

BARCELONA
GALLERY WEEKEND

BOUCHRA KHALILI

Foreign Office

From October 1st to November 9th 2015

Opening: Thursday October 1st from 17h



Foreign Office (2015)

Digital film

22'. Color. Sound. 4/3 screen ratio

Original Language: Algerian Arabic, Kabyl, French, English / Subtitled in English

Comissioned for Sam Art Prize, Paris

Courtesy of the artist and ADN gallery

Produced within the framework of the Sam Art Prize (Sam Art Projects, Paris), and first premiered earlier this year at Palais de Tokyo as part of Khalili's solo show, *Foreign Office* combines a digital film similarly entitled *Foreign Office*, a series of photographs and a silkscreen print entitled *The Archipelago*.

Made in Algiers, this new body of works responds to the reflection developed by the artist for a decade about the power of the word, linguistic performativity and self-representation, as poetical and political gestures, embodying forms of resistance.

Foreign Office focuses on the period during which Algiers - between 1962 and 1972- became the "mecca of revolutionaries", hosting representations of many liberation movements from Africa, Asia and the Americas, such as Eldridge Cleaver's International Section of the Black Panther Party, Mandela's ANC, or the PAIGC (African Party for the Independence of Guinea and Cape Verde) founded by Amilcar Cabral.

Taking as a starting point this forgotten past of post-independent Algeria, *Foreign Office*, invites to reflect on history and its transmission, and on utopia as a narrative shaped by poetry.

The film shows two young Algerians "re-writing" this history through images, language, and orality, articulating an historiography shaped by "montage" and translation as forms of writing, investigating, and reflecting on history and its resonances.

The series of photographs documents the ghostly places that once hosted the representations of these liberation movements, revealing the hollow dissipation of utopia, although still continuing to haunt the present-time.

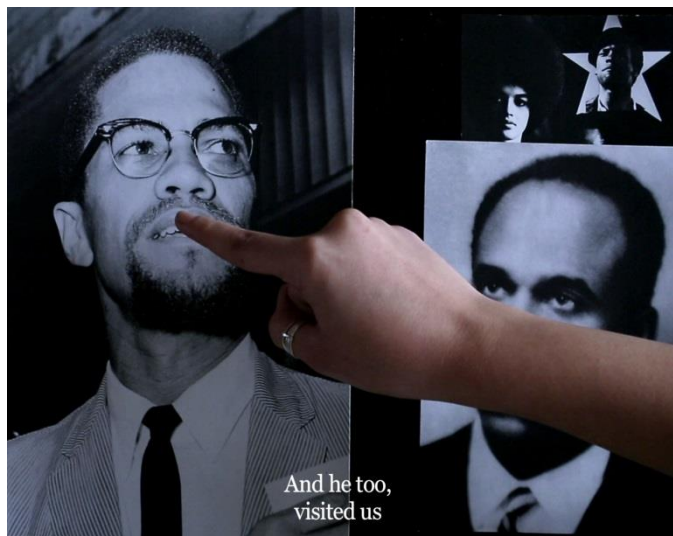
The silkscreen print entitled *The Archipelago* operates as a "montage" articulation between the film and the series of photographs, offering an "archipelique" map of Algiers drawn from the perspective of the geographical dissemination of the liberation movements' headquarters throughout the city.

"Translated" into island formations whose shapes mirror the architectural structure of each headquarters, this archipelago transposes an "All-World" as defined by Edouard Glissant. But it also shows a lost "Atlantide", which liberation movements acronyms remain the last traces although unreadable today.

Foreign Office thus forms a combination of fragments in which "montage", orality, translation and poetry suggest an alternative historiography of utopias to reflect on potential gestures of resistance for the present-time, and potentially for the future.



Hôtel El Safir, Ex-Aletti, Algiers City Center (2015)
Residence of the Black Panther Party delegation during the 1969
Pan-African Festival of Algiers
C-Print
100cm x 125cm
Courtesy of the artist and ADN gallery



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BOUCHRA KHALILI_ Biography

Bouchra Khalili (born 1975 in Casablanca) is a Moroccan-French visual artist.

