



SYRIAN CULTURAL CARAVAN

Art, the universal language

THE PROJECT'S BIRTH

The Syrian Cultural Caravan, entitled 'Freedom for the Syrian People, was born in 2014 at the initiative of Syrian intellectuals supported by a group of Syrian-European associations with the goal to promote Syrian civil society and contemporary Syrian art and culture. In March 2011, after half a century of totalitarian rule and forty years of the Assad's clan dictatorship, the Syrian people took to the streets demanding their freedom and dignity. The regime responded with weapons, but the response came in different ways: the pen, the spoken word, the brush, and the chisel. It is this creativity despite constant repression that the Syrian Cultural Caravan aims to promote by carrying the work of young Syrian artists and showing them to the world with the desire to communicate their message with the universal language of art, literature, video, music and poetry.

THE INITIAL STEPS

In the summer of 2014 the Syrian Cultural Caravan made its debut on 12 July at Place du Maréchal Joffre (Paris 7e) and in front of the Wall For Peace. From there on, there have been art exhibitions, film screenings, poetry readings in Arabic and French, street theatre performances, choreography and modern dance, political debates, and musical concerts. The majority of these activities took place outdoors, and were very warmly and enthusiastically welcomed by the audience.

CARAVAN ROUTE

July 2014: La Lèque, Sunday 13; Lussan, Wednesday 16; Mèze, Friday 18; Avignon, Saturday 19; Marseille, Monday 21; Saint-Amant-Roche-Savine, Friday 25; Lyon, Saturday 26 to Monday 28.

August 2014: Milan, Saturday 2; Berlin, Thursday 7; Strasbourg Friday 22; Metz Monday 25, As Summer was coming to an end, the Caravan finished the season in the Palais des Beaux-Arts in Brussels with an art exposition in tandem with the musical concert by musician Daniel Barenboim that was organized to fund scholarships for Syrian students.

2015: Mouhajaroun : « Art en Exil », Monday March 9; Bergen, Norway, Friday May 29. Cologne (Pulheim), Germany Thursday June 4, Bochum, Germany, Wednesday June 9.

SUSTAINABILITY OF THE PROJECT

The first trip of the Syrian Cultural Caravan in the summer of 2014 our organisers noted that every meeting had positive exchanges that led to setting up to new activities.

Accordingly, and after the inclusion of a number of French and European intellectuals, the organisers decided to create a not-for-profit association in France to be a platform for exchange and a structure to preserve and prolong the life and spirit of the Syrian Cultural Caravan.

Thus, the Syrian Cultural Caravan was founded in Paris on 26/11/2014, currently headed by Mohamed Al Roumi. Among the honorary members: Jack Lang, Jack Ralite, Marcel Bozonnet, Ernest Pignon-Ernest, Olivier Py, Dominique Blanc and others.

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ARTISTS AND INTELLECTUALS OF THE SYRIAN CULTURAL CARAVAN

AHMAD KADDOUR, PAINTER

Born in Syria, Ahmad Kaddour graduated from the Faculty of Fine Arts in Damascus in 1985. In 1995 Joined Ecole nationale supérieure des Beaux-Arts (ENSBA) in Paris. Works with methods such as painting, drawing, screen-printing, and video. In 1994, with the help of ENSBA, he published his first book entitled Seattle. In 1998, published his second book entitled Quelques heures, quelques hivers. He has exhibited several times in France and abroad, while teaching workshops in Paris since 2008.

AKRAM AL HALABI, PAINTER

Akram Al Halabi was born in Majdal-Shams (Israeli-occupied Golan Heights) in 1981. From 1997 until 2000, he studied drawing and painting at Bait Al Fan (the Art House) under the supervision of the artist Wael Tarabeh. In 2003, he participated in the summer academy of Darat Al Funun under the supervision of Prof. Marwan Kassab Bashi, in Amman, Jordan. After studying at the Faculty of Fine Arts in Damascus, Syria, he received his BA in Fine Arts in 2005. Through the One World Scholarship of the Afro-Asian-Institute, he attended the Academy of Fine Arts in Vienna from 2007 and finished his studies with distinction in 2012 in the class of Prof. Erwin Bohatsch. During this period, he also was an exchange student at the Academy of Fine Art Umea in Sweden. Akram Al Halabi is a founding member and volunteer at F. Mudarris Center of Arts and Culture in Majdal-Shams.

