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## WE PRESENT

### Randa Maroufi — How the French-Moroccan director makes slow-moving shorts

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Film



French-Moroccan director Randa Maroufi has never made fast-paced work. Her measured films fit into the category of “slow cinema,” a minimalist style that gives viewers time to take in every small detail they see. With long panning shots and little dialogue, her films crawl through each scene, and each one hopes to send an important message. She tells Alex Kahl how she communicates so much with so little movement.

Six years ago, filmmaker Randa Maroufi noticed a trend of teenage boys posting photos of themselves holding lethal weapons on social media. She read that police forces were beginning to use the photos as evidence and open investigations into some of the boys. Randa considered the way the photos only showed one moment, one frame of each person's life. She reckoned some of the boys holding weapons would have done nothing truly worthy of being investigated or arrested.

“When anything happens, especially something violent, and there's a video of it online, we don't see the full event because we only see it from one perspective,” she says. Her complaint was that in each case, we weren't making judgments based on every possible angle or consideration.

In response, *Le Park*, only the second film Randa ever made, offers a full, 360-degree view of every single frozen moment. “I think these days with social media we are just scrolling and we don't take time to interpret images. I find it interesting that the authorities can use one photo to open an investigation,” she says. “The film forces you to take more time to look at things.”