A WINDOW ON CONTEMPORARY ARAB CULTURE
1-16 JULY 2017
MUSIC
PERFORMANCE
VISUAL ARTS
LITERATURE
FILM
SHUBBAK.CO.UK
WELCOME TO SHUBBAK 2017!

As chair of Shubbak, I am delighted to invite you to discover our programme for 2017, our fourth festival. Once again we proudly present artists from across the Arab world with different voices, different tones and different imaginations. At Shubbak we are constantly reminded of how necessary it is, especially at this time, to exhibit a plurality of artistic expression. London is blessed by a rich and international cultural life and its global connections inspire artists from around the world to create and present their work. Our dense festival programme seeks to shine a light on the power of imagination of Arab artists, wherever they may live.

MAYSOON PACHACHI, CHAIR

Welcome to Shubbak 2017, with over 150 Arab artists taking part in the festival across London. Events range from a free concert on Trafalgar Square to intimate encounters with theatre makers, from outdoor dance performances in public squares to thought-provoking debates. We have also invited two festivals from Beirut and Tunis to bring new experiences to unusual locations in Shepherd’s Bush and Dalston.

At a time when the world feels more fragile and less secure we have travelled far and wide, and also looked in our own city, to discover and commission inspirational new works by artists who reflect on our current times. The individual and collective voices of these artists help us to look deeper, listen more carefully and find subtlety and nuance. Their works address urgent issues of migration, shelter, identity and freedom but equally explore personal themes of autobiography, memory and human connections.

Shubbak 2017 has a record number of new commissions and UK premieres – this is a festival of adventure, curiosity, surprise and shared experiences.

We hope you join us on the journey.

ECKHARD THIEMANN, ARTISTIC DIRECTOR
DANIEL GORMAN, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

With gratitude to our principal partners and all our festival partners, without whose support the festival would not be possible.

SHUBBAK.CO.UK
@SHUBBAKFESTIVAL
Al Atlal means The Ruins. It is about the remains of lost love and homeland. Actress and singer Norah Krief felt a burst of nostalgia remembering her mother listening to the Egyptian Diva Umm Kulthum on their record player. Her joy of singing about nostalgia drove Norah Krief to create this personal and autobiographical work. She reinterprets Ibrahim Nagi’s famous poem and includes testimonials of people who speak of their life in exile.

She is accompanied by a trio of musicians: Frederic Fresson, Lucien Zerrad and Yousef Zayed.

Norah Krief has worked with many theatre writers and directors. In 2005, she was awarded the prestigious Molière award for Best Supporting Actress and recently appeared at the Barbican in Phèdre(s) by Krzysztof Warlikowski as part of LIFT.

**UK PREMIERE**

**IN FRENCH & ARABIC WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES**

Presented in partnership with Institut français du Royaume Uni as part of its series En Scène!

Based on the actor Ahmed Tobasi’s personal coming of age story, And Here I Am is an epic voyage of identity and self discovery. Combining fact and fantasy, tragedy and comedy, spanning both the first Palestinian intifada and the second, we follow him through his transformation from armed resistance fighter to artist, his journey as a refugee in the West Bank to Norway and then back again.

This series of tragicomic episodes is vividly brought to life by award winning writer Hassan Abdulrazzak, transporting us to the heart of the hardships, struggles and contradictions of a young Palestinian man growing up under occupation and his pursuit for the true meaning of freedom.
“With this small pencil I will draw the word I will write the world.”

A lyrical story of the life of Palestinian poet Taha Muhammad Ali, written and performed by Amer Hlehel. Forced from his home in Galilee in 1948, Taha and his family must face the reality of war. At a young age he supports his family, immerses himself in literature, teaches himself Arabic – and falls in love. Growing up in a world where stability is only ever fleeting, poetry becomes a comforting constant.

Amir Nizar Zuabi (The Beloved, I Am Yusuf and This Is My Brother), founder of celebrated theatre company ShiberHur, returns to the Young Vic to direct this London premiere.

Amer Hlehel’s Taha is a dramatic and lyrical tour de force. Hlehel’s epic account of Taha Muhammad Ali’s coming of age and coming to poetry against all odds is “a delight for the mind and nourishment for the heart.” 2013 Pulitzer Prize winner Ayad Akhtar.

UK PREMIERE IN ENGLISH
SHUBBAK ON TOUR
SAT 1 JULY | 8PM
QUAYS THEATRE
THE LOWY, SALFORD
THELOWRY.COM

Inspired by the hopes and pressures of building a new civil society, choreographers Aïcha M’Barek and Hafiz Dhaou create a visceral streetscape of today’s Tunisia.

Featuring life-sized silhouettes by seminal street artist Bilal Berreni (Zoo-project), which appeared on Tunis’ main avenue after the revolution, Sacré Printemps! celebrates the diverse individuals who fought for their civil rights. Five dancers jostle, fight and compete among over 30 cut-out sculptures, but also joyfully unite in their strife to join different voices and individualities into one hope.

Aïcha M’Barek and Hafiz Dhaou were both born in Tunis and have been creating together as Cie Chatha since 1995. Having first studied at the Music and Dance Conservatory of Tunis, and now based in Lyon, their works tour internationally, including Tunis, Beirut and Abu Dhabi.

Music is by Eric Aldéa and Yvan Chiossone, interpreted by Sonia M’Barek, one of Tunisia’s major singers.
DISPLACEMENT
MITHKAL ALZGHAIR
THU 6 & FRI 7 JULY | 8PM
SADLERSWELLS.COM
020 7863 8000
£17 (Transaction fee applies, max £3)

“This isn’t a documentary of the Syrian war, it touches on the fundamental question of what it is to be human”
MOUVEMENT

How does a body react when its movement is forced or prevented?
Displacement introduces the poignant work of Syrian dancer and choreographer Mithkal Alzghair.
In a solo and a trio, he draws attention to the human being amidst the complexities of migration and war. Deconstructing Syrian traditional dances, he brings to the surface the paradox of a deeply rooted culture and its current experience of displacement. Alzghair trained in Damascus and Montpellier, having fled to France to avoid military service. Since winning the First Prize at the Danse élargie 2016 contest, organized by the Théâtre de la Ville-Paris and the Musée de la danse-Rennes, in partnership with the Fondation d’entreprise Hermès, Displacement has toured extensively to major international festivals.

TRANSACTION
MITHKAL ALZGHAIR
MON 10 JULY | 7.30PM
HACKNEY SHOWROOM
020 3095 9747
£12

Mithkal Alzghair presents his newest creation: a meditation on the power of images from conflict situations. Performed in a warehouse and suspended in harnesses from the ceiling, four performers from Syria and France create fragile and emotional states of active and passive bodies. With a live soundtrack created purely by the performers’ voices, Mithkal Alzghair conjures up a delicate state of being that whispers louder than cries of pain. As the action gradually rises from the horizontal to the vertical, we are drawn towards the individual human being.

