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ONE LAND and PLATFORM PARADISE



FAST, the Foundation for Achieving Seamless Territory, announces One Land and Platform Paradise: two projects celebrating the rebirth of Ein Hawd, an unrecognised Palestinian village in Israel

August 28th to September 7th , Ein Hawd, Israel

Amsterdam, July 14th – Following the four-year project, One Land Two Systems, which created a new masterplan for (and with) the unrecognised Palestinian village of Ein Hawd, FAST announces the culmination of the process in two new celebratory initiatives.

One Land Two Systems began with an international architecture and design competition for the development of an alternative master plan for the village. The winners of the competition, a group of architects and designers from France, Germany and Israel, have joined FAST and the community of Ein Hawd to further develop a sustainable solution for the village.

The plan has now been completed by FAST, to the satisfaction of Ein Hawd’s residents, for whom it is the beginning of making their dreams a reality. It is now being used in negotiation with the authorities to have Ein Hawd fully recognised by the state. The process, meanwhile, has acted as a model for a new kind of architectural practice based on community, sustainability and politics.

From August 28th to September 7th, a series of public events and workshops, and spatial, social and cultural interventions in Ein Hawd will finalise the project by making concrete changes in the village and its surroundings. The project is divided into two programmes: ONE LAND and PLATFORM PARADISE.

ONE LAND will celebrate the rebirth of Ein Hawd through its new masterplan by unveiling the community's first ever public building: the Golden Heart Pavilion, an inflatable designed by FAST. A FAST market will explore a new sustainable economic foundation for the village, uniting agriculture, tourism, aesthetics and hospitality. A Landscape Plan will provide for the restoration of the original Mediterranean landscape, and an exhibition will showcase Ein Hawd's past and present a vision of the future.

PLATFORM PARADISE, an art show commissioned by FAST and curated by Maurizio Bortolotti assisted by Noga Inbar, will open from September 1st to 7th, and continue until November 1st. Invited artists and architects will address the village's lack of public space (as an 'unofficial' place) by interacting with the villagers to improve their living conditions and generate new kinds of common ground. *"Platform Paradise is a democratic tool aimed at bringing art (projects) into a specific living space of a community. The lack of cultural institutions in Ein Hawd creates a new condition in which art is represented and used. In this experimental space a new kind of art projects will emerge"* (Maurizio Bortolotti).

Over 20 external participants in the two projects will join the residents of Ein Hawd in a series of activities and master classes. Representing a variety of expertise and experience, they will include the Palestinian artist Sharif Waked and poet Salman Natur, plus international names like artist Dan Graham, architect Yona Friedman, and film-maker Ali Kazma. Malkit Shoshan, Director of FAST, says: *"This project redefines the role of art, design and architecture. It generates flexible tools and new social, cultural and economical spaces aimed at improving the living conditions of a specific context and a specific community, that of Ein Hawd. At the same time, it creates a new model, a platform, of creative social and spatial interventions that goes beyond politics."*

Sponsors: FBKVB, The Netherlands Architecture Fund and OXFAM novib

Participants: The community of Ein Hawd, FAST, Muhammad Abu AlHayja, Malkit Shoshan, Ali Kazma, Berend Strik, Camila Pinzón Cortes, Dan Graham, Debra Solomon, Gianluigi Ricuperati, Gillian Schrofer, Map Office, Matthijs Bouw, Maurizio Bortolotti, Nico Dockx, Nisreen Abu Al Hayja, Ole Bouman, Petra Blaisse, Rebecca Gomperts, Salman Natour, Sharif Waked, Stefano Boeri and more.

For further information, contact FAST at:

FAST

Vliegtuigstraat 26

1059CL, Amsterdam

The Netherlands

t +31 624912787

info[at]seamlessterritory.org

For information

info[at]one-land.org

For reservations

reserve[at]one-land.org

For PR

pr[at]one-land.org

website: www.one-land.org

BACKGROUND

Both the past and the future can be constructed or destroyed – literally, through what we choose to build, protect and create in the physical world. No more so than in the Middle East, where the Israeli and Palestinian conflict is acted through the architecture and physical planning of the land. Behind the seemingly down-to-earth work of Israeli spatial planners lies a reality, which is actively re-shaping the land into a divided state. While for Israeli towns and villages the future is constructed, the so-called 'unrecognized' Palestinian villages¹ remain blank areas on planners' drawings, or are literally wiped off the map. One Land Two Systems aims to make visible and counter this reality by using architecture, art and culture tools. The project consists of international architecture competition, public debates, exhibitions, art interventions and construction of a multidisciplinary community centre.

