



Doa Aly
born in Cairo in 1976, lives in Cairo

Doa Aly graduated from the Academy of Fine Arts, Helwan University, Cairo in 2001 (BA Fine Arts in Painting). Aly is mainly interested in ideas relating to performance, growth, and identity; the constant struggle to become which gives way to a hybrid form forever suspended between different sets of connotations. She has been beneficiary of several grants and residencies (from the Young Arab Theater Fund, Pro Helvetia Swiss Arts Council, Ford Foundation).

The artist has participated in a number of exhibitions in Cairo and abroad including: *Snap Judgements: New Positions in Contemporary African Photography*, curated by Okwui Enwezor (2006-2008, travelling exhibition); *The Maghreb Connection*, curated by Ursula Biemann (Townhouse Gallery, Cairo, and Centre d'Art Contemporain, Genève, Switzerland); the 7th edition of the Dak'art Biennale of African Contemporary Art (Dakar, Senegal).

Gilles Aubry
born in Delémont, Switzerland 1973, lives and works in Berlin

Gilles Aubry is a Swiss sound artist, composer and musician. He uses field recordings, computer programming, surround sound, hacked electronics and improvisation to create live performances, sound installations and CD works. He has studied Sound Art & Sound Anthropology at the University of the Arts, Berlin (2006), Computer music at the SAMT (Studio for Advanced Music & Media Technology) of the Bruckner Konservatorium in Linz (2001), Saxophone and composition studies at the Swiss Jazz School Bern (diploma in 1997). Gilles Aubry carries on an ongoing research activity on formal, perceptual and anthropological aspects of sound production and reception, including topics like auditory perception, space representation, site specificity, cultural acoustics, streams of information and interactivity. Recent artistic projects and collaborations include *Camp Victory* (2005), a sound performance based on Blogs by American soldiers in Iraq, *Urbanus Vulgaris* (2006), a sound performance using mole repellent systems, *Cairo talking Heads* (2007), an audio blog realised during a residency in Cairo, *Berlin Backyards* (2007), an audio piece, awarded at the Phonurgia Nova Competition 2007 and *Maulwurf* (2007), a sound installation using piezo summers. His work has been published on Creative Sources, Cronica Electronica, Absinth Records, Schraum, Conspiracy, Sound Implant and broadcasted on Radio Suisse Romande, Frameworks (resonance.fm, London), Sound of Space (Radio Zero, Lisbon), Giant Ear (NYC) and Radio Inkorrekt (Berlin). Actual CDs: *Berlin Electronics* (with A.Ermke, A.Krebs, I.Schick) – Absinth Records – 2008; *Berlin Backyards* - CD on Cronica Electronica – July 2008.

Nermine el Ansari
born in Cairo 1975, lives and works in Cairo

Nermine el Ansari received in 1998 her diploma in painting from the fine art school of Versailles. In 2002 she graduated in multimedia from Ecole Nationale Supérieure des Beaux Arts in Paris. In 2001, she was awarded a scholarship to study at the Instituto Superior de Arte in Havana, Cuba. Her works range from painting to animation, notebooks, printing,

photography and digital live drawing performance. Her earlier pieces were primarily concerned with the body - human or animal - often re-morphed and recombined. Over the last 6 years, she has focused on the city, borders, territories and mapping - both real and imagined - and explores the binaries provoked by the urban landscape. She recently took part to the *Occidentalism* show in Cairo.

Sherif El-Azma

born, Manchester 1975, lives and works in Cairo

Sherif El-Azma mainly works in the medium of Single channel video. Since 1998, El-Azma's work has been utilizing the visual and lingual codes of classical narrative, television broadcast, documentary film and video essay to re-discover the subtleties and representational histories involving urban conditions, identity, gender politics, class and areas other of regional politics. A good portion of his work also investigates subtleties between truth and fiction and the hybridization of subjective and objective information. His works recently involve video as installation, as well as live multimedia lecture broadcasts.

Most of his works were shown or exhibited locally in Cairo, in the Townhouse Gallery, Karim Francis gallery, local and satellite television stations and various local video festivals and cultural institutes. Internationally, his works have been shown in Home Works in Beirut, Independent Arab Screen festival, Witte de Witt in Rotterdam, World Wide Video festival in Amsterdam, HAU theatre in Berlin, House of World Cultures in Berlin, KVS theatre in Brussels, National Film Theatre in London, Camden Arts Centre in London. His past works are also archived in the Pacific film archive in Berkeley, California.

