

Summary

Based in Tiotiake/Montreal, Razan AlSalah is a Palestinian artist investigating the material aesthetics of dis/appearance of places and people in the context of colonial image worlds. Her films have been supported by the Canada Arts Council Grantee, Sundaynce and the Arab Fund for Arts and Culture. She is the recipient of the Best National Short/Medium Length Award at Rencontres Internationales de Documentaires de Montreal, New Frontier Fellowship at Sundance, Latham Award for an Emerging Experimental Video Artist at Ann Arbor Film Festival, and Sunbird Award for Best Narrative Short at Cinema Days Palestine. Her work has shown at community-based and international film festivals including FID Marseille, docLisboa, Prismatic Ground, RIDM, Yamagata, Taiwan, Singapore, Yebisu, Valdivia, Melbourne, Glasgow and Beirut International. Razan teaches film and media arts at the Communication Studies department at Concordia University.

Education

MFA in Film and Media Arts, Temple University, Fulbright Scholarship, 2014-2017
BA in Communication Arts (Radio/TV/Film), Lebanese American University, 2004-2007

Research work-in-progress

older than your State (working title), 2024-present

with Katsi'tsakwas Ellen Gabriel
partially commissioned by Emily Carr University for Arts & Design Urban Screen project 2024-2026

older than your State is an interspecies testament, from Turtle Island to Palestine, to the dreams and struggles shared between the land and its people. The film tells this story from the perspective of the Great White Pine, as land defender from time immemorial, narrated and guided by Kanien'kehá:ka, Wakeniáhton (Turtle Clan) filmmaker and activist Katsi'tsakwas Ellen Gabriel. From Oka Park in Kanehsatà:ke (Turtle Island) to Canada Park in Latroun (Palestine), a colonial continuum weaponizes national parks as an infrastructure of displacement, land theft, and erasure of indigenous life. This moving image work explores the abolitionist temporal dream structures of film, forests and people and how disappeared, murdered and burned down places and bodies existed long before the settler state, and will exist long after.

Selected Works

A Stone's Throw, 40', experimental documentary, 2024

Canada Arts Council Research to Creation grant and Travel grants, 2022-24
Best National Short or Medium Length Film, Rencontres Internationales de Documentaires de Montreal, Canada

Asia:

Taiwan International Documentary Film Festival, Taiwan, 2026
Thai Film Archive, 2025
Yamagata International Documentary Festival, Japan, 2025
Singapore International Film Festival, Singapore, 2024
Beirut Art Center, Lebanon, 2024
Arkipel, Indonesia, 2024
Darat AlFunun – Amman, Jordan, 2024

Africa :

ASWAT MAROC, 2025

Europe:

Doc Lisboa, Portugal, 2024
FID Marseille, France, 2024
Dokufest, Kosovo, 2024
Berwick Film and Media Arts Festival, UK, 2024
Open City Docs London, UK, 2024
Punto de Vista Festival Internacional de Cine Documental de Navarra, Spain, 2025
LUX Scotland, 2025
Instants Video, France, 2024
Athens Avantgarde Film Festival, Greece, 2024

North America:

Rencontres Internationales de Documentaires de Montreal, Canada, 2025
DOXA Documentary Film Festival, Vancouver, Canada, 2025
Diffusion 2024, Reassemblage Collective, Toronto, Canada, 2024
Prismatic Ground, New York, USA, 2024
LA Film Forum, Los Angeles, USA, 2024
Blackstar Film Festival, Philadelphia, USA, 2024

South America:

Valdivia International Film Festival, Chile, 2024
Olhar de Cinema Curitiba, Brazil, 2024
Festival ECRA, Brazil, 2024
Bogotá Experimental Film Festival, Columbia, 2024
Ambulante, Mexico, 2025

No Man's Land, interactive print work, 2022

C-mag 6-page inside cover and back cover artwork, commissioned for C-magazine, curated by Dana Qaddah

Canada Park, 8', experimental short film, 2020

VideoJam and British Arts Council commission for a cine-concert at Manchester College of Music in collaboration with Nabiha Iqbal