Ein Hawd and Ein Hod

The story of Ein Hawd is the story of two villages Ein Hawd and Ein Hod. Ein Hod is the biggest artist's village in Israel. It was established in the beginning of the 1950s by a group of Dadaist artists led by Marcel Janko. He had 'found' a Palestinian village with hundreds of years of history, a village that had been confiscated in 1948 by the Israeli military, its 900-old villagers made refugees in a single stroke. The Israelis renamed the place Ein Hod, the 'place of beauty'.

While the new artists village was taking shape right on top of a confiscated one, the extended Palestinian family of Abu al Hayja fled from their homes in Ein Hawd to their own agriculture land in the mountains. Only 1.5km away from their village. The family eventually lost all hope of returning to their old homes and built new ones in their hiding place. They called the new village Ein Hawd, after the old one. The new Ein Hawd was an 'unrecognized village' (until February 2004), and its people classed as internal refugees. This meant that, for over 50 years, they lived without basic services like water, electricity, schools or medical care, struggling with the authorities day by day for their right to exist. Finally, in February 2004, after years of continuous struggle, the government recognized the village – or rather 80 dunams (80,000 square metres) of it, a very insufficient area for its present existence and its future development.

With this act of recognition, the Israeli government imposed a master plan on Ein Hawd for the development of the village. The plan gives the village a total amount of land of 80 dunams or 80,000 square metres (1 dunam = 1,000 square metres), an area it has already outgrown. Of this, 13 dunams (13,000 square metres) in the village centre is considered a 'military area'. The master plan doesn't take into consideration large parts of the village; it leaves no space for future expansion, demographic growth, economic development, or future sustainability. Through the switch from unrecognized to recognized, the imposed master plan pushes the village further into a straitjacket of destructive political planning.

¹ Nowadays, more than 100,000 Palestinians (Beduins, Druze and Muslims) are living in over 80 unrecognized villages in side of Israel (not in the Occupied Territories). These people are living as internal refugees under constant displacement and demolition threats. They live with no access to basic infrastructure like water, electricity, schools, kindergartens, medical clinics etc.

PROGRAMME DETAILS

ONE LAND

- The launch of EIN HAWD'S NEW MASTERPLAN; A LANDSCAPE PLAN, which makes the rebirth of the original Mediterranean landscape possible; and other new programs.
- The construction of THE GOLDEN HEART PAVILION, a FAST-designed inflatable, the first community building in Ein Hawd
- THE FARMER MARKET, an economic structure in which agriculture, tourism, aesthetics and local hospitality culture are combined to form a strong base for economic independence and sustainability in the village, a project by Debra Solomon
- ONE LAND EXHIBITION, which shows the history and the future visions of the village, designed in collaboration with Sharif Waked
- Ein Hawd TOURISM PACK
- An INSIDE OUTSIDE new space for Ein Hawd by Petra Blaisse
- ARCHITECTURE FOR HOSPITALITY by Matthijs Bouw (One Architecture) and Gillian Schrofer (Concern)
- AN OPEN AIR CINEMA installation and program by Salim Abu Jabal

PLATFORM PARADISE

- MUSEO AEROSOLAR, a project initiated by Tomas Saraceno and Alberto Pesavento with communities in Abu Dhabi, Frankfurt am Main, Milan, Medellin(Colombia), Tirana, and now Ein Hawd.
- TODAY, a video installation by Ali Kazma
- MERSTRUKTUREN by Yona Friedman
- THIRD LAND by Map Office
- A VIDEO INSTALLATION by Dan Graham
- UNTITLE by Nico Dockx and Helena Sidiropoulos
- THE ROAD MAP video installation by Stefano Boeri/Multiplicity
- MARKET DEVELOPMENT by Debra Solomon
- APPEARANCES by Berend Strik and Nisreen Abu Al Hayja with the Community of Ein Hawd

DIARY

28th Thursday evening

OPENING EVENT of One Land with Muhammad Abu Al Hayja, Malkit Shoshan, Sharif Waked, a talk by Salman Natour and a special screening of August, a film by Avi Mugarbi. The event includes the launch of the Golden Heart Pavilion and of One Land exhibition.

