

## aria starts this year programme inviting Mohamed Bourouissa in Algiers



Mohamed Bourouissa, *Le cercle imaginaire* from the series 'Périphérique', 2007-2008

Following on its successful 2012 pilot programme, **aria** is launching its programme this year inviting Franco-Algerian visual artist Mohamed Bourouissa in Algiers.

Bourouissa will develop a research on Frantz Fanon and his practice as a psychiatrist in the city of Blida where the artist was born.

### **Mohamed Bourouissa on his research trip in Algiers:**

*I am very happy to have been invited as the first guest of **aria** this year. This is not my first visit to Algeria but I am very much looking forward to this research residency. This will enable me to approach my native country in a new way and further develop ideas and interests into artistic projects. I am also eager to engage and exchange more with my Algerian colleagues.*

### **Yasmina Reggad, aria's programme curator on Bourouissa's residency:**

*We are delighted to start this year programme with such promising artist as Mohamed Bourouissa. Although he has already exhibited in Algiers during the Festival International d'Art Contemporain (FIAC) in 2009, he hasn't produce work in Algeria or about Algeria yet. Knowing his interest in Frantz Fanon's revolutionary approach to psychiatry at the Hospital of the Blida (the artist's native city), it seemed natural for us to support and invite Bourouissa to research and/or initiate new projects related to Algeria. We are looking forward to the outcome of this residency and to working with the artist in other projects*

## About Mohamed Bourouissa

Mohamed Bourouissa works and lives in Paris, France. The artist defines society by its contours. With a critical relationship to mass media images, the subject of his photographs and videos are people left behind at the crossroads of integration and exclusion. In the series of photographs 'Device', he represents the everyday life of suburban youth, taking inspiration from the history of painting. He breaks, however, with his stylised aesthetic in two videos: 'Dead time' an intimate exchange with a prisoner via cell phones and 'Legend' in which contraband cigarette vendors, whom he equipped with hidden cameras, film their activities. With 'The Utopia of August Sander', a project conducted between Marseille, Gennevilliers and the Pompidou Centre, he immersed himself in the world of jobseekers. 'All-in' one of his latest projects, created for Nuit Blanche for la Monnaie de Paris, addresses his perspective of the complex network of relations that link us to money. He seeks above all to emphasise its attractiveness, its power as an engine and model of integration and success, but also, the dichotomy, the strength and violence of its capacity to exclude.

His work has been presented in several solo and group exhibitions in France and internationally: Pompidou Centre, Musée d'art moderne de la Ville de Paris, Palais de Tokyo, Edouard Manet Gallery in Gennevilliers, Museum of Fine Arts in Rennes, Palazzo Grassi - François Pinault Foundation in Venice, MAXXI in Rome, New Museum of Contemporary Art in New York, Philadelphia Museum of Art, SCAD of Atlanta, Finnish Museum of Photography of Helsinki, Muzeum Sztuki in Lodz, Fotomuseum in Rotterdam, Nikolaj Kunsthal of Copenhagen, KW Institute for Contemporary Art of Berlin as well as within the framework of the Berlin Biennale and The 54th International Art Exhibition of the Venice Biennial.

Mohamed Bourouissa is represented by galerie kamel mennour, Paris.

## About aria

**aria** is a residency programme founded by artist Zineb Sedira in 2011. It aims at building cross-border dialogues and creating an ongoing dynamic network in diverse international art communities within and beyond Algeria. It provides opportunities for emerging and established artists from North Africa and across the world to conduct artistic and cultural research and production.

**Aria 2013's** guest artists: Atef Berredjem (lives and works in Annaba, Algeria), Kapwani Kiwanga (lives in Paris, France and works between Paris and Tanzania), Younès Rahmoun (lives and works in Tetouan, Morocco)

Previous residents: Nicene Kossentini, Basel El Maqosui and Alfredo Jaar

## For further press information and to request images please contact:

**aria** artist residency in Algiers  
Zineb Sedira, Founder and Director  
Yasmina Reggad, Programme Curator  
E: [arialgiers@gmail.com](mailto:arialgiers@gmail.com)  
[www.ariaresidencyalgiers.wordpress.com](http://www.ariaresidencyalgiers.wordpress.com)

In partnership with:



Thanks to the support of:

