

Platform for Arts and Cultural Education:

The visionary potential of art Arts and cultural education in the context of displacement, arrival and shaping a new future

A two-day lab factory

22 to 23 September 2016 at the Genshagen Foundation

Brief biographies of the speakers and artists involved

Firas Al Younis	Firas Al Younis was born in the city of Deir Ezzor in Eastern Syria, directly on the Alphurat River. There he studied Petroleum Engineering and worked for several NGOs including for the polio vaccination campaign of Qatar Red Cross before, in 2015, the war forced him to leave his homeland. Today he lives in Ludwigsfelde, Brandenburg and in one year, he has learned German to university entrance level. He will start his degree in Industrial Engineering in Berlin this October. He is tandem Storyteller Arabic-German.
Senad Alic	Senad Alic is born 1957 in Zenica, Bosnia-Herzegovina. He studied architecture from 1975 to 1983 at the University of Sarajevo, Bosnia-Herzegovina. His works were shown in many group and solo exhibitions all over the world. Since 1992, he lives and works in Berlin.
Birgit Auf der Lauer und Caspar Pauli	Birgit Auf der Lauer and Caspar Pauli, a Berlin-based artist duo, have been working together since they graduated in 2011 (Berlin University of the Arts and Weissensee Art College, Berlin). In 2012/13, their works won the Alanus Prize for Fine Arts. In 2014 they were granted a subsidy from the Institute for Foreign Relations' programme "Artists' Contacts", and in 2015 a three-year studio scholarship from the Association of Fine / Artists, Berlin. Performances and exhibitions of their oeuvre could be seen, for example, at the 2nd Berlin Autumn Salon at the Maxim Gorki Theatre in Berlin in 2015 and at the Academy of the Arts of the World in Cologne in the autumn of 2016.
Jana Barthel	Jana Barthel works as an artist and set designer in Berlin. She studied play-and-learn design at Burg Giebichenstein University of Art and Design in Halle, and set design at the Berlin University of Applied Science. She works with independent theatre groups, performers, artists, galleries and musicians. She utilizes drawings, models, installations and videos. Most of her works are the result of collaborations.
Erich Benesch	Erich Benesch is of Franco-German origins and works as an intercultural media educationalist. He is a teacher and coordinator of Free Radio Potsdam at a socio-cultural centre, and does extensive travelling with civic-media integration work, e.g. with MediaTrike from the Project House in Potsdam. Benesch cooperates with Nahom Melles und Milion Yemane for this event.
Sophie Boitel	After two years of preparatory class for the Grandes Écoles (hypokhâgne-khâgne), Sophie Boitel studied philosophy at the Sorbonne University, Paris. Completing the French-German master programme of Intercultural European

