

The Mosaic Rooms — Contemporary Culture from the Arab World



VISIT

The Mosaic Rooms
226 Cromwell Road
London SW5 0SW
www.mosaicrooms.org

Nearest Underground station: Earl's Court, Earl's Court Road exit
Buses: 74, 328, C1, C3
Parking: One disabled parking space is available by prior arrangement,
parking meters are available in Lexham Gardens behind the building.

STAY IN TOUCH

Join our mailing list at www.mosaicrooms.org to stay up to date with
all our latest events and exhibitions. You can also follow us on Facebook
and Twitter.

 The-Mosaic-Rooms  @themosaicrooms

Follow the exhibition on Twitter: #MySisterWhoTravels

THE MOSAIC ROOMS BOOKSHOP

Our bookshop provides a fantastic resource, stocking celebrated and
new writers from the Arab World, art books, and films, in both English
and Arabic. Open Tuesday—Saturday, 11am–6pm.

*Halida Bourheiet "transit"
swarms of swallows, french
(Orig. subtitles) 2011 780"*



AN A.M. QATTAN
FOUNDATION PROJECT

My Sister Who Travels

18/07/14—30/08/14

the
mosaic
rooms



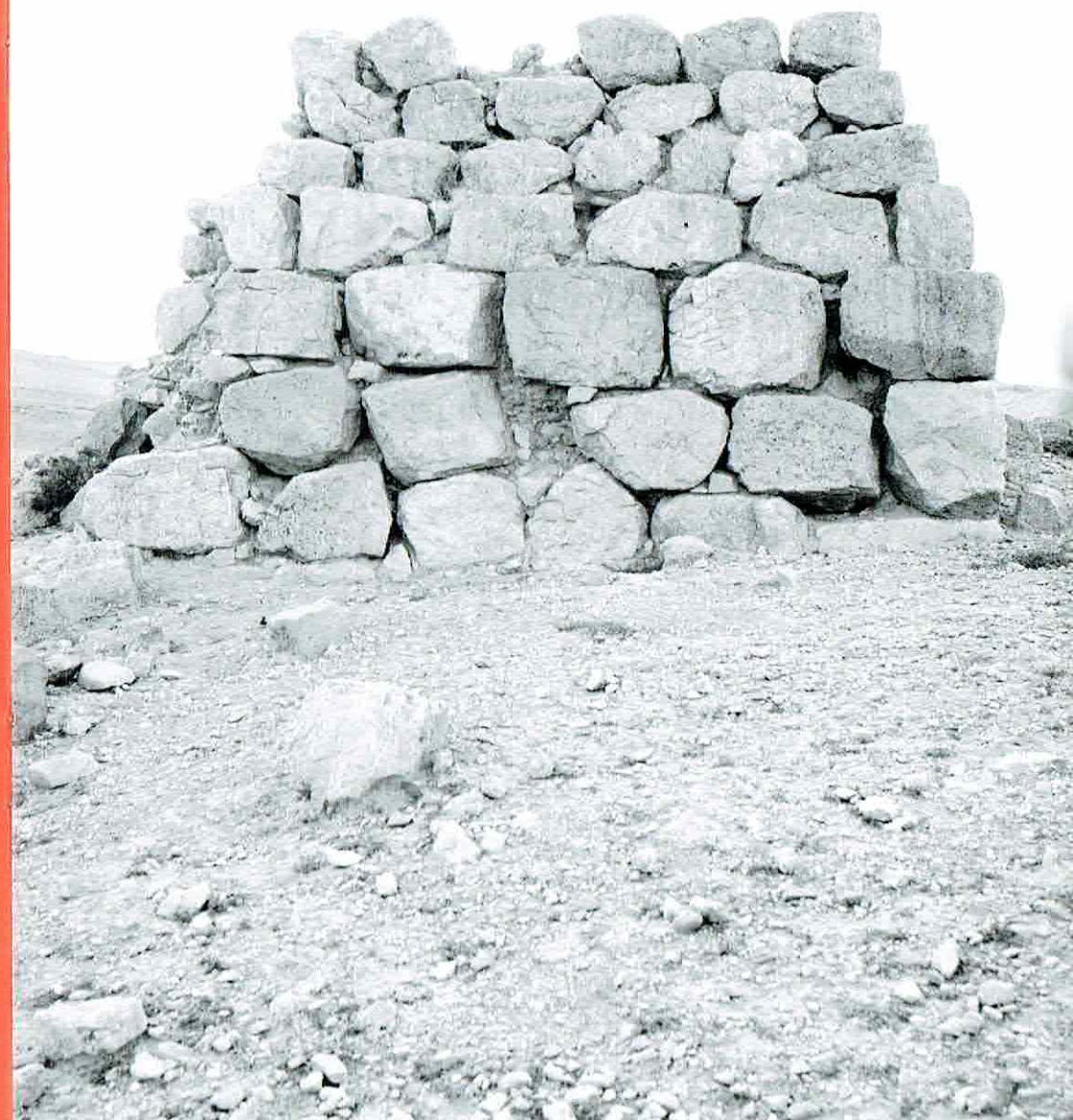
Iraqi-British artist Jananne Al-Ani (b.1966) has exhibited internationally with recent solo exhibitions at the Hayward Gallery Project Space, London (2014) and the Beirut Art Center (2013); her works can be found in collections from Tate Modern to SFMOMA, San Francisco. British artist Corinne Silva (b.1976), has recently had a solo exhibition at the Makan Art Space in Amman, Jordan (2014), and been Artist-in-Residence at A.M. Qattan Foundation. Amongst her numerous solo and group exhibitions, Lebanese artist Paola Yacoub (b.1966), has presented work at Le Bal (2012) and the Pompidou Centre (2013) in Paris and Ashkal Alwan in Beirut (2013), and has work in public collections including the Musée des Beaux-Arts de Nantes and the Centre pour l'Image Contemporaine/Mamco, Geneva. The German artist Ursula Schulz-Dornburg (b.1938), has exhibited internationally and has work in Tate Modern's collection. Palestinian artist Noor Abed (b.1988) has exhibited in the US, Jerusalem and Norway, and has been involved in events including *And And And* for the 100 days of exhibition at *Documenta (13)* in Kassel, Germany. French-Algerian artist, Halida Boughriet's (b.1980) video and photography works are shown in the MNAM/CCI Collection at the centre George Pompidou and at the MAC/VAL, Museum of Contemporary art in Val-de-Marne, Paris.

