

Art-based research / research-based art

The concept “art-based research” as a main content of the program concentrates on the exploration of art as a research technique on cultural issues. The involved partners want to gain experiences with the approach “art-based research” with a focus on *art in public sphere* and *art for social transformation*.

During the program young artists will address topics relevant in both regions such as cultural heritage, queer issues, the position of women in different societies and questions of identity, coexistence and democracy.

In this context the project aims for the establishment of a sustainable partnership of art academies and art institutions in the euro-med region and the establishment of a European cooperation between artists, cultural operators and institutions. It addresses the need for the exchange of artistic research by young artists as a group which reflects social realities within the euro-med region and the globalized world. A long term cooperation of the participants in the field of ‘art for social transformation’, ‘art in public sphere’ and ‘culture and development’ is aimed for.

Cultural production is in focus of ten “research-residencies” which will be reflected by the presentations of artistic works at two symposia in Beirut and Belfast as well as in public presentations, exhibitions and a documentation.

Another goal of the program is to develop a road-map for the implementation of artistic research into a post-graduate program for artists, supporting mobility. The program shall meet the demand for further education in the artistic field and actively investigate the impact of artistic research for cultural conceptions.

Project activities

Artist Residencies

Artists	Residency-Location
Susanne Bosch (Belfast)	Ramallah
Filipa César (Lisbon)	Ramallah
Pola Sieverding (Berlin)	Ramallah
Catherine Cattaruzza (Beirut)	Lisbon
Cynthia Zaven (Beirut)	Lisbon
Hatem Iman (Beirut)	Belfast
Lukas Einsele (Darmstadt)	Beirut
Caspar Hall (London)	Istanbul
Lasse Lau (Brussels)	Beirut

Cynthia Zaven and **Catharine Cattaruzza**, Beirut, will realize a project in Lisbon. They want to work “on the problematics of identity, national identity, belonging, frontiers, art as politics, that Lisbon imposed itself. (...)”. **Hatem Iman** from Beirut plans to realize a project in Belfast: „My interest is in researching the production of landscape in printed media (...) to backdrops of political posters. (...) Belfast shares a lot with postwar Beirut.“ **Filipa César** from Lisbon plans to realize a workshop at the International Academy of Art in Ramallah: “The idea is to stimulate a platform of

discussion associated with direct action: the creation of the moving image as a vehicle to address daily concerns (...) based on doing-together mentality and no/low-budget concept.“ **Pola Sieverding**, Berlin, has outlined her project for Ramallah with an interest “ to review terms, visibilities and perspectives of feminist and queer research within my own social radius by offering my respective counterpart a field in the sense of an expansion that can be filled with structure.“ **Susanne Bosch** from Belfast states for her project in Ramallah: „I am currently examining concepts of sustainable ways of living and working in the Western World. Background of this research and artistic enquiry is the economical recession that kicked in worldwide simultaneous with an awareness of a massive climate change and upcoming resource topics like the lack of water, oil, etc(...), what can we learn from Palestine?“ With his project **Lukas Einsele** from Germany will document the trajectory of the cluster bomb M85: from a spot where they exploded (or not) back to their origins. Einsele’s research will start in the South of Lebanon where several villages were bombed. A workshop in Beirut shall be realized by **Lasse Lau**, from Brussels/Copenhagen : He describes his approach: “Is there certain logic to queer geography? The aim is to trough a participatory workshop to collectively produce empirical knowledge and to think through models that can change, recover, appropriate or even occupy public spaces for queer and social purposes.

Meetings in Istanbul, Beirut and Belfast for Partners and Artists

June 2010 Kick-off Meeting in Istanbul,

September 2010, “Evaluation of artists research”

As a completion of the first phase all participating artists and the host institutions will meet for a three days symposium in Beirut where their research experiences will be discussed.

April 2011, “Evaluation of artists projects”

After the second phase of four week follow-up residencies a concluding symposium in Belfast will present the artistic results.

Publication on ‘radius of art’ / ‘Art in Public Sphere’

Summer 2011, Preparation by Muthesius Art Academy, Kiel

The publication will be conceived by the Muthesius Academy and assemble the results of the research and on *art in public sphere* of all EU-partners stressing the European perspective they gained through the project. It will be accomplished after the evaluation of the artistic projects and depict them as well as the partners’ common research in the field.

Exhibitions in Lisbon

Spring until summer 2011, Curator: Jürgen Bock, Maumaus

The exhibitions organised by Maumaus at its exhibition venue Lumiar Cité on the outskirts of Lisbon (Alta de Lisboa) will present works developed by the artists during their residencies. The Maumaus exhibition venue is located in a former slum area, which is currently being developed as one of Portugal largest new modern housing areas, where social housing and free market apartments are mixed. The context of this neighbourhood will provide coherent surroundings for works dealing with public space and the potentials of artistic interaction with local contexts.

Conference “radius of art” in Berlin

Autumn 2011, Preparation by Heinrich-Boell-Foundation Schleswig-Holstein and HBF Berlin

The conference will present results of the project to the public and bind the gained insights on *art in public sphere* together with the concepts of *art for social transformation* thus pushing forward another dimension of art that is to be examined by this project. Organised by the Heinrich Boell Foundation the conference shall be opened for a wide circle of institutions working in the field. It shall expose the activities around the action field “culture and development” and discuss the impact of this relatively new approach as a contribution to the Unesco Convention on Cultural Diversity.

Partners

- Mirene Arsanios and Marwa Arsanios **98weeks Research Project, Beirut**
- Jürgen Bock, **Maumaus – Escola de Artes Visuais**, Lisbon, Portugal
- Cherie Driver, **INTERFACE, Centre for Research in Art, Technologies and Design, School of Art and Design**, University of Ulster, UK, Northern Ireland
- Rainer W. Ernst, **Muthesius Kunsthochschule // Muthesius Academy of Fine Arts and Design**, Kiel, Germany
- Tina Sherwell, **International Academy of Art Palestine**, Ramallah, Palestinian Territories
- Nancy Atakan, Marcus Graf, **5533 / Istanbul**, Türkiye

Associated Partners

- Dr. Ulrike Dufner, **Heinrich Boell Foundation Istanbul** (t.b.c.)
- Farid C. Majari, **Goethe-Institut Libanon** (t.b.c.)
- Ms.Layla Al-Zubaidi, **Heinrich Boell Foundation Beirut**
- Alia Rayyan, **Heinrich Boell Foundation Ramallah**
- Manuel Costa Cabral, **Fundacao Calouste Gulbenkian Lisbon**

Curator: Adrienne Goehler, Berlin

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