



The globe shrinks
for those who own it;
[but]for the displaced or
the dispossessed, the
migrant or refugee, no
distance is more awesome
than the few feet across
borders or frontiers

—Homi Bhabha



REPORT 2018

ACCOMPLISHMENTS 2015–16
WORKS IN PROGRESS 2017–18

MISSION

To create community public-art and media in resistance to militarism, environmental injustice and colonialism.

Goals include:

- Making visible forgotten histories
- Interrogate systems of knowledge and power
- Produce knowledge
- Youth development

DESCRIPTION

Founded in 2001, **Art Forces** works in partnership with grassroots organizations in locations that include: urban areas in the USA, and villages and refugee camps in Occupied Palestine’s West Bank and Gaza and Lebanon. Colonization, in particular of Palestine, is a crucial lens through which **Art Forces** responds to 21st century issues.

One of the frameworks that informs **Art Forces** is *World Systems Theory*, an approach to global history and social change that suggests a world economic system in which some countries reap benefits in the exploitation of others. (<http://bit.ly/2kCBtAA>)

Art Forces amplifies and activates site-specific murals to engage local and global audiences via websites, public events, multi media platforms, GPS Apps and social media. The aim is to harness the energy generated in the creation of the site-specific projects to build relationships and organize for social change action. (www.artforces.org)

“Art is necessary in order that man should be able to recognize and change the world. But art is also necessary by virtue of the magic inherent in it.”

—Ernst Fischer

PROJECTS 2018

THE WILL TO LIVE — ARAB LIBERATION MURAL

Clarion Alley, San Francisco
 Art Forces, Arab Resource and Organizing Center (AROC),
 Arab Youth Organizing (AYO!), with Clarion Alley Mural Project (CAMP);
 Susan Greene, Director
 Priya Handa
 Chris Ghazala
 Nidal El Khairy
 Margaret Marie
 Fred Alvarado

The mural expresses the resilience and resistance of the Bay Area community to attacks on freedom and liberties of Arab, Muslim, people of color, immigrants and refugees. Portraits of six courageous people who speak truth to power include; **Rasmea Odeh, Mehdi Ben Barka, Naji Daifullah, Leila Khaled, Basel Al Araj, Yasser Murtaja.**

The mural serves to inspire and educate with an audio program that the viewer can call to hear interviews and descriptions of each person portrayed in the mural as well as the meanings of the mural’s images. Lines from Tunisian poem “The Will to Live” are depicted in the sun rays.

The Will to Live (excerpt)
 By Abu al-Qasim al-Shabbi (1909–1934) Tunisia

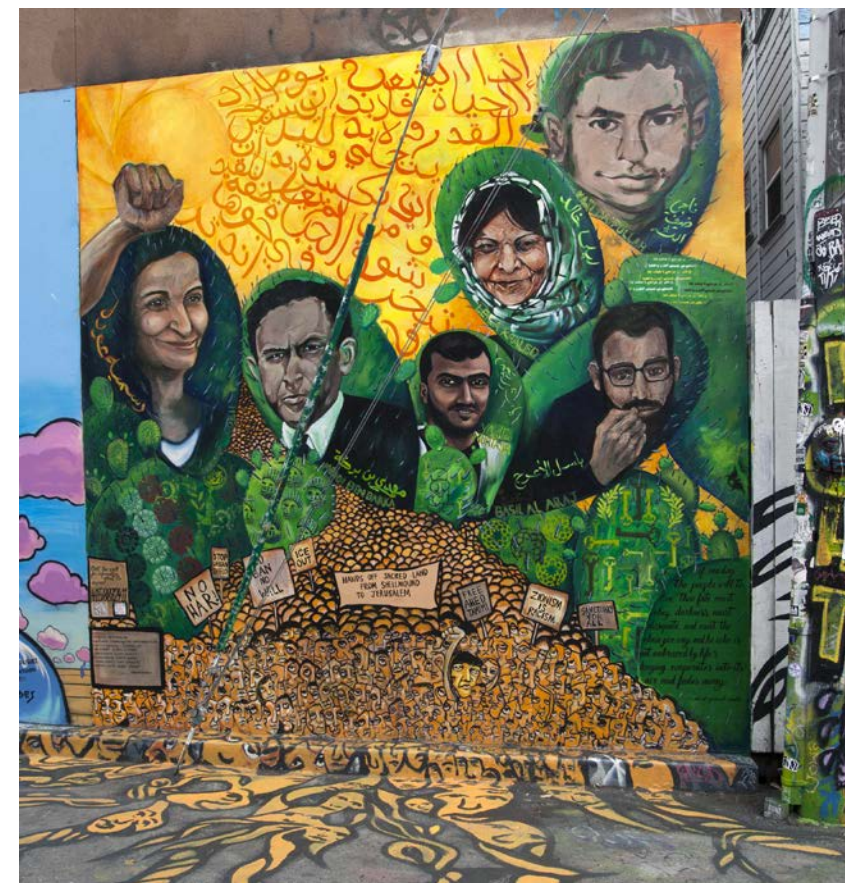
رَدَقْلَا بِي جِتْسِي نَا دَبَّ الْفَقَايِ حَلَا دَارَا أَمَوِي بِي عَشْرَا إِذَا
 رَسْلَكْنِي نَا دِي قَلَلْ دَبَّ الْوَيْلِ جَلِي نَا لِي نِي لَلْ دَبَّ الْوَيْلِ
 رَسْلَكْنِي نَا دِي قَلَلْ دَبَّ الْوَيْلِ جَلِي نَا لِي نِي لَلْ دَبَّ الْوَيْلِ
 رَسْلَكْنِي نَا دِي قَلَلْ دَبَّ الْوَيْلِ جَلِي نَا لِي نِي لَلْ دَبَّ الْوَيْلِ

