



FREEDOM TRANSMISSIONS presents the topics *ARTS, RIGHTS, JUSTICE and HOW FREE IS FREE?* in four respective rooms and consists of parallel events ranging from artwork exhibitions, screenings and performances to debates and talks. We invite you to freely explore the rooms any time - each room exhibits specific content and art works throughout the whole evening. Please find details about their content below. At the same time, we invite you to attend artistic live interventions and activities, and to actively engage in debates with artists and experts from the field of the protection of artistic freedom of expression. The event will start at 6pm and will continue until midnight.

Room ARTS

... provides insight into the definition of freedom of artistic expression as well as the challenges facing freedom of artistic expression. It outlines the different instruments and actors involved in protecting and promoting freedom of artistic expression. Please feel invited to explore topics through the paintings and art-works of:

Azza Abo Rebieh: **Plate 09**, 2018, **Plate 10**, 2018, **Plate 11**, 2018, **Plate 12**, 2018, **Plate 16**, 2017, **Plate 17**, 2018
DINO Ahmad Ali: **Snonoia**, 2015

Room RIGHTS

... explores the legal mechanisms that protect and defend freedom of artistic expression. It showcases the meaning of censorship and the absence of rights to artistic expression, as well as the possible effect on artistic productions. Let us introduce you to the works of:

Tewa Barnosa: **Sun on closed windows**, 2019
Ahmed Elbukhari: **Kashan** in **Sun on closed windows**, 2017, (artist talk at 9:30pm)
Fatemeh Ekhtesari: **A feministic discussion before boiling the potatoes**, 2010, (artist talk and performance at 9:30pm)

Room JUSTICE

... questions the power relations behind the word 'justice' with regard to freedom of artistic expression. It presents different models for protecting artistic freedom in constitutional and legal systems and invites you to create your own picture of the definition of justice with the paintings of:

Taeyong Jeong: **Look Inside (The last divided country in the world)**, 2018

Zehra Dogan: **Mardin Prison**, 2016, **Mardin Prison – Why do these birds land in prison?**, 2016, **Mardin Prison – Imprisoned love**, 2016, **Mardin Prison – Painting the yard**, 2016, **Mardin Prison – Nursan mother**, 2016, **Mardin Prison – Imprisoned sleep**, 2016

Andra Matei with Don Stone and Katia Hermann: **Graffiti: Free expression or vandalism?**, (panel discussion at 8:15pm)

Room HOW FREE IS FREE?

... aims to provide space for your own thoughts, questions and opinions on freedom of artistic expression and freedom of expression in general. Inspired by the running movie and exhibited books, feel free to engage in debates and discussions on the subject:

Disnovation Collection: BLACKLISTS - VOL. I-XIII. Nicolas Maigret & Maria Roszkowska (ed.)

The Cleaners. A documentary by Hans Block & Moritz Rieseewieck, 2018. (starts at 10:30pm)

Part of the event and exhibition will be also an exclusive postcard edition with motives from Guerilla Girls, Azza Abo Rebieh, Zehra Doğan, Tewa Barnosa.

Schedule

6 p.m. Doors Open

6:15 p.m. Opening and Guided Tour

Wolfgang Schneider: *Introduction of the ARJ Programme and the ARJ Studies*

Khaled Barakeh: *Introduction of CoCulture e. V. and the concept of FREEDOM TRANSMISSIONS*

7:15 p.m. Artistic Performance

Bananas, power & women

8:15 p.m. Panel Discussion

Andra Matei with Don Stone and Katia Hermann: *Graffiti: Free expression or vandalism?*

9:30 p.m. Artists' Talks and Artistic Performance

Tewa Barnosa: *Sun on closed windows*

Fatemeh Ekhtesari: *A feministic discussion before boiling the potatoes*

Ahmed Elbukhari: *When the ban comes from society!*

Three artists, from different backgrounds, share their personal stories of censorship and how they dealt with it.

