CHILDREN, FAMILIES, MARRIAGE, & DIVORCE

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FEATURES

Ali Zaoua
[Arab Film Dist., 2000] (95 min) Arabic and French with English subtitles. Morocco. Dir. Nabil Ayouch
"A memorable and moving portrait of the lives of street kids living in Casablanca's abandoned lots. Ali, Kouka, Omar and Boubker, four young friends who are members of a gang, rebel against their cruel leader's oppressive rule and strike out on their own, running away from "home" a second time."
Media Collection PN1997.A3224 7 2000

'al-'Alkah al-hamra' = Red chewing gum
[Arab Film Dist., 2000] (48 min) Arabic with English subtitles. Lebanon. Dir. Akram Zaatari
Media Collection PN1997.A3228 2000z

'Arus-i farari = Runaway Bride
[Bita Films, 2005] (100 min) Persian with English subtitles. Iran. Dir. Bahram Kazemi
"Just before her wedding a woman finds out that the groom is already married. After the bride’s father rents a groom for her wedding night to prevent any family disaster, she leaves to get revenge with her unfaithful husband to be."
Media Collection PN1997.A7656 2005

'Arusi-i khuban = The Marriage of the Blessed
[Farabi Cinema, 2001] (70 min) Persian with English subtitles. Iran. Dir. Muhsin Makhmalbaf
"Haji, a shell-shocked veteran of the Iran-Iraq war, struggles to find meaning in his life when he returns to his job as a photojournalist. Disturbed by the contrast between the soldiers sacrificing their lives and the indifference of the local population of Tehran, he sinks into depression. Mehri, his fiancee, hopes to speed his recovery by hastening their wedding, but they find they must defy the hypocrisy of their families and authorities as they strive to create a life together."
Media Collection PN1997.A7858 2001
ha-Asonot shel Ninah = Nina’s tragedies
“A 14-year old boy is sent to live with his aunt after her husband dies in a terrorist attack.”
Media Collection PN1997.2 .A836 2005

[Arab Film Dist., 1983] (116 min) Turkish with English subtitles. Turkey. Dir. Ali Ozgenturk
"Set in modern Turkey, The Horse is a compelling story of a father and son's struggle against desperate poverty and hardship to earn enough money so that the boy can go to school."
Media Collection PN1997.A7847 1987

Atash bas = Cease fire
“Irreverent romantic comedy with saucy dialogue and a pointed insight into modern marriage. An exasperated newlywed unloads about her chauvinist husband in her psychiatrist’s office, but we see her antagonizing immature bickering is partially to blame.”

Ayinah = The Mirror
"When a young girl becomes lost in the hustle and bustle of Tehran, her journey turns into a dazzling exercise on the nature of film itself."
Media Collection PN1997.A977 2005

Baba ‘Aziz: the Prince Who Contemplated His Soul
"The story of a blind dervish named Bab’Aziz and his spirited granddaughter, Ishtar. Together they wander the desert in search of a great reunion of dervishes that takes place just once every thirty years. With faith as their only guide, the two journey for days through the expansive, barren landscape. To keep Ishtar entertained, Bab’Aziz relays the ancient tale of a prince who relinquished his realm. As the tale of the prince unfolds, the two encounter other travelers with stories of their own"
Media Collection PN1997.2.B323 2008

Babam ve oglum
[Tigion, 2009] (113 min) Turkish with English subtitles. Turkey. Dir. Sukru Avsar
"Sadik is one of the rebellious youth who has been politically active as a university student and became a left-wing journalist in the 70’s, despite his father’s expectations of him becoming an agricultural engineer and taking control of their family farm in an Aegean village. On the dawn of September 12, 1980, when a merciless military coup hits
the country, they cannot find access to any hospital or a doctor and his wife dies while giving birth to their only child, Deniz. After a long-lasting period of torture, trials, and jail time, Sadik returns to his village with 7-8 years old Deniz, knowing that it will be hard to correct things with his father, Huseyin"-- Ali Riza Bolukbasi, Internet movie database.

