



**French Institute Alliance Française (FIAP)  
presents**

***World Nomads Tunisia***

***The After Revolution***

**May 2013**

**FIAP Gallery • 22 East 60th Street, NYC  
New Museum IDEAS CITY Festival • 235 Bowery, NYC  
WHITE BOX • 329 Broome Street, NYC  
5Pointz • 45-46 Davis Street, Long Island City, NYC**

**New York, New York, April 18, 2013**— As part of the fifth edition of its biennial *World Nomads* festival, this year celebrating the rich arts and culture of Tunisia, the French Institute Alliance Française (FIAP), New York's premier French cultural center, presents *The After Revolution*, a series of unprecedented exhibitions and events focusing on the extraordinary artistic innovation that has permeated the country following the events of January 2011.

In the protests leading to the overthrow of President Ben Ali, Tunisian artists took to the streets by the thousands. Today, artists continue to play an essential role in defending freedom of expression in the nascent democracy. Presented in venues throughout New York City, *The After Revolution* explores the extraordinary role that visual artists have played, both in documenting the events of the Arab Spring and in galvanizing public discourse as the country emerges from the shadow of dictatorship.

In Lower Manhattan at contemporary art space WHITE BOX, *World Nomads Tunisia* presents the work of **Héla Ammar, Amine Boussoffara, Wassim Ghozlani, Amine Landoulsi, Zied Ben Romdhane, Rim Temimi,** and **Patricia Triki**, seven Tunisian photographers who captured the tumultuous events of the country's revolution. At FIAP's Gallery, five leading contemporary Tunisian artists, **Héla Ammar, Amel Ben Attia, Nicène Kossentini, Mouna Jemal Siala,** and **Mohamed Ben Slama** present paintings, photographs, and video work addressing important social and political issues and the challenges faced by women in Tunisia today.

Strictly forbidden under Ben Ali, graffiti art has emerged as a powerful form of free expression in Tunisia post-revolution. *World Nomads* has invited Tunisian graffiti writers **eL Seed** and **Jaye** to create original works in venues throughout New York City, including at the New Museum's IDEAS CITY festival, and the international "graffiti mecca" 5Pointz in Queens.

*The After Revolution* is curated by Leila Souissi.

***World Nomads: VISUAL ARTS*** .....

***The After Revolution at IDEAS CITY Festival***  
**Saturday, May 4, 11am–6pm**

*World Nomads Tunisia* invites New Yorkers to view work and meet prolific Tunisian graffiti artists eL Seed and Jaye at the New Museum’s biennial outdoor street fair, IDEAS CITY. Guests can bring their own message of peace to share on canvases prepared by the artists.

**Venue:** New Museum’s IDEAS CITY Festival  
**Admission:** Free and open to the public

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***The After Revolution at WHITE BOX***  
**Saturday, May 4–18**  
**Opening Reception: Saturday, May 4, 5–8pm**  
**Co-presented with WHITE BOX**

Following the revolution in 2011, Tunisian photographers, required to work with a license under President Ben Ali’s regime, took to the streets to freely capture the momentous response in real-time. *World Nomads Tunisia* presents a selection of these photographs from seven contemporary Tunisian photographers, offering a remarkable view of these important events taken by those who lived through them.

Featuring work by H la Ammar, Amine Boussoffara, Wassim Ghozlani, Amine Landoulsi, Zied Ben Romdhane, Rim Temimi, and Patricia Triki.

**Venue:** WHITE BOX  
**Admission:** Free and open to the public

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***The After Revolution at FIAF***  
**Wednesday, May 8–Saturday, June, 1**  
**Opening Reception: Wednesday, May 8, 6–8pm**

The FIAF Gallery offers a view of the Revolution’s impact as captured through paintings, photography, and video by five contemporary Tunisian artists whose work is being shown in New York for the first time. Curated by Tunisian-based Leila Souissi, the exhibition features work by four female artists who spotlight the challenges they have faced not just as artists, but also as women.

Featuring work by H la Ammar, Amel Ben Attia, Nic ne Kossentini, Mouna Jemal Siala, and Mohamed Ben Slama.

