

Working visit

*Amman, Ramallah,
Jerusalem and Haifa*

Dear guest We are happy to provide you with information about our upcoming working visit to Amman, Ramallah, Jerusalem and Haifa which takes place from 5 until 11 October 2018. While their constellation across geo-political boundaries attributes these cities to different countries, their stories are very much connected. Over the period of seven days the trip will begin in Amman, from where we will travel by land via the Allenby Bridge to Ramallah, followed by a stop in Jerusalem and we will end the trip in Haifa.

Flanders Arts Institute organises working visits to a city, or to several cities, to give the opportunity for artists and art professionals working in Flanders, Belgium, to expand their network and to share knowledge with peers in other regions of the world. In the last few years Flanders Arts Institute focused on dialogue and exchange with the Middle East, North Africa and South-East Europe. The reason for this specific focus comes from a shared need to (re)consider artistic collaboration between different parts of the world, North-South relations, and the notion of a 'here and there' as an open space for common dialogue between different cultures and different continents.

This year, together with artist Samah Hijawi, we are organising a multi-city trip to meet artists, theater makers, musicians and cultural organisations working in Amman, Ramallah, Jerusalem and Haifa. The aim of the trip is to meet new people, reconnect with people we previously met, share practices, and hopefully make interesting connections for future encounters.

Enjoy!

Team Flanders Arts Institute

Friday 5 October - Amman

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| 11:40 | Alitalia flight from Brussels Airport to Rome Fiumicino |
| 15:25 | Alitalia flight from Rome Fiumicino to Amman Queen Alia International |
| 19:55 | Arrival and taxi to the hotel |
| 21:00 | Open dinner |

Saturday 6 October - Amman

The first day will be an introduction to the organisations in the city. We will tour some of the exhibitions and meet the directors of these spaces. Our host and partner in Amman is the Mohammad and Mahera Abu Ghazaleh Foundation.

- 9:00 **BREAKFAST AT JADAL**
Introduction by Fadi Umaira about the space and the events they host, and introduction to the social fabric of the city of Amman.
- 10:00 **DARAT AL FUNUN - THE KHALID SHOMAN FOUNDATION**
Tour of the exhibition spaces, and orientation meeting with Mohammad Shaqdeeh on the history of the organisation and the different exhibition spaces and programmes of the organisation.
- 12:00 **JORDAN NATIONAL GALLERY OF FINE ARTS**
Tour and presentation of the collections with the director Khalid Khries.
- 13:30 Lunch
- 16:00 **AL BALAD THEATRE**
Meeting with co-director Samar Dudin in the theater's new location who will tell us the story of the theatre and their programmes.
- 17:30 **THE ROYAL FILM COMMISSION**
Meeting and orientation of the Film House and the Arab film archives with Nada Doumani.
- 19:00 **MOHAMMAD AND MAHERA ABU GHAZALEH FOUNDATION**
Visit of the organisation with Ahmad Ameen, and presentation of their current and future programmes.
- 20:00 **NETWORKING DINNER AT MMAG**
Artist Diala Khasawnih will curate a networking dinner and party with local artists based on the idea of sharing. Individual or group meetings can be sent with the invitees for meetings the next day.
Guests: Ahmad Zaatari, Noura Salem, Noura Khasawneh, Raed Ibrahim, Saba Innab, Nuha Innab, Reham Shurbaji, Yannone, Ibrahim Oweis, Bayan Kiwan, Omar Batikhi, Noor AG, Raed Asfour, Ola Khalidi, Alexia de Tillesse, Firas Taybeh, Said Abu Jaber, Mothanna Hussein, Omar Zobi, Nora Akwai, Jawad Doukkan, Shermine Sawalha, Abdalla Al Taher, Hana Malhas, Aysa Shamayleh, Batool Ibrahim, Reem Bader, Rand Beirut, Linda Khoury, Alaa Younis, Russol Nasser, Tareq Nasser, Ahmad Barakat, Sawsan Darwazeh, Raghda Butros, Sally Shalabi

JADAL

SATURDAY 6 OCTOBER

09:00 - 10:00

Jadal for Knowledge and Culture is a private non-profit socio-cultural project. It hosts cultural and cognitive activities in an attempt to formulate and disseminate progressive societal concepts, cultures, and values – following the tenets of science, solidarity, equality, and freedom. Jadal aims to promote critical thinking and collective action and embraces and encourages the development of sustainable environmentally friendly social projects. Jadal is located on Al-Kalha, one of the oldest staircases in Amman, in a house that dates back to 1933. It connects Downtown, the heart of Amman, and Jabal Al-Weibdeh, an area full of ambitious cultural projects and artistic initiatives. The founder of the project renovated the house during 2012 to provide a spacious atmosphere for events, spaces for reading and studying, courses, workshops and meetings, seating, and friendly gatherings. Jadal has recently adopted the 'anti-cafe' system, where visitors of the place can benefit from the various spaces and services provided, in a way where time is the value we deal in, not what you consume during your stay.

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CONTACT

5 Al Kalha stair,
in front of Jerusalem restaurant
in King Hussien Street

www.jadalculture.com



DARAT AL FUNUN

SATURDAY 6 OCTOBER

10:00 - 12:00

The story of Darat Al Funun goes back to 1988 when the initiative to support the arts and artists of Jordan and the Arab world was launched. Today, Darat Al Funun aims to provide a platform for contemporary Arab artists, to support art practices and artistic exchange, to stimulate critical discourse, and to research, document and archive Arab art. Visiting and artists-in-residence produce and show their work, academics and artists give talks or workshops and The Lab is open to projects by emerging artists. Furthermore, Darat Al Funun programmes educational activities for young people and students. The art library, publications, films and digital archives are open for research and documentation. Darat Al Funun is a home for the arts housed in six renovated historical buildings and warehouses, with a restored archaeological site in the garden.