29th Friday morning

11:00 – 16:00

PRESS CONFERENCE and panel discussions:

ACTIVISM AND ARCHITECTURE with Zvi Efrat, Muhammad Abu Al Hayja, Sharon Rotbard, Malkit Shoshan, Matthijs Bouw, Ole Bouman moderated by Stefano Boeri

ART AND EMERGENCY. with Nico Dockx, Helena Sideropoulos, Dan Graham, Ali Kazma, Debra Solomon, Berend Strik, Daniel Shoshan, Sharif Waked, moderated by Maurizio Bortolotti

21:00 – 23:00

OUTDOOR CINEMA, projection of popular Middle Eastern movies and videos by artists

30th Saturday

FAMILY DAY, a cultural interaction programme (theatre, cinema and all day happening for Ein Hawd villagers and surroundings)

31st Sunday

A trip to South of Israel, Jerusalem and surroundings

21:00 – 23:00

OUTDOOR CINEMA, projection of Popular Middle Eastern movies and videos by artists

1st Monday

10:00 - 16:00

WORK CAMP in the village led by FAST, Maurizio Bortolotti and the participating artists

16:30 - 18:30

MASTER CLASSES by the participating artists

19:00 - 20:30

DINNER

21:00 – 23:00

OUTDOOR CINEMA, projection of popular Middle Eastern movies and videos by artists

2nd Tuesday

10:00 - 16:00

WORK CAMP in the village led by FAST, Maurizio Bortolotti and the participating artists

16:30 - 18:30

MASTER CLASSES by the participating artists

19:00 - 20:30

A Ramadan DINNER

21:00 – 23:00

Women evening with Raneen Geries

21:00 – 23:00

OUTDOOR CINEMA, projection of popular

Middle Eastern movies and videos by artists

3rd Wednesday

10:00 - 16:00

WORK CAMP in the village led by FAST,
Maurizio Bortolotti and the participating artists

16:30 - 18:30

MEMORIES CAN'T WAIT (ANYMORE). David Grossman
and young Israeli-Palestinian writers, moderated
by Gianluigi Ricuperati

19:00 - 20:30

DINNER

21:00 - 23:00

OUTDOOR CINEMA, projection of popular
Middle Eastern movies and videos by artists

4th Thursday

10:00 - 16:00

WORK CAMP in the village led by FAST,
Maurizio Bortolotti and the participating artists

16:30 - 18:30

MASTER CLASSES by the participating artists

19:00 - 20:30

DINNER

21:00 - 23:00

OUTDOOR CINEMA, projection of popular
Middle Eastern movies and videos by artists

5th Friday

10:00 - 16:00

WORK CAMP in the village led by FAST,
Maurizio Bortolotti and the participating artists

16:30 - 18:30

MASTER CLASSES by the participating artists

19:00 - 20:30

DINNER

21:00 - 23:00

OUTDOOR CINEMA, projection of popular
Middle Eastern movies and videos by artists

6th Saturday

11:00

OPENING of PLATFORM PARADISE SHOW

17:00 - 18:00

DEBATE and panel discussion:

EIN HAWD. AN EXPERIMENTAL SITUATION

Details will be available soon

20:00

Party

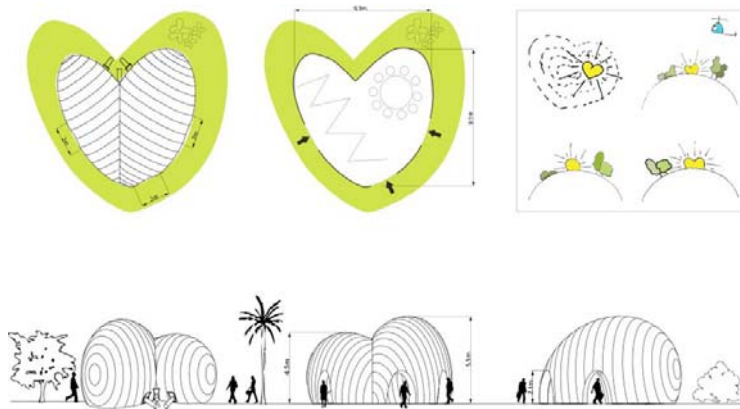
* The list of workshops and lectures from 31 Aug to 5 Sep and the final schedule of the panel discussions will be available soon at our website: www.one-land.org

IMAGES

An illustration of the new landscape plan



The Golden Heart Pavilion drawings and model



The market and the resort



Illustrations of recent FAST exhibition at the NAI, Rotterdam Biennale.



