



downtown  
contemporary  
arts festival  
مهرجان  
وسط البلد  
للغنون المعاصرة

09 OCTOBER  
أكتوبر  
30 OCTOBER  
أكتوبر

شارع طلعت حرب  
TALAAT HARB ST.

10



#DCAF22

PERFORMING ARTS - NEW MEDIA & VISUAL ARTS - SPECIAL EVENTS

مهرجان وسط البلد للغنون المعاصرة

DOWNTOWN  
CONTEMPORARY  
ARTS FESTIVAL

# THANKS TO ALL OUR PARTNERS AND SPONSORS

## FOUNDERS



## VENUE PARTNER



## UNDER THE AUSPICES OF



## ACCOMMODATION PARTNER



## TICKETS PARTNER



## MAIN SUPPORTERS



MINISTRY OF  
FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND TRADE  
OF HUNGARY



## ARAB ARTS FOCUS SUPPORTERS



with the support of Le Fonds de Soutien aux Arts Arabes (FSAA)

## IN COLLABORATION WITH



## MEDIA PARTNERS



## OFFICIAL RADIO PARTNER





*Equipment Rental*

*Event Marketing & PR*




*Front of House  
& Logistics*

**you set the date**  
**we plan**

*Local & International  
Entertainment Services*

*Production & Stage  
Management Services*

**Events by OP**

 [Orient.productions](https://www.instagram.com/orientproductions)  
 [Orient Productions for Film and Theatre](https://www.facebook.com/orientproductions)  
 [Orientproductions.org](https://www.orientproductions.org)

# ABOUT ORIENT PRODUCTIONS



**Orient for Film and Theatre Productions** is a production company based in Cairo. Founded in 2007, its mission is to develop quality projects in the fields of arts, culture, and entertainment with the involvement of practitioners from Egypt, the Arab world, and beyond. Since its inception, *Orient Productions* has produced and hosted numerous events showcasing innovative works in these different fields.

Orient Productions encompasses a number of art spaces and projects. Oldest among them is The **Temple Independent Theater Company**, which has been presenting the artistic work of Egyptian director and playwright *Ahmed El Attar* to local and international audiences since 1993. Orient also oversees **Studio Emad Eddin**, a one-of-its-kind initiative providing rehearsal spaces as well as workshops and training programs to independent Egyptian performing artists since 2005.

The two latest additions to the group are **Maktabi Creative Office spaces**, which provides private offices in the heart of Downtown Cairo for creatives in need of a long-term workspace; and **Rawabet Art Space**. This emblematic venue, Cairo's first and oldest independent performance space, was renovated by Orient Productions and revamped into a multipurpose, multidisciplinary art space, and reopened its doors in September 2021.

Most recently, Orient Productions has undertaken the **Theatre in Translation – Contemporary European Theatre in Arabic** project, which aims to translate eighteen contemporary European dramas into Arabic over a period of three years. The texts, which have all been written from 2010 onwards, will be published both in print and online to allow their dissemination to the widest possible audience across the Arab world.

Orient Productions also provides a variety of services to artists and cultural practitioners including marketing, PR, production, stage management and front of house coordination. Orient Productions takes pride in handling a project's complete journey from conceptualization to completion with an unremitting attention to detail that ensures high quality, successful events.

Since 2012, Orient Productions has been organizing the annual **Downtown Contemporary Arts Festival (D-CAF)**, the largest international, multidisciplinary arts festival in Egypt.

**KO SHIN MOON (FRANCE)**  
D-CAF 2021



# DIRECTOR'S WORD

## AHMED EL ATTAR

### Ten years. D-CAF is 10 years old!!!

I can still vividly remember when Karim Shafei & I were discussing the idea in his office in 2010, dreaming about it.

The years have passed & the dream has not only materialized but also become a landmark of the arts & culture scene in Cairo, Egypt, & the region.

In spite of the incredibly daunting local, regional & international challenges the world has witnessed, D-CAF has pressed on with its vision of a world of inclusion, diversity, creativity, & equality.

Ten years in the life of a festival is definitely a landmark, especially for a festival of D-CAF's size. But 10 years is still young, & we are looking forward to bringing art & joy to our audiences for many more years to come.

D-CAF could not & would not exist without its supporters, its funders, its collaborators, & its networks.

D-CAF would not have become what it is without the artists that honor it with their presence every year; presenting uniquely eclectic, creative, & entertaining works that question the world & our existence in it.

D-CAF would not have grown without its audience, one which has grown to reach thous&s in number every year. This audience transcends social, political, & economic divides, proving over & over that art is at the heart of any society's cohesive fabric.

D-CAF is extremely proud of its continuing partnership with Al Ismaelia for Real Estate Investment, a unique partnership in the art & culture scene in Egypt, & grateful to Karim Shafei Ismaelia's Co-founder, CEO & D-CAF's co-founder for his creative & progressive vision.

Finally, D-CAF would definitely not be what it is without the hundreds of staff & crew members that infuse it with their creative young spirits & energy year after year.

To all of you: thank you for believing in the dream. Thank you for believing in your dreams, because when all is said & done, D-CAF is as much yours as it is everyone else's.

Welcome to D-CAF's 10 th edition.  
Enjoy!





# AL ISMAELIA CHAIRMAN'S WORD

## KARIM SHAFEI

Every D-CAF edition has a special place in our hearts. Year after year, the program grows bigger, denser and reaches a wider audience, both locally and internationally. D-CAF is always a breath of fresh air, a bridge between cultures, and a portal into the regional and international art scenes. This year is even more special for two reasons: this is our 10th anniversary, a milestone for any organization and a major vote of confidence from both cultural enthusiasts and artists. I cannot help but feel proud watching D-CAF come such a long way. What started as a small event with a big vision has now made it through ten editions, striving and growing through pivotal local, regional, and international events. The festival has not only grown in size but also matured in terms of content, participation, and role in the community. In those 10 years, D-CAF has not only contributed to the art scene but also taken an active role in global issues such as climate change, inclusion, education and more; addressing global concerns through art, creating awareness, and bringing people together.

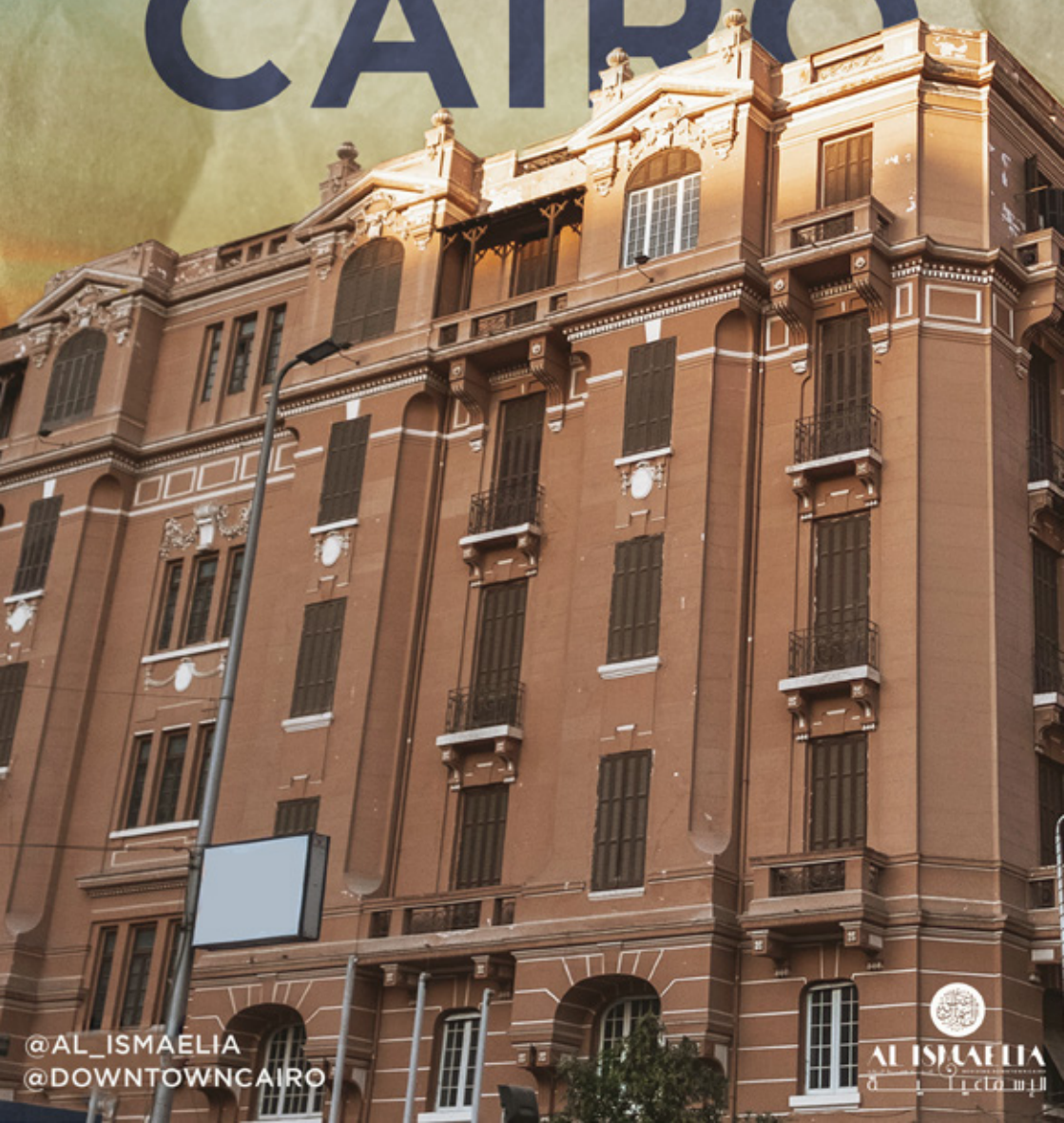
However, the celebrations are double what they would typically be after a decade of success because this happens to be the first full edition of D-CAF following two years of global standstill. Although this worldwide freeze has brought many challenges, it also offered us many opportunities and taught us many important skills. We managed to reinvent ourselves through technology and found time to reflect on and appreciate our lives (or change them, for that matter). The pandemic gave us a new hunger for interaction and communication along with a new perspective on how we as humans are all connected despite our distances and our differences. The first full edition of D-CAF following the pandemic is one that comes with unique content and a distinct flavor, reflecting what those two years have meant to us all.

Through this year's edition, I invite you to experience not only the amazing art but also the fantastic people that will be experiencing it with you, with all your senses. And while you are at it, give a big smile to the wonderful people who have worked hard for over 12 years to keep D-CAF as beautiful and meaningful as it is.

Thank you D-CAF team, you're fabulous!

AL-ISMAELIA.COM

# REVIVING DOWNTOWN CAIRO



@AL\_ISMAELIA  
@DOWNTOWNCAIRO



AL ISMAELIA  
دowntown  
Cairo

# ARTS FOR ALL

Since its first edition in 2017, the **Arts for All** Initiative has been committed to facilitating access to **D-CAF** for wider segments of Egyptian society, regardless of socioeconomic status, ethnicity, disability and employability. More specifically, the project intends to reach out to marginalized individuals and communities by offering them free tickets and thus exposure to **D-CAF**'s independent and cutting-edge contemporary arts performances from around the world.

**D-CAF** strongly believes that art — and engaging with diverse forms of creative expression — has transformative potential, and therefore significantly contributes to a greater sense of well-being and a more fulfilling life. Enabling insight into the world of art can thus positively impact those less privileged, encouraging them to explore their own creative potential and to consider becoming involved in the art sector or other activities.

In collaboration with various NGOs and donors, we have been able to engage with 2,000+ individuals throughout the last few editions who have attended the theater, music, dance and film events organized by **D-CAF**. We have worked with the likes of Maq'ad Of Sultan Qaitbey (MASQ) (Archinos), Al Hassan Foundation, Dawar Arts, Banati Foundation, I Help, Kheir Wa Baraka, Terre Des Hommes, Etijah, and others to widen our circle of attendees.

