



Invitation

Sunday, 10 April 2016, 4 pm

El Gusto

Algeria/UAE/Ireland/France 2011, 90 min.

French/Arabic with En. ST

Directed by **Safinez Bousbia**

Film Screening in the Framework of the ALFILM - Arab Film Festival Berlin, **Introduction by Nora Lafi**

Chaabi music arose from the streets of Algiers. It is a thrilling cocktail of traditional music from Andalusia, Berber and Arabic music, which used to be performed at weddings, cafés and festivities. When filmmaker Bousbia discovered a photo from the 40's depicting the first Chaabi class of the conservatory in Algiers under the artistic direction of the famous El Hadj M'Hamed El Anka, she started searching for the remaining members of the group in Algeria and France. The life story of these members, now aged between 70 and 100 years, is closely connected to the history of the country. The socio-political turmoil of the struggle for liberation, the independence of Algeria in 1962 and the following exile of many members has ripped the group apart. The Arab and Jewish musicians are coming now together after 50 years to play a reunion concert in Marseille. To say it with the words of one of the musicians: they found the "El Gusto" taste, the joy of life and its passion again. Bousbia had worked since 2003 on her documentary, overcoming various personal and financial obstacles in order to complete it. The film has helped revive the Chaabi music its musicians.

Dr Nora Lafi is a historian with a research focus on the history of the Ottoman Empire. With a background in Urban Studies she is a specialist in the history of Arab towns in North Africa and the Middle East during the Ottoman period. In recent years she worked and published on the history of the Jewish communities of these cities. Nora Lafi is part of the ZMO research field *Cities as Laboratories of Change*.

Ticket reservation:

<http://www.alfilm.de/en/shops/ticket-shop/>*

Ticket price: 7,50 €

*If online tickets are sold out, please check at the cinema counter for available tickets.



Venue

fsk Kino
Segitzdamm 2
10969 Berlin