Media Collection PN1997.2 B32 2009

**Bachah’ha-yi asman = Children of Heaven**
“A young boy, Ali, loses his sister Zahra’s school shoes. In order to stay out of trouble, the two come up with a plan to share Ali’s shoes, but they must keep it a secret from their parents.”

Media Collection PN1997 B1968 1999

**Badkunak-i Safid = The White Balloon**
“Simple and spare yet filled with observant detail, it’s a mild, beguiling movie about a 7-year-old girl's tenacious quest to buy a cherished goldfish for her family's New Year's Day celebration. With an almost miraculous ability to capture moments and reality unhindered by the presence of a camera and crew, Panahi handles this seemingly trivial story as a child's emotional odyssey, set amidst the daily rhythms of Teheran as a city where kindness and cruelty can be found in close proximity.”

Media Collection PN1997 B1965 1996

**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.”

Media Collection PN1997 B368 2003

**Baran**
“The story of illegal Afghan immigrants living and working at a construction site in Tehran, Iran. When one of the workers is injured, his daughter, posing as a man, becomes the breadwinner. But a hot-headed 17 year-old local youth also working at the site discovers the secret.”

Media Collection PN1997.2 B37 2002

**Bashu, gharibah-yi kuchak = Bashu, the Little Stranger**
“Little Bashu loses his home and family in an air raid and stows away on a truck going to a region far away from the battle fronts. In this alien environment everything seems strange to the boy. Nai, a woman whose husband has gone on a journey, finds Bashu in her farm and gives him shelter. After Bashu tells her of his past life, Nai accepts him as a son and tries to initiate him into the ways of life in the region. When Nai’s husband returns home he approves of his wife’s decision and adopts Bashu.”


Buyuk yalnizlik
[Fanatik, 200-?] (78 min) Turkish with English subtitles. Turkey. Dir. Yavuz Ozkan
"A married couple who are about to get divorced passes a rainy night together for the last time and they analyze their relationship"
Media Collection PN1997.B89 2000z

Bye-bye
"Examines the conflict arising between a generation of North Africans still attached to their homeland and that of their French-born children carving a home in a place that does not want them. Ismaël, a handsome 25 year old haunted by guilt over a family tragedy leaves Paris and arrives in the French port city of Marseilles with his 14 year old brother, Mouloud. Their uncle's family, who lives in a seedy, raucous section of town, welcomes them. As Ismaël finds honest work on the docks, Mouloud is taken under the wing of his teenaged cousin, Rhida, whose dabblings as a drug dealer introduce young Mouloud to a terrifying world of violence."

Calendar = Orats’oys’
[Zeitgeist Films, 1993] (ca. 73 min) Armenian & English with English subtitles. Armenia & Canada. Dir. Atom Egoyan
"In this, one of his most personal films, Atom Egoyan himself plays a photographer hired to capture images of Armenian churches for a calendar. He takes his wife (real-life wife and frequent star Arsinée Khanjian) along as a translator, and, as they travel with their Armenian guide, their relationship begins to unravel. The photographer returns to Canada with his pictures, but without his wife, who has gradually been drawn to her ethnic roots and has fallen in love with the guide."
Media Collection PN1997.C22 2006

Chahar shanbah-i suri
[Facets, 2008] (104 min) Persian with English subtitles. Iran. Dir. Asghar Farhadi
“All of Tehran is preparing to celebrate the traditional New Year with the festival of fire, which falls on the last Tuesday night before the official New Year begins. A young woman named Rouhi is employed by a young couple to clean their house. Sweet and naive, Rouhi is engaged to be married, but her innocence is shattered when she finds her employers’ household in crisis over accusations of infidelity.”
Media Collection PN1997.C422 2008
**Dam al-ghazal**  
“A poor orphan girl and a young radical find their lives intertwined in modern-day Cairo.”  
Media Collection PN1997.2.D35 2005

