

WALID RAAD

PRÉFACE



CARRÉ D'ART - NÎMES
DU 23 MAI AU 14 SEPTEMBRE 2014



PRESS KIT



Musée d'art contemporain de Nîmes

WALID RAAD

PREFACE

**Carré d'Art – Nîmes Museum of Contemporary Art
Exhibition from 23 May to 14 September 2014**

Curators:

Jean-Marc Prévost, Carré d'Art, Nîmes
Andrea Viliani & Alessandro Rabottini, Museo Madre, Napoli

Contents

Presentation of the exhibition

Publication

Selected Biography

List of works on show

Images

Practical information

Forthcoming exhibition

Exhibition coproduced with Museo Madre, Napoli

Press officer : Delphine Verrières-Gaultier – Carré d'Art

Tél : +33 (0)4 66 76 35 77 - Fax : +33 (0)4 66 76 35 85

E-mail : communication@carreartmusee.com



PRESENTATION OF THE EXHIBITION

Walid Raad's first major exhibition in a French museum covers two of his long-term projects: *The Atlas Group (1989-2004)* and *Scratching on Things I could Disavow* (2007-ongoing).

The Atlas Group (1989 - 2004) was a project Raad initiated in 1989 - or so his title suggests - and concentrated on the political, social, psychological and aesthetic dimensions of the wars in Lebanon. *The Atlas Group (1989 - 2004)* comprises an archive of found and created visual, recorded and written documents Raad attributed to historical and imaginary characters. *The Atlas Group (1989 - 2004)* is also an enquiry into the documentary process itself, into the kinds of facts that can constitute historical narratives.

Since 2007, Walid Raad has been developing another project titled *Scratching on things I could disavow*. His project in part engages the emergence of new art economies and museums in the Arab world, the increase in the visibility of Arab artists, patrons and collectors, as well as the marked interest expressed by Western countries and institutions in setting up annexes of major western museums (Louvre and Guggenheim) in the Middle East. Moreover and by leaning on Jalal Toufic's writings, and more specifically his concept of the "The withdrawal of tradition past a surpassing disaster," Raad also considers the short and long-term material and immaterial effects of the various wars that have consumed the Middle East over the past few decades. Raad's works address these less visible and traumatic (non-psychological) effects, and their profound impact on tradition.

*Exhibition coproduced with Museo Madre, Napoli (www.madrenapoli.it)
Exhibition from 11 October 2014 to 19 January 2015*

PUBLICATION

For the exhibition, Walid Raad thought an artist's book that brings one of his texts as well as several series of images, some of which will be presented at Carré d'Art.

Shell/case with 6 booklets:

1. Booklet of 32 pages with a text by Walid Raad, *Walkthrough*, in french, english, italian and arabic
2. 3 large posters
3. Long strip of images
4. poster of sorts with 9 images
5. series of images that unfold into an L-shaped poster
6. 48 images organized in two facing three-page spreads

Book published with Black Dog Publishing

SELECTED BIOGRAPHY

Born in 1967 in Chbanieh, in Lebanon – Lives and works in New York

EDUCATION

1996	University of Rochester, Ph.D. in Cultural and Visual Studies, Rochester, New York
1993	University of Rochester, MA in Cultural and Visual Studies, Rochester, New York
1985–1989	Rochester Institute of Technology, BFA, Fine Arts (Photography), Rochester, New York
1984–1985	Boston University

SOLO EXHIBITIONS (Selection)

2015	Museum of Modern Art, New York
2014	"Sweet Talk: Commissions," University Museum of Contemporary Art, Amherst, MA, USA "Preface to the first English edition," Anthony Reynolds Gallery, London
2013	"Preface to the first edition," Musée du Louvre, Paris
2012	"Scratching on things I could disavow: Part I and II," DOCUMENTA 13, Kassel "Scratching on things I could disavow: Part II," Sfeir Semler Gallery, Beirut
2011	"Hasselblad Award: Walid Raad," Gothenburg "Miraculous Beginnings," Kunsthalle, Zurich "Scratching on Things I Could Disavow: Part II" HAU, Berlin "Scratching on Things I Could Disavow: Part II" TBA21, Vienna "Scratching on Things I Could Disavow: Part II" Kunsten Festival des Arts, Brussels "Miraculous Beginnings," Bilmuseet, Umea
2010	"Miraculous Beginnings," Whitechapel Art Gallery, London "Sweet Talk: Commissions (Beirut)," Camera Austria, Graz
2009	"Scratching on Things I Could Disavow: Part I," Spazio San Francesco, Como "The Atlas Group 1989–2004," Reina Sofia, Madrid "Scratching on Things I Could Disavow: Part I," REDCAT, Los Angeles
2008	"We Can Make Rain But No One Came To Ask," Bell Gallery, Brown University, Providence,
2007	"The Atlas Group 1989–2004," Culturgest, Lisbon "The Atlas Group 1989–2004," Tamayo Museo, Mexico City
2006	"Let's Be Honest The Weather Helped," Henry Art Gallery, Seattle "The Atlas Group 1989–2004," Hamburger Bahnhof, Berlin "We Can Make Rain But No One Came To Ask," Ellen Gallery, Montreal "The Dead Weight of a Quarrel Hangs," The Kitchen, New York "Funny, How Thin The Line," FACT, Liverpool "I Was Overcome With a Momentary Panic," Agnes Ethrington Gallery, Kingston, Ontario
2004	"I Was Overcome With a Momentary Panic," Art Gallery of York University, Toronto