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CONTACT

Main entrance:

13 Nadeem al Mallah Street

Upper entrance:

9 Moh'd Ali al Saadi Street

Jabal al Weibdeh

Amman

daratafunun.org

JORDAN NATIONAL GALLERY OF FINE ARTS

SATURDAY 6 OCTOBER
12:00 - 13:30

The Jordan National Gallery of Fine Arts is one of the major art museums in the Middle East and was founded in 1980.

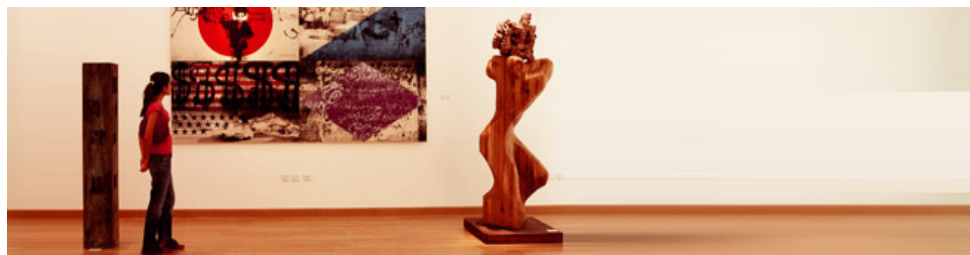
The collection comprises over 2800 works including painting, sculpture, ceramic, weaving, video art, installation, graphic arts and photography by more than 1000 artists from 66 countries mainly in Asia and Africa.

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CONTACT

Hosni Fareez Street
Amman

www.nationalgallery.org



AL BALAD THEATRE

SATURDAY 6 OCTOBER

16:00 - 17:00

Residing in the heart of downtown Amman, Al Balad Theater is a multi-purpose artistic and community space. It was established by renovating an old cinema, which was built in the 1940's. The Al Balad Theater aims to promote emerging and established artists from Jordan, the region and the world by presenting their cultural projects, mainly in the field of performing arts by providing the rehearsal spaces and spaces to perform and showcase. Al Balad Theater also contributes to strengthening the cultural movement in Jordan through interaction and cooperation with performing art groups and individual artists. Al Balad Theater carries out many activities such as: organizing theatre, dance, urban arts and music performances as well as film and video screenings, hosting training workshops in the performing arts and promoting independent artistic and cultural production and exchange.

CONTACT

Prince Mohammed Street
Jabal Amman 3rd circle
Amman

al-balad.org



THE ROYAL FILM COMMISSION

SATURDAY 6 OCTOBER
17:30 - 18:30

The Royal Film Commission (RFC) was established with a vision to develop an internationally competitive Jordanian film industry. The RFC aims to encourage Jordanians and people from the Middle East to tell their stories and create films, thus contributing to cross-cultural understanding and enhancing freedom of expression. They create educational programmes for Jordanians working or aspiring to work in the film industry and promote film culture throughout Jordan and internationally.

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CONTACT

5 Omar Bin Al Khattab Street
(off Rainbow Street)
Jabal Amman 1st circle
Amman

www.film.jo



MOHAMMAD AND MAHERA ABU GHAZALEH FOUNDATION

SATURDAY 6 OCTOBER
19:00

The Mohammad and Mahera Abu Ghazaleh Foundation (MMAG) is a non-profit organisation that brings together artists, curators, cultural practitioners and educators from Jordan and beyond. Situated in the historic neighbourhood of Jabal Amman and overlooking downtown, MMAG is home to galleries, workshops, studios and residency spaces, as well as the Central Amman Library, and is currently developing a postgraduate arts programme.

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CONTACT

30 Othman Bin Affan Street
Jabal Amman
Amman

mmagfoundation.org



Sunday 7 October - Amman & Ramallah

The second day focuses on the artists and the independent initiatives in the visual arts, theatre, urban art and music scenes to talk about their individual practices. Two locations have been determined for these meetings: Spring Sessions; a learning programme and arts residency based in Amman; and Tajalla, which is an initiative for music and musicians. Other meetings and locations can be arranged at MMAG or elsewhere.

10:30 **INDIVIDUAL MEETINGS WITH ARTISTS**
Spring Sessions
Tajalla

15:00 **LUNCH AT TURBO**
www.facebook.com/45turbo

17:00 Taxi-bus-taxi-bus-taxi to Ramallah
20:00 Expected arrival and check-in at the hotel

We may join the Qalandiya International opening at Riwaq, or join people for a drink, or simply have have dinner and rest. Ramallah will be bustling with the Qalandiya International festival, which unfolds in a series of openings in different cities in Palestine. More information: <https://www.qalandiyainternational.org/program2018>.

SPRING SESSIONS

SUNDAY 7 OCTOBER

10:30 – 14:30

Spring Sessions is an experiential learning programme and arts residency based in Amman, Jordan. The programme creates a collaborative environment for artistic exchange between diverse cultural practitioners. Conceived every spring as a 100-day programme of workshops, mentoring sessions, research excursions and other activities, the purpose is to question existing paradigms by experimenting outside of traditional modes of learning and to engage with community members and institutions to create a fluid cultural landscape. Participants of the programme develop and present a personal project over the course of the programme. In addition to its educational activities, Spring Sessions creates publications and has a series of ongoing collaborations with artists, researchers and cultural organisations.