**Dukhtari ba kafsh’ha-yi katani = The Girl in the Sneakers**  
[IrMovies.com, 1998] (88 min) Persian with English subtitles. Iran. Dir. Rasul Sadr Amili  
“After some unhappy accidents and in protest against her living conditions, fifteen-year-old Tadaie runs away from home when her parents forbid her to see a boy she favors. She begins an unknown and mysterious journey to Tehran in order to explore the world around her. She goes everywhere in town - from the lush orchards of uptown to the dwelling quarters of the people who have come to dead-ends in their lives. A story of youthful rebellion and its consequence, including first love and its subsequent disappointment.”  
Media Collection PN1997.D846 1996

**'Ets ha-Domim Tafus = Under the Domim Tree**  
"Based on the autobiographical book by Gila Almagor. The film is set in the early 50's and follows a group of teenage orphans who survived the Nazi concentration camps and now live on a kibbutz in Israel."  
Media Collection PN1997.E8 2005

**The Father**  
One of “three short films [offering] a critical look at the relationships between fathers and their children in contemporary Africa. In The Father, the patriarch in question is ultimately the military dictatorship which terrorized Ethiopia in the 70s and 80s.”  
Media Collection PN1997.F35235 2000

**Filim bitti**  
[Fanatik, 2005?] (98 min) Turkish with English subtitles. Turkey. Dir. Yavuz Ozkan  
“A couple, an actor and an actress, decides to end their marriage at the same time that they are offered roles as lovers in a new movie. As a result, they begin to share two opposite lives, reflecting for the film a passionate and poetic love that no longer exists in real life.”  
Media Collection PN1997.F459 2005

**Le grand voyage = al-Rihlah al-kubra**
Film Movement, 2006] (108 min) French & Arabic with English subtitles. Dir. Ismael Ferroukhi
“The stern father of a Muslim family in France has his teenage son drive him to Mecca for the religious pilgrimage known as the hajj. The son, who is irreligious and has a non-Muslim girlfriend, doesn’t relate to his traditionalist father, nor does the dad relate to his son -- a culture clash (and generational clash) that is the spine of their entire trip to Saudi Arabia.”
Media Collection PN1997.2 .G739 2006

Ham’nafas = Soul Mate
[IrMovies.com, 2004] (96 min) Persian with English subtitles. Iran. Dir. Mehdi Fakhimzadeh
“Recently released from an asylum, Bihruz meets Shirin and impulsively decides to marry her.”
Media Collection PN1997 .H343 2004

Hatunah meuheret = Mariage Tardif = Late Marriage
"Zaza has run out of time. He’s almost 32 and his family wants to see him married. But tradition dictates that Zaza has to choose a young virgin. She must be beautiful and from a good family, preferably rich. What his parents don’t know is that Zaza is already in love."
Media Collection PN1997.H37 2003

Hikayat al-jawahir al-thalath = Conte des trois diamants
[Arab Film Dist., 2008] (107 min) Arabic with English subtitles. Palestine. Dir. Michel Khleifi
“Tells the story of twelve-year old Yusef, who escapes from the chaos of the ongoing Palestinian-Israeli conflict by looking for birds in the tranquil countryside. One day his hunt is interrupted by Aida, a ravishing gypsy girl from a nearby neighborhood. Yusef is immediately smitten, but when he declares his intention of making Aida his bride, she says he must first find the three jewels missing from a necklace that was brought from South America by her grandfather. Yusef quickly formulates a plan to cross the sea in order to fulfill Aida’s request and win her love”
Media Collection PN1997 .H44 2008

