



Press release

May 2015

6th Marrakech Biennale

NOT NEW NOW / QUOI DE NEUF LÀ / لا جديد الآن

**Announcing curator, title of the biennale, free entrance, and extended exhibition period.
The sixth edition of the Marrakech Biennale (MB6) has appointed Reem Fadda to be the
curator of the biennale.**

The upcoming edition of the Marrakech Biennale will introduce two major changes: an extended exhibition period and free entrance. MB6 will take place from February 24 through May 8, 2016, in sites and venues across the historic city of Marrakech. The free entrance to MB6 marks the biennale's determination to reach a wide and diverse audience.

With each edition, the Marrakech Biennale has matured as a critical institution both within the local framework of the city and as an innovative space for artists coming from around the world to contribute. Interdisciplinarity, the education programme and the collaboration with local artisans remains of great importance for MB6.

The new team is led by the Executive President of the Marrakech Biennale, Mohamed Amine Kabbaj.

Title/Framework

The title of the MB6 is Not New Now. Fadda, curator of MB6, says of the title, «Not New Now, gives me the opportunity to investigate various tropes within cultural and artistic production, associated with concepts of time and advancement in the context of modern and contemporary art. The project will investigate the political and economical implications of the 'new' by particularly looking at art from the Afro-Asian axis.»

The heritage sites of Marrakech will witness a plethora of site-specific commissions and installations by a group of international artists, primarily from Africa, the Arab world, and their diasporas.

The MB6 will host a series of performances, archival exhibitions, film programs, seminars, lectures, and conferences that will anchor the main exhibition and invites further interrogation into the theme of the biennale.



About the Curator

Reem Fadda is Associate Curator, Middle Eastern Art for the Abu Dhabi Project of the Solomon R. Guggenheim and is currently based at the Guggenheim headquarters in New York City. She joined the Guggenheim Abu Dhabi museum building project in 2010 and has had a leading role in shaping the strategy and holdings of Middle Eastern and North African art within its collection and the curatorial vision for the future museum. Previously in 2005-07, Fadda was Director of the Palestinian Association for Contemporary Art (PACA) and worked as Academic Director to the International Academy of Art – Palestine, which she helped found in 2006.

She co-curated many international exhibitions and projects especially those pertaining to art, architecture and geopolitics in the Middle East, such as: Liminal Spaces (2006-09), a four-year long artistic & political project consisting of conferences, tours, art residencies and exhibitions in Palestine, Israel and Germany; Ramallah Syndrome (2009), part of the Palestine c/o Venice exhibition at the 53rd Venice Biennale; Tarjama/Translation (2009-2010), which was an ArteEast program showcasing 30 artists from the Middle East and Central Asia at the Queens Museum & Herbert E. Johnson Museum; 3rd RIWAQ Biennale (2009), which she curated alongside Charles Esche in Ramallah. She was an awardee of the Fulbright scholarship to pursue her PhD at the History of Art and Visual Studies Department at Cornell University in 2008.

She has published and lectured on modern and contemporary Middle Eastern art. She is a member of the General Assembly of the International Academy of Art Palestine, the selection jury of the Young Arab Theatre Fund and the steering committee of Decolonizing Architecture. Fadda was appointed curator for the National Pavilion of the United Arab Emirates at the 55th International Art Exhibition - La Biennale di Venezia in 2013.

Dates

MB6 will take place from February 24 through May 8, 2016, in sites and venues across Marrakech. The opening week is February 24-28, 2016, and the press preview will take place 23rd February.

Each weekend of the biennial will offer an intensified programme with artist talks, street performances and symposiums. Activities will also be organized in Essaouira, as an acknowledgement of the artistic and cultural exchanges between the two cities.

Supporting Committee

The Marrakech Biennale's supporting committee, is led by its president Mr Aziz Mekouar and honorary president Mr André AZOULAY.

The purpose of this committee is to garner strong national support around the event.

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