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CONTACT

21 Nadim Mallah Street
Jabal Weibdeh
Amman

www.springsessions.org



TAJALLA FOR MUSIC AND ART

SUNDAY 7 OCTOBER

10:30 – 14:30

Tajalla for Music and Art is a non-profit association under the supervision of the Ministry of Culture in Jordan. Some of the objectives that Tajalla commits itself to are: creating a cultural and sensible history for emerging musicians and the public audience; inviting and hosting 'quality' performances to Jordan; providing financial and proper support for local musicians; networking between government and private institutions.

CONTACT

St. Zaid Bin Harethah,
Building Number 48, 1st Floor
Jabal Amman 2nd circle
Amman

www.facebook.com/tajallaorg



Monday 8 October - Ramallah

Our host and partner in Ramallah is the Khalil Sakakini Cultural Centre.

- 9:30 **A.M. QATTAN FOUNDATION**
Visit of the new building and tour of the site with Nader Dagher, Director of Media and Public Relations and Mahmoud Abu Hashhash, Director of the Culture and Arts Programme at A.M. Qattan Foundation.
- 12:00 **PALESTINIAN MUSEUM**
The Palestinian Museum in Birzeit with acting director Adila R. Laidi-Hanieh.
- 14:00 Lunch hosted by
DISARMING DESIGN FROM PALESTINE
in Birzeit Village
- 16:30 **AL KAMANDJATI MUSIC ASSOCIATION**
SAREYYET RAMALLAH
The afternoon will be divided according to the area of interest, we will organise meetings at Al Kamandjati Music Association and Sareyyet Ramallah.
- 18:30 **QALANDIYA INTERNATIONAL**
Meet-up at the opening of Qalandiya International at the Municipality of Ramallah.
- 20:30 Drinks with some key persons: Khalid Hourani, Tina Sherwell, Reem Fadda, Khalil Rabah, Emily and Anne Marie Jacir, Suad Amiri, Mahmoud Abu Hashhash (tbc).

A.M. QATTAN FOUNDATION

MONDAY 8 OCTOBER
09:30 – 11:30

The A.M. Qattan Foundation (AMQF) is an independent, not-for-profit developmental organisation working in the fields of culture and education, with a particular focus on children, teachers and young artists. Founded and registered in 1993, the Foundation's operations are mainly in Palestine, with interventions in Lebanon and in the United Kingdom. The Foundation is an independent institution, working in the knowledge and creativity sectors, using an integrative approach and targeting a variety of social groups, particularly children, teachers and young artists. It seeks to empower free individuals within a dynamic Palestinian and Arab culture, through a long-term, participatory developmental ethos. This is achieved through programmes that foster critical thinking, research, creativity and the production of knowledge, and that aim to provide inspiring models of giving, transparency and excellence.

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CONTACT
22 Al-Jihad Street
Al- Masyoun
Ramallah

qattanfoundation.org



THE PALESTINIAN MUSEUM

MONDAY 8 OCTOBER

12:00 – 14:00

The Palestinian Museum is an independent institution dedicated to supporting an open and dynamic Palestinian culture nationally and internationally. The museum presents and engages with new perspectives on Palestinian history, society and culture. It also offers spaces for creative ventures, educational programmes and research. The museum was designed as a transnational institution, capable of overcoming geographical and political boundaries to reach Palestinians within historic Palestine and beyond.

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CONTACT

Museum Street
(off Omar Ibn Al-Khattab Street)
Birzeit

www.palmuseum.org



DISARMING DESIGN FROM PALESTINE

MONDAY 8 OCTOBER

14:00 – 15:30

Disarming Design From Palestine aims to spread alternative narratives about contemporary Palestine and reflect upon the function of creative practices in situations of conflict. The design label presents and sells useful goods from Palestine, designed by contemporary designers and artists in collaboration with local producers and artisans. The project focuses on the development of local design and production capacity through creative processes. By stimulating interdisciplinary working relationships, new artistic models are empowered. Art and design are deployed as powerful tools that allow serious discussions within a community about the political, social and cultural realities. It approaches design as a platform for discourse. The collection of products is presented and sold locally and internationally through pop-up shops, exhibitions and a web shop.

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CONTACT

Hosh Jalsa
Municipality Road 24
Birzeit (Old town)

www.disarmingdesign.com



AL-KAMANDJATI MUSIC ASSOCIATION

MONDAY 8 OCTOBER

16:30 – 18:00

Al-Kamandjati was created by the internationally-renowned viola and bouzouq player Ramzi Aburedwan, who grew up in a refugee camp. Al Kamandjati exists to teach music to Palestinian children, especially those in marginalized areas and to make music accessible to the entire Palestinian community, strengthening their appreciation of Palestinian identity, as well as of other Arab and international cultures. Al Kamandjati's has by now built a worldwide network of collaboration and support that includes artistic and educational exchanges with notable music institutions and with independent artists.

CONTACT

Old City
Ramallah

www.alkamandjati.org



SAREYYET RAMALLAH

MONDAY 8 OCTOBER
16:30 – 18:00

Sareyyet Ramallah-First Ramallah Group (FRG) is a non governmental community-based organisation established in 1927. The organisation's work feeds from its solid belief in humanitarian principles and equality regardless of gender, religion, race and special needs. Sareyyet Ramallah provides its services for all social groups and categories in the Palestinian society through its multi activities. With 25 years experience of working in the field of dance and art production through Sareyyet Ramallah dance Troupe, Sarreyet Ramallah develops the capacities and professionalism of dancers and promote their role, to help Palestinian dancers reach an international level through three main branches: The Dance School, Sareyyet Ramallah Dance Troupes, and Ramallah Contemporary Dance Festival.