	<p>Studies in Regensburg and Clermont-Ferrand, she specialized in humanities, social sciences and cultural studies. From 2007 to 2010, she was responsible for international theatre projects and projects in the field of cultural education. Since 2010, Sophie Boitel is project manager at the Genshagen Foundation in the line of work Art and Cultural Mediation in Europe where she is responsible for the nationwide Network for Cultural Education and Integration and other projects.</p>
Barbara Caveng	<p>Barbara Caveng studied at the College of Music and Performing Arts in Graz, Austria. Since 1991, she has been living in Berlin as a freelance visual artist and elsewhere.</p> <p>Since 2003, she has been focusing on “participatory art”.</p> <p>In 2015, she launched the KUNSTASYL (engl. ART ASYLUM) project, an initiative of creative minds and asylum-seekers.</p>
Nina de la Chevallerie	<p>Nina de la Chevallerie founded the independent theatre company “boat people project” in 2009, together with Luise Rist. Since its beginnings, the company has been committed to exploring the themes of asylum and migration. The team works with refugees and asylum seekers in changing constellations, developing debates artistically. Nina de la Chevallerie is a director and producer and is also active as a lecturer for Performing Arts. She is currently rehearsing – in IWF, a theatrical space located in a residence for refugees– HILFE! (‘HELP!’), a new production by Berlin-based author and journalist Sophie Diesselhorst about the welcome movement which has sprung up since the summer of migration in 2015.</p>
Anna Chrusciel	<p>Since 2009, Anna Chrusciel works for the Institute of Art Education at the Zurich University of Arts. Together with Carmen Mörsch she was responsible for the scientific support of the Arts and Audience Programme of Pro Helvetia from 2009 to 2013, which resulted in the online publication "Time for Cultural Mediation". Since 2013, she is involved in a practice-based research project at a primary school in Berlin-Kreuzberg, where she accompanies the cultural-oriented school development. Moreover, she is repeatedly involved in diverse evaluation projects and consultancy within the field of Cultural Mediation. She studied Business Communication in Berlin and took part in the Museology PhD programme at the University of Leicester, UK. Currently, she is working on her PhD thesis on narratives about the impacts of Arts Education.</p>
Rachel Clarke	<p>Rachel Clarke is a storyteller, the organiser of the Storytelling Arena, storytelling coach and workshop leader for intercultural themes. She is also co-founder and manager of the Syrian Tarab band Musiqana. Rachel Clarke started storytelling as a child in her native country, Scotland, where oral narration is established and widely regarded as an important art form and a key part of everyday culture. As a professional storyteller, she performs programmes on Scotland, South East Asia (where she lived for many years) and on the theme of love in the modern world. As a coach, she has enabled people in Scotland, Germany and Laos, SE Asia to find their stories and perform them on stage.</p> <p>Rachel Clarke started the Storytelling Arena in January 2015. Since then it has taken place every month with many autobiographical and biographical stories on changing themes. The audience also has the opportunity of telling tales on the theme of the evening. She started the Syrian Series at the beginning of 2016. Since then live music by Syrian musicians has been an essential part of the evening.</p>
Abuzer Güler	<p>Abuzer Güler, born in 1950 in Malatya, Turkey, studied at the Berlin College of Arts from 1974 to 1981 under Professor Kügler and Professor Engelmann, before he became DAAD stipendiary and student in the master class at Pro Engelmann in 1979/1980. From 1982 to 1985, he was stipendiary at the K.H.G. and in 1985 he also worked for the Künstlerhaus Bethanien. In 1991, he received a scholarship of the city of West-Berlin. Abuzer Güler has taken part in several group expositions in Germany and abroad. His works are represented in</p>