If, one day, the people will to live
 Then fate must obey
 Darkness must dissipate
 And must the chain give way
 And he who is not embraced by life’s longing
 Evaporates into its air and fades away

CHEEMAH UNITY MURAL *OAKLAND CA, 2018*

@Bay Area Mural Festival / @Visit Oakland
 Seawolf Public House
 Susan Greene, Director
 Margaret White
 Max Martilla
 Max Allbee
 Francisco Franco

Image: Cheemah, by Osprey Orielle Lake (used with permission); Photos by Billy Douglas





ACCOMPLISHMENTS (SELECTED) 2015–2017

MOURNING AND ACTION

Public Art — Refugee Camps, Lebanon

HOPE FROM THE ASHES

Nahr El Bared Palestinian refugee camp, Lebanon; Summer, 2015

Palestine Team

Omar Abu Steiti, Ritta Taha, Hiba Seddiq, Mahmoud Laila, Ahmad Bader, Alaa Derawi, Aws Al Amer, Tania Naboulsi, of Naher Al Bared Camp, and Beddawi Camp (Palestinian Refugee Camps in North Lebanon near Tripoli), Samir Shabati of Bourj el Barajneh (Camp near Beirut).

U.S. Team

Fred Alvarado, Caitlin Manning, Dr. Susan Greene

Organizations

Al-Jana (www.al-jana.org)

Najdeh Nahr El Bared (www.association-najdeh.org/english)

Art Forces (www.artforces.org)

top: Oakland / Palestine Solidarity Mural (2014). Organized by Art Forces, Estria Foundation, and Nor-Cal Sabeel. Artists: SPIE; Vyal One; Emory Douglas; Nidal El Khairy; IROT; Dena Matar; Erin Yoshi; Chris Khazaleh; Susan Greene; and Deadeyes. In 2014, with the completion of the mural, *Off the Wall* (22 x 57 ft.) was launched. To date, 15 events have been held at Uptown Auto Body and Fender (auto body shop by day, event space by night/weekends)

below, left & right: *Hope From the Ashes* Nahr El Bared Palestinian refugee camp, Lebanon Summer, 2015

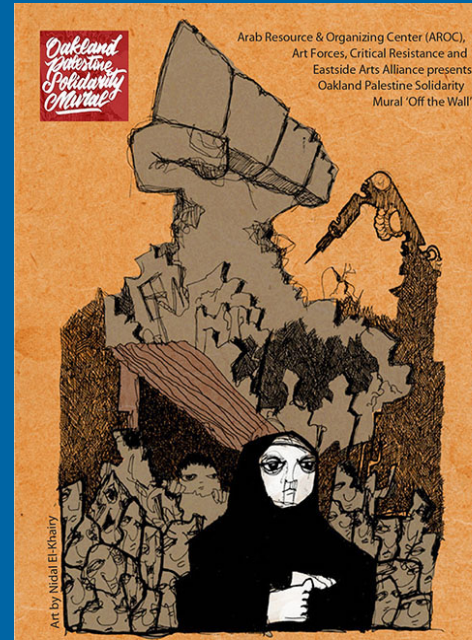
Hope From the Ashes was painted on buildings newly constructed by United Nations Relief and Works Agency (UNRWA) in the ‘Old Camp’ of Nahr El Bared Refugee Camp. Nahr El Bared ‘Old Camp’ was burned to the ground by Lebanese army in 2007. Residents of the camp lost all of their belongings along with their homes. Many refer to this time as another uprooting, another Nakba. *Hope From the Ashes* was designed with the community after meetings and interviews. The most important thing for the camp residents was to make visible their history.

Mourning and Action Brief Project History (2012 & 2013)

Art Forces painted the first two of the series in Shatila Refugee Camp and Bourj El Shamali Refugee Camp; both sites of massacres in 1982 by Israeli military. In collaboration with Al-Jana community center, Beirut Lebanon. **Mourning and Action** asks: Who is grievable? How are memorials made and how do they impact communities?



top: Bourj El Shamali, 2015, with Al Jana and Houleh Community Center. left/bottom: Shatila Refugee Camp, 2013, with Al Jana and Ahlam Lajee Center.