ALI KAAF, PAINTER

Born in 1977 in Oran, Algeria of Syrian parents, Ali Kaaf studied at the Faculty of Fine Arts in Beirut, Lebanon. Following that, he continued his studies in Berlin at the University of Arts (Universität der Künste) under the supervision of Marwan Kassab Bashi and Rebecca Horn. In 2010 he received several awards including as The Young Collector's at the MAXXI museum in Rome, the DAAD-Preis UdK in Berlin, and the AIR Honor Award from the Kala Art Institute in Berkeley. Main topics of his field of study are erosion and the resistance that he explores through glass, paper, video and photography. His works are exhibited throughout Europe and the United States including at Martin Gropius Bau, Berlin; Yellowstone Art Museum, Billings, USA; the Moontower Foundation; and the Bad König-Zell (Germany)..

AMJAD WARDEH, PAINTER

Born in 1984 in Damascus, Amjad Wardeh is a graduate of the Faculty of Fine Arts in Damascus. From 2002-2007, he worked in the field of animation for the Syrian national broadcasting company while being the artistic director of the independent daily newspaper 'Baladna' (Our Country). From 2009 to 2011 he held the position as assistant professor at the Faculty of Fine

Arts in Damascus. Since 2012, he has participated in numerous exhibitions including at the Art Space in Beirut, the Beirut Art Fair, Galerie 8 in London, in Nottingham and the P21 Gallery in London. In 2013 he participated in the CI contemporary in Istanbul.

AMMAR AL BEIK, FILMMAKER & PHOTOGRAPHER

Born in 1972 in Damascus, Ammar Al Beik lives and works today in Dubai. Internationally recognised for his work as a filmmaker (both documentary and fiction), he has participated at numerous international festivals including Sao Paulo, Edinburgh, Berlin and Locarno and has received prizes in Rotterdam, Venice, Tétouan, Brisbane and in South Korea. In 2011 he presented The Sun's Incubator, a film on the Arab Spring, to the 68th Mostra di Venice. His photos have been exhibited in Damascus, Beirut and Dubai.

AMMAR ABD RABBO, PHOTOGRAPHER

Born in 1966 in Damascus, Syria. Ammar Abd Rabbo lived both in Tripoli, Libya and Beirut, Lebanon, before fleeing to France to escape from the civil war in Lebanon. A graduate of Sciences-Po Paris, since 1992 he has worked for the news agency Sipa Press, and has covered events around the Middle East including the pilgrimage to Mecca, the visits of Pope John Paul II in Lebanon and the destruction of Aleppo in Syria. In 2003, he covered the war in Iraq under the American bombing. His photographs have been published in the most prestigious publications such as Paris Match, Time, Le Monde, Der Spiegel and Bild Panorama.

ASSEM AL BACHA, SCULPTOR

Born in 1948 in Buens Aires of a Syrian father and an Argentinian mother, Assem Al Bacha began oil painting and limestone sculpture at the beginning of the sixties. He has since become a member of the Society of Friends of Art in Damascus. Settled in Spain since 1982, he is involved in the promotion of Syrian art founding notably the community of independent Syrian artists in 2012.

BAHRAM HAJOU, PAINTER

Born in 1952 in Syria, Bahram Hajou is a graduate of the Academy of Fine Arts in Düsseldorf. He currently resides in Germany and works on the human subject in its solitude. He mixes in his works German Expressionism to a gentle touch that recalls the sensuality of the East. Poetic and extremely subtle, his work exudes power and energy.