Inch Allah Dimanche
[Arab Film Dist., 2003] (98 min) French with English subtitles. Algeria. Dir. 'Yamina Benguigui
"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.”
Irtifa’-i past = Low heights
[Irmovies, 2002] (115 min) Persian with English subtitles. Iran. Dir. Ibrahim Hatimi’kiya
Based on a true story, this … is an action film filled with dark humor. Ghassem (Hamid Farrokhnezhad) is a man at his wit’s end and desperate to get his family out of Iran. Together with his pregnant wife, he hijacks a plane, but undercover officers onboard the flight will not let the hijacking go smoothly"
Media Collection PN1997 .I48 2003

Istigah-i martrak = Deserted Station
[First Run Features, 2002] (68 min) Persian with English subtitles. Iran. Dir. ‘Ali Riza Ra’isiyan
“A photographer and his young wife are stranded in a remote village after their car breaks down. The only adult inhabitant leaves with the photographer to find help, while the woman takes over the duties of teaching the village children whose parents are nowhere to be found.”
Media Collection PN1997.I67 2002

al-‘Iyal kibrit
[Fine Art, 2000?] (240 min) Arabic. Egypt. Dir. Samir al-‘Usfuri
"Ahmad discovers by accident that his father is in love with another woman whom he plans to marry. With his siblings, they decide to protect their mother and save the family. The comedic situations that ensue while the kids try to convince their father to stay are legendary."
Media Collection PN1997 .I723 2002

Journey of Hope = Reise der Hoffnung = Umud’a yolculuk
[HBO Films, 1991] (111 min) Turkish, German, and Italian with English subtitles. Turkey. Dir Xavier Koller
"Based on the true story of one man’s dreams for a better life. Haydar and his wife Meryem are poor Kurdish villagers living with their seven children in Turkey, dreaming of a ‘paradise’ in Switzerland. Haydar decides to sell his possessions and emigrate illegally to build a better life, and taking his wife and one child, they set off on a journey across the mountains. Haydar and his family are at the mercy of their smugglers, and as the journey progresses, they find that every step they take is more expensive than promised. By the time they reach the Swiss borders, they have lost most of their possessions and all of their money. With nothing but their dream to guide them, they face the most difficult part of their journey, crossing by foot the brutally cold and dangerous Swiss mountain slopes"

Judayi-i Nadir az Simin
“A married couple are faced with a difficult decision - to improve the life of their child by moving to another country or to stay in Iran and look after a deteriorating parent who has Alzheimer’s disease.”
Media Collection PN1997.2 .J83 2012

Kabtin Abu Ra’id
[Arab Film Dist., 2007] (102 min) Arabic with English subtitles. Jordan. Dir. Amin Matalqa
“An airport janitor makes a big difference in the lives of the children in his poor neighborhood when they mistake him for an airplane pilot. Using his imagination to weave stories of the wonderful places he has visited around the world, a friendship develops as he brings hope to their otherwise grim home life.”
Media Collection PN1996.K25 2010

Kadosh = Sacred
"The story of two Hasidic sisters living in the Mea Shearim area of Jerusalem. Rivka and her husband are deeply in love, but he obeys his rabbi father and divorces her after 10 childless years of marriage. Rivka’s sister Malka loves a man who has left Hasidism after joining the army, but accepts the marriage her parents have arranged to the rabbi’s assistant."
Media Collection PN1997.K276 1999

Karsi pencere = The window in front
[Kanal D Home Video, 2008] (103 min) Turkish with English subtitles. Turkey. Dir. Ferzan Ozpetek
“Giovanna is a young working-class wife and mother, who has no time for the senile elderly man her husband has rescued from the streets. But as she uncovers the stranger’s secrets, it unlocks a freedom within her heart she never expected; a freedom that will lead her to the arm of a neighbor she secretly adores, and to fulfillment her husband and family cannot provide.”
Media Collection PN1997.2.F56 2008

ha-Kayits Shel Aviyah = The Summer of Aviyah
"The story of one summer in the life of a ten year old girl, the daughter of a Holocaust survivor, during the first years of Israel's independence. It is a personal story, based on the life of Gila Almagor, writer/producer and star of the film. Aviya's mother had been a partisan fighter during the war, with a number tattooed on her arm; she walked the thin line between sanity and madness. Aviya had lived in orphanages most of her life. This was the summer she would return home."
Media Collection PN1997.K384 2005

