

ART, ECOLOGY & THE COMMONS

Together in Agony We Persist

August 27 —
September 5 2021

Beirut's RiverLESS Forest,
Sin el Fil — Lebanon

ملاذ
واحة تشاركية لتجاوز الشقاء معاً

A project by TAP (Temporary Art Platform)
in collaboration with theOtherDada



These are unprecedented times.

We are all fragilized by economic, psychological and social collapses; summoned to continuously question our priorities. However, TAP is no stranger to these challenges: it is because and in spite of this context of crisis that *Art, Ecology and the Commons* is more relevant than ever.

This project will bring six participants together for ten days of speculative learning and exchange from and on a young forest site in Sin el Fil, punctuated by a series of commissions, public and outreach activities we have been stitching with individuals, collectives and institutions who share our values and positioning vis a vis our communities during these times of distress.

Planted by theOtherDada in May 2019 as part of an urban afforestation initiative, a thriving native forest serves as host and muse. There is an invisible, resilient, underground collective that exists among trees. To reach their heights, forest trees depend on a complicated web of alliances and kinship networks: they have evolved to live in cooperative, interdependent relationships not only with each other, but with millions of species of fungi and bacteria beneath the soil through which they spread and share their roots, nutrients and messages.

Art, Ecology and the Commons seeks to harness this young forest's interdependence and resilience to inspire and bring a community together under circumstances of undeniable agony in a gesture of persistence. It is what we are calling a collective Study, to which we have invited contributors from Lebanon and the Arab region to come together and reflect on our current environment during a ten-day program.


The image of this community, united and speculating on possible tomorrows has been our solace, a contaminating energy we built the program from.


As we face drastic changes and impending disasters as a local and global community, the solidarity witnessed during the October revolution resurfaces and one thought comes to mind:

Can togetherness be harnessed as a practice?

Amanda Abi Khalil, founder and curator // Danielle Makhoul, associate curator
Alexia Pierre, curatorial assistant // Jad Karam, cultural manager // Sarah Daher, researcher // Zico, technical director

For more information
Visit our website at togetherwetap.art

 @temporaryartplatform

 togetherwetap

Programme

**Open-air film screenings
in the forest**
in partnership with Metropolis

Wild Relatives
Jumana Manna

Honeyland
Tamara Kotevska and Ljubomir Stefanov

This Haunting Memory That Is Not My Own
Panos Aghamian

Letter For Ihuana (Um Filme Para Ehuana)
Louise Botkay

Whispers
Maroun Baghdadi

Jezzine // Water
Zeina Aboul Hosn

The Land - Al Marj
Mohamed Moe Sabbah

SITE-SPECIFIC COMMISSION

Terrace
Billboard Intervention
by Omar Fakhoury & Christian Zahr

PARTICIPATORY COMMISSION

**Mad3oum—value in a state
of economic crisis**
Research installation by Franziska Pierwoss

FOREST MAKING

Forest Care
Planting of 50 sqm of trees and shrubs with
theOtherDada and Horshna Forest School

VIDEO ART PROGRAM

Art, Ecology and the Commons

With films by Mustapha Jundi // Carolina
Caycedo // Fadi Mansour // Georgio Orbi //
Minia Biabiany // Randa Mirza //
Marwa Arsanios

PODPOEM COMMISSION ON SITE

**Voices of
a Forgotten Network**
Nadim Mishlawi

SITE-SPECIFIC COMMISSION

In Search of the Fragile
Intervention by Charbel Samuel Aoun

Forest Feast
Closing Communal Dinner
with Nation Station

PODPOEM COMMISSION ONLINE

**Voices of
a Forgotten Network**
Nadim Mishlawi

IN KARANTINA

City Walk
Walk Karantina as a Landscape Architect
with Sarah Lily Yassine

IN BERLIN

Exhibition of Commissions

TAP's Art Ecology and the Commons
commissions exhibited at the Haus der
Stastistik as part of Redeem, a platform for
ongoing conversations between voices from
Beirut and Berlin.

IN PALESTINE

A collaboration and exchange program with Sakiya, a
progressive academy for knowledge production on art,
sciences and agriculture based in Palestine mediated by
Sakiya co-founders Sahar Qawasmī (architect) and Nida
Sinnokrot (Visual artist), Sakiya researcher Ashraf
Hamdan (architect), and Sakiya collaborator Mirna
Bamieh (Visual artist).

October 2021

Publication launch and online seminar

on site

**Beirut's RiverLESS Forest
Sin el Fil**

off site

**All events are free and
accessible to all.**

Events restricted
to Study participants

FRIDAY
27 August 2021

SATURDAY
28 August 2021

SUNDAY
29 August 2021

04

7:00 pm

● **Launch of
Art, Ecology and the Commons**
In the presence of press, municipality,
participants and the community

• Beirut's RiverLESS Forest,
Sin el Fil

6:00-9:00 pm

● **Art, Ecology and the Commons**
Watch our Video Art Program on loop
With films by Mustapha Jundi, Carolina Caycedo, Fadi
Mansour, Georgio Orbi, Minia Biabiany, Randa Mirza
& Marwa Arsanios

• The Study Room,
Bossa Noval Hotel, Sin el Fil

6:00-10:30 pm

● **Voices of
a Forgotten Network**
Listen to Podpoems
by Nadim Mishlawi

• Beirut's RiverLESS Forest,
Sin el Fil

6:00-10:30 pm

● **Mad3oum—value in a state
of economic crisis**
Experience a research installation by
Franziska Pierwoss in the forest

• Beirut's RiverLESS Forest,
Sin el Fil

6:00-10:30 pm

● **Terrace**
Explore a billboard intervention by
Omar Fakhoury and Charbel Samuel Aoun
on the edge of the forest

• Beirut's RiverLESS Forest,
Sin el Fil

6:00-10:30 pm

● **In Search of the Fragile**
Discover an intervention by
Charbel Samuel Aoun in the forest

• Beirut's RiverLESS Forest,
Sin el Fil

OPEN-AIR FILM SCREENINGS IN THE FOREST

9:00 pm

● **Wild Relatives**
A film by Jumana Manna
Lebanon, Norway, Germany / 2018 / 66min
In Arabic, Norwegian, English / English subtitles

*Visit togetherwetap.art to register

• Beirut's RiverLESS Forest,
Sin el Fil

Open Study Time

6:00-9:00 pm

● **Art, Ecology and the Commons**
Watch our Video Art Program on loop
With films by Mustapha Jundi, Carolina Caycedo, Fadi
Mansour, Georgio Orbi, Minia Biabiany, Randa Mirza
& Marwa Arsanios

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6:00-10:30 pm

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a Forgotten Network**
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Sin el Fil

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Experience a research installation by
Franziska Pierwoss in the forest

• Beirut's RiverLESS Forest,
Sin el Fil

6:00-10:30 pm

● **Terrace**
Explore a billboard intervention by
Omar Fakhoury and Charbel Samuel Aoun
on the edge of the forest

• Beirut's RiverLESS Forest,
Sin el Fil

6:00-10:30 pm

● **In Search of the Fragile**
Discover an intervention by
Charbel Samuel Aoun in the forest

• Beirut's RiverLESS Forest,
Sin el Fil

OPEN-AIR FILM SCREENINGS IN THE FOREST

9:00 pm

● **Honeyland**
A film by Tamara Kotevska & Ljubomir Stefanov
Macedonia / 2019 / 1h26
In Turkish / Arabic & English subtitles

*Visit togetherwetap.art to register

• Beirut's RiverLESS Forest,
Sin el Fil

Early morning
• Aabadiyeh

● **Hike in Aabadiyeh**
With Study participants to gather soil
for planting

Visit & Conversation
With Marwan Rechmaoui's field
in Bhamdoun

6:00 pm

● **Compost Tea Making**
For planting in the forest,
with theOtherDada

• Beirut's RiverLESS Forest,
Sin el Fil

6:00-9:00 pm

● **Art, Ecology and the Commons**
Watch our Video Art Program on loop
With films by Mustapha Jundi, Carolina Caycedo, Fadi
Mansour, Georgio Orbi, Minia Biabiany, Randa Mirza
& Marwa Arsanios

• The Study Room,
Bossa Noval Hotel, Sin el Fil

6:00-10:30 pm

● **Voices of
a Forgotten Network**
Listen to Podpoems
by Nadim Mishlawi

• Beirut's RiverLESS Forest,
Sin el Fil

6:00-10:30 pm

● **Mad3oum—value in a state
of economic crisis**
Experience a research installation by
Franziska Pierwoss in the forest

