

# the mosaic rooms

THE MOSAIC ROOMS  
ARE AN A.M. QATTAN  
FOUNDATION PROJECT



June 10, 1949: credit IDF and Defense Archive



October 28, 1948: credit IDF and Defense Archive

## *From Palestine to Israel A Photographic Record of Destruction & State Formation, 1947-1950*

**Curated by Ariella Azoulay**

4-25 November 2011

The Mosaic Rooms, 226 Cromwell Road, London, SW5 0SW

### ***Parallel Education Programme for Schools***

This coming November, The Mosaic Rooms will hold an exhibition entitled *From Palestine to Israel: A Photographic Record of Destruction and State Formation, 1947-1950* curated by the highly respected Israeli scholar Ariella Azoulay. The exhibition will feature over 200 photographs and will be the first time this important body of work is exhibited outside Israel. To accompany the exhibition, The Mosaic Rooms are planning a series of talks for A-Level students studying the Middle East conflict as part of the history curriculum, inviting them to engage with the period from a new, less conventional perspective. The talks aim to explore broader issues such as photography and film as historical document or political narrative. There will be an opportunity for the students to ask questions and discuss their own responses to the archival images.

The photographs from the Israeli military and Zionist archives document the State's relationship with the remaining Palestinians, showing the transformation in the politico-demographic reality of the land. They are an extraordinary record of the overwhelming social, political and environmental changes which Palestine underwent as it was "transformed" into Israel. Azoulay has questioned the applicability of the terms 'war', 'liberation' and 'independence' to describe these four crucial years, 1947-1950, in the history of the Arab/Israeli conflict; setting aside both competing narratives, she proposes a different reading of the past through photographs.

**Ariella Azoulay** is a respected photographer, documentary maker, independent curator and author of several books. Over the past decade she has become one of Israel's foremost visual and cultural theorists. Azoulay directs the Photo-Lexic, International Research Group at Tel Aviv University's Minerva Center and is 2011 Leverhulme Research Professor at Durham University.

## Daytime programme of lectures

The following talks are proposed free of charge to A'Level history teachers and their students and are funded with a generous grant from Arts Council England. We advise early booking:

### **Friday 11 November, 2-3pm: 'Out of the archive: a case study from Mandate Palestine'**

**Dr Francis Gooding** is a lecturer at Birkbeck, a professional researcher, and a contributing editor to the journal *Critical Quarterly*. The talk will reference his recent work providing historical context for, and analysis of British Colonial Office films from the British Mandate period in Palestine, and he will screen clips from films held by the Imperial War Museum.

### **Wednesday 16 November, 12-1pm: 'Photography & Power'**

**Adam Broomberg and Oliver Chanarin** are award-winning photographers living and working in London. Their latest book *People in Trouble Laughing Pushed to the Ground* is published by MACK (2011). Broomberg and Chanarin are Visiting Fellows at the University of the Arts London.

### **Monday 21 November, 12-1pm: 'The uses and abuses of archive film'**

**Michel Khleifi** is a celebrated Palestinian filmmaker living in Belgium. He is the recipient of several prestigious awards including the International Critics' Prize at the Cannes Film Festival. Khleifi will screen his 30" documentary from 1985, *Ma'loul Celebrates its Destruction*, in which he interviews a group of elders who gather around a mural depicting their village in the Galilee, which was destroyed almost 40 years earlier — a village they are able to describe in great detail from memory.

We also offer free visits outside lecture times. Please confirm group visits of more than 15 students. The Mosaic Rooms will provide refreshments for visiting groups.

**To book places at any of the talks or to arrange a tour please contact Rachael Hornsby at [Rachael@mosaicrooms.org](mailto:Rachael@mosaicrooms.org) or on 020 7370 9990.**

## ABOUT THE MOSAIC ROOMS

The Mosaic Rooms are an arts space showcasing contemporary culture from and connected to the Arab World. We bring the most exciting, progressive and innovative voices in art, literature and film from that region to UK audiences. Situated in a beautifully refurbished Victorian townhouse in Kensington, we offer a rich and varied programme including art and design exhibitions, film screenings, literary launches and readings, and lectures. The Mosaic Rooms have profiled leading artists, writers and film makers from the Arab World and beyond, including Antony Gormley, Raja Shehadeh, Hanaa' Mal-Allah, Mahmoud Darwish and Mona Saudi as well as younger emerging contemporaries. Entrance to exhibitions and many of our events is free. The Mosaic Rooms are an A.M Qattan Foundation project space.

Find out more about the A.M Qattan Foundation

([www.qattanfoundation.org/en/index.asp](http://www.qattanfoundation.org/en/index.asp)). Please visit our website

(<http://www.mosaicrooms.org>) for information on past, current and forthcoming exhibitions and events.

### Address:

The Mosaic Rooms  
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London SW5 0SW

### Telephone:

020 7370 9990

### Nearest Underground station:

Earl's Court (Earl's Court Road exit)  
Buses: 74, 328, C1, C3



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