Be a part of this year's **Arts for All Initiative** and join in the art of sharing.

*While purchasing your ticket to attend one of D-CAF's events, you can choose to donate a ticket which will go to the NGO of your choice, inviting others to the magical world of the contemporary arts. Find out more on how to buy your ticket in the following page.*



# TICKET INFORMATION

---

## GETTING YOUR TICKETS:

### Online:

Visit [www.ticketsmarche.com](http://www.ticketsmarche.com) and search for D-CAF, pick the event and you will be redirected to its page with an option to buy tickets.

Payment can be made online by Visa or MasterCard.

(Ticket links are shared on our website, Facebook event pages, and social media pages.)

### In person:

#### Tickets Marché Outlets:

Visit the closest Tickets Marché vendor. All vending locations are listed here

<https://www.ticketsmarche.com/locate-our-outlets.html>

Call Center: 16826

#### Festival hub - Box office:

Located on 42 Abdelkhalek Tharwat, 5th Floor. The entrance is after Bank Audi.

Box office number: +20 128 765 1512

Box office opening hours: 10AM - 5PM weekdays. Closed on Fridays and Saturdays

#### The Venue :

You can purchase your ticket from the venue one hour before the start of the event, provided that it hasn't sold out. Come early to avoid disappointment. Availability will be regularly updated on our social media channels.

### Important:

#### Printing your ticket:

Tickets purchased online can be printed at D-CAF's Festival Hub during working hours or at the venue one hour before the performance.

#### Refund policy:

There are no refunds unless an event gets postponed or canceled.

### Important information to ensure a smooth experience:

#### A- Ticketed events

Lobby doors open 30 minutes prior to the start of the performances.

Box Office at the venue opens one hour prior to the start of the performance.

Once a performance has begun, no late admittance is permitted.

Upon request of the artists, kindly note that photography and video recordings are not allowed.

Seating is on a first come, first serve basis.

A limited number of tickets will be available at the door but please note that tickets could sell out before the event. Their availability will be regularly updated on our social media channels.

We ask that you carefully check each event on Facebook for more details and possible last-minute updates.

Please have your ticket/QR code ready by the door to ensure a smooth entry to the event.

#### B- Free events

Registrations for free events will be via [www.ticketsmarche.com](http://www.ticketsmarche.com), search for D-CAF, pick the event and you will be redirected to its page with an option to register, and then you shall receive a confirmation email with E-ticket.

Entry will not be allowed once full capacity has been reached.

Please have your QR code ready by the door to ensure a smooth entry to the event.

# TABLE OF CONTENTS

---

ABOUT ORIENT PRODUCTIONS

---

FESTIVAL DIRECTOR'S WORD

---

AL ISMAELIA CHAIRMAN'S  
WORD

---

TICKET INFORMATION

---

**D-CAF VENUES**

---

PERFORMING ARTS

---

NEW MEDIA & VISUAL ARTS

---

SPECIAL EVENTS

---

FESTIVAL TEAM

---

CONTACT US

## **D-CAF FESTIVAL HUB**

42 Abdel Khalek Tharwat Street, Fifth Floor, Downtown, Cairo

## **RAWABET ART SPACE**

5 Hussein Basha Al Mearnari Street, Downtown, Cairo

## **FALAKI THEATER - AUC TAHRIR CULTURAL CENTER**

24 Falaki Street, Downtown, Cairo

## **AUC TAHRIR CULTURAL CENTER**

Mohamed Mahmoud Street, Downtown, Cairo

## **SHOURBAGY ROOFTOP**

42 Abdel Khalek Tharwat Street, Downtown, Cairo

## **SHOURBAGY ROOFTOP - VICTORIA**

42 Abdel Khalek Tharwat Street, Downtown, Cairo

## **SHOURBAGY ROOFTOP - VIOLETTE**

16 Adly Street, Downtown, Cairo

## **STARTUP HAUS**

37 Talaat Harb, Downtown, Cairo

## **KODAK PASSAGEWAY**

20 Adly street, Downtown, Cairo

## **CINEMA RADIO**

24 Talaat Harb Street, Downtown, Cairo

**MANDALA (HUNGARY)**

BY: DÁVID SOMLÓ

# PERFORMING ARTS



# 9 & 10 OCTOBER

## COOK (DENMARK)



Arab World  
Premiere

Time: **8:00 PM**

Type: **Theater Performance**

Language: **Arabic**

Duration: **65mins**

Location: **Rawabet Art Space**

Entrance: **150 EGP**

*"The audience hangs on every word... a living piece of theatre." The 4. Wall*

Playwrights & concept: **Jesper Pedersen & Nassim Soleimanpour**

Actors: **Sayed Ragab** on the 9th

**Salwa Mohamed Ali** on the 10th of October

Producer: **Pacemaker**

Created with support from **The Danish Arts Council**

Do you like food, stories, and spending time with friends? Then Cook is just the show for you! Sadly, we can't reveal much more without souring this delicious experience for both the audience & the performers. What we can tell you is that **Cook**, co-created by **Jesper Pederson** and **Nassim Soleimanpour**, is a one-of-a-kind experimental theater performance, with no rehearsals, no director, and no preparation of any kind. Each night, a new actor takes to the stage to act out a script they have never seen before, and deliver a flavorful new performance with a side of philosophical inquiry.

**Jesper Pederson** is an award-winning Danish director and playwright. Based in Copenhagen, he has worked with independent artists and established institutions to produce innovative writing and genre-bending performances that push the limits of theatrical language. His plays have been translated into several languages and toured extensively throughout the world. Some of his most notable works include *Blam*, *The Foxcave*, and *Dust*, which made its Arab World premiere at D-CAF 2019.

**Nassim Soleimanpour** is an Iranian playwright, theater maker, and Artistic Director of the Berlin-Based Theater company Nassim Soleimanpour Productions. His plays have been translated into more than 30 languages and performed in over 50 countries. He is best known for authoring the play *White Rabbit Red Rabbit*, showcased in D-CAF 2013, and has received numerous accolades for his work including the Best New Performance award at the Dublin Fringe Festival, the Summerworks Outstanding Text Award, and The Arches Brick Award at the Edinburgh Fringe Festival.

**Cook** is produced by the Copenhagen-based company Pacemaker, run by Jesper Pedersen and founded to support, develop, and produce experimental and innovative theater for an international audience.

*Cook's co-creator, Jesper Pedersen, will be giving a playwriting workshop based on his experience with creating this show. See page 38 for more details.*



EMBASSY  
OF DENMARK  
Cairo

PACEMAKER



TicketsMarzha.com

## COOK (DENMARK)

9 OCT:



performed by:

### SAYED RAGAB

**Sayed Ragab** is a critically acclaimed actor, storyteller, & writer. A founding member of El Warsha Theatre Company, he is the only actor in the history of the Cairo International Experimental Theatre Festival to have received the award for best actor twice (1993 & 2007), as well as being awarded best actor for several consecutive years in the Workers' Theatre Festival. He has also received several other awards for his work in both television & film, including 'Heat wave' & 'Asia' respectively. Having begun writing his own stories in 1998, **Ragab's** work has been translated into English and Spanish; his adaptation of 'A Midsummer Night's Dream' was commissioned for a Swedish-Arab production and was shown in Alexandria & Sweden in 2003. **Ragab** began working with director **Ahmed El Attar** in 2002 & has since continued to work with him on a regular basis, with "The Last Supper" being their latest collaboration, which has toured the largest festivals & theaters around the world from 2014 to 2019.

10 OCT:



performed by:

### SALWA MOHAMED ALI

**Salwa Mohamed Ali** is an Egyptian actress, who graduated from the Higher Institute of Theatre, & holds a diploma in art criticism. **Salwa** began her artistic career on the stage, where she participated in several plays for the cultural & public sector, & independent theater. Among her most prominent plays are: "King Lear" starring Yahya Al-Fakhrani; "Mother, I Want to Be a Millionaire" & "Life Is Sweet" directed by Ahmed Al-Attar. In 2002, **Salwa** achieved great fame for playing the role of "Aunt Khayriyya" in the beloved children's program "Sesame World".

From 2003 to 2019, **Salwa** participated in more than 150 works of film & television, one of her most famous roles in cinema is the role of "Mervat" in "Breaking News" along with Mohamed Henedy. **Salwa** has also participated in the international series "Ramy", which received a Golden Globe Award in 2019.

**Salwa** also works with many workshops to develop theatrical works, & has worked with many directors from the Arab & foreign world to develop several works. Her work has been noticed by international festivals.

# 11 OCTOBER

## TRACES, DISCOURSE TO THE AFRICAN NATIONS (BELGIUM / BURKINA FASO)



Arab World  
Premiere

Time: **8:00 PM**

Type: **Theater Performance**

Language: **French with Arabic & English subtitles**

Duration: **60mins**

Location: **Rawabet Art Space**

Entrance: **150 EGP**

*“Clear, accurate and powerful. [...] Étienne Minoungou’s voice & Felwine Sarr’s words give this show an incredible resonance. [...] Minoungou has the warm voice of a storyteller, it envelops us from the first word & does not let go until the last.” -Daphne Bathalon, Quebec Theater*

Directed by: **Étienne Minoungou**, Performed by: **Étienne Minoungou & Simon Winsé**, Written by: **Felwine Sarr**, Outside Eye: **Aristide Tarnagda**, Live Music: **Simon Winsé**, Lighting Design: **Rémy Brans**, Executive Producer & Touring: **La Charge du Rhinocéros**, Stage Manager: **Gaël Genette**, Produced by: **Théâtre de Namur**, Co-produced by **Festival Les Récréâtrales (Ouagadougou)**, & **MC93 Bobigny**, with the support of **Fondation Von-Brochowski-Sud-Nord (Berlin)** & **Institut Français (Paris)**

How does a continent move past a history marred by colonialism and a present tainted by the quiet violence of borders, prejudice, and erasure? What does a unified, prosperous African future look like?

**Traces - Discourse to the African Nations** is an invitation to sow the seeds for a better future. Written by **Felwine Sarr** and directed by **Etienne Minoungou**, this powerful performance reflects on the cultural and historical experiences of the African continent. The play introduces younger African generations to its author's liberatory philosophy and emboldens them to build a new utopia. Accompanied by musician **Simon Winsé** on the kora, **Minoungou** brings **Sarr's** text to life with fervor, pride, and a hopeful eye on what lays ahead for African peoples.

**Felwine Sarr** is a celebrated Senegalese academic, writer, and musician. His research and literary work explore the ecology of knowledge, economic anthropology, contemporary African philosophy, and the history of religious thought. Since 2020, he has taught contemporary African and diasporic philosophy at Duke University in North Carolina. Sarr published his most recent work, the meditative novel *Les lieux qu'habitent mes rêves*, in 2022.

**Etienne Minoungou** is a Burkinabe actor, playwright, theater director, and cultural producer. In 2000, he founded the Compagnie Falinga in Ouagadougou, before initiating the pan-African biennale festival *Les Récréâtrales* in 2002. Throughout his career, Minoungou has performed in over 600 shows on stages across the world. His performance in *Traces* earned him the Best Performer Award at the 58th French Critics' Awards in 2021.

**Simon Winsé** is a multi-instrumentalist musician, singer, and composer. His vast repertoire of work combines influences of jazz fusion, blues, rock, and traditional music from his native San country, in the north-west of Burkina Faso. Through his poetic compositions, **Winsé** harmoniously couples traditional African instruments with contemporary music to demonstrate that the two are not mutually exclusive.