For further information please contact us at pr@one-land.org | +31624912787 |
info on the project: www.one-land.org

PARTICIPANTS

Ali Kazma

Ömer Ali Kazma was born in 1971, İstanbul. He received his MA degree from The New School in New York City. In 2000, he returned to İstanbul, where he still lives and works. His video work deals with the different ways, different individuals and groups create meaning and order in their lives and their immediate surroundings. The videos raise fundamental questions about the meaning and significance of human activity and labor and the meaning of economy, production and social organisation. He exhibited his work in 7th International İstanbul Biennial (2001), Tokyo Opera City (2001), Platform Garanti Center for Contemporary Art (İstanbul, 2003), Cetinje Biennial (2004), İstanbul Modern (2004), 2nd İstanbul Pedestrian Exhibitions (2005), 9th Havana Biennial (Cuba, 2006) and San Francisco Art Institute (2006) among others.

Berend Strik(artist, NL)

Over the past twenty years, Dutch artist, Berend Strik (1960) has worked in various disciplines, ranging from sculpture and architecture to work in two dimensions. However, he is perhaps best known for the embroidered pieces he started working on at the end of the Eighties. The starting point for these were photographs, including old family pictures, photographs in magazines and his own travel pictures. Strik proceeds to stitch over these images adding patches of fabric. The photograph's power of reproduction is undermined by the delicate stitching, returning the image into a more autonomous form. The subject of the photograph becomes original, taking on the character of a mutated painting. He intervenes in the meanings within an image and with the image itself. He alters the narrative, plays with historic atmospheres and historical art clichés as well as using autobiographical details to express something he feels is universal.

Camila Pinzón Cortes, architect, lives and work in the Netherlands, is finalizing her PHD in Development of mapping strategies of formal logics in peripheral areas of the contemporary city, as tool for analysis and intervention. She has a Master of Science in Architecture: Renewal and redesign of city areas, Specialization Urbanism from TU Delft and she studied architecture in the Universidad Nacional de Colombia. Sede Bogotá. She worked as architect, researcher and as a designer in various architecture offices and academic institutions, and since November 2007 she works also for FAST.

Dalia Nachman- Farchi, Israeli architect, currently living in the Netherlands, studying for her Master degree. She received her B.Arch, from the faculty of architecture in *Bezalel* Academy of art & Design, Jerusalem. Her graduation project in 1999, plus "New land definition" thesis, proposed an alternative plan for the village of *Ein-Hud* which won an excellence prize and was exhibited in an art museum. While gaining experience in the practice of architecture in a leading office in Israel for the last 8 years, she continued pursuing the social-cultural perspective in planning: Developing independent local projects, taking part as an activist architect on a volunteer basis in *Bimkom* (Israeli NGO for improving human rights in planning), and in particular winning the FAST competition for a new plan for *Ein-Hud* in 2004. Since then, took part in further development of the plan, as well as assisting FAST in the making of the current event in the village.

Dan Graham

(1942, Urbana, Illinois) is a conceptual artist now working out of New York City. He is an influential figure in the field of contemporary art, both a practitioner of conceptual art and an art critic and theorist. His art career began in 1964 when he moved to New York and opened the John Daniels Gallery. Graham's artistic talents have wide variety. His artistic fields consist of film, video, performance,

photography, architectural models, and glass and mirror structure. Graham especially focuses on the relationship between his artwork and the viewer in his pieces. Graham made a name for himself in the 1980's as an architect of conceptual glass and mirrored pavilions.

Debra Solomon

In 2004, Debra Solomon (US/NL) began publishing her independent research on culiblog.org on food, food culture, and the culture that grows our food. Culiblog is an internationally recognized resource about food systems, sustainability, urban agriculture, food-related art/design, architecture, and urban planning.