Arab Resource & Organizing Center (AROC), Art Forces, Critical Resistance and Eastside Arts Alliance presents Oakland Palestine Solidarity Mural 'Off the Wall'

Re-Visions:

Black and Brown Resisting State Violence
Commemorating Palestinian Prisoners Day

Art Exhibition & Round Table Discussion:
Friday April 17th, Palestinian Prisoner's Day, 6-9pm

Re-Vision art exhibit and round table discussion draws connections between community struggles and cultures of resistance to challenge state violence, policing and prisons.

Re-Visions will be used to inform curriculum that will be made accessible to the community as part of the Oakland Palestine Solidarity Mural Project's "Off the Wall" programming.

Round table speakers include:
Rachel Herzog
Sagnicthe Salazar, Xicana Moratorium
Rabab Abdulhadi, AMED, Ethnic Studies, SFSU
Kiwi Illafonte, Mass Bass, San Quentin ROOTS program
Liz Dertias, Malcolm X Grassroots Movement
Akubundu Amazu-Lott, All African People's Revolutionary Party
NorCal Friends of Sabeel
Moderated by: Maisha Quint, Eastside Arts Alliance

The art exhibit will feature work from:
All of Us or None, AROC, Art Forces, Asian Prisoners Support Committee, BAYAN-USA, Break the Silence Mural Project, CAL Students for Justice in Palestine, California Coalition for Women Prisoners, Critical Resistance, Dignidad Rebelde, Eastside Arts Alliance, Eman Mohammed, Omiloco, Oscar Lopez Rivera, Fireworks Graphics Collective, Fred Alvarado Haiti Action Committee, Tamika Iyalla, Marah Habb, Juan Fuentes, Majdi Mohammed, Malcolm X Grassroots Movement, Middle East Children's Alliance, Micah Bazant, Doug Minkler, Nidal Ekhaury, Oceania Coalition of Northern California, Onyx Organizing Committee, Shareef Sarhan, Monica Trinidad, Xicana Moratorium, and many more.

Uptown Body and Fender (Across from Oakland Palestine Solidarity Mural) 401 26th St between Telegraph and Broadway in Oakland.

Questions? Contact 2artforces@gmail.com

AROC Arab Resource & Organizing Center المركز العربي للمصادر والتنظيم



OFF THE WALL—OAKLAND CALIFORNIA & OLYMPIA WASHINGTON

Oakland Palestine Solidarity Mural, Oakland CA
February 14, 2015 — *Revolution is Love*

In partnership with AROC and NorCal Friends of Sabeel, Art Forces celebrated struggle and we heard the powerful voices of Young Gifted & Black, Adhamh Roland, Chris Kazaleh, and Lubna Morrar. We danced in front of the Oakland Palestine Solidarity mural with AlJuthoor Dabke Dance Troupe, Abrazo Queer Tango, and DJ Rumorosa.

April 17, 2015 — Revisions: Black and Brown Resisting State Violence Commemorating Palestinian Prisoner Day

In collaboration with AROC. Highlighted connections between community struggles and cultures of resistance that challenge state violence. Artwork from over a dozen movement organizations and photos from artists in Gaza. AROC, Eastside Arts Alliance, Critical Resistance, and Art Forces organized standing-room only roundtable discussion. (*Transcript available at www.artforces.org*)

ART FORCES, THE ARAB RESOURCE ORGANIZING CENTER (AROC) & NORCAL FRIENDS OF SABEEL
INVITE YOU TO JOIN US FOR AN EVENING OF DANCE, REFRESHMENTS, AND ACTIVISM!

REVOLUTION IS LOVE

A BENEFIT FOR AROC'S
BOYCOTT, DIVESTMENT, SANCTION #BDS ORGANIZING

SAT FEB 14TH
6:30PM



OPSM BY THE ESTRIA FOUNDATION, ART FORCES, & NORCAL FRIENDS OF SABEEL

THE OAKLAND PALESTINE SOLIDARITY MURAL
26TH & TELEGRAPH, OAKLAND CA

FOSNA
AROC
Arab Resource & Organizing Center
المركز العربي للمصادر والتنظيم



top: *A Tale of Two Cities*—Olympia Rafah Solidarity Mural Project, 2007–present . 35 x 100 ft. (Corner of State and Capital Streets, Olympia WA)

left: *Combat Paper: Transforming Military uniforms into paper*

Off the Wall, Olympia-Rafah Solidarity Mural Project, Olympia WA

April 2015 — Spring Arts Walk: Social Justice Bloc Party

Olympia-Rafah Solidarity Mural Project held a two-day Social Justice Bloc Party, as part of the city-wide *Arts Walk* events in collaboration with the Rachel Corrie Foundation. The event strengthened relationships with local participating mural organizations, engaged participatory art making, brought new audience to the mural and showcased a thematic visual art exhibition focused on the impacts of war and resistance to an increasingly militarized world.