Hala Elkoussy

born in Cairo 1974, lives and works in Amsterdam and Cairo

Hala Elkoussy is a photographer and video artist. She graduated in 2001 from the Goldsmiths College, University of London, (MA Image and Communication) and received a BA in Business Administration at the American University in Cairo 1996. She has been beneficiary of several grants and residencies (Rijksakademie van Beeldende Kunsten, Dutch Ministry of Education; Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs-DCO-IC). Her work, exhibited widely in art exhibitions and video screenings Europe, Africa, America and Asia, often turns on perception, communication and miscommunication. Among her recent solo exhibitions: *White Bra*, Konstföreningen Aura, Malmö, Sweden (2007) and *Peripheral (and Other Stories)*, Stedelijk Museum Bureau, Amsterdam, NL (2006). Among her recent group exhibitions: *Snap Judgements: New Positions in Contemporary African Photography*, curated by Okwui Enwezor (travelling exhibition, 2006-2008); *The Maghreb Connection*, curated by Ursula Biemann (travelling exhibition, 2006-2008); *Focus Agypten, Past/Present* (Kunstverein Hildesheim, Germany, 2007). Hala Elkoussy is co-founder of the Festival PhotoCairo and of CIC - Contemporary Image Collective, Cairo (currently member of the Board).

Rana El Nemr

born in Germany, 1974, lives and works in Cairo

Rana El Nemr studied photo-journalism, advertising and arts at the American University in Cairo. Her work addresses topics including public space, urban fabric, class structures, social change. El Nemr has exhibited in Egypt, Lebanon, Switzerland, Germany, Japan, Finland, the US among others. The shows include *Metro* at Townhouse Gallery of Contemporary Art in Cairo, *Coastline*, in Gallery Image in Aarhus, Denmark and *Telekinesis* as part of *Lumo-07*

“Us”, 7th International Photography Triennial in Finland. In 2003, El Nemr won awards from the *Canon Digital Creators Contest* in Japan and the *Nile Salon Photographic Exhibition* in Egypt. In 2005, she received the *Grand Prix of the Bamako Biennale*, and in 2007 she was nominated for the *Paul Huf Young Photographer of the Year Award*. El Nemr is one of the founding member of *Contemporary Image Collective (CIC)*, Cairo, and member of the board.

Shady El Noshokaty
born in Damietta (Egypt), 1971, lives and works in Cairo

Shady El Noshokaty is an assistant professor in the Painting and Drawing Department at the Faculty of Art Education, Helwan University, from which he also graduated in 1994. El Noshokaty studied avant-garde cinema and video art, in the Art Institute of Chicago, with a Fulbright commission in 2001. He earned his PhD in philosophy of media art and contemporary Egyptian society in 2007. His work has been shown in many international exhibitions, including *Africa Remix*, a touring exhibition of Contemporary African Art, Tokyo, Stockholm, Paris, London, Düsseldorf, 2004-07.

Maia Gusberti
born in Berne (Switzerland) 1971, lives and works in Vienna, Berne and sometimes Cairo

Maia Gusberti is a visual artist and freelance graphic designer working in the field of video and photography with a special interest for conceptual and research based works. She studied graphic design in Switzerland and holds an MA in Media Arts (University of Applied Arts, Vienna). She is a member of re-p.org, a designers and artists' platform based in Vienna. Her current artworks mainly deal with visual and geographical representations of space, urban architecture and public vs. private spaces. She has been invited for residencies in Cairo, Sofia and Paris, and has taken part in several exhibitions and festivals. She first came to Cairo on a residency with Pro Helvetia in 2006, and continues to work on several projects based in Cairo.

Khaled Hafez
born in Cairo 1963, lives and works in Cairo

Khaled Hafez works with painting, video, photography and installation. From 1981 until 1990 he attended the evening classes of Cairo Fine Arts while studying medicine. In 2005 he got the Fulbright Fellow. His International shows include, *Cairo Modern Art in Holland* (Holland 2001), *Dakar Biennale* (Senegal 2004, Francophonie Prize), *Mediterranean Encounters* (Italy 2005), *Dakar Biennale* (Senegal 2006) and *Images of the Middle East* (Denmark 2006). In 2005 he was Fulbright Fellow Visiting Artist, Pennsylvania Academy of the Fine Arts, USA, and Visiting Artist at the Ecole Nationale Supérieure D'Art, Limoges, France. His work has been acquired by the following public collections: MuHKA Museum of Contemporary Art, Antwerp, Belgium; Ars Aevi Museum of Contemporary Art, Sarajevo, Bosnia; Horcynus Orca Foundation, Messina, Italy; Mali National Museum, Bamako, Mali.

Hermann Huber
born in Vienna 1966, lives and works in Vienna (Austria)

Hermann Huber is an artist working mainly with photography and film. He studied at the School for Artistic Photography with Friedl Kubelka from 1992-1994. Among his recent solo exhibition: *Cairo Zabaleen*, Kunsthalle Wien (2007); *Cairo Zabaleen*, House of Photography,

Istanbul (2006); Transnistria, Gallery AoRTa, Chisinau-Moldova (2005); *Die Ferienmenschen-Holiday as performed Art*, Galerie ART Szigeti, Vienna (2004). He showed his work in several group show such as *Alles klar!*, Kunstverein Salzburg (2007), *Real lives-Real stories*, Kunsthalle Wien (2007), Sound of Silence Project, Townhouse Gallery (2007). With TIRING he also took part to festival, such as Diagonale 08 Filmfestival in 2008 and to the Dakar Biennale.