**Venue:** FIAF Gallery  
**Admission:** Free and open to the public

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***The After Revolution at 5Pointz***

**Sunday, May 12–Friday, May, 31**  
**Opening Reception: Sunday, May 12, 6–8pm**

**Co-presented with 5Pointz**

Forbidden under President Ben Ali, street art has quickly become an important outlet for expression since the Revolution. *World Nomads Tunisia* is thrilled to welcome internationally renowned Tunisian graffiti artists, eL Seed and Jaye, to New York for the first time to create original works in collaboration with New York-based “writers,” including Meres One, founder of 5Pointz. Followed by a film crew, eL Seed and Jaye will bring their unique style with messages of tolerance and peace to walls in the Bronx, Brooklyn, Manhattan, and Queens at 5Pointz, considered the epicenter of the world’s graffiti scene. On Sunday, May 12, attend a celebratory reception at 5Pointz to view their work and the film documenting their creations around New York City.

**Venue:** 5Pointz

**Admission:** Free and open to the public

***World Nomads: RELATED EVENTS***

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**Selma & Sofiane Ouissi: *Laaroussa***  
**Friday, May 3 from 7–8pm**

Tunisian choreographers Selma and Sofiane Ouissi—two major figures in the Arab dance scene—present a poetic 12-minute video work, shown on the festival’s opening night. The brother-sister pair appear on film, performing a dance inspired by the process and technique of traditional women potters living in Sejname, Tunisia. Through their abstract and sensual choreography, the duo honor and promote this disappearing art form, practiced solely by women.

**Venue:** FIAF, Tinker Auditorium

**Admission:** Free and open to the public

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***Talk & Lunch: Women & Society***  
**Monday, May 6, at 12:30pm**

*World Nomads Tunisia* invites New Yorkers to meet leading contemporary Tunisian women for a lunchtime discussion about the significant and growing role of women as drivers of social, artistic, and political change post-revolution.

Featuring Syhem Belkhouja, dancer and choreographer; Dora Bouchoucha, Film Producer and Founder of Nomadis Images; KENZA Fourati, French-Tunisian Model and Blogger; Amna Guellali, Director of Human Rights Watch Tunisia; Lina Lazaar Jameel, Sotheby’s International Contemporary Art Specialist; Leila Souissi, Tunisian Contemporary Arts Specialist.

In English.

Sponsored in part by Morgan Stanley.

**Venue:** FIAF, Le Skyroom

**Admission:** Non-Members: \$40, FIAF Members: \$35. Tickets include lunch & wine. Reserved seating.

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**Art, Women & Politics**

**Tuesday, May 7 at 1pm**

Following the success of a live-streamed talk at WHITE BOX during the Tunisian Revolution in 2011, *World Nomads Tunisia* presents an international live-streamed discussion with influential Tunisian women who will speak about working in the arts in present-day Tunisia.

Featuring Syhem Belkhouja; Dora Bouchoucha; Amna Guellali; Lina Lazaar Jameel; Leila Souissi. And via Skype : Hélé Béji, writer; El Iza Mohamedou, Chief Political Analyst at the African Development Bank.

In English.

**Venue:** WHITE BOX

**Admission:** Free and open to the public.

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**About H la Ammar**

H la Ammar belongs to a new generation of artists whose process explores an interior duality, social and cultural, in their quest for identity. Born in Tunisia on June 2, 1969, Ammar lives and works in Sidi Bou Sa d. She has often chosen to put herself on display in order to comment on the boundaries of female identity, always in motion. Since 2003, she has had frequent solo and group exhibitions in Tunisia and elsewhere. Her works have also been presented at festivals and contemporary art galleries, including at the Printemps des arts Fair in Tunis (2012), Rencontres de Bamako (2011), Dream City (2010 and 2012), Marrakech Art Fair (2010), Art Dubai (2008), ARTMAR (2007), Barcelona Biennial (2007), Art Paris, Abu Dhabi (2007), Salon International d'Art contemporain, Grenoble (2006), Montreux Art Gallery (2006), and Rencontres d'Art contemporain, Geneva (2005), among others.