Solomon's recent work includes temporary 'concept' restaurants e.g. a sprout restaurant exclusively serving micro-greens based up on the notion that anyone, even those without land and light can contribute to feeding themselves.

Lucky Mi Fortune Cooking is mobile snack lab and culinary embassy in Amsterdam and Rotterdam based upon the notion of super use of neighbourhood products, expertise, and facilities. The snack lab will produce 100% neighbourhood, in-situ snack innovation through collective entrepreneurship and resulting in actual dim sumptuous snacks.

Currently Solomon is working on several commissions in Amsterdam that are radical visions for community involvement and urban agriculture. Aside from edible landscaping, her co-designs include open to the public kitchen playground facilities and infrastructure intended to bolster social cohesion through local food-related micro-economies.

For the NAI in 2007 Solomon co-curated the exhibition the Edible City about food and the built environment. She was the food domain expert of Newcastle's Design Biennial Dott 07 and the Dott 07 Urban Farming project. As part of St. Etienne's Cite du Design Biennial 2008, Solomon has been asked to curate the portion of this year's international design exhibition with the most innovative designs of community tools for food and sustainability.

Gianluigi Ricuperati

(1977, Torino) Italian writer, lecturer, organizer and editor of the International magazine of architecture "Abitare". Prolific writer and strong traveller interested especially in questions of the globalisation, he is the author of two non-fictional books: "Fucked Up" (2006) e "Viet Now" (with Amedeo Martegani, 2007). He published essays, tales and articles in many places and he is a regular contributor to magazines and newspapers, among them: Domus, Riga, Nuovi Argomenti, Rolling Stone, D di Repubblica, and the cultural pages of "La Stampa" and "Il Manifesto". His novel "Il mio impero è nell'aria" will appear in 2008.

Gillian Schrofer,

A Dutch designer, a co-founder of Concrete, a design office in Amsterdam and the founder of Concern.

Malkit Shoshan (Israeli Architect) She lives and works in the Netherlands and since 2004 is the director of FAST. She studied Architecture and Urban planning in the University of Venice and in the Technion in Haifa. During and after her study she has worked on various projects, researching and exposing the relation between planning and human rights violation. Her work was published at the Architecture biennale in Venice in 2002 as part of the Border-disorder project. She has contributed to the 'Civilian Occupation' and 'Politics of Verticality' project of Eyal Weizman and Rafi Segal both in terms of research and design. In 2004 she started 'One Land Two Systems' project, an international architecture competition where architects and planners were asked to contribute a master plan for the unrecognized village of Ein Hawd. The Foundation FAST was born out of that and Shoshan has since realized projects in Israel-Palestine, the Netherlands, Armenia, Georgia, Azerbaijan, Afghanistan, Iraq and else where. The work was published and exhibited widely, among other in the Rotterdam

Biennale, the UIA Istanbul, Mediamatic Amsterdam, the EU headquarter Brussels and in the upcoming Venice Architecture Biennale.

Map Office is an open platform conceived by Laurent Gutierrez (1966, Casablanca) and Valérie Portefaix (1969, Saint-Etienne) to reform our daily practices and to reconstruct our life-world. Based in Hong Kong since 1996, both architects epitomize a new breed of architects who are rethinking the socio-political agencies of architecture. Their projects involve critical analyses of spatial and temporal anomalies and documentation of the ways in which human beings subvert and appropriate spaces for their own uses. A sense of play exists in much of their collaborative work, through a practice that includes text, drawing, photography, video and the creation of new platforms of communication. Running counter to the local architectural circle, MAP office's mission is to bring forward a set of fresh alternatives to a region mainly preoccupied with "just-in-time" industrial production and efficiency.