Highlights include:

- Combat Paper: transforming military uniforms into paper. Paper pulp-making was powered by a bicycle
- Exhibition of portfolios by *Just Seeds* on themes of migration and militarism
- Theater of the Oppressed workshops
- Music, prose and poetry
- Expansion of ‘Call the Wall’ Audio program

(<https://vimeo.com/126452157> • <https://vimeo.com/126625218>)

June 19-21, 2015 — Outside the Frame: Queers for Palestine Film Festival, Brava Theater, San Francisco

“Justice” Art Forces curated exhibition in theater lobby for *Outside the Frame Film Festival*, placing LGBTQ struggles in the context of international movements for justice. Art Forces commissioned a 9 x 28 ft. banner commemorating Rasmea Odeh’s struggle against the effort of the U.S. to deport her. *Outside the Frame* brought together cultural workers opposed to Israeli policies in Palestine and “pinkwashing” of the SFLGBT film festival, which accepted donations from the Israeli Consulate.



Justice for Rasmea Odeh, 2014. Priya Handa and Sharif Zakout

ROOM NUMBER 4:
Israeli Arrests of Palestinian children
— Silwan, East Jerusalem

(Room Number 4 is the name of the Israeli interrogation room at the Russian Compound Detention Center in Jerusalem).

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 23, 2015
— 7:30PM
Uptown Body & Fender
401 26th Street, Oakland
(5 blocks from 19th St. Bart)

“They left me in the room for 5 hours with my hands tied behind my back and legs tied to each other. When I refused to confess, they slapped me and tightened my hand ties even more.”
— 15-year-old prisoner

Children and families in Silwan face constant violence—both physical and psychological. Illegal and armed settlers are taking over Palestinian homes and land. These settlers often harass and viciously attack Palestinians on the street. Meanwhile bulldozers carry out “administrative demolitions” which leave many homeless and threaten thousands more. And hundreds of people each year—including children as young as six and many, many teenagers—are arrested, beaten, and tortured by Israeli police.

EVENT INCLUDES:

- Room Number 4 photo exhibit about violations of Palestinian children’s rights, accompanied by written testimonies from the children themselves
- Presentation by Sahar Abbasi Baidon - direct from Palestine! Sahar is Deputy Director of Madaa Silwan Creative Center where she works with children who have been arrested, runs the women’s program and more. She is also a mother of four.
- Scratchboard drawing used to create the ceramic wedding mural just completed at Shorug Cultural Center in Dheisheh Refugee Camp - plus photos of Palestinian students creating tiles for the mural.
- Videos and photos of community murals painted in Silwan by US-based Art Forces & Madaa Silwan Creative Center—in response to Israel’s violent evictions and confiscation of land, house by house
- Donation requested at the door, no one turned away. Benefit for the Madaa Silwan Creative Center, to raise funds for a staff psychologist to support the children and their families after the trauma of arrests, home demolitions and violence.

This event is a collaboration between Middle East Children’s Alliance & Art Forces

Cosponsored by Arab Resource & Organizing Center, Friends of Sabeel/North America, Jewish Voice for Peace/Bay Area, and more!
For info: www.mecaforpeace.org, 510-548-0542.



October 2015 — Presentation by Sabar Abbasi Baidon, Deputy Director Madaa Creative Center, East Jerusalem; Room #4 Photography, in collaboration with MECA

Visiting from Silwan, East Jerusalem, Sahar Abassi Baidon, deputy director of Madaa Creative Center, was given a standing ovation for her presentation on Israeli abuses against Palestinian children as young as 5 years.

The accompanying exhibition “Room #4,” is based on research Ms. Baidon conducted on the impact of incarceration on youth. The multimedia project includes written documentation by youth of their incarceration and poignantly staged photographs of the abuse using adult actors.

November 2015 — *Wishab, Folkloric Dance Theater from Palestine*

Presented in collaboration with AROC, MECA, and PAC. *Wishab* uses traditional *debke* dance to tell the contemporary story of Palestinian struggle and resilience, from the steadfastness of political prisoners to the joy of community celebrations. The occupation makes it extremely difficult for a dance troupe to travel from Palestine. *Wishab’s* visit to the Bay Area was a rare occasion to experience these world-class dancers.

December 2015 — *Report Back from Art Forces*

Experimental film screening, spoken word and presentation, and analysis of placemaking mural projects in Silwan East Jerusalem and Nahr Al Bared, Lebanon.

May 1-31, 2016 — *George Jackson in the Sun of Palestine — Remembering the Nakba, formation of the Black Panther Party and Indigenous Resistance*

—In collaboration with AROC

Exhibition: Curated by Greg Thomas with Susan Greene

Multimedia exhibition expressing the depth of solidarity between the struggles against colonization in Palestine and around the world, specifically in this instance Black prisoners in North America. The impetus and title for the exhibition stem from the inspiration Black Panther George Jackson received from Palestinian poet Samih al-Qasim’s poem “Enemy of the Sun.”

