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Kama Tohalleq al Teyour As Birds Flying

كما تحلق الطيور

Heba Y. Amin

2016, DCP, color, 7 min., Arabic. **Producer** Heba Y. Amin (Cairo, Egypt). **Written and directed by** Heba Y. Amin. **Director of photography** Heba Y. Amin. **Editor** Heba Y. Amin.

Heba Y. Amin, born in 1980 in Cairo, is an Egyptian visual artist, researcher, and currently visiting assistant professor at the American University (Cairo). Amin lives between Berlin and Cairo. She received her MFA at the University of Minnesota, USA, is a DAAD grant recipient and a Rhizome Commissions grant winner. She is currently Curator of Visual Art for Mizna's journal (USA), curator for Random Association (Italy), and co-founder of the Black Athena Collective. Working in various media, Amin addresses themes related to media, urbanism, and technology.

Films

2011: *Project Speak2Tweet* (Forum Expanded, video installation), *My love for you, Egypt, increases by the day* (6 min.), *The Flag* (2 min.), *What would have happened, Mubarak?* (2 min.). 2014: *The Gecko* (3 min.). 2016: *Kama Tohalleq al Teyour / As Birds Flying*.

In late 2013, Egyptian authorities detained a migratory stork suspected of espionage due to an electronic device attached to its leg. *Kama Tohalleq al Teyour* addresses conspiracies embedded in the political landscape that shape the present.

It confronts the absurdity of the media narrative that has blurred fantasy with reality and turned a bird migrating from Israel to Egypt into a symbol of state paranoia. The film juxtaposes drone footage of the "spy bird" with reconstructed audio from Adel Imam's iconic film *Birds of Darkness* (1995), which critiques government corruption in Egypt through the opposing perspectives of secular and Islamist parliamentary candidates.

Contact: info@hebaamin.com
<http://www.hebaamin.com/>