

CALDER VALLEY



2017

**PALESTINIAN
FILM FESTIVAL**

www.halifaxfriendsofpalestine.org.uk
www.facebook.com/HalifaxFriendsOfPalestine

Thursday 12 October, 7.30pm

Hollins Mill (formerly The Works), 12 Hollins Mill Lane
 Sowerby Bridge, HX6 2QG
 - free entry (donations welcome)

Documentary

The uplifting story of a Palestinian youth in the Gaza strip on a quest to shatter the Guinness World Record for the most kites ever flown. The film follows Musa, a charismatic teenaged kite-maker in the village of Seifa, and Abeer, an inspiring young journalist in the Jabalya refugee camp.

Director **Nitin Sawhney** and **Roger Hill**
 (With participation from the *Voices Beyond Walls Programme in Gaza*),
 2013, 52 mins, 12A
 Arabic with English Subtitles

- plus

Return to Seifa

Catching up with the cast of the film in the aftermath of the 2014 attacks.
 10 mins

Wednesday 18 October 7.45pm doors open 7.30pm

Hebden Bridge Picture House, New Road HX7 8AD
www.hbph.co.uk
 £5/6/7 entry - cash on door only please

Documentary

The Speed Sisters are the first all-woman race car driving team in the Middle East. Against the backdrop of the turbulent West Bank – where tense military occupation and restricted civil liberties are the norm – meet the five extraordinary young women who have determinedly driven their way into the heart of the gritty, male-dominated Palestinian street car-racing scene.

As fast and as furious as the cars, Amber Fares' first feature-length documentary is a lively yet layered portrait of modern womanhood, exploding stereotypes as it interweaves exhilarating racing footage with personal perspectives; and offering a much-needed glimpse into Palestinian lives.

Director **Amber Fares**, 2015, 78 mins, PG
 Arabic with English Subtitles

Flying Paper

12 October, Hollins Mill, Sowerby Bridge

Speed Sisters

18 October, Hebden Bridge Picture House

Villa Touma

20 October, Fielden Centre Todmorden

3000 Nights

22 October, Square Chapel Halifax

The Idol

11 November, Pellon Community Centre, Halifax



Villa Touma

Friday 20 October, 7.30pm

The Fielden Centre, Ewood Lane, Todmorden
 OL14 7DD
 - free entry (donations welcome)

Drama

Three Palestinian Christian sisters who've lost their land and status due to the 1967 war with Israel aren't able to face the painful new reality that has been imposed on them. They lock themselves away in their big house in Ramallah and continue to live in a time warp. But the sisters' mannered propriety is unsettled with the arrival of their spirited orphan niece Badia.

Due to its portrayal of Palestine and Palestinians and its contribution to raising awareness of critical issues, Villa Touma offers an intelligent representation of the complexity of Palestinian history. The film weaves together various themes which make it very powerful viewing.

Director **Suha Arraf**, 2014, 85 mins, 15+
 Arabic with English Subtitles

3000 Nights

Sunday 22 October, 7.15pm

Copper Auditorium, Square Chapel Arts Centre,
 10, Square Road, Halifax HX1 1QG
 £5/6/7 entry – members 25% off

Drama

A Palestinian schoolteacher, who becomes a political prisoner, gives birth to her child in an Israeli occupation prison, where she fights to protect him, survive and maintain hope. When prison conditions deteriorate the Palestinian prisoners decide to strike. In a moment of truth, Layla is forced to make a choice that will forever change her life.

Inspired by a true story and shot in a real prison, 3000 Nights traces a young mother's journey of hope, resilience and survival against all odds.

"3000 Nights is a strong and important film that tells a story we should all hear. Please see this film and see it now!"

Ken Loach Palm d'Or, Cannes Film Festival 2016

Director **Mai Masri**, 2015, 103 mins, 15+
 Arabic with English Subtitles

The Idol

Saturday 11 November, 6pm

Pellon Community Centre
 45, Church Lane, Halifax HX2 0JG
 - free entry (donations welcome)

Biopic

Acclaimed Palestinian filmmaker Hany Abu-Assad's (Paradise Now, Omar) latest film **The Idol** is a moving, defiantly uplifting biopic of Muhammad Assaf, the Gazan wedding singer who became a worldwide TV sensation in 2013. Growing up in battle-scarred Gaza, Muhammad dreams of musical stardom. In his twenties he enters Arab Idol, hoping against all odds to win.

Director **Hany Abu Assad**, 2016, 100 mins, PG
 Arabic with English Subtitles

