

On 21st October, United Nations Cinema will be screening 'The Poetess' in London in partnership with

[The
 British Museum](#)

, as part of

the

Ian Hislop curated exhibition

['I, Object'](#)

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The film tells the story of Hissa Hilal, the first woman to reach the finals of the Arab world's biggest televised poetry competition, 'Million's Poet'.

The

Poetess

' is her inspiring story: a woman risking her personal safety and seizing an opportunity, live on TV in front of 75 million viewers, to use her wit and lyricism to critique patriarchal society and religious extremism, and to urge a more peaceful Islam.

The

screening will be followed by a conversation with guest speakers: Alia Alzoubi (BAFTA nominated storyteller and educator), Dagmar Schumacher (Director of

[UN Women, Brussels Office](#)

), Venetia Porter (Assistant Keeper for Islamic and contemporary Middle East, British Museum), moderated by Deborah Seward (Director,

[UNRIC](#)

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To watch the trailer,

[click here](#)

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For more information about the screening and how to get there

[click here.](#)

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