



From Paris to Tunis, a message from director Alexandra Dols
 CHOUFTOUHONNA, 4th Tunis International Feminist Art Festival
 September 7th, 2018

Politically, I have called myself a feminist since the early 2000s. In the process of making this movie and for the past few years, I happen to have put this label on hold.

I chose to focus on content instead. I needed to redefine and reshape my feminism while facing key issues of our times, namely the ideological hijacking of feminism serving the “clash of civilizations”, its fantasies and rhetoric, thus inciting racism, Islamophobia and Zionism.

Through this movie, I have asked myself continuously: how can we create representations that could help and decolonize popular imagination? These depictions should convey the strength, power and political and professional existence of Palestinian women and queer people — who are components of Palestinian society just as any other society.

This is why, contrary to the current trend, the movie you are about to see is not about categorizing and dividing. This is not a movie about “Christians of Palestine” or “Queers in Palestine”, as if they were not all part of a same society.

I have rather chosen to make a movie picturing individuals who make a stand, uniting the plurality of their identities to defy and defeat occupation.

Now, you will understand how delighted I am that *Beyond the Frontlines. Tales of Resistance and Resilience in Palestine* is being shown in such a young and ambitious feminist artists’ festival as Chouftouhonna — a festival engaging with these issues head-on.

I would like to warmly thank the organizers, *al-fushikate*, as well as Selma Zghidi for her valuable work on our movie and for representing us on this occasion.