**About Amel Ben Attia**

Amel Ben Attia studied Fine Arts at the Institut Sup rieur des Beaux Arts from 2003 to 2005. Since 2003, she has exhibited in several galleries and art spaces in Tunisia. Her work has been shown in Geneva at the United Nations Palace, and at contemporary art fairs in Montreux, Lyon, and Narbonne, France. Her works, paintings, videos, and installations are included in several private collections, both in Tunisia and internationally.

**About Amine Boussoffara**

Amine Boussoffara was born in 1974 in Mahdia, Tunisia. He began taking photos as a member of the Club Photo de Maison des Jeunes de Madhia in 1986. He spent his youth travelling throughout Tunisian cities, including Seliana, Jendouba, and Tunis, which led to his focus on Tunisian history, customs, and architecture. At times figurative and abstract, Boussoffara's photographs pay homage to the varied regions of Tunisia through the graphic and poetic potential of photography.

### **About Wassim Ghozlani**

Born in 1986 in the north of Tunisia, Wassim Ghozlani is a self-taught photographer who lives and works in his native country. Active in the field of photography since 2009 after stints as a designer and illustrator, he has participated in several exhibitions in Tunisia and worldwide, including in the United States, Brazil, Mali, Slovenia, Germany, France, Egypt, Morocco, and Spain. In 2011 he received special mention from the Jury for the Arte/cutlog prize. In 2012, he was nominated for the prestigious Foam Paul Huf Award and received the Express Arab Fund for Arts and Culture Scholarship (AFAC) for his web documentary *Taht Esour*.

Wassim currently divides his time between his photography work (publications, exhibitions, workshops) and the coordination of the Shutter Party Project ([www.shutterparty.com](http://www.shutterparty.com)), the first Tunisian outlet of its kind dedicated to the promotion of photography, for which he manages publication direction and technical coordination.

### **About Jaye**

Tunisian graffiti artist Jaye began working in Paris in 1991, illegally at first, along the A6 motorway and the RER line D. He gradually acquired a taste for the work of friends who shared the same passion. Jaye's visually expressive work represents the confluence of various influences, styles, and inspirations.

A multidisciplinary artist, Jaye has been invited to create work for numerous museums and galleries, including his first show, *triad shop* in Paris in 1999; *Urban Melodie* at the Centre National d'Art Contemporain Camille Lambert in Essonne in 2004; *Explosion* at the Taxie Gallery in 2005; an exhibition and live mural at the Grand Palais in Paris for the show *RUE*; and in 2007, the exhibition *Graphology* at the Itinerrance Gallery in Paris and at the Palais de Tokyo. Jaye also presented the first graffiti painting at the exhibition *White* at Gallery 14 in Tunis in June 2009, and with his sidekick NILKO participated in the first graffiti exhibition in Tunisia at Artyshow Gallery in November 2009. Jaye has also worked with major brands, including Adidas, Benetton, and Avirex, creating graffiti, murals, painting and graphics.

### **About Nicène Kossentini**

New media artist Nicène Kossentini is known for her work with words and with Kairouani calligraphy, revealing its beauty and promoting the Sufi message of a tolerant Islam. Born in Sfax, Tunisia, Kossentini has exhibited in several countries and was included in the 25th anniversary exhibition of the Institut du Monde Arabe in Paris in 2012. She is currently a professor of experimental cinema at the University of Tunisia.

### **About Amine Landoulsi**

Amine Landoulsi was born in Bardo, city of the Husainid kings, in November 1976. Self-taught, he considers himself not so much a photographer as a man who lives and sees. From year to year, his experiences feed off the random events of daily life, banal for some and extraordinary for others. In 2011, Landoulsi became the co-founder and general coordinator of the Photo Club of Tunis. He has had many exhibitions in Tunisia, as well as in France, Slovenia, and Brazil. Currently he is a photo journalist for the Andalou Agency and the Associated Press.

### **About Zied Ben Romdhane**

Born in 1981, Zied Ben Romdhane holds a masters in international business administration from the International School of Commerce in Tunisia. In 2008, after a few years of apprenticeship and research

as an amateur photographer, he abandoned the business world to dedicate himself to professional photography. In 2007, Ben Romdhane received an award at the Printemps des arts Fair in Tunis.

