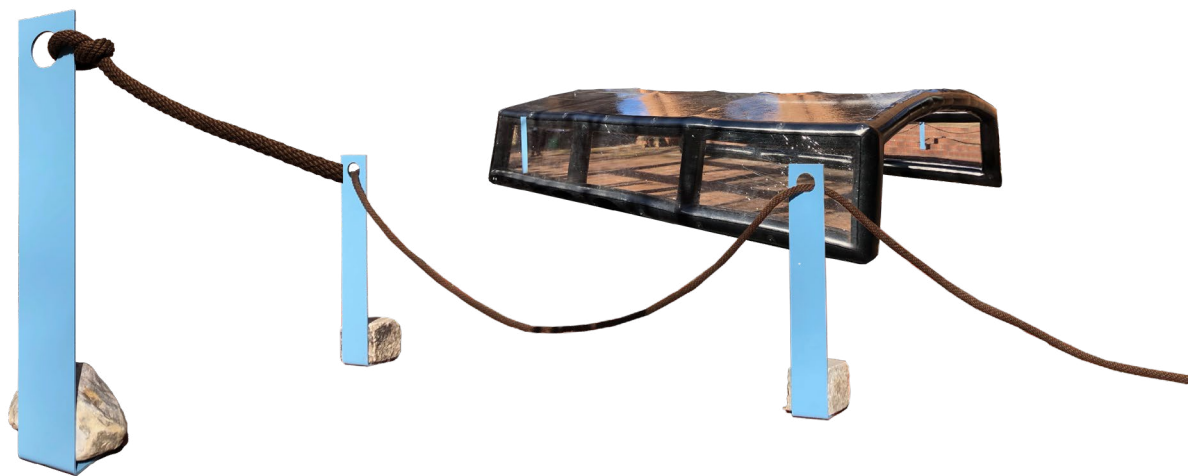


From the shape of a letter, to the word, to the sentence, to the page, to the city

A Public Programme by Manuel Raeder
June & October 2022

ThinkArt
130 boulevard Zerktouni
Casablanca, Morocco



For the project in Casablanca, I'm particularly attracted to the work that has been created for public spaces by the Casablanca Art School in the 1960s and 1970s. For instance, the murals in Asilah that are in the open city landscape, or works that were commissioned for public buildings, such as the post office or the murals on façades of buildings in Casablanca. My own praxis as a graphic designer who has participated in painting murals and graffiti in the 1990s, is strongly defined by the idea of art and design that is accessible and available in public spaces.

Since the very beginning of my practice, I have focused on public spaces and how they can be appropriated to someone's personal needs, or even be re-adapted for purposes that they were not initially intended for. Publishing books for me is similar, as the act of independent publishing has to do with the possibility of breaking out of institutional structures. Books can have their own circulation of ideas and discourses. Books can be used to make entire exhibitions or to create a parallel discourse to artworks outside of a museum or gallery space.

During my residency, I would like to develop a project that can be realised in the public landscape of Casablanca, in the city's open space. This could be on the edge of the city, specifically locations that are barely noticeable, the so-called in-between spaces or abandoned pieces of land. This project could occupy an empty piece of land, either inside the city or on the outskirts.

My project would convert a small piece of land into a mixture of a public sitting area, staircase, skate park, walls for ball games, chess board table and a hangout spot where the young and old can meet and interact. It would transform vacant land into a recreational area, an outdoor public space where a variety of activities suitable for different age groups take place. The landscape would be converted by applying a variety of simple building techniques, working with concrete molds, local craftsmen, such as steel welders, carpenters, and also integrating native plants.

—Manuel Raeder

June 2022

Many more meals with the School of Casablanca

Thanks to the generous help of Sabrina Kamili

The School of Casablanca warmly invites art-enthusiasts, artists and activists of Casablanca into its space for eating and thinking, for food and informal encounters, with Manuel Reader.

The first venue is a lunch at ThinkArt on Saturday, 11 June 2022, starting at 1pm. Everyone is welcome!

Artist Talk with Manuel Raeder

Wednesday, 22 June 2022

6 pm

ThinkArt

An Artist Talk, moderated by Salma Lahlou, takes place in Casablanca at ThinkArt. The Talk will be in English and shall start with a presentation by Manuel Reader on his practice and ongoing research for the *School of Casablanca*, followed by a discussion with the moderator and a Q&A session with the public.

Looking at/for urban sites

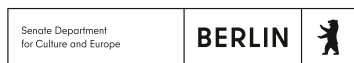
Throughout June, walks in the city of Casablanca will take place. There will be a specific focus for each visit.

If you wish to know more about the dates and focus, please send us an email at sl@schoolofcasablanca.com

Part of *the School of Casablanca*

The *School of Casablanca* is a collaborative project that takes as its starting point the legacy of the Casablanca Art School and its innovative pedagogical methods and exhibition strategies in 1960s Morocco.

KW Institute for Contemporary Art and Sharjah Art Foundation, in collaboration with Goethe-Institut Marokko, ThinkArt and Zamân Books & Curating initiated the School of Casablanca. The project includes research residencies, public programmes, a digital archive and a touring exhibition of new works created by the residents as well as an exhibition of historical works by the artists who were originally associated with the Casablanca Art School. Launched in 2020, the initiative will continue through 2024.



THINKART



The *School of Casablanca* is initiated by KW Institute for Contemporary Art, Berlin and Sharjah Art Foundation in collaboration with ThinkArt, Casablanca, Zamân Books & Curating, Paris, and Goethe-Institut Marokko.

Public programming for the School of Casablanca is realized with additional support of ifa (Institut für Auslandsbeziehungen), Berlin/Stuttgart.

KW Institute for Contemporary Art is institutionally supported by the Senate Department for Culture and Europe.