

THE TURN المنعرج
Art Practices in Post-Spring Societies
Kunstraum Niederoesterreich in cooperation with
Public Art Lower Austria



March 18 – May 14, 2016
Opening and performances: March 17, 2016, 7 p.m.
Conference: March 18, 2016, 3 p.m.

DATES AND FACTS

THE TURN المنعرج Art Practices in Post-Spring Societies

Exhibition location: Kunstraum Niederoesterreich, Herrengasse 13, 1010 Vienna

Press preview: March 16, 2016, 10 a.m.

Exhibition duration: March 18 – May 14, 2016

Opening and performances: March 17, 2016, 7 p.m.

Conference: March 18, 2016, 3 p.m.

Curators: Christine Bruckbauer and Patricia K.Triki

Opening hours: Tuesday to Friday: 11 a.m. – 7 p.m.
Saturday: 11 a.m. – 3 p.m.
Monday, Sunday and holidays: closed

Visitor information: +43 1 90 42 111; email: office@kunstraum.net

For more information: www.kunstraum.net; www.publicart.at

Publication: In conjunction with the exhibition, a book will be published by Verlag für moderne Kunst

THE TURN المنعرج Art Practices in Post-Spring Societies

When it began five years ago in Tunisia, the Arab Revolution held much promise. Anger at the old regime and a burning desire for political and social change caused the people to rebel. The revolution opened up possibilities and inspired new beginnings far beyond the borders. These political transformations have also caused a 'turn' in local art practices.

Artists began to intervene in their own way and to become more vigorous participants in civil society. On the occasion of this anniversary, the Kunstraum Niederoesterreich and Public Art Lower Austria are presenting interventions by artists from the MENA region (Middle East and North Africa) as well as Austria. All of the projects took place in urban and rural public spaces in Tunisia and express the hopes and difficulties of the democratization process.

For THE TURN المنعرج, the curators Christine Bruckbauer and Patricia K. Triki face the challenge of presenting works initially not only intended for the public space but also participatory and process-oriented in the Kunstraum Niederoesterreich. There a number of questions arise: What remains? Can we measure the effectiveness of these projects in which international artists also took part and which were largely funded by foreign institutions? What is the role of art in times of transformation?

The conference THE TURN المنعرج on March 18 in the Kunstraum Niederoesterreich is a chance to explore these issues and other crucial questions in comprehensive discussions with artists, civilians who participated in the projects, art historians, and representatives of funding institutions from Tunisia, Egypt, Libya, Syria, Germany and Austria.

Opening on March 17, 2016, 7 p.m.

At the opening, there will be three performances:

Moufida Fedhila: DO NOT TRACK

Halim Karabibene: COMMUNIQUÉ NUMÉRO 2: AUTOFLAGELLATION POST RÉVOLUTIONNAIRE

Inkman: KINGDOM OF LETTERS, CALLIGRAFITTI

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Participating artists:

Omar Abusaada (Syria), Mohamed Allam (Egypt), Noutayel Belkadhi (Tunisia), Arslane Bestaoui (Algeria), Irena Eden (Germany/Austria) & Stijn Lernout (Belgium/Austria), Moufida Fedhila (Tunisia), Reem Gibriel (Libya), Inkman (Tunisia), Helmut & Johanna Kandl (Austria), Halim Karabibene (Tunisia), Huda Lutfi (Egypt), Selma & Sofiane Ouissi (Tunisia), Anja Pietsch (Germany), Hamdy Reda (Egypt), Faten Rouissi (Tunisia), transparadiso (Barbara Holub & Paul Rajakovics, Austria)

The following projects are being presented:

BLASTI (Anja Pietsch & Miriam Stock), BYE BYE BAKCHICH SYSTEME (Faten Rouissi), DE COLLINE EN COLLINE (Faten Rouissi), DJERBAHOOD (Mehdi Ben Cheikh), DREAM CITY (Selma & Sofiane Ouissi), ECRIVAIN PUBLIC (Irena Eden & Stijn Lernout), LAAROUSSA (Selma & Sofiane Ouissi), LA CHRONOLOGIE (Christine Bruckbauer & Patricia K.Triki), MNAMC (Halim Karabibene), SUPER-TUNISIAN (Moufida Fedhila)

CURATORS:

Christine Bruckbauer (born 1969 in Steyr, Austria) is an art historian, lecturer, curator, and cultural activist. She became involved in local art practices while living in Pakistan, the UK, and Tunisia.

Patricia K.Triki (born 1964 in Paris, France) has been living in the country of her father, Tunisia, since 1983. She works as a photographer, artist, curator, and activist.

Their collaboration, which began in 2009, has resulted in many projects, including the following: 3 Works + 6 Dialogues, El Marsa Galerie, Tunis (2009), No Sky, No Earth, Snow Falls Ceaselessly, Tunis (2011), rosige Zukunft, Berlin (2012), Stuttgart (2013), Blasti, Tunis (2013), Chronologie, Tunis (2011), Berlin (2012), Stuttgart (2013), Karlsruhe (2013/14), Bern (2014), Sidi Thabet (2014), Paris (2016), Algecira (2016)



THE TURN CONFERENCE المنعرج
Kunstraum Niederoesterreich
March 18, 2016, 3 p.m.

Socially Engaged Art in Egypt, Libya, Syria, and Tunisia

Panel 1 – Status Quo, Experiences, Potentials
3 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.

- Béatrice Dunoyer, project manager and press officer of L'Art Rue, Dream City and Laaroussa (Tunis)
- Hamdy Reda, artist and founder of Artwella Art Space, located in an economically disadvantaged neighborhood of Cairo
- Reem Gibriel, artist and founder of the Arete Foundation for Art and Culture (Tripoli/Bengasi)

Panel 2 – What Remains?
5 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.

- Christiane Bohrer, director of the Goethe Institute in Tunis 2011 – 2015
- Sana Yazigi, founder of Creative Memory (Damascus)
- Nouhad Khalifa, student and participant in the project » BLASTI « (Tunis)
- Katharina Blaas-Pratscher, Public Art Lower Austria

The following artists from the exhibition will also take part in the discussion:
Noutayel Belkadhi, Irena Eden & Stijn Lernout, Moufida Fedhila, Inkman, Helmut & Johanna Kandl,
Halim Karabibene, Faten Rouissi, transparadiso (Barbara Holub & Paul Rajakovics)

Conference chair: Noit Banai, Professor of Contemporary Art at the Department of Art History at the University of Vienna (New York/Vienna)

Kunst im öffentlichen Raum
Niederösterreich

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Photo on page 4, left: Super-Tunisian, Moufida Fedhila © Moufida Fedhila (2011)

Photo on page 4, right: MNAMC, Soldier #1, Halim Karabibene © Halim Karabibene (2012)