FILMS BY AND ABOUT MIDDLE EASTERN WOMEN IN THE UCSB LIBRARY

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Films directed by Middle Eastern Women

*Afsanah-i Ah = The Legend of the Sigh*
"According to legend, Ah is a handsome young man who materializes to succor those in need whenever he hears a heartfelt sigh. Milani's protagonist is a woman novelist suffering from writer's block who, with the help of Ah, experiences the lives of four women unable to leave the house without their husband's permission."
Media Collection PN1997.A31166 2000 Feature

*Ashiqat al-sinima = Women Who Loved Cinema = Les passionnees du cinema*
[Arab Film Distribution, 2002] (2 videodiscs, 58 min each) Arabic with French and English titles; with English subtitles. Dir. Mariyan Khuri
Women who loved cinema (pt. 1-2) is vols. 2-3 in the Women pioneers collection, a film series exploring the impact that a number of remarkable women have made on the Arab world in a variety of fields throughout the early part of the twentieth century ... chronicles the achievements of women filmmakers whose adventurous spirits changed the face of Egyptian film industry in the 1920s and 30s. At a time when their country was steeped in conservative tradition, these strong-willed women broke cultural taboos and dismissed conventional wisdom to pursue their passion for filmmaking.
Media collection PN1995.9.W6 A77 2002 Documentary

*Bab al-Sama' Maftuh = A Door on the Sky*
"Nadia, a young Moroccan emigre, returns from Paris to Fez to visit her dying father. At his funeral, she is overcome by the voice of Karina chanting the Koran. A powerful friendship develops between the two women as they decide to turn the father's palace into a Muslim women's shelter."
Media Collection PN1997.B1345 1989 Feature

*al-Banat Dul = El-Banate Dol = Ces Filles-là*
[Women Make Movies, 2006] (68 min) Arabic with Arabic and French titles and English subtitles. Dir. Tahani Rached
"This documentary follows a band of teenage girls living on the streets of Cairo...Already at a disadvantage as impoverished and abused girls in a Muslim society, they encounter rape, drug addiction, prostitution, pregnancy and motherhood on the streets. While the girls’ troubles are not downplayed, neither are their courage, playfulness and vibrant camaraderies...What stands out is the strength and sheer joy that these girls project."
Banu-yi Urdibihisht = The May Lady
[Iranian Movies, 2003?] (95 min) Persian with English subtitles. Iran. Dir. Rakhshan Bani-Eternad
“A successful documentary filmmaker lives with her teenage son. Her family life is beset with problems, which become more complicated when she meets a man. At the same time, she is making a film on exemplary mothers. Finishing the film would seem to provide answers for her personal life.”

Children of Fire
[Arab Film Dist., 2011] (50 min) English and Arabic with English subtitles. Dir. Jean Khalil Chamoun and Mai Masri
"When filmmaker Mai Masri returned to her hometown of Nablus after a fourteen year absence, she discovered a new generation of Palestinian fighters: the children of the Intifada."

Children of Shatila = al-Atfal Shatila
[Arab Film Dist., 2009] (50 min) English and Arabic with English subtitles. Dir. Mai Masri & Jean Khalil Chamoun
Two documentary films by Mai Masri. Children of Shatila (50 min.) traces daily life in the Shatila refugee camp, filmed through two video cameras given to two Palestinian refugee children. Frontiers of dreams and fears (56 min.) relates the friendship of two Palestinian refugee girls, tracing their hopes and fears and the quality of life in refugee camps.

Covered
[Women Make Movies, 1995] (25 min) Dir. Tania Kamal-Eldin
"This absorbing documentary offers a rare opportunity to examine the restoration of veiling and the reasons for its pervasiveness through the eyes of Egyptian women. As timely as it is compelling, the film shows how complex causes account for a phenomenon that is poorly understood outside the Muslim world."

Dayirah-i zangi = Tambourine
[IrMovies.com, 2008] (111 min) Persian with English subtitles. Iran. Dir. Parisa Bakhtavar
“A pretty but poor young girl gets into a fender bender with her father’s car. She solicits the help of her savvy friend who sells bootleg videos in an upscale condo building. Their adventures and misadventures with the residents are comedic.”

[Arab Film Dist., 1996] (70 min) Arabic with English subtitles. Dir. Atayyat El Abnoudy
"In this landmark documentary, filmmaker Ateyyat El-Abnoudy records the successes and failures of the female candidates in the 1995 elections of the people's assembly in Egypt."
Media Collection HQ1236.5.E3 D397 1996  Documentary

**Divorce Iranian Style**
"Hilarious, tragic, stirring, this fly-on-the-wall look at several weeks in an Iranian divorce court provides a unique window into the intimate circumstances of Iranian women’s lives."
Media Collection HQ922.56.D59 2003  Documentary

**Du Zan = Two Women**
[Iranian Film Society, 1998] (96 min) Persian with English subtitles. Iran. Dir. Tahminah Milani
"Country girl Fereshteh and city girl Roya, schoolmates at Tehran University in the early '80s, become friends when the former tutors the latter to pay her way through architecture school. Their friendship and their innocent fun are clouded only by the presence of a young man who stalks the pretty Fereshteh demanding that she marry him."
Media Collection PN1997.D837 1999  Feature

**Et maintenant, on va ou? = Wa-halla’ la-wayn? = Where do we go now?**
“A group of Lebanese women try to ease religious tensions between Christians and Muslims in their village.”
Media Collection PN1997 .E769 2012  Feature

**Fama: Butulah bi-la majd**
[Arab Film Distribution, 2004] (52 min.) Moroccan Arabic with English subtitles. Dir. Dalila Ennadre
"Celebrates the life and career of Me Fama, the Moroccan revolutionary who fought against French and Spanish troops before Morocco was granted its independence in 1956."
Media Collection DT324 .F263 2004  Documentary

**For a Place Under the Heavens**
[Women Make Movies, 2003] (53 min.) Dir. Sabiha Sumar
"Acclaimed director Sabiha Sumar offers an insightful perspective on Pakistan in this finely crafted personal film. Beginning with the creation of Pakistan in 1947, Sumar traces the relationship of Islam to the state in an effort to understand how women are coping with and surviving the increasing religiosity of civil and political life in her country. Raised in a more secular time, she struggles to comprehend how religious
schools have expanded at once unthinkable rates and presents chilling footage of a mother encouraging her toddler to be a martyr when he grows up."

For My Children
[Women Make Movies, 2002] (65 min) Hebrew with English subtitles. Dir. Michal Aviad
"In October 2000, as the second Palestinian Intifada erupts, Israeli filmmaker Michal Aviad begins a video exploration about both the moral and mundane dilemmas she faces every day in Tel Aviv. What begins with deceptive simplicity—a tender scene of sending the children off to school—quickly becomes a profound study of vulnerability and anxiety."

Frontiers of dreams and fears
[Arab Film Distrib., 2009] (56 min) Lebanon. Dir. Mai Masri & Jean Khalil Chamoun
Two documentary films by Mai Masri. Children of Shatila (50 min.) traces daily life in the Shatila refugee camp, filmed through two video cameras given to two Palestinian refugee children. Frontiers of dreams and fears (56 min.) relates the friendship of two Palestinian refugee girls, tracing their hopes and fears and the quality of life in refugee camps.

G'eni ve G'eni = Jenny and Jenny
[Women Make Movies, 2009] (60 min) Hebrew with English subtitles. Dir. Michal Aviad
"This moving, closely observed portrait of adolescence documents one summer in the lives of two 17 year old cousins named Jenny. As North African Jewish immigrants living on Israel's working class Mediterranean coast, the girls' changing environment provides a fascinating window into a culture both religious and secular."

Ghurbal = al-Ghirbal
"The craft of making ghurbals (thong-meshed sieves used to "winnow" babies on their seventh day as well as to winnow grains for ceremonial dishes) is the focus of this insightful documentary. Viewers are guided through the entire process of ghurbal creation -- from logging the tree to creating the small frame, the weaving, and finally to the impact it makes on the village's traditions."

Girls Still Dream
"In this engrossing new documentary, award-winning filmmaker Ateyyat El Abnoudy realistically portrays the challenges facing girls in a country where one in four marries before age sixteen and one in five ever attends school. While girls both in and out of school share ambitions ranging from becoming a doctor to attaining basic reading skills, parents express mixed feelings about education's relevance. An affecting view of how Egyptian women still struggle for such basic human rights as education and the avoidance of compulsory marriage.”

Media Collection HQ1793.G57 1995  Documentary

Hollywood Harems

[Women Make Movies, 1999] (25 min) Dir. Tania Kamal-Eldin
"Juxtaposing film clips from the 20s through the 60s, 70s, and 80s, Kamal-Eldin explores the organization of gender, race, and sexuality in Hollywood's portrayal of the exotic east an indiscriminate fusion of things Arab, Persian, Chinese and Indian.”

Media Collection PN1995.9.W6 H665 1999  Documentary

Iklimler = Climates

[Zeitgeist Films, 2007] (98 min) Turkish with English subtitles. Turkey. Dir. Zeynep Ozbatur
“During a sweltering summer vacation on the Aegean coast, the relationship between middle-aged professor Isa and his younger, television producer girlfriend Bahar brutally implodes. Back in Istanbul that fall, Isa rekindles a torrid affair with a previous lover. But, when he learns that Bahar has left the city for a job in the snowy East, he follows her there to win her back.”

Media Collection PN1997.2.I444 2007  Feature

Inch Allah Dimanche

[Arab Film Dist., 2003] (98 min) French with English subtitles. Algeria. Dir. 'Yamina Benguigu
"In the aftermath of World War 2, France attempted to replenish its weakened work force by recruiting men from North Africa. In the mid-1970's, the French government relaxed its immigration policy to allow the families of Algerian men to join them. This film provides us with a deeply moving memoir of the sense of isolation and vulnerability that the immigrant family experienced upon their arrival at a time when racial integration was virtually non-existent."

Media Collection PN1997 .I48 2003  Feature

Kafih-i transit = Border Cafe

[First Run Features, 2005] (105 min) Persian, Turkish & Greek with English subtitles. Iran. Dir. Kambuziyah Partavi
“A young widow takes over her late husband’s truck stop café, keeping hidden in the kitchen so as not to cause a scandal.... But her brother-in-law, out of familial obligation, wants to take her as a wife and also take over the café. Meanwhile a Greek trucker who is a frequent ... customer is slowly entranced - at first by her sublime cooking ability, and then by her.”