Featured artists include: Leonard Peltier (Native American activist), Pedro Alcantara-Herran (Colombia), Jonelle Davies (Miami, Florida), Emory Douglas (African-America, Minister of Culture for the Black Panther Party), Antonio Frasconi (Uruguay), Inkworks Cooperative (Berkeley, CA), Ivan Lopez (San Francisco & Colombia), Malaquias Montoya (Mexico & Mexican-America), Rafael Morante (Cuba & OSPAAAL) and Hunger Strikers of the California Prison Movement, Priya Handa, Sharif Zakout; and Nidal El-Khairy.

Community event took place on May 15th commemorating al Nakba. Performances by Silk Road Debke; Al Juthoor Debke; Young, Gifted and Black; Blessing by Te’o Kali Mejica Dancers; and a panel discussion with curators and community leaders.



Blessing by Te’o Kalli Mejica Dancers



Al Juthoor Debke



Panel, L-R: Van Dell, Kilaika Baruti, Maytha Alhassen, Greg Thomas, Dr. Rabab Abdulhadi, Tony Gonzales



Young, Gifted & Black



Community painting



Silk Road Debke Troupe

DISPOSSESSION(S): "OFF THE WALL" SERIES AT THE OAKLAND PALESTINE SOLIDARITY MURAL

CONFRONT LINES:
DISPOSSESSION(S): SHIT WATER ART TRASH
REPOSSESSION(S): SHIFTING NARRATIVES

T SHIRTS 4 SALE!
Proceeds from Oakland Palestine Solidarity Mural T Shirts support the work of Art Forces & shirt designer & illustrator Nidal El Khairy's Art Institute Expenses

COMMUNITY MURALS - FRIDAY DEC 11TH @ 7:00PM
UPTOWN BODY & FENDER, 401 26TH STREET, OAKLAND, CA

SILWAN, EAST JERUSALEM
Facilitated by Art Forces & Madaa Silwan Creative Center

D'HEISEH REFUGEE CAMP, BETHLEHEM
Tile mural by Shourouq Cultural Center & Middle East Children's Alliance

NAHR AL BARED CAMP, LEBANON
Facilitated by Art Forces & Al Jana and Najdeh Nahr El Bared

“All over the world, people love and dream, they work and they smile and they cry...and they dance”

—Mohammad Ata, Wishah, Founder, Director and Choreographer

AROC and Art Forces Present:
GEORGE JACKSON IN THE SUN OF PALESTINE:
Colonialist Captivity and Revolutionary Struggle

An art exhibit, roundtable discussion, and activities remembering the Nakba, the Black Panthers, and Indigenous Resistance.

SUNDAY
MAY 15TH
4 PM - 7 PM
Uptown Auto Body and Fender
401 26th Street, Oakland CA

Family friendly event
Includes mural painting and youth activities

“George Jackson in the Sun of Palestine” is a traveling art exhibit currently on display at the Abu Jihad Museum in Abu Dis, Palestine. The exhibit will add the work of local artists and activists to express links between various struggles for liberation.

Exhibit Curated by Greg Thomas with Art Forces and Susan Greene

PERFORMERS:
YOUNG GIFTED AND BLACK
TRADITIONAL TE'O KALLI MEJICA DANCERS
SILK ROAD DEBKE

SPEAKERS:
Greg Thomas
Maytha Alhassen
Tony Gonzales
Emory Douglas
Rabab Abdelhadi
Van Dell

ENEMY OF THE SUN
By Sami Al Qasbi
I may, if you wish, use my breath,
I may set my shirt and my bed,
I may give you a momentary
A street sweeper, a porter,
I may change your
Or rummage your garbage for food,
O enemy of the sun,
But I shall not compromise,
And to the last pulse in my veins,
I shall resist.

You may take the last strip of my land,
You may plunder my heritage,
You may burn my books and my poems,
O enemy of the sun,
You may spread a web of terror,
On the head and neck of my people,
O enemy of the sun,
But I shall not compromise,
And to the last pulse in my veins,
I shall resist.

You may put out the light in my eyes,
You may deprive me of my mother's kisses,
You may destroy my history,
You may curse my father, my people,
You may deprive my children of their smile
And of life's necessities,
You may fool my people with a borrowed face,
You may spread a wall of terror around me,
You may close my eyes with humiliation,
O enemy of the sun,
But I shall not compromise,
And to the last pulse in my veins,
I shall resist.

The decorations are faded at the port,
The anchors fill the air,
The heart is a stone,
A sail is seen in the horizon,
Challenging the wind from the depths,
It is Honor,
Returning home from the sea of losses,
The sun has returned,
Together with my red tent,
For her sake, and his
I shall, I shall not compromise,
And to the last pulse in my veins,
I shall resist, I shall resist,
I SHALL RESIST!!!