Raised between Morocco and France, she studied Film at Sorbonne Nouvelle and Fine Arts at École Nationale Supérieure d'Arts de Paris-Cergy. Working with film, video, installation, photography, and prints, Khalili's practice articulates language, subjectivity, orality, and geographical explorations. Each of her projects can be seen as investigations on the power of the word, linguistic performativity and self-representation, as poetical and political gestures, embodying forms of resistance as elaborated, developed, and shared by members of political minorities.

Among her recent solo shows: "Foreign Office", at Palais de Tokyo, Paris (2015); "Garden Conversation", solo show at MACBA, Barcelona (2015); "Living Labour", PAMM, Miami (2013-2014); "The Opposite of the Voice-Over", Justina M. Barnicke Gallery, Toronto (2013).

She has participated to numerous international exhibitions and biennales such as "Europe", Kunsthaus, Zurich (2015); The 8th Gotenburg Biennale (2015); "Here & Elsewhere", New Museum, New York (2014); "The Encyclopedic Palace", International Exhibition of the 55th Venice Biennale (2013); "La Triennale", Palais de Tokyo, Paris (2012); the 18th Biennale of Sydney (2012); and the 10th Sharjah Biennial (2011); among others.

She was the recipient of "Abraaj Group Art Prize", (2014)"; "Sam Art Prize 2013", Sam Art Projects, Paris; "DAAD Artists-in-Berlin Program" (2012); "Vera List Center for Arts and Politics Fellowship" (The New School, New York, 2011-2013); "Villa Médicis Hors-les Murs" (2010); "Videobrasil Residency Award" (2009); "Image-Mouvement Grant" (French National Centre for the Arts, 2008); "Louis Lumière Documentary Award" (Film Office, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, France, 2005). Bouchra Khalili lives and works in Berlin.

Solo shows (selection)

2015

Foreign Office, Palais de Tokio, Paris, France.
Garden Conversation, solo presentation. Macba, Barcelona
Foreign Office, ADN Galería, Barcelona, Spain

2014

The Seaman, with ADN Galeria, Loop Video Art, Barcelona, Spain
Bouchra Khalili, with Galerie Polaris, Art Dubai, United Arab emirates
Bouchra Khalili: The Player. Frac Poitou-Charentes, France
Speeches – Chapter 3: Living Labour, PAMM, Miami, US

2013

The Opposite of the Voice-Over. Justina M. Barnicke Gallery, Hart House, Toronto, Canada
The Mapping JOURNEY Project, Passerelle Centre d'art contemporain. Brest, France
Wet Feet and More. DAAD Galerie, Berlin, Germany
The Seaman. Freedman Gallery Project Space, Albright College, United States of America

2012

Wet Feet and More. Galerie Polaris, Paris, France
Wet Feet, Tarragona Art Center. Tarragona, Spain
The Mapping Journey Project. Campagne-Première Gallery, Berlin, Germany
Kurzfilme von Bouchra Khalili. Kino Arsenal, Deutsche Kinemathek Museum, Berlin, Germany

Kurzfilme von Bouchra Khalili. Deutsches Film Institut, Frankfurt, Germany
Bouchra Khalili at The Wapping Project. Wapping Project, Londres, England

2011

LOOP Video Art, Barcelona. Premi « The Best Project ». Barcelona, Spain

2007

Focus on Bouchra Khalili, Musée d'Art Moderne de Bahia, Salvador de Bahia, Brasil

Focus on Bouchra Khalili. Edinburgh Film House, Edimburg, Scotland

2006

Bouchra Khalili: Videoscrituras. Palacio das Artes, Belo Horizonte, Brasil

Group show (selection)

2015

En y entre geografías, curated by Emiliano Valdés. MAMM, Medellin Museum of Modern Art. Medellin, Colombia.

Reading Exercises, curated by Katrie Chagnon. Leonard & Bina Ellen Art Gallery, Concordia University, Montreal, Canada.