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CONTACT
Al-Terah Street
Ramallah

sareyyet.ps



QALANDIYA INTERNATIONAL

MONDAY 8 OCTOBER
18:30

Qalandiya International (Qi) was founded in 2012 as a joint contemporary art event that takes place every two years across Palestinian cities and villages. Qi aims to place Palestine on the world's cultural map by producing a series of exhibitions, as well as performances, talks, film screenings, workshops and tours, that open up channels for dialogue and exchange, both locally and internationally. As a partnership between art and culture organisations, Qi works collectively to join forces to unify a fragmented geography. Besides generating opportunities for artists in the region and from elsewhere, QI also aims to engage the local public in its programmes.

CONTACT

www.qalandiyainternational.org



Tuesday 9 October – Ramallah & Jerusalem

The day is organised for individual meetings with artists and collectives. We meet artists in the morning over breakfast, and then everyone goes on their own route before we connect again to move to Jerusalem.

- 10:00 **BREAKFAST AT THE KHALIL SAKAKINI CULTURAL CENTRE**
Tour of the exhibition and introduction on the sender's activities by Yazan Khalili. Then we meet with the artists and collectives (below) who will take the participants to their studios.
- 12:30 **MEETINGS WITH ARTISTS & STUDIO VISITS**
Maia Khalidi Studio with Shaima' Nader, Dina Mimi, Dina Shilleh and Shatha Safadi
Saqi Group: Nida Sunuqrot
Idiom Films, Makaniyat collective, and Yazan Khalili, and Lara Khalidi's studio
- 16:30 Meeting at the hotel and check-out
- 17:00 Bus to Jerusalem
17:30 Expected arrival and check-in at the hotel
- 19:00 **NETWORK DINNER AT AL MA'MAL FOUNDATION FOR CONTEMPORARY ART**
Our host and partner in Jerusalem is Al Ma'mal Foundation. The dinner will be prepared by Ezzeddin Bukhari, a chef who is starting his own pop-up kitchen inspired from his Uzbek family heritage under the name Sacred Kitchen.
Guests: Jumana Emile-Abboud, Benji Bouitjan, Ellis and Yousef Anasatas, Mirna Bamyeh, Jack Persekian, Ahed Sideman, Maya Khalidi, Raja El Khalidi, Mahmoud Muna, Mohammad Saleh, Vivien Sansour.

KHALIL SAKAKINI CULTURAL CENTER

TUESDAY 9 OCTOBER

10:00 – 12:30

The Khalil Sakakini Cultural Center (KSCC) is a leading Palestinian arts and culture organisation that aims to create a pluralistic, critical liberating culture through research, query, and participation, and that provides an open space for the community to produce vibrant and liberating cultural content. Located in Ramallah, KSCC is housed in a renovated building, dating back to the early 20th century, based on traditional Palestinian architecture. Initially established in May 1996 as a branch of the Palestinian Ministry of Culture, KSCC was registered as a non-profit non-governmental organisation (NGO) in 1998. The center is named after the Jerusalemite scholar, poet, and nationalist, Khalil Sakakini.

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CONTACT

Al Raja' Street Al Masyoon
1887 Ramallah

www.sakakini.org



AL MA'MAL FOUNDATION

Al Ma'mal is a non-profit organisation based in a former Tile Factory in New Gate, in the Old City of Jerusalem, serving its surrounding community, their guests and the city's visitors through a programme of exhibitions, live music and workshops. Since 1998, Al Ma'mal has been a hub for art, cultural vibrancy and learning while building bridges with the world and honouring Jerusalem's own enduring qualities as a complex, culturally rich, ageless city.

TUESDAY 9 OCTOBER
19:00

CONTACT
8 Al Jawalida Street
New Gate, Old City
Jerusalem

www.almamalfoundation.org



Wednesday 10 October - Jerusalem

Not many artists live in Jerusalem because of the social conditions of the city, and the special living permits needed to live there. What this part of the trip will focus on is getting a feeling of the complex history and the social fabric of the city, and to understand the fragility of the conditions in which art organisations are working in.

- 10:00 **AL HOASH AND SHAFaq NETWORK**
Tour of the exhibition at Al Hoash and meeting with the director of the Shafaq Network Daoud Ghoul.
- 11:30 **EL HAKAWATI THEATRE**
Meeting with Amer Khalil and introduction to the work of the theatre.
- 16:00 **PALESTINIAN HOSTING SOCIETY**
Performance tour with the Palestinian Hosting Society with Mirna Bamieh and Suzanne Matar, a live art collective that researches food practices in Palestine and beyond. The performance will include a walk in the old city that ends at a dinner table.

AL HOASH

WEDNESDAY 10 OCTOBER
10:00 – 11:30

The Palestinian Art Court al Hoash is a Palestinian organisation based in Jerusalem that works in the field of culture, specifically in the visual arts. Al Hoash was established at the end of 2004 by a number of Palestinian enthusiasts who sensed the crucial need for a professional body to revive and preserve visual arts, being a major part of the Palestinian cultural identity.