• Beirut's RiverLESS Forest,
Sin el Fil

6:00-10:30 pm

● **Terrace**
Explore a billboard intervention by
Omar Fakhoury and Charbel Samuel Aoun
on the edge of the forest

• Beirut's RiverLESS Forest,
Sin el Fil

6:00-10:30 pm

● **In Search of the Fragile**
Discover an intervention by
Charbel Samuel Aoun in the forest

• Beirut's RiverLESS Forest,
Sin el Fil

Events restricted
to Study participants

TUESDAY
27th August 2021

WEDNESDAY
1 September 2021

THURSDAY
2 September 2021

05

8:00-11:00 pm
• Beirut's RiverLESS Forest,
Sin el Fil

● **Planting in the forest**
Planting 50 sqm on site (300 trees 100 bushes)
with children of Horshna Forest School

Open Study Time

6:00-9:00 pm
• Beirut's RiverLESS Forest,
Sin el Fil

● **Planting in the forest**
Planting 50 sqm on site (300 trees 100 bushes)
with children of Horshna Forest School

Picnic in the Forest

6:00-9:00 pm
• The Study Room,
Bossa Noval Hotel, Sin el Fil

● **Art, Ecology and the Commons**
Watch our Video Art Program on loop
With films by Mustapha Jundi, Carolina Caycedo, Fadi
Mansour, Georgio Orbi, Minia Biabiany, Randa Mirza
& Marwa Arsanios

6:00-10:30 pm
• Beirut's RiverLESS Forest,
Sin el Fil

● **Voices of
a Forgotten Network**
Listen to Podpoems
by Nadim Mishlawi

6:00-10:30 pm
• Beirut's RiverLESS Forest,
Sin el Fil

● **Mad3oum—value in a state
of economic crisis**
Experience a research installation by
Franziska Pierwoss in the forest

6:00-10:30 pm
• Beirut's RiverLESS Forest,
Sin el Fil

● **Terrace**
Explore a billboard intervention by
Omar Fakhoury and Charbel Samuel Aoun
on the edge of the forest

6:00-10:30 pm
• Beirut's RiverLESS Forest,
Sin el Fil

● **In Search of the Fragile**
Discover an intervention by
Charbel Samuel Aoun in the forest

Open Study Time

6:00-9:00 pm
• The Study Room,
Bossa Noval Hotel, Sin el Fil

● **Art, Ecology and the Commons**
Watch our Video Art Program on loop
With films by Mustapha Jundi, Carolina Caycedo, Fadi
Mansour, Georgio Orbi, Minia Biabiany, Randa Mirza
& Marwa Arsanios

6:00-10:30 pm
• Beirut's RiverLESS Forest,
Sin el Fil

● **Voices of
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Listen to Podpoems
by Nadim Mishlawi

6:00-10:30 pm
• Beirut's RiverLESS Forest,
Sin el Fil

● **Mad3oum—value in a state
of economic crisis**
Experience a research installation by
Franziska Pierwoss in the forest

6:00-10:30 pm
• Beirut's RiverLESS Forest,
Sin el Fil

● **Terrace**
Explore a billboard intervention by
Omar Fakhoury and Charbel Samuel Aoun
on the edge of the forest

6:00-10:30 pm
• Beirut's RiverLESS Forest,
Sin el Fil

● **In Search of the Fragile**
Discover an intervention by
Charbel Samuel Aoun in the forest

Open Study Time

6:00 pm
• Beirut's RiverLESS Forest,
Sin el Fil

● **Gathering in the Forest**
With TAP alumni and allies

6:00-9:00 pm
• The Study Room,
Bossa Noval Hotel, Sin el Fil

● **Art, Ecology and the Commons**
Watch our Video Art Program on loop
With films by Mustapha Jundi, Carolina Caycedo, Fadi
Mansour, Georgio Orbi, Minia Biabiany, Randa Mirza
& Marwa Arsanios

6:00-10:30 pm
• Beirut's RiverLESS Forest,
Sin el Fil

● **Voices of
a Forgotten Network**
Listen to Podpoems
by Nadim Mishlawi

6:00-10:30 pm
• Beirut's RiverLESS Forest,
Sin el Fil

● **Mad3oum—value in a state
of economic crisis**
Experience a research installation by
Franziska Pierwoss in the forest

6:00-10:30 pm
• Beirut's RiverLESS Forest,
Sin el Fil

● **Terrace**
Explore a billboard intervention by
Omar Fakhoury and Charbel Samuel Aoun
on the edge of the forest

6:00-10:30 pm
• Beirut's RiverLESS Forest,
Sin el Fil

● **In Search of the Fragile**
Discover an intervention by
Charbel Samuel Aoun in the forest

7:00-9:00 pm
• Beirut's RiverLESS Forest,
Sin el Fil

● **Conversation**
With urban anthropologist Samar Kanafani in
conversation on the notion of the commons

9:00 pm
• Beirut's RiverLESS Forest,
Sin el Fil

● **This Haunting Memory that
is not My Own**

OPEN-AIR FILM SCREENINGS IN THE FOREST

A film by Panos Abrahamian
Lebanon, Germany, Qatar / 2021 / 30 min
In Armenian, Arabic / English subtitles

**Letter for Ihuana
(Um Filme Para Ehuana)**

A film by Louise Botkay
Brazil / 2018 / 27 min
in Yanomamö / English subtitles

*Visit togetherwetap.art to register

Events restricted
to Study participants

Open Study Time

6:00-9:00 pm

• The Study Room,
Bossa Noval Hotel, Sin el Fil

Art, Ecology and the Commons

Watch our Video Art Program on loop

With films by Mustapha Jundi, Carolina Caycedo, Fadi Mansour, Georgio Orbi, Minia Biabiany, Randa Mirza & Marwa Arsanios

6:00-10:30 pm

• Beirut's RiverLESS Forest,
Sin el Fil

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Sin el Fil

Mad3oum—value in a state
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Franziska Pierwoss in the forest

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• Beirut's RiverLESS Forest,
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Terrace

Explore a billboard intervention by
Omar Fakhoury and Charbel Samuel Aoun
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6:00-10:30 pm

• Beirut's RiverLESS Forest,
Sin el Fil

In Search of the Fragile

Discover an intervention by
Charbel Samuel Aoun in the forest

7:30-8:30 pm

• Beirut's RiverLESS Forest,
Sin el Fil

Care

Join us for a collective Hatha yoga and
meditation session in the forest // with Koun

*Please bring your own mat!

9:00 pm

• Beirut's RiverLESS Forest,
Sin el Fil

Whispers

A film by Maroun Baghdadi
Lebanon, Canada, France / 1980 / 1h34
In Arabic, French / English subtitles

*Visit togetherwetap.art to register

OPEN-AIR FILM SCREENINGS IN THE FOREST

Open Study Time

5:30-7:30 pm

• Karantina

City Walk

Walk Karantina as a Landscape Architect //
with Sarah Lily Yassine

*Meet at the entrance of Karantina, east of the
Immigrant Statue facing the Port of Beirut.
Spaces are limited, visit togetherwetap.art
to register

6:00-9:00 pm

• The Study Room,
Bossa Noval Hotel, Sin el Fil

Art, Ecology and the Commons

Watch our Video Art Program on loop

With films by Mustapha Jundi, Carolina Caycedo, Fadi Mansour, Georgio Orbi, Minia Biabiany, Randa Mirza & Marwa Arsanios

6:00-10:30 pm

• Beirut's RiverLESS Forest,
Sin el Fil

Voices of
a Forgotten Network

Listen to Podpoems
by Nadim Mishlawi

6:00-10:30 pm

• Beirut's RiverLESS Forest,
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Mad3oum—value in a state
of economic crisis

Experience a research installation by
Franziska Pierwoss in the forest

6:00-10:30 pm

• Beirut's RiverLESS Forest,
Sin el Fil

Terrace

Explore a billboard intervention by
Omar Fakhoury and Charbel Samuel Aoun
on the edge of the forest

6:00-10:30 pm

• Beirut's RiverLESS Forest,
Sin el Fil

In Search of the Fragile

Discover an intervention by
Charbel Samuel Aoun in the forest

9:00 pm

• Beirut's RiverLESS Forest,
Sin el Fil

Jezzine//Water

A film by Zeina Aboul Hosn
Lebanon / 2017 / 30 min
In Arabic, English / English subtitles

