Palestine: Right Here, Right Now

Programme

Saturday, 10 May

Screening Room

12:00 pm Opening lecture: “Decolonisation of Imagination: The Arab Culture Between Myth and Reality”

The festival’s opening lecture deconstructs Eurocentric myths and stereotypes built up around the Arab culture, showing the richness and diversity of Southwest Asia and North Africa. The lecture will be followed by a conversation with Dr Mahmoud Khalifa, H.E. Ambassador of the State of Palestine in Poland, and the former Minister of Information of the Palestinian Authority.

Lecturer and moderator of the conversation: Paweł Hadrian – philosopher, activist, curator of the European Capital of Culture Lublin 2029 programme.

1:45 pm Film screening: “Where the Olive Trees Weep”

A documentary featuring, among others, Gabor Maté, which portrays the lives of people living in the occupied West Bank.

3:30 pm Break

4:30 pm Meet the author session: Hanna Jankowska

One of the most recognised Polish translators of works from Arabic, including works of Palestinian authors (Adania Shibli’s "Minor Detail" and Mahmoud Darwish’s "Identity Card").
Moderator: Paweł Hadrian

5:45 pm Meeting dedicated to the book "Rifqa" by Mohammed el-Kurd

Meeting with Bartosz Wójcik, translator of the poetry book "Rifqa” by the Palestinian author Mohammed el-Kurd writing in English (published by Wydawnictwo Współbycie 2025).
Moderator: Sara Akram

7:00 pm Film screening: "No Other Land"

An Oscar-winning documentary by Palestinian-Israeli collective of directors.

Chamber Hall

4:30 pm: Workshops for children: "Little Big Man – On Human Rights for Children"

Workshops on human rights for children organised in cooperation with the Homo Faber Association.
Moderator: Ira Filas.

Sunday, 11 May

Screening Room

1:00 pm Panel discussion: “Pro-Palestinian Activism”

UMCS for Palestine, Academy for Palestine, NOMADA Association (Kaktus Initiative)

2:45 pm Screening of short films

"An Orange from Jaffa" – Award for the best short film at the 49th Polish Film Festival in Gdynia.
"Artists from Gaza" – A short film demonstrating profiles of artistic people who work in Gaza. Screening in cooperation with the Embassy of the State of Palestine in Poland.

4:00 pm Meeting with Elias Jahshan

Palestinian writer, journalist and activist, editor of the award-winning anthology of the Arab queer texts "This Arab is Queer: An Anthology by LGBTQ+ Arab Writers".
Moderator: Anastas Krusińska

5:15 pm Film screening: "Farha"

A Jordanian-Saudi-Swedish feature film about growing-up during the Nakba of 1948. Screening in cooperation with the Embassy of the State of Palestine in Poland.

7:00 pm Film screening: "There Was Nothing Here Before"

Will the Palestinian director succeed in depicting the closed world of Jewish settlements in the West Bank?
Chamber Hall

5:15 pm Hybrid meeting (guests online): "Palestinian Women's Activism: On the Ground, Online, and Beyond"

Sophie Richter-Devroe – professor in the Department of Middle Eastern Studies at the Hamad Bin Khalifa University in Doha and European Centre for Palestine Studies at the University of Exeter. She writes about women's activism in Palestine.
Karolina Rak – orientalist, Arabist, literary scholar. Her latest research explores the phenomenon of Arab feminism.
Moderator: **Mouna El Khala** – Tunisian academician working on Arab feminist literature.

Meetings in English with whispered interpreting performed by students from the Department of Applied Linguistics at UMCS.

6:30 pm Hybrid meeting (guests online): "Letters for Palestinian Childhoods"

Rachel Rosen – British academician working on childhood research, trailblazer, and curator of the exhibition "Letters for Palestinian Childhoods".
Moderator: **Anna Witeska-Młynarczyk** – anthropologist and sociologist working on childhood research.

Meetings in English with whispered interpreting performed by students from the Department of Applied Linguistics at UMCS.

7:45 pm Hybrid meeting (guests online): Azza El Hassan

Azza El Hassan – Palestinian documentalist and writer born in Jordan. Her work reflects the experience of life in exile and shows life in occupied Palestine.
Moderator: **Mouna El Khala**

Meetings in English with whispered interpreting performed by students from the Department of Applied Linguistics at UMCS.

Foyer of Screening Room

Multimedia exhibition: "Letters for Palestinian Childhoods"

A collection of letters, poems and artwork created with Palestinian children in mind by childhood researchers and artists from around the world. Translation of letters: students from the Department of Applied Linguistics at UMCS.