Iman Issa

born in Cairo 1979, lives and works in Cairo and New York

Iman Issa works with photography and installation. She completed her Master in Fine Arts from Columbia University, New York in 2007, and graduated from the American University in Cairo with a Bachelor of Fine Arts in 2001. Her solo exhibitions include: *Making Places*, Townhouse Gallery of Contemporary Art, Cairo (2008) and *Proposal for a Crystal Building*, Gezira Arts Center, Cairo (2003). Issa took part to several international exhibition including: *Memorial to the Iraq War*, ICA - Institute of Contemporary Arts, London, *Bloomberg Bidoun Lounge*, DIFC Gulf Art Fair, Dubai (both 2007), *Philip*, Project Art Center, Dublin and *Conscious in Coma*, Goethe Institute, Istanbul (both 2006). She was also part of the group shows *PhotoCairo 3*, CIC - Contemporary Image Collective, Cairo (2005), *Mediterraneo*, MACRO - Museo d'Arte Contemporanea Roma, Rome (2004) and also *Going Places: A Project for Public Buses*, Cairo (2003). In Fall 2007 Bidoun magazine published an artist project by Iman Issa.

Ahmed Khaled

born in Cairo 1979, lives and works in Cairo

Ahmed Khaled is a filmmaker, visual and multi-media-artist. He also works in commercial TV advertisement. He graduated from Helwan University, Faculty of Fine Arts in 2001. Since 1996, Khaled has participated in several painting and drawing workshops and exhibitions. Between 2002 and 2004 he won numerous awards for his art work, including *the Jury Prize at the 14th Annual Youth Art Salon Competition*, and First Place at *the Helwan University Annual Competition*, Egypt. Throughout his career as a filmmaker and a video artist, Khaled has directed a number of documentaries and commercial TV advertisements. He works as a freelance artist and scriptwriter for several mainstream media outlets, including cinema and television production houses. In 2005, Ahmed Khaled directed and produced his first independent fiction film, *The Fifth Pound* (15 minutes). In August 2007 he directed *Fish Eye*, a 22 minute short fiction film. With his short films he has participated to several festivals, including the Ismailia International Film Festival, Ismailia, Egypt, 2003 and 2005; Panafricana Film Festival, Rome, Italy 2006; Biennale Des Cinémas Arabes, Paris, France July 2006; Tanger International Film Festival, Tanger, Morocco, June 2008.

Susanne Kriemann

Born in Erlangen (Germany) 1972, lives and works in Rotterdam (Netherlands) and Berlin

Susanne Kriemann is a conceptual artist working mainly with photography, texts and installations. She has studied at the Akademie der Bildenden Künste in Stuttgart, and at the Ecole Nationale Supérieure des Beaux Arts, Paris. She has been recipient of several grants and residencies (Moscow, Stockholm among others), and in 2006 lived in Cairo on a grant. Among her recent exhibitions: International Biennial for Contemporary Art, Prague, CZ; Townhouse Gallery, Cairo, *Downloads from the Future*, curated by Oliver Kielmayer in 2006, WYSPA

Gdansk, PL, Tektonics of History, curated by Dr. Andrea Domesle and Martin Kren in 2007 and Berlin Biennale.

Maha Maamoun

born in Cairo 1972, lives and works in Cairo

Maha Maamoun finished her MA in Middle Eastern History, Arabic Studies Department, American University in Cairo (AUC) in 2001. She works with photography. By applying this at the micro level, the photographs are not overviews, but intimate: for example the photo series *Cairoscapes* takes on the fleeting nature of a glance. She is fascinated by socially imposed behaviour, particularly participation in and exclusion from groups. Her photo project *Going Places* decorated the city busses in Cairo in 2003. In 2007 worked as assistant curator for *Meeting Points 5*, International Multidisciplinary Arts Festival, Brussels. She was curator and organizer of *PhotoCairo3: Positioning Statements* in 2005, was programming assistant, at Pro Helvetia (Arts Council of Switzerland), Cairo Liaison Office and is a board member of CIC (Contemporary Image Collective). Her solo exhibition include: *Retake*. Fabrica Gallery, shown in Brighton in 2004. Her group exhibitions include: *Global Cities*, Tate Modern, London, 2007; *Snap Judgments: New Positions in Contemporary African Photography*, International Centre for Photography (ICP), New York, 2006; *Actual Position: An Egyptian-Swiss Art Project on Topography and Identity*, Townhouse Gallery, Cairo, 2005; *Dak'Art 6 Biennale of Contemporary African Art* in 2004 and *PhotoCairo2*, Townhouse Gallery, Cairo.