Streamlines: Metaphorical and Geopolitical Interpretation of the Oceans, curated by Koyo Kouoh. Deichtorhallen, Hall for Contemporary Art, Hamburg, Germany

In Search for a Radical Incomplete, A Perfect Animal Within, curated by Övül Ö. Durmusoglu. Stacion - Center for Contemporary Art Prishtina, Zija Prishtina, Prishtinë

Speaking to History. Film exhibition curated by Nick Aikens. Extra City Kunsthal, Antwerp, Belgium

PROJECT OBSERVATORY – TRANSLOCACIONES, curated by Ramon Parramon. Arts Santa Mònica, Barcelona, Spain

All roads lead to Schengen, 49 NORD 6 EST - FRAC LORRAINE. Metz, France

Cardo et Decumanus, Fonds d'Art Contemporain Poitou-Charentes. Angoulême, France

A story within a story, curated by Elvira Dyangani Ose. 8th edition of Göteborg International Biennial for Contemporary Art, Göteborg, Sweden

A Republic of Art. French collections of contemporary art from the 80's to Today, curated by Annie Fletcher & Diana Franssen. Van Abbe Museum, Eindhoven, Holland

Memorias imborrables, MALBA Museo de Arte Latinoamericano de Buenos Aires, Buenos Aires, Argentina

La Mer au Milieu des Terres // Mare Medi Terraneum, curated by Cécile Bourne-Farrell. Es Baluard, Palma de Mallorca, Balear Islands.

ARCO Madrid, ADN Galeria. Barcelona, Spain

The new global order from the perspective of contemporary artists, Museum Villa Stuck. Munich, Germany

Europe: The Future of History. Kunsthhaus Zurich, Switzerland

Common Grounds. Museum Villa Stuck. Munich, Germany

Chassés-croisés. Frac Nord-Pas-de-Calais, Dunkerque, France

2014

Chassés-croisés, tours et détours autour du détroit, curated by Conversation Piece (Margaux Brugin, Delphine David & Gauthier Melin). FRAC Nord-Pas-de-Calais, Dunkerque, France

Creativity Exercises, curated by Dóra Hegyi and Franciska Zólyom. Gfzk, Leipzig, Germany

Il s'en est fallu de peu, curated by Sandrine Wymann. Kunsthalle Mulhouse, France

Unerasable Memories, curated by Agustín Pérez Rubio. Sesc Pompeia, Sao Paulo, Brazil

Here & Elsewhere, The New Museum, New York, USA

Memories, Sesc Pompeia, Sao Paulo, Brasil

Accomplices and Witnesses, ADN Galeria. Barcelona, Spain
Positions. Vanabbe Museum, Eindhoven, Holland
Parle pour toi, Marian Goodman Galeria, Paris, France
Giving Contours to Shadows, N.B.K, Berlin, Germany
Journal, ICA (Institute for Contemporary Art), London, England
Committed artists? Maybe, Fundació Gulbenkian, Lisbon, Portugal
A Thousand of Him, Scotland's Centre for Photography, Edinburgh, Scotland
Mind The Map, Punkt Ø Galleri F 15, Momentum kunsthall, Norway
Constellations, Frac Nord Pas de Calais, Dunkerque, France
Tentura and Antitentura, Studio Gallery, Budapest, Hungary
Garden and Spring, Abraaj Group Art Prize, Art Dubai, Dubai, United Arab Emirates

2013

Mécaniques des Fluides, commissariat per Marie Muracciole. Galerie Cécile Fakhoury, Abidjan, Ivori Coast, Africa.
Désirance, Galerie Polaris, Paris, France.
Palazzo Enciclopedico - 55 th Biennale de Venezia, curated by Massimiliano Gioni, Venècia, Italy.
5th Moscow Biennale, Moscow, Russia.
Salon der Angst. Wien Kunsthalle, Wien, Austria
FREIHEIT! Kunstpalais, Erlangen, Germany
Cross-Borders. Museum of Contemporary Art at ZKM, Karlsruhe, Germany
Aparatus Criticus & Locus, Künstlerhaus, Stuttgart, Germany.
Desirance, Galerie Polaris, Paris, France.
Mécanique des Fluides. Curated by Marie Muracciole. Cécile Fakhoury Gallery. Abidjan, Ivory Coast
Labor Berlin : Drifting. Haus der Kulturen Der Welt, Berlin, Germany.
Imagined Places. Tropenmuseum, Amsterdam, Holland.
Mirages d'Orient. Yvon Lambert Collection, Avignon, France
Ici, Ailleurs. Marseille-Provence, European Capital of Culture. La Friche, Marseille
Histoires Parallèles / Pays mêlés. Carré d'Art, Nîmes, France
Models for Taking Part. Kenderdine Art Gallery, Saskatoon, Canada