*The performance will be followed by a talk with the artist.*

LA CHARGE  
DU RHINOCÉROS

MC  
93

AFRIKA  
2021

# 13 & 14 OCTOBER



Arab World  
Premiere

## STILL IN TANGIER, NOT ALLOWED TO TRAVEL. THERESE. (AUSTRIA)

Time: **8:00 PM** Type: **Theater Performance**

Duration: **80mins**

Entrance: **150 EGP**

Language: **German with Arabic & English Subtitles**

Location: **Rawabet Art Space**

*Born in a small Austrian town in 1910, renowned performer Therese Zauser left home at the young age of nineteen to travel through North Africa, working as a dancer and singer in cabarets across the Mediterranean. Her life's journey took many fascinating turns, leading up to 1942, when she was arrested and detained in a concentration camp for speaking up against the Nazi regime.*

Director: **Brigitte Walk**, Actors: **Peter Bocek & Luka Oberhammer**, Composer: **Marcus Nigsch**, Author: **Nadine Kegele**, Filmmaking by: **Cem Bariscan, Anna Fotiadou, Omnia Sabry, Said Afifi, Bouthaina Alila-Fabach**

Written by **Nadine Kegele** and directed by **Brigitte Walk**, **Still in Tangier and Not Allowed to Travel** is a unique retelling of Zauser's life, blending video art, live music, and performance. The play splits its protagonist into two figures, played by two different actors. One actor tells Zauser's life as a female artist on the move, moving backward in time from 1939 to her childhood in 1910s Austria. The other actor follows Zauser's path after 1939, moving forward in time from her brave stand against the Nazis to her ensuing capture and death.

Zauser's two personas are played by one actress and one actor, representing the gendered characteristics of the protagonist and, more broadly, the coexistence of gender roles within a person. Videos by contemporary cinematographers from Cairo, Tunis, Istanbul and other cities where Zauser performed form the backdrop to this spectacular journey, illuminated by the wondrous music of Marcus Nigsch.

**Nadine Kegele** is an Austrian author and playwright. After graduating from the University of Vienna in 2013, she wrote her debut book, *Annalieder*. The same year, Kegele was invited to the Ingeborg Bachmann Prize competition, where she was awarded the audience prize for an excerpt from her novel *Scherben Swallowen*.

**Brigitte Walk** is an Austrian theater director and actress. She has completed multiple advanced training courses in dance, theater, and theater pedagogy, and directed numerous performances including *KingKongsTochter* by Theresia Walser; *River Horses* by Anneli Makela, and *Hysterikon* by Ingrid Lausund. In addition to her creative work, Walk moderates theater workshops for participants of all ages in the leisure sector, for educational institutions, and in therapeutic facilities.

*The first performance will be followed by a talk with the artist.*

WALK  
TANZ  
THEATER  
.COM

austrian cultural forum™



# 14 & 15 OCTOBER



Arab World  
Premiere

## MANDALA (HUNGARY)

Time: **1pm, 3pm & 5pm**

Type: **Interactive Performance**

Language: **English with Arabic Translation**

Duration: **60mins**

Location: **Radio Cinema**

Entrance: **Registration**

*The piece draws on this spiritual practice to pose the question: how might we exist and interact with each other when there is nothing left to do but walk?*

Concept & composition: **Dávid Somló**, Supported by **PLACCC Festival, Minirig Speakers**

**Mandala** is the Sanskrit word for circle. In Hindu and Buddhist symbolism, the circular geometric figure represents the universe in all its vastness and mystery, and is sometimes used as a spiritual tool to establish sacred spaces, aid meditation, and induce transcendentalty.

**Dávid Somló's** performance piece, **Mandala**, part immersive sound composition, part intimate choreography, and part group meditation, the piece guides audience members back and forth between active and passive states of being. Through this participatory approach, **Somló's** work playfully interrogates the social interactions, relationships, and structures of a temporary community of audience members. Created in 2016, the piece has since been performed nearly 100 times in fourteen different countries; each time shedding further light on the hidden links that bind us as citizens of a single, interconnected universe.

**Dávid Somló** is a Hungarian interdisciplinary artist whose work focuses on sound, space, and interactions. Through his choreographies, the artist creates theatrical and performative experiences exploring the relationship between physical, social, and personal space. Based in Budapest, **Somló** has performed at numerous international festivals across Europe and South America, including in France, Denmark, the United Kingdom, Hungary, Brazil, and many more.

**Mandala** is **Somló's** most performed piece, and will make its Arab World premiere as part of this year's edition of D-CAF.



# 22 & 23 OCTOBER

## LONG PLAY (CAIRO) (FRANCE)



Time: **2:00 PM**

Type: **Contemporary Dance**

Duration: **3 hrs**

Location: **Startup Haus**

Entrance: **Free**

*“Suspended, circular and hypnotic, this piece is conceived as a three-hour loop, both contemplative and meditative, constructed in situ.”*

Concept & choreography by: **Alexandre Roccoli & Adam Shaalan**, Performed by: **Nermine Habib, Shady Abdelrahman, Ghareeb L'étranger**, With the support of: **IF Paris, Campania de Festival, IF Naples & Roma**

**Long Play** is a music, dance, and interactive performance celebrating the power of dance as ritual, the strong link uniting dancers and allowing the dissolution of the ego, and the strength of being oneself together. Created by **Adam Shalaan** and **Alexandre Roccoli**, the performance uses the rhythms of its setting to guide the performers' bodies along their transformative journey. **Long Play**, Cairo, a new version of the piece conceived from the city and all its inherent constraints, premieres at D-CAF 2022.

Cairene artist and musician **Adam Shaalan** is a co-founder of HIZZ record label, specialized in experimental music. His work echoes the streets, daily life, and memories of Egypt's inhabitants, drawing inspiration from urban culture and shaabi musical traditions. Shalaan is interested in the relationship between sound and image, which he explores in his interactive AR and VR audiovisual creations. Throughout his career, he has performed festivals across the world including in Egypt, France, Jordan, Italy, and Uganda.

**Alexandre Roccoli** began his artistic career in 2005 at the Berghain club in the heart of Berlin's thriving electronic music scene, where he created the electro opera After Hours. These years spent in the heart of Berlin's thriving electronic music scene deeply influenced his style and future collaborations with artists such as Ellen Allien, Pantha Du Prince, Jeff Mills, Deena Abdelwahed, and Adam Shalaan among many others. Since 2010, **Roccoli** has been carrying out plastic and choreographic research into ancient crafts at threat of disappearance. Through his works Empty picture (2013), Longing (2014), Weaver Raver (2015) and Weaver Quintet (2017), the choreographer has gathered the material for a visual and sonorous framework on the world of weaving, with people suffering from Alzheimer's disease.

This event is in partnership with Startup Haus Cairo.

©Sabrina Cirilio



# 27 & 28 OCTOBER



## ANCHORING (EGYPT)

Time: **7:00 PM**

Type: **Contemporary Dance**

Location: **Rawabet Art Space**

Duration: **50mins**

Entrance: **100 EGP**

*This piece attempts to reclaim the body as a subject of political and social power by focusing on the centre point of the woman's body.*

Concept, Choreography & Performance: **Salma Salem**, Live Music Composition: **Ahmed Saleh**,  
Light Design: **Saber El Sayed**, Curated by **Nedjma Hadj Benchelabi** with the support of **Anna Mülter**, **Anna Wagner**, **Mohamed Ben Fury** & **Malek Sebai**.

Women's bodies have long been the battlefield where cultural, religious, and political wars are waged. This power struggle lies at the core of the thought-provoking dance show **Anchoring**, choreographed and performed by **Salma Salem**, with live music by **Ahmed Saleh** and light design by **Saber El Sayed**.

**Anchoring** follows the ritualistic journey of a female body fighting its way through societal restrictions to find its inner power and stand up; to surmount the challenges paving its path towards liberation.

Independent Egyptian artist **Salma Salem's** rich choreographic repertoire deals with themes of mind/body practices, environmental awareness, and healing through movement. After earning her degree in Psychology from the American University in Cairo, **Salem** worked as an occupational therapist, before dedicating herself entirely to dance. Since 2011, her work has enchanted both local and international audiences. Among others, she has performed at the Sophiensaele in Berlin and the Arab World Institute in Paris.

Alexandrian musician, composer, and sound artist **Ahmed Saleh** is a pioneer figure of Egypt's vibrant electronic music scene. Combining his musical talents with prior experience as a visual artist, **Saleh** performed his first live solo set in 2009, and has since achieved international prominence. A founding member of the celebrated band Telepoetic, he has composed the soundtracks for many independent films, contemporary dance and theater performances.

This project was initiated by the Goethe-Institut, under the first "Uncontrolled Gestures" Program, & curated by Nedjma Hadj Benchelabi with the support of Anna Mülter as well as Anna Wagner, Mohamed Ben Fury and Malek Sebai.

©Zayene Bechir



# 27 & 28 OCTOBER

## TARAKEEB (EGYPT/FRANCE)



Arab World  
Premiere

Time: **8:00 PM**

Type: **Shadow Puppetry**

Duration: **40mins**

Location: **Falaki Theater**

Entrance: **100 EGP**

*“Tarakeeb exudes an indefinable nostalgia; a homesickness that seeps everywhere.” - Mathieu Dochterman, Toute La Culture.*

Director/Puppeteer/Puppet-builder: **Nicole Ayach**, Original idea/Puppet-builder: **Hany Hommos**, Musician & Composer: **Mathieu Husson**. Set Design/Puppet-builder: **Alix Sulmont**, Puppeteer: **Adèle Fernique**, Composer: **Abdallah Abozekry**, Lighting: **Tatiana Carret**, Set Builder: **Christophe Derrien**, Lighting Development/Dramaturgical Adviser: **Corentin Praud**, Production: **Cie Hékau**; Coproduction: **Théâtre Halle Roublot-Cie le Pilier des Anges, Espace Périphérique**; with the support of: **Théâtre aux Mains Nues, le Nouveau Théâtre de Montreuil, l'Usine UTOPIE-fabrique des arts de la marionnette, Théâtre de la Noue**. Grants: **DRAC Ile de France, Spedidam**.

Pigeon towers are a unique landmark of the Cairene cityscape, built by pigeon trainers who often compete with each other. In many of the capital's neighborhoods, these tall wooden structures sit atop the buildings, from where the birds take their ordered flight through the crowded skyline.

In Compagnie Hekau's mesmerizing shadow puppetry performance, **Tarakeeb**, an Egyptian pigeon trainer comes to Paris with his peers to visit a Pigeon Salon. When his friends return home to Egypt, the protagonist chooses to stay in France, dreaming of a new life where he can pursue his passion. His journey to success, however, is paved with obstacles: Paris proves just as harsh as Cairo. In this austere new environment, the trainer must confront his own feelings of isolation as well as the prejudices that some Parisians have against pigeons.

Founded by **Nicole Ayach** and **Hany Hommos** in 2017, Compagnie Hekau derives its name from the ancient Egyptian word for magic and sorcery, and specializes in contemporary shadow puppet theater. **Ayach** and **Hommos** founded the company in France after having worked together on puppetry projects in Egypt, Armenia, and Morocco since 2012. The company's work explores socio-historical themes related to transculturalism across the Mediterranean. **Tarakeeb** is Compagnie Hekau's first shadow theater performance and premiered in January 2021. Their second project, *Min el Djazair*, is currently in development and is set to premiere in 2023.



©Inès Sieulle



# 27 & 28 OCTOBER



## LOSING IT (PALESTINE)

Time: **8:30 PM**

Type: **Contemporary Dance**

Location: **Rawabet Art Space**

Duration: **40mins**

Entrance: **100 EGP**

*A quest to find balance amidst the illogical, bizarre and distorted reality of life under occupation.*

Co-created by: **Samaa Wakim & Samar Haddad King**, Performed by: **Samaa Wakim**, Music: **Samar Haddad King**, Song: **Turathy Album - Autostrad**, Light Designer: **Cord Haldun**, Technical Director: **Moody Kablawi**

Growing up in a war zone means continuing to hear the sound of bombs long after danger has been averted. It means living and breathing politics; carrying the memory of war in one's body. In her solo performance *Losing It*, Palestinian choreographer **Samaa Wakim** uses sound and movement to explore how the trauma of previous generations manifests itself through her own body.