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CONTACT
Zaitouna building
7 Zahra Street
East Jerusalem

www.alhoashgallery.org

Al Hoash was established to house a comprehensive collection of Palestinian art and to fill the need for a community-based art centre that serves the diverse sectors of the community. Its current location in the heart of East-Jerusalem is ideal for that purpose: it is surrounded by several schools, public service organisations, hotels and is accessible to residents living in the eastern and western part of Jerusalem.



SHAFQA NETWORK

WEDNESDAY 10 OCTOBER

10:00 – 11:30

Five arts centres in Jerusalem have come together and formed a network called ‘Shafaq’. These cultural centres are five of the most prominent in Jerusalem, who are open to the public, give services to the community, are legally registered, and are governed by legal boards. The five centres have agreed to a Jerusalem Cultural Strategy (JCS) based on the National Palestinian Cultural Strategy, which will guide their joint efforts and will be the basis for their lobbying in putting Jerusalem and its community and arts on the priority list of all those concerned.

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CONTACT

jerusalemarts.net

EL HAKAWATI THEATRE

WEDNESDAY 10 OCTOBER
11:30 – 12:30

The Palestinian National Theatre (PNT) was founded by the Palestinian El-Hakawati Theatre Company. The PNT is a Palestinian non-profit cultural institution which strives to create and to develop a unique cultural life in Jerusalem, by way of producing and presenting artistic, educational and entertaining programmes that reflect the aspirations of the Palestinian people. The PNT plays a vital role in the Palestinian community and until recently was the only center for culture and art in the Occupied Territories. Since its inception in 1984, the theatre has served to actively encourage and promote artistic and cultural activities.

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CONTACT
Al Nuzha building
Abu Obeida Street
Jerusalem

www.pnt-pal.com



Thursday 11 October - Haifa

Our host and guide in Haifa is Samaa Wakeem, dancer, choreographer and cultural activist. She has worked as a freelancer with local and international dance companies and theatre groups such as YSDT, KVS, les ballets c de la b, Khashabi Theatre, Shebir hur ensemble, the Young Vic Theatre and others.

- 8:00 Bus to Haifa
10:15 Expected arrival and check-in
- 10:45 **MADJAR FATTOUSH**
Presentation of the space and their artistic programme by Asmaa Azaizeh.
- 12:30 **AL MATAL**
Visit to **Al Matal** (which means viewpoint) an area in the city that gives us an overview of the urban landscape of Haifa. Samaa Wakeem will give an orientation of the history of the city and the current issues they are negotiating in their cultural practices.
- 14:30 **AL KHASHABI THEATRE**
Meeting with director Bashar Murkus who will introduce us to the theatre and tell us about their programme. The theatre is located near the historical neighbourhood of Wadi Al Sleeb.
- 15:30 Break
- 16:30 **AL MANJAM GALLERY**
Presentation of the gallery which works independently and mainly focuses on visual artists. There will be either a presentation of the works by several artists or a discussion of the different positions of local artists in their work towards the local context.
- 18:30 **MASAHA AND KABAREET**
Meeting with Ayed Fadel who is part of Jazar crew and also the owner of Kabareet. Drinks and music with local artists. Perhaps we will catch a concert programmed that day!

We will also meet artist Rabea Salfiti, and singer Hanan Wakim who runs the Aswat organisation, as well as Lena Mansour who runs the Haifa International Film Festival.

MADJAR FATTOUSH

THURSDAY 11 OCTOBER
10:45 - 12:30

Madjar Fattoush is a restaurant with an owner who is very supportive of culture. He made it a cultural space where crafts are sold. The owner is also opening a gallery space, concert hall and rehearsal spaces.

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CONTACT
Sderot Ben Gurion
Haifa



AL KHASHABI THEATRE

THURSDAY 11 OCTOBER

14:30 – 15:30

Khashabi Theatre is an independent cultural organisation founded in Haifa in 2015 by Khashabi Ensemble, a collective of Palestinian theatre-makers. Khashabi aims to provide a space for artists to freely experiment, create, research and perform alternative forms of theatre and art, and space where societal, political and artistic taboos can be challenged, creating an invigorated creative environment based around cooperation and mutual support

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CONTACT

Khatib Street 10
(corner of Shivat Tsion 21)
Haifa

www.khashabi.org



Friday 12 October - Haifa

10:00 Check-out and bus or taxi to Ben Gurion Airport

BART DANCKAERT

Bart Danckaert works as a freelance theatre director (Toneelschuur in Haarlem, Het Paleis, Toneelhuis & Luxemburg in Antwerp, Antigone in Kortrijk, BRONKS & KVS in Brussels, ...) and as a drama teacher at the Kunsthumaniora Woord, Muziek & Dans in Brussels. He holds a Master's degree in the History of Art (Leuven, Stockholm) and a Bachelor's degree in Theatre Directing (Amsterdam).

Bart Danckaert taught at the workshops within the framework of PASS (Performing Arts Summer School) in Occupied Territories of Palestine organised by Qattan Foundation and KVS (2006-2012) and director of Keffiyeh/Made in China by Dalia Taha (2011-2012). His practice focuses mainly on theatre, young people, urban development, (old) literature and visual arts.

CONTACT

bdanckaert@yahoo.com



CHARLOTTE VAN BUYLAERE

Charlotte Van Buylaere is a curator and writer whose practice explores the intersections of popular culture, feminist politics and hybrid art forms. Her curatorial projects are often executed in discursive formats such as reading groups, open classes, public discussions and video/film screenings.

