

Nafas

Carrefour / Meeting Point

The Marrakech Biennale and beyond. Exhibition at the ifa galleries Stuttgart, 8 May - 5 July, and Berlin, 17 July - 4 October 2015. Curator: Alya Sebti; six participants.

Jul 2015



12 Photos

Marrakech is a cultural, geographical and artistic crossroads between North and Sub-Saharan Africa, East and West. As a metaphorical centre, the city and its art biennial are in the focus of the exhibition *Carrefour/Meeting Point – The Marrakech Biennale and Beyond* in the ifa Gallery Berlin.

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Carrefour – a crossroad where narratives meet: Each narrative embodies an individual trajectory with its own subjective mapping and centre: the centre from which one speaks. How can dialogue occur when individual trajectories meet, beyond the borders of words?

This exhibition is a journey towards ‘other’ modes of experiential and material connection. An invitation to draw porous routes and explore languages that counter the geographic and metaphorical distance that separates us. The starting point of this exhibition takes as a fictional centre the Marrakech Biennale. The curator Alya Sebti invited participants of past editions to develop ideas and projects within a new space of encounter.

With existing works as well as commissioned projects, they create new forms of language negotiating between alternatives forms of translation and transmission: where music becomes a unique orientation, olfactory experience draws a conversation between poetry and fragrance, where weaving performs as a geometry lesson and shield masks open up to listen to the polyphony of voices expressed by the individual whose path reaches a crossing – *Carrefour / Meeting Point*.

In recent years the ifa Galleries Berlin and Stuttgart have presented various international biennials which were, like the Marrakech Biennale, supported by the ifa (Institute for Foreign Cultural Relations). The ifa is in charge of the German pavilion at the Venice Art Biennale, and as an actor in international artistic exchange it gives impulses in the discussions about the modes of operation of art biennials.

Curator: Alya Sebti

Participating artists:

Saâdane Afif

* 1970 Vendôme, Loir-et-Cher, France. Lives in Berlin, Germany.

Leila Alaoui

* 1982 Paris, France. Lives in Marrakech, Morocco, and Beirut, Lebanon.

Yassine Balbzioui

* 1972 Kelâat Es-Sraghna, Morocco. Lives in Paris and Bordeaux, France.

Max Boufathal

* 1983 Paris, France. Lives in Brussels, Belgium.

Megumi Matsubara

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* 1977 Tokyo, Japan. Lives in Fes, Morocco.

Clara Meister and S.T.I.F.F.

* 1981 Munich, Germany. Curator, based in Berlin.

Press preview: Thursday, 16 July 2015, 11 a.m.

Opening: Thursday, 16 July 2015, 7 p.m.

Duration: 17 July – 4 October 2015

Opening hours: Tue–Sun, 2 p.m. - 6 p.m.

Closed on Mondays

Special opening hours during the Berlin Art Week: 15–20 September 2015, noon - 8 p.m.

Admission free.

The exhibition will be accompanied by a publication, available for 7 EUR.

Information about the exhibition:

ifa Gallery Berlin

Linienstrasse 139/140

10115 Berlin

Ev Fischer, Tel. +49 (0)30 2844 9140, fischer(at)ifa.de

Related Events:

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Friday, 17 July 2015, 4 p.m.

Exhibition talk

Saâdane Afif, Leila Alaoui, Yassine Balbzioui, Max Boufathal, Clara Meister and S.T.I.F.F. present their works; curator Alya Sebti explains the exhibition concept, Megumi Matsubara talks about the genesis of her installation of scents which she developed for Carrefour. You will have the opportunity to explore and discuss the exhibition during a tour together with the artists and the curator.

In English

Thursday, 17 September 2015, 7 p.m.

Participants talk (artists, curators & writers)

Carrefour/Treffpunkt understands itself as a moment of encounter between individual trajectories where the intersections constantly draw new routes. Together with the participants who have contributed to the exhibition and the accompanying catalogue, the talk will focus on the dialogue between cultural practices that shift and challenge our notion of the centre.

With Alya Sebti, curator of the exhibition, the participants of the exhibition Saâdane Afif, Clara Meister and S.T.I.F.F., and catalogue authors Nico Anklam (curator/author, Berlin) and Bonaventure Soh Bejeng Ndikung (curator, SAVVY Contemporary, Berlin).

In English

Thursday, 1 October 2015, 7 p.m.

art education in practice: Radijojo Morocco – Children and Teenagers use the media for peace, democracy and children's rights

Thomas Röhlinger, founder, senior educator and editor-in-chief of Radijojo World Children's Media Network, presents the project Radijojo Morocco. Which possibilities does the medium radio offer for transcultural political education?

The project 'We are Morocco's future' was supported by the ifa programme zivik from 2012 to 2014 in the framework of the transformation partnerships with North Africa/the Middle East.

Tuesday, 1 September 2015, 18:00–21:00

Dance workshop: Triangle, circle, tangent – geometries of encounter

In the framework of the 5th Marrakech Biennale artist Saâdane Afif invited for a geometry lesson on Marrakech's main square each night. One of the resulting drawings served as a model for producing a traditional Berber carpet. In the workshop we experiment with the possibilities of artistic translation – and invite for an exploration through dance: (how) can you dance the carpet?

With Heike Kuhlmann (dancer, choreographer and dance educator)

Artistic workshops and exhibition talks for school classes of all ages are available on request.

Attendance of the art educational programmes is free of charge.

Information and registration:

kunstvermittlung(at)ifa.de; +49 (0)30 2844 9140

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>> 5th Marrakech Biennale in Nafas

Extensive photo tour, including all the venues of the visual arts section, showing works by almost all the participants. Review by Lucrezia Cippitelli.

26 February - 31 March 2014. Artistic Director: Alya Sebti. Curatorial team: Hicham Khalidi (visual arts), Khalid Tamer (performing arts), Jamal Abdenassar (cinema and video), Driss Ksikes (literature).



12 image pages, more info

Nafas

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Venice Biennale 2021

Internat. Architecture Exhibition, 22 May - 21 November 2021. Curator: Hashim Sarkis.



Venice Biennale 2022

59th International Art Exhibition, 23 April - 27 November 2022. Artistic Director: Cecilia Alemani.



documenta 15, 2022

18 June - 25 September 2022. Artistic Direction: ruangrupa, artist collective



Art Destination Jordan

Photo tours and information: Contemporary arts, cultural heritage, archaeological sites

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