

Sat. September 17, 2022 at Governors Island

RU programs at KODA House:

Saddie Choua, film installation

Hamza Kirbas, performance



KODA/RU House on Governors Island

Fatima, Saïda, Toni, Jeanne, Diouana, Yma and I – by Saddie Choua

Sep 17 - Oct 8 2022, Fri & Sat, 12:00-6:00 PM

KODA/RU House

Governors Island, Colonels Row, Building #404B, second floor

On September 17, Saddie Choua will screen three films she realized and perform an activity sitting outside KODA house to interview visitors and passers-by. The films will be on view until October 8, 2022.

Governors Island, once the land of the Native Americans and called Nut Island also served as a prison for some time. Saddie Choua connects the island with her films and their main characters, women locked in a Moroccan prison, in racism, discrimination, families and households, occupation or oriental discourses. Together with the visitors of the island she will build a new film of healing, recipes and poetry.

Saddie will present a series of films, and she invites the viewer to discover the literary work of Saida Menebhi. The artist also shares with us her recipes against racism. Racialised people and people from migrant backgrounds often suffer from health problems that are caused by the stress and trauma of racism and discrimination. Often advised to take painkillers and to stay away from stress by medical practitioners, they have to resort to find their own cures and ways of self-care. The recipes are brought by the image of Yma Sumac, a Peruvian singer who became a world star in the fifties, but who was also exoticised as 'the Inca princess' who sang folkloric Quechua songs to a white public. Visitors are welcome to talk about their experience and remedies in an intimate conversation with Saddie. You are encouraged to leave your recipes, at the end of the exhibition the recipes are a work in itself.

Films:

I think there is a lot of confusion with you. You think I want to imitate you. #FatimaMernissi ('22)

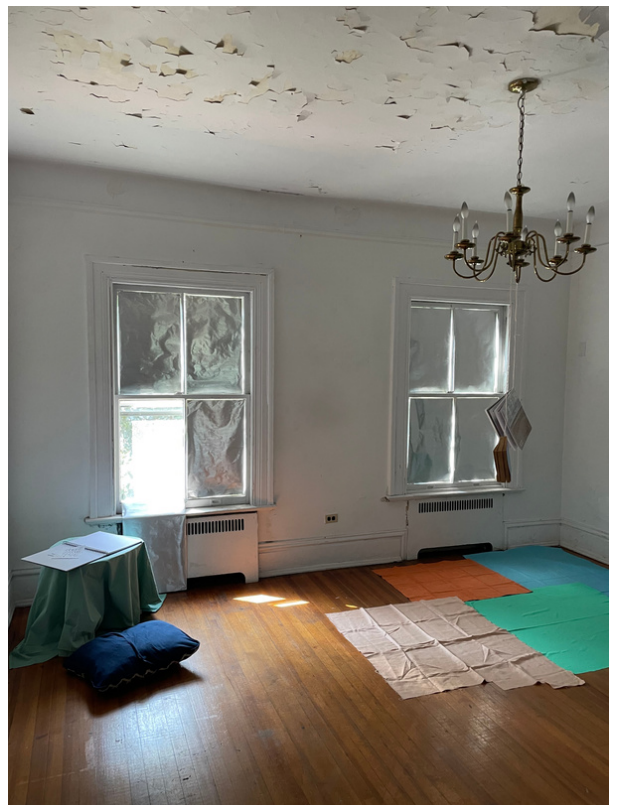
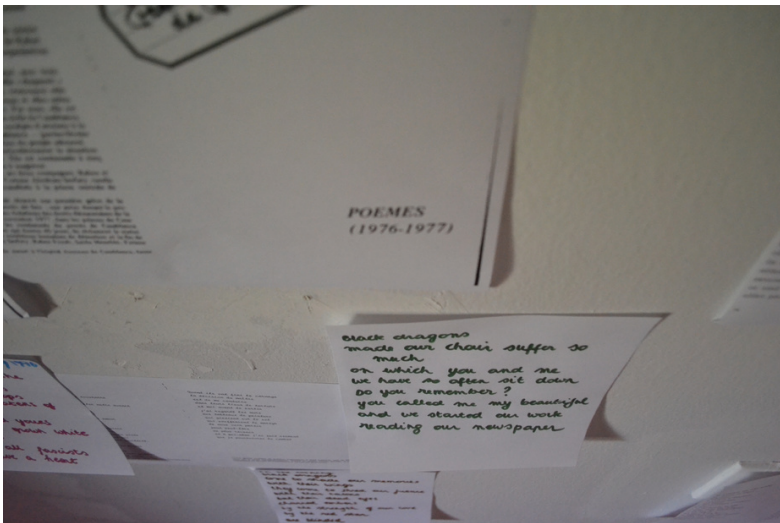
The Chouas Episode5 Am I the only one who is like me? ('45)