UK PREMIERE
Presented in partnership with Sadler’s Wells with additional support from Institut français du Royaume Uni as part of its series En Scène!
Photo: Tanz im August, Dajana Lothert 2016.

UK PREMIERE
Presented in partnership with Hackney Showroom
Photo: Didier Nadeau.
MIND, THE GAP A lecture performance on how we perceive and consume images in our current age. A collaboration between two key figures of Cairo’s independent theatre scene, theatre director Hani Sami and choreographer and writer Mona Gamil; Mind, The Gap intertwines live performance, theoretical musings and visual projections. Focusing on iconic images from the last decades, the performance will guide audiences on a journey of intellect, trauma and catharsis. Hani Sami is a film and theater maker with a BA in Theatre from the American University in Cairo and an MA in Filmmaking from l’École Supérieure d’Audiovisuel in Toulouse.

FOR THE ABSENT ONES The artist cannot be with us tonight, and yet the artist is present. Created as an audio-experience by theatre artists Abdullah Alkafri (Syria), Moez Mrabet (Tunisia), Jon Davis and Jonathan May (UK). For the Absent Ones is a response to tightening borders and restrictions on travel. Equipped with headphones and entering a theatre space, the audience listens to moving voices of those unable to move freely.

UK PREMIERES IN ENGLISH AND ARABIC WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES BUY TICKETS FOR BOTH MIND, THE GAP & FOR THE ABSENT ONES AND THREE ROOMS FOR JUST £20.

Presented in partnership with Arcola Theatre Performance(s) between two shores is supported by the European Commission.

Three Rooms is a live film that takes place simultaneously in Istanbul, London and Paris, with one performer in each location. Originally the trio were planning to stage a play, but the changing political landscape meant that two of the performers couldn’t get visas. Refusing to replace those unable to travel, they began to experiment with ways of working that could overcome the physical restrictions, creating a new kind of live-ness for this new world.

Three Rooms invites the audience into the quiet intimacies of daily life when you are essentially confined to your room - making tea, reading books, smoking cigarettes while watching the seagulls over Istanbul rooftops, or watching the grey clouds over the Paris suburbs. It gestures towards the irreplaceability of people, and the impossibility of representing their experience without them.

WORLD PREMIERE IN ENGLISH WITH SOME ARABIC BUY TICKETS BOTH FOR MIND, THE GAP & FOR THE ABSENT ONES AND THREE ROOMS FOR JUST £20.

Presented in partnership with Arcola Theatre Performance(s) between two shores is supported by the European Commission.

In partnership with: Les Bancs Publics – Festival Les Rencontres à l’échelle (FR), BOZAR (BE), Dancing on the edge (NL), Globalize: Cologne platform for dance & theatre (DE), SEE Foundation (SE) – D-CAF Festival (EG).

Photo: Sofie Knijff.
"I wanted to take over the streets and fill them with a horde of crows. Like an immediate act, a sound sculpture, raw and urgent, resounding infinitely."

BOUCHRA OUIZGUEN

A group of women emerge, silently they arrive, then come to a halt. Forming geometric alchemical arrangements they move again and again, now accompanied by their piercing sounds and extraordinary cries in a stirring performance of movement and sound. Drawing from Persian literature from 9th – 11th century and memories of long trance nights in Marrakech, Bouchra Ouizguen has created an intense performance that interrupts and takes possession of public spaces.

Corbeaux was commissioned by Marrakech Biennale 2014 for the city's railway station, and has since toured internationally including the Kunstenfestivaldesarts (Brussels), Kampnagel (Hamburg), Home Works (Beirut) and The Louvre in Paris.

"Incendiary lyrics and high powered motorbikes: Egypt's revolutionary rock band won't keep quiet." CNN

Kicking off Shubbak’s music programme, the Barbican plays host to the songs of the modern Middle East as Cairokee and Tania Saleh bring their music to London. Egyptian band Cairokee and Lebanon’s Tania Saleh are two artists who capture the urgency of our time, their songs reflecting the social and political turmoil experienced not only in the Middle East, but the whole world over.

Lebanese songwriter and visual artist Tania Saleh brings worlds together, marrying traditional styles tarab, mawwal and dabke with folk, alternative rock, bossa nova and jazz to take us on an eclectic, poetic musical journey.

She is followed by a performance from Egypt’s Cairokee who will be singing tracks from their new album. Taking their name from a portmanteau of the Egyptian capital and ‘karaoke’, Cairokee sing for Cairo; these are bold truths presented with infectious music, mixing rock, rap and traditional Egyptian sounds in optimistic odes to a better future.

"Citizen of sound and engaged with sensitivity to art, Saleh represents musical eclecticism against all tyranny. Her latest album is a tribute of great freedom to the Arab woman." ELLE MAGAZINE ON TANIA SALEH

UK PREMIERE – TANIA SALEH

Produced by the Barbican in association with MARSM.
EID FESTIVAL 2017
HAWIDRO, OXFORD MAQAM, MAYA YOUSSEF & RASHA

SUN 2 JULY | 2 – 5PM
Eid Festival times: 12 – 6pm

TRAFLGAR SQUARE FREE
WC2N 5DN

The Mayor of London’s Eid Festival on Trafalgar Square celebrates the end of Ramadan. It includes a popular food festival, live music and fun activities for children and families. Shubbak presents three hours of rousing open-air festival music.

Straight from Egypt comes Afro-Egyptian band Hawidro – a blend of sound, capturing the diversity and creativity of contemporary Cairo and Nubian heritage.

Paying tribute to the ‘Nahda’ era, Oxford Maqam embraces the sounds of the Arab Renaissance, an extraordinary period of creativity and musical innovation. Virtuoso Syrian musician Maya Youssef’s innovative approach to playing the kanun, a 78-stringed plucked zither, has brought her international acclaim and appearances at BBC Proms.

Highly acclaimed Sudanese artist Rasha developed her musical style with eclectic instrumentation, including oud, percussion, backing guitar and bass accentuating Rasha’s spectacular vocal skills. Her work is influenced by Arabic poetry, Sufi music and hints of reggae.

NESHAMA

WED 5 JULY | 8PM

RICH MIX
35 - 47 Bethnal Green Road
E1 6LA

Weaving recordings and live performances based on folk songs from Syria and the Arab world, Neshama includes four performers playing a mix of tabl, bouzouki and oud, mixed with live loops, grooves and electronic beats.

Featuring: Wael Alkak (synths, keys, bouzouki), Syrian vocalist Yazan Alqaq (oud and bass), Jordanian Shadi Khries (percussion) and mejwiz poet Osama Alkhairat.