BERNARD GORTAIS, PAINTER AND MULTIMEDIA ARTISTS

His latest work (watercolour on cardboard Ark) combines an interesting relation between chance and creation. "Originally a single line through the space.. then breaks when space is divided into fragments. While millions of arrangements are possible, it is necessary to arrange with the scattered pieces. The composition keeps track of the lost unity, without revealing it. But the perception of the solutions that have not been chosen induced brittleness in the new composition. Arrangement chance and choice, that's life." 2014 at an exhibition in the Galerie Keller Paris. In 2013, he exhibited a digital installation on an interactive sensor mats, room decoration «On the other side of the sea» at the Gazibul Theatre Company. In 2011 his paintings were exhibited at the Galerie 14, Toucy France.

CATHERINE & VINCENT, MUSICIANS

This duo, formed by Catherine Estrade and Vincent Commaret, write, compose and perform folk songs. They met in Paris, but in Damascus, Syria, where they chose to live for four years where they started making music together. They have been living in Marseille since 2004.

CLIO MAKRIS, SCULPTOR

Born in 1955 in Budapest to a Greek father who was a sculptor (Agamemnon Makris) and a Franco-Yugoslav mother, a mosaic artist and engraver (Zizi Makris). Clio Makris now lives in Greece. A graduate of Ecole normale supé-

Avignon, juillet 2014





Kater Holzsig Blau, Berlin, août 2014

rieure des Beaux-Arts in Paris in 1980, she has worked on the memory and roots that shape every human being. In addition, she has practiced sculpture, and art therapy in a psychiatric hospital. She has conducted numerous group and solo exhibitions in Athens, Paris, Budapest, Thessaloniki and Ioannina.

DARINA AL JOUNDI, ACTRESS

Born in 1968, in Beirut, Lebanon. Darina Al Joundi began to perform on stage at the age of 8. Her father is a Syrian writer and politician, Hassem Al Joundi, to whom she dedicated her first theatre play, 'The Day where Nina Simone stopped singing'. She is also the author of a number of screenplays and television concepts.

DINO AHMAD ALI, VISUAL ARTIST

Born in Syria, Dino Ahmad Ali graduated from the Faculty of Fine Arts in Damascus in 2007. Ahmad Ali currently lives in France. An enthusiastic young artist, he explores new artistic paths, while keep visual arts, optical art, photography and video as focal points.

ERNEST PIGNON-ERNEST, PAINTER

Born in 1942 in Nice, Ernest Pignon-Ernest is one of the pioneers of urban art in France with Daniel Buren and Gerard Zlotykamien. He produces serigraphs, drawings in black chalk, paintings that stick to walls, doors, stairs, and which are based in architecture. In the 1970s, he began with the political series: La Commune (1970), Blocked Men (1972), The Immigrant (1975) Eviction (1979). With Antonio Saura and Jacques Derrida, he founded «Artists of the world against apartheid» in 1974. He was later involved in the cause against AIDS and for the cause of women, highlighting their vital role in Africa with images stuck up in different areas of South Africa. In 2013, he exhibited at the priority of Saint-Cosme, the Extases series and in 2014 at the Galerie Lelong Paris, the Prisons series.

EYAS AL MOKDAD, FILMMAKER, CHOROGRAPHER & DANCER

Born in Syria, Eyas Al Mokdad obtained his masters in multimedia at the Luca School of Art in Brussels, Belgium. He also graduated with a

degree from the ballet school at the Higher Institute of Dramatic Art in Damascus, and has made several films including The Last Time (2006), Bloodshed (2012), and The Other Half of Your Shadow (2013).

FIRAS JABAKHANJI, PHOTOGRAPHER & PAINTER

While studying at the School of Fine Arts, painting department, Firas Jabakhanji took photographic portraits in a studio and worked as a still photographer for television series. His artistic development and growth continued through the visual arts. His experience of Eastern music influenced his paintings and works on the body and the movement, mobility and immobility, the characters themselves becoming the instruments.

FLORENCE AUBIN, PAINTER & SCULPTOR

Born in Aleppo, a self-taught artist, Florence Aubin works mainly in France in the Gard region. She has exhibited in France, Italy, and Tunisia (2003-2014). Recently she has made great screens painted on recovered cardboard packaging (acrylic paint) and is shifting to work on large pieces of metal.