The Land-Al Marj

A film by Mohamed Moe Sabbah
Lebanon / 2020 / 27 min
in Arabic / English subtitles

*Followed by a talk with the director & activists
Visit togetherwetap.art to register

OPEN-AIR FILM SCREENINGS IN THE FOREST

Open Study Time

6:00-9:00 pm

• The Study Room,
Bossa Noval Hotel, Sin el Fil

Art, Ecology and the Commons

Watch our Video Art Program on loop

With films by Mustapha Jundi, Carolina Caycedo, Fadi Mansour, Georgio Orbi, Minia Biabiany, Randa Mirza & Marwa Arsanios

6:00-10:30 pm

• Beirut's RiverLESS Forest,
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• Beirut's RiverLESS Forest,
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Mad3oum—value in a state
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• Beirut's RiverLESS Forest,
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Explore a billboard intervention by
Omar Fakhoury and Charbel Samuel Aoun
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6:00-10:30 pm

• Beirut's RiverLESS Forest,
Sin el Fil

In Search of the Fragile

Discover an intervention by
Charbel Samuel Aoun in the forest

7:30 pm

• Beirut's RiverLESS Forest,
Sin el Fil

Forest Feast

Closing Communal Dinner
with Nation Station

Our Study



200Grs was co-founded by Rana Haddad and Pascal Hachem in 2013.

Rana Haddad, an AA graduate, acquired the title of an activist as she practiced architecture, art & design in post war Beirut. Her installation based practice works to puncture the cityscape and are created based off of research questioning the ability of objects and places to become means of political expression in Beirut. She is currently an assistant professor at the American University of Beirut where she founded BePublic Lab.

Pascal Hachem is an artist and product designer who, in his practice conceives each work as a discrete experience, through processes that employ the visual. Working through performative acts, interventions into urban spaces, or by creating sculptural installations in gallery settings, he sets up compelling situations which ask or even demand that the viewer pause and concentrate. He teaches at the American University of Beirut.

Ashraf Hamdan

Ashraf Hamdan is an architect, researcher and designer, currently collaborating with Sakiya on the intersection of ecological thought and the daily practices that define our relationship with what we call “The Nature”. He also works with the Palestinian Museum, focusing on the built environment as a stage for social change, and ways in which collectives could alter their environment.





Christian Sleiman

Christian Sleiman is a Lebanese artist. His interest lies in exploring the vegetative souls through minor rituals, fabulations and recipes. With his recent research around the culture of utilizing shrubs, Christian explores the politics of plant-growth in highly fabricated setups in Beirut and the notion of communal instincts embedded in foraging rituals.



Mirna Bamieh

Mirna Bamieh is an artist from Jerusalem/ Palestine. Her works attempt to understand the politics of disappearance, while equally questioning notions of land and geographies of in-between temporality. She develops works that use the mediums of storytelling and food to create socially engaged projects. She is the founder of Palestine Hosting Society, a live art project that explores traditional food culture on the verge of disappearing in Palestine.



Petra Serhal

Petra Serhal is an artist based in Beirut working in live-art and choreography. Her work draws from her ongoing research on the experiential aspect in performance and the role of the audience in the performative and choreographed experience. Her work often deals with language and sound in relation to movement and space, body as archive, fragmentation, absence, and embodiment.



Raafat Majzoub

Raafat Majzoub runs The Khan, a strategic consultancy and think tank concerned with training and the future of things. He also lectures in architecture at the American University of Beirut and is the editor-in-chief of the Dongola Architecture Series;

📷 @thekhanorg

Our Study guests

Samar Kanafani

Samar Kanafani is a social anthropologist based in Beirut, whose research stems from an investigation of ruins, public spaces, and urban regeneration, to tackle questions such as the migrant housing crisis or the sense of place in a city. She has recently been pursuing research on the practice of *commoning*, based on the case-study of *Mansion*, an abandoned twentieth-century villa, transformed into a shared initiative and community. “*How do people behave in the Commons?*”

Sarah Lily Yassine

Sarah Lily Yassine is an urban planner who has practiced in Beirut and in London. She is interested in exploring the role of urban wilderness in reconfiguring the nexus of city and nature. She writes about the meaning of place, landscape narratives and oral history.





Commissions

Friday, 27 August 2021 - Sunday, 5 September 2021
except Monday, 30 September, 2021

6:00 pm — 9:00 pm

Beirut's RiverLESS Forest, Sin el Fil // online



Voices of a Forgotten Network

Commission on site and online: Listen to Podpoems
by Nadim Mishlawi

Within, beneath, and across the urban fabric of Beirut are a plethora of different systems, many of which unseen, that continue to influence the perpetual preciousness of the city's political landscape. In the series of "podpoems," Voices of a Forgotten Network, sound becomes a vessel through which to reconsider how these invisible and often ignored ecological, organic, and synthesized systems of influence remain significant despite their ethereality.

Podpoem 1: The River

Using only sounds recorded on location in the concrete shaft that is the Beirut River with conventional microphones and less conventional hydrophones and electromagnetic sensors, this first piece merges the bleak soundscape of the river today with a synthesized, imaginary sonic world created from those same sounds. As the sonic terrain transforms, the grim story of the river, and the lost opportunities in presents, is told by different voices from Beirut.

Podpoem 2: Mushrooms

Mushrooms are spawned from a diverse network of mycelia growing underground, and it is only when the conditions are perfect that mushrooms stem from this network, often defying the expected. Taking this very rudimentary idea, the second piece reflects on the notion of defiance as an act which may or may not similarly stem from unseen, and often unexpected networks. The piece presents the existence of mushrooms, as ordinary fungi to mind altering hallucinogens, to reconsider that which inspires defiance.

*This commission will also be exhibited at the Haus der Statistik as part of Redeem in Berlin, a platform for ongoing conversations between voices from Beirut and Berlin.

Nadim Mishlawi is a composer and filmmaker based in Beirut, Lebanon. In 2006 Nadim co-founded db STUDIOS, a facility for audio post-production and music production, and since has composed for a variety of projects ranging from documentaries, fiction films, and art installations. Nadim made his directorial debut in 2011 with the documentary "Sector Zero," which went on to win several awards and screened at numerous festivals. Nadim currently teaches at the Lebanese Academy of the Arts (ALBA).

Friday, 27 August 2021 - Sunday, 5 September 2021
except Monday, 30 September, 2021

6:00 pm — 9:00 pm

Beirut's RiverLESS Forest, Sin el Fil

Mad3oum - value in a state of economic crisis

Participatory commission: Experience a research installation

by Franziska Pierwoss

'Mad3oum - value in a state of economic crisis' is a commissioned video work by Franziska Pierwoss centered around the notion of value in a failing economy, focusing on questions of food consumption in Lebanon today. The idea for the project emerged in the aftermath of the Beirut port explosion in August 2020 and the subsequent worsening of the economic crisis in Lebanon. The research is a result of artist-led interviews with managers of local supermarkets, consumers and employees of small and large scale family and corporate businesses, looking at the supermarket as the epicenter of the ongoing economic crisis.

In March 2021, the Lebanese local currency once again reached a new record low on the black market losing more than 85% of its initial pre-crisis and official rate value. A country ever so proud of its food heritage is now worrying about food security. Around 90% of imported wheat is sourced from Ukraine and Russia. Lebanon's food economy is dependent on foreign imports and currently forced to re-discover its potential as an agricultural actor; but what forms of agriculture and vending models will prove sustainable in this crisis? Is trusting permaculture and organic farming a romantic utopia? How do you guarantee widespread access to local food products for all parts of society? Who are the companies that get subsidised by the state to secure coffee and bread? Which are the companies supplying the aid packages from Germany or China? Is a country suffering from extreme pollution due to an ongoing waste crisis, lack of discharge networks and wastewater treatment plants, and high levels of air pollutants suited for large-scale food farming? These questions mark the starting point of this collaborative research which was conducted by the artist in Lebanon in August 2021.

This project is supported by the Goethe-Institut Beirut.

This commission will also be exhibited at the Haus der Statistik as part of *Redeem* in Berlin, a platform for ongoing conversations between voices from Beirut and Berlin.

Franziska Pierwoss is a Berlin based performance and installation artist. In her work, she stages site-specific installations and prompts unexpected encounters in which radical forms of dialogue occur between actors with different standpoints and backgrounds; her recent work has explored the politics of food.