	private and public collections.
Manaf Halbouni	Manaf Halbouni was born in Damascus, Syria. The German-Syrian artist lives and works in Dresden. From 2005 to 2008, he studied sculpture at the University of Fine Arts in Damascus. From 2009 to 2014, he continued his studies at the Academy of Fine Arts in Dresden. Manaf Halbouni has already won several awards for his work, including the Marion Ermer Prize for young artists from the eastern states of reunified Germany, the German Scholarship Prize, and the DAAD Prize for outstanding achievements by foreign students.
Christel Hartmann-Fritsch	Christel Hartmann-Fritsch is executive member of the board of the Genshagen Foundation since 2009 and leads the line of work Art and Cultural Mediation in Europe. She studied German and Romance Studies at the Universities of Regensburg, Freiburg and Clermont-Ferrand. She lived and worked as a teacher, lecturer and journalist in France for several years. From 1979 to 1982, she was project manager of the International Building Exhibition IBA and set up the International Youth Art and Culture House Schlesische27, whose director she was until 2009. She developed groundbreaking models for innovative cooperation between curricular and extra-curricular youth education in a European context. She advised the European Council from 1990 to 1995 regarding the establishment of a European youth policy as an expert of the "Task Force Human Resources, Education, Training and Youth", nowadays the General Director Education and Culture. She carries out different consulting activities for European foundations and networks ever since. Christel Hartmann-Fritsch is the founding member of „Banlieues d'Europe“ and honorary member of the extended board of "Pépinières pour Jeunes Artistes". She received the German Federal Cross of Merit and the French medals „Ordre national du Mérite“ and „Ordre des Arts et des Lettres“ for her achievements.
Robert Hutter	Robert Hutter lives and works with Ingrid Mwangi in Berlin and Nairobi. Both studied at the Academy of Fine Arts Saar and received a scholarship from the German Academic Scholarship Foundation. After several years of collaboration, they decided to merge their names and biographies into one, becoming one artist. In their art work, the artist couple Mwangi Hutter reflects the complex social relationships between people - a base projection is often one's own body. Their art has been shown in Africa, Asia, Europe, the United States, South America, and Australia. They presented their work at the Bienal de Sao Paulo, Venice Biennale, Brooklyn Museum, DAK'ART Biennial Dakar, Museum of Modern Art Frankfurt, National Museum of African Art Washington and the Mori Museum Tokyo.
Rzgar Khalil	Rzgar Khalil is born in the Kurdish part of Syria, Khalil completed school in Damascus. Being a Kurd, he is denied access to further education and thus left for Iraq in 2012, where he attended theatre courses and began to work as a theatre maker. He wrote and directed a play about women in prison, and acted under adverse conditions in other projects, above all in refugee camps in the region. With political pressure growing, he came to Munich in August 2015 and has lived in Göttingen since October 2015. Since winter last year, he has worked with the boat people projekt as an actor and writer for various productions. He is currently performing in the play HILFE! ('HELP!') and he will be leading a film workshop in autumn.
Thomas Mboya Ochieng	Thomas Mboya Ochieng was born in Kenya, and lives in Bernau. He works as a refugee counsellor at the Barnim Civic Foundation in Eberswalde. He also works as an instructor for film and TV in the skilling programme for refugees at the Project House in Potsdam. Thomas Mboya Ochieng heads the REM Group (Refugee-Exile-Media) and is actively involved in WeTV (intercultural youth TV in the Alex Open Channel in Berlin). Mboya Ochieng cooperates with Nahom Melles und Milion Yemane for this event.

Sara Nabil	<p>Sara Nabil was born in Kabul, Afghanistan. Since 2015, she has been living and working in Wiesbaden. Sara Nabil is the co-founder of the Shamama Art Gallery in Kabul, Afghanistan. From 2013 to 2015, she was Deputy Director of the Afghan Women Coordination National Association. In 2015, she was co-curator of the “A Different Germany” exhibition together with Titus Grab, KinderKunstGalerie, Wiesbaden.</p> <p>She has worked as a trainer for 30 participants for a Street Art Workshop, at the Centre for Contemporary Arts Afghanistan in Kabul (CCAA), and in 2013 for the “Peace from the viewpoint of the war victims” project of the British Consulate at the CCAA.</p> <p>Most recently, her works could be seen at the “Curriculum Vitae (C.V.) – Intellectual Free Trade Zone” exhibition at the Nassau Art Association in Wiesbaden.</p>
Hazem Nassreddine	<p>In 2012 Hazem graduated from the music institute and started to study dentistry at Damascus University. He studied there for two years and then he came to Germany 1,5 years ago to complete his degree. Now he lives in Berlin and is a well-known Qanun player. Beside solo projects and with other ensembles, he established the band Fattouch with other musicians from Syria, France and Romania. In 2016 Sting invited him to record a song for the new Sting album, which will be released in November 2016.</p>
Ari Sabir	<p>„Music is like water, like eating - important for everyone“</p> <p>What is music for you here, in Exile? „Music is like my family“</p> <p>Ari Sabir, born in Mossul, Iraq, belongs to the Kurdish minority in Iraq. When he was six years old, he didn't want to sing the hymn of praise for Saddam Hussein at school, who committed chemical attacks against the Kurds, and as a result, his father was arrested for several months. Because of the government, his family had to leave Mossul several times, his father eventually going to Europe. In 2006, 16-year-old Ari founded a music group and learned to play the Kurdish drum “sarb”, he learns to play the guitar in 2012. The regular musical meetings give him a lot of strength. However, any music playing in public is instantly stopped by the police and punished with imprisonment.</p> <p>Ari starts to study Business Economy in 2013, working for several companies parallel to his studies. In November 2015, Ari sets out to go to Germany: by foot from Iraq to Turkey, by boat to Greece, then continuing his way along the Balkan route by foot and by bus until he finally and completely exhausted reaches Berlin in November. Music is his constant companion. He sings songs in his flat that he used to play with his friends in Iraq and has a deep connection to them. He bought a used guitar in Berlin.</p> <p>His big aim is to finish his studies in Germany and to find a job or an internship at a company.</p>
Dachil Sado	<p>Dachil Sado comes from Iraq, and has been living in Berlin since January 2015. Since April 2015, he has been a team member at KUNSTASYL (ARTASYLUM), and has been co-curator of the “AtHOME: insights into fugitives' lives” exhibition at the Museum of European Cultures in Berlin since March 2016. Dachil Sado is attending the “German Migration History” seminar at Bard College in Berlin, and he will begin his degree course in the foundation class of Weissensee Art College in October.</p>
Salah Saouli	<p>Salah Saouli is born in Beirut. He lives and works in Berlin and exhibits on an international scale.</p> <p>He studied sculpture and painting at the University of Arts in Berlin (Master of Arts) with professor Marwan and professor Biederbick after receiving his Diplome des etudes superieures in fine arts at the Lebanese University in Beirut. Among others, his work has been shown at the European Media Art Festival/Germany, International Film Festival Rotterdam/The Netherlands, Luleaa Art Biennial/Sweden, Open- Art 2013, Örebro/ Sweden, Darat Al-Funden,</p>