Neshama was founded by former member of Syrian National Orchestra Wael Alkak. After leaving Syria he travelled with his mobile studio, recording musicians in Jordan Lebanon, Turkey, Egypt and US. The release of their first album led to the invitation for an artistic residency at the renowned Cité Internationale des Arts, during which he created his second album, co-commissioned by Shubbak in partnership with British Council and Culture Resource (Beirut).

TAREK YAMANI TRIO
FEATURING SPECIAL GUEST YAZZ AHMED

FRI 7 JULY | 8PM

KINGS PLACE
90 York Way
N1 9AG

“Born and raised in Beirut, Tarek Yamani is an American-Lebanese, New York based composer and a self-taught jazz pianist. He is the founder of the cutting edge festival Beirut Speaks Jazz, which aims to promote jazz in Lebanon by igniting adventurous collaborations between artists from the worlds of rock, pop, tarab, rap and blues over the foundations of jazz.

His latest album Peninsular is a pioneering new work, which blends the virtually unexplored rhythms of the Gulf with the beats and structures of African-American jazz.

The trio will be playing original music from Tarek Yamani’s albums: Lisan Al Tarab where he explores the relationships between jazz and Arabic rhythms/maqams. The trio features: Tarek Yamani on piano, Elie Afif on bass, Khaled Yassine on percussion and a special guest Yazz Ahmed on trumpet. Since releasing Finding My Way Home in 2011, British-Bahraini trumpet player Yazz Ahmed has emerged as a distinctive voice on the UK jazz scene, as a soloist, band leader and composer.”

“A magician with his chromatics and disquieting passing tones.”

NEW YORK MUSIC DAILY

Produced in partnership with MARSM. Supported by Abu Dhabi Festival with additional support from Al Mawred Al Thaqafy and Alaraby TV Network.
WOMAN AT POINT ZERO
& FOUR ARAB COMPOSERS
THU 13 JULY | 7.30PM
LSO ST LUKE’S
161 Old Street
EC1V 9NG
ROH.ORG.UK
020 7304 4000
£15

Shubbak joins forces with The Royal Opera and Abu Dhabi Festival to present works by composers from the Arab world. This evening in two parts will share and celebrate short works by five composers, centring on the premiere of scenes from Bushra El-Turk’s new opera Woman at Point Zero.

Woman at Point Zero is based on the seminal novel by Egyptian author, feminist and doctor Nawal El Saadawi – an allegorical tale of historical female oppression in Egypt that questions what true freedom and empowerment can mean for women today. Preceding extracts of Woman at Point Zero are the UK premieres of chamber works by the four participants of The Royal Opera and Shubbak’s inaugural Arab Composer Residency programme: Amir ElSaffar (Iraq/US), Nadim Husni (Syria/Poland), Bahaa El-Ansary (Egypt) and Nabil Benabdeljalil (Morocco).

PRE-CONCERT TALK
6.15PM | FREE
Available to ticket holders only
Produced in partnership with The Royal Opera. The development phase of Woman at Point Zero has been commissioned by Shubbak with Abu Dhabi Festival with support from The Royal Opera, Snape Maltings, PRS Foundation and Jerwood Charitable Foundation. Additional support from British Council for presenting Bahaa Al-Ansary.

LOVE AND REVENGE
FRI 14 JULY | 8PM
RICH MIX
35 - 47 Bethnal Green Road
E1 6LA
RICHMIX.ORG.UK
020 7613 7498
£13.50 in advance | £16 on the door
Standing Room Only

Love and Revenge is a live music and video performance by the musician Wael Koudaih (Rayess Bek) and the video artist Randa Mirza (La Mirza). It revisits the old popular songs and Egyptian movies from the golden era of Cairo’s Studio Misr, featuring stars such as Samia Gamal, Tahia Carioca and singing idols Leila Mourad and Farid El Attrache.

Watch the drama unfold on screen with clips from these bygone movies, whilst on stage the musicians create a danceable live soundtrack to transport us through the drama, love, pathos and tragedy of the films. Rayess Bek’s remixes and La Mirza’s visuals are joined by the bass of Julien Perraudeau and the electric oud of Mehdi Haddab.
KAHAREB
FEATURING: MAURICE LOUCA, SKYWALKER, MISSY NESS, SOTUSURA, BEIRUT WORLD BEAT

SAT 15 JULY | 8PM – 1AM
RICH MIX
35 - 47 Bethnal Green Road
E1 5LA
RICHMIX.ORG.UK
020 7613 7498
£12.50 in advance | £15 on the door

Immerse yourself in the finest electronic and underground sounds in Shubbak’s rousing music finale.

Maurice Louca is one of the pioneering musicians in Cairo’s electronic music scene with influences from psychedelic to Egyptian shaabi. For this concert Maurice Louca will be joined by a live trio.

Skywalker, the Palestinian female DJ and electronic music producer, plays techno, house, and other deeper sub-genres, with a unique twist of her own. Missy Ness is a pioneering DJ in Tunisia. Her music is intimately related to Maghrebi urban cultures.

DJ Sotusura made his name as a Palestinian producer and beat maker of the finest Arabic hip hop and electronic music.

Italian DJ Beirut World Beat brings a world music set including videos and projected images which has proven hugely popular in many Arab countries.

HAWIDRO & RASHA
A JOURNEY INTO THE GROOVES & SPIRIT OF AFRO-ARAB MUSIC

SUN 2 JULY | 7.30 – 11PM BUSH HALL
310 Uxbridge Road, Shepherd’s Bush, W12 7LJ
BUSHHALLMUSIC.CO.UK
£12.50 advance
£15 on the door

Discover two major exponents of the deep connections between Subsaharan and North African music. Hawidro in Nubian means ‘the return’ and this has become the central theme of their music. Hawidro comprises 8 musicians who came together with a shared vision to create a sound that links their African and Egyptian heritage.

Featuring vocals by Ahmed Abayazeid with guitar, bass, drums and traditional percussion, Hawidro are boundless and encompass the creative spirit of their homeland.

Rasha grew up in an artistic family who moved from Sudan to Cairo. Her critically acclaimed album "Sudaniyat" was named by Folk Roots as “one of the 10 best of 1997”. She plays the oud and percussion with a backing guitar and bass that accentuate her spectacular vocal skills using Arabic poetry, Sufi music and hints of reggae. She mainly sings in Arabic but also performs in Spanish, English, Nubian and Creole.

“Rather than stand on the sidelines, Michael Rakowitz takes a can-do approach to political art.” THE GUARDIAN

DAR AL SULH
MICHAEL RAKOWITZ

THU 6 – SAT 8 JULY | 7 – 10PM THE MOSAIC ROOMS
226 Cromwell Road
SW5 0SW
THE MOSAIC ROOMS.ORG
020 7370 9990
£35 including 3 course meal
rsvp@mosaicrooms.org

“You are eating a dying language from the plate of a ghost.”