Best Sound Award at the Future of Film Showcase, 2024

The Lost Paintings, group show with 52 Palestinian artists, multiple cities, 2025-ongoing
LAND BACK: from Palestine to Turtle Island, DazibaoVideographe, 2025
Bergen Film Klub, *Double Vision: Excavation*, Videodrome 02, Marseille, 2025 Retrospective, Bergen Film Klub, Norway, 2025
Land Back: from Turtle Island to Palestine, Videographe and Dazibao, Montreal, 2025
We don't want this song to end, Film at the Redcat, Los Angeles, 2024
They carry the abyss's dimension, Worth Ryder Art Gallery at UC Berkeley, 2024
Architecture is a Child of the Sea, The Block Museum of Art at Northwestern University, 2024
Art of the Real, official selection, Lincoln Film Center, New York, 2020
Prismatic Ground, official selection, New York, 2022
My eye has no iris, Wexner Arts Center, Columbus, 2023
Images Festival, Toronto, 2023
In It's Place, La Lumiere Collective, Montreal, 2023
Grande Rencontre Des Arts Médiaiques, Gaspésie, 2023
If I Had a Hammer, FotoFest Biennale, Houston, 2022
Air, river, sea, soil; a history of an exploited land, Access in the Making, Montreal, 2022
Moving Narratives: Images from Palestine, Dazibao, Montreal, 2021
The Barlett Screening Room, Open City Docs London, 2021
Queer City Cinema, official selection, Regina, SK, 2023
For a Free Palestine: Films by Palestinian Women, play_station, Wellington, New Zealand, 2021
Pour une Palestine libre: films de femmes Palestiniennes, Trieze, Paris, 2021
For a Free Palestine: Films by Palestinian Women, Another Cinema, May-June, 2021
In Its Place, CFMDC program at La Lumiere Collective, Montreal, 2023
Fluid Frames from the Palestinian Diaspora, Cinema Politica, Montreal, 2021
We don't want this song to end, Redcat, Jack H. Skirball Series, Los Angeles, 2022
BlackStar Film Festival, official selection, Philadelphia, 2020 Marakech
Short Film Festival, official selection, 2022

your father was born 100 years old and so was the Nakba, 7', experimental short film, 2017

Produced at the Flux Factory, NYC, Artist-in-Residence 2016-2017

Latham Award for an Emerging Experimental Video Artist, Ann Arbor Film Festival, USA, 2018
Sunbird Award for Best Narrative Short, Cinema Days Palestine, 2018
Short Experimental Visual Form Award, Interference Festival, Poland, 2018

Taiwan International Documentary Film Festival, Taiwan, 2026
Talking Shorts Film Club, Short Film Corner Rendez-vous Industry programme at Cannes Film Festival, 2025
FeKK - Ljubljana Short Film Festival, 2025
Sine Screen, London, 2025
Festival International du Film Ethnographique du Québec, 2025
00970, group show curated by Edoardo Bonaspetti, Ordet, Milano, 2025
Allegedly the worst is behind us, group show curated by Zoe Latzer, ICA San Jose, 2024
Other Suns: towards a..., group show curated by Ana Vaz, Gabes Cinema Fen, Tunis, 2024
Recontres Audiovisuels, Lille Cedex, France, 2024
Farther than the eye can see, XINEMA, VIFF Centre, Vancouver, 2024
My eye has no iris, curated by Layla Benali, Wexner Center for the Arts, Columbus, OH, 2023
Visions from the Wake, curated by Cici Peng, Barbican Center, London, 2023
Moving narratives: Images de Palestine, group exhibition, Dazibao, Montreal, 2021
Palestina Amb Ulls de Dona, SODEPAU, Cinema Catalunya, Barcelona, 2021
Steirischer Herbst'21, Annenstrasse 53, IZK-Institute of Contemporary Art, Graz, 2021
For a Free Palestine: Films by Palestinian Women, Another Cinema, online, May-June, 2021
Pour une Palestine libre: films de femmes Palestiniennes, Trieze, Paris, 2021
For a Free Palestine: Films by Palestinian Women, Another Cinema, online, May-June, 2021
CoVideo 19, online film program, 2020
Sharjah Film Forum, official selection, 2019
Stateless: Views of Global Migration, film program, Museum of Contemporary Photography, 2018
Art of the Interview, film program, Union Docs, 2019
Art Gallery of Hamilton Film Festival, official selection, 2019
Melbourne International Film Festival, official selection, 2019
Glasgow International Film Festival, official selection, 2019
Beirut International Film Festival, official selection, 2019
Yebisu International Film Festival, official selection, 2018
Haifa Independent Film Festival, official selection, 2018
37th Upssala Short Film Festival, official selection, 2018
Regards Palestiniens 12, Cinematheque Quebecoise, Montreal, 2018
Rencontres Internationales du Documentaire de Montréal, 2018
HotDocs, official selection, 2018
22. Internationale Kurzfilmtage Winterthur, official selection, 2018
Kinodot Experimental Film Festival, 2018
AntiMatter Media Art Festival, official selection, 2018
Experiments in Cinema v.13, official selection, 2018
Anthropologies Numériques #6, official selection, 2018
Instants Vidéo Numériques et poétiques, official selection, 2018
Time Camp 001, Black Quantum Futurism, Icebox Projects, Philadelphia, 2018
i am also We, Solo Exhibition, Flux Factory, New York, 2017

Publications

2025

AlSalah, Razan. "TETA IS NOT A USER. (Digital) Return as Structure: the Aesthetics of Land Reclamation in Virtual Space (Part One)", *Detours: a decolonial guide to Palestine*, Duke University Press, 2026 (upcoming).
AlSalah, Razan & Khairy, Muhammad. « Le droit de rever », *Résister / Exister – Histoire et actualité du cinéma palestinien*, 24 images, n.215, June, 2025.
AlSalah, Razan & Himada, Nasrin. "Grief is a Scene", *Le Sigh*, Issue 16, 2025.