Painters and Graphic Artists
Pedro Alcantara-Herron (Columbia)
Rafael Morante (Cuba)
Emory Douglas (Black America)
Ahmed Hamedel (Palestine)
Leonard Peltier
Nidal El Khairy
Priya Handa
Marius Mason

Film and Photographic Artists
Camila Smith (North America)
Lucas Guilkey and Salima Hamirini
Michelle Vignes
Dave Clark
FIDA Photo
Kent Wilkins
Skip Schiel

Halle Gerima (Ethiopia, African America)
Dick Bancroft
Tamara Photo Collection
Peter Fryer
Ruia Halawani
Patrizio Esposito
Pablo Pitcher

INSTITUTIONS
Abu Jihad Museum (Abu Dis/Jerusalem, Palestine)
The Black Panther newspaper (Oakland, CA)
Freedom Archives

OSPAAAL (Havana, Cuba)
Al Quds University Media (Abu Dis/Jerusalem, Palestine)
AIM West

Inkworks (Berkeley, CA)
NorCal Friends of Sabeel

ENDORSED BY
Queers Undermining Israeli Terror • AIM West • Art Forces • California Coalition for Women Prisoners • Arab Resource and Organizing Center • BAYAN-USA
NorCal Friends of Sabeel • Palestine Youth Movement • Arab and Muslim Ethnicities and Diasporas Studies, College of Ethnic Studies, San Francisco State University •
Freedom Archives • Middle East Children's Alliance • International Jewish Anti-Zionist Network • Critical Resistance • Anthropology and Social Change - CUIS

zardforces@gmail.com 415-861-7444 More information: <http://bit.ly/1SKHIFE>

DIRECT FROM PALESTINE
WISHAH
Palestinian Folkloric Dabke Dance Troupe

Sponsored by: Arab Resource & Organizing Center • Art Forces
Middle East Children's Alliance • Palestinian American Coalition

Saturday, November 14th, 2015 at 7 pm
Nourse Theatre City Arts & Lectures • 275 Hayes Street, San Francisco, CA

Tickets: \$100, \$55, \$35 • \$25 (student & low income)
All proceeds will go towards supporting Palestine
www.cityboxoffice.com/Wishah
info@araborganizing.org • 415-861-7444

IN THE WORKS AND UPCOMING 2017-2018

VIDEO AND MEDIA

Work-in-progress — *Our Streets: My Home is Not a Suitcase*

International community murals in Silwan, East Jerusalem. Using culture to resist colonization and occupation. The video examines how Israel is using archeology to justify occupation and dispossession.

Off the Wall — Oakland Palestine Solidarity Mural

- Video documentation of 3 years of *Off the Wall* programming at the Oakland Palestine Mural and Uptown Auto Body Shop
- Development of audio visual component-accessible by GPS Apps providing access to contextual, historical, and narrative information research and collection about mural creation and location

Photo History of Nakba — to present

FOSNA photo collection of NAKBA is being expanded to include events post 1993.

Mourning and Action

Trilogy of public art projects in 3 Palestinian refugee camps in Lebanon. Includes video, interactive and multimedia platforms. Shatila Refugee Camp, 2012; Bourj El Shamali, 2013; Nahr El Bared, 2015. The aim is to engage and organize audiences sparking action for social justice. *Included:*

- Interview with Ellen Siegal, a registered nurse from US who was an eye witness to Shatila massacres in 1982
- Interview with a survivor of Shatila massacre who saw Israeli soldiers in the camp at time of massacre
- Interviews with participants and residents of camps.

MURALS AND PLACEMAKING

Maia Mural Brigade, Maia means Water in Arabic, with Middle East Children's Alliance (MECA), Multi-platform media project that will make visible connections to environmental racism globally and in the U.S. Included will be a re-edit of 2011 documentary to include 2013 MAIA Mural project at Al Azhar University* in Gaza City, and the current water situation in Gaza. Development of interactive web-based documentation. A collaboration with film collective in Gaza.

*Maia Mural #9 at Al Azhar University, Gaza City. (*video available*)

Brief History — *MAIA Mural Brigade, Gaza Palestine*

Projects in Rafah and Gaza City with Estria Foundation's Water Writes project. Maia Mural Brigade began in 2011 with 8 murals painted in 8 days across Gaza at sites of water purification systems installed by MECA.



Fall 2018 —
Our Streets: My Home is Not a Suitcase
 Silwan, East Jerusalem, Occupied Palestine, Building on pilot project of 2015, the town of Silwan will become an international interdisciplinary public art environment covering thousands of square feet. Murals & media will record stories that reinforce the enduring idea of 'home', samud (steadfast resistance) and joint struggle. With Wadi Hilweh Information Center, Madaa Creative Cente, and MECA.



