Newsletter No. 3
18/09/2008
RADIUS research-based art // kunst feld forschung
www.radius-art.org

Dear Madams and Sirs,

in the third Newsletter by **RADIUS research-based art // kunst feld forschung** we would like to present to you our festival **"Culture weeks Middle East – radius of art"** taking place from October 31 to November 28 in Kiel. Together with various cooperation partners from Kiel it has been achieved to produce an extensive programme of events drawing a diverse picture of the cultures and realities of life in the Middle East. **Film shows, readings and concerts as well as lectures and political discussion panels will be part of the programme**. Numerous guests from the countries of the Middle East and Europe such as authors, theatre people and filmmakers, fine artists, musicians and lecturers from the Middle East will be in Kiel.

The events of the **"Culture weeks Middle East – radius of art"** intend to offer an opportunity to the audience to **analyse their own relationship with the region Middle East** through different topics. Contents are the reflection of the relationship between European and Arabic world influenced by the colonial history and also a critical examination of the consequences of the foundation of the state of Israel and the severe problems yet to be solved for the Palestinian people in the region and the international community. Also the numerous cultural connections between orient and occident which for centuries have permitted a constructive exchange will become apparent.

Also numerous exhibitions by artists from the Middle East and Europe will take place in many venues such as galleries, churches and art rooms. Some of the exhibiting artists have participated in the international Art-in-Residence Programme **"RADIUS research-based art"**. Further information on the exhibitions will be given in one of the next newsletters.

The opening of the **"Culture weeks Middle East – radius of art"** and the exhibition **"radius of art"** will be conducted on **November 2 at 11 am at the Ansgar Church by** patron Angelika Volquartz, Lady Mayoress of the City of Kiel, and Adrienne Goehler, curator and publicist.

Already on October 31 the German-Palestinian ensemble **"Matabb"** will play in Kiel's STATT-Café: **Anna-Mareike Vohn, Ahmed Eid and Tareq Rantisi** connect European Jazz with oriental elements in their music and performed already at several international Jazz-Festivals. In Kiel they perform with **Manfred Leuchter**, well-known in the international Jazz scene as accordionist, composer and producer.
A series of films in the Communal Cinema in the Pumpe starts with **"Lemon Tree"** (Eran Riklis, 2007) about the unequal struggle between a Palestinian woman and her neighbour, the Israeli Minister of Defence, on November 1.

On an evening of short films with awarded features of the Goethe-Institute and the Foundation "Remembrance, Responsibility and Future" competition "all human beings are free and equal…" the directors **Timor Britva (Israel) and Michael Masarof (USA)** will be present.
On November 19 and 20 the very elaborate theatre performance **"Be-Longing"** from Israel (Haifa 2007), produced by the Goethe-Institute Tel Aviv, will have its debut in Germany. The multimedia installation and performance by visual artist **Sharon Paz** reflects the psycho-political dimensions of the conflict between Palestinians, Germans and Israelis and begins an emotional argument about ownership, home, longing and belonging.

Beside the Iraki author **Sherko Fatah** who is shortlisted for the 'German Book Price 2008' with his book **"The dark ship"**, there are other literary guests as Israeli authors **Michal Zamir ("A Ship of Girls") and Assaf Gavron ("CrocAttack")**. Well-known Libanesian author **Abbas Beydoun** meets in another double-reading at the Literature House Schleswig-Holstein author **Michael Kleeberg** having as a motto **"West-Eastern Divan: Between Berlin and Beirut"**.

Highlights of the political events are discussions and lectures by Israeli Historian **Ilan Pappe ("The Ethnic Cleansing of Palestine"**, November 14) and **Mustafa Barghouthi**, General Secretary of the Palestinian National Initiative (November 27) as well as a congress in the Art Hall Kiel on November 15. Under the Title **"Everyday life under Occupation – Palestinian life in the sixtieth year of the Naqba" Rita Giacaman** (Palestinian Medical Relief Commitees, Ramallah) and **Juliano Mer-Khamis** (Freedom-Theatre, Jenin) and others discuss various aspects of social life of Palestinians under Israeli occupation.

A concert of the young pianist **Bshara Harouni** with violinist **Zohar Lerner** brings the **"Culture Weeks Middle East"** to an end. Both musicians are members of Daniel Barenboim's West-Eastern Divan Orchestra, in Kiel they will play pieces by Brahms, Mozart and Schubert.

Additionally, results of two **international theatre workshops** at the Regional Cultural Centre in Salzau will be shown during the **"Culture Weeks Middle East"**. Actors from Europe and the Middle East will have a meeting conducted by director **Alexander Stillmark** (International Theatre Institute Germany). On November 6 and November 13 they show the results of their work on the topic "Revenge" – referring to texts by Shakespeare (Hamlet) and Heiner Müller (Hamlet machine).
Further details will follow in our next newsletter.

You can find the detailed programme of the **"Culture Weeks Middle East"** on our homepage **www.radius-art.org.**

Cooperation partners of the Culture Weeks:
Association of the friends of music Kiel
BBK Schleswig-Holstein
Christian-Albrechts-University
Church of the Holy Spirit, Kiel
Communal Cinema in "Pumpe"
Foundation "Remembrance, Responsibility and Future"
Fraction Bündnis 90 / The Greens Party
German-Palestinian Society
Goethe-Institute Tel Aviv
House of Literature Schleswig-Holstein
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STATT-CAFÉ

The Art studio Birgit Brab
The Representative for refugee, asylum and immigration topics of the Federal State Schleswig-Holstein
The Werkhof
Umtrieb-Gallery for Contemporary Art

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All guests will be staying at the Hotel Berliner Hof.

Forward this newsletter to interested persons, if you like – thank you!
In case you do not wish to receive further mails send a message to jesdinsky@umtrieb.de; your data will be deleted immediately. Thank you.

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