



Culture

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Richard Brooks: Biteback

I'm not usually slow to criticise some of the junk that the Institute of Contemporary Arts stages, but I have long admired its cinema programme.

Next Friday, it begins showing a remarkable new documentary, *Iraq in Fragments*, shot by a brave American director, James Longley. It depicts life as it really is for Iraqis today, and I learnt more about the hapless country from this 90-minute film than from the combined television coverage I've seen over the past few years.

Yet the ICA is the only cinema in London to show it. Beyond the capital, it will be in key art houses. If only distributors were braver: ideally, *Iraq in Fragments* would push out some of the crass Hollywood fare at the Odeons and Vues.