Media Collection PN1997 .K295 2005  Feature
**Kalat ha-yam = Jaffa**
"In the heart of Jaffa, Reuven’s garage is a family business. His daughter Mali and his son Meir, as well as Toufik, a young Palestinian, work there. No one suspects that Mali and Toufik have been in love for years. As the two lovers are secretly making their wedding arrangements, tension builds between Meir and Toufik"--imdb.com.
Media Collection PN1997.2.K354 2010 Feature

**Keep Not Silent**
"Despite fears of excommunication, three women secretly fight for their right to love within the restraints of the Orthodox and Ultra-Orthodox communities of Jerusalem. All three are considered "sinners", all three are lesbians. Through internet web-cams, windows and curtains, this film documents the individual path each woman has carved for herself, painfully caught between her sexual identity and her love for her children, husband, parents, community and God"
Media Collection BM729.H85 K44 2004 Documentary

**Khanah siyah ast = The House is black**
[Facets, 2005] (22 min) Persian with English subtitles. Dir. Forough Farrokhzad
This film about the leprosy colony in Tabriz, Iran is a compassionate portrait of forgotten people. Straightforward yet sympathetic, the film affords dignity to its subjects, particularly through Farrokhzad’s striking poem read by the poet herself. The House is Black has heavily influenced the modern Iranian cinema of such great filmmakers as Abbas Kiarostami and Mohsen Makhmalbaf, who called it "the best Iranian film." It provides, in the film’s own words, "a vision of pain no caring human being should ignore."
Media Collection RA644.L3 K52 2005 Documentary

**Maria’s Grotto**
[Seattle: Arab Film Dist., 2007] (52 min) Arabic with English subtitles. Dir. Buthina Canaan Khoury
“Honor killings, a serious issue in many Arab countries, are considered a taboo subject. If a woman is presumed to have sex outside of marriage her punishment is death, to avenge the family’s honor. Khoury explores this practice through the stories of four women. One is wrongly accused and murdered; the second dies after being forced by her brothers to swallow poison; the third survives repeated stabbings from her brother; the fourth is a Hip-hop singer who dares speak out about the custom and faces death threats.”
Media Collection HV6626.23.P19 M37 2007 Documentary

**Marina of the Zabbaleen**
"Enter the extraordinary world of seven-year-old Marina, as she lives in the Muqqattam garbage recycling village in Cairo, Egypt. Her world of simple beauty and big dreams (she aspires to be a doctor) cannot be diminished by the difficulty of her circumstances. An impressionistic portrait of childhood and family, the film also tells the story of the resourceful Zabbaleen, a Coptic Christian community of recyclers whose entrepreneurial waste management system produces the highest recycling rate in the world. ... in May 2009, in reaction to the outbreak of Swine Influenza, the Egyptian government ordered the eradication of the country’s pig population. For almost a century, the Zabbaleen had raised pigs to consume the thousands of tons of organic waste generated daily by Cairo’s residents. No people has felt the ramifications of the Swine Influenza pandemic more acutely than the Zabbaleen, who were stripped of the crucial foundation of their thorough recycling system"

Media Collection HQ792.E35 M37 2009  Documentary

Mawsim Zar’ al-Banat = The Planting of Women
[Arab Film Dist., 2009?] (37 min) Arabic with English subtitles. Dir. Viola Shafik
"Although Female Genital Mutilation...is forbidden by law in Egypt and banned in public and private hospitals and clinics, official statistics show that nearly 96% of women in Egypt are still circumcised. This controversial-yet-level-headed documentary examines why FGM is practiced, the reactions to it and its medical, historical, cultural and sexual significance – all from women’s perspectives and in women’s voices."

Media Collection GN648.M38 2009  Documentary

El Moulid: Egyptian Religious Festival
[Documentary Educational Resources, 2006] (38 min) Dir. Fadwa El Guindi
"Shows some of the events of the Islamic religious festival of El Moulid in October 1987, including circumcision of young boys, parades, and Friday prayers. Focuses on the moulid celebrating the life of al-Sayyid Ahmad al-Badawi held annually in Tanta, Egypt."

Media Collection BP184.M685 2006  Documentary

My Israel :Revisiting the Trilogy
Set of 4 films: My Brother (56 min); My Land Zion (57 min); My Terrorist (58 min); My Israel (78 min). “Few filmmakers have probed issues of Israeli nationalism and Israeli-Palestinian relations more completely or intimately than Tel Aviv-born Yulie Cohen. In My Israel, Cohen revisits her acclaimed trilogy My terrorist (2002), My land Zion (2004), and My brother (2007) with new footage, fresh perspective, and her trademark fearlessness. For Cohen, Israel is the land of her ancestors, the land her parents fought for during the 1948 war and the land she herself served as an Air Force officer during the Entebbe crisis. In 1978, working as an El Al stewardess, she survived a terrorist attack in London that killed a colleague and left her with shrapnel in her arm. Embarking on a difficult and emotional journey, she attempts to free the surviving terrorist who attacked her, to question the myths of the state that she grew up in, and to reconcile with her ultra-orthodox brother after 25 years of estrangement. My Israel is an
account of remarkable courage and understanding set against the last turbulent decade of Israeli history.”

Media Collection PN1995.9.F67 M9 2008  Documentary

**Nargess**

[Facets Video, 1998] (100 min) Persian with English subtitles. Iran. Dir. Rakhshan Bani Iṣṭimad

"A sharp-edged look at people who live outside the constraints of Islamic law. In her fourth feature, director Rakhshan Bani-Etemad tells the tragic story of a love triangle. Afagh, an aging thief who has lost her beauty, is on the verge of losing her young lover, Adel. When Adel meets the beautiful Nargess, he decides to go straight, but honest work does not come easily, and he decides to go back to the old life for one last job."

Media Collection PN1997.N3296 1999  Feature

**Nawbat al-nisa’ bi-Jabal Sunwah = The Noub of the women of Mount Chenoua**

[Women Make Movies, 2007?] (115 min) In Arabic with English subtitles. Algeria. Dir. Assia Djebbar

“Returning to her native region 15 years after the end of the Algerian war, Lila is obsessed by memories of the war for independence that defined her childhood. In dialogue with other Algerian women, she reflects on the differences between her life and theirs. In lyrical footage she contemplates the power of grandmothers who pass down traditions of anti-colonial resistance to their heirs.”

Media Collection HQ1870.8 .N68 2007  Documentary

**Nimah-‘i Panhan = The Hidden Half**

[Iranian Film Society, 2001] (108 min) Persian with English subtitles. Iran. Dir. Tahminah Milani

"Khosro is sent from the president's office on a fact finding mission to Shiraz. His mission is to hear the complaints of a female political prisoner, who is to be executed. Khosro's wife Fereshteh, being of the same generation as the woman in Shiraz decides to do something. In order to help her, she writes her own account of the revolution which her husband has no knowledge of. Khosro, in his hotel room in Shiraz, begins to read his wife's memories the night before he is to see the prisoner." 

Media Collection PN1997.2.N563 2001  Feature

**Or = Mon tresor**


"Ruthie and Or, a mother and her daughter, live in a small Tel Aviv flat. Ruthie has been a prostitute for the last twenty years. Or has tried many times to get her mother to quit working the street, but without success. The daily routine of the 18 year-old Or is an endless succession of petty jobs : washing dishes in a restaurant, cleaning staircases and collecting deposit bottles while attending high school whenever she can. Ruthie's health is worsening. After an umpteenth visit to her mother at the hospital, Or decides that this time, things must change for good."

Media Collection PN1997 .O62 2005  Feature
**Panj-i asr = At five in the afternoon**
“film by internationally acclaimed young Iranian director Samira Makhmalbaf is the first to be made in the ruined city of Kabul. It tells the story of Noqreh, a young woman eager to take advantage of the new freedoms and opportunities afforded to women." Media Collection PN1997 .P285 2003 Feature

**Rachida**
[Arab Film Dist., 2002] (100 min) Arabic with French and English subtitles. Algeria. Dir. Yamina Bachir-Chouikh
"Rachida, a young and self-assured teacher at an elementary school, becomes the target of terrorists when she refuses to place a bomb in her classroom. This acclaimed debut feature offers a unique glimpse into the lives of ordinary citizens in Algeria, where terrorism was commonplace during the civil conflict of the 1990s."
Media Collection PN1997.2 .R32 2005 Feature

**al-Ramlah = Lev ha-Erets = Ramleh**
[Women Make Movies, 2001] (58 min) Hebrew with English subtitles. Dir. Michal Aviad
"A timely and powerful look at the ideological, cultural and political conflicts in contemporary Israel, this highly original documentary profiles three seemingly disparate women residing in the town of Ramleh. Located in the heartland of the Israel, this former Palestinian territory serves as a microcosm of the beliefs, biases and conflicts of women living in the country today."
Media Collection HQ1728.5.R36 2001b Documentary

**Runaway**
[Women Make Movies, 2001] (87 min) Dir. K. Longinotto & Z. Mir-Hosseini
"A powerful and heart-breaking documentary about a group of young runaway girls who are taken to a women's shelter in Tehran-Iran. The film focuses on the sufferings of young girls who struggle to free themselves from the tyrannical and abusive power of their families, mainly their fathers, brothers, and stepfathers -- a subject rarely touched upon by Iranian filmmakers."
Media Collection HV1441.I7.R86 2001 Documentary

**Ruzgar-i Ma = Our Times**
[Facets Video, 2005] (75 min) Persian with English subtitles. Dir. Rakhshan Bani-Eternad
"Documenting events surrounding the 2001 Iranian presidential election, director Rakhshan Bani-Eternad works with two groups of women, one old and one young, to contrast divergent political attitudes across the generation gap. At one end of this spectrum is the director's daughter and a group of her friends who form a committee to support the incumbent, President Khatami. On the other end is a group of forty-eight older women running for office on a reform party ticket, despite being thrown off the
ballot by an all-male government. The two stories are linked by the story of Arezoo Bayat and her daughter who are simply trying to scratch out a living amid the headier issue of the elections."

