



Fifi Abou Dib, journalist and author, lives and works in Beirut. In 1986, she joined L'Orient-le Jour (a French-speaking Lebanese daily newspaper) where she has been writing the weekly column Impression since 2000. She became fashion editor of the newspaper and literary critic for the monthly L'Orient littéraire. Between 2009 and 2019, Fifi Abou Dib was also editor-in-chief of the bimonthly magazine L'Officiel-Levant.

George Arbid is a Lebanese architect and historian with successive teaching positions at Académie Libanaise des Beaux-Arts (ALBA), American University of Beirut (AUB) and the Lebanese University (UL). He holds a degree in Architecture from ALBA and a Doctor of Design degree from Harvard University Graduate School of Design. He was also a Fulbright Visiting Scholar at the History, Theory and Criticism Program at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

His research and writings cover modern architecture in Lebanon and the Arab World. He is a co-founder and director of the Arab Center for Architecture (ACA) in Beirut. He served on several competitions and award juries, including the European Union Prize for Contemporary Architecture - Mies van der Rohe Award 2019 and the Transfer Architecture Video Award 2019. His latest publication (2022) is a co-edited book *Designing Modernity, Architecture in the Arab World, 1945-1973*. In 2023, Arbid curated the exhibition “A journey into Architecture Archives: Beirut, Cairo, Rabat” commissioned by the Sharjah Architecture Triennial.

Philippe U. del Drago has worked in the field of arts and culture for over twenty years, striving during this time to create bridges between artists and their audiences. Specializing in the management of cultural enterprises in fields as varied as classical music, theatre, dance and technological arts, he is passionate about artistic creation and its related processes.

A graduate of the Institut National de l'Image et du Son (INIS), where he obtained expertise in film production, he also holds a master's degree in administration. Del Drago has developed a career as a designer, producer, videographer, photographer and creative director, which has brought him to work on projects around the globe.

Since January 2018, he has served as Executive and Artistic Director of the International Festival of Films on Art (FIFA). He is also member of the Board of Directors of MAPP_MTL.

Thierry de Duve Historian and philosopher of art Thierry de Duve is Evelyn Kranes Kossak Professor at Hunter College, City University of New York, and Emeritus from the Université de Lille 3. In 2014 he was Daniel J. Evans Visiting Professor at Evergreen State College, Olympia, WA, and in 2013, Kirk Varnedoe Visiting Professor at the Institute of Fine Arts, New York University. In 2012-2013, he was William C. Seitz Senior Fellow at the Center for Advanced Study in the Visual Arts (CASVA) in Washington, DC; and in 2010, he was J.P. Getty Foundation Distinguished Visiting Professor, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi. His English publications include *Pictorial Nominalism* (1991), *Kant after Duchamp* (1996), *Clement Greenberg Between the Lines* (1996, 2010), *Look—100 Years of Contemporary Art* (2001), and *Sewn In the Sweatshops of Marx: Beuys, Warhol, Klein, Duchamp* (2012). In 2013-2014, he published six essays in *Artforum* which he is now expanding and gathering

into a book titled *Duchamp's Telegram*. Two volumes of his *Essais datés*, published in French by Mamco in Geneva, have appeared recently: Volume 1, titled *Duchampiana*, in 2014, and Volume II, titled *Adresses*, in February 2016. *Aesthetics at Large (Art, Ethics, Politics)*, a book of essays on aesthetics, is forthcoming from the University of Chicago Press in the fall of 2018.

Rabih Haddad was born in 1961. He is a writer, academic and communications consultant. He teaches cinema and politics, political communication and the memory of war at Saint-Joseph University in Beirut. He runs a string of film clubs. Rabih Haddad holds a master's degree in modern literature from the USJ in Beirut, an audio-visual director's diploma from the Conservatoire du Cinéma français and a diploma in art history from the Ecole du Louvre in Paris.