The piece invites audiences to embark on a journey towards the moment that **Wakim** began to fear for her freedom, diving into her memories of growing up under occupation, the various realities she lives in, and the fantasies she has created out of fear and hope in order to survive. All around her, sounds become warped and the ground grows unstable. Overtaken by fear, her world begins to disintegrate, blurring the lines between reality and fantasy.

Throughout the performance, **Wakim's** choreography and powerful vocals come into conversation with **Samar Haddad King's** live music score. The sounds which once brought fear become woven with those which once brought solace, to the point where past and present cloud the future.

**Samaa Wakim** is a graduate of the Faculty of Theater at the University of Haifa. Throughout her career, she has performed in various international productions including *Backe* by A.M Qattan foundations, KVS and Les Ballets C de la B in Belgium, and *I'm Yusuf and this is my brother*, co-produced by Shiber-Hur and Young Vic Theater in London. Since 2014, **Wakim** has been a member of Yaa Samar! Dance Theater.

**Samar Haddad King** is the Artistic and Founding Director of Yaa Samar! Dance Theater. She earned her BFA in choreography from Ailey/Fordham, where she studied under the tutelage of Kazuko Hirabayashi. **Haddad King** was a Resident Artist at the Chaillot National Danse Theater in Paris in 2018, and a 2019/20 Resident Fellow at the Center for Ballet and the Arts at NYU. King choreographed the 2019 musical *We Live in Cairo*, (American Repertory Theater, Boston), and co-authored a chapter on dance in the Arab World for the 2nd edition of *Contemporary Choreography* (Routledge, January 2018).

©Christian Altorfer



# 27 & 28 OCTOBER



## NO MERCY (EGYPT)

Time: **10:00 PM**

Type: **Contemporary Dance**

Location: **Rawabet Art Space**

Duration: **40mins**

Entrance: **100 EGP**

*nasa4nasa will lure you in, disarm you, and in the process unravel in their own drama.*

by: **nasa4nasa**

NO MERCY navigates our daily virtual and non-virtual modes of feeling, cliches, and vanity. During this fifty minute DJ set, Egyptian contemporary dance duo **nasa4nasa** pushes the limits of sensuality, desire, and its interplay with violence. The two female bodies navigate the gaze, referencing their repertoires of body image, pop, and rage.

Cairo-based dance collective **nasa4nasa** was co-founded in October 2016 by **Nour Seif Hassanein** and **Salma Abdel Salam**. Deeply entrenched in social media culture, the collective's work explores such themes as vanity, affect, boredom, and the aesthetics of virtual mass consumption. Their debut performance, SUASH, premiered in 2018 at the NEXT Arts Festival in Belgium, before touring through Sweden, Austria, France, and Egypt. In 2020, nasa4nasa was awarded the Arab Fund for Arts and Culture grant to produce their latest work, NO MERCY, which premiered at Rawabet Art Space in June 2022.

**Noura Seif** is a visual artist, choreographer, and dancer. **Seif** graduated from the Faculty of Fine Arts in 2007 and went on to exhibit her work in Youth Salon Cairo, the Carrousel du Louvre, the Grand Palais, PhotoCairo, and Gypsum Gallery. In 2012, she joined the Cairo Contemporary Dance Center professional dance program, and has since performed in shows choreographed by Mohamed Shafik, Karim Mansour, Mirette Michael, Marten Spanberg, Hend El Balouty, and Shaymaa Shoukry, among others.

**Salma AbdelSalam** holds an MA in Performance Studies from NYU Tisch and is a graduate of the Cairo Contemporary Dance Center's professional dance program. Throughout her career, she has performed with choreographers such as Benoit LaChambre, Tino Sehgal, Yoshiko Chuma, and many more. In addition to her work as a dancer, **AbdelSalam** teaches Performance Studies and Dance Theory at AUC and the Cairo Contemporary Dance Center. She is currently working on her first book project, a biography of Egyptian dancer Farida Fahmy.

©Omar El Kafrawy



# 29 & 30 OCTOBER



## DANCE DOUBLE BILL (WOMB/NAFAQ 4)

Type: **Contemporary Dance**

Location: **Rawabet Art Space**

Entrance: **150 EGP**

### NAFAQ 4: EXTENDING FURTHER

Time: **7:00 PM**

Duration: **20mins**

*A moment where both connectedness and distance are being explored between the moving bodies and the audience.*

By & with **Amina Abouelghar & Hanin Tarek**, Musical Credits: **Webaba · Culoe De Song · Busi Mhlongo**  
**Why are you here - KMRU**

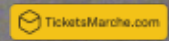
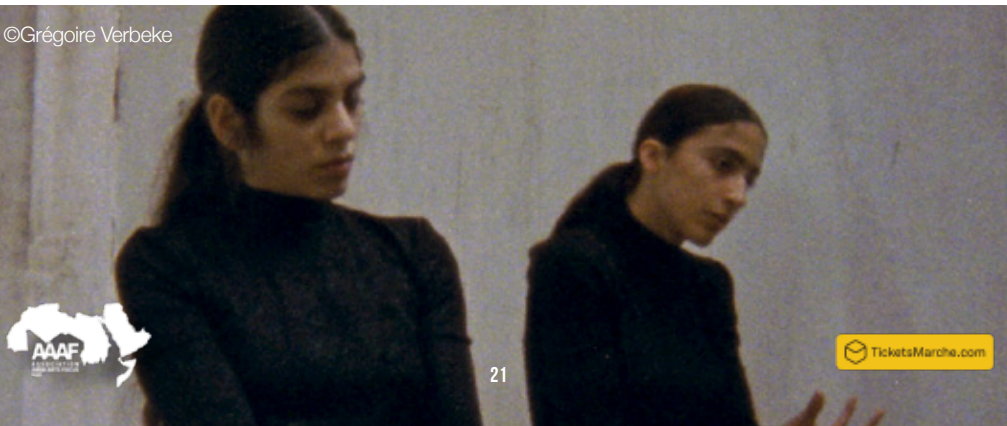
**Nafaq 4: Extending Further** is an entrancing dance performance by the Egyptian Nafaq dance collective; a safety zone where the residue of closeness leaves us with a chance to be cared for, witnessed, and nurtured. The performance explores the conflicting powers of connectedness and distance between the dancers' moving bodies and the audience.

**Nafaq** is a Cairo-based dance collective founded in 2019 by **Hanin Tarek** and **Amina Abouelghar**. The two dancers are graduates of the Cairo Contemporary Dance Center's full-time program. The collective was built on their mutual desire for expression, exploration, and pleasure; and shared passion for movement and dance. In their work, which encompasses both performance and video art, **Tarek** and **Abouelghar** work to merge various dance styles, actively defying categorization. Since its inception, Nafaq has taken part in various festivals across the world including Bridging Cologne in Germany, L'Alternativa in Barcelona, Fass Forward in Canada, Go Short in the Netherlands, and Nuit des Idees in Cairo.

**Hanin Tarek** is a professional dancer whose work encompasses performance, choreography, and teaching dance to youth. She has also worked in coordination, production, and managerial roles for the different cultural institutions including Cimatheque and the Arab Digital Expression Foundation. **Tarek** was an associate producer for the 2016 film, In the Last Days of the City.

**Amina Abouelghar** is a dancer, performer and choreographer. Her work in dance explores the themes of expression, dance history, and the body. **Abouelghar** has choreographed and co-choreographed a number of performances including Nafaq 2: Under Construction; We Are Coming Back After Everybody; A Deconstructed Fantasy; and This Graze, Those Eyes.

©Grégoire Verbeke





## WOMB (EGYPT)

Time: **8:00 PM**

Type: **Contemporary Dance**

Location: **Rawabet Art Space**

Duration: **50mins**

*“We were in water... doing without doing...”*

Concept, Dance & Choreography: **Shaymaa Shoukry**, Artistic Collaboration, Live Music & Composition: **Ahmed Saleh**, Vocals: **Anastasia Katsinavaki**, Cello & Text: **Shaymaa Shoukry**, Belly Dance Movement Coach: **Sherin Hegazy**, Produced by: **Ahmed El Attar, Dayer for Artistic Productions**, With the support of: **Orient Productions**, Research Residency: **Between the Seas Art Space 1927**, Special Thanks: Inspiration & Teachings: **Taha Hassouna & Sultan Mounir**, Rehearsal Visits/Creative Feedback: **Jasmine Morand, Nicole Seiler, Neda Loncarevic, Tiago Branquino, Aktina Stathaki, Ahmed Alaa el din, Mona Elshimi, Salma Salem, Noura Seif & Mohamed Fouad**

A journey into the womb, creating a dance that mirrors the womb to the globe, exploring how time and space can shift through a dialogue between music and the pelvic movement. The performance allows the creation of a discography through multiple layers of the inherited and contemporary conditioning of our physical perception and means of expression. It works through the center, the origin of life force, the space of power manifestation, to come back to the depth of the familiar ground...the core.

**Womb** is choreographed and performed by **Shaymaa Shoukry**, a multidisciplinary artist with a background in visual arts and theater. She thrives on a passion for dancing, choreographing, and creating video art. **Shaymaa** is interested in researching the origin of movement, repetition, and transformation, while steadily questioning approaches to share her artistic practice with publics from diverse backgrounds and landscapes, locally and internationally.

**Womb** features live music and artistic collaboration by **Ahmed Saleh**, a musician, composer and sound artist from Alexandria, Egypt. **Saleh** is one of the founders of the renowned band Telepoetic, and participates in a number of other musical projects. He composes music for films, contemporary dance and theater performances.

**Womb** was realized with the support of Mophradat's Grant for Artists' Practice Program.

**Womb** was developed during the ProHelvetia Cairo residency program hosted by the Dansometre Vevey, Switzerland.



©Mostafa Abdel Aty



Mophradat مفردات

الجمعية السويسرية السويسرية  
prohelvetia

DANSOMETRE VEVEY



# 29 & 30 OCTOBER

## UNTITLED 14KM (MOROCCO)



Arab World  
Premiere

Time: **8:30 PM**

Type: **Performance, Dance & Documentary Theater**

Entrance: **100 EGP**

Duration: **50mins**

Location: **Falaki Theater**

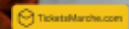
Language: **English with Arabic Subtitles**

*Beyond a shared language, what has united or separated the Arabic-speaking world through the ages? Can one speak of a unified Arab identity? How is this identity conceived and conceptualized in contemporary art?*

Conception: **Youness Atbane**, Associated Artists: **Mouad Aissi, Youness Atbane, Zouheir Atbane, Kamal Adissa, Anna Weissenfels, Hanne Vandyck**, Singing: **Aziz Nadif**, Sound Creation: **Zouheir Atbane**, Artistic Support: **Henri Jules Julien**, Installation: **Rachid Latouri**, Coproduction: **Studio Emad EDDIN Stiftelsen & The Arab Arts Focus** with the support of the **Ford Foundation, Sundance Institut, The Arab Fund for Arts and Culture (AFAC) / Moussem Nomadic Art Center**, Support: **THE 18Marrakech, The uZine, Artlab Berlin, LTK4 Cologne, Ministere of Royaume culture of Morocco**

The questions above, are raised by **Younes Atbane's UNTITLED 14km**. This multidisciplinary performance interrogates the art world's approach to the relationship between contemporary art and identity –specifically, Arab identity; a contentious mosaic of cultures and dialects. The question is examined through a dialogue between an Arab-Andalusian poet, a director of the museum of contemporary art, a curator, and a contemporary artist. Together, these fictional archetypes try to set up a contemporary art exhibition analyzing the concept of modernism through the poetic writings of the Andalusian Arab era and the work of existing contemporary Arab artists. The characters' attempt to articulate a 'contemporary Arab identity' in the art world sheds light on age-old questions of conflict, competition, legitimacy and lack thereof.

