



Centre d'Études et de Documentation
Économiques, Juridiques et Sociales

PRESENTING... A THOUSAND AND ONE BERBER NIGHTS (2024) by H. AIDI
PREMIERE IN EGYPT
IN THE PRESENCE OF THE FILMMAKER
DOCUMENTARY (53min) + DISCUSSION

A Thousand and One Berber Nights tells the story of Hassan Ouakrim from his childhood in 1940s French-ruled Morocco, to his involvement in anti-colonial theatre to his rise to becoming a "master teacher" who taught North African dance across America, to the cabaret scene and high society alike, under the mentorship of Ellen Stewart, the late African American theatre pioneer and founder of the legendary theater club La Mama, located in Manhattan's East Village. Through his art, Hassan would form friendships with literary figures, politicians and jazz artists, including Ornette Coleman and Randy Weston.

Through the life of one immigrant, A Thousand and One Berber Nights looks at art and cultural integration, New York City's "Oriental" cabaret subculture, the East Village queer scene and the cultural synergy between African Americans and North African immigrants. "My story is different," says Ouakrim, "but it's very American."

MONDAY JUNE 3rd

7PM - CINÉMA MOUNIRA
LANGUAGE : ENGLISH/ARABIC, SUBTITLES : ENGLISH
Free admission - No booking
<https://www.google.com/.../data=!3m1!4b1!4m6!3m5...>
Running time = 53 min

QnA and discussion with Hisham Aidi after the documentary, moderated by Pascal Menoret, director of CEDEJ – In English
With Dalia Ibraheem and Kawkab Tawfik