Dar Al Sulh (Domain of Conciliation) is a supper club with a difference hosted by the artist Michael Rakowitz in collaboration with Regine Basha and Dr. Ella Habiba Shohat. Join him in The Mosaic Rooms for a three-course meal, tasting dishes from the recipe book of his Iraqi-Jewish grandmother. The ingredients, flavours and even the tableware reflect the period when “Jews were once Arabs too”.

In between each course, the artist and collaborators curator Regine Basha and Dr. Ella Habiba Shohat provide personal reflections. These will take the form of historical and musical insights, including from Regine Basha’s Tuning Baghdad project.

Produced in partnership with MARSM with additional support from Alaraby TV Network.

Produced in partnership with MARSM with additional support from Alaraby TV Network.

Presented in partnership with The Mosaic Rooms. Photo: Courtesy of Michael Rakowitz.
SHIFT
ZAHRAH AL-GHAMDI, DANA AWARTANI & REEM AL-NASSER
SAT 1 JULY – TUES – SAT | 11AM – 6PM
THE MOSAIC ROOMS
226 Cromwell Road
SW5 0SW
MOSAICROOMS.ORG
FREE

This group exhibition brings together the UK debut of three young female artists from Saudi Arabia: Zahrah Al-Ghamdi, Dana Awartani and Reem Al-Nasser. The works reflect the artists’ experiences of living in their home cities and domestic spaces. They are powerful testimonies by artists caught between a future driven by globalisation and rapid socio-cultural change, and a past cultural heritage, which is under threat of being erased. Zahrah Al-Ghamdi’s Cell of the City is a large site-specific wall installation made of sand and cloth, it has been informed by her memories of growing up in the traditional architecture of South West Saudi Arabia.

I went away and forgot you. A while ago I remembered. I remembered I’d forgotten you. I was dreaming
Dana Awartani
is a video artwork and installation. What first appear to be traditional Islamic floor tiles is an installation composed of hand-dyed sand, which is then swept away by the artist. This is recreated in the gallery.

Reem Al-Nasser’s The Silver Plate is a three part multimedia installation representing: the past (an audio piece), the present (dual screen video installation), and the future (a printed booklet). The piece reflects on the process of needing to negotiate the past, to be able to move towards the future.

UK PREMIERE
ARTISTS TALK
SAT 1 JULY | 12PM
Artists Zahrah Al-Ghamdi, Dana Awartani and Reem Al-Nasser will be in conversation with Vassilis Dikonomopoulos (Assistant Curator, Collections International Art Tate Modern) about the works featured in the exhibition.

Presented in partnership with The Mosaic Rooms.
The commission of Zahrah Al-Ghamdi has been generously supported by individual donors Faisal Tamer and Sara Alireza.

Photo: Courtesy of Dana Awartani and Athr Gallery.

THE CRAFT
MONIRA AL QADIRI
THU 13 JULY – SUN 10 SEPTEMBER
WEDS – SUN | 12 – 6PM
GASWORKS
155 Vauxhall Street
SE11 5RH
GASWORKS.ORG.UK
FREE

Monira Al Qadiri’s first UK solo exhibition, The Craft, includes a semi-autobiographical science fiction film, sculptures and photographs in which international diplomacy is envisaged as an alien conspiracy. Under this umbrella, embassies, conferences, cultural exchange and political activism are represented as elaborately staged ways to conceal diplomats’ true dealings with the ‘third kind’. Poking fun at collapsing postcolonial empires, these works explore how the current rise of nationalism and political populism trivialises formerly common ways of being international in the world, depicting the era of diplomatic rituals, national grandeur and political grandstanding as a nostalgic and lovable ‘other world’ beyond reach.

ANIMATED IMAGES
SULAF A HIJAZI
THU 6 – SAT 29 JULY
10AM – 11PM
MEZZANINE GALLERY
35 – 47 Bethnal Green Road, E1 6LA
RICHMIX.ORG.UK
FREE

Syrian artist Sulafa Hijazi’s series of animated images is a response to our ever-increasing relationship with new media.

While trawling her ‘facebook feed’ she became conscious of the great plethora of images that we are bombarded with, from a friend’s wedding to updates from warzones.

Animated Images uses lenticular print techniques to reveal shifting transformations as the viewer passes by the images. The works invite you to look closer, zooming in to reveal the details of images from diverse sources.

In this era of 24-hour news, she asks whether we can shift our emotions at the same speed as we browse through the flow of images, and what we eventually retain from them.
For one day only Saudi Arabian artist Zahrah Al-Ghamdi will be producing a site-specific installation in the Great Court. This is the first time she will construct the large scale floor installation in front of an audience. Zahrah Al-Ghamdi grew up in the southwestern region of Saudi Arabia surrounded by traditional domestic architecture. Her work looks at the importance of location and tradition, using everyday materials such as sand and ephemera she has collected from abandoned villages. Flashes of colour allude to a rich and vibrant world that existed in these domestic spaces. Displayed in the British Museum we are gently reminded of the importance of the role of artists and museums in preserving the past.

A section of the Great Court will be filled by Syrian artist Issam Kourbaj with hundreds of old hardback book covers placed side-by-side to cover sixty square meters of floor. Some covers are painted with blocks of colour, many others have a black line across them, echoing the Syrian tradition of placing black ribbons over the photographs of the recently deceased. Watch the artist create the installation over a matter of hours. Positioned close to the former reading room of the British Library these covers evoke memories of lost knowledge and lives.

Shubbak film programme is presented in partnership with the Arab Fund for Art and Culture – AFAC.

**FAROUK, BESIEGED LIKE ME**

**+ Q&A WITH HALA ALABDALLA**
**MON 3 JULY | 8.30PM**
**CINE LUMIERE, INSTITUT FRANÇAIS**
17 Queensberry Place, SW7 2DT
**INSTITUTFRANCAIS.ORG.UK**
020 7871 3515
£12 | £10 concs
**DIR. HALA ALABDALLA**
**FRANCE-SYRIA, 2016 (90 MINS)**

In this deeply personal documentary, veteran Syrian documentarian Hala Alabdalla invites us to dinner with writer and editor Farouk Mardam-Bey, for a thought-provoking reflection on Syria, culture and identity.

Based in France for the last 50 years, Farouk Mardam-Bey is a Syrian publisher who has dedicated his life to promoting contemporary Arab philosophy and poetry. In the intimacy of his kitchen, he attempts to dissipate the fog around Syria with Hala Alabdalla and her team, paying tribute to the Syrian people’s resistance with a feast celebrating culture and identity.