Exhibition dates

18 July—30 August 2014

Tues-Sat 11am-6pm, FREE

Private view: Thursday 17 July, 6.30-8.30pm



The Mosaic Rooms are pleased to present *My Sister Who Travels*, a group exhibition of six contemporary women artists who use lens-based media. Each in her own way challenges canonical representations of landscape photography, and their works are presented alongside archival photographs by Esther Van Deman, a Victorian archaeologist, whose work acts as a fulcrum for the project.

Often straying from the conventional tropes of Romanticism, the landscapes presented in this exhibition focus on the Mediterranean as a place that visually articulates concerns of memory, conflict, colonisation, migration, emptiness and expanse. From Corinne Silva's Moroccan-within-Spanish wastelands in *Imported Landscapes* (2010), to Paola Yacoub's invisible remnants of the Lebanese Civil War in *Elegiac Landscapes* (2001), Ursula Schulz-Dornburg's photographs of Syria (2010) and Jananne Al-Ani's stills from her aerial film *Shadow Sites II* (2011), the works evoke layers of imperialism and history, alongside prescient ruin and destruction. In video works by Noor Abed and Halida Boughriet, the picturesque evaporates, as questions of economic and political migration surface through human narratives of movement. These 'moving photographs', like their still counterparts, explore political inequalities between the Global North and the Global South.

Esther Van Deman's near-forensic photographs of bricks, walls and aqueducts from the early twentieth century — taken in Italy, Tunisia and Algeria — anchor the exhibition within a historical dimension. Their juxtaposition with the contemporary work emphasises alternative modes of envisioning landscape. In combination, these historical and contemporary practices create oddly displaced representations of familiar geographies.

Until recently, landscape photography has been traditionally considered a gendered Western genre, co-opted by the masculine eye. By focusing on the different ways in which contemporary women artists engage politically with post-colonial themes in their practices, *My Sister Who Travels* brings to light unstated narratives of landscape.

My Sister Who Travels is the first exhibition selected from The Mosaic Rooms' open call for exhibition proposals from independent curators last year. The selected proposal came from Martina Caruso, an art historian, writer and curator. Caruso lectures in the history and theory of photography at Camberwell College of Arts, University of the Arts London.



Clockwise from top Corinne Silva, *Port Tanger Med placed in highway leading to retail park, Murcia* from the *Imported Landscapes* series, 2010; Noor Abed, *Still from We Both Know*, 2013; Esther Boise Van Deman, *Carthage (Tunisia), walls of the Antonine baths*, 1913

Cover Ursula Schulz-Dornburg, *Necropolis (Palmyra, Syria)*, 2010

Summer Events at The Mosaic Rooms

PRIVATE VIEW

My Sister Who Travels

Thursday 17 July, 6.30-8.30pm

Join us, the curator and artists to celebrate the opening of the exhibition. With live music from Syrian kanun player Maya Youssef.
FREE

TALKS

Artists' Round Table

Saturday 19 July, 12pm

Curator Martina Caruso will introduce the exhibition, followed by a discussion between the participating artists chaired by curator Rebecca Heald.
FREE

New Visual Languages:

Landscape, Politics & the Lens

Thursday 24 July, 7pm

Artist Connie Silva will be in conversation with scholar Eugenie Shinkle about the themes raised in the exhibition and contemporary photographic practices.
FREE

With a Seamstress Tape and a Smile

Thursday 31 July, 7pm

Caroline Goodson discusses the work of Esther Van Derman and women archaeologists working in Italy and North Africa in the early 20th century.
FREE

LITERATURE

The Hidden Light of Objects

Thursday 7 August, 7pm

Kuwaiti author Mai Al-Nakib launches her latest collection of short stories. She will be in discussion with Palestinian author Selma Dabbagh.
FREE

FILM

The Orchard Keepers

Thursday 14 August, 7pm

Film-maker Bryony Dunne will screen and discuss her latest project about two Bedouin struggling to keep their ancient orchard alive in the Sinai desert.
FREE

SUPPERCLUB

With Anissa Helou

Thursday 28 August, 7-10pm

A Syrian inspired 3-course meal hosted by award winning food writer and journalist Anissa Helou who specialises in the food of the Levant.
Tickets £35, buy online or rsvp@mosaicrooms.org

All online tickets can be purchased at wegottickets.com/themosaicrooms

Please email rsvp@mosaicrooms.org for free events

Full event listings are on our website at www.mosaicrooms.org