	Amman/Jordan and Liverpool Regional Museum, Sydney/ Australia. He received the First Award of "Blickachse 2006"/Germany, the Honour Award of the "Third Sharjah Biennale"/UAE and in 2015 the DANZ award, Sculpture by the Sea Biennale 2015, Aarhus/Denmark.
Jean-Louis Sagot-Duvauroux	Jean-Louis Sagot-Duvauroux is an essayist and dramatist. His political-philosophical works examine three thematic matrices where the current order is coming under strain: a critical stance on capitalism with reflections on the free-of-charge principle; overcoming the white race's dominant position in regard to issues of identity construction among Europeans of African origins; the necessity to move beyond paradigms in which the modern-day Western world has produced and enforced its concept of culture. His philosophical thinking overlaps with his long years of involvement in Mali's art and culture scene. In addition, Jean-Louis Sagot-Duvauroux wrote the script for the film "La Genèse" ["The Genesis"] by Cheick Oumar Sissoko (in the official selection "Un certain regard", Cannes Festival 1999), and is the co-founder of the BlonBa Theatre Company from Bamako, Mali, for which he has written more than 15 pieces.
Ehab Sukkariya	Ehab Sukkariya was born in Damascus, Syria. He is 19 years old. At the age of 12, a girl inspired him to start writing. Writing became a way for him to deal with the pain of life and to record times of joy. Since then, he has been writing poetry and short stories. In exile in Germany, he won a prize for a poem which he wrote about saying farewell to his home city, his flight across Europe and first experiences in Germany and it was with this poem that he first appeared at the Storytelling Arena in May 2016. He is now a frequent performer for the Syrian Series at the Storytelling Arena for which he also writes, or does life write the stories which he captures in words?
Samia Susann Trabolsi	Samia Susann Trabolsi is a scriptwriter for comedies and films on mistaken identity and culture clashes. Trabolsi was born in Latakia, Syria, in 1978. In 1981, she moved to the GDR with her German mother. She studied at the Etage and HFS Berlin from 1998 to 2000, receiving a degree in Puppetry. She then worked as a puppeteer in Thessaloniki & Nikosia. From 2000 to 2004, she studied Islamic Studies at the FU Berlin, also working as a freelance author for newspapers and radio. After completing further training as a TV and Radio Journalist at the NDR TV station in Schwerin, Rostock, Hamburg, Lübeck, and Hannover from 2007 to 2009, she returned to Berlin in 2009 to complete a degree in Screenplay at the DFFB in 2013.
Über den Tellerrand kochen– cooking across borders	Über den Tellerrand kochen- cooking across borders is creating a new togetherness among refugees and locals and achieving long-lasting integration in a process that involves people from all corners of society participating on their own initiative. Ghaith Hanki is 24 years old and comes from Aleppo in Syria, where before fleeing he studied architecture. He has now been living in Berlin for fifteen months and would like to continue his studies here. He speaks Arabic, English and German. Mzkin Matini comes from Damascus in Syria, where he obtained a degree in marketing. His father worked as a chef for many years, and passed on his love of cooking to Matini, who learned a lot from him about oriental food. Together, the two of them worked for a total of six years in various restaurants, before opening their own restaurant in Syria. Matini has been in Germany for eighteen months, and is meanwhile living in Falkensee. He speaks Arabic, English and German.
Mohammad Wanli	Mohammad Wanli was born in Homs, Syria. He studied Journalism and Media at Damascus University and worked as a presenter, producer and actor for film and television. Repeated arrests as an activist against Assad's government

