

## Uprooted

Submitted by breathingplanet on Thu, 2006-12-14 05:44.  
Review | documentary | occupation | palestine |  
resistance

I saw a moving movie tonight. It was not the kind of movie that makes you cry or the kind that makes you angry. Yes... I was sad, and yes, I was upset, but more importantly, Uprooted made me think, question my philosophies, and fed me knowledge that i don't really have access too. There are a lot of great documentaries floating around out there that pull certain threads together to make a great story. But most of the time it is the pulling together of the threads that is impressive and the story itself is something I could have concluded myself.... Watching the film Uprooted, by Donia Mili, I was fixed on the screen because it took me to a place (physically and mentally) that I long to understand more about, but one of which the representation is so skewed and the brainwashing so thick, it's hard to access from here in white comfortable america. That is, Occupied Palestine. The documentary is shot primarily by the filmmaker herself while she was working as part of the ISM (International Solidarity Movement ), as well as by other ISM activists, an Israeli anarchist collective, and other activists. Much of the footage is shot roughly - to say that tripods were not the priority here. Camera quality was not of priority either. But it really doesnt matter in this movie. The story I well told and artfully depicted. Poetically edited footage shot in the heated midst of conflicts with Israeli soldiers and demonstrations is interwoven with black and white behavioral science films from archive.org and interviews with the likes of Noam Chomsky, Ben Bella, and Leila Khaled. The video is not about who's to blame and what to do about the 'Palestinian issue'. It is much deeper than that. It is a meditation on peoples' right to resist. It questions non-violence. It pushes boundaries that we may have set up around ourselves as comfortable Westerners. What does it mean to be uprooted... like the roots of 2000 year-old olive tree? "Choice is a luxury the Palestinians cannot afford: if they cease to resist, they cease to breathe, they cease to live."

<http://breathingplanet.net/node/39>



FOURTEENTH RAINDANCE FILM FESTIVAL

27th Sept. - 8 Oct. 21

## UPROOTED

THURSDAY 5 OCTOBER AT 9:15 PM

Country France/USA Running Time 126min Format DigiBeta Director/Producer/DoP Donia Mili  
Print Source Donia Mili E anoliveproduction@yahoo.com

Playing with | Remember Lebanon 6 mins

Since the fall of Apartheid, Palestinian resistance to Israeli occupation is perhaps more widely documented than other anti-imperialist struggles but the result of Donia Mili's enterprise in the occupied territories is well worth our undivided attention.

In her beautifully narrated documentary Donia Mili takes us to the heart of day to day life in Palestine. Using a very personal filming and interviewing style, we are guided through the realities of resistance and activism in a land where stone-wielding kids meet tanks and peaceful protestors meet tear gas. Tales of destroyed houses, murdered friends and stolen property are told with an intimacy that makes emotional detachment frankly impossible.

The documentary contains political analysis worthy of John Pilger, with the likes of Noam Chomsky, Leila Khaled and his Excellency Ahmed Ben Bella of Algeria commenting on the nature and value of Palestinian resistance and Israeli hypocrisy.

Uprooted is essentially an assessment of violent versus non violent protest in Palestine explored through Donia Mili's genuine search for the best approach for the Palestinian people cause. UG