10:30 p.m. Film Screening

'The Cleaners' (2018). A documentary of Hans Block & Moritz Rieseewieck.

Short Biographies

Ahmed Elbukhari is a Libyan writer and novelist, born in Tripoli. He has published two novels, "Kashan" and "al-Khidr". Some sections of his novel "Kashan" in the anthology "sun on closed windows" provoked a great media frenzy: some accused him of infidelity, obscenity and the undermining of society. The novel was banned in Libya. Ahmed Elbukhari is also one of the founders of the NGO "Tanweer", through which he spreads the principles of human rights, equality and non-discrimination, using human rights projects and cultural and artistic activities.

Andra Matei is a human rights lawyer and founder of Avant-Garde Lawyers. In this capacity, Andra coordinates the defence strategy for artists whose free expression has been curtailed by the state or private actors all over the world. Previously, Andra Matei practised at the European Court of Human Rights, assessing the ways in which national judicial authorities upheld the rights of applicants in hundreds of cases dealing with freedom of expression and other issues. She has lectured in human rights law at several international schools, and designed and delivered the first in-house course on freedom of artistic expression for lawyers at the Registry of the European Court of Human Rights in 2016.

Azza Abo Rebieh is a Printmaker. Having graduated from the Faculty of Fine Arts in Damascus in 2002, she is specialized in printmaking techniques. With her projects, she has won several prizes in competitions, such as the Damascus Exhibition 2005, Italy, for her work entitled "Justice". Since 2009, she also worked as freelance animator and illustrator and has published 25 books. Since 2011, she has also been doing videography and making short films. Additionally, Azza Abo Rebieh has given talks at different venues such as L'ART CONTEMPORAIN SYRIEN: HISTOIRE D'UNE RÉVOLUTION VISUELLE, Paris, and the ART IN CONFLICT Symposium, London 2019.

DINO Ahmad Ali is a visual artist who graduated from the Faculty of Fine Arts in Damascus, and then specialized in visual communication. With his art projects, he received the first prize at the exhibition «The relationship between traditional Islamic art and contemporary design» at the National Museum of Damascus in 2010, and at the «Young Artists Contest» organized by Kozah Gallery in Damascus, Syria in 2008. Since 2005, DINO has been dedicated to creating optical illusions through installations and digital artworks.

Don Karl (aka Stone) is a cultural enabler, graffiti writer, author and publisher. He has published several books since 1986, including "Arabic Graffiti" and "Walls of Freedom: Street Art of the Egyptian Revolution", which were confiscated by the police and banned in Egypt and the Arab Gulf monarchies. Since the beginning of the Arab uprisings in 2011, he has worked closely with Egyptian street artists in presenting a series of events and exhibitions. He has curated numerous international urban art projects, such as Cubabrazil and White Wall Beirut.

Fatemeh Ekhtesari is an acknowledged poet, both in her home country of Iran and internationally. She forms part of the literary movement, the Post-modern Ghazal, which is regarded as the most radical poetic movement in contemporary Iran. In October 2015, a Tehran Revolutionary Court sentenced Ekhtesari to punishment of 11 years and 6 months in prison and 99 lashes, on charges of "insulting the sacred" and "spreading propaganda about the state" in the social criticism that was expressed in her poetry. While her sentences were being appealed against, Fatemeh Ekhtesari chose to leave the country and, with the support of ICORN, she now resides in Norway.

Guerrilla Girls The Guerrilla Girls are feminist activist artists and have included 55 members over the years. Their anonymity keeps the focus on the issues, and away from who they might be. They wear gorilla masks in public and use facts, humour and outrageous visuals to expose gender and ethnic bias, as well as corruption in politics, art, film and pop culture. The Guerrilla Girls undermine the idea of a mainstream narrative by revealing the understorey, the subtext, the overlooked, and the downright unfair in over 100 projects internationally, including posters, actions, books, videos, stickers. They believe in an intersectional feminism that fights discrimination and supports human rights for all people and all genders.