2024

Makki, Samira. "[Even the Sea is Broken: Return and Loss in Razan AlSalah's Video Works](#)", *Film-Philosophy*, Vol 28 N2, 22 April, 2024.
Estefan, Kareem. "Virtual Returns: Rehearsing and Remediating Return in Palestinian Video Practices", [Producing Palestine: The Creative Production of Palestine Through Contemporary Media](#), Bloomsbury Publishing, 2024, p.79-94.
AlSalah, Razan. "WE ARE NOT USERS. (Digital) Return as Structure: the Aesthetics of Land Reclamation in Virtual Space (Part Two)", *The Non-Fiction*, Open City Docs bi-annual publication, 2024.

2023

Sikand, Nandini. "Liberatory Images: A Palestinian Film Series" *Review of Middle East Studies*, [Vol. 57, No. 2 \(2023\)](#), pp. 192-201
Dokumaci A, Bessette-Viens R, Goberdhan N, Lucas S, Mazowita A, Stainton J., "Spaced Apart: Autoethnographies of Access Throughout the COVID 19 Pandemic". *Space and Culture*, Volume 26 Issue 3, August 2023

2021

AlSalah, Razan. "No Man's Land", *C-Mag*, Issue 150: Mapping, December, 2021.
AlSalah, Razan. "the banana packer is edible and the gas masks are kinky: the materialist politics of fetish and humor in Thirza Cuthand's DIY videoworks", *Seen Journal*, Issue 02, June, 2021.

Grants and Fellowships

Emily Carr University of Art + Design, Urban Screen, Video commission, 2024-2026
Canada Arts Council Travel Grant, 2024
Canada Arts Council Grant, Research to Creation, 2022-23
Queer Cinema for Palestine, SSHRC Connection Grant, 2021
Cinema Production Grant, Doha Film Institute, 2020
Production Grant, British Council for the Arts, 2020
Cinema Production Grant, Arab Fund for Arts & Culture (AFAC), 2019
MacArthur Sundance Project Grant, MacArthur Foundation, Sundance Institute, 2019
New Frontier Lab Fellow, Sundance Institute, 2019
Knight Fellows Program, Sundance Film Festival, 2018
Knight Fellows Project Grant, Knight Foundation, Sundance Institute, 2018
Cinema Development Grant, Arab Fund for Arts & Culture (AFAC), 2018
Emergency Grant, Foundation for Contemporary Arts, 2018
Immersive Lab Fellow, Tribeca Film Institute, 2017
Fellow, Robert Flaherty Film Seminar, 2017
Fulbright Scholarship, Fulbright Association, 2014-2017
Project Grant, Heinrich Boll Foundation, 2016

Acquisitions and Collections

Criterion Channel
Doc Alliance
Tènk
Plein(s) Écran(s)
Videographe
Canadian Filmmakers Distribution Center
Vivo Media Arts
Cinema Política Network
Princeton, Duke, Stanford, Cornell, Yale, Concordia, McGill, University of Pennsylvania, Toronto, Chicago and Adelaide Libraries

Conferences and Artist Talks

2025

[Living on Earth Differently: Situated Voices and Relationships to Land](#), Roundtable with Emilie Bélanger, Véronique Basile Hébert, SBC Gallery, Montreal
[Flowers in the Fire | Razan AlSalah and Theo Panagopoulos in-conversation](#), LUX Scotland
[Cinematic Dialogues : Batool alHinnawy and Razan alsalah](#), Palestine Film Institute, Brussels
[Archival borders and the aesthetics of return](#), Création à partir d'archives: Discussions et pratiques- Formation longue durée, artist talk, Main Film, Montreal
[From the River to the Sea, and the Mountains: Filmmakers in Solidarity with Palestine – A Gathering](#), Filmmakers for Palestine at Yamaqata Documentary International Film Festival
[Modern and Contemporary Forum: Razan AlSalah screening and artist talk](#), History of Art department at Yale University
[Lost Paintings: conversation with artists and curators](#), Montreal Arts Interculturels
[AMP Interviews: Razan AlSalah](#), Asian Movie Impulse, CAAM Fest, San Francisco