In 2017 Van Buylaere conducted a research at De Appel in Amsterdam related to the reformation of its Curatorial Programme. Prior to that Charlotte was assistant curator at S.M.A.K. Museum for Contemporary Art and at the Bucharest Biennale 7. She has co-curated the exhibitions Romanian Vistas: The BB7 Travel Agency at Onomatopée in Eindhoven, the Netherlands (2016), Spatial Sublation at WIELS, Belgium (2016) and Dysgraphic City at Künstlerhaus Bethanien in Berlin (2013).

She currently holds the position of curator at Netwerk Aalst where she founded the programme on food and politics: Bureau d'Alimentation, and is also working on an upcoming publication and exhibition exploring the political, social, legal and representational aspects of family, scheduled for September 2019 at Extra City Kunsthall, Antwerp.



CONTACT

vanbuylaere.charlotte@gmail.com
www.charlottevanbuylaere.com

DANIEL BLANGA GUBBAY

Daniel Blanga Gubbay is a Brussels-based curator in performance arts and researcher. He is the initiator and curator of Aleppo, a platform for public programmes through theory and artistic interventions. Among the curated programmes: The Second Nature (Riga, 2017); W.E. (Brussels 2017); Nature (Brussels 2016); Black Market (Brussels 2016); The School of Exceptions (Santarcangelo 2016). He works as programmer for the Kunstenfestivaldesarts in Brussels. He is part of the curatorial board for LiveWorks (Centrale Fies). He teaches at the Académie Royale de Beaux Arts in Brussels, directing the performance and choreography department, and lecture regularly abroad. Among some recent presentations Dance Under Cover of a Fictional Rhythm (2018, Sharjah, UAE); The Movement as Living Non-Body (2018, Movement Research, NY); Knowing the Unknown (2017, Museum of Impossible Forms, Helsinki); The Möbius Strip, On Fictional Institutions, (2017, Buda, Kortrijk); and Prophecies Without Content (American University of Beirut).

CONTACT

daniel@aleppo.eu
www.aleppo.eu



DIRK SNAUWAERT

Dirk Snauwaert is the founding and artistic director of WIELS in Brussels. He was formerly joint artistic director of the Institut d'Art Contemporain in Villeurbanne, where he programmed exhibitions and developed the Frac Rhône-Alpes collection. From 1996 to 2001 he was director of the Kunstverein München. From 1989 to 1995 he was curator of contemporary art at the Exhibitions Association of the Palace for Fine Arts in Brussels (currently BOZAR). He lectures and publishes regularly on art and visual culture. At WIELS he has curated the one-person exhibitions of Anne-Mie van Kerckhoven, Luc Tuymans, Francis Alys, David Claerbout, Rosemarie Trockel, Jeremy Deller, Joëlle Tuerlinckx, Walter Swennen, Ana Torfs, Stan Douglas, Edith Dekyndt and Duncan Campbell; and the group exhibitions 'Expats and Clandestines', 'ReSiDuE' with Agata Jastrzębek and Unexchangeable. He also curated the Jef Geys Belgian Pavilion at the 53rd Venice Biennale (2009), 'Atopolis', an international group exhibition organised in collaboration with Mons 2015 - European Capital of Culture, 'Ideolect', a thematic exhibition project for the 2010 Bruges Poetry Festival and Thomas Hirschhorn Pixel-Collages at the National Gallery of Kosovo, Pristina in 2018.



CONTACT

dirk.snauwaert@wiels.org

www.wiels.org

ELS VANDEN MEERSCH

Els Vanden Meersch lives and works in Belgium, Antwerp. She studied visual arts at the Sint-Lukas Hogeschool Brussels. She did a postgraduate at HISK in Antwerp, and was participant at the Rijksakademie voor Beeldende Kunst in Amsterdam (2001-2002), at Platform Garanti, Istanbul and at the Bellagio Center of the Rockefeller Foundation, Bellagio (IT) (2012), Art Omi, NY and Triangle Art, NY (2006, 2012).

In her work she explores the relationship between politics, architecture and identity through multimedia use of sound, photo and installation. She focuses on the build environment as representation of shared histories or common memories and on the use or misuse of this within conflict areas in Iraq, Turkey and Iran.

She published 5 artist books among many other publications: *Transient Constructions* (Genk Flacc©, 2003), *Paranoid Obstructions* (Leuven University Press, 2004), *Implants* (Mer, 2006), *Track Report: Esfahan, Tehran, Sanandaj, Kermanshah* (AP, 2015) and *Mastering the Curtains* (APE, 2017).

Solo exhibitions are a.o. Vander Kelen museum, Leuven (2006), Gallery Annie Gentils, Antwerp (2006, 2008, 2011, 2015), La Chambre Blanche, La Biennale en art actuel de Québec (2008), and M HKA Museum of Contemporary Art Antwerp (2017).

Group exhibitions are a.o., 'Vérité exposée' Ernst Museum Budapest (2009), 'The Order of Things' M HKA, Antwerp (2008), Biennial of Contemporary Art, Sinop, Turkey (2010), Shenzhen OCT LOFT Museum, China (2013), Fritz Mayer van den Bergh Museum, Antwerp (2016), Port City Talks Istanbul/Antwerp, MAS (2015).

In 2017, she finished her doctoral research at University Antwerp/AP. "Mastering the curtains" is an artistic research into the relation of visual arts with heritage, propaganda and censorship in Iran.

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GRIET DOBBELS

Griet Dobbels is a visual artist. She began her professional career in 1996 after graduating from The Royal College of Art in London. Key concepts in her work are the dialectic between grandeur and insignificance, transience and timelessness, nature and culture, beauty and horror, safety and danger, chaos and control, universality and individuality. Formally, these subjects translate into various media: drawings, video installations, sculptures and happenings. Dobbels explores boundaries, both in terms of content and form, and strives for an objective position.

