

# UNDYING CITIES:

Narratives of Erasure and Liberation

## Mahmoud Alhaj

### Control Anatomy

2024. Video 17 minutes.

Through a blend of powerful imagery, archival, and historical materials, Mahmoud's voice takes us on a decades-long journey exploring the transformation of the tools of war and their relationship to ethics, memory, technology, and the violence inflicted on the Palestinian people. The film touches on three generations of violence, corresponding to different historical moments, revealing the invisible distortion of violence that unfolds over an extended period of time.

### About the Artist

Born in Gaza in 1990, he holds a BA in Journalism and has been working as an art teacher at the Palestinian Red Crescent Society since 2017. He has completed six projects using photography, art and digital video, which have been widely exhibited in Palestine, Europe and the USA. In 2022, his experimental short film "The Right to Look" was screened at the 35th Instant Video Festival in Marseille, after having been screened at the Cairo Video Festival in 2021, in parallel with a duo exhibition with Rob Foreman at Studio Platzmeken in the Netherlands. His first solo exhibition, "402 Grey," was held in Gaza, his second, "Violence Around the Clock," was held at Oxval Gauches Gallery in Barcelona in 2024, and his most recent exhibition, "Control Anatomy," was held at Zawyeh Gallery in Ramallah. Al-Haj has participated in many group exhibitions, including: "Hidden Talents", "Tadafuq - Flow", "Art Now", "Contemplative Comparisons", and others. He has also been awarded two artistic residencies, one at the Royal Spanish Academy of Arts in Rome, and the other at the Cite Internationale des Arts, Paris.