Kelarah ha-Kedoshah = Saint Clara
"One of the most popular Israeli films of the 1990's, this film presents a jumpy, highly energetic, lively, off-kilter Israel where love and the apocalypse seem interconnected. Beautiful Lucy Dubinchik stars as Clara, a Russian immigrant teenager whose clairvoyant powers create mayhem among the students at Golda Meir Junior High School."

**Khanah-i Dust Kujast? = Where Is My Friend’s House?**
[Mongrel Media, 1989] (90 min) Persian with English subtitles. Iran. Dir. 'Abbas Kiarustami
"At the village school, Mohamed is told by his teacher that he'll be expelled if he doesn't do his homework in the required exercise book. But that evening schoolmate Ahmed realizes he's taken Mohamed's book by mistake so he sets off to find his friend's house in a neighboring village. However, Ahmed gets lost and none of the adults he meets will help him."
Media Collection PN1997.K4325 2000

**Layla = Leila**
"Reza and Leila, an attractive and affulent young couple deeply in love and recently married, discover that Leila is unable to conceive. Invoking tradition, Reza's mother convinces her daughter-in-law that Reza must, out of necessity, take a second wife to produce an heir. The heartbreak that follows is in a word, devastating."
Media Collection PN1997.L45 1997

**Madrasat al-mushaghibin**
[Fine Art Film, 2000?] (252 min) Arabic. Egypt. Dir. Jalal al-Sharqawi
“This play is about a female teacher and how she transformed 5 rebellious students into model students.”
Media Collection PN1997 .M2538 2000

**Maryam**
[Wellspring, 2003] (89 min) Dir. Ramin Serry
“It’s 1979 and Mary, an Iranian-American teenager, pursues fun and romance in the New Jersey suburbs. Her biggest problems are simply trying to fit in, and dealing with her strict father who forbids her to date and live life like a normal teenager. Mary’s world is radically transformed, though, when Ali, her fundamentalist Muslim cousin, comes to live with her family at the same time that Americans are taken hostage in Iran. American backlash against Iranians and Ali’s disclosure of the family’s dark history force Mary to come to terms with her own unique, culturally-divided identity.”

**Min Ajli Hubbi = For My Love**
“Wafà, the wife of the singer Wahid, is traumatized when she helplessly witnesses a child’s death. She becomes paralyzed from the trauma, and Wahid’s life is turned upside down.”

Media Collection PN1997.M5764 1979

**Nadjah = Nadia**


“The story of a sixteen year old Arab girl from an Arab village within Israel. Her family is involved in village life; her father is a farmer with progressive ideas. In order to improve her future choices, Nadia decides to enroll in a Jewish high school, where she is confronted by the apprehension, resistance and prejudice of both her Arab friends and her new Jewish classmates.”

Media Collection PN1997.N34 1995

**Nun va guldun = A moment of innocence**

[New Yorker Films, 2005] (75 min) Persian with English subtitles. Iran. Dir. Muhsin Makhmalbaf

"...a poetic and often comic re-construction of the incident that dramatically affected the lives of two people. In 1974, director Mohsen Makhmalbaf, then a 17-year-old rebel against the Shah’s regime, stabbed a young policeman during a botched attempt to steal the cop’s gun. Makhmalbaf spent five reflective years in prison, and was freed after the Islamic Revolution. While making an earlier film, Makhmalbaf again met the policeman, who wanted to be an actor. The director would use this reunion as a springboard to ‘A Moment of Innocence’. In re-creating their violent encounter for film, it becomes clear that each man had a unique perspective on the events of that fateful day.”