**IRAQ: WAR, LOVE, GOD & MADNESS**

**+ INTRODUCTION BY MAYSOON PACHACHI**
**WED 5 JULY | 8.30PM**
**CINEMA 2, BARBICAN**
Beech Street, EC2Y 8AE
**BARBICAN.ORG.UK**
020 7638 8891 | £8.40 – £10.50
10% off 2 screenings | 15% off 3 or more screenings
**DIR. MOHAMED AL-DARADJI, IRAQ - UK, 2008 (83 MINS)**

In 2003, Baghdad-born Mohamed Al-Daradji returned home after a decade in exile to film Ahlaam, the second feature shot in Iraq post-Saddam Hussein. This documentary follows the idealistic young director as he realises his dream in bizarre and turbulent circumstances. With its improvised form and unpredictable course the film reflects the incredible risks confronting filmmakers in ‘liberated’ Iraq and celebrates Iraqi people’s spirit to survive amid overwhelming social and political chaos.

Named Variety’s Middle Eastern Filmmaker of the Year in 2011, Mohamed Al-Daradji is one of the most prominent directors working in Iraq today; his multi award-winning films include Son of Babylon and In My Mother’s Arms, and have screened at festivals including Sundance, Berlin and Toronto.

**IMAGINED FUTURES SHORTS**

**+ Q&A WITH LARISSA SANSOUR**
**TUE 4 JULY | 6.30PM**
**CINEMA 2, BARBICAN**
Beech Street, EC2Y 8AE

Total running time 94 mins

MARE NOSTRUM
**DIR. ANAS KHALAF, RANA KAZKAZ**
SYRIA-FRANCE, 2016 (13 MINS)

SILENCE
**DIR. CHADI AZUN**
LEBANON, 2016 (15 MINS)

SELMA
**DIR. BATOLU BENAZZOU**
ALGERIA - FRANCE, 2014 (35 MINS)

NATION ESTATE
**DIR. LARISSA SANSOUR**
PALESTINE - DENMARK, 2012 (10 MINS)

SUBMARINE
**DIR. MOUNIA AKL**
LEBANON, 2016 (21 MINS)

IMAGINED FUTURES SHORTS

Shorts from the region’s most exciting new voices present a rich mix of sci-fi, animation and drama spliced with humour, charm and prescience. Capturing the dilemmas lived by many on the Mediterranean shores, directors Rana Kazkaz and Anas Khalaf reflect a Syrian parent’s choices to save his daughter in Mare Nostrum.

Chadi Azun’s award-winning animation Silence exposes the secret codes of silent creative resistance in the authoritarian darkness of a dysfunctional society.

Selma and her mother both struggle with their life decisions and futures in Batoul Benazzou’s subtly observed drama Selma.

In Nation Estate multi-disciplinary artist Larissa Sansour offers a dystopian, humorous and vertical solution to Palestinian statehood: one colossal skyscraper housing the entire Palestinian population, now finally living the high life.

In Mounia Akl’s Submarine, which premiered at the Cannes Film Festival 2016, wild child Hala stubbornly refuses to evacuate her derelict house when the garbage crisis in Lebanon causes her whole village to flee.
Bloody Beans

Radical and playful Bloody Beans follows a group of children ‘playing’ war by reenacting Algeria’s War of Independence. Reduced to a diet of ‘bloody beans’, they loot a French army base and abduct a soldier. With a poetic realism recalling the works of Jean Vigo, combined with an electro soundtrack by Zombie Zombie, history and memory collide in a trance-like and hallucinatory narrative that brilliantly captures the children’s unreal understanding of historical fact and play.

Multi-award-winning Bloody Beans (Loubia Hamra) was Narimane Mari’s first feature length film. In February 2015 she directed La vie courante for Hors Pistes at the Centre Pompidou.

Off Frame

Image construction and representation is at the heart of Benazzou directorial debut, which reflects on the Palestinian people’s struggle to produce an image on their own terms in the 60s and 70s, alongside the establishment of the Palestine Film Unit as part of the PLO.

Told through rarely seen footage from archives across the world, Off Frame fills a gap in collective memory from a distinctly and seldom seen Palestinian perspective, deftly bringing the past into dialogue with the present.

Mohanad Yaqubi has produced award winning documentaries and fiction including Infiltrators (by Khaled Jarrar), Though I Know the River is Dry (by Omar R. Hamilton) and Suspended Time, an anthology of 9 films reflecting on 20 years since the signing of the Oslo Peace Accords.
Soudade Kaadan is an award winning Syrian director and UNICEF. She is currently working on her first produced documentary films for Al Jazeera, UNDP currently based in Lebanon. Educated in both theatre and Culture – AFAC and the Barbican, with additional support from Al Mawred Al Thaqafy and Molinare.

**Tramontane**

**UK Premiere + Q&A with Director Soudade Kaadan**

**Sun 9 July | 4.30PM**

**Cinema 2, Barbican**

Beech Street, EC2Y 8AE

**Barbican.org.uk**

020 7638 8891 | £8.40 – £10.50

10% off 2 screenings | 15% off 3 or more screenings

**Dir. Soudade Kaadan**

**Syria - Lebanon, 2017 (75 Mins)**

6-year-old Ahmad doesn’t want to remember that he is Syrian. He recently lost his older brother to the war, and now lives with his family in a Lebanese refugee camp. Traumatised, overwhelmed and disengaged, he prefers to be silent. Soudade Kaadan’s patient observational documentary accompanies Ahmad as he recovers a sense of childhood despite his grief.

Against the knowledge of ongoing violence, this thoughtful and heartbreaking film poses a question about a possible future. In Kaadan’s words, “it explores the impossibility to verbally express what is happening in Syria now.”

Soudade Kaadan is an award winning Syrian director currently based in Lebanon. Educated in both theatre criticism and filmmaking, she has directed and produced documentary films for Al Jazeera, UNDP and UNICEF. She is currently working on her first feature fiction film.

**Beyond London**

London is home to a number of Arab writers, actors, producers and directors. A new generation of Arab theatre is being produced and touring in European countries. Festivals like Shubbak regularly invite theatre from the Arab region. How do UK’s Arab theatre artists connect internationally? What are the issues for working across borders and genres? How local or international is London’s Arab theatre? Hear and discuss these urgent issues with leading practitioners. Participating writers and producers include Hassan Abdulrazzak, Sabrina Mahfouz, Alia Alzougbi plus international guests.

**Curating in Saudi: A New Generation**

Fiona Fox and Matilda Pye discuss their experiences over the last year working with six aspiring Saudi women curators, developing their skills and experience within the cultural sector. The curators came from national museums, commercial galleries and not-for-profit organisations in Riyadh, Jeddah and the Eastern Province. Fiona Fox and Matilda Pye led the British Council’s Contemporary Collective programme, which aims to develop the next generation of curators and cultural pioneers in Saudi Arabia.

