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UHF42 E01+E02

التردد فوق العالي 42 / ح 1 ح 2

Mike Crane

2017, 4-channel video installation, color, 40 min., Arabic. **Producer** Khaled Faqeeh, Mike Crane. **Production companies** Wattan TV (Ramallah, Palestine), Mike Crane (New York, USA). **Written by** Khaled Faqeeh. **Director of photography** Amjad Shoman. **Production design** Atheer Niem. **Sound** Atheer Niem. **Editor** Sameh Kareem. **Production manager** Samia Hirzalla. **With** Wafaa Arouri, Kamal Odeh, Sara AlAdra, Hamza AlSalaymeh, May Marei, Ala Zeid, Raneen Khalid, Emad S. AbuBaker.

Mike Crane, born in 1982 in Miami, USA, and raised in Bogotá, Colombia, is an artist currently based in New York. He graduated from the Cooper Union School of Art (BFA) and Hunter College, City University of New York (MFA). He has presented his work in cinemas and exhibitions worldwide. Crane is a recipient of the 2015 Creative Capital Award for Visual Arts.

Films

2005: *Highlands* (140 min.). 2009: *New Company* (45 min.). 2010: *Spoke Hub Distribution Paradigm* (60 min.), *Theory of Heat* (15 min.). 2012: *Assembly Room 1* (42 min.). 2014: *Feedback Action Program* (30 min.). 2015: *Choice Modeling* (20 min.), *Bunker Drama* (30 min., Forum Expanded 2016). 2017: *UHF42 E01+E02*.

UHF42 E01+E02 are the first two episodes of a teledrama set entirely within the studios and offices of Wattan TV, a 24-hour television news agency based in the occupied West Bank city of Ramallah. Each episode portrays one day in a continuous workweek, blending scripted performances with documentary scenes of office life. The series follows the station's staff as they act out a report on the rise of consumer debt in Ramallah. Over the past decade, the area has experienced a surge in private bank loans, forming a cosmopolitan island of prosperity in the occupied Palestinian territories. Parallel to these developments, Wattan TV created a dramatized series to report on the advent of the criminal justice system in Ramallah, providing one of the first scripted news programs of its kind in the Middle East. For the production of *UHF42*, Mike Crane worked with the writer and crew members of that series to script a new fictional drama about the credit system that has shaped the city over the past decade. *UHF42* adapts the formal techniques of news production to investigate a period of rapid development, employing the station's workers to probe the structures of public and private debt under military occupation.

Contact: cranemike@gmail.com