GOLAN HAJI, POET & TRANSLATOR

Born in Amouda in the north of Syria, Golan Haji moved to France where he worked as a translator of English and American literature to Arabic. His first collection of poetry in Arabic, called 'in Darkness' (2004), won the Al-Maghut prize. In 2008, he published in Damascus 'Someone Sees You're a Monster' and in the Autumn of 2013 'Here is Magical and Vast' both in Arabic and in Italian (Rome).

HASSAN TAHA, MUSICIAN

Born in 1968, in Homs, Syria. Hassan Taha is currently living in Bern, Switzerland. After teaching himself traditional Arabic music, he completed his musical studies in 1998 with both horn and Oud instruments at the Higher Institute of Music in Damascus. In 2003, he studied composition at the Conservatory of Maastricht. In 2012, he obtained a master's degree at the Hochschule der

Künste in Bern. His work has been performed in Syria, Lebanon, Tunisia, Germany and Switzerland. In 2010 the Council of Pro Helvetia Arts, Switzerland, invited him as a researcher. He has conducted workshops with both the composers Vinko Globokar and Helmut Oehring.

HORST BRANDENBURG, FILMMAKER

Born in 1968, in Homs, Syria. Hassan Taha is currently living in Bern, Switzerland. After teaching himself traditional Arabic music, he completed his musical studies in 1998 with both horn and Oud instruments at the Higher Institute of Music in Damascus. In 2003, he studied composition at the Conservatory of Maastricht. In 2012, he obtained a master's degree at the Hochschule der Künste in Bern. His work has been performed in Syria, Lebanon, Tunisia, Germany and Switzerland. In 2010 the Council of Pro Helvetia Arts, Switzerland, invited him as a researcher. He has conducted workshops with both the composers Vinko Globokar and Helmut Oehring.

IMAN HASBANI, PAINTER

Iman Hasbani is a visual artist from Syria. She earned her degree in oil painting from the School of Fine Arts, University of Damascus in 2004. She is the recipient of numerous awards, both inside and outside Syria, including the first prize for small works in the Canada Biennial in 2008. She has participated in exhibitions in Syria, Jordan, Denmark, France, Canada, Italy, Egypt, Qatar, Dubai, Lebanon and Germany.

JABER AL AZMEH, PHOTOGRAPHER

Born in Damascus in 1973, Jaber Al Azmeh is a graduate with a visual communications degree from the University of Damascus. In 2006, he taught photography at the IUST University in Damascus. Today he lives and works in Doha, Qatar. His work has been exhibited in Damascus and Dubai. He participated in several group exhibitions in Damascus and throughout Europe. His most recent project, Journal, involves photographing various Syrian head figures and others from abroad. He is also known for his photographs of the popular Syrian Newspaper 'Al Baath' while holding the newspaper upside down with a strong noun or verb written on it in bold font, these photos proved to be very popular on social media platforms .

KHALED AL JARAMANI, MUSICIAN

Born in 1972 in Syria, Khaled Al Jaramani took oud lessons with Professor Fayez Zher Eddine, then enrolled at the Higher Institute of Music with Professor Askar Ali Akbar acting as a mentor. While still a student, he also attended workshops led by Munir Bashir and Nasser Chema. With the Damascus Symphony Orchestra, he participated in concerts at the Congress of Damascus and UNESCO in Beirut, Lebanon. He has played with the Arab Music Orchestra in various music festivals in Damascus, Beirut and Cairo. He has also been invited to perform as a solo artist playing the Oud at the Institut du Monde Arabe in Paris in 2011.

KHALED AL-KHANI, PAINTER

Born in 1975, in Hama, Syria, Khaled Al-Khani left his hometown to seek refuge in Paris, France. He is a member of the Artists' Union in Damascus since 1998. He is a postgraduate in Fine Arts majoring in oil painting. Freedom is the main theme of his work. He has exhibited in several countries in the Middle East and recently in the Cité Internationale des Arts in Paris. In 2013, He was invited to complete mural paintings in the building of the Kunsthalle zu Kiel museum in Kiel, Germany.