Media Collection HQ1236.5.17 R89 2005 Documentary

Ruzi kih zan shudam = The day I became a woman

“Three portraits of women at three stages of life in Iran: a nine-year-old girl is told she can no longer play with boys because she is now a "woman", a young wife who enters a bicycle race against her husband’s wishes, and an elderly woman who gains money and the freedom to do what she wishes with it.”

Media Collection PN1997 .R89 2005 Feature

Salatah baladi
[Women Make Movies, 2007] (106 min) Dir. Nadia Kamel

"Award-winning, Egyptian filmmaker Nadia Kamel’s heritage is a complex blend of religions and cultures. Her mother is a half Jewish, half Italian Christian who converted to Islam when she married Nadia’s half Turkish, half Ukrainian father. Prompted by the realization that her 10-year-old nephew Nabeel is growing up in an Egyptian society where talk of culture clashes is all too common, she decides to let her mother, Mary Rosenthal, share their diverse family history. But, as she and Mary weave their way through the family’s fairytales, they bump into the silence around old prejudices concerning the estranged Egyptian Jewish branch of their family living in Israel since 1948. Inspired to further challenge the boundaries between cultures, religions and nationalities that are used to divide us, Kamel travels, along with her mother and nephew, to Israel and Italy and confronts fears and prejudices along the way."

Media Collection DT71 .S35 2008 Documentary

Samt al-Qusur

"Set in Tunisia in the 1950’s. Alia, the young servant-girl played by Hend Sabri, is misused by her masters and wooed by a rebel."

Media Collection PN1997.S17115 1996 Feature

el Sebou: Egyptian Birth Ritual

"In Egypt, a birth ritual called el-sebou', meaning "the seventh", happens on the seventh day following the physical birth of a child of either sex and is celebrated by Coptic and Muslim families of all status groups, rural and urban. Anthropologist Fadwa El Guindi portrays the sebou' ritual as a rite of passage with the universal three phases of transition (separation, liminality, incorporation) and as the key ceremony in an individual's life cycle until marriage."

Media Collection GT2465.E3 S43 2006 Documentary
Sous les décombres = Under the Rubble
[Arab Film Distribution, 201-] (40 min) Dir. Jean Chamoun & Mai Masri
“Documentary of the sufferings of the Lebanese and Palestinians of South Lebanon and West Beirut under Israeli army shelling; a protest against modern warfare as well as against the Israelis.”
Media Collection DS87.53.S68 2010z

Sukkar banat = Caramel
[Arab Film Dist., 2007] (93 min) Arabic with English subtitles. Lebanon. Dir. Nadine Labaki
A Beirut beauty salon becomes a treasured meeting place for several generations of women from various walks of life to talk, seek advice and confide in one another.
Media Collection PN1997.2.S855 2008

Supir istar = Superstar
[Iranian Film Society, 2009] (110 min) Persian with English subtitles. Iran. Dir. Tahmineh Milani
“A spoiled egotistical movie star allows a young woman who claims to be his daughter from a brief affair, to live with him until paternity tests results are known. She brings out the best in him and his meaningless lifestyle begins to change for the better.”
Media Collection PN1997.2.S884 2009 Feature

Sur la planche
"In Tangier, Badia and Imane, two young Moroccan girls of around twenty, walk in line amongst an army of workers who fill up the city with their coming and going back and forth. They both work in a shrimp-packaging factory, a difficult and humiliating job, where the strong odor of shrimp seeps into the pores of their skin. Badia’s hands are busy but her head is idle; she perfumes herself with lies to wash away the shrimp smell and pretends to be someone else. Badia can flap her wings as much as she likes but she’ll never fly"
Media Collection PN1997.2.S88 2013 Feature

Suspended Dreams
[Arab Film Dist., 2000?] (50 min) English and Arabic with English subtitles. Dir. Jean Khalil Chamoun & Mai Masri
"A courageous documentary from Lebanon about the effects of 16 years of civil war on what was once the intellectual, cultural and commercial center of the Arab world. The film tells the story of four Beirut citizens from very different backgrounds as they struggle to reconstruct their homes and lives amid the chaos, the broken buildings, and the unexploded mines of their once beautiful city."
Media Collection DS89.B4 S877 2000 Documentary

Tanha dar Tihra = Alone in Tehran
Behnaz Jafari is a young, aspiring actress in Tehran who wants to live a carefree and creative lifestyle. This lifestyle is not easy to obtain for a modern 24 year-old woman who lives alone in contemporary Iranian society. In this interesting documentary, the old is contrasted with the new as Behnaz considers the traditional advice she receives from well-meaning friends while still following her dream to lead a free life and become one of Iran's leading actresses.

Tayyarah min waraq = Le cerf-volant = The kite
In director Randa Chahal Sabbag’s fairytale for troubled times, sixteen-year-old Lamia must cross a border checkpoint between Lebanon and Israel to marry a man she has never met. Neither she nor her betrothed are eager to consummate the marriage, a matter further complicated by Lamia’s surprising admission that she is in love with the Israeli soldier guarding the border.

Three by Ateyyat El Abnoudy = Horse of mud; Sad song of Touha; the Sandwich
[Arab Film Dist., 2005?] (36 min) Arabic with English subtitles. Dir. Ateyyat El Abnoudy
Horse of mud = Ḥiṣān al-ṭīn = Cheval de boue; Sad song of Touha = Ughniyat Tuḥah al-ḥazīnah = La triste chanson de Touha; the Sandwich = al-Sāndiwītsh. “Horse of mud captures the dignity of Cairo’s poor. The primitive process of brick making is examined, revealing the monotonous choreography of a nonetheless meaningful social task. Sad song of Touha is in many ways the sister film to Horse of mud, a fascinating portrait of Cairo’s street performers. The Sandwich portraits a detailed account of the women of a rural Egyptian village as they make and then bake loaves of bread by hand. The film then shifts its focus to the children of the village as they play together, herd sheep and climb trees while one boy makes a sandwich with the new bread.”

Tunisian women: we will stand up
[Third World Newsreel, 2013] (56 min) Dir. Hajer Ben Nasr
“On December 18, 2010 Tunisians of all ages took the streets of Tunis to demand better living conditions and the end of President Ben Ali’s repressive dictatorship, starting what would become the 2011 Tunisian Revolution and the Arab Spring. Among the demonstrators were seven Tunisian women activists, each one of these women celebrating the culmination of a life devoted to the fight for freedom and democracy in their country."

Vakunish-i panjum = The fifth reaction
[Arta Film, 2004] (107 min) Persian with English subtitles. Iran. Dir. Tahminah Milani
“A young woman, Fereshteh who teaches in one of Tehran high school has lost her husband recently. According to law and tradition, she must leave the fate of her two sons
(9 and 7 years old) and the wealth of her husband to her father in law who is traditional minded man."
Media Collection PN1997.V238 2004  Feature

**Vendetta song**
[ONF/NFB, 2005] (62 min) Dir. Eylem Kaftan
“A young Canadian filmmaker travels deep into eastern Turkey, the heartland of her Kurdish ancestors, to investigate the unsolved murder of her aunt.”
Media Collection DR435.K87 V46 2005  Documentary

**Wajdah = Wadjda**
“Wadjda, a fun-loving 10-year-old girl living in Saudi Arabia, has her heart set on a beautiful new bicycle. However, her mother won’t allow it, fearing repercussions from a society that sees bicycles as dangerous to a girl’s virtue. Determined to turn her dreams into reality and buy the bike on her own, Wadjda uncovers the contradictions and opportunities ingrained in her world. Hilarious, heartbreaking and inspiring all at once, this groundbreaking film has charmed critics and audiences all over the globe.”
Media Collection PN1997 .W338 2014  Feature

**War Generation Beirut**
[Arab Film Dist., 2011] (50 min) English and Arabic with English subtitles. Dir. Jean Khalil Chamoun and Mai Masri.
“Filmed on the streets of Beirut; traces the life experiences of three generations of young people as they struggle to survive in their war-torn city.”
Media Collection DS87.5.W373 2011  Documentary

**The Women Next Door**
[Women Make Movies, 1992] (80 min) English, Hebrew, & Arabic. Dir. Michal Aviad
"A thoughtful and emotive documentary about women in the Palestinian-Israeli conflict. The film explores the roles that the Occupation designated for women on both sides and the questions it raises. In a world of occupation, what is the meaning of femininity, motherhood, birth, violence, compassion and solidarity between women?"
Media Collection HQ1728.5.W677 1992  Documentary

**Yarita pa'am be-mishehu? = Ever Shot Anyone?**
[Women Make Movies, 201-?] (58 min) Hebrew with English subtitles. Dir. Michal Aviad
"Israeli filmmaker Michal Aviad provides a woman's take on how national culture is informed by male identity through the military experience that bonds her country's Jewish men. This film documents Aviad's attempt to infiltrate the world of army reservists during their annual tour of duty on the Golan Heights."
Media Collection UB419.175 Y37 19952010  Documentary

**Zahrat al-qandūl = Zahrat el Kindoul = Women of South Lebanon**
“Women played a crucial role in fighting the Israeli invasion of southern Lebanon. This film preserves their stories on camera. The result is a poignant docu-drama about resistance and hope.”
Media Collection DS87.2.Z34 2000z Documentary

**Zan-i ziyadi = Unwanted woman**
[Irmovies.com, 2005] (103 min) Persian with English subtitles. Iran. Dir. Tahminah Milani
“Searing tale about the struggles of women in modern-day Iran. Poor Sima puts up with her philandering and abusive husband, Ahmad. He is so blatant with his indiscretions that he asks Sima to cover for him when he plans a trip with his girlfriend Saba. In an Iran where unmarried couples can be arrested for fraternizing in public, Ahmad needs Sima to pretend that Saba is her cousin. Sima and the couple’s young daughter accompany Ahmad and Saba on their trip - a humiliating situation for the devoted wife and mother. But, a surprising turn awaits the trio when they stop in a town where a man has just murdered his wife for her alleged affair.”
Media Collection PN1997.Z3432 2005 Feature

**Zanan bidun-i mardan**
[IndiePix, 2011] (95 min) Persian with English subtitles. Iran. Dir. Shirin Neshat
"Set against the political turmoil of Iran’s 1953 coup d’etat, ‘Women without men’ tells the story of four disparate women whose lives converge in a mystical orchard on the outskirts of Tehran"
Media Collection PN1997.Z346 2011 Feature

