



HomeBaseProject
Jerusalem
 nano-residency
 2014



Re: Invitation for a Curatorial Residency at HomeBase Project, Jerusalem

HomeBaseProject (www.homebaseproject.org) in collaboration with the Luna Art Fund (www.lunartfund.org) is planning to host and support a special curatorial research residency, focusing on exploring the notion of home in Jerusalem as a shared but estranged Jewish-Palestinian living environment, through archival and photographic documentation.

Background:

The HomeBase project is a site-specific research and residency program exploring the notion of home. Operating at the intersection of contemporary art, social innovation and urban change, HomeBase Project mission is to challenge the role artists play in shaping their surroundings, raising new possibilities for social, communal, educational, and civil awareness in everyday urban life.

HomeBase Project was founded in 2006 in NYC by Artist and Curator Anat Litwin. Over the years it has inhabited buildings in changing urban neighborhoods in various cities from NYC, to Berlin, and since 2013 in Jerusalem, transforming vacant sites into vital homes for cross cultural exchange, in collaboration with diverse communities of artists, local residents, educators and social change agents.

2014 Jerusalem - Curatorial Research on Home in East Jerusalem

The 2014 HomeBase Project Nano Residency Program in Jerusalem hosted five artists. Two of five artists selected by a special jury were Arab-Israelis supported by a 25,000 NIS grant from the LunArt fund. HomeBaseProject in collaboration with Lunart Fund is devoting a special grant for a curatorial research residency, focusing on exploring the artistic medium of documentation of home and family life in East Jerusalem and possibly comparing its findings with similar art projects executed in shared urban living environments in Israel.

We hope that through this investigation, and through a round table event which is scheduled to follow this curatorial residency, we may be able to explore new perspectives on the role of art as a social change agent in the milieu of a mixed Jewish-Palestinian city such as Jerusalem.

Goal of research:

Our goal is to create an in-depth review of the contemporary Palestinian art scene in East Jerusalem as well as the various art centers in the West Bank around the notion of 'home' with special emphasis on those artists and projects that use the medium of archiving and documentation of residential homes and family lives as a way of exploring and shaping a national identity.

The chosen curator will be invited to live at the HomeBase Nano residency 2-3 weeks for a creative period of reaserch and writing. The emphasize of the research will be reviewing the use of artistic methods of documentation, archiving, personal videotaped testimonies and life stories in the Palestinian diaspora as well as East Jerusalem and the West Bank with the aim of trying to expose and connect them with similar projects in East and West Jerusalem artist centers and residencies). We hope to make the connection via a roundtable event in which the curatorial research product will be presented and a 3 hours symposium with interested artists, educators, art students collectors and curators will take place.

The Dates of the Research Residency:

Dec 2 - 20th, 2014

What will be offered:

- Hosting & Accomodation
- A Honurarium of \$1000 for writing
- \$1,000 Air travel (contingent on selection of a curator residing overseas)
- \$1,000 for organizing and moderating the roundtable event and editing a publication based on the transcript of the panel presentations at the roundtable event (see below)

Outcome / Expectations:

- An overview / article which revisits the notion of family homes, archiving and documentation in East and West Jerusalem through the lense of Jewish and Palestinian art including visits to local artist studios and art centers (such as Al-Hoash, Al-Maamal, MOTS, etc. / 4-6 pages.
- Documentation of information and process
- Facilitating and organizing a roundtable event
- Participating at the symposium as moderator and/or presenter.

Round Table Event: Location TBD

Round Table panel discussion with invited speakers who specialize in Palestinian Art which focuses around the notion of home as a shaper and reflector of a distinct cultural identity. The panel, moderated by the curator chosen for the HB curatorial residency mentioned above, will put a special emphasis on the use of the medium of documentation and archiving as artistic modes of expression and exploration of the notion of home in the Palestinian Israeli communities. The panel will be open to the public. Location TBD.

Possible Participants :

Dr Tal Ben Zvi, Dr. Rona Sela, Dr. Ismael Nashef, Dr. Malicha Maslemani, Dr. Houssni al-hatib Shahade, Gideon Ofat, Dr. Ayelet Zohar, Dor Guez, Said Abu Shakra, Farid Abu Shakra, Simion Belu Finaru, Yeala Hazoot, Rafat Hattab, Jack Persekian, Mazen Qupti, Ron Amir, Professor Ganit Ankori, Tali Tamir, Dr. Aida Nasralla, Yehudit Guetta, Efrat Livni.

Application Process:

This application is by invitation.

Kindly send a letter of interest outlining your main interest in this opportunity, how you would like to use this research residency and what are the publishing and exposure possibilities you foresee for the article, along with your CV and 3 examples.

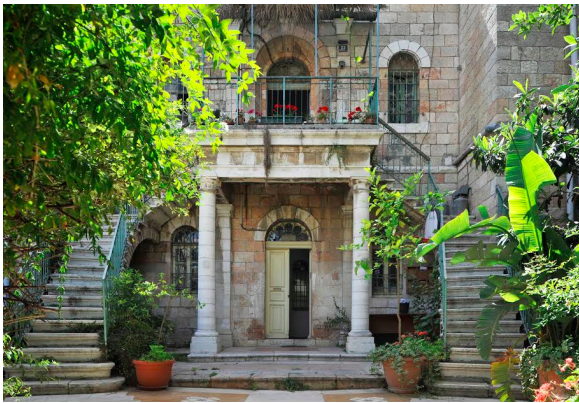
Please email to anat@homebaseproject.org by September 25th 2014 using 'Curatorial Research' in subject line.

Approval deadline by October 15th, 2014.

Thank You!

www.homebaseproject.org

www.lunartfund.org



Setting of the HB Nano Residency Jerusalem

The building where HomeBase Project Nano Residency is located, is a private building and home, on Derech Beit Lechem 23, Jerusalem. It is located in the Bakka Neighborhood - a former Arab neighborhood whose original residents escaped in 1948. The neighborhood is full of beautiful old Arab houses, some lining Derech Beit Lechem itself and others perched in the side streets and alleyways intersecting with it. Bethlehem Road is a vibrant place going through gentrification, it's present echoes its past importance, as the connector of two important sacred cities - Jerusalem and Beit Lechem.

The house on 23 Bethlehem Road was built, probably, after World War I, by the brothers Jalil and Bendali Farradj, who had made a fortune in business in South America. They returned to Jerusalem and built the magnificent house for their widowed mother and their family which included 7 brothers and a sister.

On the ground floor lived the eldest brother, Issa Farradj, with his family. He had 5 children with his first wife, and after her death remarried, and had another 4 children. On the second floor lived until she passed away in the 1920s, Ghrammatiki Farradj with her sons.

The family belonged to the Greek-Orthodox community and lived in the house until prior to the 1948 War when they were "uprooted". Unlike many other Palestinian families they were able to reclaim part of the house and later sell it.

Since 2013 HomeBase Project has hosted a residency in the building where artists are invited to create site-specific works around the notion of home. This also involved a in depth research and contacting the original family who lived here in a dialog and reflection on home.

