The former Vendôme cinema on Nahr Street, Mar Mkhael, Beirut
Photograph by Siska

The former Vendôme cinema on Nahr Street (Interior view),
Mar Mkhael, Beirut. Photograph by Siska

The Kino Project

Siska

Kino is a traveling movie theater that materializes in new and temporary locations as it travels from one city to another. In each city, Kino takes on the name of a former movie theater that was closed down, demolished or transformed. As a temporary set up, the Kino is built on site and functions like a regular movie theatre; tickets are sold at the entrance and a bar is set up for each edition. An important component of the project is the signage, which is newly produced according to the name of the cinema.

KINO EDITIONS
The Kino Project started in Beirut, where various cinemas disappeared with the Lebanese civil war and its after effects on the urban space. The Kino focuses on presenting super 8 films and videos about cities and their stories.

KINO VENDOME took place on the rooftop of a building in Mar Mkhael Nahr, Beirut, from November 6 to 8. Screenings started at 8:30 PM. The Vendôme Cinema was originally located on Mar Mkhael's main street and is now being demolished.

KINO SKARPA took place at Raster Gallery on Hoza street in Warsaw on the night of November 27, at 8:00 PM. Kino Skarpa was formerly located on Kopernika street. It was demolished in 2008 to be replaced by a housing project and a commercial mall. Kino Skarpa was built between 1956 and 1960 and was known for its modernist post-war architectural style.

Kino VendôMe, 98weeks workshop *On Mar Mkhael*, 2009
Photograph by Siska

KINOTHEK

DEAD END
Nabil Kanafani
1969, 30 min., Super 8mm (Silent)
Shot in Seattle, USA, at the time of anti-Vietnam demonstrations. This masterpiece on the American dream and its seducing images revealed an unknown filmmaker: Nabil Kanafani.

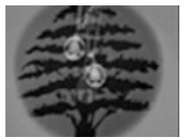
FILM FI JDITA
Alecco Habib
1976, 9 min., Super 8mm (Silent)
Shot in the mountains of Lebanon, this film shows the life of the Habib family in the early seventies, shortly after the beginning of the civil war.

SPEEDY GONZALES
Warner brothers 5 min., Super 8mm (Silent)

NU PAGADI
5min., Super 8mm (Silent)

STUDY ON NEON WRITINGS 1
Siska
2008, 1:22 min., Video
Holiday Home, Liberty Tower, Savoy Suites, Hotel Padova - Study on Neon Writings films light neon writings in an urban scenery at night.

EBBA
Marwa Arsanios
2007, 10 min., Video
A short story on the motorcycle riders of the Beiruty streets.



NASHID AL WATANI
Siska
2007, 2 min., Video
Footage of a Lebanese rapper in Paris, beat-boxing the melody of the Lebanese national anthem and wearing a necklace representing the cedars.

INTERIOR
Hisham Awad
2009, 7:30 min., Video
A modern dictionary of marital arts.

SOL 1
Siska & Zeina Hanna
2008, 15 min., Video
Sol 1 is part of a series of dance performances taking place in different public spaces in Beirut. In an abandoned building, the dancer Zeina Hanna initiates a dialogue with a floor covered by old tiles.