**Zananah = The Ladies’**
"Directed by the acclaimed Iranian actress Mahnaz Afzali and filmed entirely inside a ladies washroom in a public park in Tehran, this absorbing documentary shatters Western preconceptions of Iranian women. Populated by addicts, prostitutes, runaway girls and others who simply enjoy the camaraderie and atmosphere, the ladies room becomes one of the few places where women feel comfortable enough to smoke cigarettes, discuss taboo subjects and remove their veils."
Media Collection HQ1735.2. Z34 2003 Documentary

**Zanha-yi misl-i ma = Women Like Us**
"Filmmaker Persheng Sadegh-Vaziri returns to Iran after 20 years as an expatriate to present this intimate and revealing portrait of five ordinary Iranian women: a nurse, a journalist, a rice farmer, a religious college graduate and a piano teacher. An important and timely look at contemporary Iran."
Media Collection HQ1735.2.Z75 Z35 2003 Documentary
Zindan-i zanan = Women’s prison
[First Run Features, 2002] (106 min) Persian with English subtitles. Iran. Dir. Manizhah Hikmat
“Banned in Iran, this taboo-breaking film uses the claustrophobic life of women behind bars as a metaphor for Iranian society since the 1979 Islamic Revolution. Mitra, in prison for killing her violent stepfather, confronts new warden Tahereh on the eve of a riot, fearlessly challenging her dogmatic views - which, over time, began to change.”
Media Collection PN1997.Z58 2002 Feature

Zir-i pusht-i shahr = Under the skin of the city
“Tuba is a factory worker and the matriarch of a raucous family. Her older daughter is pregnant and married to an abusive husband. The younger daughter is a high school student and is consumed with worry over a neighbor girl who suffers abuse at the hands of her father. Tuba’s youngest son is caught up in political radicalism and is in danger of derailing his college aspirations. Her older son, Abbas wants to move to Japan to help support the family. After losing all his money in a scam, Abbas’ desperation gets the better of his judgement and he becomes involved in a drug deal that nearly costs him his life.”
Media Collection PN1997.Z64 2004 Feature

Films about Middle Eastern Women

Adio kerida = Goodbye Dear Love
[Women Make Movies, 2002] (82 min) English and Spanish with English subtitles. Dir. Ruth Behar
"Anthropologist Ruth Behar returns to her native Cuba to profile the island’s remaining Sephardic Jews and chronicle her family’s immigration to the U.S. as Cuban-Jewish exiles. Highlighting themes of expulsion and departure, Behar seeks reconciliation with Cubans on the island in hopes of the possibility of return and renewal"
Media Collection F1789.J4 A35 2002

Afghan Women
[DER Films, 1974] (17 min)
"The words of the women of Aq Kupruk, Afghanistan and the rhythm of their lives in seclusion suggest both satisfying and limiting aspects of the women’s role in an Afghan rural community."
Media Collection HQ1735.6.A655 2002

Ahlam fi Faragh = Dreams and Silence
[Arab Film Dist., 1991] (52 min) Arabic with English and French subtitles; narrated in French. Dir. Omar al-Qattan
"A film about the social conditions of Islamic refugees and how Islam influences their way of life. Shows the daily life of a Palestinian refugee living in Jordan, juxtaposing her life with modern Islamic political thought."

Media Collection HV640.5 .P36 A353 1991

'Ala khuta al-nisyany
[Arab Film Distribution, 2004] (58 min.) French and Arabic with English subtitles.
"Explores the exciting life and adventures of Isabelle Eberhardt. Born in Geneva, Switzerland in 1877, Isabelle left Europe for North Africa at a young age. While there, she consorted with tramps, prostitutes, soldiers, murderers and thieves, at times masquerading as a man in order to gain access to social sectors that were off limits to women. Her enigmatic character continues to seduce, fascinate and astound even today – while defying any easy classification."

Media Collection DT294.7.E2 A5 2004

Ard al-nisa'
[Arab Film Distribution, 2004] (58 min) Arabic and English with English subtitles.
"Looks at the lives and works of some of the women who have joined in the fight for their Palestinian homeland."

Media Collection HQ1728.5 .A735 2003

'Ashiqat al-sinima = Women Who Loved Cinema = Les passionnees du cinema
[Arab Film Distribution, 2002] (2 videodiscs, 58 min each) Arabic with French and English titles; with English subtitles. Dir. Mariyan Khuri
Women who loved cinema (pt. 1-2) is vols. 2-3 in the Women pioneers collection, a film series exploring the impact that a number of remarkable women have made on the Arab world in a variety of fields throughout the early part of the twentieth century ... chronicles the achievements of women filmmakers whose adventurous spirits changed the face of Egyptian film industry in the 1920s and 30s. At a time when their country was steeped in conservative tradition, these strong-willed women broke cultural taboos and dismissed conventional wisdom to pursue their passion for filmmaking.

Media collection PN1995.9.W6 A77 2002

al-Banat Dul = El-Banate Dol = Ces Filles-là
[Women Make Movies, 2006] (68 min) Arabic with Arabic and French titles and English subtitles. Dir. Tahani Rached
"This documentary follows a band of teenage girls living on the streets of Cairo...Already at a disadvantage as impoverished and abused girls in a Muslim society, they encounter rape, drug addiction, prostitution, pregnancy and motherhood on the streets. While the girls’ troubles are not downplayed, neither are their courage, playfulness and vibrant camaraderies...What stands out is the strength and sheer joy that these girls project."

Media Collection HV4619.C2 B36 2006

Benaat Chicago = Daughters of Chicago: Growing up Arab and Female in Chicago
[Arab Film Dist., 1996] (30 min) Dir. Jennifer Bing-Canar & Mary Zerkel
"This video is the result of the directors' year-long collaboration with Arab American teenagers to document their lives growing up on Chicago's southwest side. It addresses stereotypes and racism towards Arabs and Arab women, while showing what makes many Arab Americans proud of their cultural heritage. Thought provoking and insightful, this video is a complex portrayal of a Chicago community often kept invisible."
Media Collection F548.9.A65 B46 1996

**Beyond Borders: Arab Feminists Talk About Their Lives-East and West**
[Films for the Humanities & Sciences, 2000] (50 min) Dir. Jennifer Kawaja
"In this program, a feminist delegation composed of author Nawal Saadawi and other renowned activists from the Middle East and North Africa gathers at the UN, on college campuses, and in church basements to speak out about deterioration of women’s rights in the Arab states in an effort to heighten awareness of the Arab feminist struggle for equality-and the effects of U.S. foreign policy on their efforts."
Media Collection HQ1784.B496 2000

**Bride Market of Imilchil**
[Arab Film Dist., 1999] (58 min) Dir. Steffen and Christian Pierce
"For three days each September, men and women gather in front of the Imilchil shrine, choose mates and marry in a nearby tent. This annual event has become so popular that even the Moroccan government itself promotes the ritual as a tourist attraction. Beautifully capturing the essence of the bride market, this video challenges our views on arranged marriage and presents an intimate view of Muslim society, where honesty, tenderness, even playfulness contrast with the rigid view of Islam so often presented in the Western media."
Media Collection GT2789.M67 B75 1999

**Conversations across the Bosphorus**
[Women Make Movies, 1995] (42 min) Dir. Jeanne C. Finley
"Intertwines the stories of two Muslim women from Istanbul - Gokcen, from an orthodox Islamic family who takes off her veil after years of struggle; and Mine, from a secular family, who discovers her faith living as an immigrant in San Francisco. Both women demonstrate how their relationship to their faith has shaped and determined their personal lives."
Media Collection HQ1726.7.Z9 I853 1995

**Covered**
[Women Make Movies, 1995] (25 min) Dir. Tania Kamal-Eldin
"This absorbing documentary offers a rare opportunity to examine the restoration of veiling and the reasons for its pervasiveness through the eyes of Egyptian women. As timely as it is compelling, the film shows how complex causes account for a phenomenon that is poorly understood outside the Muslim world."
Media Collection HQ1793.C68 1995

**Dardashah nisa’iyah = Entre femmes = Women’s Chitchat**
[Arab Film Distribution, 2004] (52 min.) Arabic with English subtitles.
"This provocative film studies the evolution of Egyptian society from the early 20th century to today, focusing on the status of women as experienced by several generations within the same family. The women discuss the intergenerational changes that have affected fashion, politics and courtship as well as society’s role for women in general."
Media Collection HQ1793 .W66 2004

**Daughters of Afghanistan**
[Video Services Corp.; Choices, 2004] (58 min.) Dir. Robin Benger
"Journalist Sally Armstrong investigates the reality for women in Modern Afghanistan and the tremendous obstacles that must still be overcome. When the hated Taliban were ousted, Afghan women felt their living nightmare was over. Now, they hoped to harness the future for their daughters in the former pariah state- despite being left isolated and alone by the international community."
Media Collection HQ1735.6.D38 2004

**Days of Democracy: Egyptian Women and the 1995 Parliamentary Election**
[Arab Film Dist., 1996] (70 min) Arabic with English subtitles. Dir. Atayyat El Abnoudy
"In this landmark documentary, filmmaker Ateyyat El-Abnoudy records the successes and failures of the female candidates in the 1995 elections of the people's assembly in Egypt."
Media Collection HQ1236.5.E3 D397 1996

**Divorce Iranian Style**
"Hilarious, tragic, stirring, this fly-on-the-wall look at several weeks in an Iranian divorce court provides a unique window into the intimate circumstances of Iranian women’s lives."
Media Collection HQ922.56.D59 2003

**A Dream of Justice and Freedom**
[Landmark Video, 1995] (52 min) Dir. Christopher Swann
"In an extended interview rich with archival footage, Hanan Ashrawi tackles the issues at the heart of her people's fight for a homeland. With compassion and eloquence, she calls for an end to the Israeli occupation on humanitarian rather than ideological grounds, and along with other voices, Palestinian and Israeli, she exposes the bitter divisiveness underlying the struggle for peace."
Media Collection DS119.7.A6894 D74 1995