The line is a constant in her work, be it the contour line, the coast line, the front line or a border. This line is exposed, excavated, walked, drawn or cut-and-pasted.

Griet Dobbels has exhibited nationally and internationally and has undertaken a number of significant residences, including at the Cittadellarte-Fondazione Pistoletto in 2017-18. Her work can be seen in the contexts of museums, art centres, public spaces or as part of diverse private initiatives, including: Museum Dhondt-Dhaenens (BE); Brakke Grond, Amsterdam (NL); Working Title Festival Brussels (BE); Nest, The Hague (NL); Netwerk Aalst (BE); Greenwich Festival, London (UK) and Emergent (BE).

Her solo exhibition, *The Map Is Not the Territory* (Montedellarte), is currently on display at the Cittadellarte-Fondazione Pistoletto (IT). At the present moment in time, Griet Dobbels is working on the international distribution of her installation *Clay Front*.

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HERMAN ASSELBERGHS

Herman Asselberghs is a Belgian artist whose work focuses on the questioning of border areas between sound and image, world and media, poetry and politics. His installations and videos have been shown at Tate Modern, London; Centre Pompidou, Paris; documenta X, Kassel; Deitch Projects, New York; CGAC, Santiago de Compostela; hartware, Dortmund; Witte de With, Rotterdam; Netwerk, Aalst; M HKA, Antwerp; Van Abbemuseum, Eindhoven; International Film Festival Rotterdam; Internationale Filmfestspiele Berlin; FID Marseille; EMAF Osnabrück; Medien- und Architektur Biennale Graz; Rencontres Internationales Paris/Berlin/Madrid. In 2007 he won the Transmediale Award in Berlin. Herman Asselberghs, who has published extensively on film and visual culture, teaches at the film department of Hogeschool Sint-Lukas Brussel. He lives and works in Brussels.

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ILSE ROOSENS

Ilse Roosens works as a curator at Mu.ZEE in Ostend and Permeke Museum in Jabbeke. She organised the exhibitions 'Carsten Höller: Video retrospective with Two Light machines' (2016) 'Frans Masereel and Contemporary art: images of resistance' (2017), 'A conversation between collections from Kinshasa and Ostend' (2018) and the presentations with Katleen Vinck & Wim Wauman (2016), Hedwig Houben & Tamara Van San (2017) and Farah Atassi & Tramaine de Senna (2018). Prior to Mu.ZEE, Ilse worked at Extra City Kunsthall in Antwerp and at S.M.A.K. in Ghent. She has also written and curated on a freelance basis for various artists and organisations. She is specifically interested in decanonisation and the decolonisation of the institutions.

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JAN HOOZEE

Jan Hoozee is passionate about culture and music, and about the diversity in society and in the world. The musician as a teenager, became a DJ and record collector in his teens, and discovered a huge interest in world music – at first mainly Brazilian music, later Latin American, African, Asian, South- and East European music. The power of music as a unifying factor, as a bridge between cultures and a basis for understanding, matched with his Anthropology studies at the Ghent University.

Although music has always been prominent, other disciplines like visual arts, architecture and dance, have been present as well. Yet the culture behind has always provided that extra level, the necessary interpretation and context.

After his master in Anthropology and Management of Culture (Antwerp University), Jan studied capoeira and volunteered at the youth radio Urgent.fm where he learned all aspects of the medium (production, editing and presentation) and worked as a manager of diversity, setting of short and long collaborations with local talents from other backgrounds. The radio story still continues and stays a channel for his musical interests, a playground for local and international musicians and a meeting point for everybody who's active in the social-artistic scene in Ghent and beyond.

The past ten years Jan coordinated Zephyrus Records, the record label, management- and production company for world music and jazz. It is an important player in Belgium for the international guidance of new and existing groups. Zephyrus Records released 42 albums until now and organizes diverse events (AWAN – a platform for female artists from the Arab World, Dia De Los Muertos – a celebration of the Mexican day of the death, a Flamenco Festival, the Belgian World Music Network, Fiesta Colombiana, ...).

Since 2016 Jan has been active as artistic programmer and member of the board at Trefpunt Festival, the originator of the Gentse Feesten in 1970, and organiser of hundreds of concerts and other artistic events during the Ghent Festivities and during the year.

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JEROEN VANACKER

Jeroen Vanacker studied musicology and arts management. Since 2008 he is artistic director of Concertgebouw Brugge, one of Belgium's leading concert halls, devoted mainly to classical music and contemporary dance (with live music).

Before taking on this position he was one of the artistic programmers of Concertgebouw Brugge. In his work at Concertgebouw he focuses on thematic programming with a lot of festivals. Important festivals that he founded are the annual Bach Academy with Philippe Herreweghe and the Budapest Festival with Ivan Fischer. More adventurous festivals include the Surround Festival, Slow(36h) Festival and many others. In these festivals there is a particular attention to 'out-of-the-box' experiences.

Besides the invitation of Belgian and international artists there is a strong emphasis on the contextualisation of the programme, with lectures, expositions and courses. Since 2012 the arts education programme has been expanded with projects on sound art and classical music for all ages. Artists in every stage of their career receive support, not only by presenting themselves in the programme but also by giving them commissions, offering them co-production support and promoting them in national and international networks.

Jeroen Vanacker is active as a board member of Ictus Ensemble and Orpheus Instituut. He is a member of evaluation/advise committees in both Belgium and The Netherlands. Occasionally, he gives lectures and writes texts about classical music.