KHALED TAKRETI, PAINTER

Né à Beyrouth en 1964, Khaled Takreti est marqué par le pop art et a influencé toute une génération d'artistes-peintres syriens. Formé à l'origine en architecture à l'université de Damas, il commence à exposer ses œuvres au milieu des années 1990.

KHALED SOLIMAN NASSIRY, WRITER, POET, & FILMMAKER

Born in 1979, in Damascus, Syria of Palestinian refugee parents, Khaled Soliman al Nassiry lives in Milan since 2009. Working for a cultural exchange between Syria and Sweden, he has published several anthologies of poetry, the most recent 'Selected Poems Syria, Italy, Sweden', was published in 2011. He is currently the editor of the Arabic version of the Italian-Arabic magazine 'Aljarida' distributed in Milan. In 2009, he published a book titled 'Sadaqtu Kulla Shai', Kana'an editions.

KHOULOUD AL ZGHAYARE, POET & PAINTER

A Syrian residing in Paris, France, Khoulood Al Zghayare graduate of sociology from Damascus University currently PhD student in her final year in sociology of knowledge at Paris 3 la Sorbonne Nouvelle. Published Articles and research in Arab newspapers, research centres, and websites. In 2007, Dar ALTAKOUIN in Damascus published a collection of her poetry. In 2010, Dar ALTAKOUIN in Beirut pu-

blished a collection of her poetry. Between 2003 and 2014, she participated in a series of group exhibitions in Syria and France

MEYAR AL ROUMI, FILMMAKER

Born in 1973 in Damascus, Meyar Al Roumi studied Fine Arts in Damascus, and filmmaking at the University of Paris VIII, which opened the doors of Femis for him where he graduated in 2001 as a Director of Photography. He has directed several documentaries 'A silent film' (2001), 'Waiting for the day' (2004), 'The Club of the Future' (2006) and 'Six Ordinary Stories' (2007). After the release of a short fiction film, 'The Voyage of Rabi'a' (2006), 'Round Trip' (2012) his first feature-length fiction is set to hit cinemas in France in 2015.

MEY SEIFAN, CHOROGRAPHER

Born in Syria, May Seifan was trained in 1987 in the first ballet school in Damascus. She continued her studies at the Superior Institute of Dramatic Arts in Frankfurt (1999-2003). Navigating between Germany and Syria as a dancer and dance teacher, she has choreographed several projects including 'Consequences'. She was one of founders of the Damascus Contemporary Dance Platform and the Tanween Company. She has lived in Munich, Germany since 2011. She is interested in the dreams of Syrians immersed in the conflict. This work has given birth to the project 'Syrians' Dreams', to theatrical performances entitled 'Destruction for Beginners' and a short film, Cocoon.

MOHAMAD AL ROUMI, PHOTOGRAPHE

Born in 1945 in Aleppo (Syria), Mohamad Al Roumi obtained his diploma in Fine Arts in Damascus in 1972. He launched his artistic career as a painter, later turning to photography. He directed and participated in numerous solo and group exhibitions. His photographs are widely published and used in books, articles, themed exhibitions in various cultural fields in Syria, North America and Europe. His documentary, Blue-Grey, was released in 2002

in dozens of festivals around the world. It was followed by several other short films

MOHANAD ALJARAMANI, MUSICIAN

Born in 1979 in Sweida (Syria), Mohamad Aljaramani graduated from the National Conservatory of Music in Damascus in 2008 and co-founded the trio 'Bab Assalam' with Raphaël Vuillard and Khaled Al Jaramani in Aleppo in 2007. He joined the troupe of the National Conservatory and that of the Damascus Opera from 2005 to 2011. He has performed concerts in the Middle East, Africa and Europe, including Mucem and at the opera in Marseille, and the Institut du Monde Arabe in Paris. He also collaborates with musicians including the singer-composer Abed Azrie.