**Dumu’ al-Shaykhat = Le blues des shikhates = Sheikhates Blues**
[Arab Film Dist., 2004] (52 min.) Moroccan Arabic with English subtitles.
"The female Moroccan musicians known as sheikhates sing about the realities of life – about the land, nature, wars, mountains, crises and, of course, they sing about love. In short, their music represents the heritage of Morocco. Director Ali Essafi offers a marvelous portrait of the daily lives of these regional folk singers, exploring how their
music has evolved over the years – along with society’s acceptance of the women who perform this music in public."
Media Collection M1838.M6 D868 2004

**Enemies of Happiness**
"In September 2005, Afghanistan held its first parliamentary elections in 35 years. Among the candidates for 249 assembly seats was Malalai Joya, a courageous, controversial 27-year-old woman who had ignited outrage among hardliners when she spoke out against corrupt warlords at the Grand Council of tribal elders in 2003. **Enemies of happiness** is a revelatory portrait of this extraordinary freedom fighter and the way she won the hearts of voters, as well as a snapshot of life and politics in war-torn Afghanistan."
Media Collection HQ1735.6 .E54 2006

**Europlex**
[Women Make Movies, 2003] (22 min)
"Tracks the daily, sometimes illicit, border crossings between Morocco and Spain—a rare intersection of the first and third worlds. Paying off officials to look the other way, workers smuggle contraband across the border, sometimes crossing up to 11 times a day. In a now common scenario of global economics, Moroccan women work in North Africa to produce goods destined for the European market. And in perhaps the most surreal example of border logic, domestics commute into a Spanish enclave in Moroccan territory, losing two hours as they step into the European time zone."
Media Collection HD8588.5.M8 E97 2003

**Fama: Butulah bi-la majd**
[Arab Film Distribution, 2004] (52 min.) Moroccan Arabic with English subtitles. Dir. Dalila Ennadre
"Celebrates the life and career of Me Fama, the Moroccan revolutionary who fought against French and Spanish troops before Morocco was granted its independence in 1956."
Media Collection DT324 .F263 2004

**Feminine Breeze: Arts and Freedom in Iran**
[Beyen.net Films, 2005] (37 min)
"[Focuses] on how Iranian women artists use their artistic medium for autonomy and self-expression in a society dominated by political Islam"--Container. Covers internationally recognized women in karate (Afsaneh Bagheri), theater (Pari Saberi), photography (Shadi Ghardirian), film (Tamineh Milani), poetry (Simin Behbahani), and media (Asieh Amini)."
Media Collection NX574 .Z8 F46 2005

**Une femme taxi à Sidi Bel-Abbès = A Woman taxi driver In Sidi Bel-Abbès**
"When her husband died Soumicha, mother of three, had to earn a living. She became the only woman taxi driver in Sidi Bel-Abbès, Algeria. This film accompanies Soumicha around a city where religious and political violence rages, and records her experiences in a job normally reserved for men."
Media Collection HD6073.T162 A44 2000

_For a Place Under the Heavens_
[Women Make Movies, 2003] (53 min.) Dir. Sabiha Sumar
"Acclaimed director Sabiha Sumar offers an insightful perspective on Pakistan in this finely crafted personal film. Beginning with the creation of Pakistan in 1947, Sumar traces the relationship of Islam to the state in an effort to understand how women are coping with and surviving the increasing religiosity of civil and political life in her country. Raised in a more secular time, she struggles to comprehend how religious schools have expanded at once unthinkable rates and presents chilling footage of a mother encouraging her toddler to be a martyr when he grows up."
Media Collection HQ1745.5 .F67 2003

_For My Children_
[Women Make Movies, 2002] (65 min) Hebrew with English subtitles. Dir. Michal Aviad
"In October 2000, as the second Palestinian Intifada erupts, Israeli filmmaker Michal Aviad begins a video exploration about both the moral and mundane dilemmas she faces every day in Tel Aviv. What begins with deceptive simplicity—a tender scene of sending the children off to school—quickly becomes a profound study of vulnerability and anxiety."
Media Collection DS119.765.F673 2002

_Forbidden Marriages in the Holy Land_
[Arab Film Dist., 2009; orig. prod. 1995] (68 min) Arabic and Hebrew with English subtitles. Dir. Michel Khleifi
"Exploring the lives and loves of eight mixed marriages from different generations and backgrounds, director Michel Khleifi uncovers the mutual intolerance of the Middle East's three monotheistic religions: Christianity, Islam, and Judaism."
Media Collection HQ1031 .F663 2009

_Four Friends_
[National Center for Jewish Film, 2006] (60 min) Hebrew with English subtitles
Four women -- Selma Dejani, daughter of an old Palestinian Moslem family; Wadad Shihade, a Palestinian Christian, originally from Jaffa; Olga Belkind, daughter of a prominent Zionist family; and Sharona Aharon, from Tel-Aviv -- who were roommates at an Anglican boarding school in Jerusalem in 1939, meet 50 years later for a reunion"
Media Collection DS126.5 .F687 2006
Four Women of Egypt
"Four women are the subject of this impressive documentary exploration of opposing religious, social, and political views in modern-day Egypt. There is little they agree upon—being Christian, Muslim and atheist—and little they won’t speak out about—yet their friendship endures. Though possessed of widely divergent and often incompatible viewpoints, these women maintain a deep and committed friendship with each other, arguing openly but with extreme tolerance for their differences, and often dispelling tension with hearty laughter. Through their friendship, we learn of the reality behind the Western myth of Egypt. Essential viewing for all interested in the political history of Egypt and women’s lives in the Middle East."
Media Collection HQ1793 .F687 1998

G’eni ve G’eni = Jenny and Jenny
[Women Make Movies, 2009] (60 min) Hebrew with English subtitles. Dir. Michal Aviad
"This moving, closely observed portrait of adolescence documents one summer in the lives of two 17 year old cousins named Jenny. As North African Jewish immigrants living on Israel's working class Mediterranean coast, the girls' changing environment provides a fascinating window into a culture both religious and secular."
Media Collection HQ799.I7 G45 2009

Ghurbal
Examines the Egyptian rural craft of making a sieve called "ghurbal" which is used to "winnow" babies on their seventh day of life and to winnow grains for making ceremonial dishes. Follows the process from tree cutting to crafting, and includes two persons who have mastered their craft describing the traditions of the craft and its place in Egyptian rural life.
Media Collection DT70.G47 2007

Girls Still Dream
"In this engrossing new documentary, award-winning filmmaker Ateyyat El Abnoudy realistically portrays the challenges facing girls in a country where one in four marries before age sixteen and one in five ever attends school. While girls both in and out of school share ambitions ranging from becoming a doctor to attaining basic reading skills, parents express mixed feelings about education's relevance. An affecting view of how Egyptian women still struggle for such basic human rights as education and the avoidance of compulsory marriage."
Media Collection HQ1793.G57 1995

The Glass House
"Omid-e-Mehr is a private rehabilitation center and NGO, in Tehran, for girls aged 15 to 25 who have no where else to turn. It accommodates eighty-five young women who stay for eighteen months and are provided with psychological counseling and classes like computer skills and expository writing which are designed to give them the tools and confidence to stand on their own feet. ... We follow four of the girls’ lives through the dark alleys and traffic jammed highways of contemporary Tehran. Samira is a fourteen-year-old who still loves dolls but is forced into drug addiction by her dealer mother. Mitra has been abandoned by her family and has to learn to avoid her father’s abuse. Nazila, an angry and articulate girl, has a family that misunderstands and mistreats. She dreams of recording her rap song. Sussan is brain damaged from the frequent beatings at the hands of her sigheh (temporary husband) and/or of her brothers who raped and beat her when she was just a child. And of course there is [Omid-e-Mehr’s founder Marjaneh] Halati herself, whose confident and empathetic energy is in direct contrast to the fragile existence of the girls ... She represents a new kind of Iranian woman, one who is hard working and positive, who refuses to let her empathy turn into paralyzed pity."
In Het Huis van Mijn Vader = In My Father's House
[Women Make Movies, 1997] (70 min) Dutch with English subtitles. Dir. Fatima Jebli Quazzani
"In this beautiful, poetic and deeply personal film, Moroccan filmmaker Fatima Jebli
Quazzani investigates the status accorded women in Islamic marriage customs and the
continuing importance of virginity. Quazzani left her father’s house in Morocco sixteen
years ago to escape the constraints her culture and its traditions have put on women. She
returns now to confront those traditions, her own family and herself. Following three
generations of women — her grandmother and mothers’ arranged marriages, her
grandmother’s subsequent attempts to divorce, and Naima, a young woman who has
returned home for a traditional wedding ceremony—she questions whether her choice for
a life of her own was worth the loss of her father."
Media Collection HQ1791.I53 1997

'Indama tughanni al-mar'ah = When a Woman Sings
[Arab Film Distribution, 2004] (52 min) Arabic with English subtitles.
"This music-filled documentary examines the impact singers Umm Kulthum and
Mounira El-Mahdeya had on Egyptian politics and society during the first half of the 20th
century. Through classic film clips, interviews with musicians and scholars, and taped
interviews with the two singers themselves, we learn just how far-reaching their influence
was."
Media Collection ML420.U46 I533 2004

Jasad & the queen of contradictions
[Women Make Movies, 2012] (40 min)
"Lebanese poet and writer Joumana Haddad has stirred controversy in the Middle East
for having founded "Jasad" (the Body), an erotic quarterly Arabic-language first of its
kind in the Arab world and has caused a big debate in the Arabic region not only for its
explicit images, erotic articles and essays on sex in Arabic but also for the fact that an
Arab woman is behind it all. Despite Beirut’s external appearance of freedom portrayed
through its infamous nightlife and women’s stylish and open revealing fashion sense, this
is all still taboo. JASAD tackles the subject of sexuality in Lebanon, giving insight on the
rare use of the Arabic language to discuss sex and erotica. Different views regarding the
magazine and sexuality are also given by the head of a women’s rights organization, a
sexual health educator and a doctor who performs hymen reconstruction surgeries.
Despite the debates, the threats and the lack of funds, one passionate woman shows no
sign of slowing down her small steps towards a "sexual revolution" in the Arab world"
Media Collection HQ1784 .J376 2012

Kalimat imra'ah = A Woman’s Word = Palabra de mujer
[Women Make Movies, 2004] (52 min.) Arabic and English with English subtitles. Dir.
Silvia Ponzoda.
"Depicts the life and writings of three exceptional authors of the Arab word – Nawal Al
Saadawi from Egypt, Hanan Al Shaykh from Lebanon, and Janata Bennuna from
Morocco. For all three women, becoming a writer was never a choice but a necessity – a
vocation fought for and hard won. In her own way, each writer struggles as an Arab woman in a society that often wants to shut down her powerful voice."

