

# PRESS RELEASE

## A MANIFESTO OF RAMALLAH'S INNER STATE



**GOETHE  
INSTITUT**

Sprache. Kultur. Deutschland.

**Since 2015, Martin Steinert has been touring international metropolises with his project "Wooden Cloud". On June 14, 2019, the launch event took place in Al-Istiqlal Park near Ramallah, which attracted an interested audience.**

### **FOR THE FIRST TIME OUTSIDE OF EUROPE**

From Saarbrücken to St. Petersburg, Berlin and Paris, and now for the first time outside Europe: German artist Martin Steinert brings art into public space and presents his "Wooden Cloud" project at its fifth stop in Al-Istiqlal Park in Al-Bireh, a neighboring city of Ramallah.

### **PROCESSIONAL AND PARTICIPATIVE**

In the almost four-week period of developing the sculpture, the population is invited to contribute to the design of the installation by writing on the wooden slats, out of which a unique sculpture is created. Very personal thoughts of the people, their desires, hopes or fears combine to form a monumental manifesto of an inner state. Meanwhile, a book documents the design of the installation and the human encounters, as well as an art film about the city and its people. In addition to architect Marija Kiefer, photographer André Mailänder and French artist Mathilde Nodenot are also part of the team. Palestinian writer Mai Yacoub Kaloti accompanies the architectural process by writing a piece that is inspired by the artwork and its development process.

### **PALESTINIAN-GERMAN-FRENCH COOPERATION**

The installation of the Wooden Cloud in Ramallah is one result of the successful Franco-German cooperation in the Palestinian territories. In addition to the Goethe-Institut Ramallah and the French Consulate in Jerusalem, the Ministry of Education and Culture of the Saarland, a German neighboring state to France and home of the artist, Al-Istiqlal Park contribute to the realization of the project.

### **UPCOMING EVENTS**

On June 25, 2019, an exhibition opens, documenting the previous stations as well as the development of the project in Al-Istiqlal Park. A finissage will take place on June 30, 2019. On the same day, there will be a panel discussion with Martin Steinert and his team as well as local artists about the importance of the Wooden Cloud including a tour to Al-Istiqlal Park. Event venue is the gallery of the German-French Cultural Center in Ramallah respectively.

### **DATE**

18 June, 2019

### **CONTACT**

Goethe-Institut  
Palestinian Territories

Sarah Stötzner  
Communications  
Coordinator

Sarah.Stoetzner@  
goethe.de