MONIF AJAJ, PAINTER

Born in Deir Ez-Zor, Syria in 1968 Monif Ajaj graduated from the Belarus Academy of Fine Arts in Minsk in 1995, and has since gone on to teach at the Faculty of Fine Arts in Damascus, as well as illustrate children's books. In 2006, he was awarded first prize for young Syrian artist of the year. Exhibited in Amman, Damascus, Dubai and London. Monif Ajaj's portraits are generally inspired by his daily life in Damascus and his childhood in Jazeera region of Syria. Highly dexterous in his drawing, his exclusively male and almost life-size portraits depict Syrian society in a satirical way and are reminiscent of the work of early 20th century western artists, particularly Daumier.

MOHAMAD OMRAN, SCULPTOR

Born in 1979, in Syria, Mohammad Omran graduated from the Faculty of Fine Arts in Damascus and obtained a master's degree in the History of Contemporary Art from Université Lyon 2 in 2009. He is currently living in Lyon. In 2003, he received the Grand Prize of the biennale Al Mahaba in Latakia, Syria. His works are exhibited in Jordan, Lebanon, Denmark, Belgium and France. He illustrates the Syrian revolution through images where irony and sarcasm serve to reveal the senselessness.

MUZAFFAR SALMAN, PHOTOGRAPHE

Né à Homs en 1976, est photographe à l'agence Associated Press et à Reuters. Il se rend régulièrement en Syrie pour couvrir l'actualité. Depuis le début du conflit, ses images imprègnent de poésie et d'espoir les situations les plus désespérées. Il expose à l'Institut des Cultures d'Islam *Alep, année zéro.*

NAÏSSAM JALAL, MUSICIAN

Born in Paris to Syrian parents, Naïssam Jalal studied classical flute at the age of 6. At 17, she graduated from the Commission française pour l'enseignement des mathématiques. The same year, the funk band Tarace Boulba take her on tour in Mali. At 19, she studied the nay (traditional Middle Eastern flute) at the Institute of Arabic Music in Damascus, Syria. Then she worked in Cairo with the master violinist Abdo Dagher. She played with Egyptians Fathi Salama, El Dor, El Awal and Bakash and then with African musicians including Tony Allen, Cheikh Tidiane Seck, Kiala, Fatoumata Diawara

Palais des Boz'art de Bruxelles, septembre 2014





Milan, août 2014

ra ... She also has collaborated with great names of international jazz including Hamid Drake, Nelson Veras, Michael Blake, Hubert Dupont, and artists from the Arab world such as the Lebanese rapper Rayess Bek.

RAMI HASSOUN, DANSEUR, CHORÉGRAPHE

Né en 1989, Rami mêle les influences du capoeira, de la hip-hop et de la danse contemporaine. En 2010, il présente *Ligne Blanche*, sa première expérience de solo, développée autour du thème des flux et des limites, au festival Bruits de la passion. Il a participé à plusieurs performances dans des villes européennes sur les thèmes de révolution syrienne et la liberté.

RAZAN NASSREDDINE, CURATOR

Born to Syrian-Lebanese family, she is a scholar and curator. She holds a BA in French literature from the University of Damascus, and an MA in Inter-Mediterranean Mediation from the Universities of Paul Valéry (Montpellier III), UAB (Barcelone) and Ca'Foscari (Venise) In 2013, she completed her MA thesis with an artistic research project on contemporary Syrian artists in the context of the recent revolution(s), entitled *La Syrie et ses artistes: créativité, résistance*. She worked as an artistic advisor for the Cultural Diary of Damascus, and curated the Syrian film screenings for the Berlin exhibition KunstStoff Syrien 2014..

SAMAR YAZBEK, WRITER

Born in 1970. Samar Yazbek is originally from Jablé, Syria. She published four novels in Syria. She is also the author of *A Woman in the Cross-fire: Diaries of the Syrian Revolution*, a committed and poignant testimony of the first months of the Syrian revolution published in 2012 in Haus Publishing. Living in Paris with her daughter since the summer of 2011, she writes a very active blog in support of the revolution.

