

Halaqat

Open Call for a residency in performing arts

July/August and October/November 2022
in Brussels



TIMETABLE

Call for application:	15.12.2021
Submission deadline:	01.02.2022 (6:00 pm CET)
Notification of Results :	March 2022
Kick-off meeting:	beg. June 2022
Dates of residency:	
First session (depending on the residency location)	04-16.07.2022 & 15.08.-02.09.2022
Second session	24.10.-10.11.2022



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يطلق معهد جوته وبوزار برنامج إقامة فنية في مجال الفنون الأدائية عام 2022 بمشاركة المنسقة الفنية والدرامية نجمة الحاج بنشلابي ومركز "لا بيلون" ومسرح "تياتر مارني". يبحث البرنامج عن عشرة فنانين ناشئين ومتحمسين من العالم العربي أو من جاليته في أوروبا. خلال هذه الإقامة التي ستدوم ستة أسابيع، سيلتقي الفنانون ليبدعوا معاً أيضاً.

ABOUT THE RESIDENCY

The Goethe-Institut and Bozar together with the curator and dramaturg Nedjma Hadj Benchelabi, La Bellone and Théâtre Marni start a residency programme in performing arts in 2022 and are looking for up to ten motivated emerging performing arts makers from the Arab world or the Arab diaspora in Europe to meet and create in Belgium for six weeks in total in 2022.

This open call addresses performing arts artists with new proposals or projects at a very early stage of elaboration on the following leitmotiv: "Politics of Spaces and Bodies" (www.goethe.de/belgium/halaqat). We accept solos, duos and trios and are open for multidisciplinary projects. Any type of performing arts suits as long as the body is at the centre of the proposal. The selected artists should be emerging artists with at least one professional production and should be open for collective exchange and reflection in a multicultural context.

The artists will be invited two times to Brussels for a 3-week residency to work under the guidance of professional mentors. The specific trajectory will be tailor-made according to the needs and expectations of the selected artists and therefore disclosed after the selection procedure. Throughout the 6 weeks, the mentors will closely follow the work of each participant, giving feedback and support where necessary. As a result, the 10 emerging artists will be able to deepen their artistic dialogue and to work with professional counterparts in order to realise their visions. The work-in-progress will be performed during a showcase event. Exchange moments and encounters between the selected artists are scheduled as well.

The residencies will be hosted at and by two different partners in Brussels: La Bellone or Théâtre Marni. La Bellone will host two solo projects at an early stage of development as it is a research center. Théâtre Marni will host four projects (solos, duos and trios) where the stage and studio are available. The jury will decide on the repartition of the projects in both locations.

This performance residency programme is part of the project [Halaqat](#) organised by the Goethe-Institut together with Bozar - Centre for Fine Arts Brussels and co-funded by the European Union. Serving as a bridge between both regions, Halaqat offers a contemporary journey into artistic imaginaries shared by the Arab world and Europe and focuses on the diversity and richness of cultural collaborations today to support and strengthen them in the future. Diverse voices of emerging and renowned artists, cultural actors and experts are brought together to approach a number of themes from their own perspective. Going beyond the idea of a simple invitation, Halaqat aims to stimulate the artists from both regions to create art together. With 'Politics of Spaces and Bodies' as their leitmotiv, they tell stories of power, limitation and impact over spaces and bodies, a theme that remains highly topical. What is the place of public and private space in both regions and in the different countries? And how do people deal with this? How will we soon experience physical and digital space? The notion of bodies, in turn, relates to issues of gender, power, bodily contact, mobility and the role of body language. Can we continue to cooperate and listen to each other in this time of pandemic - when mobility is not only limited by visas, but also by all kinds of sanitary measures?

Curator and Dramaturg: Nedjma Hadj Benchelabi

Born in Algiers and operating from Brussels, Nedjma Hadj Benchelabi is a curator and dramaturg. In the past, she was associated to prominent Belgian cultural venues like KVS and Les Halles. In recent years, she is regularly contributing to public debates and discussions, both in Europe and the Mena region, due to her specific expertise. She published diverse articles such as "Flipping the table as essential set for curating resilience", and "Stitching Work: Dramaturgy and the Politics of Curation". Focusing on supporting and voicing Performing arts in the MENA region, she was associate curator of "On Marche" Contemporary Dance Festival of Marrakech, the 'Arab Art Focus' at D-CAF-Cairo, and Tashweesh Festival in Cairo and in Brussels. As well as curator and dramaturge for 'the Un/controlled Gestures', a project which provided an opportunity for young MENA choreographers to create new performances reflecting the autonomy of the body.