2012

Intense Proximity, La Triennale. Palais de Tokyo, Paris, France.
18th Biennale of Sydney, All our relations. Sydney, Australia
Wide Open School. Hayward Gallery, London
Re-Oriented. Havremagasinet. Boden, Sweden
You have been there. Marian Goodman Gallery, New York, USA.
Becoming voice. South London Gallery, London, England.
FIAC, Grand Palais, Paris, France.
Once upon a time. Arts Santa Monica, Barcelona, Spain.
J'ai deux amours. Cité Nationale de l'Immigration, Paris, France.
Live rightly, die, die ... Dazibao, Montréal, Canada.
Uncanny Journey. Dienstgebäude Artspace, Zurich, Switzerland
Videobrasil 17 : International Contemporary Art Festival. SESC Belenzinho. Sao Paulo, Brazil
Le Retour. Museum of Modern and Contemporary Art, Alger.
Always Moving Forward. Gallery of Peterborough, Ontario, Canada.
Hydrarchy - Transitional & Transformative Seas. Contemporary Image Collective, Cairo, Egypt.
Drift - an exploration of urban & suburban landscapes. Sharjah Art Museum, EAU

2011

Mapping Subjectivity, II. MoMA, New York, USA
You have been there. Marian Goodman Gallery, Paris, France
Dans le Palais de Cristal. CA'ASI, Venice. Venice Biennial. « Collateral Event », Italy
10th Sharjah Biennial : Plot for a Biennial. Sharjah Art Foundation.
Locus Agonistes: Practices and Logics of the Civic . Beirut Art Center, Lebanon
New Work From France, Hamilton Gallery, Canada
Borders. Gulbenkian Foundation, Lisbon, Portugal.
Tandem Paris / Buenos Aires. Centro Cultural Recoleta, Buenos Aires, Argentina
Archives of displacement. Açık Ekran, Istanbul
Arte video francés contemporáneo. CUC (Centro Cultural Universitario Tlateloco), Mexico
Contemporary African Films. Berkeley Art Museum / Pacific Film Archives, USA.
The Permanent Longing for Elsewhere, Gallery TPW, Toronto, Canada.
Reframing Reality. Museum of Contemporary Art, Roskilde
Frontières/Borders Cape Town National Gallery, South Africa
Spectrum Shorts. 40th Rotterdam International Film Festival

2010

New Work from France. Studio Museum in Harlem, New York, USA.
Spatial City, An architecture of Idealism, Museum of Contemporary Art, Detroit, Canada.
Whose Map is it ? INIVA, London, England.
Always Moving Forward. Gallery 44, Centre for Contemporary Photography, Toronto, Canada.
Là où se fait notre histoire. Works from Frac Corse collection, Corte, France
Frontières/Borders, Johannesburg Art Gallery, South Africa
Strangers. Haus der Kulturen der Welt, Berlin, Germany.
The Spacemakers. Delfina Foundation. Tent Gallery, Edinburgh, Scotland.
Broken Films, Goethe Institute, Cairo, Egypt.
Frontières/Borders. French Cultural Center, Maputo
Home Sweet Home. Werkstatt der Kulturen, Berlin, Germany.
Strangers. Filmoteca Espanola, Madrid, Spain.
Frontières/Borders. La Centrale Electricque, European Center of Contemporary Art, Brussels, Belgium.
Villes-Frontières. Les Abattoirs, Casablanca & French Institute, Fès, Morocco
Résonances, Marrakech Art Museum, Morocco.