Media Collection PN1995.N935 2005

**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 PN1997.062 2005

**Pul-i sizdahum = The 13th Bridge**

[Javanah, 2008] (96 min) Persian with English subtitles. Iran. Dir. Farhad Gharib

“Seven year old Nergis is coming to Tehran with other children accompanied by their guardian, Davar. Nergis escapes and ends up in the home of Mr. Dukhan, an antique
collector. Mr. Dukhan's daughter decides that she wants to become Nergis' guardian, and in doing so she changes Nergis' destiny.

**Rang-i Khuda = The Color of Paradise**


"Mohammad is an energetic 8-year-old boy who is much like the other children in his small, Iranian village except in one regard, he is blind. But Mohammad doesn't let his lack of sight hinder him, indeed, his heightened remaining senses make him even more receptive to the world around him. Young Mohammad's optimism, however, is not shared by his widowed father, a bitter man who sees the boy's condition as nothing but a liability, especially as it pertains to his desire to marry the village beauty."

**Rih al-Sidd = Man of Ashes**

[Arab Film Dist., 199?-?] (109 min) Arabic with English subtitles. Tunisia. Dir. Nouri Bouzid

"As his wedding date approaches, handsome young Hachemi must confront and resolve his feelings of guilt and anxiety about a sexual incident from his past. A fascinating examination of traditional masculine roles and identity in Tunisia."

**Satan ruj = Satin Rouge**

[Zeitgeist Films, 2003] (95 min) Arabic with English subtitles. Tunisia. Dir. Raja Amari

"A widowed Tunisian seamstress takes an unlikely journey of self-discovery in writer-director Raja Amari’s sumptuous and sensual film. While investigating a suspected liaison between her headstrong teenaged daughter and a cabaret musician, young widow Lilia becomes drawn to an exotic nightclub netherworld of Rubenesque belly dancers and nocturnal pleasure-seekers."

**Selvi boylym al yazmalim**

[Gala Film, 2007] (86 min) Turkish with English subtitles. Turkey. Dir. Atif Yılmaz

"İlyas is a truck driver from Istanbul who comes to a remote village. He and a village girl, Asya, fall in love and get married. Their child is born, who they name Samet. İlyas frequently leaves the village for his job and Asya is left alone to care for Samet. One day, İlyas leaves and never comes back. Asya grows worried and takes off with Samet to search for him but to no avail. They meet a man, Cemşit, who takes pity on them and offers them food and shelter. Samet becomes increasingly fond of Cemşit and Asya begins to see that Samet thinks of him as a father. Then one day, İlyas suddenly returns and Asya is left to make a choice between him and Cemşit"

**Sham-i akhar = The last supper**

[Irmovies.com, 2002] (96 min) Persian with English subtitles. Iran. Dir. Faridun Jayrani
“A woman divorces her husband after 26 years of marriage and moves to her father’s house with her daughter and old nanny. She meets a young man who causes turmoil in her life.”
Media Collection PN1997.S3842 2002

**Shawkaran = Hemlock**
[Iranian Film Society, 2001] (100 min) Persian with English subtitles. Iran. Dir. Behrooz Afkhami
"Small-town factory manager Mahmoud travels to Tehran to visit his injured partner. There he meets and falls for Sima, a modern Iranian woman who is much different than Mahmoud’s servile wife. He asks Sima to join him in a “temporary marriage,” but the relationship does not turn out like he envisions."
Media Collection PN1997.S5653 2001

**Sib = The Apple**
[S.l.: Channel 4, 2005] (95 min) Persian with English subtitles. Iran. Dir. Samira Makhmalbaf
“In a poor area of Tehran, some people inform the local welfare authorities that one of their neighbours is keeping his twin 11-year-old girls, Zahra and Masume locked up in his house and they have been living virtually as prisoners of their poor father and blind mother.”
Media Collection On Order

