

For Immediate Release
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CAMP, *From Gulf to Gulf to Gulf*, 2009-2013, Film. Commissioned by the Sharjah Art Foundation Production Programme, 2010. Image courtesy of Sharjah Art Foundation.

SHARJAH BIENNIAL 11 PROGRAMME OF MUSIC, PERFORMANCE, AND FILM CONTINUES THROUGH MAY 13, 2013

SHARJAH BIENNIAL 11

Re:emerge

Towards a New Cultural Cartography

March 13 – May 13, 2013, Sharjah, UAE

Sharjah, United Arab Emirates— Sharjah Art Foundation (SAF) continues an extensive programme of music, performances, and film screenings as part of **Sharjah Biennial 11 (SB11)**, ***Re:emerge - Towards a New Cultural Cartography***, which opened March 13 and will continue through May 13, 2013.

Film screenings programmed by **Tilda Swinton, Jean-Pierre Rehm, Ali Jaafar, Steve Anker, Khavn De La Cruz, Alcino Leite Neto, Mehelli Modi**, and **Apichatpong Weerasethakul** take place each weekend at Mirage City Cinema, an open-air architectural space designed by **Apichatpong Weerasethakul** and **Ole Scheeren** for **SB11**.

On **April 18**, **Tony Chakar**'s performance *One Hundred Thousand Solitudes* will examine images from the recent Arab revolutions and international Occupy movements. On **April 20**, his book launch for *The Dialogue That Is Us* will take place, along with his lecture performance *The*

Space of Nūn that will tell the story of an old woman who walked through Tahrir Square during the siege by the Egyptian army, distributing a message of non-violence to the soldiers.

On **April 19**, electronic composer and visual artist **Ryoji Ikeda** will present an audiovisual concert, *datamatics [ver. 2.0]*. Using 2D sequences of patterns derived from hard drive errors and studies of software code, imagery transforms into dramatic, rotating views of the universe in 3D. A powerful and hypnotic soundtrack reflects the imagery through a layering of sonic components to produce immense and apparently boundless acoustic spaces.

Tarek Atoui's sound composition *Within* unfolds over the course of **SB11** through interrelated movements that build up and feed back on each other. With several performances in each movement, *Within* progresses spatially from areas around the city to the Biennial sites, taking place in outdoor locations where the audience is close to the performers. The project *Tacet*, an investigation into how deaf people understand and perceive sound, inspired Atoui to write *Within* as a chain reaction of rhythmic and plucked pulses, silent and emic ones. On **April 19**, **Charbel Haber** performs his composition for *Electric guitar and pedals*. On **April 26**, **Wu Na** will perform a piece that she composed for *The Guqin*. On **May 9**, **Atoui** and students from **Al Amal School for the Deaf** will perform their composition *Below 160*. **Hassan Hujairi** will perform *Music for handmade electronics, laptop and electric oud*, the final movement of *Within*, on **May 10**.

On **May 10**, during the final week of the Biennial, German-Iraqi chamber music ensemble **Lagash** will perform music drawn from the centuries-old *Maqam* tradition, a melodic system in classical Arabic music that is based on specific note combinations. The music of **Lagash** contains composed as well as improvised elements, complex melodies, melancholic harmonies, and surprising rhythms.

For **SB11**, Curator **Yuko Hasegawa** proposes a new cultural cartography that reconsiders the relationships between the Arab world, Asia, the Far East, through North Africa to Latin America. **SAF's** five new multi-functional art spaces in the Sharjah Heritage Area were inaugurated on the opening day. The 2013 **Sharjah Biennial Prize** was presented on opening night to **Apichatpong Weerasethakul** and **Chai Siri, Tiffany Chung, Wael Shawky, Monir Shahroudy Farmanfarmaian, Magdi Mostafa, and Fumito Urabe**.

SB11 opening week events included performances by **Işıl Eğrikavuk, Hassan Khan, Otobong Nkanga, Wael Shawky, Tony Chakar, Shahzia Sikander, Tintin Wulia, Tony Chakar, The Brockas**, and **alva noto** with a special appearance by **Ryuichi Sakamoto**; as well as film screenings, panel discussions, and the annual March Meeting, a symposium of presentations, thematic sessions and panels that contextualised the Biennial's concept.

A complete list of the more than 100 artists, architects, and musicians participating in **SB11** is available at <http://www.sharjahart.org/biennial/sharjah-biennial-11/artists-participants>.

About the Sharjah Art Foundation (SAF)

SAF brings a broad range of contemporary art and cultural programmes to the communities of Sharjah, the UAE and the region. Since 2009, SAF has built on the history of cultural collaboration and exchange that began with the first Sharjah Biennial in 1993.

For more information on SAF and its programmes, visit <http://www.sharjahart.org>.

MEDIA CONTACTS:

[FITZ & CO](#), New York

Meg Blackburn

Tel: +1 212-627-1455 x 225

E: meg@fitzandco.com

Sharjah Art Foundation, United Arab Emirates

Maitha Al Jassim

Tel: +971-6-544-4113, ext. 17

E: maitha@sharjahart.org



SHARJAH ART FOUNDATION

t +971 6 544 4113 | f +971 6 568 5800 | PO Box 19989 Sharjah, UAE
website | facebook | twitter | google | map