Saturday, 12 June 2021 - Friday, 27 August 2021

6:00 pm — 9:00 pm

Beirut's RiverLESS Forest, Sin el Fil

Paysages Exquis

Site-specific commission: Past billboard intervention
by Nasri Sayegh

Taking over the edges of the Beirut RiverLESS forest, we invited Nasri Sayegh to intervene on a billboard. Challenging the clear-cut line between art and design, the multidisciplinary artist subverts the traditional advertising function of the installation. Through his project, "Paysages Exquis", he blurs as much as outlines the frontier between highway and sylvestrian landscape. The billboard commission was inaugurated on Saturday, June 12, during the Anniversary Maintenance Day of the Forest.

To learn more about the work, read the interview with Nasri Sayegh [here](#).

Nasri Sayegh (born in 1978) is a multidisciplinary artist based between Beirut and Paris.

He has previously exhibited at the French Institute in Beirut, Beirut Art Residency BAR and the Beirut Art Centre.



Friday, 27 August 2021 - Sunday, 5 September 2021
except Monday, 30 September, 2021

6:00 pm — 9:00 pm
Beirut's RiverLESS Forest, Sin el Fil

Terrace

Site-specific commission: Explore a billboard intervention
by Omar Fakhoury and Christian Zahr

Next to Beirut's RiverLESS forest, on the side of the highroad, two solitary billboards stand. In this intervention Omar Fakhoury & Christian Zahr are flipping the vertical surface of the billboards to convert it to a terrace, a place of gathering and reunion overlooking the forest.

Omar Fakhoury is a Lebanese artist working primarily in painting, although he also explores video installation, and site-specific urban sculptures and interventions. His work concentrates on Lebanon's complex political and urban fabric. His interest in public space and the elements marking territories is manifested in his painting and sculptural works.

Christian Zahr is an independent architect, landscape designer, object designer and artist. Zahr's interests coalesce around materiality, the absence and the hazard; his work is derived by profound social concerns and a deeper commitment to the humanist through being adamantly and organically local.



Friday, 27 August 2021 - Sunday, 5 September 2021
except Monday, 30 September, 2021

6:00 pm — 9:00 pm

Beirut's RiverLESS Forest, Sin el Fil

In Search of the Fragile

Site-specific commission: Discover an intervention
by Charbel Samuel Aoun

Buried morphology, the land in Sin El Fil presents an island wedged between a road and a buried river.

A river is perceived today as a flow of water, though it's normally an entire ecosystem with a natural skin. Today the morphology of the Beirut river has become a concrete tunnel. To access it by sight, you have to approach a cement wall and make an effort to see inside scenes of a hybrid river between water, sewers and the debris of a civilization. The olfactory experience is also specific...

The proposal is to excavate in this land looking for an ancient morphology which goes from the level of the street towards the level of the river. This path tries to communicate with the river through the drain hole in the wall. It is this small space that has become the only means of contact to imagine in the ruins of a natural river. The sound, visual and tactile atmosphere of this buried river is an experience of fragility, of a socio-environmental reality.

Charbel Samuel Aoun is a French and Lebanese multimedia artist, coming from a background in architecture, while having simultaneously explored the realms of theater and audiovisual arts. In his practice, he combines his architecture and design formation with his passion for nature, and thus interrogates social and environmental realities. In his most recent work, he tackles the performative act within and within the city, in resonance with the layers of contemporary history.



A photograph of a park setting with tall, dry grass in the foreground. In the middle ground, there is a long wooden table with various items on it, and a metal cart nearby. Two people are sitting on the grass to the right. Large, leafy trees frame the scene, and a building is visible in the background. The text "Public Program" is overlaid in the center.

Public Program

Video Art Program

Friday, 27 August 2021 - Sunday, 5 September 2021,
except Monday, 30 August 2021

6:00 pm - 9:00 pm
The Study Room, Bossa Nova Hotel, Sin el Fil

Art, Ecology and the Commons

Watch our video art program on loop

135min, screening order:

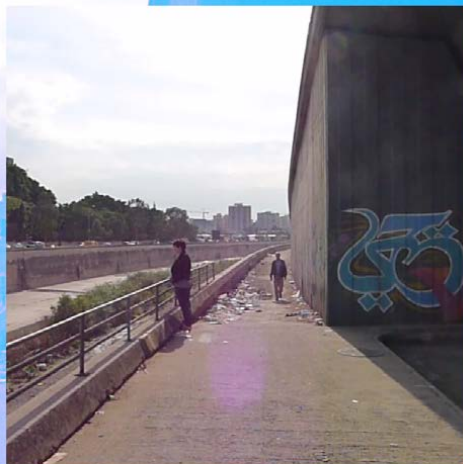
Mustapha Jundi, *The Line*, 2016, 3 min. 25 sec.
Fadi Mansour, *Dreamland*, 2017, 13 min. 13 sec.
Carolina Caycedo, *Land of Friends*, 2014. 1 channel HD video, 38 min.10 sec.
Minia Biabiany, *pawòl sé van* [words are wind], 2020. Video HD color, 13 min.
Giorgio Orbi, *INTHEMOUNTAINS*, 2018, 4k Video, 26 min. 6 sec.
Randa Mirza, *#crisisbillboards*, 2021, 5 min. (edited short version)
Marwa Arsanios, *Falling is not collapsing, falling is extending*, 2016, 20min. 6 sec.

As a young forest netled along the bank of the Beirut River becomes the host of *Art, Ecology, and the Commons*, trees, leaves, soil and waves take over the screen.

In this moving image program, ecological problematics are woven into a dialogue spreading across different geographies. From the disastrous impacts of the present Lebanese chaos to suffering territories in the Global South, this selection of video works sensitises to threatened ecosystems, while exploring togetherness as resilience.

The program starts with a local focus following the Beirut River. *The Line* (2016), by Mustapha Jundi, adopts an observatory stance on this urban border, river and highway: in this workshop video, we are offered glimpses of the daily alongside this water-concrete ribbon before ending in contemplation of its dried topography.

Fadi Mansour's *Dreamland* (2017) opens a critical narrative on the garbage crisis in Lebanon and its impact on water and soils. Following streams, we travel to Colombia with Carolina Caycedo's *Land of Friends* (2014). Alongside 'Yuma' (Magdalena River) and the collective territory 'La Jagua', different voices are brought together to discuss land reclamation and resource extraction. Addressing endangered cultural traditions, the video-poem by Minia Biabiany, *pawòl sé van* (2020), comes as an attempt to remember a Guadeloupean bamboo weaving technique, through gestures and a forgotten song. Sounds and rhythms resonate in the Italian range recorded by Giorgio Orbi. Built through the vocal contributions of Radio Cortina's broadcasts, *INTHEMOUNTAINS* (2018) pays tribute to the collective memory of underground dance music and the ever-metamorphosing alpine landscapes. Testimonies of Beirut's altered face, witnesses of a deepening crisis, the decaying billboards recorded in Randa Mirza's latest video, *#crisisbillboards* (2021), unforgivingly attest to the country's collapse. Ruins from the same city transpire through *Falling is not collapsing, falling is extending* (2016) as Marwa Arsanios investigates the Lebanese neoliberal project's impact on the country's environmental and sociopolitical reality. Looping back to our contemporary locality, this closing film is suggestive of the most pressing problematics of Lebanon and the world today.



Mustapha Jundi

The Line, 2016, 3 min. 25 sec.

The Line is a video project produced as part of a workshop titled “The World and the Movement of Images” set within Ashkal Alwan’s Homework Space program (2015-2016). As a response to the workshop’s focus on the context of Ashkal Alwan and its location at the edge of the city, the video examines the eastern municipal cartographic line of Beirut as an edge in its multiple forms: river and highway. By highlighting and dissecting the line’s physical characteristics, the river as a body absent of water manifests as a new material edge.

Mustapha Jundi (b. 1976, Tripoli, Lebanon) is an architect, artist, and PhD candidate at the Centre for Research Architecture at Goldsmiths, University of London. His work encompasses the fields of design, visual culture, and geography and his doctoral research investigates borders and extraction in the context of Lebanon.



