diasporas/Comparative Diasporas Film Series

About Baghdad

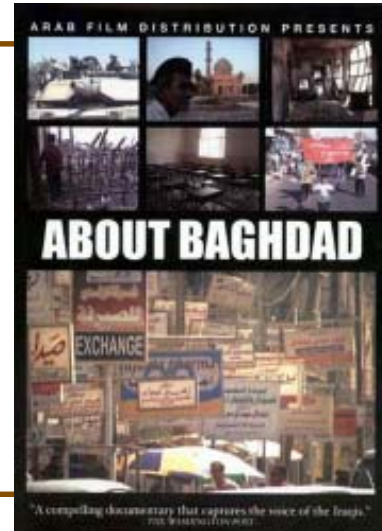
InCounter Productions, 90 min., 2004

Tuesday, March 21, 2006

6:30-9:00 p.m.

Room #2195, Social Science Building

University of Michigan-Dearborn



In July 2003, Sinan Antoon, an exiled Iraqi writer and poet, returned to Baghdad to see what has become of his city after wars, sanctions, decades of oppression, and violence, and now occupation. Antoon takes us on a journey exploring what Iraqis think and feel about the post-war situation and the complex relationship between the U.S. and Iraq. ABOUT BAGHDAD is a journey into the hearts and minds of the hundreds of Iraqis in Baghdad. In the simmering heat of Baghdad's summer, Iraqis, of various ethnic and political backgrounds and orientations, speak of past horrors and present fears. Reflections on the traumatic legacy of dictatorship, sanctions and war, also reflect the resilience and humanity of a people who were, for decades, dehumanized and disappeared behind Saddam's image. From poets to politicians, cabbies to communists, a retired senior citizen to an American soldier at Bremmer's headquarters, ABOUT BAGHDAD navigates the dire, and often misunderstood and misrepresented, straits separating, yet involving, both Iraqis and American.

www.aboutbaghdad.com

Post-Screening Roundtable Discussion with:

Deborah Alkamano

- A full-time faculty member in the English division at Henry Ford Community College.
- Member of the Library Committee at the Arab American National Museum.
- Women's Studies Advisory Board Member at UM-D, and on several HFCC committees including Council of American Cultures.

Evelyn Alsultany

- Faculty member in the Program in American Culture at the University of Michigan.
- Currently working on a book manuscript on representations of Arab- and Muslim-Americans in the mainstream media after 9/11.

Hashim Al-Tawil

- Instructor of art history at Henry Ford Community College with focus on Arabic-Islamic and Arab American culture.
- He is former Iraqi artist and professor at the University of Baghdad.
- Received his Ph.D. in art history from the University of Iowa 1993.
- He is currently researching the looted Iraqi culture in 2003.

Saja Raouf

- An immigration lawyer and community activist.
- At Wayne State University Law School, she was active in anti-war organizing.
- Interned at the American Civil Liberties Union of Michigan and the National Lawyers Guild.

Janice Terry

- A professor emeritus of modern Middle East history at Eastern Michigan University.
- Her most recent book is *U.S. Foreign Policy in the Middle East: The Role of Lobbies and Special Interest Groups*.



Free and open to the public. Space is limited.

Please RSVP by Monday, March 20, 2006 to:

caasumd@umd.umich.edu or call CAAS at (313) 583-6334.