

## Summary

Based in Tiotiaké/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, Sundance 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, DazibaoxVideographe, 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 Médiatiques, Gaspesie, 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

37<sup>th</sup> 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  
Ténk  
Plein(s) Écran(s)  
Vidéographe  
Canadian Filmmakers Distribution Center  
Vivo Media Arts  
Cinema Politica 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](#), Crédation 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 Yamagata 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,