Fadi Mansour,

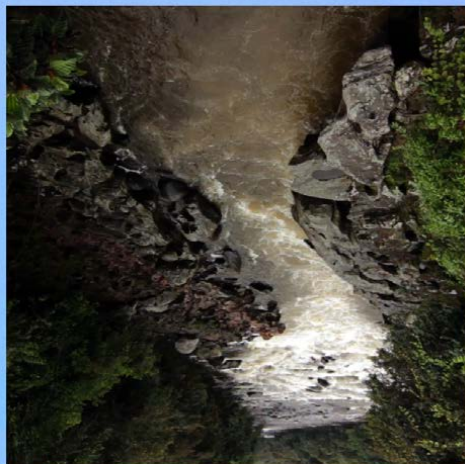
Dreamland, 2017, 13 min. 13 sec.

In the wake of a mounting trash crisis in Lebanon, garbage is being used as landfill material in the reclamation of new real estate territory along the Beirut Coast. Under the guise of coastal regeneration, forty-year-old mounds and formations of garbage are dismantled; their stratified history of toxicity unearthed into the biosphere, and their rotten innards compacted along the seafloor. By countering what will undoubtedly become a polished architectural product, the video reveals this ecological transformation by investigating the extent of this impact on marine biomass. As the scale of the toxic spread abounds the visible and sensorial impact of the landfill site, the vulnerability of affected bodies - human or nonhuman - stretches toward uncertain futures. Whether soil, skin or water, matter interacts with both the flows of capital and of toxicity, in a seemingly choreographed entanglement between machine, and the materiality of the body.

Fadi Mansour is an architect and filmmaker based in between Beirut and Paris. His work in alternative housing has won him numerous awards. His writing and films have been published and screened internationally. He is currently a participant of La Femis atelier scenario in Paris working on his first feature film.

Carolina Caycedo

Land of Friends 2014, 38 min.10 sec.



Land of Friends focuses on seemingly small images and micro moments of everyday life to highlight the tensions and struggles between local fishing and farming communities and the multinational corporations converting the Yuma into hydroelectric power. In the film, Caycedo intersects footage recorded along the river with scenes of her tracing the flow of the river with a brush on paper and, towards the end, with images turned upside down. The choice of everyday gestures and these interventions acknowledge the small scale informal economies along the river and the relationship people develop with bodies of water and their spiritual significance. Through the practice of appropriating for example satellite images and the insistence on developing alternative forms of representation, the film proposes the unlearning of our reductive and commodified perception of rivers.

Carolina Caycedo (b. 1978) is a London-born Colombian multidisciplinary artist known for her performances, videos, artist's books, sculptures, and installations that examine environmental and social issues. She participates in movements of territorial resistance, solidarity economies, and housing as a human right. Her work contributes to the construction of environmental historical memory, as a fundamental element for non-repetition of violence against human and non-human entities.

Minia Biabiany, pawòl sé van [words are wind], Video HD color, 2020, 13 min.



The video *Pawòl sé van* draws on the land as a poetic voice to hear the coloniality of the situation until nowadays but also its historical heritage for people. As in previous works, it takes weaving as a paradigm to recompose a storytelling rooted in a close observation of the territory of Guadeloupe (French Caribbean archipelago). Pawòl sé van uses metaphors based on perception and natural forces existing in the surrounding environment, like the wind, the hurricane, the smoke, as resisting strengths enunciating the relation existing with the land, agriculture, and more precisely with banana fields and the poisoning of the soils for centuries, with the chlordécone pesticide. The wind is a form of resistance, a constant reminder that despite French colonial assimilation, dispossession, and a dramatic ecocide, the land keeps talking.

Minia Biabiany (b. 1988) is an artist working and living in Guadeloupe. Her work observes how the inner perception of the body is entangled with the perception of territory, land and History. In her search, storytelling is linked with self-understanding and healing to explore the possibility of an renewed autonomous enunciation out of the colonial assimilation system. Biabiany initiated the artistic and pedagogical collective project semillero Caribe in 2016 in Mexico City.

Giorgio Orbi, INTHEMOUNTAINS, 2018, 4k Video, 26 min. 6 sec.



"Mountains look so beautiful that once you start looking at them you can't stop. A glance lasts only a moment but it takes part of a whole metamorphosis".

INTHEMOUNTAINS ponders over the role of the artist and the evolutionary dialogue with the mountain and its landscape; an essential role that welcomes the transformations of the contemporary mountain. The title of the project comes from a section of the poem *The Waste Land*, by T. S. Eliot, written in 1922. Developed during one year of the residency program granted by Dolomiti Contemporanee, INTHEMOUNTAINS is a project with a wide scope, a series of operations that take part in the Dolomites of the Cadore area, and inside the neighbouring territories through different mediums, and which give shape to an organic kind of reflection. The structure of the documentary has been progressively built through the

Giorgio Orbi (b. 1977) lives and works between Milan and Marsala. His artworks are concerned with the transformation of landscape and the evolutionary dialogue of art genres, where a great diversity of used media plays a significant role. Writing, sound, moving images, sculpture, installations composed of organic elements and not: these are just some of the devices used by the artist to convey his imagination. Orbi is an alpinist and a mountain lover. Through different media, his work has often dealt with the concept of the Mountain as both a natural and a cultural "presence".

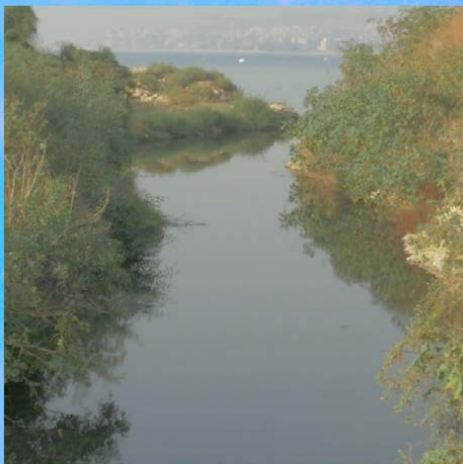


Randa Mirza, #crisisbillboards, 2021, 5 min. (edited short version)

#crisisbillboard is a collection of multiple videos constructed on the same principle: a fixed camera installed on the main highway connecting North and South Lebanon. The common thread of these videos is the empty billboard that dominates each scene and connotes the desolate landscape of Lebanon's recent economic crisis and financial collapse. This work is the last chapter of *Beirutopia*, a decade long project started in 2010 by Randa Mirza that portrays the fast transformation of Beirut bringing into question the violence inherent in the city's destruction and construction cycles.

Randa Mirza (b. 1978) is an artist working mainly with photography, video and audiovisual performances.

Her work questions the nature of images, their social and political uses by deconstructing the photographic image to reveal the discourses inherent in all representations, on the tenuous border between fiction and reality.



Marwa Arsanios, Falling is not collapsing, falling is extending, 2016, 20 min. 6 sec.

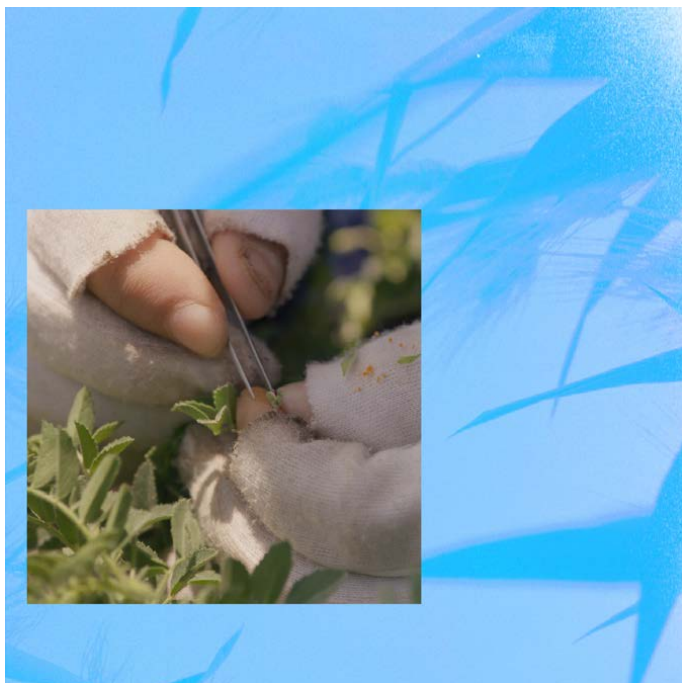
The film *Falling Is Not Collapsing, Falling Is Extending* (2016) unfolds in the framework of Arsanios' research examining the outcomes of the neoliberal project having emerged immediately after the end of the Lebanese Civil Wars, at the turn of the 1990s.