**Where Activism & Imagination Intersect**

Basma Abdel Aziz in Conversation with English PEN Director Jo Glanville

Cairo-based Basma Abdel Aziz is a celebrated novelist and non-fiction writer, a psychiatrist specialising in the treatment of victims of torture, a sculptor and a poet. The publication of her debut novel The Queue in English translation by Elisabeth Jaquette in 2016 led to her being named one of Foreign Policy’s Leading Global Thinkers for 2016. As an outspoken Egyptian woman working across disciplines and a long-standing critic of government oppression, Basma Abdel Aziz is uniquely placed to comment on the current moment in Egyptian cultural and political life. English PEN Director Jo Glanville hosts this lively conversation.
WEAVING A MAGIC CARPET OF POEMS
CHILDREN’S POETRY WORKSHOPS WITH SABRINA MAHFOUZ

SAT 15 & SUN 16 JULY | 2.30 – 3.30PM | FREE*

Come and join poet Sabrina Mahfouz for a lively, fun and interactive children’s poetry workshop. Learn to weave your everyday experiences into the fabric of Arab folk tales and produce your own magic carpet of poetry!

*For children over the age of 6 (15 July) and 10 (16 July), accompanied by a guardian. Places are limited so advance booking is essential. Day and weekend passes do not include the free afternoon children’s workshops which must be booked separately.

RASHA ABBAS
THE SEVEN OF CUPS

SAT 15 JULY | 4 – 5PM

Syrian writer Rasha Abbas, now based in Berlin, is undertaking a month-long creative research residency with Shubbak and the British Library. During her intensive immersion in the vast collections of the Library, she will be digging deep into the Arab Union, the brief period when Syria and Egypt became one nation (1958-61). Zooming in on the questions that this historical phase raises about Arab nationalism and populism both then and now, Rasha Abbas will present a narrative framed by specific tarot cards. She says of the title card “Seven of Cups tends to arise in situations involving multiple illusions and various realities”.

SHUBBAK LITERARY COLLABORATIONS

Shubbak is collaborating with leading international literature publications to publish new works from a selection of groundbreaking festival artists.

Digital magazine Words Without Borders will publish newly translated works including political nonfiction from Egyptian Basma Abdel Aziz; an extract of Nadia Elkebashy’s new novel about the Yemeni revolution; an extract of Mohamed Abdelnabi’s International Prize for Arabic Fiction-shortlisted gay Egyptian novel; and a short play by seminal Libyan playwright Mansour Bushnaf.

THIS SPECIAL FEATURE WILL GO LIVE ON 1 JULY
SHUBBAK.CO.UK | WORDSWITHOUTBORDERS.ORG

MODERN POETRY IN TRANSLATION’s summer issue will include a Shubbak focus on Arabic-language poetry, with new work from the poets appearing at the festival including Shubbak’s new commission by Golam Haji, in translation by Stephen Watts, a conversation between the literary programmer Alice Guthrie and a poet participant, and more. A range of podcasts and recordings will accompany the magazine.

SHUBBAK AT THE BRITISH LIBRARY
TWO DAYS OF INSPIRATIONAL ARAB LITERATURE

SAT 15 & SUN 16 JULY
BRITISH LIBRARY KNOWLEDGE CENTRE
96 Euston Road, NW1 2DB
+ BOOK STALL
From Al Saqi Bookshop throughout Shubbak festival

BL. UK
01937 5461546 (Mon – Fri, 9am – 5pm)
Or in person at the British Library
Single event tickets: £16 | £14 concs
One day: £24 | £22 concs
Both days: £34 | £31 concs

SHUBBAK.CO.UK | 01937 5461546

WRITING AGAINST THE GRAIN

SAT 15 JULY | 12.30 – 1.45PM
This session explores urgent issues of current literary writing. What are the inspirations, and the challenges, for the engaged Arab writer working in the current climate? What does it mean to write against the grain in 2017? How do the wider global contexts, regional events, national regimes, personal stories, and other artistic influences shape the form and the content of today’s literature? And what does it mean to be a literary activist?

Syrian British writer Robin Yassin-Kassab hosts readings and a lively conversation with three very different writers: Iraqi novelist, poet and publisher Ali Badr, dissident Libyan playwright and novelist Mansour Bushnaf and the bilingual Kuwait-born activist poet and translator Mona Kareem.

A NEW CONFIDENCE
RECENT QUEER WRITING

SAT 15 JULY | 2.15 – 3.30PM
Recent years have seen a new confidence on the part of Arab artists writing queer narratives. Join three of the most exciting contemporary writers – who embody a multiplicity of identities and sexualities across apparent divisions of class, gender, and region – for readings from their work and discussion, hosted by Alberto Fernández Carbajal of the University of Leicester.

Saleem Haddad was born in Kuwait City to an Iraqi-German mother and a Palestinian-Lebanese father. His first novel Guapa, written in English, broke new ground to rapturous reception in 2016.

Lebanese-Russian writer and academic Alexandra Cheitoh is the author of two novels in Arabic, translated and published in English as Always Coca-Cola (2009) and Ali and His Russian Mother (2010).

Amahl Khouri is a Jordanian documentary playwright and theatremaker based in Munich. Her work has been published in several U.S. journals and in the Queer Dramaturgies international anthology.

SHUBBAK LITERARY COLLABORATIONS

Shubbak is collaborating with leading international literature publications to publish new works from a selection of groundbreaking festival artists.

Digital magazine Words Without Borders will publish newly translated works including political nonfiction from Egyptian Basma Abdel Aziz; an extract of Nadia Elkebashy’s new novel about the Yemeni revolution; an extract of Mohamed Abdelnabi’s International Prize for Arabic Fiction-shortlisted gay Egyptian novel; and a short play by seminal Libyan playwright Mansour Bushnaf.

THIS SPECIAL FEATURE WILL GO LIVE ON 1 JULY
SHUBBAK.CO.UK | WORDSWITHOUTBORDERS.ORG

MODERN POETRY IN TRANSLATION’s summer issue will include a Shubbak focus on Arabic-language poetry, with new work from the poets appearing at the festival including Shubbak’s new commission by Golam Haji, in translation by Stephen Watts, a conversation between the literary programmer Alice Guthrie and a poet participant, and more. A range of podcasts and recordings will accompany the magazine.

LITERATURE
SHUBBAK AT THE BRITISH LIBRARY

KEEPERS OF THE FLAME
CONTEMPORARY ARABIC POETRY

SAT 15 JULY | 5.30 – 7PM
Celebrated poet and artist Malika Booker hosts four mesmerising poets for bilingual performances of their work, which keeps the fragile flame of poetry alive.

Golan Haji is a Syrian Kurdish poet and translator. He will be premiering new poems commissioned by Shubbak, translated by British poet Stephen Watts.

New York-based bilingual poet and translator Mona Kareem was nominated for the Best Translated Book Award 2017 for the poetry of Saudi poet Ashraf Fayadh.

Dunya Mikhail is a multi award winning Iraqi-American poet. In 2001, she was awarded the United Nations Human Rights Award for Freedom of Writing.

Al-Saddiq Al-Raddi is one of the most acclaimed African poets writing in Arabic today. He has gained a wide audience in his native Sudan as well as being shortlisted for the prestigious Ted Hughes Award in 2015.

