

The Uprising

A film by Peter Snowden



The Uprising shows us the Arab revolutions from the inside. It is a multi-camera, first-person account of that fragile, irreplaceable moment when life ceases to be a prison, and everything becomes possible again.

This feature-length documentary is composed entirely of videos made by citizens and long-term residents of Tunisia, Egypt, Bahrain, Libya, Syria and Yemen. It draws on the period from the first demonstrations against Zinedine Ben Ali in December 2010, to the funeral for the victims of the Maspero massacre, murdered by the Egyptian army as it struggled to hold on to power, on 10 October.

The film uses this footage, not to recount the actual chronology of events or analyse their causes, but to create an imaginary pan-Arab uprising that exists (for the moment) only on the screen. In doing so, it questions the mental barriers we all construct in our attempts to enjoy the thought of freedom, without allowing its reality to disturb the tidy order of our lives.



The Uprising is a message from the Arab world to free human beings of all cultures and nations. You don't need to be (already) a revolutionary to hear it.

Credits

The Uprising, a film by Peter Snowdon
a Rien à voir/Third Films production
produced by Bruno Tracq, Samm Haillay, Duane Hopkins and Andrew McVicar
written by Peter Snowdon and Bruno Tracq
research by Peter Snowdon
additional research by Rasha Sadeq, Aymen Amri, Sara Ishaq and Saraa Saleh
edited by Bruno Tracq and Peter Snowdon
sound design by Olivier Touche
grading by Olivier Ogneux

Belgium/UK, 78 minutes, 2013, DCP, 16:9, 5.1
Arabic and English spoken, English subtitles

Opus Bonum Award for best world documentary, Jihlava IDFF
Eastern Maidan through the Eyes of Europeans Award, Kiev IDFF
Special mention, international competition, Forum Doc Belo Horizonte
First prize, Streams European Online Film Festival