

The atmospheric quotes of The Distant Here have been placed in important locations across West & North West London that have a strong connection to the history and presence of Palestinian communities. Each beautifully designed excerpt is from Heba Hayek and Yara Hawari's new novels (*Sambac Beneath Unlikely Skies* and *The Stone House*) published by Hajar Press.

The excerpts from the two novels evoke a dialogue with businesses, cultural centres and locations of Palestinian and Arab presence. Find billboards near each listed location. In each location you will also find posters and postcards with a discount code for Hajar Press' annual subscription which includes *Sambac Beneath Unlikely Skies* and *The Stone House* (visit www.hajarpres.com/subscribe to purchase a subscription).

Take a photo of a billboard or poster and tag @ShubbakFestival and @HajarPress on Instagram or Twitter using the hashtags #ShubbakFestival and #TheDistantHere. This list gives you brief information of the cultural or historical significance of each location.

The Distant Here was commissioned by Shubbak Festival.
www.shubbak.co.uk



01

28°-50° WINE WORKSHOP & KITCHEN, 96 DRAYCOTT AVENUE (IVES STREET), LONDON SW3 3AD

On the quiet backstreet of Ives Street in Knightsbridge, 51-year-old political cartoonist Naji Al-Ali was assassinated in 1987. Al-Ali's most famous piece of work is the *Handala*—a refugee child who never shows their face and an important symbol of Palestinian resistance.

28°-50° Wine Workshop & Kitchen brings French and modern European cuisine with Middle Eastern touches to the West London community. The newly opened Ives Street branch of 28°-50° is honoured to host a poster at the very top of Ives Street (corner of Draycott Avenue).

02

MOSAIC ROOMS, 226 CROMWELL RD, KENSINGTON, LONDON SW5 0SW

The Mosaic Rooms is a free space for culture from the Arab world and beyond. They hold contemporary art exhibitions and run a programme of regular events featuring artists, writers, thinkers and performers working today. They host a rich range of voices from the Arab world and beyond, including the diaspora and others whose work intersects with the themes in the gallery's programme.

Billboards nearby:

[230 North End Road, W14 9NU \(28th June - 11th July\)](#)
[2 Holland Road, W14 8LY](#)
[204 Hammersmith Road, W6 7DJ](#)
[8 Hammersmith Broadway, W6 9YE](#)

03

SAQI BOOKS, 26 WESTBOURNE GROVE, LONDON W2 5RH

Since opening its doors in 1978, Al Saqi bookshop has become a vital cultural and intellectual focal point, serving expatriate communities in the UK as well as travellers unable to procure books banned in their native countries.

04

MARAMIA CAFÉ, 48 GOLBORNE ROAD, LADBROKE GROVE, LONDON W10 5PR

Maramia is the first of its kind in the UK, offering home-made Palestinian cuisine in the heart of London. Maramia's goal is to tell a different story than the media's - it isn't just a conflict, Palestine has so much more to offer. Maramia shows the beauty of Palestine through traditional food, culture, folklore and true Palestinian hospitality.

Billboard nearby:

[325 Portobello Road, W10 5SY](#)

05

BUSH THEATRE, 7 UXBRIDGE RD, SHEPHERD'S BUSH, LONDON W12 8LJ

The Bush Theatre is a world-famous home for new plays and an internationally renowned champion of playwrights. Spot posters in the nooks and crannies of the Bush (opening hours are from 1-8pm).

06

MR FALAFEL, UNITS T4-T5, NEW SHEPHERD'S BUSH MARKET, 15 UXBRIDGE RD, LONDON W12 8LH

A by-line for a snack bar that reads 'The Best Palestinian Falafel' is surely worth visiting. Find the corresponding billboard nearby.

Billboards nearby:

[1 Shepherds Bush Road, W12 8QA](#)
[Olympia Station, W14 ONE \(28th June - 11th July\)](#)
[Goldhawk Road Station, W12 8EG](#)

Locations and dates may be subject to change during the course of the exhibition and not all sites may display the posters at all times.

07

JERUSALEM LOUNGE, 107 UXBRIDGE RD, SHEPHERD'S BUSH, LONDON W12 8NL

Jerusalem Lounge is an underground haven for shisha lovers and tea drinkers alike, filled with maps of the Old City and a secret library (please note the business re-opens on 19th July).

Billboard nearby:

[93 Bloemfontein Road, W12 7DA](#)

08

LEVANT BOOK CAFÉ, 26-28 STANDARD RD, PARK ROYAL, LONDON NW10 6EU

Levant Book Café is a beautifully adorned Syrian dessert parlour and library. When you enter the café you'll find antique items from Syria dotted around the space, alongside quotes of compelling one-liners in Arabic painted on its walls. Levant Book Café is a physical act of preservation for the Syrian diaspora.

Billboards nearby:

[Park Royal Road, NW10 7JA \(28th June - 11th July\)](#)
[Park Royal Road, NW10 6JZ \(28th June - 11th July\)](#)

09

BAMBOO LOUNGE, 823 WESTERN RD, LONDON NW10 7LT

A multi-purpose venue, restaurant and shisha lounge with a reputation for hosting big name Arab musicians including Saif Nabeel (سيف نبيل), Hussam Al-Rassam (حسام الرسام), Qasim Al-Sultan (قاسم السلطان), Ismail Al-Farwaji (إسماعيل الفروه جي), Adel Ogla (عادل عكلة).

Billboards nearby

[Chase Road, Railway Bridge, Acton, NW10 6LU \(28th June - 25th July\)](#)
[\(H&S\) High St Acton Vale, Railway Bridge, W3 6QX \(28th June - 25th July\)](#)