**Younes Atbane** lives and works between Casablanca and Berlin. His work focuses on the critical relationship between art, its actors, and its geopolitics. **Atbane** has participated in programmes and worked in the fields of visual arts in France, Morocco, Belgium, and Spain. In 2010, he earned is MA in Art with a concentration in Literature and Museology from the University of Nice. **Atbane's** practice comprises three interconnected areas: live performance as a space of reflection, installation-making as an outcome of the performance act, and photography and drawing as an archive. His work is exploratory in nature, bringing together performative and narrative practices. **Atbane** has exhibited his installations and performed at venues across the world including, the Museum of Contemporary Art in Rome, the parallel project in the 2011 Venice Biennale, the Institut du Monde Arabe in Paris, and the British Museum.



# 29 & 30 OCTOBER



## BEYOND LOCALITY: THE THATCHER EFFECT (EGYPT/UK)

Time: **10:00 PM**

Type: **Interactive Theater Performance**

Language: **Arabic & English**

Duration: **60mins**

Entrance: **Registration**

Location: **Kodak Passageway**

*"We've looked at the facts about equality. We've looked about whether the people want it—and they are more interested in growth and the creation of wealth. The pursuit of equality itself is a mirage, and opportunity means nothing unless it includes the right to be unequal". - Margaret Thatcher*

By & with **Lucy Ellinson & Abdalla Daif**, Concept, Direction, Performed by: **Lucy Ellinson & Abdalla Daif**,  
Music: **Shah**, Production: **Usama El Hawary**,

**The Thatcher Effect** is a phenomenon where it becomes more difficult to detect local feature changes in an upside-down face, despite identical changes being obvious in an upright face. The phenomenon is named after late British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher, in whose face the effect was first studied—and whose divisive policies continue to shape various parts of the world in different but also parallel ways.

**Beyond Locality: The Thatcher Effect**, is a powerful exploration of the effects of Thatcher's neoliberal policies at the social level. The performance, created by **Abdalla Daif** and **Lucy Ellinson**, aims to highlight the global connectedness of these interventions in a human and relatable way through the experiences of a family in North Wales and a family in Northern Egypt. Using spatial dramaturgy, sound, movement, and English and Arabic language dialogue, the two performers reformulate global incidents they were exposed to and which reshaped their understanding of themselves.

**Abdalla Daif** is a performing artist, cultural practitioner, and producer. His work explores the manifestations of social and political forms of power and the impact of marginal and neglected events on contemporary life. Daif's work has been showcased at multiple festivals and events across the world including the Kosmos Theater and The Tanzquartier in Vienna, Vierte Welt -Berlin, Festival 2030 in Leiden, and D-CAF.

**Lucy Ellinson** is an actor and collaborative theater-maker from North Wales. She teaches, mentors, and develops participatory performances, community projects, and campaigns. Her recent performances include DTTE (with residents of the Grenfell Estate, London); Typical Girls, based on the music of iconic all female punk band The Slits; Macbeth at the Manchester Royal Exchange, Top Girls at the National Theater, and A Midsummer Night's Dream at RSC. She is currently working on the digital theater project The Sun Sets Eight Times a Day, with **Abdalla Daif**.

*This project was developed within the framework of New Conversations UK-Egypt, by Orient Productions & Farnham Maltings. Supported by The British Council Egypt, Arts Council England & Fonds de Soutiens aux Arts Arabes (FSAA)*





# Studio Emad Eddin





# Rawabet Art Space









# Maktabi Creative Office Spaces



**Spaces by OP**

 Rawabetartspace  
 Rawabet Art Space

 Studioemadeddin  
 Studio Emad Eddin  
 see.orientproductions.org

 Maktabi\_cairo  
 Maktabi  
 maktabi.orientproductions.org

**WORDS TO TEXT :**  
**DEMOCRATIZING ART WITH AI**  
**(EGYPT)**

*BY: OMAR KAMEL*



# **NEW MEDIA & VISUAL ARTS**

# 9 TO 30 OCTOBER

## ENDANGERED SPECIES (DENMARK)



Arab World  
Premiere

Time: **All day** Entrance: **Free**

Type: **Augmented Reality-Wall Paintings with Handdrawn Animation inside**

Locations: **Treasure Hunt in Downtown Cairo's buildings. Check the next page, for details.**

*How many species populated the Earth long before humans ever did? Which ones will continue to roam its surface for centuries to come and which ones will face extinction in our lifetimes? What creatures will succeed humanity, if any at all?*

By: **Sara Koppel**

- Exhibition visitors should download the free **ARTIVIVE** application to their smartphones through the QR code at the bottom of this page, making sure to enable its connection to the phone's camera. When the app is opened, you need to hold up your phone in front of the artwork to bring it to life.

**Endangered Species** began life as a short animated film project some years ago, under the title *Seriously Deadly Silence*. In 2021, the Danish artist developed it into an AR wall painting exhibition. Koppel's work will make its Arab Premiere as part of this year's edition of D-CAF, during which the paintings will be displayed on the walls of various buildings across Downtown Cairo. By downloading the Artivive application and holding their phones up to the wall art, audiences can watch each of the paintings unfold into a hand drawn animated video about one species at threat of extinction; each short film serving as a powerful testament to the devastating impacts of climate change. A google maps link will also guide viewers between the different exhibiting venues, allowing audience members to experience the exhibition as a tour through the vibrant streets of Downtown Cairo and a unique introduction to the neighborhood's rich cultural heritage.

**Sara Koppel** is an award-winning Danish animator, who has been making commercial animations, short, and feature length films for over thirty years. The artist founded her own animation studio in 2002. Armed with complete creative freedom, she has since produced over twenty films focusing on environmental activism, women's sexual empowerment, and gender politics. Her last stunning AR exhibition, *Embraces*, was displayed as part of D-CAF in 2021 and she is currently working on a new short film. Alongside her creative work, Koppel is a teacher of animation and gender studies, as well as a longstanding jury member at the Odense Short Film Festival.



EMBASSY  
OF DENMARK  
Cairo



DOWNLOAD  
ARTIVIVE APP



# ENDANGERED SPECIES' TREASURE HUNT

For Downtown connoisseurs, try to find the ten butterflies scattered across some of the neighbourhood's most iconic buildings using the clues below. Next to each butterfly, you'll find information on one of the endangered species featured in Sara Koppel's captivating video.

**1** Our first clue is for a building containing three butterflies; one in each of the three entrances to this red brick building overlooking Abdelkhalik Tharwat, Adly, and Mohamed Farid streets.

**2** Find the next painting in a famous passageway that was home to the first Kodak studio in the region.

**3** Close to the last building, you just might be lucky to find one of the butterflies on this building's exterior which is known as "Gharib-Morcoss".

**4** The fourth clue is for a 100-year-old unique building overlooking Abdelkhalik Tharwat St., with a name that translates to "unique".

**5** The fifth venue is the performing arts space closest to D-CAF's heart.

**6** A few steps away, another butterfly sits outside a factory that does not produce anything tangible.

**7** Three floors and three facades, our next clue leads to an alleyway next to what once was an iconic hotel on Champollion street.

**8** You'll find the final location if you follow the footsteps of Egypt's favorite snarky puppet, and find its neon signs. This complex revolutionized film-watching in Cairo back in the day.

If you're new to the neighbourhood, scan the map below to easily find the locations of the butterflies.



# 9 TO 30 OCTOBER

## FLASH STUDIO (EGYPT)



Time: **Weekdays: 5 - 10 PM**  
**Weekends: 2 - 10 PM**  
Location: **Shourbagy Rooftop (Victoria)**

Type: **Photography Exhibition**  
Entrance: **Free**

*Family photos capture the unbreakable bonds of kinship between people; but what runs just as deep is the bond between a family and their pets.*

Artist & Curator: **Mostafa Abdel Aty**

This is the premise behind **Mostafa Abdel Aty's The Hoomans Studio**, a studio specialized in photographing animals and their families, making its launch as part of this year's edition of D-CAF. **Flash Studio** is the studio's first project, displaying the work of the titular doggo: **Flash**. Visitors to the exhibition will be able to bring in their own pets to have their pictures taken –a memorable experience for the whole family.

Flash is a baladi dog and revolutionary artist living in Cairo's Dokki neighborhood with his human friend Sarah. He specializes in photographing animals (and sometimes, human animal-lovers)–not only puppies or cats, but all types of animals native to Egypt: ducks, bison, donkeys, and other lovable species populating the country. Born into a rough life on the streets, Flash discovered his love of photography after moving to a shelter where he met **Abdel Aty**, who would often visit to play with and photograph the residents. After finding his forever home with Sarah, **Flash** continued to develop his talents, capturing the magical world of animals in his photographs.

*You can bring your pet for a photoshoot in Flash Studio by registering in advance. Follow our social media platforms for more information.*



# 9 TO 17 OCTOBER

## ART & TECHNOLOGY

(VR EXPERIENCES, VR FILMS, MEDRX: SELECTED VIORAMA ARTWORKS, & AI PAINTINGS)



Time: **Weekdays: 5 - 10 PM**  
**Weekends: 2 - 10 PM**

Location: **Kodak Passageway**

Type: **Virtual Reality & Artificial Intelligence Exhibition**

Entrance: **Free**

"Art is an ideal intercessor between society and technology: translating concepts and ideas, warning about risks, thinking creatively, and pushing for innovation. Art can operate as a de facto space for reflection since it makes us see what usually goes unnoticed: the frame around a painting, the silence before a concert, the opening titles before a movie. These carve a particular space and ask for our undivided attention toward what we are about to experience. Art can likewise render visible to the public, and thus understandable and subsequently subjected to possible criticism, what is often invisible through any other critical lens—what algorithms normally do without anyone noticing." - Dr. Martin Clancy and Rebekah Tweed, "The Voice of the Artist in the Age of the Algorithm"

It is claimed that technology revolutionizes and democratizes art and access to it. However, tools like Virtual Reality (VR), Augmented Reality (AR), and intricate systems like Artificial Intelligence (AI) raise several questions on authorship, effort, accessibility, and bias. The AI and virtual art on display at D-CAF's 10th edition does not claim to bring answers to these questions, but it does invite audiences to reflect on them and catch an incredible glimpse of the future.

## VR EXPERIENCES (INTERNATIONAL)

6DOF Reviews is a website and a YouTube channel dedicated to covering 'Six Degrees of Freedom' VR experiences with a focus on portable standalone headsets such as the Meta Quest. It was formed by Omar Kamel in May of 2019, about a week after what was then known as the Oculus Quest was released. The 6DOF Reviews team is made up of veteran tech geeks and gamers excited about the immersive potential of virtual reality, & have selected the following for D-CAF's audience.

For more, please visit the 6DOF Reviews web site at [6dofreviews.com](http://6dofreviews.com) or the YouTube channel at [youtube.com/6dofreviews](https://youtube.com/6dofreviews)

### WHERE THOUGHTS GO

*Discover the dreams, fears and secrets of others—and leave your own for others to find.*

### TILT BRUSH

*Tilt Brush lets you paint in 3D space with virtual reality.*

### WANDER

*Wander the world openly through the magic of VR.*

### RACKET FURY: TABLE TENNIS VR

*Countless hours spent on developing physics from scratch to translate your moves in the most accurate manner.*

# VR FILMS (INTERNATIONAL)



## WITHIN APP

### THE REAL THING

Type: **Documentary** Duration: **16:25 mins**

By: **Benoit Felici**

Around China's largest cities, entire neighborhoods have been inspired by foreign models. The film explores the most stunning of these "fake cities." It travels from Paris to London and Venice - without leaving China.

