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'The Immobile Nomad' crosses borders

By Huda Dabeet, Jordan News • last updated: Sep 28,2021



A collection of images from the Immobile Nomad photography exhibition by Italian photographer, Agnese Purgatorio. (Photos: handout from Huda Dabeet/Jordan News)



AMMAN – The Immobile Nomad photography exhibition by Italian [photographer](#), Agnese Purgatorio, is currently being held at the Jordan National Gallery of Fine Arts in collaboration with The Italian Embassy in Amman and Podbielski Contemporary.

The exhibition is part of the ninth edition of the “Filastine” Image Festival Amman and it will continue until October 6, 2021.

Purgatorio’s vision for the image festival, according to the Jordan National Gallery of Fine Arts, is a pillar of Italy’s strategy to highlight the quality of culture around the world, particularly in the Middle East.

Moreover, the images form a unique opportunity for technological experimentation as well as to question the role of images.



According to the gallery, the exhibition reflects the concept of border crossings as a place of transit in the era of transition.

Agnese Purgatorio is an Italian artist based in Belgrade and Beirut, who works in photographic and video installations as well as analog and digital collages. Her work examines memory, recreating personal and collective narratives through presentations and archive material.



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Purgatorio told Jordan News that art is always a petition for a different world and that it provides uncommon visuals and lyrical visual paradoxes for reimagining the world via borders. The exhibition also features an important video piece called "Nomad Immobile" as its focal point.

"The 'Immobile Nomad' project was completed with a series of dazzling digital collages that serve to reconnect this temporarily site-specific work to the rest of my research," Purgatorio said. "Childish figures, dilapidated interiors, woods in which to get lost and find yourself, shapes, and boat wrecks – are always present to remind us of the clandestine condition of humanity the artist represents and with whom I clearly identify."

Jordanian photographer and founder of Darat Al-Tasweer, Linda Al-Khoury, told Jordan News that the image festival intends to present a diverse array of what photographers have captured around the world, as well as what the name "Filastine" means in terms of culture, tradition, legacy, and history as defined by its own people around the world.

"Filastine means Palestine, and this year we shed light on Filastine," Khoury said.



It's worth noting that the festival, which has been organized by Darat Al-Tasweer since 2011 in conjunction with a number of local and international organizations and institutes, continues to bring together photographers, attract a larger audience, and serve as a platform for long-term cultural interaction.

"Image Festival Amman is a photography festival; this year there are 38 exhibitions in 17 different locations," Khoury said.



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Purgatorio took photos in refugee camps during a previous visit to Amman in preparation for this exhibition, according to Khoury, adding that the artist focused on the concept of asylum, in which a person is driven to resort to something that does not resemble him.

The festival chose to focus the audience's attention on "Filastine" in order to provide the audience with images of what photographers have captured over the years conveying what the name "Filastine" holds in terms of culture, heritage, and history, according to Darat Al Tasweer.

"This year is the largest festival ever held, with a great number of exhibitions," Khoury co

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