In 2011, Ben Romdhane contributed work to the books *Rada, Révolution Tunisienne (Rada, The Tunisian Revolution)* and *Dégage (Disengage)*. He has also supervised several workshops and served as director of photography for the films *La poule de Sabaa (The Chicken from Sabaa)* and *Fallega 2011*.

### **About eL Seed**

Feeding off of many diverse influences, eL Seed began to create graffiti in the streets of Paris in 1998. In the same way that European graffiti writers appropriated the Latin alphabet to create new styles, eL Seed did so with the Arabic alphabet, reinventing Arabic calligraphy and lending it an urban dynamic.

In his work, eL Seed questions the role of the spectator through messages adorning the walls of Montreal, Paris, the Arab Emirates, Qatar, and beyond. His work encourages a questioning of the Arabic written word, and by extension of Arab-Muslim culture, as in a mural he created in Los Angeles that states, "This is just a phrase in Arabic." With his monumental murals, the *calligraffiti* of eL Seed is an art which has been repeated on canvas and has found its place in galleries worldwide.

### **About Mouna Jemal Siala**

Born in Paris, Tunisian photographer and video artist Mouna Jemal Siala lives and works in Tunisia. Siala studied at the Technological Institute of Art, Architecture, and Urbanism of Tunis and later earned her doctoral degree from the University of Paris. Since 1998, she has been a professor of Fine Arts at the School of Fine Arts of Tunisia, and has exhibited her work in various galleries and art festivals in northern Africa, Europe, and India. She is the recipient of numerous prizes for her photographs, including the Grand Prize of the Médina of Tunisia in 2005 and the Prix du Ministre de la Culture du Sénégal given at the 9th Dakar Biennial in 2010. Her work was featured in the *Bright Future-Contemporary Art from Tunisia* show at IFA Berlin and the Dream City Festival in Tunisia.

### **Mohamed Ben Slama**

Born in Tunisia, Mohamed Ben Slama became a painter at the age of seventeen and has exhibited his work in Tunisia and abroad throughout the last decade. His works are included in the public collection of the planned Museum of Modern and Contemporary Art in Tunisia, as well as numerous private collections. He lives and exhibits in Paris.

### **About Rim Temimi**

Rim Temimi is an artist and activist working against political obscurantism through art and culture in Tunisia for over 15 years. She has curated exhibitions and events including *Tuniversality*, and contributed to the Tunisian photography group *Dégage* through photography and as a co-curator alongside chief curator Leila Souissi. Temimi maintains various Facebook pages focused on Tunisian art, culture and cinema, including Le Monde du Cinéma Tunisien, and has developed various websites and portals for cultural institutions in Tunisia, such as TAG – TunisiArtGalleries. Temimi is also an active member and curator with Dar El Dhekra or (The House of the Memory), an association dedicated to Jewish-Tunisian cultural heritage.

### **About Patricia Triki**

Patricia K. Triki was born in Paris in 1964 to a Tunisian father and French mother. In 2005, she was an artist-in-residence at the City of Arts in Paris. Her solo exhibitions, including *Vortex 1* (2001), *Vortex 2* (2005), and most recently *3 + 6 works dialogues* (2010), explore the relationship of the individual to his

or her social environment. Triki participated in the Alexandria Biennale in Egypt (2003), Rencontres photographiques de Bamako in Mali (2005), Femmes d'images in France, Italy, Lebanon, and the United Kingdom (2007), Reflets d'Afrique in Algiers (2009), and the Dream City Festival in Tunis (2007/2010). In 2011, Triki's work *free art /// free* was shown on billboards throughout the city of Dresden, Germany, for the project *Urban Mutations*.

She has participated in *Leyla Tounssia* at the La Ferme du Buisson art center in Paris in November 2011, and *Dégage*, organized by the Institut du Monde Arabe in Paris in January 2012. In 2012, she was artist and co-curator of the project *Zukunft Rosige - A Pink Future* presented at the ifa gallery in Berlin and Stuttgart. In collaboration with Sondos Belhassen and Malek Sebai, Triki created three choreographic installations presented in Tunis and Paris at the Centre National de la Danse in 2011. She is represented by Galérie El Marsa.

