



## Venus KHOURY GHATA : A French poet with a touch of the Orient



**Directed by Elodie LELU**

*French Version*  
*English Version*

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A documentary of 52'

High Definition  
HD Cam & Digital Betacam 16/9

Venus KHOURY GHATA, is a Lebanese writer and poet, who has lived and worked in Paris since 1979.

More than 80 000 copies of her novels have been published, and her work has been translated into more than 23 languages.

When her brother failed to be recognised as “a Lebanese RIMBAUD” in France, Venus KHOURY GHATA stepped in to complete his poetic work.

The challenge was to find a balance between the French influence in her work, and her passion for the Orient.

How to dig out a unique, personal language from the melting pot of the French and Arabic alphabets ?

Venus has continued to tell the stories of the Oriental characters who haunt her memories, but she has chosen to do so in French, albeit a French littered with Oriental flavours.

Venus uses her writing to travel through space and time, bringing back to life the people she lost during her youth in Lebanon.

Her literature is like a magic spell enabling her to prolong life. In many ways, the French language has become her survival tool.

But the French she writes is a language which she has reinvented, mixing in Arabic influences, giving it a subtle oriental essence.

Through the voice of Venus KHOURY GHATA, we are able to perceive the meeting point of the two cultures.

She takes us on a journey between Orient and Occident, as her writing weaves a harmonious passage between the two.