

ARTISTIC HUBS in and of the Arab Region

DAY ONE

Monday, 3 June 2024, Orient-Institut Beirut

- 9:30-10:00 **Welcome and Introduction**
Nadia von Maltzahn (LAWHA, OIB/Max Weber Stiftung)
- 10:00-11:30 KEYNOTE 1
Arab Artistic Hubs from the Twentieth to the Twenty-first Century
Silvia Naef (University of Geneva)
Chair: Nadia von Maltzahn
- 11:30-12:00 COFFEE
- 12:00-13:30 **PANEL 1: BEIRUT AS AN INTELLECTUAL AND CULTURAL HUB**
Chair: Sonja Mejcher-Atassi (AUB)
- Politics, Economy, and Space: Notes for a Research Program on the History of Beirut as a Cultural Capital (1950s-1980s)**
Candice Raymond (CNRS/Université Paris 1 Panthéon-Sorbonne)
- La diffusion et le développement de la critique d'art irakienne : le rôle central des revues al-Adīb et al-Ādāb dans les échanges culturels et artistiques transrégionaux**
Zouina Ait Slimani (University of Geneva/Nantes)
- The Maghrib in Beirut: Beyond Stories of Centres and Peripheries**
Idriss Jebari (Trinity College Dublin)
- 13:30-15:00 LUNCH
- 15:00-17:00 **PANEL 2: BEIRUT AS AN ARTISTIC HUB**
Chair: Saleh Barakat (Agial and Saleh Barakat Gallery)
- Thea Porter, “gifted amateur and embassy wife”**
Venetia Porter (former senior curator British Museum)
- Soviet Influence on Beirut’s Cultural Scene through the lens of Dar El Fan**
Flavia Malusardi (LAWHA, Cà Foscari University of Venice and OIB)
- “Those days, the heart of Beirut was beating very hard”: The Sursock Museum as an Artistic Hub of Elsewhere**
Ashraf Osman (LAWHA, Cà Foscari University of Venice and OIB)
- “Vive l'expérimentation!” Looking at Beirut through its Art Exhibitions: Contact Art Gallery**
Monique Bellan (LAWHA, Max Weber Stiftung)

DAY TWO

Tuesday, 4 June 2024, Orient-Institut Beirut

- 10.00-11:00 EXHIBITION INSIGHTS
Présences Arabes: Art modernes et décolonisation. Paris 1908-1988. Musée d'Art Moderne de Paris 2024
Morad Montazami (Zamān Books & Curating)
- 11:00-12:30 **PANEL 3: INSTITUTIONS AND NETWORKS OF CULTURAL HUBS**
Chair: Kirsten Scheid (AUB)
- Pan-Arabism in Baghdad: Revisiting the Genesis of Regional Artistic Solidarity**
Amin Alsaden (Curator, scholar, educator)
- Building a Cultural Hub in the Arab Region: The Role of Public Relations in Shaping Sharjah’s Image**
Samar Ben Romdhane (Ajman University UAE)
- Why Riyadh is a Centre for Culture in the Arab World**
Sean Foley (Middle Tennessee State University)
- 12:30-14:00 LUNCH
- 14.00-15:00 **PANEL 4: QUESTIONING ARTISTIC HUBS**
Chair: Pelin Tan (Batman University, Turkey)
- Crisis as Opportunity: Artistic Negotiations of Queer Rights in Beirut’s Protest Movement of 2019**
Charlotte Bank (University of Kassel/documenta Institut)
- Berlin: Capital of Arab Artists in Exile? Thinking about mobility and otherness through the experiences of Egyptian artists**
Ophélie Mercier (Ghent University and Centre Marc Bloch Berlin)
- 15:00-15:30 COFFEE
- 15:30-17:00 KEYNOTE 2
Rootlessness, Exile, and Anxiety: Reflections on Berlin
Amro Ali (Hassan II University of Casablanca)
Chair: Jens Hanssen (OIB)

DAY THREE

Wednesday, 5 June 2024

- 10:00-11:30 Visit Intimate Garden Scene, Sursock Museum
- 11:30-13:00 **CLOSING ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSION**
(Library of the Sursock Museum)
Reflecting on Beirut and conceptualising pull and push factors of cultural hubs in and of the Arab region
With Lamia Joreige and Gregory Buchakjian, moderated by Nadia von Maltzahn