

## ***Africa's Last Colony: Western Sahara in Film***

Australia Western Sahara Association presents an evening  
of films about Western Sahara



**Friday 15 May 2009**

**Leichhardt Town Hall**

**6.30 p.m. drinks and finger food**

**7.30 p.m. films**

**Tickets \$20 and \$10 (concession)**

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For information about Western Sahara go to AWSA website  
<http://www.awsa.org.au>

## Films

### ***The 7.30 report, 09/06/2008 Western Sahara activists target Australia***

Australian Broadcasting Corporation. Reporter James Carleton

Most of the phosphate used on Australian farms is actually from one of the world's poorest and most inhospitable regions, Western Sahara. Illegally annexed by neighbouring Morocco in 1975, Western Sahara is sometimes referred to as Africa's East Timor. Now Western Saharan activists are targeting Australia's reliance on their homeland's richest natural resource.

### ***Lalia***

Director. Sylvia Munt, Spain 1999, 12 min (Spanish & Arabic with English subtitles)

"If you close your eyes you can see anything". This award winning short film is told through the voice of a Saharawi girl named Lalia who has never seen her homeland. She imagines what it will be like when she can return and discover it for herself.

### ***Children of the Clouds***

Director: Carlos González, 2008, 10 mins

Documentary by the U.S. director and cinematographer Carlos González, reveals the oppressive conditions inside the Moroccan occupied Western Sahara.

Though it is rare for journalists and documentary filmmakers to gain access to the Moroccan occupied Western Sahara, González has gone behind the scenes and even undercover to show things never before captured on video by an outsider.

The documentary features an extended interview with Hmad Ahmad, a Sahrawi human rights defender who has faced repeated beatings and imprisonment for his activism. The film also contains live photage of Moroccan police repression, as well as various images of past and present abuses by the occupying authority.

### ***Cubarawi Women***

Dir. Antonio Marquez, Spain 2006, 58 min (Spanish & Arabic with English subtitles)

Every year Saharawi students living in refugee camps in southwest Algeria go to Cuba to study from secondary to university level.

It is a formative experience for them living in a very different environment both physically and culturally. The film follows women training in Cuba and talks to others who have returned to the camps.