**Sukut = Silence**
[Iranianmovies.com, 200-?] (90 min) Persian with English subtitles. Iran. Dir. Muhsin Makhmalbaf
"This resonant fable centers on Khorshid, a blind boy who works as a tuner of musical instruments. On the verge of losing his job and his home, the otherworldly, hyper-alert boy is constantly led astray from mundane matters by the siren call of a pretty voice or a skilled musician. Khorshid is a holy fool in search of a pitch-perfect vibration that will bring cohesion and harmony to a world out of tune. Shot in Tajikistan, this deceptively simple tale is a deeply personal statement on Makhmalbaf’s continuing fight for artistic freedom."
Media Collection PN1997.S829 2000z

**The Syrian Bride = ha-Kalah ha-Surit**
"Mona’s wedding day may be the saddest of her life. Once she crosses the border into Syria, she will never be allowed back to her beloved family in the Druze village of Majdal Shams. Told with great humor and compassion, its story provides an emotionally stirring look at the human side of political conflict, focusing on the hopes and dreams of one family trapped in a no-man’s land between two nations."
Media Collection PN1997.2.S97 2006

‘Urs al-Jalil = Wedding in Galilee = Noce in Galilee
"The elder of a Palestinian village under Israeli military rule wants permission to hold a traditional wedding for his son that will go past the imposed curfew. The Army commander agrees on the condition that he and his officers be invited as guests of honor at the ceremony. Director Michel Khleifi's extraordinary first feature is an erotic and often compelling meditation on two conflicting cultures who attempt to put aside their differences for one long day of celebration."

"A young boy of twelve accompanies his mother to the women’s baths, one of the popular places in Halfaouine, the old city of Tunis. His budding adolescence stirs up anxieties about being caught between the world of men which attracts him and that of women which still protects him."

"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."

"This high spirited, funny and poignant coming-of-age tale takes us along the joyous journey of adolescence set against a city torn apart, proving that the restrictions of war are no match for the sheer exuberance of growing up."

"An elderly couple invite their adult children to visit their country chateau. Among the children are Omer, his undemonstrative wife who knows about Omer’s mistress, and Omer’s children. The other son brings his seductive lover, and the daughter, a divorcee, brings her child. Mayhem ensues when their daughter’s ex-husband makes a surprise appearance at the house."

**Yom Yom = Day after Day**  
"In spite of blood ties to both Haifa's Jewish and Arab populations, Moshe leads a rootless existence. Grown weary of his impatient wife and ambivalent about his needy young mistress the only relationships Moshe doesn't complicate are with his devoted parents, Jewish Hanna and Arab Yussuf, and with Jules, Moshe's ne'r-do-well childhood friend. But when Jules' real estate developer brother moves to buy a prized piece of property from the Arab side of the family, Moshe's divided ancestry is put to the test."
Media Collection PN1997.Y5187 2002

**120 (i.e., yuz yirmi)**  
[Kanal D Home Video, 2008] (110 min) Turkish with English subtitles. Turkey. Dir. Murat Saracoglu  
“Based on a true story. In 1914, during the Battle of Sarıkamış, the Ottoman Army runs out of ammunition and appeals to the people of Van for help. But all of the men are off fighting World War I and cannot respond to the appeal. Instead, at the suggestion of their principal, 120 schoolboys aged 12 to 17 volunteer to take ammunition to Sarıkamış. The movie tells the story of these boys, and of the mothers and sisters who are left behind waiting for their return.”

