

الأقرب إلى الأرض،
الأبعد من السماء
أريحا
Jericho
beyond the celestial and terrestrial
4th Edition of Cities Exhibition
النسخة الرابعة من معرض المدن

إفتتاح معرض المدن *Opening of Cities Exhibition*

الفنانون المشاركون – إياد عيسى، سارة بدنغتون، سماح حجاوي،
سوزان بوش و شروق حرب
قيم المعرض – يزيد عناني
الاثنين ١٤/١/٢٠١٣، ١:٠٠ ظهرا في متحف جامعة بيرزيت

**Participating artists - Iyad Issa, Sarah Beddington,
Samah Hijawi, Susanne Bosch and Shuruq Harb**
Curator - Yazid Anani Monday 14/01/2013, 1:00pm, BZU Museum

Image by Susanne Bosch تصوير سوزان بوش

Jericho – beyond the celestial and terrestrial

3rd Phase | THE EXHIBITION

4th Edition of Cities Exhibition, Birzeit University Museum, 2012 – 2013

In consultation with Vera Tamari the founder of Cities Exhibition

CURATORIAL CONCEPT

Curated by Yazid Anani, the 3rd phase of the 4th edition of Cities Exhibition transforms the museum into a “political” space that contextualizes the art works within ongoing discussions that question the official political discourse while juxtaposing it with other social possibilities.

The exhibition is designed around the “Heart”, an area dedicated to continuous presentations, talks and debates emerging from documentary materials from both *The Notebook* and *Jericho Walks*, which is then surrounded by five artworks that transgress the stereotypical perception of Jericho. Through these various activities, the museum space offers opportunities for university students and lecturers, art school teachers as well as the general public to utilize the “Heart” area for their learning experience, thus affirming the museum’s mission of generating alternative forms of knowledge that incubate unlimited possibilities for change.

The five artists are: Iyad Issa, Samah Hijawi, Sarah Beddington, Shuruq Harb, Susanne Bosch

SARAH BEDDINGTON

Journey to the Moon, 2013

mixed media installation, dimensions variable

video imaging courtesy of Atlas Mapping Technology, Ramallah

The work investigates the intersections between personal, social and political spheres, often using historical or fictionalized narratives through which to view the present day context. While much of her research for Cities Exhibition has revolved around Jericho as the ‘City of the Moon’, it is the subject of historical processions, banners and gatherings in the Palestinian landscape that forms the core of the work and marks her interest in the relationship between people and the land and freedom of movement.

SUSANNE BOSCH

Changemakers, 2013

mixed media installation, dimensions variable

images by Hanna Safieh and Susanne Bosch

film footage and material courtesy of ADS, Jericho

The installation looks at the strategies of transformation and creation of a civil society that The Arab Development Society (ADS) originally committed to in its beginning in the 1950s. The incentive behind the plan was the idea of a joint, collaborative, social action to transform the Palestinian civil society.

Through fieldwork, exploration of the archive and dialogue, the artist explored the current and past thought process and design of ADS as act of collective learning, spatial inhabitation and cultivation as well as its forms of narrations through various periods.

SAMAH HIJAWI

***It all collapses in the living room*, 2013**

mixed media installation, dimensions variable

An Installation that suggests a dystopia, to instigate an alternative discourse on mainstream politics - not only in Palestine but also in the Arab World. Architected by various social and civic structures, political discourse today lacks imagination, and marginalizes dreaming - whether utopian or dystopian - as an essential part of rethinking and understanding current political systems, and notions of individual and collective identities. Political engagement has been hugely influenced by regional media channels, as well as through national state-security systems, governing political imagination and debate both within private spaces, and in the public sphere.

SHURUQ HARB

***Searching for Rehab*, 2013**

mixed media installation, dimensions variable

The discussion meditates the possibility of adapting a more progressive thinking/dialogue to religious and archeological Jewish sites in Palestine--- one that is inclusive rather than exclusive, one that reclaims these sites as part of the general historical and social fabric of Palestinian history and culture.

The installation puts forward this discussion in a space of contemplation, while locating it in a physical hallway that acts as a connecting point to two different possible institutional structures at Birzeit University. The Palestinian Institute of Archeology, which no longer exists at the university, and the Center for Jewish Studies, a non-existing structure.

IYAD ISSA

***Untitled*, 2013**

mixed media installation, dimensions variable

This exhibition is funded by the Arab Bank for Economic Development in Africa –Islamic Bank Administration. In partnership with Municipality of Jericho , Goethe Institute and British Council. Special thanks to Danish House, International Academy of Art Palestine, Khalil Sakakini Cultural Center , Ashtar Theater and Arab Development Society.