GROUP EXHIBITIONS (Selection)

2014	"Untitled," Marrakech Biennale 5, Marrakech
2013	"ICP Triennale," ICP, New York "Aichi Triennale," Aichi "Art Unlimited," Basel Art Fair, Basel "Homeworks 6," Beirut
2012	"Walid Raad / David Diao," Paula Cooper Gallery, New York "New Visions," MoMA, New York "Abstract Possible," Tensta Konsthall, Tensta
2011	"Images of Terror," c/o Berlin, Berlin "4 th Moscow Biennale," Moscow "Locations," Paula Cooper Gallery, New York "The Luminous Interval," Guggenheim Bilbao, Bilbao "Anti-Photojournalism," FOAM, Amsterdam "David Austen, Mark Wallinger, Walid Raad," Anthony Reynolds Gallery, London
2010	"Art of War," CEPA, Buffalo "Vernacular of Violence," Invisible-Exports, New York "Contemplating the Void," The Solomon Guggenheim Museum, New York "Social Documents: The Ethics of Encounter," Scotland Center for Photography, Edinburgh "Media City Seoul 2010," Seoul Museum of Art, Seoul "Haunted: Contemporary Photography," The Solomon Guggenheim Museum, New York "The Future of Tradition," Haus der Kunst, Munich

- 2009 "Arab and Iranian Photography," IMA/Paris Photo 2009, Paris
 "Taswir," Gopius Bau, Berlin
 "Commentary," Paula Cooper Gallery, New York
 "New Acquisitions," MOMA, New York
- 2008 "Zones of Conflict," Pratt Manhattan Gallery, New York
 "Masarat," Palais des beaux arts, Brussels
 "Deadpan," CUNY Graduate Center, New York
 "Color Chart," MoMA, New York
 "Archive Fever," ICP, New York
- 2007 "Deutsche Börse Award," The Photographer's Gallery, London
- 2006 "Under The Same Sky," Die National Fotomuseum, Copenhagen
 "Ah, les belles images..." Clermont Ferrand
 "Out of Beirut," Modern Art, Oxford
 "Neo-Sincerity," Apex Art, New York
 "Beyond Boundary," MOMA, New York
- 2005 "New Acquisitions," MOMA, New York
 "Identity," Sfeir-Semler Gallery, Beirut
 "20 years," Sfeir-Semler Gallery, Hamburg
 "Greater New York 2005," PS1, LIC, New York

AWARDS

- 2013 Zabar Visiting Artist, Hunter College, CUNY, New York
- 2011 Hasselblad Award, Gothenburg
- 2010 Finalist, Hugo Boss Prize, New York
- 2009 Guggenheim Fellowship in Fine Arts, New York
- 2007 Alpert Award in Visual Arts, New York
 Deutsche Börse Photography Prize, London
- 2005 Camera Austria Award, Graz
- 2004-2005 Fellow, Vera List Center for Art and Politics, New School
- 2003 Rockefeller Fellowship
 NYSCA, Individual Artist Fellowship
- 2000 NYSCA Distribution Grant, New York
- 1999 Jerome Foundation, Media Production Grant, New York
 Scholar Incentive Award, Queens College, CUNY, New York
 Massachusetts Media Fellowship, Boston Film Video Foundation, Boston
 BFFV Production Grant, Boston Film Video Foundation, Boston
- 1999-2000 Mellon Fellowship, AUB, Lebanon

PUBLIC COLLECTIONS (selection)

Carré d'Art-Musée d'art contemporain, Nîmes
 The Museum of Modern Art, New York
 The Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York
 Whitney Museum of American Art, New York
 Guggenheim Museum, New York
 Hirschhorn Museum, Washington DC
 San Francisco Museum of Modern Art, San Francisco
 Walker Art Center, Minneapolis
 Museo Reina Sofia, Madrid
 Tate Modern, London
 The British Museum, London
 Bristol Museum and Art Gallery, Bristol
 Glasgow Gallery of Modern Art, Glasgow
 Centre Pompidou, Paris
 Hamburger Bahnhof, Berlin
 Hamburger Kunsthalle, Hamburg
 Museum für Moderne Kunst, Frankfurt
 MUMOK, Vienna
 Museion, Bolzano
 Kunsthaus, Zürich