2009

2nd Thessaloniki Biennial. Thessaloniki, Greece.
El Sur de Nuevo. Reina Sofia National Museum, Madrid, Spain.
The Other Shadow of the City. Al Hoash Gallery, East Jerusalem, Israel.
8th African Photography Biennial. Mali National Museum, Bamako
Images Multiples. Le Lieu Unique, Nantes, France
Tarjama/Translation. Queens Museum of Art, New York, USA.
This Land is Your Land. Center for Contemporary Arts, Glasgow, Scotland.
Emergent Film and Contemporary Art. Haus der Kulturen der Welt, Berlin, Germany.
Volta 5, Basel, Switzerland
Looking Inside Out. Kunstneres Hus, Oslo, Norway
Crossings. Reina Sofia National Museum, Madrid, Spain
Continents à la dérive. Centre Régional d'Art Contemporain, Sète
This Living of Others. Art Projects at Art Dubai, Dubai
Sur l'Exil. INHA - Institut National d'Histoire de l'Art, Paris, France

VideoStudio # 2 : Psychogeography. The Studio Museum, New York, USA
MultiPistes Parties. Meener deWitt, Amsterdam, Holland
Spectrum : Shorts. 38th Rotterdam International Film Festival, Holland

2008

Middle East Channel : Résistances I & II. The Third Guangzhou Triennial. Guangzhou, China.
Cinéma et Art Contemporain / Où va le Cinéma ? Centre Georges Pompidou, Paris, France.
Iconoclastes : Les Territoires de l'Esprit. Anne de Villepoix Gallery, Paris, France.
Home ? Villa des Tourelles Gallery, Nanterre, France.
Identity in Transit, Sala Uno, International Center of Contemporary Art, Rome, Italy.
Next, The Invitational Exhibition for Emerging Art, Chicago, USA.
Lien/Délien. Reina Sofia Museum, Madrid, Spain.
Vues Aériennes. Cinéma du Réel. Centre Georges Pompidou, Paris, France.
On the Edge of Empire: Explorations of the Time-Image. Pioneer Theater. New York, USA.

2007

Limit, moving images and lot of strangeness. Laboratorio Arte Alameda. Mexico City
Palermo Citta Aperta : spazi filmici e geografi e urbane, Palermo French Cultural Institute, Italy.
Plan-Séquence : Biennale of Moving Image, Geneva, Switzerland
Migraciones y Formas de Entender las Fronteras, Spanish Cultural Center, Miami, USA
Mediterraneo(s), Centre d'Art La Panera, Lérida, Spain
Limit, moving images and lot of strangeness, SESC Paulista, Sao Paulo, Brazil
Résistances # 2 : Demain dès l'aube, Centre Georges Pompidou, Paris, France
Experimental Films from the Middle East and North Africa. 54th Int. Kurzfilmtage, Oberhausen, Germany
Monumenta Cinéma : Ligne de Partage, Galerie Nationale du Grand Palais, Paris, France
Do Not Exist : Europe, Woman, Digital Medium, Gesellschaft für Aktuelle Kunst, Bremen, Germany

2006

Too Much Freedom ? UCLA Hammer Museum of Art, Los Angeles, USA
Documentaire d'Avant-Garde : Poèmes Anti-Coloniaux. Cinémathèque Française, Paris, France
Among The Moderns, Stills Gallery, Edinburgh, Scotland
Explorations in Films and Videos, The Photographers' Gallery, London, England
Je ne crois pas aux fantômes, mais j'en ai peur. La Force de l'Art. Galerie Nationale du Grand Palais, Paris, France

2005

Biennial of Moving Images, Center for Contemporary Image, Geneva, Switzerland
West by East, Fondation Bancaja, Valencia, Spain
VideoBrasil. Sao Paulo, Brazil
New York Video Festival, Film Society of Lincoln Center, New York, USA
West by East, Center for Contemporary Culture, Barcelona, Spain.
Resistances, CCCB, Barcelona, Spain

2004

New Cinema and Contemporary Art, Grande Halle de La Villette, Paris, France
Film - Laboratorio, Museum of Contemporary Art and Villa Médicis, Rome, Italy

2003

Rencontres Internationales Paris/Berlin, Podewill, Center of Contemporary Art, Berlin, Germany
Biennial of Electronic Arts, Sao Paulo, Brazil
Festival Cinema Africano, Milan, Italy (Special Prize of the Jury)