Katia Hermann has worked as a freelance exhibition-maker/curator, cultural manager, writer and translator. After making several documentary films and extensive exhibition productions, she curated thematic exhibitions of modern and contemporary art for institutions and project spaces. In addition to doing commissions, she always endeavours to promote artists using contemporary, relevant political and social topics. In 2018 she curated a thematic photo exhibition about Berlin Graffiti Writing and initiated and organized the Urban Art Week. Since a couple of years Katia is researching, networking and writing about urban arts.

Khaled Barakeh is a conceptual artist and cultural activist. After he graduated from the Faculty of Fine Arts in Damascus, Syria, in 2005, he moved from Syria to Europe, and this geographical shift in his life resulted in major changes in his approach to his work. Although he originally trained as a painter, he developed a stronger focus on contemporary art practices, amongst other things. Outside of the context of his artistic practice, he has founded a non-profit organisation, [CoCulture e. V.](#), through which he manages several initiatives, focused on addressing different facets of the challenges faced by displaced cultural producers in the Middle East, Europe and beyond.

Taeyong Jeong Taeyong Jeong is a visual artist from South Korea, expressing the art world in various fields of painting and illustration, media art, and performance live painting. He expresses his spirit in art in two worlds: HIDEYES and revealeyes. HIDEYES uses the present “Face with myself” expression from past experiences to express its "look inside". Amongst other things, revealeyes completes a contradictory image that is antisocial, by covering the inside of a smiling mask and expressing the outside.

Tewa Barnosa was born and raised in Tripoli, Libya. In her artistic productions, she has focused on the use of Arabic calligraphy as the main element, starting from paintings and then progressing to sculptures and digital mediums. She has dedicated her artworks to highlighting and addressing topics within the Libyan conflict of identity, language, and roots, as well as socio-political issues concerning immigration, diversity and free artistic expression in post-war situations. Her work has been exhibited in Gallerie Delle prigioni Treviso, Casa arabe Madrid, AWAN London, 12-14 contemporary Vienna, David Gallo gallery Milan, P21 London, and other spaces and institutions in different countries.

Zehra Dogan is a Kurdish artist and journalist from Diyarbakir, Turkey. She graduated from the Dicle University on Arts, started working as a journalist, and was one of the founders of Turkey’s first women’s news agency, called JINHA. Zehra Dogan covered the clashes between armed groups and state forces in the Kurdish towns of Turkey and reported from the war zone, while also painting her experiences. As a result, she was imprisoned for more than 2 years for “terrorist propaganda”. The main themes of her work are women and social struggles.

FREEDOM TRANSMISSIONS is curated by the artist, cultural activist and founder of CoCulture e. V., Khaled Barakeh, and is organised by the ARTS RIGHTS JUSTICE Programme at the University of Hildesheim and CoCulture e. V., a Berlin-based non-profit cultural organization. The event is dedicated to interventions on the protection and promotion of artistic freedom and forms part of the Long Night of Ideas 2019, initiated and funded by the German Federal Foreign Office.

About the ARTS RIGHTS JUSTICE Programme

The ARTS RIGHTS JUSTICE Programme (www.arts-rights-justice.de) was developed in cooperation with 30 international expert institutions with the support of the German Federal Foreign Office and the International Cities of Refuge Network (ICORN). It is part of the UNESCO Chair in *Cultural Policy for the Arts in Development* at the University of Hildesheim. The aim of the programme is to strengthen and expand structures for the promotion and protection of artistic freedom.

About CoCulture e. V.

CoCulture e. V. (www.coculture.de) is a non-profit association based in Berlin and a creative hub that serves as an institutional framework for social and art projects. The association was founded in 2017 as a response to the challenges facing artists with a migration background today. CoCulture e. V. combines art with political and social issues in order to improve the situation of artists in exile and at the same time contribute to the local cultural scene.



coculture