Currently, she is curating the Mahmoud Darwish Program within Bozar (Brussels), Researcher at Royal School of Arts (RITCS, Brussels) and coordinator of the Dance Biennale of Africa (Marrakech, 2021).

La Bellone – House of Performing Arts, located in the heart of Brussels, is a place for research and reflection, a dramaturgical tool for performing artists and all those interested in the making of stage performances. More on: www.bellone.be

Théâtre Marni: Just around the corner from Place Flagey, in the heart of Brussels, a whole host of interdisciplinary artistic projects are sprouting up in Marni. The BAR and SALLE are home to the concerts, shows and festivals, whilst the LABO upstairs is where you will find the residencies and contemporary creations.



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All share our spirit of openness and conviviality. Culture on a human scale. More on: www.theatremarni.com

Please note that due to the Covid-19 pandemic, this residency programme could be postponed if necessary.

APPLICATION AND SELECTION

Eligibility criteria:

- Applicants should be emerging performing arts makers from the Arab world or the Arab diaspora based in Europe with at least one professional experience (at least one realised art project).
- Applicants should present solo, duo or trio projects dealing with the topic "Politics of Spaces and Bodies".
- Mixed teams from the Arab world and Europe can apply together for duos or trios.
- Applicants must have the nationality of an Arab state or an EU member state and be based in an Arab state. Applicants from an EU pre-accession country or the United Kingdom will be taken into consideration as well.
- Applicants must currently reside within an Arab state or an EU member state. Applicants residing within an EU pre-accession country or the United Kingdom will be taken into consideration as well.
- Applicants commit to follow the mentorship programme designed by the curator and dramaturg Nedjma Hadj Benchelabi with other coaches.
- Applicants commit to participate in exchange encounters organised at La Bellone and in the public presentation of the work in progress during the second session of residency.
- Applicants must be fully available for the residency programme period and cannot take any other commitments during that period of time.

Please note that gender and geographical balance will be taken into account as selection criteria.

Practicalities for the residency:

- Dates of the residency:
First session: 04-16.07.2022 (La Bellone) **or** 15.08.-02.09.2022 (Théâtre Marni)
Second session: 24.10.-10.11.2022 (La Bellone and Théâtre Marni)
- Location: Brussels (Belgium)
- Budget: Each artist in residency will receive a *per diem* for accommodation, food expenses, local transportation in Brussels and from/to the airport or train station. The *per diem* will be payable for each overnight stay between date of departure and date of return. The organisers will cover the travel costs and possible expenses linked to the visa procedure.
- Applicants must have basic communication skills in English.
- Applicants must have a passport with min. 6 months validity from the day of arrival and fulfil all requirements to obtain a Schengen visa.
- Applicants must accept to be photographed and filmed during their residency for promotion/communication purposes linked to the project.

Practicalities for the application:

- Deadline for the submission of the application is **1 February 2022** at 6:00 pm (Brussels time, GMT+1).
- Applicants need to prepare and submit a dossier of 4 pages maximum: 2 pages about their background and motivation and 2 pages about their project.
- It is required to fill in our **application form in English. The proposal (synopsis) can be in English, French or Arabic.**

LINK TO THE ONLINE FORM: <https://goethe-institut.typeform.com/to/ddx00VGs>

Selection Committee and deadlines:

- The submissions will be reviewed and evaluated by a jury consisting of representatives of the participating partner organisations, the curator and externals.
- Please note that the selected artists will get a reply in March 2022.

QUESTIONS

If you have inquiries, please contact the curator, Nedjma Hadj Benchelabi, or the project coordinator of Halaqat, Maud Qamar: maud.qamar@goethe.de

The European project Halaqat is implemented by the Goethe-Institut in collaboration with Bozar - Centre for Fine Arts Brussels. Halaqat is co-funded by the European Commission (under the designation: EU-LAS CULTURE), the Goethe-Institut and Bozar.



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