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Embassy of Switzerland in Jordan



## CULTURAL ANNOUNCEMENT

The Embassy of Switzerland in Amman is glad to announce the screening of the documentary film « **Iraqi Odyssey** » on Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> April 2016 at 7 pm at the **Rainbow Theatre** in Jabal Amman, near the 1<sup>st</sup> circle. The Director, Mr. Samir, will attend the screening which will be followed by a discussion.

### « **Iraqi Odyssey** »

(Documentary, 2014, 162 minutes, Arabic with Arabic/English subtitles)

While there are no precise statistics, it is estimated that four to five million Iraqis live outside Iraq today. Award-winning filmmaker Samir was born in Baghdad and has lived in Switzerland since he was a child, while the members of his extended family are scattered all over the world — Abu Dhabi, Auckland, Sydney, Los Angeles, Buffalo, London, Paris, Zurich, and Moscow — with only a handful remaining in Iraq. Recounting his family's stories of departures and uprootings, in "Iraqi Odyssey", Samir also chronicles how Iraqis' dreams of building a modern and just society after their nation achieved independence in the 1950s were brutally dashed over the course of half a century. Weaving together the ironic, wistful, and witty testimonies of Samir's relatives with rare documents from private and state archives as well as Ottoman film footage, Iraqi Odyssey is a riveting epic that creates a genuine people's history of Iraq, at once humble and majestic. Shedding a new light on a grossly misrepresented country, "Iraqi Odyssey" is the veteran director's most personal, ambitious, and accomplished feature to date. For more information on the film, see

<http://www.iraqiodyyssey.ch/en/film/about-the-film/>

Trailer: <https://vimeo.com/66626437>

### **The Director**

Born in 1955 in Baghdad, Iraq, he moved to Switzerland as a child with his parents at the beginning of the 1960's. At the beginning of the 1970's he attended the school of design in Zurich and then completed an apprenticeship as a typographer. After training as a cameraman, he began to make his own films in the mid 1980's, which drew attention at various festivals with their innovative character. His list of works in the meantime encompasses more than 40 short and full length feature films for the cinema and television. Samir has been active as a producer for numerous feature and documentary films.

**This is a project of the Royal Film Commission - Jordan, with the support of the Embassy of Switzerland.**

When : Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> April 2015, at 7 pm  
Where : Rainbow Theatre, Al-Rainbow St. 47, Jabal Amman  
Details : Entrance is free, O.V. with Arabic/English subtitles  
For more information : [www.film.jo](http://www.film.jo)



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