

### **PRESSE KIT**

# In Mansourah, you separated us A film by Dorothée-Myriam Kellou

During the Algerian War of independence, 2.35 million Algerian civilians were forcibly displaced by the French Army and resettled in camps. 1.175 million were forced to leave their home.

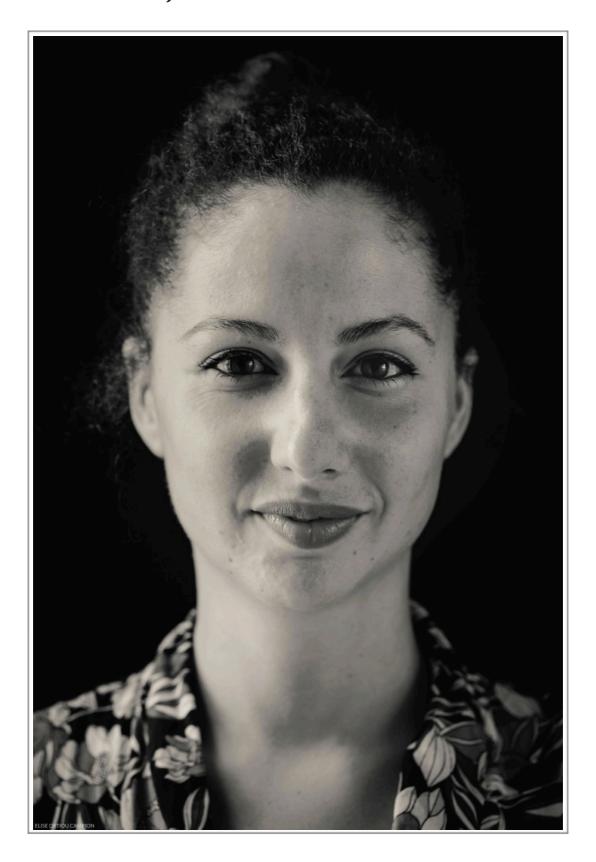
In Mansourah, his native village, Malek and his daughter Dorothee-Myriam document this silenced memory, that the youth ignores and was unprecedented in the upheavals it has caused to rural Algeria. Between France and Algeria, Dorothee-Myriam and her father uncover this historical secret.



Since its world premiere at Visions du réel, Dorothee Myriam Kellou's debut film "In Mansourah you separated us" has been touring the world and film festivals. It won several awards, including the human rights prize at Fidadoc in Agadir. The film about intimate memories of forced resettlement by the French Army during the Algerian War of Independence sheds light on a largely silenced yet essential part of Algerian French colonial history. After being screened at the institute of the Arab world in Paris and at les journées cinématographiques de Carthage earlier this month, this beautiful film also revealing the father-daughter relationship has also been shown at the international documentary film festival in Amsterdam.



### Dorothée Myriam Kellou, journalist and filmmaker.



She uncovered in the French newspaper Le Monde in June 2016 the scandal of the French company Lafarge indirect funding of the Islamic state group during the war in Syria. Her work was rewarded with the TRACE International Prize for Investigative Reporting, which recognises reporting that uncovers bribery and transparency in the business world. She was also a finalist of Samir Kassir Award for the freedom of the press in the Arab world and of Albert Londres Award, the highest award in French journalism.

She just completed In Mansourah you separated us, on Algerian memories of forced resettlement during the Algerian war of independence, departing from her own father memory of this silenced history. The film was premiered at Visions du reel in Switzerland and is now being screened in some of the most prestigious documentary film festivals in the world.

She graduated as a Fulbright student from the Master of Arts in Arab Studies, Georgetown University, Washington D.C and the Institute of political sciences in Lyon.

She now lives and works in Algiers.

### • Projections and selections in Festivals

THIS HUMAN WORLD'S UP&COMING COMPETITION • November 2019, Vienne

INSTITUT DU MONDE ARABE • November 2019, Paris

IDFA IN IT STILL HURTS and BEST OF FILM FEST • November 2019, Amsterdam

FESTIVAL INTERFERENCES • November 2019, Lyon

JOURNEES CINEMATOGRAPHIQUES DE CARTHAGE • November 2019, Tunis

15TH ARAB FILM FESTIVAL • October 2019, Tübingen, Germany

LES RENDEZ-VOUS DE L'HISTOIRE • October 2019, Blois, France

LES RENCONTRES CINEMATOGRAPHIQUES DE BEJAIA • September 2019, Bejaia, Algeria

4E BEYOND BORDERS INTERNATIONAL DOCUMENTARY FESTIVAL • September 2019, Greece

ETATS GENERAUX DU FILM DOCUMENTAIRE Journée de la Scam • August 2019, Lussas, France

LES RENCONTRES AFRIQUE EN DOCS • June 2019, Lille, France

FESTIVAL INTERNATIONAL DE DOCUMENTAIRES, FIDADOC • June 2019, Agadir, Morocco

FESTIVAL ETONNANTS VOYAGEURS • May 2019, Saint-Malo, France

IS REAL FILM FESTIVAL • May 2019, Nuovo, Italy

VISIONS DU REEL • April 2019, Nyon

#### The working copy of *In Mansourah, you have separated us* was projected:

- At the European Arab Convention for Documentary Film in Leipzig
- Work in progress in Parisdoc « Festival Cinéma du réel » Forum des images
- At the DOCFILM CORNER of Cannes Film Festival