Christoph Oertli

born in Winterthur (Switzerland), lives and works in Basel and Brussels

Christoph Oertli is a video artist that works with installation and performance. He studied graphic design and stage design at Hochschule für Gestaltung und Kunst in Zurich and audiovisual design at the Hochschule für Gestaltung und Kunst in Basel. Between 1995 and 1997 he cruised on ships around the world and since 1997 he produced a videos that have been shown widely in international venues, including: Transmediale, Berlin; NGBK - Neue Gesellschaft für Bildende Kunst, Berlin; Viper, Basel; Rendez-vous du Cinéma Québécois, Montréal; ICA - Institute of Contemporary Art, London; Rencontres Int. Paris/Berlin/Madrid; Invideo Milan. Oertli has been recipient of several residency grants, including in 2006 a Pro Helvetia grant Cairo, Egypt.

Hany Rashed

born in Cairo 1975, lives and works in Cairo

Hany Rashed produces monochromatic paintings and three dimensional painted assemblages depicting scenes from everyday lives as well as fantastic scenes from an imaginary city. His postage stamp sized paintings and large installations made up of numerous tiny 3D figures spread out on floors and walls, play with notions of scale to raise questions about power in contemporary society. At the same time his work explores urbanisation, and the role that the media, specifically TV have on contemporary society. Hany Rashed was a trainee at Mohamed Abal's atelier from 1994 to 2004. He has exhibited widely in Africa (Dakar Biennale, Cape Town Biennale), in Middle East (Gallery Agial, Beirut; Gallery B21, Dubai, UAE; Mashrabia Gallery, Cairo; CIC - Contemporary Image Collective, Cairo; Bibliotheca Alexandrina, Alexandria) and in Europe (*Fundació Antoni Tàpies*, Barcelona and *Witte de With*, Center for Contemporary Art, Rotterdam within Catherine David's Contemporary Arab Representation

project; Thessaloniki Biennale, Greece). In 2008 Hany Rashed has been recipient of a Pro Helvetia residency in St. Gallen, Switzerland.

Katarina Šević

born in Novi Sad (Serbia) 1979, lives and works in Budapest (Hungary)

Katarina Šević graduated at the Hungarian Academy of Fine Art at the Intermedia department in 2004. In her work she utilizes and integrates diverse strategies of observation and communication, testing the interrelations of public/private realms. She is interested in creative research methods and consciousness-raising practices through questioning her immediate environment, social status and relations. She has been active in diverse collaborative and organizational projects including *Dinamo*, *Impex*, and *Die Planung*. In the past years Šević has exhibited in several international venues, including Studio Gallery, Budapest; IG Bildende Kunst, Vienna; Skuc Gallery, Ljubljana; Apexart, New York; Salon of the Museum of Contemporary Art, Belgrade, Serbia; Collegium Hungaricum Berlin, Germany; CIC – Contemporary Image Collective, Cairo, Egypt.

Randa Shaath

born in 1963 in Philadelphia, lives and works in Cairo

She received a BA in Middle Eastern Studies from the American University in Cairo, and a MA in Visual Mass Communication from the University of Minnesota. She operated as a photographer for Agence France-Presse in Egypt and Gaza in 1994, and for the Al Ahram Weekly newspaper since 1993. She worked on various projects in Palestine, Nubian villages, and Cairo. In the Cairo project she captured daily life in the city, on the streets and the rooftops, and on its forgotten islands.

By continually describing precise human, social and spatial situations – the farmers and fishermen on the island of Qursaya; life on the most humble as well as the most fashionable rooftops; the cultural scene in Cairo, as presented through an impressive gallery of portraits taken over the last 20 years – the author has built up a complex corpus of territorial images and portrayals that resist any simplistic or single vision of the megalopolis Cairo. She has invented a space for herself in the limited tradition of the documentary image of Cairo, and has established singular perspectives and new viewpoints that catch the numerous different space-times co-existing alongside each other, the various speeds at which the city moves and the diverse uses made of it.

Recent exhibitions include: *Contemporary Arab Representations*, Cairo (2003-2004, traveling exhibition, Witte de With Art Center, Rotterdam and other location); *Regards des photographes arabes contemporaine* (2006, IMA - Institut du Monde Arabe) Paris, France); *Snap Judgments* (2006 traveling exhibition, ICP - International Center of Photography, New York and other location); 27a. Bienal de São Paulo *Como viver junto — How to live together* (2007); *Under The Same Sky*, The National Museum of Photography, Copenhagen, Denmark (2007); *What is Happening Now?*, Palace of Arts, Opera Grounds, Cairo (2008); *Tales Around the Pavement*, Contemporary Image Collective Cairo (2008).