Media Collection PJ7525.2 .K35 2004

Keep Not Silent
"Despite fears of excommunication, three women secretly fight for their right to love within the restraints of the Orthodox and Ultra-Orthodox communities of Jerusalem. All three are considered "sinners", all three are lesbians. Through internet web-cams, windows and curtains, this film documents the individual path each woman has carved for herself, painfully caught between her sexual identity and her love for her children, husband, parents, community and God"

Media Collection BM729.H85 K44 2004

Lebanon: Bits and Pieces
"an exquisitely beautiful and profoundly moving exploration of the myths and realities of present-day Lebanon, as reflected through the voices of women."

Media Collection HQ1728.L433 1994

Lettere dalla Palestina = Palestinian Writers
[Filmmakers Library] (50 min) Dir. Matteo Bellinelli
"This is a portrait of two important women writers from the West Bank: Sahar Khalifah and Liana Badr. Sahar Khalifah, a feminist and revolutionary, is considered by some to be the most prominent Palestinian novelist. Liana Badr, an intellectual who has experienced several dislocations in her life as a result of being part of the Palestinian Establishment, returned to Palestine after the Oslo Agreement of 1993."

Media Collection PJ7842.H2938 Z468 2000

Linda and Ali
[Women Make Movies, 2006] (95 min.) Dir. Lut Vandekeybus
"Provides a nuanced and intimate look into the life of a traditional Muslim family in Doha, Qatar. But Linda and Ali’s 20-year marriage is far from traditional. Linda was brought up Catholic in Arizona and met Ali – a Shiite Muslim from Qatar – at college in the 1980’s. Shot during the American invasion of Iraq, this poignant film shows how Linda and Ali struggle to surmount their cultural differences while raising their seven children in a lively, loving home."

Media Collection HQ1031.L6745 2006x

al-Mar’ah shaja’ah: Luwizah Ighil Ahriz = Women Is Courage = Femme courage: Louisa Ighilahriz
[Arab Film Dist., 2003] (58 min) Arabic and French with English subtitles.
"This fascinating and emotionally gripping documentary by director Amine Rachedi narrates the story of Louisette Ighilahriz, a young Algerian woman who joined the
national liberation movement after her father was seized by French colonial authorities in the mid 1950s."

Media Collection DT295.3.I36 W66 2003

**Maria’s Grotto**
[Seattle: Arab Film Dist., 2007] (52 min) Arabic with English subtitles. Dir. Buthina Canaan Khoury

“Honor killings, a serious issue in many Arab countries, are considered a taboo subject. If a woman is presumed to have sex outside of marriage her punishment is death, to avenge the family’s honor. Khoury explores this practice through the stories of four women. One is wrongly accused and murdered; the second dies after being forced by her brothers to swallow poison; the third survives repeated stabbings from her brother; the fourth is a Hip-hop singer who dares speak out about the custom and faces death threats.”

Media Collection HV6626.23.P19 M37 2007

**Marina of the Zabbaleen**

"Enter the extraordinary world of seven-year-old Marina, as she lives in the Muqqattam garbage recycling village in Cairo, Egypt. Her world of simple beauty and big dreams (she aspires to be a doctor) cannot be diminished by the difficulty of her circumstances. An impressionistic portrait of childhood and family, the film also tells the story of the resourceful Zabbaleen, a Coptic Christian community of recyclers whose entrepreneurial waste management system produces the highest recycling rate in the world. ... in May 2009, in reaction to the outbreak of Swine Influenza, the Egyptian government ordered the eradication of the country’s pig population. For almost a century, the Zabbaleen had raised pigs to consume the thousands of tons of organic waste generated daily by Cairo’s residents. No people has felt the ramifications of the Swine Influenza pandemic more acutely than the Zabbaleen, who were stripped of the crucial foundation of their thorough recycling system"

Media Collection HQ792.E35 M37 2009

**Mawsim Zar’ al-Banat = The Planting of Women**
[Arab Film Dist., 2009?] (37 min) Arabic with English subtitles. Dir. Viola Shafik

"Although Female Genital Mutilation...is forbidden by law in Egypt and banned in public and private hospitals and clinics, official statistics show that nearly 96% of women in Egypt are still circumcised. This controversial-yet-level-headed documentary examines why FGM is practiced, the reactions to it and its medical, historical, cultural and sexual significance – all from women’s perspectives and in women’s voices."

Media Collection GN648.M38 2009

**Mrs. President: Women and Political Leadership in Iran**
[Films for the Humanities & Sciences, 2002] (47 min) Dir. Shahla Haeri

"In the summer of 2001, 47 Iranian women neither affiliated with nor supported by any political party registered themselves as candidates for the presidential elections. Due to the Guardian Council’s interpretation of a clause in the constitution, none of the women were allowed to run. This documentary presents the thoughts and opinions of six female
candidates who agreed to be interviewed, along with the commentary of two female Iranian journalists who cover political developments for magazines in their country."

**Murshidat: Female Primary Health Care Workers Transforming Society in Yemen**
[PennState Media, 1999] (38 min) Dir. Delores M. Walters
"Twenty women have transformed a dormant facility into a thriving health center, which includes former social outcasts and slaves - as both health care recipients and health care providers. The documentary features the murshidat speaking out on their changing roles, identities and aspirations as Muslim women."

**Nawbat al-nisa’ bi-Jabal Sunwah = The Nouba of the women of Mount Chenoua**
[Women Make Movies, 2007?] (115 min) In Arabic with English subtitles. Algeria. Dir. Assia Djebar
“Returning to her native region 15 years after the end of the Algerian war, Lila is obsessed by memories of the war for independence that defined her childhood. In dialogue with other Algerian women, she reflects on the differences between her life and theirs. In lyrical footage she contemplates the power of grandmothers who pass down traditions of anti-colonial resistance to their heirs.”

**The Noble Struggle of Amina Wadud**
[Women Make Movies, 2007] (29 min.) Dir. Elli Safari
On March 18, 2005, Amina Wadud shocked the Islamic world by leading a mixed-gender Friday prayer congregation in New York. A fascinating and powerful portrait of this African-American Muslim woman who soon found herself the subject of much debate and Muslim juristic discourse. In defying 1400 years of Islamic tradition, her action caused global awareness of the struggle for women’s rights within Islam but also brought violence and death threats against her."

**The Price of Change**
[First Run/Icarus Films, 1982] (26 min) Dir. Marilyn Gaunt
"For 60 years, Egyptian women have been gradually entering all sectors of the public work force. Work outside the home, once considered shameful, has today become a necessity. Today, nearly 40% of Egyptian women contribute in some way to providing the family income..."

**Queen of the Mountain**
[Women Make Movies, 2005] (56 min) Dir. Martha Goell Lubell
"Theresa Goell started her career as an archaeologist with four strikes against her: she was a female, divorced, a Jew working with Muslims and hearing impaired. But Goell abandoned her comfortable lifestyle to pursue her passion at Nemrud Dagh, a site that had eluded archaeologists for centuries. Lubell’s tender film brings this epic adventure to
life through breathtaking archival footage, family photographs and Goell’s letters and oral history"
Media Collection DS156.N45 T44 2005

*al-Ramlah Lev ha-Erets = Ramleh*
[Women Make Movies, 2001] (58 min) Hebrew with English subtitles. Dir. Michal Aviad
"A timely and powerful look at the ideological, cultural and political conflicts in contemporary Israel, this highly original documentary profiles three seemingly disparate women residing in the town of Ramleh. Located in the heartland of the Israel, this former Palestinian territory serves as a microcosm of the beliefs, biases and conflicts of women living in the country today."
Media Collection HQ1728.5.R365 2001b

*Rights & wrongs: the story of women in Islam*
[Women Make Movies, 2011] (135 min)
“For centuries the Qu’ran has been interpreted by men to suppress women, but in fact when it was written it represented an enlightened approach to women. Renowned Muslim feminist scholars and journalists, including Asra Q. Nomani, Mona Eltahawy, Azadeh Moaveni, Dr. Amina Wadud, Dr. Khaled Abou El Fadl and Asma Gull Hasan, detail how from early on very different understandings of the Qu’ran lead to vastly different translations, with enormous repercussions for women living in different Islamic societies around the world. The film alternates between the history of Mohammad and his women, and issues facing women in Islam today--from wearing of the veil, to praying in the mosque, and attitudes towards domestic violence and honor killings.”
Media Collection BJ1292.W6 R54 2011

*Runaway*
[Women Make Movies, 2001] (87 min) Dir. K. Longinotto & Z. Mir-Hosseini
"A powerful and heart-breaking documentary about a group of young runaway girls who are taken to a women's shelter in Tehran-Iran. The film focuses on the sufferings of young girls who struggle to free themselves from the tyrannical and abusive power of their families, mainly their fathers, brothers, and stepfathers -- a subject rarely touched upon by Iranian filmmakers."
Media Collection HV1441.I7.R86 2001

*Ruzgar-i Ma = Our Times*
[Facets Video, 2005] (75 min) Persian with English subtitles. Dir. Rakhshan Bani-Eternad
"Documenting events surrounding the 2001 Iranian presidential election, director Rakhshan Bani-Eternad works with two groups of women, one old and one young, to contrast divergent political attitudes across the generation gap. At one end of this spectrum is the director’s daughter and a group of her friends who form a committee to support the incumbent, President Khatami. On the other end is a group of forty-eight older women running for office on a reform party ticket, despite being thrown off the
ballot by an all-male government. The two stories are linked by the story of Arezoo Bayat and her daughter who are simply trying to scratch out a living amid the headier issue of the elections."

Media Collection HQ1236.5.17 R89 2005

al-Sabbar = Cactus
[Arab Film Dist., 2000] (97 min) Arabic, Hebrew, and English with English and French subtitles. Dir. Patrick Burge
"Zuhaira Sabbagh, a young Arab woman with an Israeli passport, leads a youth group in Nazareth during her free time. “Armed” with nothing more than cameras, the group searches for ruins of Arab villages that were destroyed by the Israeli army in 1948."