**Zamani bara-yi masti-i asbha = A time for drunken horses**  
[S.n., 200?-?] (80 min) Persian with English subtitles. Iran. Dir. Bahman Qubadi  
“Just off the Iraqi border in the cold and stark mountains of Iranian Kurdistan, a boy is forced into the smuggling trade in order to raise money to get medical treatment for his older brother.”
Media Collection PN1997.Z345 2000z

**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

**DOCUMENTARIES**
**Ahlam al-zambahin = Garbage dreams**  
[Iskander Films, 2009] (79 min) Arabic with English subtitles  
"Follows three teenage boys born into the trash trade and growing up in the world’s largest garbage village, on the outskirts of Cairo. It is the home to 60,000 Zaballeen, Arabic for "garbage people." Far ahead of any modern "Green" initiatives, the Zaballeen survive by recycling 80 percent of the garbage they collect. When their community is suddenly faced with the globalization of its trade, each of the teenage boys is forced to make choices that will impact his future and the survival of his community"

Media Collection TD789.E37 A35 2009

**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

**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

**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."

Media Collection DS119.75.C448 2011

**The Children of Ibdaa: to Create Something out of Nothing**

[Arab Film Dist., 2007] (29 min)

“To create something out of nothing is about the lives of several adolescents in a Palestinian children’s dance troupe from Dheisheh refugee camp in the West Bank. They use their performance to express the history, struggle, and aspirations of the Palestinian people, specifically the fight to return to their homeland.”

Media Collection HV640.5.P36 C447 2006

**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.

Media Collection DS80.55.P34 C48 2009

**The Color of Olives**

[Arab Film Distribution, 2006] (97 min.) Dir. Caroline Rivas

"Like many Palestinian families, the Amers live surrounded by the infamous West Bank Wall. Their daily lives are dominated by electrified fences, locks and a constant swarm of armed soldiers. Through a sensitive lens we discover the private world of all eight members of the family. As their dramas unfold we catch a glimpse of their constant struggles and the small, endearing details that sustain them: including school friends, olive trees and two small donkeys. The story of the Amer family offers its audience an opportunity to reflect on the effects of racial segregation, the meaning of borders and the absurdity of war. This documentary reveals the unknown life of the Palestinian people."

Media Collection DS113.7.C65 2006

**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.

Media Collection DS80.55.P34 C48 2009

**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

_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 Ouazzani investigates the status accorded women in Islamic marriage customs and the continuing importance of virginity. Ouazzani 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

_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."

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"

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."

El Moulid: Egyptian Religious Festival
[Documentary Educational Research, 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."

Promises
[Cowboy Pictures, 2001] (106 min) Dir. Justine Shapiro
"Follows the journey of one of the filmmakers, Israeli-American B.Z. Goldberg. He travels to Palestinian communities and settlements in the West Bank -places he had never ventured before-and to the familiar neighborhoods of Jerusalem. He meets seven
Palestinian and Israeli children between the ages of nine and thirteen. Promises explores the Middle East conflict through their eyes."

**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

**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

**The School blown away by the wind**
[Facets, 2005] (8 min)
"The school for nomad children seen in Gabbeh is the subject of this heartwarming short that includes a humanist twist worthy of an O. Henry story."

Media Collection RA644.L3 K52 2005

**Subyan wa-banat = On Boys, Girls, and the Veil**
[Arab Film Dist., 2000-?] (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 S539 2000z

**Three by Ateyyat El Abnoudy = Horse of mud; Sad song of Touha; the Sandwich**
[Arab Film Dist., 2000-?] (36 min) Arabic with English subtitles. Dir. Ateyyat El Abnoudy
Horse of mud = Ḥiṣān al-ṭīn = Cheval de boue; Sad song of Touha = Ughnīyat Tuḥḥah al-ḥazinah = La triste chanson de Touha; the Sandwich = al-Ṣāndiwūtsh. “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.”

Media Collection HN786.H573 2000z

**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

**Young Voices from the Arab World: the Lives and Times of Five Teenagers**

[AMIDEAST, 1998] (30 min) English and Arabic with English subtitles. Dir. Leslie Nucho

"Everyday aspects of Arab culture and society are conveyed through the lives of five young people from Jordan, Lebanon, Egypt, Kuwait, and Morocco. They'll take you into their homes, schools, places of worship, and favorite entertainment spots."