THE WAKING NIGHTMARE
POST-REVOLUTIONARY EGYPTIAN DYSTOPIAS

SUN 16 JULY | 1.30 – 2.45PM
Six years after the revolution, in a climate of suppressed dreams, a new wave of Egyptian writers are blending horror, realism and black humour to reflect on this painful phase of their nation’s history.

Hosted by celebrated literary translator Elisabeth Jaquette, three writers working in the continuum from nightmare present realism to dystopian futurism will read from and discuss their brave work and its troubling context.

Basma Abdel Aziz is an award-winning journalist, psychiatrist, and visual artist, whose debut novel The Queue appeared in English translation in 2016.

Ganzeer is a multidisciplinary maker, writer and designer and is one of Egypt’s most famous street artists.

Mohammad Rabie is a writer and literary editor whose third novel, Otared, was shortlisted for the International Prize for Arabic Fiction in 2016.

SUSAN ABULHAWA
IN CONVERSATION WITH GILLIAN SLOVO

SUN 16 JULY | 5.30 – 7PM
Multi award winning Palestinian-American novelist Susan Abulhawa is one of the most commercially successful Arab authors of all time. Her 2010 debut novel Mornings in Jenin was an international bestseller, translated into 26 languages, and in 2015 The Blue Between Sky and Water also met a vast global readership. Her powerful, political and romantic historical fiction is written in English, yet it is deeply rooted in the land and language of Palestine.

In this special guest appearance hosted by South Africa born novelist, playwright and memoirist Gillian Slovo, Susan Abulhawa will read from her books and discuss her themes – from the historically specific and the politically engaged to the timeless and the universal.

UNDER THE RADAR
WOMEN WRITING FROM OUTSIDE THE ARAB LITERARY MAINSTREAM

SUN 16 JULY | 3.15 – 4.30PM
Coming from countries removed from the major literary markets how can female Libyan and Yemeni authors maintain their literary output? What effect do multiple levels of marginalisation have on their inspiration and publications?

The discussion and bilingual readings are hosted by UK journalist Bidisha.

Najwa Benshatwan was the first woman in her family to be literate. Persecuted for her anti-authoritarian writing, she now resides in Italy. Shortlisted for the International Prize for Arabic Fiction 2017, she is currently working on a novel about Eastern European female immigrants in Western Europe. Nadia Al-Kokabary teaches architecture at Sana’a University and is a prolific writer. Her acclaimed novel The All Muhsin Market is a tale of the Yemeni revolution.

COMICS AND CARTOON ART FROM THE ARAB WORLD

TUE 13 JUNE – SUN 29 OCTOBER
BRITISH LIBRARY TREASURES GALLERY | FREE
Explore the art, history and significance of Arab comics, cartoons, caricatures and graphic novels through original examples taken from the British Library’s collections. From 19th century Egyptian satirical press, to mid-20th century children’s comics and contemporary graphic novels discover this vibrant visual archive that illustrates and engages issues concerning everyday life, politics and society across the Arab world and beyond.


Tunisian artist Malek Gnaoui delves into the history of boxing in Dalston. Fascinated by the historic popularity of this sport and its links to both religion and corruption, he creates a new visual and sound installation. Sculptural punchbags occupy a church hall emitting voices from local boxers – a sombre display of ambition, fate and fighting for one’s place in life.

Trained as a ceramist, Malek Gnaoui’s interdisciplinary art practice explores aspects of spirituality in popular imagery and custom.

Shubbak in Dalston is presented with additional support from the Paul Hamyln Foundation and Al Mawred Al Thaqafy.
As part of its 2017 collaboration with two influential festivals in the Arab region to imagine new responses to local contexts, Shubbak has invited artistic directors Aurélien Zouki and Eric Deniaud (Collectif Kahraba) to commission a series of events for the Shepherd’s Bush area, exploring West London’s vibrant neighbourhood with a rich multicultural history.

Nehna Wel Amar Wel Jiran (We, the Moon and the Neighbours) is an annual outdoors festival in Beirut, led by Collectif Kahraba and named after a famous Lebanese song. Throughout the festival, the neighbourhood becomes alive with storytelling, puppetry, theatre, dance and music, and meetings between local residents, artists and visitors.

Join us for three days of creative interventions as artists take over Shepherd’s Bush’s busy market, and mingle with shoppers and market traders.

**FREE & FAMILY FRIENDLY!**

**FULL DETAILS FROM 1 JULY ON SHUBBAK.CO.UK**

With additional support from the Paul Hamyln Foundation, HIVOS, Amal – A Said Foundation Project and Al Mawred Al Thaqafy.

Experience Beirut’s quirky design collective Studio Kawakeb as they occupy and transform the site through an exploration of the area’s visual identity.

Let yourself be guided by Alia Alzougbi’s storytelling, as she gathers personal and alternative stories with the participation of White City Youth Theatre.

Immerse yourself and take part in a soundscape booth by London’s all-female arts collective Variant Space, as they record and broadcast local audio chronicles.

Come and enjoy a variety of music performances, including renowned kanun player Maya Youssef.

Let your senses be stirred by Sudanese chef and artist Omer Eltigani’s exploration of food and memory.

Each day will end with a concert at the newly reopened Bush Theatre.

**SHUBBAK IN SHEPHERD’S BUSH**

**A COLLABORATION WITH NEHNA WEL AMAR WEL JIRAN FESTIVAL**

**INCLUDING: STUDIO KAWAKEB, ALIA ALZOGUBI, VARIANT SPACE, MAYA YOUSSEF, OMER ELTIGANI**

**THU 13 – SAT 15 JULY**

**SHEPHERD’S BUSH MARKET**

Goldhawk Road, W12 8DG

**BUSH THEATRE**

7 Uxbridge Road, W12 8LJ

**SHUBBAK ON TOUR**

You can catch some of the Shubbak 2017 events as they travel around the UK this summer.