Media Collection DS113.7.S324 2000

Sabiha Gokcen: Turk kizi, gok kizi, Ataturk kizi = The legendary girl of the skies
[Tiglon, 2006] (54 min)
“Documentary on Sabiha Gökçen, the world’s first female combat pilot, using rare archival footage and interviews to recount her amazing life story and accomplishments in aviation history. Gökçen was born in the small town of Bursa in 1913 and adopted by Kemal Atatürk, the founder of the Republic of Turkey. Her childhood coincided with the dawn of aviation. Gökçen completed aviation school and became a combat pilot at the age of 23, on the eve of the Second World War. She earned numerous international awards and recognition for her skills and bravery during the war. She retired from active flying in 1964 and died in Ankara in 2001.”

Media Collection TL540.G622 S23 2006

Sabriya (Africa Dreaming)
[California Newsreel, 1997] Arabic with English subtitles
"Four television shorts produced in four different African countries to be shown on the African television series Africa Dreaming. In Sophia’s Homecoming (Namibia) a woman who has worked as a domestic returns home to a terrible discovery: the ruptures caused by apartheid can never be repaired. In Sabriya (Tunisia) a modern woman disrupts the patterned mosaic of male Maghrebi society. So Be It (Senegal), based on a play by Wole Soyinka, follows the destruction of a well intentioned foreign doctor confronting fear, rage and powerlessness in a remote Senegalese village. The Gaze of the Stars (Mozambique) is a story about machismo in Mozambique, so powerful that it drives away whatever it loves."

Media Collection PN1997.A1 A345 1997

Salatah baladi
[Women Make Movies, 2007] (106 min) Dir. Nadia Kamel
"Award-winning, Egyptian filmmaker Nadia Kamel’s heritage is a complex blend of religions and cultures. Her mother is a half Jewish, half Italian Christian who converted to Islam when she married Nadia’s half Turkish, half Ukrainian father. Prompted by the realization that her 10-year-old nephew Nabeel is growing up in an Egyptian society where talk of culture clashes is all too common, she decides to let her mother, Mary Rosenthal, share their diverse family history. But, as she and Mary weave their way
through the family’s fairytales, they bump into the silence around old prejudices concerning the estranged Egyptian Jewish branch of their family living in Israel since 1948. Inspired to further challenge the boundaries between cultures, religions and nationalities that are used to divide us, Kamel travels, along with her mother and nephew, to Israel and Italy and confronts fears and prejudices along the way."

*Sayyidat al-qasr = Lady of the Palace – Dame du palais*
[Arab Film Distribution, 2003] (58 min.) Arabic with English subtitles.
"Traces the history of Mount Lebanon’s Joumblat family from the 17th century to the present, focusing on early-twentieth century leader and politician Nazira Joumblat. She presided over the region as Lady of the Palace for twenty-five years while raising her son Kamal, preparing him to take his place in a long line of Joumblat leaders."

*el Sebou’ = Egyptian Birth Ritual*
"In Egypt, a birth ritual called el-sebou’, meaning "the seventh", happens on the seventh day following the physical birth of a child of either sex and is celebrated by Coptic and Muslim families of all status groups, rural and urban. Anthropologist Fadwa El Guindi portrays the sebou’ ritual as a rite of passage with the universal three phases of transition (separation, liminality, incorporation) and as the key ceremony in an individual's life cycle until marriage."

*The Settlers*
[First Run/Icarus Films, 2002] (58 min) Dir. Ruth Walk
"Israeli documentarist Ruth Walk directed this candid look at the lives of several Orthodox Jewish housewives, each raising large families in Tel Rumeidah, a small Israeli settlement inside the Palestinian West Bank."

*The seven tapes: a documentary autobiography*
[Yair Qedar, 2012] (52 min) Hebrew with English subtitles. Israel. Dir. Yair Qedar
“cinematic journey into the world of Yona Wallach, an Israeli poet, whose radical life and poetry ended with her death at an early age, leaving behind a myth and a trail of admirers. More than 25 years after her death, seven recorded tapes from her last interview, which were made with Helit Yeshurun, are discovered. In these tapes, Wallach confesses to her attraction to madness, her experiments with drugs, her relationship with god and about the dangers of writing. The film weaves her testimony with interviews, with rare archival footage, with her poems and with animation that revives Wallach’s thoughts, images and visions.”

*Shackled Women*
Program assesses second- and third-world abuses of women’s rights by the male establishment and examines how female collaboration sometimes contributes to their perpetuation. Feminist Taslima Nasreen and others speak out on topics such as dowry deaths, female circumcision, the Islamic Zina law, the rigors of Hijab, child prostitution and female infanticide.”

Shahrbanoo = Shahrbanu
[Arab Film Dist., 2008] (58 min) Dir. H. Rahamanian
"The filmmakers capture their shared encounter of an American woman with a strictly-conservative Iranian family. Wife and husband team Melissa and Hamid, after arriving at her mother-in-law’s house, are befriended by Shahrbanoo, housekeeper to the filmmaker’s family, and who invites Melissa to a family gathering. Living in one of the poorest neighborhoods of Tehran, Shahrbanoo (Farsi for "Matriarch") introduces Melissa to an intense cultural exchange about subjects. ranging from women’s place in society to American foreign policy. The film depicts a range of marked differences that nonetheless are accompanied by a deeper layer of commonalities allowing connections across cultural gulfs." Also includes the director’s Sir Alfred of Charles de Gaulle Airport.
Media Collection HQ1735.2.S574 2008

The Shape of Water
[Kum-Kum Bhavnani, 2006] (70 min). Dir. Kum-Kum Bhavnani
"The documentary weaves together the daily life stories of Khady, Bilkusben, Oraiza, Dona Antonia, and Gila who, through candor and humor, infuse their communities with a passion for change. The women spearhead rainforest preservation (women working as rubber-tappers in the Brazilian rainforest); sustain a vast co-operative of rural women (India: SEWA: the largest trades union in the world with 700,000 members); promote an end to female genital cutting (FGC) (Senegal: communities abandoning FGC); strengthen opposition to the Israeli occupation of Palestine (Women in Black in Jerusalem); maintain a farm, Navdanya (in the foothills of the Himalayas) to further economic independence and biodiversity by preserving women’s role as seed keepers"
Media Collection HQ1236.S53 2006

Sheikha Stories
[Arab Film Distribution, 2009] (37 min) Dir. Brigid Maher
Five films about Muslim women who are leaders and teachers in their mosques: “The Modern Sheikha”, “Magda’s Calling”, “The Socratic Sheikha”, “Ladies of Brilliance”, “Mosque of Light”
Media Collection BP173.4.S482 2009

Shirin Ebadi: a Simple Lawyer
[First Run/Icarus Films, 2004] (48 min)
"This documentary profiles Iranian attorney Shirin Ebadi, who was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize in 2003 for her efforts for democracy and human rights, in particular the struggle for the rights of women and children."
Subyan wa-banat = On Boys, Girls, and the Veil
[Arab Film Dist., 1995] (72 min) Arabic with English subtitles. Dir. Yousry Nasrallah
"With his leading protagonist and friend (Bassam Samra), Nasrallah takes us on an exquisite tour of a subject normally overdramatized by the West. Taking the debate beyond the simplistic approach and with familiarity rarely seen, young men and women talk about the ‘hijab’ and its social implications."
Media Collection BP190.5.H44 O539 2000z

Sidet: Forced Exile
[Women Make Movies, 1991] (60 min) Tigrinya and Arabic with English subtitles. Dir. & prod. Selim Mekuria
"During the past two decades, more than two million refugees have left Ethiopia. Famine, poverty and political strife as well as the religious persecution caused by Eritrea’s annexation have already cost countless lives. Narrated by Salem Mekuria, an Ethiopian filmmaker in the US, this lucid documentary presents the life stories of three women refugees in neighboring Sudan."
Media Collection HV640.5.S53 1991

Standard-bearers of Hussein
[Universitet i Tromso, 2003] (35 min.) Dir. Ingrid Flaskerud
"The film introduces Iranian Shi´i women’s performances of commemoration rituals during Muharram and Safar. In parallel to men’s mourning ceremonies, women gather in gender-specific rituals in which they act as hosts, leaders, assistants, servants, lay participants, and financial supporters. The film narrative pursues the viewpoints of two lay-women who host rituals in their home, and that of a female ritual leader. The rituals are connected to and oriented toward the metahistorical dimension of the battle at Karbala in 680 A.D. The rituals can be profoundly spiritual, while at the same time connecting to social issues of contemporary Iran."
Media Collection BP194.4 .S72 2003

Suwar min mudhakkirat = La mémoire fertile = Fertile memory
“Blending both documentary and narrative elements, Khleifi crafts a story of two Palestinian women whose individual struggles both define and transcend the politics that have torn apart their homes and their lives. Shot within the disputed Palestinian West Bank "Green Line."
Media Collection HQ1728.5.Z8 S88 2004

Tanha dar Tihran = Alone in Tehran
[Arab Film Dist., 2005?] (25 min) Persian with English subtitles. Dir. Piruz Kalantari.
"Behnaz Jafari is a young, aspiring actress in Tehran who wants to live a carefree and creative lifestyle. This lifestyle is not easy to obtain for a modern 24 year-old woman who lives alone in contemporary Iranian society. In this interesting documentary, the old
is contrasted with the new as Behnaz considers the traditional advice she receives from well-meaning friends while still following her dream to lead a free life and become one of Iran's leading actresses.

_Tehorah = Purity, Breaking the Codes of Silence_
[Women Make Movies, 2002] (63 min) Hebrew with English subtitles.
"Israeli filmmaker Anat Zuria examines the Tharat Hamishpaha, or Taharat HaMishpacha (family purity), religious laws that are often seen as imposed by men to shape women’s lives and sexuality. The filmmaker and her friends discuss their own struggles with observance and adaptation of traditional practices to their changing lives, exploring the meaning of purity to modern women."

_Ten_
[Zeitgeist Films, 2002] (94 min) Persian with English subtitles. Dir. Abbas Kiarostami
"A deceptively simple work—shot on digital video within the confines of a single vehicle—that brings the intricate nature of Iran’s sexual and social politics into sharp focus. Seen through the eyes of a beautiful, chador-clad divorcée, the film catches her impromptu conversations with various female passengers (and her imperious young son) as she navigates Tehran’s congested and vibrant streets over the course of several days. As Kiarostami’s “dashboard cam” eavesdrops on these extraordinary and moving stories of sex, divorce, love and religion, an entirely original and fascinating portrait of modern Iran emerges."