### SANCTUARIES OF SILENCE

Type: **Documentary** Duration: **07:15 mins**

By: **Adam Loftén & Emmanuel Vaughan-Lee**

In Sanctuaries of Silence, join Hempton on an immersive listening journey into Olympic National Park, one of the quietest places in North America.

### LOVR

Type: **Experimental Animation** Duration: **05:20 mins**

By: **Aaron Bradbury**

More than 100,000 chemical reactions happen in your brain every second. So what about the moment you fell in love?

LoVR is a document of this moment. A story of love, told through neural activity captured over 4 seconds.

### THE SPACE WALKER

Type: **Visual Aesthetics** Duration: **04:21 mins**

By: **CGF Studio**

Strap into a rocket ship and blast off into space in this groundbreaking recreation of the 1965 Voskhod-2 rocket launch.

### TOKYO LIGHT ODYSSEY

Type: **Visual Aesthetics**

By: **WOW**

From skyscrapers and neon streets to cars and trains in motion...fragments of Tokyo float like stardust against the curtain of the night sky.

### DO NOT TOUCH

Type: **Visual Aesthetics (for kids)**

By: **Sam Wickert & Eric Leigh**

The sign said "do not touch," but Eric touched the famous painting anyway. Now the security guards are on his tail!

### WHAT YOU DON'T KNOW

Type: **Experimental Music**

By: **JONO & MR. DOOB**

Dive into the creative process of avant-pop artist Matthew Dear from his new single "I'm the name." Floating above you is a magic eight-ball reciting lyrics. In the distance planetary objects orbit around you to the beat. And directly ahead is an elastic donut which bounces, bulges, and twists to the complex melodies.



# MEDRX: SELECTED VIORAMA ARTWORKS (EGYPT)

**Viorama is a Virtual reality (VR) Lab Exhibition** aimed for artists to explore through lectures & h&s-on activities the potential of VR audiovisual tools in relation to their arts practises, reflect on concepts of VR & new formats of narration, & prototype & implement VR-based projects to be showcased in an immersive exhibition.

**The Viorama Lab** was led by Dutch instructor Daniel Ernst with the contribution of guest speakers Morehshin Allahyar, Jesse Cumming, George Zakaria & Ahmed Sabbour, alongside the technical support of Karim Ehab & Youssef Abusamra from 412labs. Malak Yacout, Ahmed Nader, Mohamed ElMaghraby, Dina Jereidini, Zeyad Aboughaly, & Aya Tarek were selected to participate & exhibit their works in Medrar from 8 to 21 May, 2022.

**The Viorama Lab & Exhibition** is organized by **Medrar** with the support of the Embassy of the Netherland's in Egypt & Culture Resource, in partnership with the Creative School Cairo (Ryerson Cairo) & 412Labs. This program falls under Medrar for Contemporary Art's newly launched MedRX, an umbrella project consisting of a series of activities (workshops, labs, exhibitions, screenings, meet-up sessions etc) aiming at building a bridge between artists & XR technologies. The following selection will be part of D-CAF's exploration of Art & Technology.



## ABANOS

By: **Ahmed Nader**

This experiment is an emulation of a story that has been told & stored in memory & is being called to tell again. Generating different narratives based on the existing elements. Questioning the alternative ways of telling & how now we experience a new way to unfold/underst& our senses in terms of a story. A story that invites you to be in its time & space. Permit the viewer to immerse into a realm of a dream by constructing & deconstructing some symbols from Arab mythology & how they would be recounted now.

**Ahmed Nader** is a multidisciplinary artist based in Cairo. He graduated from Fine Arts in 2020 then pursued Visual Arts at Studio Khana for Contemporary Art & Cultural Development in Cairo. **Nader** is interested in creating space & distance that feels like the familiar world around us but is ambiguous. His experimental process led him to work with more than one medium, **Nader's** work consists of illustrations, 3D & installation art.

## BANK OF FORTUNE

By: **Aya Tarek**, Technical Team: **Theodore Amgad, Karim Ehab & Youssef Abusamra**

**Bank of Fortune** is a nostalgic Egyptian board game, a competition between players to accumulate wealth according to certain rules. Buying, selling or renting real estate, the players move around a board with basic information & according to the throwing of the dice. Beta shifts the experience to virtual reality, updating the game rules & card comm&s to imitate our current financial & social reality, while adding exaggerated humour & drama. The player glides around on an actual longboard in reality & virtual reality for an elevated sensational experience.

**Aya Tarek** is a painter, street artist, & illustrator with an exciting portfolio of diverse art projects, feature films, & art collaborations that draw international acclaim in major cities from Sao Paulo to Frankfurt. Through innovative mediums such as virtual reality & the discovery of fresh forms of studio painting, **Tarek** seeks to use her experience as an artist to revisit her roots in classical training & push herself in new, unexplored directions. **Tarek's** work has been showcased around the world.



# WORDS TO TEXT : DEMOCRATIZING ART WITH ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE (AI) (EGYPT)

Time: **2:00 PM - 10:00 PM**

Type: **AI Exhibition**

Location: **Kodak Passageway**

Entrance: **Free**



*While the human mind is physically unable to picture more than three dimensions, these AI models are composed of hundreds of dimensions. Their output, therefore, is not only beautiful, but also in defiance of all human comprehension and ability.*

AI Art & Interactive Tutorial: **Omar Kamel**

This past year has witnessed a technological leap unseen since the invention of the printing press by Gutenberg in the 1430's. Advances in Artificial Intelligence have enabled entirely new artistic venues. These recent developments have propelled digital art into an unprecedented era of growth and invited debate about the increasing democratization of art.

**Words To Text : Democratizing Art with AI** aims to demonstrate a small sample of this power to audiences unfamiliar with it, and to explain in an accessible way. Created by Egyptian artist **Omar Kamel**, this innovative interactive display shows the basics of how this technology allows anyone to ask an AI system to draw something using only text, and how the machine understands that request and processes it to produce incredible artworks; something which would have seemed inconceivable only a few years ago. **Words to Text** also brings to light one possible answer to the question of who (and what) can be termed an artist in the digital age: just about anyone –including those of us an audience– with access to these innovative tools can turn a creative idea into a beautiful painting.

**Omar Kamel** is a writer, director, photographer, musician, and tech enthusiast. Throughout his career, he has worked in television, film, comic books, and music. Aside from producing videos professionally, he's released several albums, including Egypt's first Electronic music album, Shabaka, made in collaboration with friend Yanní Giovanos. Most recently, he released Mamnou3 El Intizar, an album of Arabic indie/rock/alt tracks. Kamel has also taken a recent interest in the convergence of various AI technologies and VR, and has been on the bleeding edge of the newest in AI-driven art and animation, a nascent field which continues to make leaps and bounds every day. **Kamel** is currently working on a comic book adaptation of a science fiction novel by author Philip K. Dick.



# 27 TO 30 OCTOBER

## DEAR LAILA (PALESTINE/UK)



Time: **12:00 PM to 10:00 PM**    Type: **Interactive Installation**    Duration: **1 person at a time every 15 mins**  
Location: **Violette Rooftop**    Entrance: **Registration**  
Language: **Available in English & in Arabic**

By: **Basel Zaraa**, Translator & script editor: **Emily Churchill**, Sound engineer: **Pete Churchill**

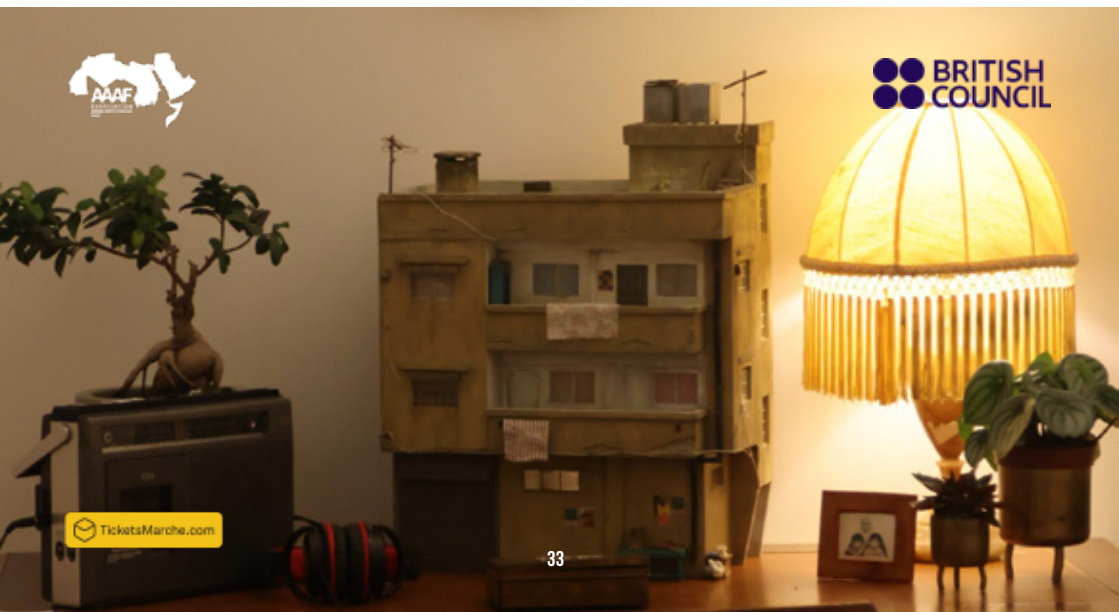
*The artist's five-year-old daughter Laila began to ask him about his home growing up. Unable to take her there, he decided he would try to bring the place to her.*

The story of the Palestine struggle is one of colonial violence, displacement, and exile; but it is also a story of resilience, of resistance through memory. **Basel Zaraa's** interactive installation, **Dear Laila**, pays tribute to the power of memory. Centered on a miniature model, the installation uses audio, photographs and objects to bring a destroyed family home in Yarmouk refugee camp in Damascus back to life.

The seeds of this project were planted when **Zaraa's** five year old daughter, Laila, began to ask about his home growing up. Unable to take her there, the artist decided to bring his childhood home to her. Through one family's story, **Dear Laila** recounts the broader tale of Palestinian struggle, exploring how war and exile are experienced through the everyday, the domestic, and the public space.

**Basel Zaraa** is a UK-based Palestinian installation artist whose work uses the senses to bring audiences closer to experiences of exile and the search for identity. His previous work includes *As Far As My Fingertips Take Me*, a collaboration with Tania El Khoury which has toured internationally since 2016. The piece received the outstanding production award at the Bessie Awards in 2019.

**Dear Laila** was commissioned by Good Chance Theater, with support from Arts Council England. After stunning audiences in London and Birmingham, the piece will make its Arab World Premiere as part of D-CAF's tenth anniversary edition.



# 27 TO 30 OCTOBER

## FORGOTTEN AS IF YOU NEVER WERE (EGYPT)



Time: **6:00 PM to 10:00 PM**

Type: **Photography Exhibition**

Location: **Shourbagy Rooftop**

Entrance: **Free**

By: **Hana Gamal**

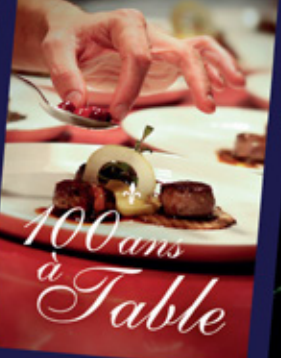
*A personal and intimate exploration of loss, love, and memory - the perpetual internal struggle and the overwhelming melancholy of forgetting or being forgotten.*

**Forgotten as if you never were** is a multilayered journey of reconciliation that is both introspective and retrospective. Drifting between reality and dream, the physical and the intangible, the unspoken and the expressed, the journey uncovers layer by layer the memories, experiences, and dreams that are half invented, half lived, or half forgotten.