My Home is Not A Suitcase and I Am No Traveler, 2015. International community murals in Silwan, East Jerusalem. Using culture to resist colonization and occupation. The video examines how Israel is using archeology to justify occupation and dispossession. *Art Forces* is producing a video that examines how Israel is using archeology to justify occupation and dispossession. (<http://bit.ly/2khe9ul>)



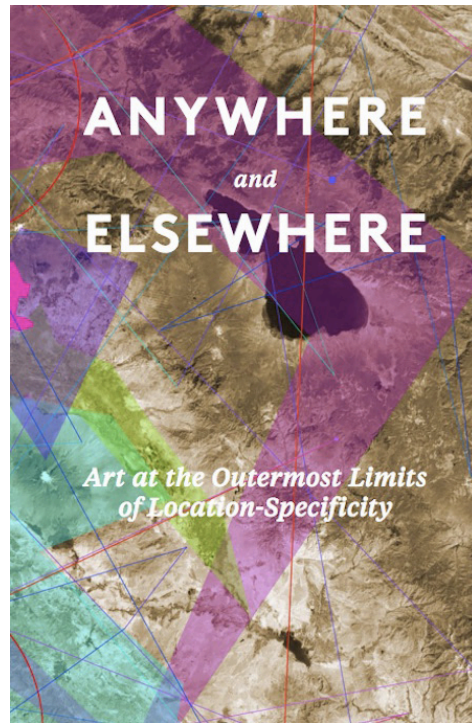


top, left: Checking out Clarion Alley, San Francisco with Arab Youth Organizing, AROC and Art Forces

middle, left: Nahr El Bared Refugee Camp, Lebanon

top & bottom, right: MAIA Mural Project with Estria Foundation and MECA. "Maia" means water in Arabic

View of wall that encloses Aamer family on four sides. Mural painted by Aamer Family and Friends, Art Forces, Women's Peace Service, Anarchists Against the Wall, Black Laundry and phoenix by Eric Drooker.



WRITING, KNOWLEDGE PRODUCTION, & EDUCATION (Selected)

Ramallah, Palestine Radical Geography Conference — July 26-30, 2015

Art Forces' panel: "Decolonizing Public Space: Art, Desubjugation and Governmentality" investigated public art in refugee camps in Palestine, Oaxaca Commune, and Zapatista community in Mexico; and Palestine's first seed library featuring native seeds and other activities around public ownership of seed and land.

Up Against the Wall: Aamer Family Mural

Essay by Dr. Susan Greene is included in *ART AS SOCIAL ACTION: An Introduction to the Principles and Practices of Teaching Social Practice Art*. Edited by Gregory Sholette and Chloë Bass. (Allworth Press, New York, 2018)

Analysis of mural, 2004–2011, with Aamer Family, located in Mas'ha West Bank. The Aamer family has lived surrounded by the wall on four sides for more than 10 years. The essay examines the role and meaning the mural had in the family's ability to cope with and resist the pervasive circumstances of the occupation.

Project Anywhere

Project Anywhere is a global exhibition model in which the role of curator is replaced with the type of peer review process typically endorsed by a refereed journal. Significantly, *Project Anywhere* is not an online exhibition space, but rather a vehicle for pointing toward art located elsewhere in space and time. **Art Forces'** is currently an archived project. Emphasizing artistic projects undertaken outside traditional exhibition circuits, *Project Anywhere* is dedicated to the evaluation and dissemination of art at the outermost limits of location-specificity.

(www.projectanywhere.net/archived-projects)

ABOUT THE DIRECTOR

Susan Greene PhD, is a social art practitioner, educator, and clinical psychologist. Greene uses multiple formats that include murals, video, and GPS Apps that aim to reveal, disrupt, and connect ideas to inspire new approaches of thinking. Greene's work focuses on borders and migrations involving memory, decolonization and the relationships between creativity, trauma and resilience in the context of globalism. Greene has led or participated in more than 30 public art projects worldwide. Originally from New York City, Greene has been a resident of the Bay Area for over 35 years; and maintains a private psychotherapy practice in San Francisco and Oakland.

ENDORSEMENTS

Cindy and Craig Corrie, Directors, Rachel Corrie Foundation, Olympia WA

The Corrie's daughter, Rachel, was killed by Israeli bulldozer in Gaza, March 2003.

(Excerpts from endorsement letter 2007)

With friends in both Olympia WA and Rafah, Palestine, Rachel was planting the seeds of an Olympia-Rafah sister city project and other links between our two communities. Her death has become a catalyst for significant connections that continue to evolve.

Rachel wrote from Gaza before her death, "I continue to believe that my home, Olympia, could gain a lot and offer a lot by deciding to make a commitment to Rafah in the form of a sister-community relationship... I am just beginning to learn, from what I expect to be a very intense tutelage, about the ability of people to organize against all odds, and to resist against all odds."

Now, the work is carried on by all who remember Rachel... This is an important and hopeful story that the world should learn about, one about how friendships and commitments can occur across great distances and between unlikely constituencies and how from them hope and change evolve. Therefore, with great appreciation for the work already done by Susan Greene, we lend our hearty endorsement to her effort to document the story of these two communities connected through our daughter's journey.