LIST OF WORKS ON SHOW

THE ATLAS GROUP (1989-2004)

- *I might die before I get a rifle*, 1989-2008, set of 12 inkjet prints, 160 x 212,5 cm each. Collection Caixaforum, Barcelona
- *Let's be honest the weather helped*, 1998-2006/7, set of 17 prints, 46,8 x 72,4 cm each. Courtesy of the artist and Sfeir-Semler Gallery, Beirut / Hamburg
- *We decided to let them say "we are convinced" twice. It was more convincing this way*, 2002-2006, set of 15 inkjet prints, 110 x 171 cm each. Courtesy of the artist and Sfeir-Semler Gallery, Beirut / Hamburg
- *Oh God, he said, talking to a tree*, 2007, set of 29 inkjet prints, 43,2 x 55,9 cm each. Private Collection, Paris
- *Hostage: The Bachar polaroids*, 2011, set of 20 inkjet prints, 20,4 x 20,4 cm each. Private Collection, Paris
- *We are fair people. We never speak well of one another*, 2014, set of 9 inkjet prints, ca. 111,7 x 152,4 cm each. Courtesy of the artist and Sfeir-Semler Gallery, Beirut / Hamburg

SCRATCHING ON THINGS I COULD DISAVOW

- *Section 88: Views from outer to inner compartments_Act VI. 1-5*, 2011-2012, set of 5 wooden sculptures, variable dimensions. Courtesy of the artist and Sfeir-Semler Gallery, Beirut / Hamburg
- *Preface to the second edition_Plates I-V*, 2012, set of 5 inkjet prints, 150 x 200 cm each. Courtesy of the artist and Sfeir-Semler Gallery, Beirut / Hamburg
- *Preface to the seventh edition_Plates I-VI*, 2012, set of 6 inkjet prints, 73,6 x 110,5 cm each. Courtesy of the artist and Sfeir-Semler Gallery, Beirut / Hamburg
- *Preface to the third edition (version française)_Plates I-VI*, 2013, set of 6 inkjet prints, 112 x 84 cm each. Courtesy of the artist and Sfeir-Semler Gallery, Beirut / Hamburg
- *Preface to the third edition*, 2013, set of 22 inkjet prints, 50,8 x 28,1 cm each. Private Collection, Paris
- *Preface to the fourth edition*, 2013, video, 18 min. Courtesy of the artist and Sfeir-Semler Gallery, Beirut / Hamburg
- *Details_Plates 11-17*, 2014, set of 7 inkjet prints, ca. 165,1 x 127 cm each. Courtesy of the artist and Sfeir-Semler Gallery, Beirut / Hamburg
- *Preface to the fifth edition*, 2014, set of 12 inkjet prints, ca. 40,1 x 31 cm each. Courtesy of the artist and Sfeir-Semler Gallery, Beirut / Hamburg
- *Untitled I-VIII*, 2014, set of 8 3D prints of chimera of the Louvre, mixed media, variable dimensions. Courtesy of the artist and Sfeir-Semler Gallery, Beirut / Hamburg

Exposition
WALID RAAD. Préface

THE ATLAS GROUP (1989-2004)



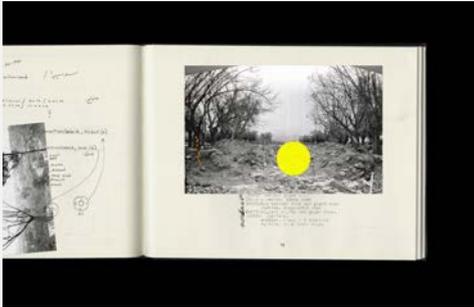
I might die before I get a rifle_Device I, 1989



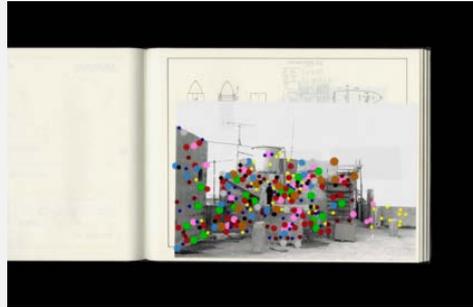
I might die before I get a rifle_Device II, 1989