Matthijs Bouw (architect, NL)

The director of One Architecture, an architecture office in Amsterdam. Matthijs Bouw (1967) studied at the TU in Delft. While still studying he was involved in teaching and wrote for various magazines (including De Architect and Wiederhall). In 1995 he set up the architectural office One Architecture, which is involved in a wide range of projects, from designing private houses to organizing the Atelier Deltametropool for VROM. In its early days, One Architecture was concerned primarily with exploring the boundaries of architecture by means of conceptual projects and by publishing numerous articles about architecture and architectural theory. Following a partnership with co-founder Joost Meuwissen and Donald van Dansik, since 2005 Bouw has run One Architecture single-handed. In recent years, One Architecture has focused increasingly on practice by integrating design and process.
(www.onearchitecture.nl)

Maurizio Bortolotti is an independent art critic and curator based in Milan. Professor at NABA and Domus Academy in Milan. He was visiting professor at Urbino University (2003-2005). He is a regular contributor to the international magazine of art and architecture, Domus; the author of *Il Critico Come Curatore*, Milan 2003, and the editor (with Stefano Casciani) of the collected writings of Pierre Restany in *Pierre Restany. The Critic Who Was an Artist*, Milan 2004. Recent curated projects are: "No Vitruvius, No artists, No Museums: Just a Lot of People", with Rirkrit Tiravanija, Pierre Huyghe, Philippe Parreno (2004); "Modelmania", with Olafur Eliasson (2005), Venice; "The Utopian Display Platform" 2003-2006, Milan; "Yona Friedman: Art and Architecture", 2006, MART, Rovereto. He's currently working with Peter Lewis as a curator of Dan Graham and Yona Friedman for "Foreign" as part of Generator, organised by Gavin Wade, at Birmingham, UCE, (2006-2007); with Bert Theis and Marco Biraghi, *SituazioneIsola/a new Urbanism*, Milan, 2007; Tomas Saraceno, *Museo Aerosolar*, Milan 2007; Yona Friedman Graffiti Museum, *Festarch Cagliari* 2007; *Local modernity/global expectations*, Istanbul 2007; *Ali Kazma. Obstructions*, Milan 2008. At present he's working on shows in Milan, Bordeaux, Berlin. He has given lectures recently at the Academy of Fine Arts "Brera" in Milan; Guangzhou Triennial, Guangzhou; Goldsmiths College, London; University of Central England, Birmingham. (Born 1961).

Muhammad Abu Al Hayja, the Mayor of Ein Hawd

Nico Dockx lives and works in Antwerp. He works out of a fundamental preoccupation with archives and structural processes such as data, memories, information, distribution and management. Often outcome of collaboration with other artists, his installations, publications, soundscapes, texts and videos

investigate the relationship between perception and remembrance, allowing multiple interpretations to emerge. Nico Dockx has been awarded with a DAAD grant in 2005 and showed in Utopia Station, 50th Venice Biennial/ Haus der Kunst, Munich; Monopolis, Witte de With, Rotterdam; Through Time & Today, Musée des Beaux Arts de Nantes, 'daybyday & another day', le centre d'art de l'île de Vassivière, CRYPTICCRYSTALCLOUD, CCA Kitakyushu.

Nisreen Abu Al Hayja, fashion designer, living in Ein Hawd

Ole Bouman (director NAI, NL) is a cultural and architectural historian. He works as a curator and consultant in the fields of architecture, visual culture and politics. Since 1988, he has covered these subjects in a column in De Groene Amsterdammer and in Archis magazine where he is now editor-in-chief. He also teaches architectural history at the Amsterdam Academy of Art (NL). He has published, together with Roemer van Toorn, the encyclopedic manifesto, *The Invisible in Architecture*.

He is the founder of Volume magazine and the director of the Netherlands Architecture Institute.

Petra Blaisse (designer, NL) director of insideoutside: Dutch designer Petra Blaisse works in a multitude of creative areas, including textile, landscape and exhibition design. She founded Inside Outside in Amsterdam in 1991. Inside Outside specializes in the rare combination of both interior and exterior design, interweaving architecture and landscape. These interior projects are not only visual interventions that are made of materials that change their architectural context and introduce color, flexibility and movement, but they also function to solve acoustic, climatic, shading and spatial necessities. The landscape projects reflect the same fascination with – and a continuous research of – materials, light and movement combined with urban and infrastructural program. This mentality brings forth a series of strong, multi-layered garden and park designs that combine logistics with rich planting schemes and graphic effects. (www.insideoutside.nl)

Rebecca Gomperts (director Women on Waves, NL) a medical doctor, an artist and founder of the abortion rights organization Women on Waves, received the Margaret Sanger- Woman of Valour Award from Planned Parenthood New York City on April 14. She received this award for providing outstanding contributions to the reproductive rights movement. (www.womenonwave.org)

Salman Natour author and the Director of the Emil Touma Institute for Palestinian and Israeli Studies.