Dr. Ahmed Abu Twahina, Director General, Gaza Community Mental Health Project, Gaza Palestine

Art Forces' work is a meaningful message of solidarity in our country. **Art Forces'** activities contribute to fighting torture through art. Moreover, the joint work of art, concentrated on the marginalized groups in the areas of conflicts and disputes, including women and children, enhanced empowerment and support to be more resilient. We at the Gaza Community Mental Health Program are pleased and happy to work with Dr. Susan Greene as our experience with her has been very effective, constructive, and beneficial.

Annice Jacoby, Artist, Writer and Critic, San Francisco CA

Courage is the primary ingredient in Susan Greene's art, the crucial element that fortifies, dignifies and fuels her work. She believes and practices a living art that signals witness, memory and hope. Greene's work may be catalogued as social sculpture or artist activism; her media is paint, plywood, digital recorder; powered by people, politics, resilience and justice; but the main impact is visibility and a reminder that change is possible. To paint images of possibilities on walls of oppression disrupts the prevailing perception of victimhood. A blank wall remaining at the site of a massacre can become a grove of fresh fruit — a path to a better future.

Greene's practices break boundaries aggressively, challenge borders, ignorance, repressions and most of all silence and indifference. She is both a prominent artist and a practicing clinical psychotherapist, and conducts research on trauma and creativity. Indefatigable, she organizes numerous international cultural projects involving artists and communities to rally attention around social justice issues. Relational aesthetics inform her work, illustrated through each project, by the tactics of engaging communities in participation and transformation. She innovates with global participation in local community-based projects through cross-community collaboratives, and growing use of transmedia.

Claude Marks, Director, Freedom Archives, San Francisco CA

One cannot have a progressive social movement committed to human rights and justice without having a robust culture at its center. **Art Forces** is the embodiment of such sentiments, creating culture that reflects the human yearning of a more just world.

Giovanna Tanzillo, Proprietor, Uptown Auto Body and Fender, Oakland CA

We all want to make a difference, and through partnerships like the Oakland-Palestine Solidarity Mural and its *Off the Wall* placemaking programs, we have more opportunities to foster debate, engage in cultural exchange, and resilience. It is a testament to **Art Forces'** leadership in the social justice and arts community that the strong coalition of organizations that came together to paint the mural has further amplified the mural's themes through a series of weekend and evening programs at Uptown Body and Fender.

It is our belief at Uptown that "Off the Wall" will lead to a widening of the arts district in downtown Oakland. We want to build upon what we have already seen: that the arts positively effect the neighborhood including residents, small businesses, youth, our local non-profit partners, and our customers

Jeffrey Skoller, Filmmaker and Scholar, University of California, Berkeley

Art Forces projects realize Dr. Greene's vision of urban space as a site for the establishment of creative communities of practice, whether this practice is the collective pursuit of expression, activism, education, connection, or participatory research that leads to best practices and change.

Uda Olabarria Walker, Activist and Organizer

(Excerpt from letter dated 2007)

[Susan Greene's] mural work is a testament to the power of imagery to convey the beauty and steadfastness of the Palestinian struggle and the communities that she has been fortunate enough to be invited into. For years, I led fact finding delegations to Palestine and the work of **Break the Silence** (now **Art Forces**) graced the walls of many places we visited; popular art centers in large Palestinian cities, small youth centers in refugee camps and along the walls of community health centers in the far reaches of the Gaza Strip. Each of these murals came about through collaborations between Break the Silence (now **Art Forces**) and the Palestinian community including other artists, activists and children. These collaborative endeavors not only produce beautiful works art, but they forge lasting friendships and working alliances that strengthen the growing community that is fighting for an end to Israeli oppression and Apartheid.

Chris Kazaleh, Educator, Artist, and Activist, Palestinian American

Art Forces is an important element in the world of art and in the world in general to help people understand crucial issues not represented in our media. **Art Forces** shows the strength of cross cultural solidarity the popularity of its events and public art projects. Personally, the work of **Art Forces** has impacted me for decades. As a youth I witnessed and grew up with one of their earliest projects in the Mission. It was a solidarity mural about Palestine called "Our Roots Are Still Alive — Everyone Has A Right to a Homeland." The mural was covered up with plywood in 2001 because it was being constantly defaced in hate crimes. It will be uncovered when the world is able to tolerate human rights for all people.

Barbara Lubin, Executive Director, Middle East Children's Alliance

MECA has worked with Dr. Susan Greene for 20 years, using culture as a way to raise awareness and organize support for Palestinian resistance to the occupation. The work of **Art Forces** continues to grow in interdisciplinary scope. We at MECA think the next phase of work will bring to fruition a powerful culmination of murals and technology.



Event: *George Jackson in the Sun of Palestine*
Design for 9 foot sculpture of Leonard Peltier, incarcerated for 27 years
Rigo 23, in collaboration with American Indian Movement West



www.artforces.org

Art Forces is generously funded in part by: Left Tilt Foundation, Scott Handleman, Middle East Children's Alliance, Peace Development Fund, People's Life Fund, Al-Jana, Independent Arts and Media, and the Abraham Greenberg Foundation.