_That Paradise Will Be Mine_
[Women Make Movies, 2005] (55 min.) Dutch with English subtitles.
"This eye-opening film follows the lives of three women dealing with the consequences of their choice to convert to Islam. Rather than pressing the women for the reasons behind their choice, director Merel Beernink takes a close look at their day-to-day lives, letting them speak candidly about how they feel in their new cultural and religious context."

_They Call Me Muslim_
[Women Make Movies, 2006] (27 min)
"Two contrasting profiles of Muslim women who have made opposite decisions about wearing the … Hijab. One in France has chosen to wear the hijab in defiance of French Law. The other skirts the law in Iran, by wearing it as little as possible."

_Tunisian women: we will stand up_
[Third World Newsreel, 2013] (56 min) Dir. Hajer Ben Nasr
“On December 18, 2010 Tunisians of all ages took the streets of Tunis to demand better living conditions and the end of President Ben Ali’s repressive dictatorship, starting what
would become the 2011 Tunisian Revolution and the Arab Spring. Among the demonstrators were seven Tunisian women activists, each one of these women celebrating the culmination of a life devoted to the fight for freedom and democracy in their country."

Media Collection HQ1792 .T865 2013

_Umm Kulthum: a Voice Like Egypt_
[Arab Film Dist., 1996] (68 min) Dir. Michal Goldman
"She had the musicality of Ella Fitzgerald, the public presence of Eleanor Roosevelt and the audience of Elvis Presley. Born a peasant at the turn of the last century, legendary Egyptian singer Umm Kulthum earned a position of great wealth and influence. Featuring concert footage, film clips and interviews with the famed singer’s friends and colleagues, Goldman's documentary places the life and career of Umm Kulthum in the context of the epic story of 20th century Egypt."

Media Collection ML420.U46 U46 1996
Music Service Desk ML420.U46 U46 1996b

_Under One Sky: Arab Women in North America Talk about the Hijab_
[Films for the Humanities & Sciences, 1999] (44 min) Dir. Jennifer Kawaja
"Is the hijab—the veil associated with Muslim women—a symbol of oppression, an emblem of cultural identity, a combination of these two elements, or something else altogether? Set against a backdrop of Madison Avenue ads and Hollywood movies that alternately romanticize and demonize the Middle Eastern woman, this program presents the history of Arab womanhood, from the days of the early colonial missions to the post-Gulf War era."

Media Collection HQ1170.U534 2000

_ Unveiled Views: Muslim Women Artists Speak out_
[Women Make Movies, 2010] (52 min)
"Five extraordinary Muslim women talk about their occupations, aspirations, and the rights and status of women in their countries. They challenge the expected and enforced rules that dictate their lives and strive to rise above violence and oppression. These self-portraits of hope, heroism, and pride challenge conventional Western stereotypes about women in the Islamic world"

Media Collection HQ1170.U58 2009

_Usturat Ruz al-Yusuf = The Legend of Rose Al-Youssef = Legende de Rose Al-Youssef_
[Arab Film Distribution, 2002] (56 min.) Arabic with English subtitles.
"Although Egyptian actress and political activist Rose Al-Youssef was adamant about not allowing the production of any work that presented the story of her life, her family finally gave their consent for the making of this film. This informative documentary examines the personality and private life of Rose Al-Youssef, as well as her remarkable career and accomplishments."

Media Collection PN1998.3.Y87 L44 2002

_A Veiled Revolution_
"Egyptian women were the first Arab women to march in political demonstrations (1919), the first to take off their veils publicly (1923), and the first to receive free secular education (1924). But today the educated granddaughters of those early Arab feminists are returning to Islamic dress, complete with full face veil and gloves. This film considers possible reasons for this turn back to tradition - the resurgence of Islamic fundamentalism, the rejection of western values - as Egyptian women speak out.”

"Women in the Arab world are redefining their role as leaders in Islam. Veiled voices investigates the world of Muslim women religious leaders through the eyes of three women--in Lebanon, Syria and Egypt. ... The stories featured in the film give insight into how Muslim women are now increasingly willing to challenge the status quo from within their religion, promoting Islam as a powerful force for positive transformation in the world. Each [of the three women featured] triumphs over difficult challenges as they carve out a space to lead--both in Islam and in their communities”

"A young Canadian filmmaker travels deep into eastern Turkey, the heartland of her Kurdish ancestors, to investigate the unsolved murder of her aunt.”

"Thirty years ago, urban Afghan women were making unprecedented strides socially and professionally. Now, they are virtually erased from the public face of their nation. Combining vérité footage, interviews and archival material, View from a grain of sand is a ... portrait of Afghan women’s history over the last 30 years--from the rule of King Zahir Shah in the 1960s to the current Hamid Karzai government. Told through the eyes of three Afghan women--a doctor, teacher, and women’s rights activist--this documentary tells the story of how war, international interference and the rise of religious fundamentalism have stripped Afghan women of rights and freedom. Together with rarely seen archival footage, their powerful stories provide illuminating context for Afghanistan’s current situation and the ongoing battle women face to gain even basic human rights"

"Follows the socialization process of young woman living under Orthodox Islamic law. Resisting traditional definitions of a woman’s role in society as only a dutiful daughter or
wife, she struggles to find a space for her existence amidst the web of conditions imposed upon her by restrictive familial and societal conventions."

Media Collection HQ1170.V653 1992

**Voices Unveiled: Turkish Women Who Dare**  
[New York: Women Make Movies, 2010] (71 min)  
"Can Islamic values co-exist with full equality for women? Voices unveiled examines this timely issue through portraits of three women pursuing life paths and careers of their own choosing in present-day Turkey. Textile artist Belkis Belpinar [i.e., Balpınar], whose work combines science and kilim rug traditions, resisted her father’s wishes that she study engineering. Dancer and psychologist Banu Yucelar [i.e., Yuceler] braved family opposition to modern dance, widely perceived as a form of prostitution. Women’s rights activist Nur Bakata Mardin helps women in underserved communities form small business cooperatives. Each has defied social expectations in a democratic, secular nation where religious fundamentalism has re-emerged as a political force and patriarchal values still prevail"

Media Collection HQ1726.7.V65 2010

**Wearing hijab: uncovering the myths of Islam in the United States**  
[Films for the Humanities & Sciences, 2004] (34 min) Dir. Ray LeJeune  
“Six Muslim women from six different ethnic backgrounds discuss their relationship to the traditional veil known as hijab, as well as what it means to practice Islam in the U.S.”

Media Collection BP190.5.H44 W43 2004

**Who Gives Kisses Freely from Her Lips**  
[New York: Third World Newsreel, 2009] (41 min)  
“A film mixing documentary with fiction to tell the story of Salomé, a filmmaker who travels to Iran, determined to make a film on the practice of temporary marriage, known as "sigheh". A taboo subject in Iranian culture, the filmmaker records insightful interviews with couples who are or have been involved in temporary marriage arrangements. The film looks at the complexity of the Shia Islamic institution, specifically the cultural beliefs and contradictions it presents.”

Media Collection HQ666.4.W46 2009

**Women and Islam**  
[Films for the Humanities & Sciences, 1994] (30 min) Dir. Mahmood Jamal  
"Leila Ahmed, professor of women’s studies at Amherst, argues the case for revision of the widely-held views in the Islamic world about the role of women, using examples from history and the role played by women in the contemporary world. She explains the origin of the veil, and discusses the issue of marriage and women’s rights within marriage."

Media Collection HQ1170.W563 1994

**The Women Next Door**  
[Women Make Movies, 1992] (80 min) English, Hebrew, & Arabic. Dir. Michal Aviad
"A thoughtful and emotive documentary about women in the Palestinian-Israeli conflict. The film explores the roles that the Occupation designated for women on both sides and the questions it raises. In a world of occupation, what is the meaning of femininity, motherhood, birth, violence, compassion and solidarity between women?"
Media Collection HQ1728.5.W677 1992

_Yarita pa’am be-mishehu? = Ever Shot Anyone?_
[Women Make Movies, 201-?] (58 min) Hebrew with English subtitles. Dir. Michal Aviad
"Israeli filmmaker Michal Aviad provides a woman's take on how national culture is informed by male identity through the military experience that bonds her country's Jewish men. This film documents Aviad's attempt to infiltrate the world of army reservists during their annual tour of duty on the Golan Heights."
Media Collection UB419.I75 Y37 2010

_Zahrat al-qandūl = Zahrat el Kindoul = Women of South Lebanon_
[Arab Film Distribution, 200-] (75 min) Dir. Jean Chamoun & Mai Masri
“Women played a crucial role in fighting the Israeli invasion of southern Lebanon. This film preserves their stories on camera. The result is a poignant docu-drama about resistance and hope.”
Media Collection DS87.2.Z34 2000z

_Zananah = The Ladies’_
"Directed by the acclaimed Iranian actress Mahnaz Afzali and filmed entirely inside a ladies washroom in a public park in Tehran, this absorbing documentary shatters Western preconceptions of Iranian women. Populated by addicts, prostitutes, runaway girls and others who simply enjoy the camaraderie and atmosphere, the ladies room becomes one of the few places where women feel comfortable enough to smoke cigarettes, discuss taboo subjects and remove their veils."
Media Collection HQ1735.2.Z34 2003

_Zanha-yi misl-i ma = Women Like Us_
"Filmmaker Persheng Sadegh-Vaziri returns to Iran after 20 years as an expatriate to present this intimate and revealing portrait of five ordinary Iranian women: a nurse, a journalist, a rice farmer, a religious college graduate and a piano teacher. An important and timely look at contemporary Iran."
Media Collection HQ1735.2.Z75 Z35 2003

_Zinat: yak ruz bi-khusus = Zinat: one special day_
[FirstRun/Icarus, 2000] (54 min)
“Documentary film about Zinat, the first woman from the island of Qeshm in the south of Iran to remove the traditional veil (borgheh) and became a health care worker, who is
now running for political office in the first local council elections in 20 years. Live footage taken inside her house the day of the election.”

Media Collection HQ1236.5.17 Z56 2000