"Starting from the recent visual and political memory of the garbage crisis that began in 2014, this project addresses the threatening long-term transformations brought about by the structures of late capitalism and their local manifestations in Lebanon's environmental and sociopolitical reality."

Taking off from the demolition of the building where the artist grew up and moving towards a critical gaze on land reclamation, as garbage dumps and landfills become real estate investment projects, Arsanios explicits the link between the materiality of the waste and real estate economy. While some of the shots reveal the artist speaking of the urbanization of Beirut, Arsanios' own memory of the city and the collective experience of its inhabitants intermesh.

Marwa Arsanios (b.1978) is an artist, filmmaker and researcher, based between Berlin and Beirut, who reconsiders politics of the mid-twentieth century from a contemporary perspective, with a particular focus on gender relations, urbanism and industrialisation.

Open-air film screening in the forest, in partnership with Metropolis Cinema



•Click [here](#) to register.

Friday, 27 August 2021 // 9:00 pm
Beirut's RiverLESS Forest, Sin el Fil

Wild Relatives

A film by Jumana Manna

Lebanon, Norway, Germany | 2018 | 66 min | in Arabic, Norwegian, English / English subtitles

Deep in the earth beneath Arctic permafrost, seeds from all over the world are stored in the Svalbard Global Seed Vault to provide a backup should disaster strike. *Wild Relatives* starts from an event that has sparked media interest worldwide: in 2012 an international agricultural research center was forced to relocate from Aleppo to Lebanon due to the Syrian Revolution turned war, and began a laborious process of planting their seed collection from the Svalbard back-ups. Following the path of this transaction of seeds between the Arctic and Lebanon, a series of encounters unfold a matrix of human and non-human lives between these two distant spots of the earth. It captures the articulation between this large-scale international initiative and its local implementation in the Bekaa Valley of Lebanon, carried out primarily by young migrant women. The meditative pace patiently teases out tensions between state and individual, industrial and organic approaches to seed saving, climate change and biodiversity, witnessed through the journey of these seeds.

Jumana Manna is a visual artist working primarily in video and sculpture, Jumana Manna explores how power is articulated through relationships, often focusing on the body and materiality in relation to narratives of nationalism and histories of place.

Open-air film screening in the forest, in partnership with Metropolis Cinema



•Click [here](#) to register.

Saturday, 28 August 2021 // 9:00 pm
Beirut's RiverLESS Forest, Sin el Fil

Honeyland

A film by Tamara Kotevska & Ljubomir Stefanov

Macedonia | 2019 | 1h26 | in Turkish / Arabic & English subtitles

In a deserted Macedonian village, Hatidze, a 50-something woman, trudges up a hillside to check her bee colonies nestled in the rocks. Serenading them with a secret chant, she gently maneuvers the honeycomb without netting or gloves. Back at her homestead, Hatidze tends to her handmade hives and her bedridden mother, occasionally heading to the capital to market her wares. One day, an itinerant family installs itself next door, and Hatidze's peaceful kingdom gives way to roaring engines, seven shrieking children, and 150 cows. Yet Hatidze welcomes the camaraderie, and she holds nothing back—not her tried-and-true beekeeping advice, not her affection, not her special brandy. But soon Hussein, the itinerant family's patriarch, makes a series of decisions that could destroy Hatidze's way of life forever.

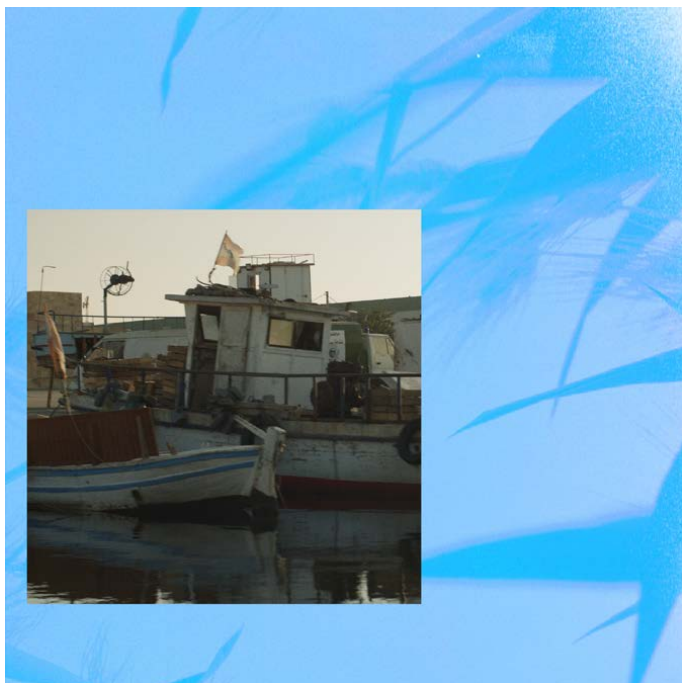
Nominated for the Oscars 2020 in the Documentary Feature and International Feature Film categories / Sundance 2019 (World Cinema Grand Jury Prize: Documentary // World Cinema Documentary Special Jury Award for Impact for Change // World Cinema Documentary Special Jury Award for Cinematography)

The film will be presented by
sound designer Rana Eid.

Tamara Kotevska and Ljubomir Stefanov are Macedonian directors and producers. They are best known for their co-direction of the film Honeyland. The documentary received two nominations at the 92nd Academy Awards: Best Documentary Feature and Best International Feature.

Rana Eid is a sound designer and co-founder of db Studios, an audio postproduction studio in Lebanon, providing services to directors, producers and artists from Lebanon and the Arab World. She worked on over 40 features films including Honeyland, with the region's most acclaimed directors.

Open-air film screening in the forest, in partnership with Metropolis Cinema



•Click [here](#) to register.

Thursday, 2 September 2021 // 9:00 pm
Beirut's RiverLESS Forest, Sin el Fil

This Haunting Memory That is Not My Own A film by Panos Abrahamian

Lebanon, Germany, Qatar | 2021 | 30 min | in Armenian, Arabic / English subtitles

This Haunting Memory (That Is Not My Own) is a film essay that draws upon oral traditions, speculative histories, and Climate-fiction in an attempt to scout for the spectral presence of past traumas and unknown futures in bodies, structures, and places that helped create and/or dwell in and around Beirut's port and the city's quarantine district. Through incisive semi-fictional storytelling, the film shines a light on how economic growth and environmental decay are interlinked and entrenched in social and ecological injustice. The film addresses forms of extraction and violence inflicted on human/nonhuman bodies and the ecosystem along the shorelines of Beirut.

Panos Aprahamian is a writer and filmmaker based in Beirut. He produced his first film *Yabandjo* (2016) for Video Works 7 at Ashkal Alwan and is currently developing his second thanks to a grant from the Arab Fund for Arts and Culture (AFAC).

Open-air film screening in the forest, in partnership with Metropolis Cinema



Thursday, 2 September 2021 // 9:30 pm
Beirut's RiverLESS Forest, Sin el Fil

Letter for Ihuana (Um Filme para Ehuana) A film by Louise Botkay

Brazil | 2018 | 27 min | in Yanomamö / English subtitles

Within the worlds' largest forest, in the village of Watorik, lives a Yanomami community at the border between Brazil and Venezuela. We spend time with Ehuana Yaira and her family. In this encounter, the power of every little gesture reminds us that we are at the top and the heart of the forest and its inhabitants.

Louise Botkay is a visual artist and filmmaker, working between Brazil and France. She studied at the National Film School of France (FEMIS), and filmed in countries such as Haiti, Congo, Niger, Chad, the Netherlands, France and Brazil. She makes films in different media, using both cell phone, video and super-8, 16 and 35 mm film that are developed artisanally by the artist herself.

•Click [here](#) to register.

Open-air film screening in the forest, in partnership with Metropolis Cinema



Friday, 3 September 2021 // 9:00 pm
Beirut's RiverLESS Forest, Sin el Fil

Whispers

A film by Maroun Baghdadi

Lebanon, Canada, France | 1980 | 94 min | in Arabic, French / English subtitles

Whispers follows the Lebanese poet Nadia Tueni (1935-1983) on a journey across different regions of war-torn Lebanon. The film depicts the fall of a country struggling to survive and find hope. At every station, between sites filled with poetry and nostalgia for a bygone era, the poet's dashed dreams and idealized vision of her country coincide with the director's own.

Maroun Bagdadi was a Lebanese film director best known for his vivid portrayal of Lebanon's civil war. Bagdadi was internationally the best-known Lebanese filmmaker of his generation. He worked with American producer/director Francis Coppola and made several films in French that became hits in France.

