

OPEN CALL FOR PALESTINIAN ARTISTS & DESIGNERS

DISARMING DESIGN FROM PALESTINE

تصاميم من فلسطين

CREATE-SHOP

@AL MA'MAL FOUNDATION, JERUSALEM, 25 AUGUST—10 SEPTEMBER 2015

THE PROJECT

Disarming Design from Palestine is an inclusive design label that presents useful products from Palestine. The goods are designed by Palestinian and international designers and made in Palestine by local producers and artisans. During yearly 'create-shops', new useful products are developed out of existing production processes. The collection is presented and items are sold locally and internationally through exhibitions, presentations, mobile shops and a webshop.

PURPOSE

Disarming Design from Palestine focuses on the development of local design and production capacity through creative processes. By stimulating interdisciplinary working relationships, new models of artistic practices and handicrafts are empowered. At large, the products spread alternative narratives about contemporary Palestine and reflect upon the function of creative practices in situations of conflict. In this project, art and design are deployed as powerful tools that allow serious discussions within a community about the political, social and cultural realities. How can creative practices contribute to a more sustainable society and human-centered economy?

BACKGROUND

The project started in 2012 as a project of DEVET (NL/B) in collaboration with the International Academy of Art Palestine (PS), ICCO (NL) and the Sandberg Instituut Amsterdam (NL). In 2015 it became independent and was registered as a non-profit company in Palestine, and as a foundation in the Netherlands.

See: www.disarmingdesign.com

THE CREATE-SHOP

The aim of the create-shop is to develop useful products that reflect upon Palestinian reality and can be produced in Jerusalem. The create-shop is a collaborative process with high emphasis on creativity, collaboration, production and quality. Participants experiment and develop ideas collectively, engage in discussions and are introduced to different Palestinian craft workshops.

The create-shop will be hosted in the workshop space at Al Ma'mal foundation, and includes guest lectures, screenings, visits to a variety of Palestinian artisans and workshops in and around Jerusalem, a guided tour through the Old City, some field trips to the West Bank, some collective lunches and other relevant activities. Computers to work on will be provided by Al Ma'mal, sketching material should be brought by the participants. Each participant is requested to collaborate with the local producers to develop prototypes for his/her designs.

The create-shop course is guided and organized by Disarming Design (**Annelys de Vet** (Designer, director DDFP, NL/B) and **Sami Khaldi** (Executive Director DDFP, PS)) and includes critics by independent curators, artists and designers including **Jumana Abboud** (artist and director Al Ma'mal, PS), **Aline Khoury** (Education Coordinator Al Ma'mal, PS), **Yazan Khalili** (artist, PS) and **Rudy Luijters** (artist, NL/B).

PARTICIPANTS

We are looking for contemporary Palestinian designers, artists and students with an interest in crafts and production, who are able to rethink products from a conceptual approach, who have an open, curious and collaborative mentality and who are able to commit themselves full time in Jerusalem during the duration of the create-shop. Participants are required to develop at least one prototype of a new useful product, that has been discussed with other participants and workshop guiders. The prototype should be produced in the course of the create-shop. Additionally a technical drawing of the final product needs to be delivered, including a title and a description of the idea of the

product(s).

The total number of participants is limited to 15; five are master students of the Sandberg Instituut Amsterdam, and 10 are Palestinian designers and artists. It's also possible to apply as a duo, where the full time commitment and fees are shared.

FEE

Participation in the workshop is free. Each Palestinian participant receives a fee for full-time participation of 1000 NIS and has a production budget for prototypes of 1200 NIS. Participants are required to organize their own accommodation, but if impossible DDFP can help.

COPYRIGHT

The copyright of the designs developed during the create-shop will be shared with the non-profit company Disarming Design from Palestine and the designer(s). DDFP has the right to take it into production and will inform the designer(s) what happens with his/her products. Before the product is in production, DDFP and the designer will agree on a contract where it's stated that the Palestinian designers will receive a certain percentage of royalties per sold item. International participants don't receive royalties.

HOW TO APPLY

Please send in your motivation statement in which you describe why you are interested in participating in the workshop and if you already have a specific interest (for instance in a certain subject, production method or kind of products). We would also like to see more of your work, preferably via a pdf-portfolio or a link to on-line works.

You can provide us this information via the following google-form:

<http://goo.gl/forms/ZRSgMMllf>

DEADLINE

Deadline for application is 6th July 2015. Applicants will be selected on the basis of their motivation and portfolio. All applicants will be informed on Thursday 9th July 2015.

More information:
sami.khaldi@disarmingdesign.ps

RELATED LINKS

<http://www.almamal.foundation.org/>
<http://www.artacademy.ps/>
<http://sandberg.nl/think-tank-for-visual-strategies>

<http://www.bureaudevot.be>
<http://www.designmiami.com/designlog/columns-listing/damn/creation-in-times-of-turbulence-disarming-design-from-palestine>

<http://electronicinfada.net/content/palestinian-dutch-disarming-design-project-inspired-artwork-captivity/11760>
<http://middleeastrevised.com/23/09/2014/disarming-design-from-palestine/>