### • Prize and awards

## PRIX DU JURY ETUDIANT AU FESTIVAL INTERFERENCES STUDENT PRIZE

Lyon, France, 2019

#### 2EME PRIX DU MEILLEUR FILM D'HISTOIRE FESTIVAL BEYON BORDERS SECOND BEST HISTORY FILM FESTIVAL

Greece, 2019

#### PRIX DROITS DE L'HUMAIN AU FIDADOC HUMAN RIGHTS AWARD

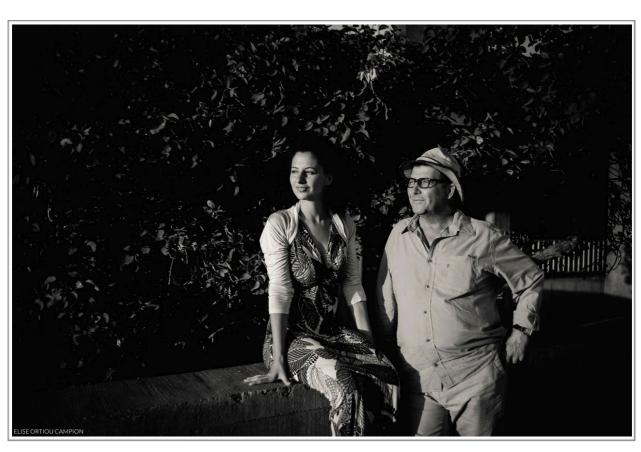
Agadir, Maroc 2019

#### GRAND PRIX FIRST PRIZE

For historical film projects Les Rendez-vous de l'Histoire de Blois, France, 2018

#### PREMIER PRIX FIRST PRIZE

Editing workshop, Cairo International Women Film Festival, Egypt 2018



# Extract from an article of the *Modern Times Review* by Dieter Wieczorek

#### « A painful voyage back to the silenced Algerian War of Independence »

« To deny parts of one's own history is a well-known act in creating a national identity. The degree of this negation is a truthful indicator of the democratic health and capacities for cultural tolerance in societies. In France, the Algerian War of Independence remains, even today, one of the black holes of its historical recognition. In light of this, each contribution bringing up this theme already has intrinsic value, and a festival like Nyon's Vision du Réel, which each year strengthens its position in the international documentary landscape, can only be congratulated for screening films dealing with such topics.

The young filmmaker Dorothée-Myriam Kellou spent her life in Nancy with a father who never spoke about his past. He is an example of those who amplify the official silence, even those personally confronted with horrific facts. One day, however, he gave his daughter a look at some documents from his childhood. Asking about the reasons for the silence, even from first-hand witnesses, is one of the leading directions of In Mansourah you separated us. The first answer given is simple insistent fear. The father confessed to his daughter that the statue raised to Sergeant Blandan, one of the French war heroes in Algeria, frightens him every day on his early-morning walk to his workplace.

The filmmaker convinced her father to take a voyage back in time to see the ruins of his own house and the remaining inhabitants of Mansourah, a village in the region of Kabylia, as well as other nearby villages, places he had not returned to after the war. In those days Mansourah had become a forced resettlement camp, set up by the French army as a strategic measure to fight against the National Liberation Front (FLN). Kellou captures private moments when, for example, her father places a photograph of his mother in the now-abandoned room where he was born. He remembers the day the French army sent flares over the civil population, searching for members of FLN. He nearly got killed that day. »

Published date: April 24, 2019 <a href="https://www.moderntimes.review/culture-conscience-algeria/">https://www.moderntimes.review/culture-conscience-algeria/</a>

#### Press coverage

- Le Journal de l'Afrique France 24 (Video Interview in French) http://bit.ly/France24-Lejournaldelafrique
- France 24 (Video Interview in Arabic) http://bit.ly/France24InterviewArabic
- Algerian newspaper El Watan, « Des récits et des chants de lutte », K. Medjoub Published date : 24/09/2019 <a href="http://bit.ly/ElWatanAlgerianNewspaper">http://bit.ly/ElWatanAlgerianNewspaper</a>
- Interview published in the Algerian newspaper El Watan by Walid Mebarek, « Ces mots qui se lient et racontent l'histoire comme un film choral »
  Published date: 05/11/2019 <a href="http://bit.ly/InterviewElWatan">http://bit.ly/InterviewElWatan</a>
- Interview in Al-Jumhuriyya in Arabic http://bit.ly/InterviewAl-Jumhuriyya
- Interview published in French in « Le Point Afrique » by Hassina Mechaï « On ne pense pas assez à l'Algérie comme territoire de déracinés »
  Published date : 26/11/2019 <a href="http://bit.ly/InterviewLepointAfrique">http://bit.ly/InterviewLepointAfrique</a>
- A text written by the author and published in Orient XXI « Algérie coloniale. Le silence de nos pères » by Dorothée Myriam Kellou
  Published date: 25/10/2019 <a href="http://bit.ly/OrientXXI\_info">http://bit.ly/OrientXXI\_info</a>
- Interview published in French in « Awotelle La revue Panafricaine » by Bassirou NIANG Published date : 04/11/2019 <a href="http://bit.ly/AwotellePanafricaine">http://bit.ly/AwotellePanafricaine</a>



TRAILER: In Mansourah, You Separated Us <a href="http://bit.ly/TRAILERINMANSOURAH">http://bit.ly/TRAILERINMANSOURAH</a>