SHADA SAFADI, ARTISTE-PEINTRE

Born in 1982, in Majdal Shams (Israeli-occupied Golan Heights), Shada Safadi graduated from the Faculty of Fine Arts in Damascus in 2005. She is a founding member of the Center for the Arts and Culture Fateh Al Mudarris in Majdal

Shams. She has won awards in the 2005, 2006 and 2008 in Damascus and Ramallah, Palestine. Since 2006, she has participated in solo and group exhibitions in Syria, Palestine, Sweden, United Kingdom and in the occupied Golan.

TAMMAM AZZAM, PAINTER

Born in 1980, Tammam Azzam graduated from the Faculty of Fine Arts in Damascus. Currently he lives and works in Dubai. In 2011, he joined the Al Kharif Academy where he studied under the guidance of Professor Marwan Kassab Bashi. Recently, he has participated in solo and group exhibitions including: Rush Arts, New York (2014); FotoFest Biennial, Houston (2014); Ayyam Gallery in London (2013); 30th Biennial of Graphic Arts in Slovenia (2013); Ayyam Gallery Al Quoz, Dubai (2012, 2009) to name a few. Since 2012, his work 'Graffiti Freedom' has circulated on social media platforms and networks, and has made headlines in international press. His most re-

nowned work makes use of *The Kiss* by Gustav Klimt affixing this image of love on the walls of Damascus, which were torn by the war.

WALID EL MASRI, PAINTER

Born in 1979 in Syria, Walid El Masri currently lives in Paris. He graduated from the Faculty of Fine Arts in Damascus in 2005, after that he joined the Summer Academy led by Marwan Kassab Bashi at Darat Al-Funun in Amman, Jordan. He works with the Ayyam Gallery since 2007. has participated in several exhibitions: the Art Beijing Contemporary Art Fair (2009); Art Hong Kong Art Fair (2009), The Busan Museum of Art (2014); Samsung Blue Square, Seoul (2014); Institut du Monde Arabe, Paris (2014). He has also exhibited at solo shows in London, Paris, Jeddah, Beirut, Dubai and Damascus.

WALAA DAKAK, PAINTER

Born in 1978 in Syria, Walaa Dekak earned a Master of Fine Arts from the University of Damascus. He moved to Paris in 2004 to continue his studies and his work. He is currently pursuing a PhD at the University of Paris in Arts and Sciences focusing on aesthetic arts, while on the same hand, he continues to paint and make design installations.

YASER SAFI, PAINTER

Born in 1976 in Qamishli, Syria, Yaser Safi graduated from the Faculty of Fine Arts in Damascus in 1997. He then continued studying graphic design at the same university graduating in 1999. He has taught graphic design in Damascus and Sharjah, United Arab Emirates. In 2010, he participated in the Tripoli-Leipzig workshop, a Lebanese-German cooperation. He also participated in numerous exhibitions in the Arab world and Europe and his work was appreciated with several awards, like the Bian Cervantes annual Lattakia prize and the Prix d'Honneur from the

THE 2015 PROGRAM

SPRING 2015

The Syrian Cultural Caravan traveled to northern Europe to Bergen à l'occasion du festival de musique de Bergen (Norvège), du 29 au 31 mai, accepting the invitation of the Association Knipsu et à la and the Fair of Contemporary Art organized by Pul'Art, in Pulheim (Germany) from 4 to 7 June

SUMMER 2015

The Syrian Cultural Caravan will kickstart its summer tour from mid-July with an evening in Paris at thePoint Ephémère heading afterwards to South of France (itinerary in preparation).

IN THE PRESS

The daily Al-Quds (8 July 2014), Le Figaro (20 July 2014), ADN Chronos in Arabic (1 August 2014), Le Républicain Lorrain (26 August 2014), RFI radio in English (23 July 2014), the German radio Funkhaus Europa (8 August 2014) and Deutschland Radio Kultur (7 August 2014), The Belgian Street and Amnesty International (28 September 2014), the journal "revue Mouvement" (January / February 2015).

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