2024

[Razan AlSalah: filmmaker retrospective and master class at 4ª Mostra de Cinema Árabe Feminino](#), cities around Brazil
[Hunter Visiting Filmmaker series](#), MFA in Studio Art at Hunter College at the City University of New York (CUNY)
[Autres soleils : vers une cosmopolitique des non-alignés](#), group exhibition curated by Ana Vaz and artist talk, Gabes Cinema Fen, Tunisia
[Foam x The Hmm: Photography is...: Hoarding](#), with Anouk Kruithof, Oscar Talbot and Razan AlSalah, Foam Museum, Amsterdam

Conferences and Artist Talks (continued)

Vivo Media Arts Center, artist talk, 2023

From Turtle Island to Palestine: Resistance and Survival, panel with Kahérakwas Donna Goodleaf, Kanien'kehá:ka, Access in the Making Lab, 2022

No Man's Land, c-Mag artist talk with Dana Qaddah, 2022

Session 28. Imagining a Future: Contemporary Images and Words of Palestine, roundtable, Dazibao, 2021

Fluid Frames from the Palestinian Diaspora, screening and roundtable, Cinema Politica, 2021

Art and Activism, screening and roundtable, Toronto Palestine Film Festival, 2021

The Barlett Room Screening Series, artist talk, Open City Docs and University City London School of Architecture, 2021 Visual

Research Seminar, guest lecture, Temple University, 2021

Archaeological sites in Palestine as sites of urban struggle, screening, MA City Design, Royal College of the Arts London, 2021 Advanced

Visual Practice, guest lecture, Duke University, 2020

MFA Colloquium, guest lecture, Temple University, 2020

Ethics and Aesthetics, screening and panel, Detroit Narrative Agency, 2020

Troubling the Frame, Troubling the Terrain, artist panel, BlackStar Film Festival, 2020

Visiting Artist Residency, Talk and Masterclass, MFA in Experimental and Documentary Arts, Duke University, 2017 & 2019

Un Cinéma pour la Palestine, La Femis et Ecole des Beaux-Arts de Paris, screening, 2019

Decolonizing Technologies, Reprogramming Education, screening, HASTAC (Humanities, Arts, Science, and Technology Alliance and Collaboratory), 2019

Politics and Poetics 4 Symposium, screening & panel, University of Southern California, 2019

Bodies at the Borders, screening and panel, SFMOMA and UC Santa Cruz, 2019

Disrupting the System, panel, XR Symposium at Open City Docs London, 2019

Cultural Perspectives on the Palestine, guest lecture, Princeton University, 2018

Visiting Artist Residency, Talk and Masterclass, Skidmore College, 2018 Desktop Documentaries, screening, Bremen University, 2018

Visualising Spatial Injustice Symposium, screening and artist talk, University of Kent, University of the Creative Arts and Concordia University, 2018 28th

International Sculpture Conference, screening, 2018

Visual Anthropology Society, screening & panel, 2015

Beirut Design Week Annual Conference, exhibition and artist talk, 2015

Programming and Curation

Talking about it is also resistance, film program and workshop with Jayce Salloum, la lumiere collective and Cinema Public, 2025

From the River to the Sea: Film Series and Fundraisers for Gaza, Cinema Public, Cinematheque Quebecoise, RIDM & other venues, 2024-ongoing

Regards Palestiniens 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, Cinematheque Quebecoise, 2018-2023

Queer for Palestine, Cinema Politica and Queer Cinema for Palestine, La Sala Rossa, 2021

Talking to Each Other: a Collective Sounding Project, Feminist Media Studio and Access in the Making, Suoni Per ilPopolo, 2021

Teaching Experience

Senior Lecturer, ETA, Communication Studies Department, Concordia University Fall 2023-present

Lecturer, ETA, Communication Studies Department, Concordia University Fall, 2019-Winter, 2023

Assistant Professor, LTA, Communication Studies Department, Concordia University Fall, 2018-Winter, 2019

Assistant Professor, Film and Media Arts Department, Temple University, Fall, 2017-Spring, 2018

Cinematography (Selected Works)

Both Image and Sound, a film by Sharlene Bamboat, shot on Bolex, 2024

The William Hingston Center, a video series by the ParkEx Anti-Eviction Mapping Project, shot on Panasonic GH5, 2024

The Last Refugees, a film by Tanaz Eshaghian, 90' documentary feature shot on Sony FS7, 2018

Queer Genius, a film by Chet Pancake, 90' documentary feature shot on Sony FS7, 2017

Ayayay!, a film by Catalina Jordan Alvarez, 90' experimental narrative feature shot on Sony FS7, 2016

Relational Paradigms, multi-channel video installation by Sarah Drury, shot on Sony FS7, 2016

Paco by Catalina Jordan Alvarez, 12' narrative short shot on Aaton A Minima,