A personal and intimate exploration of loss, love, and memory - the perpetual internal struggle and the overwhelming melancholy of forgetting or being forgotten that leads to redefining the meaning of freedom. Walls neglected and hidden. Oblivion echoes and unspeakable fears. Shadows and silences that are far more real than reality. Questions begging for answers.

Are we truly liberated when we forget? Or when we are forgotten? Is there a certain path that reconciles all our longings? Will the past ever return? And upon returning - if returning - which part remains forgotten and which part will be remembered? All that will be left behind is a key, but which door does it open? Will that door heal and liberate us from the pain that the past has inflicted on us? Is this the beginning of something new, or the end of everything that once was?





# The global francophone VOD platform

Cinema + Series + Documentaries + Kids & Family + ...

[tv5mondeplus.com](http://tv5mondeplus.com)

Anytime, anywhere, for free.



Thalassa © France 5 Thalassa. Bulle © RTL. Les Pays d'en Haut © France 5. 100 ans à Table © France 5. Secret Sucré de Molinard © Molinard. #MOE © Maghres. WEC © WEC. Qu... © Les C...



# SPECIAL EVENTS

# 21 OCTOBER



# BEYOND DANCE (SWITZERLAND/EGYPT) (COSMOGONY, CHARACTERS OF OUR NETHERWORLD, SEARCHING FOR TARAB)



Time: **6:00 PM to 10:00 PM**

Location: **Main Garden, Tahrir Cultural Center**

**Discussion / Q&As after each showing**

Type: **Film Night**

Entrance: **Registration**

**Beyond Dance** seeks to push the boundaries of dance, video art, and their most creative intersections, unveiling the question: beyond entertainment and pleasure, what does dance offer to its practitioners and audiences? How does dance intersect with new and innovative artforms of the digital age? How can it provide an avenue for the empowerment of marginalized communities? The screenings will be followed by a Q&A with the artists, during which audiences can address all of the above questions, all the while enjoying refreshments at the SDC's beautiful garden in Garden City.

## COSMOGONY (SWITZERLAND)

Time: **9:00 PM**

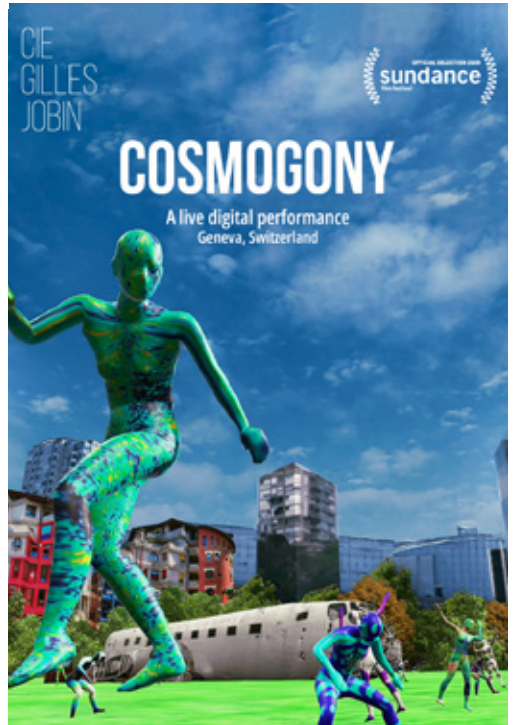
Duration: **32mins**

By: **Gilles Jobin**

Type: **Contemporary Dance**

A groundbreaking example of how performance pieces can be brought to a worldwide audience in spite of international travel restrictions. Created by the Swiss Compagnie **Gilles Jobin**, this performance features three dancers: **Susana Panades Diaz**, **Jozsef Trefeli** and **Rudi Van Der Merwe**. The performers are motion-captured live at the company's studio in Geneva and screened in real time, 7000 miles away at The Egyptian in Park City and, simultaneously, live-screened online at the New Frontier Spaceship Cinema for a global audience. The dancers' movements are captured in Geneva, sliced up into digital 'bits,' and sent instantaneously through cyberspace to appear as avatars. The dancers act as the puppeteers of their own bodies, animating their avatars in real time and composing the cosmogony of a world in suspension. The moving bodies of the dancers break free from the laws of physics to the droning sounds of Swiss band Tar Pond, inviting viewers on a mesmerizing journey beyond reality.

Since 1995, **Compagnie Gilles Jobin** has created over 20 choreographic projects and risen to international acclaim. The company's 2017 VR dance piece, **VR\_I**, premiered in Montreal before touring through more than 50 cities and 20 countries, making it the most toured location-based VR installation in the world. In 2020, **Cie Gilles Jobin** created **La Comédie Virtuelle** – live show, a multiuser live performance selected in official competition at the 77th Venice International Film Festival and awarded the Quebec XR Industry award at Numix 2021. **Cosmogony** is their latest work and will make its Arab World Premiere as part of the 10th edition of D-CAF.



## CHARACTERS OF OUR NETHER WORLD (EGYPT)

Time: **7:30 PM** Duration: **43mins** Language: **Arabic with English subtitles**

By: **Haytham Sherif** Type: **Documentary Film**

A beautiful ode to the passionate life of the exceptional **Ayman Farghaly**. Directed by **Haytham Sherif**, the documentary is an intimate portrait of **Farghaly**, a stonecutter whose passion for art leads him to master sculpting and dance. Throughout the film, the protagonist recounts the process of sharpening and perfecting his masterpieces –be they made of marble or born from the movement of his own body. The multidisciplinary artist also happens to be a wheelchair user living with several disabilities. **Farghaly** sadly passed away a year after filming was completed. **Sherif's** film continues to celebrate and pay homage to his iconic story, inviting us to challenge many of our preconceived notions of dance, art, and life.

**Haytham Sherif** is an Egyptian filmmaker and visual artist. **Sherif** holds a BA in social work and is also a graduate of Cairo's Higher Institute of Cinema, with specific training in animation. He currently works as a documentary filmmaker for the National Film Center of Egypt.



## SEARCHING FOR TARAB (SWITZERLAND/EGYPT)

Arab World  
Premiere

Time: **6:00 PM** Duration: **52mins**

By: **Sandra Gysi & Ahmed Abdel Mohsen**

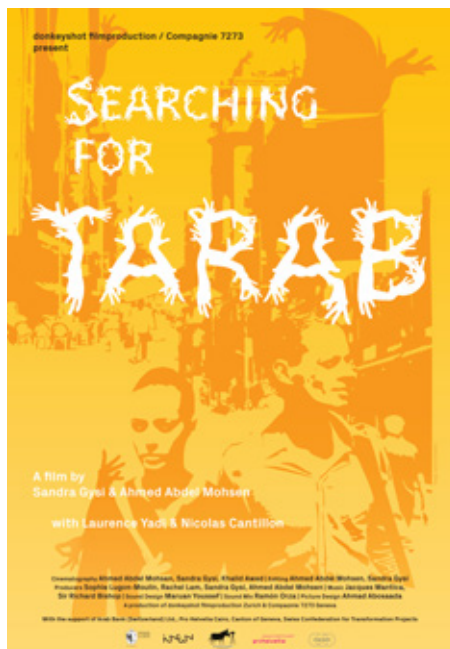
**Searching for Tarab** follows Compagnie 7273's Laurence Yadi and Nicolas Cantillon on their tumultuous journey to create the contemporary dance show Tarab, in 2013. The documentary, directed by **Sandra Gysi & Ahmed Abdel Mohsen** (co-founders of donkeyshot productions), shows the duo's travels to Cairo, where they hope to discover the musical essence of tarab and render it into their show. Viewers follow the artists back to Geneva, witnessing all the difficulties that pave their road to the show's eventual worldwide success.

**Sandra Gysi** is a Swiss film director and producer. She holds a Master of Arts in social anthropology, film science, and German literature from the University of Zurich Switzerland. Since 1995, she has traveled regularly to Egypt and Sudan, which have been the setting of several of her documentary films.

**Ahmed Abdel Mohsen** is an Egyptian director born in Aswan and living between Zurich and Cairo. He holds media studies and journalism degrees from South Valley University in Egypt's Faculty of Art, and a film directing degree from F+F Zurich's school of art and media design. As a director and producer, Abdel Mohsen has worked on both fiction and documentary films.

Type: **Documentary Film**

Language: **French & English with Arabic Subtitles**



# 20 & 21 OCTOBER

## PLAYWRITING WORKSHOP, WITH COOK'S CO-CREATOR (DENMARK)

Time: **6:00PM** Duration: **4 hrs/day**

Location: **Studio Emad Eddin**

Language: **English with Arabic Translation**

By: **Jesper Pedersen** Entrance: **Registration**

Award-winning Danish playwright and theater-maker **Jesper Pedersen** will hold an insightful playwriting workshop as part of D-CAF's Special Events program. This year's edition of D-CAF will welcome **Cook**, an uniquely innovative theater performance co-created by **Jesper Pederson** and **Nassim Soleimanpour**, where a new actor takes to the stage each night to perform a script they have never seen before.

Based on the experience of writing **Cook** in the format of a cold reading, in this workshop, **Pederson** will share insights into the process of creating experimental stage work that reworks the rules of theater. The workshop will shed light on ways to connect with the audience in a playful and inviting manner using games, audience interaction, and narrative.

The workshop is open to writers, directors, performers and actors. Both emerging and seasoned artists are welcome to join; so long as they are able to speak and write English. Each session will last five hours and host up to eight participants.

**Jesper Pederson** is an award-winning Danish director and playwright. Based in Copenhagen, he has worked with independent artists and established institutions to produce innovative writing and genre-bending performances that push the limits of theatrical language.



**PACEMAKER**



**EMBASSY  
OF DENMARK**  
Cairo

# 21 TO 26 OCTOBER

## PHYSICAL THEATER & PERFORMANCE WORKSHOP (UK)

Time: **10:00AM** Duration: **7 hr/day**

Language: **English with Arabic Translation**

Location: **Studio Emad Eddin** Entrance: **Registration**

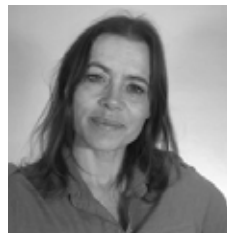
By: **Rachel Griffith & Steve Tiller**

In collaboration with The British Council Office (Gaza), this workshop will give participants a physical and practical introduction to the methodology of renowned Russian theater practitioner Konstantin Stanislavski, as well as a training in 'Movement Theater'. Participants will be introduced to the work of such celebrated figures as Jacques le Coq & Ben Bennison, who was Tiller's teacher at the Royal Academy of Dramatic Art in London and performed in the improvisational group Theater Machine.

The workshop will prioritize physical work, with limited 'talking instruction', by providing participants with a physical vocabulary that they can employ in their own performances and pass on to others.

**Steve Tiller** trained as an actor at the Royal Academy of Dramatic Arts. In addition to acting, he directs & produces socially engaged & feminist shows; & has notably produced the Vagina Monologues in the UK. His original works include War Crime (2003-05) and The Daughter (2006). In 2011, **Tiller** set up OperaMachine & Sanctuary Voices to create 'guerilla opera' combining the musical & actor training of refugees working alongside professional opera singers in site-specific performances.

**Rachel Griffiths** is a freelance theater practitioner, facilitator, & trainer. She trained at L'Ecole Internationale de Théâtre Jacques Lecoq in Paris & holds an MA in Participatory and Community Arts. **Griffiths'** practice focuses on enabling social change through theater. She most recently co-created an online performance with migrant women as part of their campaign for better housing conditions.



# 27 OCTOBER

## POSSIBILITIES & CHALLENGES OF TRANSLATING CONTEMPORARY THEATER IN ARABIC (INTERNATIONAL)

Time: **10:00AM**

Duration: **4hrs**

Entrance: **Registration**

Location: **Oriental Hall, Tahrir Cultural Center**

By: **Orient Productions**

Language: **Arabic**

As part of the 7th edition of its Arab Arts Focus program, D-CAF will host a **translation seminar** addressing key topics in the translation of theater texts. The seminar marks the launch of **Orient Productions' Theater in Translation - Contemporary European Theater in Arabic**, a project aiming to translate 18 contemporary European plays from different countries over the course of three years. The chosen texts were all written from 2005 onwards & have been published and/or performed in their country of origin.