I might die before I get a rifle_TNT, 1989



*Let's be honest the weather helped:
 Switzerland, 1998*



*Let's be honest the weather helped:
 USA, 1998*



*Hostage : The Bachar polaroids
 _Plate II, 2001*

SCRATCHING ON THINGS I COULD DISAVOW



*Section 88: Views from outer to inner
 compartments_Act VI.1-5, 2011*



Preface to the second edition_I, 2012



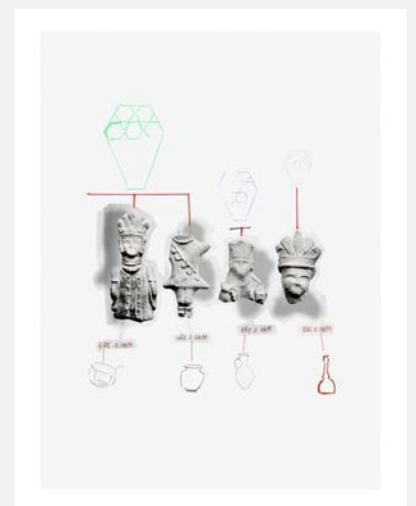
Prologue_Plate I 2014



Preface to the third edition_Plate III, 2013



Preface to the fifth edition_Plate I, 2014



Preface to the fifth edition_Plate XII, 2014

PRACTICAL INFORMATION

Open from Tuesday to Sunday inclusive - From 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Carré d'Art – Musée d'art contemporain
Place de la Maison Carrée - 30000 Nîmes - France

Tel : 00 33 4 66 76 35 70 - Fax : 00 33 4 66 76 35 85
E-mail : info@carreartmusee.com
Website : www.carreartmusee.com

Admission rates

Individuals : Full price : € 5
Groups : Reduced rate : € 3.70 (groups of 20 and over)

Free Admission

People aged under 26 ; Students of art, art history, architecture; Teachers of first and second levels of Education Nationale ; Artists; Museum staff; Journalists
First Sunday of the month

Guided tours

Leaving from the Museum reception, ground floor + 2

Individuals (Included in the admission charge)

- Saturdays, Sundays and public holidays at 4.30 p.m.
- During the school holidays, Tuesday to Friday at 4.30 p.m.
- First Sunday of the month at 3 and 4.30 p.m.
- Last Sunday of the exhibition at 3 p.m.

Groups (single rate for the guided tour service : 30 €)

Possibility of subscriptions for school
by appointment only with the Museum culture department
Contact Sophie Gauthier (+33 (0)4 66 76 35 79)

Arts workshops

For children aged 6 to 12, by appointment

For individuals : Wednesdays and during the holidays by enrolment
Price : € 5

For Groups (single rate for the workshop service + visits: 30 €)

Possibility of subscriptions for school
Tuesday to Friday by appointment with the culture department

Collective family workshop

Free open access for all ages from 2 to 4 pm
Reception at Carré d'Art on the first floor, no prior booking required

ALSO...

PROJECT ROOM



FAHD BURKI

23 May – 14 September 2014

Fahd Burki's work is based on constructing a personal mythology of symbolic archetypes that eschews chronological categorization. His formalistic approach is marked by a strong graphic sensibility and a tendency to reduce his ideas to their most essential elements. His static totemic composites oscillate between body and architecture alluding to states of being, while closed forms and carefully observed symmetry signals an interiorization of possibility, a kind of subjective unity that is only possible in fantasy; the fantasy of omnipotence. Burki's mythological elsewhere treads the vast terrain between primitivism and science fiction, always searching for the ideal configuration; a universal monumentalism.

Fahd Burki was born in Lahore (Pakistan) in 1981. He lives in Lahore. He is graduated from the National College of Arts Lahore, and the Royal Academy of London. He is represented by Grey Noise gallery in Dubai and won the John Jones Award 2013 (Art Dubai). Exhibition organized in collaboration with the John Price Jones (London).

Carré d'Art. Level + 2. On the level of the permanent collection. Admission free

TEMPORARY EXHIBITION



PERSONAL CUTS*

ART SCENE IN ZAGREB FROM 1950S TO NOW

17 October 2014 – 18 January 2015
(dates to confirm)

The exhibition's title refers to some outstanding personalities from different generations in the arts, who have envisaged the past with clarity, courage and imagination, by creating some radical art in Croatia (anti-art, conceptual art, performance art and video works). It also recalls the idea that the exhibition will be showing a brief history ("cuts") of the second half of the 20th century in Croatia (one of the republics of Yugoslavia until 1991). * title of a work by Sanja Ivekovic

Curator : Branka Stipančić, art historian, exhibition curator (Zagreb)

Artists taking part: Gorgona Group; Josip Vaništa; Julije Knifer; Dimitrije Bašičević Mangelos; Ivan Kožarić; Tomislav Gotovac; Goran Trbuljak; Sanja Iveković; Dalibor Martinis; Mladen Stilinović; Vlado Martek; Boris Cvjetanović; Igor Grubić; David Maljković; Andreja Kulunčić & Božena Končić Badurina

Carré d'Art. Level + 3