Today is the shortest day of the year but somehow hanging around with you all day makes it seem like the longest. ('20)

About:

Currently in residency at RU, Saddie Choua is a Belgian-Moroccan artist who is a doctoral researcher at the RITCS film-school in Brussels and a lecturer at St Lucas School of Arts Antwerp. She is part of the artist collective ROBIN. Choua is a laureate of the Belgian Art Prize 2020. Am I the only one who is like me?, is a question characteristic of Saddie's life and work. It problematizes the position of the solitary I that is also never disconnected from the other. The power order that conditions the solitary "I", is another central subject. Where does this otherness sit in the hierarchy of power? Where is her oppression and exploitation concealed or exoticised?

This program is supported by the Flanders State of the Art.



Fatima, Saida, Toni, Jeanne, Diouana, Yma and I - by Saddie Choua, 2022.

POWERISM: a public game by Hamza Kirbas

Sep 17, 2022 | 12:00-6:00 PM

KODA/RU House

Governors Island, Colonels Row, Building #404B

POWERISM is a public game created by RU artist-in-residence **Hamza Kırbaş**. Anyone who wants to play is invited to walk on top of - or try to walk on top of - tomato paste cans that they hold with strings. There are 5 participants at a time for 10 tomato cans. Participants can transfer their can if they wish to experiment with another. A first iteration of *POWERISM* was conducted by the artist with a group of children in Istanbul in 2018.

Context: Since the beginning of mankind, the exercise of power and more specifically 'powerism' - a disposition that supports the hegemonic influence of one group of powered people over another - is even more pervasive in our contemporary society, because it is more invisible. By devising this absurd game, the artist likens the concept of 'powerism' to the metaphor of a street play conducted by children and adults. *POWERISM* invites the audience to examine their daily lives where we are at times the playmaker and at other times the subject, ultimately allowing us to question this process.

About: **Hamza Kırbaş** is a Turkish artist. After studying graphic design at the University of Silesia in Poland, he completed a Master's degree at the Hacettepe University Fine Arts Institute in Ankara, Turkey. Kırbaş' multi-disciplinary practice encompasses 3D visuals, 3D animations, sculptures, installations, site-specific installations, and augmented reality. His works are conceived and shaped as a communication model between space, time and the audience. He takes subjects from daily life to establish links with the past, future and present. In particular, he transforms the moment we live into images that reflect the global scale and the effects these events have on our lives whereby the viewer is solicited to become an active participant.

Kırbaş has exhibited internationally. Venues include most recently the group show Presence at Cuchifritos Gallery and Project Space (2022, New York); Morrow Collective 50 years of the UAE Virtual Metaverse Exhibition (2021, Dubai); 34th Festival Les Instants Video (2021, Marseille); IN-SONORA 11 International Festival of Sound and Interactive Art (2021, Madrid); Video Art Miden, Meta-Thesis exhibition (2020, Greece); Cuvo Festival 'Teen Game' 2020 (2020, Madrid); FILE Festival (2019, São Paulo); 18th WRO Media Art Biennale (2019, Wroclaw); Hyperpossibility at CENTRALE FESTIVAL 11 (2019, Italy); SIMULTAN FESTIVAL XIV. (2019, Romania); 32nd European Media Art Festival (2019, Germany); BIG for the Wrong Biennale (2019, Copenhagen); Under the Subway Video Art Night 8th edition at JCC Harlem (2018, New York); VIDEOFEST2K18 at the International Biennial of Video art and Contemporary Film (2018, California).



Powerism by Hamza Kirbas, 2022