asablan

Casahlanca

From the shape of a letter, to the word, to the sentence, to the page, to the city

Workshop and Walk Series
A proposition of Manuel Raeder
Invited participants: Badreddine Haoutar / Trick54

Workshop with students from L'École Supérieure des beaux-arts

Tuesday 25 October Wednesday 26 October

3–7 pm

@People's Choice

Language: English/French/Darija

Walk

Thursday 20 October

10 am @ThinkArt

Lananina

Language: English/French/Darija

Registration



For the second part of his public programme, Manuel Raeder looks at how the Casablanca Art School adopted a renewed perspective on Morocco's cultural heritage, using traditional crafts such as basket weaving, carpet making or wood carving as a starting point. The Casablanca Art School members worked in contemporary artistic mediums, drawing on traditional arts and transforming their forms, patterns and techniques into new contexts.

Social space and architecture played an important role for the school members as a means of bringing artistic practice into the public space through graphic design, integrations and murals.

After his first visit to Morocco, Manuel Raeder's interest and research focused on the function of public spaces in the dissemination of artistic practices such as street art and music. He draws a parallel with what the Casablanca Art School achieved at the time, bringing the recent past into the present and transforming it through a collaborative practice.

He invited Badreddine Haoutar and Trick54 to contribute to his research.

Workshop

Badreddine Haoutar aka Snoopy aka Retro Cassetta is a practicing musician and DJ who focuses on collecting the diversity of North African music recorded specifically in the cassette/tape format from the 1980s to the early 2000s. Retro Cassetta has about 20,000 cassettes of music ranging from Chaabi, Gnawa, Rock, Rap, Electro, Raï from Morocco, Algeria and Libya. Long before music was available online, cassettes were the main format for distributing and copying music in Morocco and North Africa. Retro Cassetta has been finding forgotten tapes that were never digitized, implying that their artists are on the verge of disappearance. Through the collection of these tapes, he creates new compositions and mixes them, bringing certain genres and artistes of the Moroccan and North African music scene into the present.

For his Tape looping workshop, Retro Cassetta will create with the students of L'École Supérieure des beaux-arts de Casablanca an alternative timeline, a playful diagram of the different musical styles and key players on the Moroccan and North African cassette scene, with the aim of pinpointing their influences on musical styles and imagining their transformation. The students will make new cassettes, stitching together tape loops and creating unconventional sounds. The result will be a visual carpet of the North African cassette music scene and new mixtapes with their covers that Manuel Raeder will help design.

Walk

Trick54, also known as Grocco, is one of the most present graffiti/street artists in Casablanca. Graffiti artists usually operate within abandoned territories and buildings. These sites, used by the homeless, cats and pigeons, may, as recent history has shown us, become the centre of gentrification and speculation.

Grocco, who has been exploring the city for many years, will walk us through the city over the course of a day, taking different routes and telling stories of Casablanca that are not related to modernist architecture or well-known monuments. Instead, he will explore the peripheral zones and areas of Casablanca that very few people want to see or whose stories they want to tell in the present, offering us privileged access to a history of Casablanca that is often marginalized, forgotten or erased.