**AND HERE I AM**

**HASSAN ABDELRAZZAK**

P. 5

27 – 28 JUNE

EVERYMAN CHELTENHAM

30 JUNE – 1 JULY

NUFFIELD, SOUTHAMPTON

10 – 11 JULY

THE LOWRY, SALFORD

12 JULY

LIVERPOOL ARAB ARTS FESTIVAL

UNITY THEATRE

14 – 15 JULY

BIKE SHED, EXETER

17 – 18 JULY

ASSEMBLY ROOMS, EDINBURGH

19 JULY

NORTH WALL, OXFORD

22 JULY

THE CUT, HALESWORTH

**DEVELOPINGARTISTS.ORG.UK**

**TAHA AMER HLEHEL**

P. 6

SAT 1 JULY

6PM

THE LOWRY, SALFORD

**THELOWRY.COM**

**SACRÉ PRINTEMPS!**

**CIE CHATHA**

P. 7

9 JULY

LIVERPOOL ARAB ARTS FESTIVAL

OPEN EYE GALLERY

WINTER GARDEN

**ARABARTSFESTIVAL.COM**

**HAWIDRO / MAYA YOUSSEF**

P. 19

1 JULY

ART IN THE PARK, MILTON KEYNES

**MKIAC.ORG**
SUN 9 JULY
ANIMATED IMAGES
10am – 11pm
Mezzanine Gallery
Rich Mix P.21
SHUBBAK IN
DALSTON
10am – 6pm
Various Locations P.34
SHORTS
FROM SYRIA
2pm
Cinema 2, Barbican P.27
OBSCURE
4.30pm
Cinema 2, Barbican P.28
TRAMONTANE
6.30pm
Cinema 2, Barbican P.28

MON 10 JULY
ANIMATED IMAGES
10am – 11pm
Mezzanine Gallery
Rich Mix P.21
TRANSACTION
7.30pm
Hackney Showroom P.9
TAHA
7.45pm
The Maria, Young Vic P.6

TUE 11 JULY
ANIMATED IMAGES
10am – 11pm
Mezzanine Gallery
Rich Mix P.21
SHIFT
11am – 6pm
The Mosaic Rooms P.20
CURATING IN
SAUDI: A NEW
GENERATION
7pm
The Mosaic Rooms P.29
TAHA
2.45 & 7.45pm
The Maria, Young Vic P.6
WHERE ACTIVISM
& IMAGINATION
INTERSECT
7 – 8.15pm
Free Word Centre P.29
MIND, THE GAP
& FOR THE
ABSENT ONES
8pm
Arcola Theatre P.10

WEED 12 JULY
ANIMATED IMAGES
10am – 11pm
Mezzanine Gallery
Rich Mix P.21
SHIFT
11am – 6pm
The Mosaic Rooms P.20
TAHA
2.45 & 7.45pm
The Maria, Young Vic P.6
THE CRAFT
12 – 6pm
Gasworks P.21
MIND, THE GAP
& FOR THE
ABSENT ONES
8pm
Arcola Theatre P.10

THU 13 JULY
ANIMATED IMAGES
10am – 11pm
Mezzanine Gallery
Rich Mix P.21
SHIFT
11am – 6pm
The Mosaic Rooms P.20
SHUBBAK IN
SHEPHERD’S BUSH
10am – 7pm
Shepherd’s Bush Market
& Bush Theatre P.36
TAHA
2.45 & 7.45pm
The Maria, Young Vic P.6
WHERE ACTIVISM
& IMAGINATION
INTERSECT
7 – 8.15pm
Free Word Centre P.29
MIND, THE GAP
& FOR THE
ABSENT ONES
8pm
Arcola Theatre P.10

FRI 14 JULY
ANIMATED IMAGES
10am – 11pm
Mezzanine Gallery
Rich Mix P.21
SHIFT
11am – 6pm
The Mosaic Rooms P.20
SHUBBAK IN
SHEPHERD’S BUSH
10am – 7pm
Shepherd’s Bush Market
& Bush Theatre P.36
TAHA
2.45 & 7.45pm
The Maria, Young Vic P.6
THE CRAFT
12 – 6pm
Gasworks P.21
WOMAN AT POINT
ZERO & FOUR ARAB
COMPOSERS
7.30pm
LSO St Luke’s P.16
TAHA
7.45pm
The Maria, Young Vic P.6
LOVE & REVENGE
8pm
Rich Mix P.17
THREE ROOMS
8pm
Arcola Theatre P.11

SAT 15 JULY
ANIMATED IMAGES
10am – 11pm
Mezzanine Gallery
Rich Mix P.21
SHIFT
11am – 6pm
The Mosaic Rooms P.20
SHUBBAK IN
SHEPHERD’S BUSH
10am – 7pm
Shepherd’s Bush Market
& Bush Theatre P.36
TAHA
2.45 & 7.45pm
The Maria, Young Vic P.6
THE CRAFT
12 – 6pm
Gasworks P.21
WRITING AGAINST
THE GRAIN
12.30 – 1.45pm
British Library P.30
A NEW CONFIDENCE
2.15 – 3.30pm
British Library P.30
WEAVING A MAGIC
CARPET OF POEMS
2.30 – 3.30pm
British Library P.30
SUSAN ABULHAWA
5.30 – 7pm
British Library P.33

SUN 16 JULY
ANIMATED IMAGES
10am – 11pm
Mezzanine Gallery
Rich Mix P.21
THE CRAFT
12 – 6pm
Gasworks P.21
THE WAKING
NIGHTMARE
1.30 – 2.45pm
British Library P.32
WEAVING A MAGIC
CARPET OF POEMS
2.30 – 3.30pm
British Library P.30
UNDER THE RADAR
3.15 – 4.30pm
British Library P.33
WEAVING A MAGIC
CARPET OF POEMS
2.30 – 3.30pm
British Library P.30
A NEW CONFIDENCE
2.15 – 3.30pm
British Library P.30
SUSAN ABULHAWA
5.30 – 7pm
British Library P.33

SHUBBA.CO.UK
ABOUT SHUGBAK
Shubbak is London's largest biennial festival of contemporary Arab culture. Now in its fourth edition, Shubbak connects London audiences and communities with the best of contemporary Arab culture through ambitious festival programmes of premieres and commissions of visual arts, film, music, theatre, dance, literature and debate. We work with arts institutions in London and internationally.

“[A] triumphant celebration of Arab contemporary culture” THE MAJALLA

WHO WE ARE

THE TEAM
Eckhard Thiemann
Artistic Director
Daniel Gorman
Executive Director
Reem Akl
Festival & Engagement Producer
Alice Guthrie
Literature Curator and Producer
Elhum Shakerifar
Film Curator and Producer
Anna Arthur PR
MakesThree Marketing

BOARD OF TRUSTEES
Maysoon Pachachi Chair
Aaron Cezar
Director, The Delfina Foundation
David Freeman
Consultant, Thomas Eggar LLP
Lynn Gaspard
Director, Saqi Books
Noreen Abu Oun
Robin Start
Owner, The Park Gallery
Roxane Zand
Sotheby’s Deputy Chairman for the Middle East

CONTACT US
SHUBBAK
c/o Arab British Centre
1 Gough Square
London EC4A 3DE
info@shubbak.co.uk

Sign up to our mailing list at shubbak.co.uk/contact
Support us at shubbak.co.uk/support-us

SHUBBAK IS ALSO VERY GRATEFUL TO ALL OUR INDIVIDUAL DONORS.

THANK YOU TO ALL OUR VOLUNTEERS AND SUPPORTERS!

SHUBBAK.CO.UK

SUPPORTERS & PARTNERS

VENUE PARTNERS

SHUBBAK.CO.UK