	made it impossible to continue his work, except on Alternative Online Radio, and finally he had to leave Syria. Here in Germany, he has directed and played in films. As a writer, he concentrated on poetry, especially performance poetry on film. Since April 2016, he has been writing for the Storytelling Arena and performs regularly at the Syrian Series as a storyteller. His work at the Arena so far has been characterised strong, vivid texts about the political situation under Assad and his father, as an activist in the Syrian Revolution for democracy and freedom, and his experiences as a refugee in Germany.
Matthias Wermke	Matthias Wermke grew up in Berlin in the 1990s when he learnt to value and utilize the city's possibilities. A shared enthusiasm for repurposing urban spaces brought him together with Leinkauf and Henke early on. Under the name Wermke/Leinkauf, they nowadays focus on the same questions and locations in their work, be it as 'filmmakers', 'curators', 'cultural scientists' or 'fine artists'. They create images and mindscapes, tell stories and dissect events – always in the hope of making the unseen visible and of exploring a place's fixed meaning and potential use.
Dr. Michael Wimmer	Michael Wimmer, music educator and political scientist, has been working as director of the Austrian Cultural Service (ÖKS) for many years. He is a lecturer at the University of Applied Arts Vienna and teaches cultural policy at the Institute for Theatre and Media Studies, Vienna University. He is a consultant to the Austrian Ministry for Education, Culture and the Arts. On the international level, Michael Wimmer is an experienced consultant to the Council of Europe, the UNESCO and the European Commission, who asked him to join the EU Expert Network on Culture. He is also a member of the scientific committee of the International Conference for Cultural Policy Research (iccpr).
Simone Zaugg	Simone Zaugg is an artist, curator and art mediator living in Berlin and Bern. With her cross-media and contextual installations, the artist creates places where the audience can move through time and space. Her installative and performative work has been shown in solo exhibitions, for example at the Kunsthaus Wiesbaden and the Kunstverein Ahlen. She was awarded prizes and scholarships for her artistic work, for instance the work and research scholarship of the Senate of Berlin in 2015. Since ten years, Simone Zaugg also runs the project space "Kurt-Kurt" at Kurt Tucholsky's birthplace. Currently, they run an exhibition series on the topic "sans papiers – Life is a Journey". "sans papiers" (French) literally means "without paper (s)" and is a term used for people without status, official papers or documents. The exhibition series "sans papiers – Life is a Journey" receives interdisciplinary funding from the City Tax of the Land of Berlin and has generated broad media coverage.
Maren Ziese	Maren Ziese holds a PhD, is an art historian and Head of Education and Communication at the Willy-Brandt House Supporters' Group; main work focuses: refugees and education, critical art communication, diversity; executive committee post for the "Museum Pedagogics East" State Association and the Haus am Lützowplatz; lecturer for Cultural Communication at the European University Viadrina (Frankfurt/Oder) and at the Freiburg University for the museOn postgraduate course.