Joseph Rustom is director of the USJ Oriental Library, heritage architect and associate professor at the École Supérieure d'Architecture de Beyrouth (ESAR-USJ). Between 2012 and 2023, he was respectively Director of Studies and Director of Research at ALBA. He holds a PhD in urban planning from the Technical University of Brandenburg (Germany). He has also been a research associate at Forum Transregionale Studien, Haus der Kulturen der Welt and Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft (DFG). His recent publications explore the links between architecture and displacement in Lebanon.

Antoine Waked is an experienced professional in cinema mentorship and education. Since 2011, he has served as a development executive at About Productions, a leading film production company in Lebanon. Antoine is also the co-founder and artistic director of the Maskoon Fantastic Film Festival, the only festival of its kind in the Arab world, and the Maskoon Fantastic Lab, focusing on the development of Arab genre films. He also held the position of director of the cinema section at Académie Libanaise des Beaux-Arts - ALBA from 2021 to 2023 where he teaches writing and directing since 2005. Antoine's activities include script consultations for international films, mentorship in screenwriting labs, and delivering

lectures on Arab genre cinema. He co-directed the award-winning documentary *A Certain Nasser*, exploring the life of Lebanese pioneer filmmaker Georges Nasser.

Hady Zaccak is a Lebanese award-winning filmmaker and a lecturer-researcher at IESAV film School, Saint-Joseph University, Beirut.

He is the author of more than 20 socio-political documentaries about Lebanon and the Arab world.

His selective filmography includes: *Ya Omri / 104 wrinkle* (2017), Jury Award Malmo Arab Film Festival, Sweden 2017, *Kamal Joumblatt, Witness and Martyr* (2015), Francophone Trophy for the best documentary 2016, *Mercedes* (2011), FIPRESCI Award (the International Federation of Film Critics) / Dubai International Film Festival 2011, *A History Lesson* (2009), 1st prize Arab Film Festival-Rotterdam 2010, *The War of Peace* (2007), *Refugees for Life* (2006) ... In addition to his films, Zaccak is the author of two books on cinema: *The Last Film Screening*, a biography of *Cilama Tripoli* (2021) and *Lebanese Cinema, an Itinerary of a Cinema Heading for the Unknown 1929-1996* (1997).

Zaccak's latest work is the exhibition: *In this place: Reels of Beirut* (2022) presented at Mina Image Centre in Beirut.

Alfred El Khoury is a scholar of Arabic Literature. He studied Arabic at the Lebanese University, the American University of Beirut and the University of Bamberg, Germany. His research interests encompass Classical Arabic poetry, *balagha*, literary theory and criticism, with a particular focus on practices of poetry commentary in Arabic since the eighth century. For *The Prophet's* 100th Anniversary Alfred is particularly interested in the work's wide dissemination and significance across epochs and languages.

Alice Mogabgab has been the artistic director of the Beirut Art Film Festival – BAFF since 2015. After studying art history at the University of Paris 1 Panthéon-Sorbonne, she returned to Lebanon in 1991 where she gave introductory courses to history of art at the Académie Libanaise des Beaux-Arts – ALBA and in private groups. In 1994, she opened her contemporary art gallery in Beirut and became passionate about the artists of today. In 2018, she opened a second space in

Brussels, which she closed following the 4 August 2020 Beirut blast, devoting herself exclusively to cultural resistance in a country devastated by an unprecedented economic crisis. In 2023, the Festival International du Film sur l'Art – Le FIFA awarded the BAFF, which she directs, the Tribute Prize « an example of courage and determination for all cultural actors. »

Alain Andrea is a Doctor of Pharmacy who graduated from Saint Joseph University of Beirut. He specializes in molecular genetics research and is the author of several scientific publications on immuno-oncology and gene therapy. Dr. Andrea studied piano performance at the National Conservatory of Music in Lebanon, and developed his critical thinking in the arts and music under the guidance of prominent musical figures of the 20th and 21st centuries. He is a music critic in the French-speaking Lebanese press, and is known for more than a hundred articles featured in Lebanon or abroad.