The first round includes **Oil**, written by Lukas Bärfuss (Switzerland) and translated by Moataz El Meghawry; **Every Brilliant Thing**, written by Duncan Macmillan (UK) and translated by Ahmed El Attar; **Sopro** written by Tiago Rodrigues (Portugal) and translated by Gamal Khalifa & Hagar A. Azzaz; **My Cold Room**, written by Joël Pommerat (France) and translated by Shady El Hosseiny; **Jackie**, written by Elfriede Jelinek (Austria) and translated by Moataz El Meghawry; and **A Little Money**, written by Sirkku Peltola (Finland) and translated by Maria Pakkala.

This project was born from **Orient's** belief in the importance of reading and studying diverse works of contemporary theater and keeping up to date with artistic developments. Because we believe that Arab playwrights, practitioners, and audiences deserve to read, listen, and watch the best contemporary theater from the world over, the project's core aim is to make these key works more accessible to regional audiences.

This is especially important within the context of the ongoing crisis of Arab theater. With this perspective, the **Theater in Translation** project also aims to revitalize the most important element of a theater performance: the text. The discussion will explore key topics in Arab theater translation, such as the spaces between the text written in Modern Standard Arabic and its spoken version in local dialects; the relevance of original theater texts to an Arab audience; and the process of translating Arabic text to other languages.



# 28 & 29 OCTOBER



## ISPA TALK SERIES (INTERNATIONAL)

By: **ISPA & AAF**

Location: **Oriental Hall, Tahrir Cultural Center**

Language: **English with Arabic Translation** Entrance: **Registration**

**The International Society for the Performing Arts (ISPA)** is a global association of more than 500 arts management leaders from 56 regions, who come together with the shared goal of strengthening and developing the arts internationally. **ISPA** achieves this by building leadership ability, by recognizing and discussing field-wide trends and new developments, & by deepening global exchange through the arts. **ISPA** members include presenters, performing arts organizations, artist managers, competitions, funders, consultants & other professionals working in the performing arts. Founded in 1948, 2022 marks **ISPA**'s 73rd anniversary.

For this year's edition of Arab Arts Focus, Downtown Contemporary Arts Festival (D-CAF) is delighted to collaborate with the **International Society for the Performing Arts (ISPA)**, a global network of leaders in the performing arts. Together, we will present **ISPA**'s first series to be held in the Arab region. The program is designed to bring together emerging & established arts leaders for dialogue about shared issues in our global community. Running alongside the Arab Arts Focus, the series will include panel discussions & workshops that explore the theme of Art and Borders. In addition, we will consider the practicalities of touring work from the Arab region abroad, & conversely, of presenting or touring artists from the wider world within the Arab region.

## FRIDAY 28:

### Panel Discussion 1 | Artist Mobility: Touring Arab Artists Abroad

Time: **10:00AM** Duration: **1hr15mins**

Real and perceived barriers often hinder partnerships between artists from the Arab region and international presenters. These barriers include funding, language, media perception, and legal/political obstacles. Join us as artists from the Arab region engage in a dialogue with presenters who have successfully overcome these barriers. Together, they will discuss the ways in which these partnerships have been important and why they should continue.

### Panel Discussion 2 | Touring Arab Countries

Time: **11:45AM** Duration: **1hr15mins**

Arab countries are far from homogenous, despite often being perceived that way. In this discussion, presenters and managers will explore the possibilities and challenges of cross-Arab collaborations and presentations and discuss how the differences in the region might be bridged.

## SATURDAY 29:

### Panel Discussion 3 | Art and Borders

Time: **10:00AM** Duration: **1hr15mins**

We speak of boundaries in terms of national frameworks, the way in which we approach work, and the way we build personal relationships. How do the performing arts shift these walls – these constructs that can sometimes inhibit our thinking and isolate interaction? "Art and Borders" was the discussion theme for the 2020 New York ISPA Congress. Following two years that greatly impacted cross-border exchange, we revisit this topic with a new perspective.

# 30 OCTOBER

## OPPORTUNITIES FOR YOUTH IN MENA IN THE CREATIVE AND CULTURAL INDUSTRIES (INTERNATIONAL)

Time: **10:00 AM**

Location: **Oriental Hall, Tahrir Cultural Center**

Language: **English with Arabic Translation**

Entrance: **Registration**

By: **DROSOS FOUNDATION**

Duration: **1hr**

As part of its Arab Arts Focus program, **D-CAF** will host a panel discussion organized by the **DROSOS FOUNDATION** under the title, "Opportunities for youth in MENA in the creative and cultural industries."

In line with the **DROSOS FOUNDATION**'s objective of encouraging youth to reach their highest potential in several areas, in the creative industries, the event will discuss various issues facing young artists and cultural practitioners in the Middle East. The event will present examples where arts and culture have impacted social change, and will explore the opportunities for more inclusive and accessible opportunities for young artists utilizing digital platforms and cross regional networks. Challenges including funding, distribution, and marketing hurdles; the inaccessibility of travel to many performers hailing from the region; and many more obstacles inherent to cultural production in the MENA will also be discussed.

Because we believe that the regional art scene is brimming with talent and promise, a panel of industry experts will discuss different ways to overcome these respective challenges, and shed light on existing opportunities. The discussion will highlight new and creative avenues for young creators to overcome regional constraints and produce art that challenges and inspires its audience.

**DROSOS FOUNDATION** is a Swiss private not for profit organization committed to unlocking the potential of young people. Together with its partners, the Foundation nurtures their life and professional skills to pave their way to economic and social independence. The Foundation supports, among others, projects within the cultural and creative industries that bring tangible and scalable solutions to the social challenges most relevant to youth and that have a direct bearing on the effective and sustainable improvement of their living conditions, and seeks, wherever it is involved, a long-term impact. The Foundation is currently active in Switzerland, Germany, Egypt, Jordan, Lebanon, Morocco, Palestine and Tunisia.

drosos (...)



# 30 OCTOBER

## ROUND TABLES: INTRODUCTION TO TOURING IN THE UK (EGYPT/UK)

Time: **11:30 AM**

Duration: **1hr**

Entrance: **Registration**

Location: **Oriental Hall, Tahrir Cultural Center**

By: **Orient Productions & Farnham Maltings**

Language: **English with Arabic Translation**

There is a real appetite for international dialogue across the UK. Artists, producers and communities are curious to hear how others around the world are responding to the same challenges, how we make sense of the world and our place in it, and how we might collaborate better.

This event coincides with the launch of the Arabic edition of the Introduction to Touring into the UK guide, produced by Farnham Maltings in partnership with Orient Productions and British Council, for international performing artists, companies, and producers looking to present theater, dance and live art in the UK. The roundtable offers insight into what to think about when planning a tour - from tips for research, networking and promotion, options to show without traveling and ways to tour sustainably, common routes into the UK, and what to think about once you have a tour or performance confirmed.

**Farnham Maltings'** (UK) international programme supports theater-makers, producers and arts organizations to think and work internationally by providing training, opportunities and events that foster collaboration and understanding. **The British Council** is the UK's international organization for cultural relations and educational opportunities. **Orient Productions** is a production company founded in Cairo, developing quality cultural projects within the fields of performing and visual arts, involving artists from Egypt, the Arab world, and further afield.

In 2021, **Farnham Maltings** and **Orient Productions** launched the New Conversations UK-Egypt creative partnership grants programme supported by **British Council Egypt**, **Arts Council England** and **Fonds de Soutien aux Arts Arabes (FSAA)**. The programme enables Egyptian and British performing artists and companies to develop new performance works together and imaginatively test new ways of collaborating without meeting in person. Two partnerships will have the opportunity to present their work as part of the **Arab Arts Focus (AAF)** at Downtown **Contemporary Arts Festival (D-CAF)**.

farnham  
maltings



# D-CAF TEAM

---

**AHMED EL ATTAR:** GENERAL MANAGER & ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

**REEM ALLAM:** ARTISTIC PROGRAMMER

**YASMEEN FAHIM:** EXECUTIVE MANAGER

**AHMED NAGY:** CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER

**BASMA HAMED:** PR & COMMUNICATIONS MANAGER

**GHAIDA HAMMAM:** MARKETING MANAGER

**MRAM ABDEL MAQSoud:** PRODUCTION MANAGER & TECHNICAL DIRECTOR

**MAI SAMI:** FRONT OF HOUSE MANAGER

## COORDINATORS TEAM:

**AMINA ONSY:** ARAB ARTS FOCUS COORDINATOR

**LINA SAKR:** ARTIST LIAISON

**DINA SAID:** WORKSHOPS COORDINATOR

**AIHAB MOHAMMAD:** TRAVEL & ACCOMMODATION LOGISTICS COORDINATOR

**NADINE EL BANHAWY:** FRONT OF HOUSE ASSISTANT & D-CAF TEAM PHOTOGRAPHER

## MARKETING TEAM:

**ZEINA MORO:** GRAPHIC DESIGNER

**ALI EL-SHOUBAGY:** SOCIAL MEDIA COORDINATOR

**MARLY BASSEM:** JUNIOR GRAPHIC DESIGNER

**FARAH GALAL:** ARABIC EDITOR

## PR TEAM:

**AMINA ABDEL-HALIM:** ENGLISH EDITOR & PRESS OFFICER

**HANAN OMAR:** ARABIC PRESS OFFICER

**MOSTAFA ABDEL ATY:** OFFICIAL PHOTOGRAPHER

**SALLY KANDIL:** OFFICIAL VIDEOGRAPHER

## ADMINISTRATIVE TEAM:

**MOHAMED HASSAN:** ACCOUNTANT

**MOHAMED ABDEL FATTAH:** LAWYER

## PRODUCTION AND TECHNICAL TEAM:

**MIDO ABDEL MAQSoud:** TECHNICAL DIRECTOR ASSISTANT

**HISHAM FAHMY:** PERFORMANCES STAGE MANAGER

**SAYED NAGGAR:** LIGHTING MANAGER

**SHADY MAHMOUD:** CHIEF SOUND ENGINEER

**MAZEN BONGA:** TECHNICAL STAGE MANAGER

**ABDO ASHRAF:** ASSISTANT STAGE MANAGER

**NOUR EL QENAWI:** ASSISTANT STAGE MANAGER

**SABER EL SAYED:** AAF LIGHTING MANAGER

**AHMED ISMAIL:** INSTALLATION MANAGER "FORGOTTEN AS IF YOU WERE NEVER WERE"

**MOHAMED BONGA - HADEER MOSTAFA:** AAF STAGE MANAGERS

## PRODUCTION ASSISTANTS:

**ABDO HASSAN - ABDALLAH MOHAMED - MAHMOUD BOBOS**

**- ISLAM ISMAIL- HASSAN SHEHATA - ENGY MENSRAWY -**

**ASMAA ALI**

## OP PRODUCTION ASSISTANTS:

**FARAG HEMEDA - MOHAMED NAGY (GEDO) - ABDALLAH EL**

**SERSAWY - BESHEER HEMEDA - MOHAMED RADY AND GAMAL**

**EL DARDEERY**

FOLLOW US:

@DCAFEGYPT 

@DCAFEGYPT

@DCAFEGYPT 

[WWW.D-CAF.ORG](http://WWW.D-CAF.ORG)

10



ترجمة فورية ومعتمدة للسفارة  
والهيئات الحكومية الدبلوماسية  
والعسكرية - طابق اليوم من 10:00  
صباحاً - مساءً - هاتف: 0111 444 4444  
www.dcafe.org

في اثناء حقن العلب  
مطروح لويده عيب  
سرعة الاتصال