San Francisco Cinematheque presents <u>Military Cultures</u> November 19th and December 3rd at Yerba Buena Center for the Arts

The final two evenings in our three part series of experimental works that explore the worldwide afflictions of war. Following our screening of Italian filmmakers Yervant Gianikian and Angela Ricci Lucchi's internationally extolled film **Oh**, **Uomo!**, Cinematheque continues our program with two more shows of exquisite filmmaking that demonstrate humanities gruesome investment in war told in the Cinematheque tradition of adventurous aesthetics.

Sites and Silences; Speculative Archive and Trevor Paglen in Person November 19th at 7:30 YBCA

Featuring the Los Angelas based duo Speculative Archive involving Julia Meltzer and David Thorne presenting their new work shot in Damascus, Syria. The art cohorts of Speculative Archive are renowned for their video, photography, and installation projects that critically interrogate the records and effects of political violence. They will be proceeded by a multi-media lecture/performance by acclaimed experimental geographer and author of the new book, *Torture Taxi* (with AC Thompson,) Trevor Paglen. Paglen will examine the methodology of the US government and its clandestine operations to "disappear" suspected terrorists in a powerful work that resides at the intersection of art and activism.

CINEMATHEQUE ALSO CO-PRESENTS A PUBLIC LECTURE BY SPECULATIVE ARCHIVE AT CALIFORNIA COLLEGE OF THE ARTS ON TUESDAY, NOV 21ST AT 7:30 PM. SEE <u>WWW.SFAI.EDU</u> FOR MORE INFO.

Military Culture: Films from Syria, Turkey, Palestine and Israel. Akram Zaatari in Person 7:30 YBCA presented in Association with Pacific Film Archive, San Francisco Art Institue, Arab Film Festival Discussion and reception to follow the screenings.

The films of "Military Cultures" reflect the loss of civil space to military institutions and ethos. Part of a series curated by Akram Zaatari for the 2006 Oberhausen Festival, this program includes Oussama Mohammed's breathtakingly shot portrait of the militarization of rural life in Syria, Sharif Waked's caustic fashion show for Palestinian men crossing the Israeli checkpoints, Koken Ergun's video installation on the militaristic pageantry of Turkish nationalism, Avi Mogabi's depiction of an excruciating stand-off between a Palestinian family and an Israeli tank, and more. Zaatari will be present to illuminate the process of selecting this deeply moving sequence of shorts.

CINEMATHEQUE ALSO CO-PRESENTS A PUBLIC LECTURE BY AKRAM ZAATARI AT SAN FRANCISCO ART INSTITUTE ON WEDNESDAY, NOV 29TH AT 7:30PM. SEE <u>WWW.SFAI.EDU</u> FOR MORE INFO.