•Click [here](#) to register.

Open-air film screening in the forest, in partnership with Metropolis Cinema



•Click [here](#) to register.

Saturday, 4 September 2021 // 9:00 pm
Beirut's RiverLESS Forest, Sin el Fil

Jezzine // Water

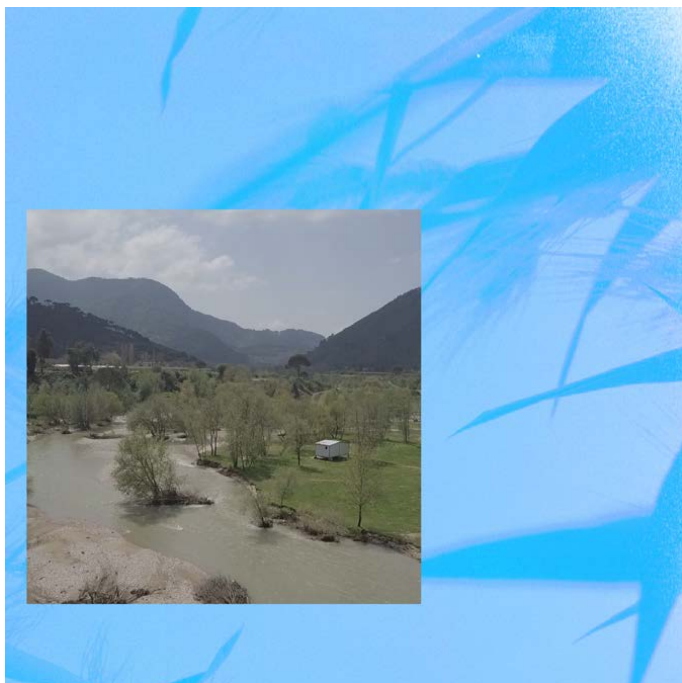
A documentary film by Zeina Aboul Hosn

Lebanon | 2017 | 30 min | in Arabic, English / English subtitles

In May 2017, the Lebanese southern city of Jezzine hosted six participants - visual artists, a filmmaker and a curator - selected following an open call, who conducted research and implemented site-specific projects using participatory methods and approaches. A public program punctuated the residency with events and workshops addressing the theme of water in collaboration with local partners, guest-artists and speakers targeting both resident-artists and members of the Jezzine community. This film, shot and edited by filmmaker Zeina Aboul Hosn, tells the story of the residency and its participants, while also offering a glimpse into the lives of the local community and the history of Jezzine itself. BeMA Residency // Jezzine is the second artists-in-residence program launched as a collaboration between Beirut Museum of Art (BeMA) and Temporary Art Platform. The program falls under both associations' shared interest in supporting contemporary art practices and engaging local communities across Lebanon through contextual projects. The residency examined issues related to water through research and a series of interdisciplinary activities. Jezzine's legendary waterfall and abundance of water resources stemming from dams, rivers, lakes and streams had inspired the theme of the residency.

Zeina Aboul Hosn is a documentary filmmaker and writer based in Beirut. Her work focuses on issues of culture, identity, rights, and peacebuilding. She has worked with news broadcasters, and regional & international organisations. When not making films or writing, she can be found at her pottery wheel.

Open-air film screening in the forest, in partnership with Metropolis Cinema



•Click [here](#) to register.

Saturday, 4 September 2021 // 9:30 pm
Beirut's RiverLESS Forest, Sin el Fil

The Land - Al Marj A film by Mohamed Moe Sabbah

Lebanon | 2020 | 27 min | in Arabic / English subtitles

'The Land' documents the uprising of the people of Bisri and activists from all of Lebanon against the construction of the dangerous dam leading up to the Bisri Valley's liberation. Farmers and shepherds discuss their fears of losing the land and their intimate relationship with it. It also presents the project's seismic and geological dangers, its futility, the conflicts of interests surrounding its construction, and its destruction of a rich and significant area in every respect.

The film will be followed by a conversation with director Mohamed Moe Sabbah, activists Roland Nassour and Amani Beainy, moderated by Adib Dada in the forest.

Mohamed Moe Sabbah is a film director from Beirut. His films deal with impossible love, body relationships, death and family; while observing Beirut, his biggest inspiration. He directed short films Awakening, The Return and Where There Is Nothing But Water as well as his feature debut, Chronic. He currently teaches at ALBA.

Amani Beainy is a political and human rights activist, and a legal researcher specialized in public law and arbitration. She is co-founder of the Save Bisri Valley Campaign.

Roland Nassour is an urban planner, architect and co-founder of the Save Bisri Valley Campaign.

Adib Dada is the founder of AEC partner theOtherDada, an architect, forest-maker and environmental activist.

Forest-making

Tuesday, 31 August 2021

Beirut's RiverLESS Forest, Sin el Fil

We will be planting an additional corner of our young native forest: 50 square meters made up of 300 trees and 100 shrubs, together with theOtherDada forest makers and children from the Horshna Forest School.

Care

Collective Hatha Yoga and Meditation in the forest // with Koun

Friday, 3 September 2021 // 7:30 pm - 8:30 pm

Beirut's RiverLESS Forest, Sin el Fil

Join us for a collective Hatha yoga and meditation class among the trees of our young native forest, with Koun, a local non-profit organization making yoga accessible to those who need it. Light for Lebanon will be lighting our intimate gathering.

*Please bring your own mat!

•Click [here](#) to register.

Koun is a Lebanese NGO that aims to promote yoga in marginalized communities in Lebanon. Koun is driven by the belief that well-being is a condition that every individual should have, regardless of age, race, or social class. Their aim is to promote mental health and total well-being within underprivileged communities through yoga and mindfulness.

Light for Lebanon is a partnership between Light Reach and Manale Kahale, an architectural lighting designer based in Beirut. They work to sustainably illuminate Lebanon through the provision of streetlights, stationary lights, and portable lanterns.

City Walk: Walk Karantina as a Landscape

With Sarah Lily Yassine

Saturday, 4 September 2021 // 5:30 pm - 7:30 pm

Meeting point: Entrance of Karantina, East of the Immigrant Statue facing the Port of Beirut

Karantina/Medawar is a historic urban landscape. Most of its landmarks are hidden behind militarized gardens between centennial Ficus and Eucalyptus trees. It started developing in the mid-19th century when a lazaretto for traveler's quarantine was implanted on a 10-meter coastal cliff in Medawar, East of Beirut's medieval walls. The proximity of the Beirut River estuary at the mouth of the Saint George Bay provided potable water and fertile grounds for urban agriculture and industrial activities to take place.

The walk will narrate stories of human and seeds, movement and mobility, and will invite you to imagine the correlation between street names connoting migration and the presence of mature 'exotic' fruit trees such as Lychee, Jackfruit, Mango and Ficus Benjamina. The memory of this area's landscape should be recorded and disseminated through walking. The walk will sensitize you to topographic variation, to reading the landscape and analyzing historic maps. We will form hypotheses by walking past historic sites, centennial street trees and gardens, the lazaretto, the Karantina governmental hospital, the slaughterhouse, remnants of railway sites and the industrial fringe of the Jisr area by the fish market.

*Spaces are limited.

•Click [here](#) to register.

Meet at the entrance of Karantina, East of the Immigrant Statue facing the Port of Beirut / Don't forget to wear comfortable walking shoes, a hat and water! Please note that photography is restricted in some militarized areas.

Sarah Lily Yassine is an urban planner who has practiced in Beirut and in London. She is interested in exploring the role of urban wilderness in reconfiguring the nexus of city and nature. She writes about the meaning of place, landscape narratives and oral history.

