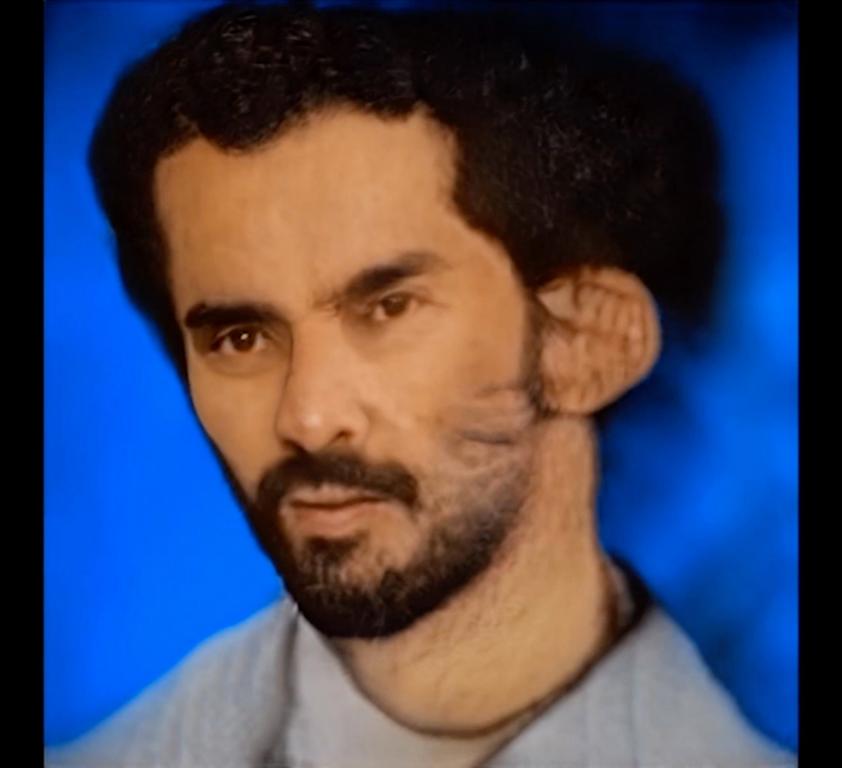




The Mad Man's Laughter is a video-based work that engages with the simulacrum of the so-called global war on terror, and the worlds of ubiquitous surveillance and simulation it has since spawned. By exploring the fictitious entities that are at play in the military-entertainment complex, the video embarks on a journey across artifacts and precepts shaped by modalities of power and control. Through the use of archival material and computer generated imagery, sounds, and texts, the film navigates both latent and visible spaces of violence carved by colonial-militaristic image production and the data used to generate algorithmic biases.

The archetypal textual and visual language of the political and the machine has cautiously configured the everlasting myth of a common rhetorical enemy. The enemy is a necessity that guarantees the sustainability of wars and their lucrative markets, for today techno-intelligence is the guardian of the modern death apparatus.





a film by Alaa Mansour

commissioned and produced by TBA21 for st_age in collaboration with Ashkal Alwan

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