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LISSA KINNAER

Lissa Kinnaer is international relations officer for visual arts at Flanders Arts Institute, a sector institute supporting the visual arts, performing arts and music scene in Flanders, Belgium. She holds a Master's degree in Germanic Literature from the Free University of Brussels and a Master's degree in Cultural Studies from Goldsmiths College, University of London. In 2004 she worked as assistant curator at INIVA - Institute of International Visual Arts in London. In 2005 and 2006 she worked as project coordinator for BOZAR - Center for Fine Arts and the Kunstenfestivaldesarts in Brussels. From 2006 until 2011, she was the coordinator of the Réseau des Arts à Bruxelles, a Brussels based cultural network. In March 2011, she was appointed international relations officer at BAM, the Flemish Institute for Visual, Audiovisual and Media Art which is now part of Flanders Arts Institute.

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MARIJKE DE MOOR

Marijke De Moor is international relations officer for performing arts at Flanders Arts Institute, a sector institute supporting the visual arts, performing arts and music scene in Flanders, Belgium. She holds a Master's degree in Germanic Literature from the University of Antwerp and has worked in the field of communication for several arts organisations in Brussels, among which the Flemish Theatre Institute. She is co-founder and board member of ASSITEJ Belgium, a network organisation for performing arts for young audiences.

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MATTHIEU GOEURY

Matthieu Goeury is an arts worker based in Brussels, Belgium. He is currently the artistic coordinator at Vooruit in Ghent, Belgium. He is also active as a producer and curator. Working in the field of performing arts, his trajectory has led him to create a workspace for emerging artists, participate to the launch of Centre-Pompidou-Metz, and programme at Vooruit, Ghent. During the last years, he made, among others, the festivals Possible Futures and (Im)Possible Futures. He was also involved in the programming of Santarcangelo Festival and Fusebox Festival in Austin, Texas. He tries to apply, with more or less success, strong ethics to the projects he develops, based on socio-political engagement, solidarity, equity, diversity, pragmatism and reasonable seriousness.

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MOHAMED IKOUBAAN

Born in 1963 in the Rif region where he lived until he was 16 years old, Mohamed Ikoubaan settled in Meknes with his family in 1978. After a Bachelor's degree in Modern Bilingual Literature, he obtained a Bachelor's degree in Law from the University of Fès in 1989. He then left Morocco to pursue his studies at the Université Libre de Bruxelles in Belgium, where he obtained two special licenses: one in maritime and air law and one in insurance law and economics. After his studies he decided to settle permanently in Belgium. He worked for a short period as a lawyer and participated in a campaign to raise awareness about the rights of Moroccan women and legal support for undocumented migrants. He will also be involved in cultural and artistic life and will be one of the founders of the Federation of Moroccan Associations in Belgium, where he will be in charge for a few years. In 2000, he founded the Moussem association, which will organise a year later the Moussem festival, the first festival dedicated to Moroccan culture in Antwerp. In order to better meet the needs of the public and the artistic scene, he transformed the festival into an art center, which he currently leads, in addition to consulting on cultural diversity and cultures in the Arab world.

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PIETER VAN BOGAERT

Pieter Van Bogaert is a critic and curator based in Brussels. He made exhibitions for Kunsthall Bergen (Norway), Witte de With (Rotterdam) or Z33 (Hasselt). Recently his attention shifts from images to the imagination or, as he prefers to call it, to the imaginary practice. Some results of that shift were part of *Blijven Kijken / Ce qui nous regarde / Dropouts*, the exhibition and book he made in 2013 for Museum M in Leuven.

He regularly publishes on art and media in Belgian magazine *⟨H⟩art* and other publications internationally. He is co-author of *Time Suspended*, the book and the exhibition with Herman Asselberghs and Els Opsomer (2004). His curated exhibitions 'Excess' (2006) and 'Picture This' (2008) included works by Renzo Martens.

Currently he works for SoundImageCulture in Brussels and Fashion Matters at the Sandberg Instituut in Amsterdam.

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SAMAH HIJAWI

Samah Hijawi is an artist and researcher currently doing her PhD in Art Practice at ULB and the Academie Royale Des Beaux Art de Bruxelles. She works across media and is exploring the aesthetics and performativity of power and resistance in art that alludes to the history of Palestine. Her works have been shown in The Hayward Gallery in London, BOZAR and Beursschouwburg in Brussels, Bureau Europa in Maastricht, MoMa and Apex Art in New York; Darat al Funun in Amman, among others. She previously collaborated with Ola El-Khalidi and Diala Khasawneh, for Makan art space, an independent space in Amman; and with Shuruq Harb and Toleen Touq on the curatorial platform the river has two banks initiated to address the growing distance between Jordan and Palestine.

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FLANDERS ARTS INSTITUTE

Flanders Arts Institute is an interface organisation and expertise centre for the arts from Flanders and Brussels. The organisation caters to both national and international professional arts audiences. The institute is the contact point for foreign art professionals in search of information on the visual and performing arts and on music in Flanders. To increase the awareness and visibility of the Flemish arts scene on an international level we stimulate and help develop international collaboration, communication and exchange between artists, art professionals and policy-makers. With this, we are aiming to build sustainable international relations and to encourage and support exchange and cooperation on an international scale.

Flanders Arts Institute supports and stimulates the development of the arts and policy. The organisation is active in three main areas: analysis & research of the arts landscape, support for the artists and organisations and the internationalisation of the arts.

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