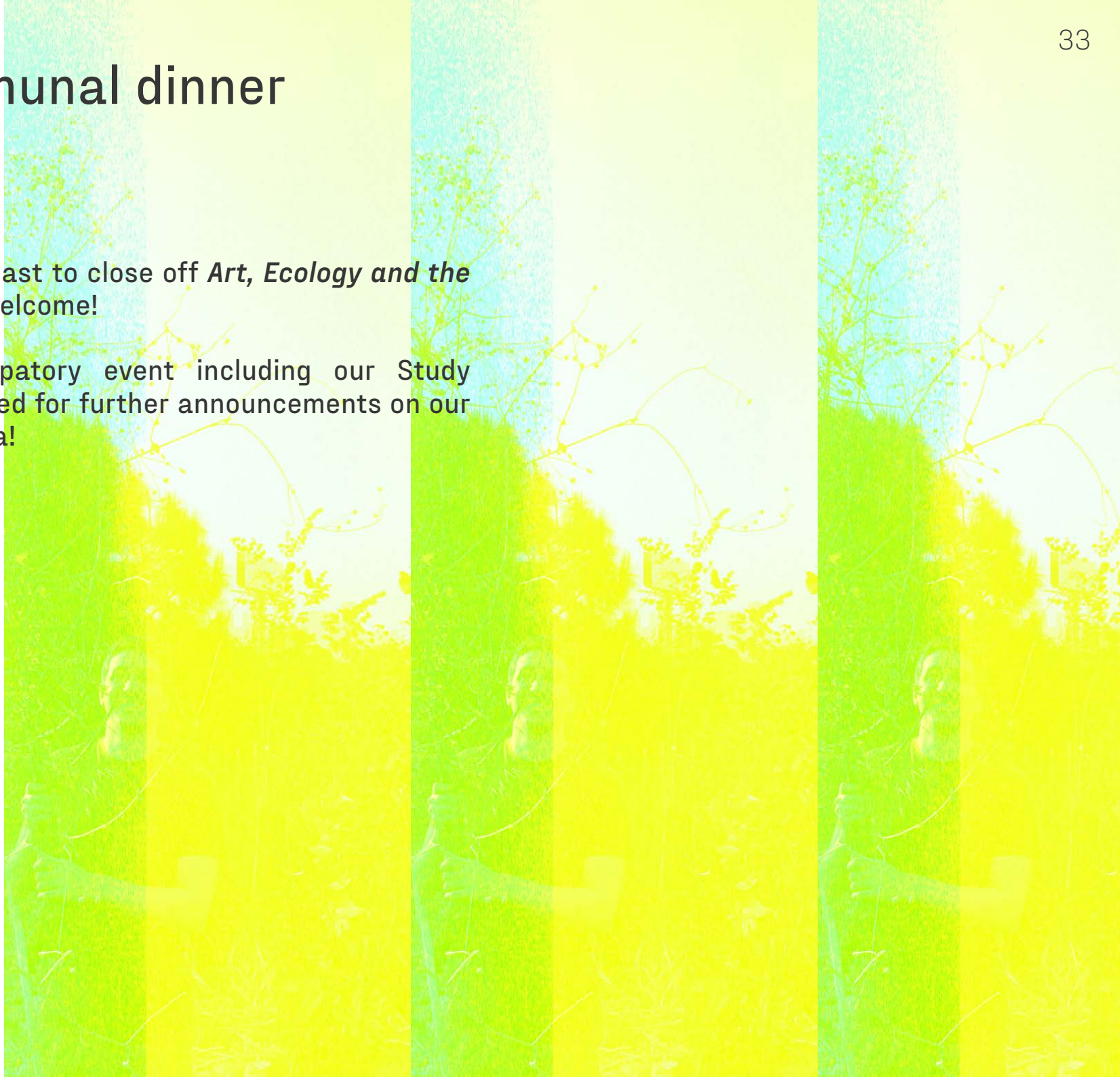
Closing communal dinner

With Nation Station

Sunday, 5 September 2021 // 7:30 pm
Beirut's RiverLESS Forest, Sin el Fil

Join us for our Forest Feast to close off *Art, Ecology and the Commons*. Everyone is welcome!

This will be a participatory event including our Study participants. // Stay tuned for further announcements on our website and social media!



Off-site

• In Berlin

Exhibition of Commissions

The following *Art, Ecology and the Commons* commissions will be exhibited at the Haus der Statistik as part of Redeem, a platform for ongoing conversations between voices from Beirut and Berlin.

Voices of a Forgotten Network

Podpoem commission by Nadim Mishlawi

Mad3oum - value in a state of economic crisis

Participatory research installation by Franziska Pierwoss

• In Palestine

Collaboration & Exchange Program

Art, Ecology and the Commons will be echoed in Palestine as a collaboration and exchange program with Sakiya, a progressive academy for knowledge production on art, sciences and agriculture based in Palestine and mediated by co-founders Sahar Qawasmi (architect) and Nida Sinnokrot (visual artist), Sakiya researcher Ashraf Hamdan (architect), and Sakiya collaborator Mirna Bamieh (Visual artist).

• Online

Publication & Online Seminar

Our publication, *A Few Things We Learned About Art, Ecology and the Commons* will be launched online in October 2021. Stay tuned to our website and social media platforms for an online seminar to inaugurate.



Our Allies

Our forest-makers

theOtherDada is an integrated consultancy and architecture firm whose mission is to activate projects across architecture, design, and art by creating unconventional links at the frontier of science. It was founded by Adib Dada, an architect, biomimicry specialist, environmental activist and fervent supporter of Beirut's contemporary art scene.

SUGi is a platform designed to bridge the interests of those looking to make a sustainable impact and a community of Forest Makers and Ocean Gardeners, who are actively restoring healthy ecosystems around the world. SUGi is an official partner of the UN Decade on Ecosystem Restoration, which highlights the need for much greater global cooperation to restore degraded and destroyed ecosystems, in order to combat climate change and safeguard biodiversity, food security, and water supply.

Horshna is a community Forest School inhabiting the public parks and forests surrounding Beirut. It is founded on the collaboration of parents and artist educators creating a structure and vision that responds to today's challenges, with the belief that contact with nature provides our children, ages 2.5 – 6, a free and nurturing place for their holistic growth.

Our allies abroad

Sakiya is an international Art/Science/Agriculture residency programme with a mandate to bring international and local practitioners together for academic, artistic and ecological interventions emphasising sustainable practices across disciplines. Founded by artist Nida Sinnokrot and architect Sahar Qawasmi, Sakiya arose from a belief that cultural initiatives must recognise and halt the extremism affecting our societies, politics and environment alike and as such become a potent artwork in itself.

GALA is a mycelium-like network of art organisations contributing to environmental sustainability through their creative practice. They act as a 'knowledge alliance'; strategically sharing resources, information and solidarity; connecting and empowering art centres, museums, residencies, art collectives, activists and grassroots initiatives that are strongly embedded in their local communities.

Redeem acts upon a collaborative desire to amplify and deepen an already existing exchange between the Lebanese artist diaspora in Berlin, and German and international artists who lived and worked in Beirut before the country plunged into its current economic and political crisis. Redeem aims to build a temporary framework of exchange through which they can be widely heard and inspired by each other. To that end, it supplies both runway and refuge for diverse artistic positions within the context of a workshop, a commissioned podcast series, and a series of film screenings and talks.

Our allies on the ground

Bossa Nova Hotel is named after an enduring genre of Brazilian music known for its soothing vibes and poetic themes. Their mission is to transmit their optimism to visitors. This is born from the intersection of Brazilian and Lebanese cultures characterized by being fanatically life affirming, famously hospitable, openly and unabashedly expressive.

Koun is a Lebanese NGO that aims to promote yoga in marginalized communities in Lebanon. Koun is driven by the belief that well-being is a condition that every individual should have, regardless of age, race, or social class. Their aim is to promote mental health and total well-being within underprivileged communities through yoga and mindfulness.

Light for Lebanon is a partnership between Light Reach and Manale Kahale, an architectural lighting designer based in Beirut. They work to sustainably illuminate Lebanon through the provision of streetlights, stationary lights, and portable lanterns.

Nation Station is a civil society organization (C.S.O.) that started as an immediate response to the 4th of August explosion at the Beirut Port. Originally a source of urgent relief aid, they now operate in six different domains: food security, reconstruction, healthcare, eco-sustainability, female empowerment, and community development. Their many arms (clinic, kitchen, data analysis, and sustainability) all work in service of creating the nation they want to see in Lebanon.

The Metropolis Art Cinema Association is dedicated to promoting independent cinema in Lebanon and the MENA region through diverse programming, industry training, young audience outreach, and preservation of film heritage in order to allow for greater accessibility to alternative films locally and regionally.

Thank you.

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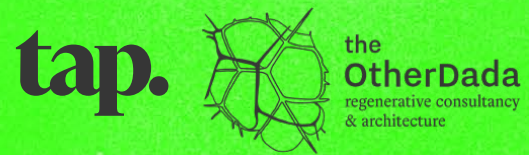
Sanita: Tony Makhoul

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Rim

Sanita.