Sharif Waked is a Palestinian visual artist, painter, graphic designer and children's books illustrator. Lives and works in Haifa/Nazareth. He is part of a group of Palestinian artists emerging in the international scene. He exhibited his work at various international museums and biennials. The Video piece "Chic Point" gained international fame and has recently been on display at the Tate Modern, London.

Stefano Boeri/Multiplicity

Multiplicity is an agency for territorial investigation based in Milan. It is concerned in contemporary urbanism, architecture, visual arts and general culture. Multiplicity detects the physical environment, researching for the clues and traces produced by social behaviours. It is an ever-changing network formed by architects, geographers, artists, urban planners, photographers, sociologists, economists, filmmakers. The agency projects and produces intervention strategies, workshops, installations and books about the recent and hidden processes of transformation of the urban condition. It has worked on different

projects: Uncertain states of Europ, a research on territorial transformations in contemporary Europe, Solid Sea, a study of the Mediterranean and Border Devise(s), a research into the proliferation of controversial boundaries in the contemporary world.

The Foundation for Achieving Seamless Territory



FAST, the Foundation for Achieving Seamless Territory, is a non-for-profit architecture office based in Amsterdam. It aims to make visible the reality of segregation and human right violation caused by architecture and planning.

FAST is working on various projects on the South Caucasus, Iraq, Afghanistan, the Netherlands, Israel, Palestine and elsewhere.

FAST'S work has been published and exhibited widely (publications: Volume Magazine, Abitare Magazine, etc; exhibitions: Rotterdam Biennale, UIA Istanbul, EU parliament, Venice Biennale, Mediamatic gallery etc) .At the upcoming Venice Biennale FAST will exhibit its work in the Italian Pavilion.

Tomas Saraceno

Tomás Saraceno looks to the sky and sees possibilities for rethinking how we live in relation to one another—for reshaping notions about nationality and property, and revising our ideas about the fixity of the built environment and the organization of cities. Air-Port-City, Saraceno's ongoing project, envisions networks of habitable platforms that float in the air. The freedom of their airborne location allows for sections of living space to join together like clouds, creating aerial cities in constant physical transformation. As he explains, "Like continental drift at the beginning of the world, the new cities will search for their positions in the air in order to find their place in the universe . . . [this structure is] capable of imagining more elastic and dynamic border rules (political, geographical, etc.) for a new space/cyberspace."

Willem Velthoven(designer, NL) Willem Velthoven (Designer) is the director of Mediamatic Interactive Publishing (MMip), Editor in Chief of Mediamatic magazine and senior Designer for both the magazine and the Interactive dpt. of MM. Willem studied Art History at the University of Groningen and is trained as a Graphic Designer at the Minerva Academy in Groningen. He founded Mediamatic magazine in 1985 together with Jans Possel and has a design practice for over ten years now. He is one of the main organisers of the Doors of Perception conferences and acts as a media and communications consultant to several of our clients.

Yona Friedman

Yona Friedman studied at the Technical University in Budapest, before continuing his training from 1945 to 1948 at the Technion in Haifa, Israel, where he worked as an architect until 1957. In 1953-54, he met Konrad Wachsmann, whose studies on prefabrication techniques and three-dimensional structures had a considerable influence on him. In 1954, together with some inhabitants of Haifa, Friedman embarked upon an initial experiment involving housing designed by the occupant, but this project never reached completion. In 1956, at the 10th International Congress of Modern Architecture (ICMA) in Dubrovnik, modernism was called into question by his universalist approach and his belief in progress. At the Congress, when people were taking "mobile architecture" to mean the mobility of the dwelling, the "mobile home" for example, Friedman exhibited for the first time the principles of an architecture encompassing the on-going changes required to provide "social mobility", based on dwellings and town-planning provisions that could be composed and re-composed, depending on the intentions of the occupants and residents. The Dubrovnik debate gave rise to several think-tanks within the International Congresses, as well as beyond them. Thus it was that in December 1958, Friedman founded the Mobile Architecture Study Group (MASG) which, up until 1962, would focus on the adaptation of architecture to the changes occurring in modern life. He was joined by Kühne, Otto, Ruhnau, Hansen, Frieden and, after 1960, Schulze-Fielitz and Maymont.