



PRESS RELEASE

RADIONISTS: ON CRITICAL CULTURAL REPORTING AND THE POLITICS OF SOUND

An excellence project of the Goethe-Institut, RADIONISTS launches with the event series "Overtones" on October 10, 2019 in Ramallah. Open your ears wide - the four-day symposium will be all about the act of listening!

WE CAN NOT SEE, BUT HEAR EACH OTHER

The majority of the Palestinian population listens to the radio, and yet media coverage about culture and the arts is not part of any independent, local cultural radio program. In close collaboration with local partners, Goethe-Institut Ramallah is building a cultural radio program over the next two years to create an independent space for and with the local cultural scene. According to the slogan *We cannot see but we can hear each other*, the idea is to counteract the difficulty of coming together in the fragmented geography of Palestine by using the help of future-oriented audio techniques.

A SYMPOSIUM ON THE SOUNDS AND VOICES OF EMANCIPATION

The symposium *Overtones*, curated by Lara Khaldi, will be held in October 2019 with alternative and unconventional modes of presentation: Lecture performances, lectures, concerts, talks, an exhibition as well as film and audio presentations will focus on the act of listening and discuss answers to various questions: How are different sound fields related to power and hegemony? Does listening change our perception of certain sounds and voices? Or does it affect our detection of sounds and voices of the oppressed? What is the sound of colonialism? How do we listen to the sounds and voices of emancipation? What and where are these sounds? In addition, as part of the conference, audio tours will take the audience to places in and around Ramallah where musicians and artists create site-specific sound experiences.

KNOWLEDGE MANUFACTURING OF CURRENT CULTURAL REPORTING

The pre-project phase initially included a qualitative study that sheds light on the current status of critical cultural reporting. In the summer of 2019, experts from various disciplines such as radio, journalism and the local arts and culture scene, were invited to focus group meetings in order to identify needs and requirements for an independent radio program that focuses on art and culture. Yara Abdulhamid summarized and analyzed the results in a report.

LOCAL AND INTERNATIONAL DISCOURSE

With the RADIONISTS project, Goethe-Institut Ramallah is undertaking an attempt to stimulate and foster cultural-critical discourse on artistic practice and production in Palestine. Activities such as workshops and master classes contribute to the production of audio content. In cooperation with Palestinian and German radio partners, produced content is broadcast in Palestine and Germany. The exchange's aim is to provide a differentiated picture of the situation on the ground and to establish lasting bilateral ties.

DATE

30th September 2019

CONTACT

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UPCOMING EVENTS

Thursday, October 10th, 2019

10:00am-11:00am - *RADIONISTS and Overtones with Lara Khaldi (curator), Yara Abdulhamid (researcher) and Mona Kriegler (director of Goethe-Institut Ramallah) | Press conference followed by curator's tour*

Venue: library of the French-German Cultural Centre

11:00am-01:30pm - *Radio Production for Beginners | Workshop by Ruben Jonas Schnell*

Venue: Bait Al Sa'i, Ramallah Tahta

06:00pm-09:00pm - *Overtones: On How to Listen | Exhibition Opening*

With Lawrence Abu Hamdan, Hiwa K, Maha Maamoun, Noor Abed, Shayma Nader, Joel Sherwood, Susan Schuppli

Venue: Gallery of the French-German Cultural Center, Ramallah

07:30pm - *Etherography | New performance for radio and live electronics by Dirar Kalash*

Venue: Gallery of the French-German Cultural Center, Ramallah

Friday, October 11th, 2019

11:00am-07:30pm - *Can you hear while listening? | Workshop by Eleftherios Krysalis and Nathalie Singer*

Venue: Bait Al Sa'i, Ramallah Tahta

Saturday, October 12th, 2019

03:00pm-09:30pm *Overtones: Conference on the Politics of the Voice, Sound and Listening*

With artists Dirar Kalash, Ma'n Abu Taleb, Amira Silmi, Nathalie Singer, Shaira Vadasaria*

Venue: Bait Al Sa'i, Ramallah Tahta

*Simultaneous translation will be provided.

Sunday, October 13th, 2019

03:45pm-06:15pm - *A prepared space | Site specific listening tour and composition by Dina Shilleh, curated by Maya Khaldi*

Venue: Kufr Aqab*

*Group meets at Goethe-Institut (Al-Salam Str. 12 in Ramallah); transportation will be provided.