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### About Leila Souissi

After graduating from La Sorbonne, Paris in 1965 with a degree in sociology, Leila Souissi worked as a freelance journalist for *Le Monde*, *BBC London*, and the *Financial Times* in Liberia. From 1990 to 2005, she also worked as an events producer for fashion shows in West Africa, music concerts in Belgium, Sierra Leone, and Senegal, as well as dance performances in Tunisia. Since 1998, Souissi has curated various international exhibitions, including *Dégage* at the Institut du Monde Arabe in 2010. The exhibition toured Berlin, Brussels, Arles, Nice, Toulon, London, and Cavaillon. Leila Souissi is currently working on various international events including the Euro-Mediterranean Biennale, Tangier 2013, *Cairo-Tunis*, a contemporary art exhibition at the IMED Barcelona, and *Femmes je vous aime*, a contemporary art exhibition scheduled to open in Paris in 2013.

Leila Souissi was made a Knight of the Order of Arts and Letters, an award conferred upon her by the Republic of France.

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### The After Revolution Image List

#### eL Seed

© eL Seed

- <http://www.fiaf.org/press/2013-05/world-nomads-tunisia/visual-arts/5pointz/elseed1.jpg>
- <http://www.fiaf.org/press/2013-05/world-nomads-tunisia/visual-arts/5pointz/elseed2.jpg>
- <http://www.fiaf.org/press/2013-05/world-nomads-tunisia/visual-arts/5pointz/elseed3.jpg>
- <http://www.fiaf.org/press/2013-05/world-nomads-tunisia/visual-arts/5pointz/elseed4.jpg>
- <http://www.fiaf.org/press/2013-05/world-nomads-tunisia/visual-arts/5pointz/elseed5.jpg>

#### Wassim Ghozlani

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- <http://www.fiaf.org/press/2013-05/world-nomads-tunisia/visual-arts/white-box/ghozlani/ghozlani1.jpg>
- <http://www.fiaf.org/press/2013-05/world-nomads-tunisia/visual-arts/white-box/ghozlani/ghozlani2.jpg>
- <http://www.fiaf.org/press/2013-05/world-nomads-tunisia/visual-arts/white-box/ghozlani/ghozlani3.jpg>
- <http://www.fiaf.org/press/2013-05/world-nomads-tunisia/visual-arts/white-box/ghozlani/ghozlani4.jpg>
- <http://www.fiaf.org/press/2013-05/world-nomads-tunisia/visual-arts/white-box/ghozlani/ghozlani5.jpg>

#### Rim Temimi

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- <http://www.fiaf.org/press/2013-05/world-nomads-tunisia/visual-arts/white-box/temimi/temimi2.jpg>
- <http://www.fiaf.org/press/2013-05/world-nomads-tunisia/visual-arts/white-box/temimi/temimi3.jpg>

**Patricia Triki**

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<http://www.fiaf.org/press/2013-05/world-nomads-tunisia/visual-arts/white-box/triki/triki3.jpg>

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**Mohamed Ben Slama**

© Mohamed Ben Slama

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**Nicène Kossentini**

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**Mouna Siala**

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**About 5Pointz**

5Pointz Aerosol Art Center, Inc. is an outdoor art exhibit space in Long Island City, New York, considered to be the world’s premiere “graffiti Mecca,” where aerosol artists from around the globe paint colorful pieces on the walls of a 200,000-square-foot factory building. [5ptz.com](http://5ptz.com)

**About the New Museum – IDEAS CITY**

The 2013 iteration of IDEAS CITY, the biennial festival created to explore the future city and to effect change, will take place in downtown New York from May 1–4, 2013. Formerly known as the Festival of Ideas for the New City, IDEAS CITY was founded by the New Museum as a major collaboration between dozens of downtown arts, education, and community organizations to harness the power of the creative community and imagine our collective future. This community and imagine our collective future. This ambitious initiative is built upon the core belief that arts and culture constitute a driving force behind the vitality of urban centers worldwide. [newmuseum.org/ideascity](http://newmuseum.org/ideascity)

**About WHITE BOX**

WHITE BOX is a flexible space meant to explore and present various forms and expressions of contemporary art. It is also known as a venue in which the general public, students and arts professionals can meet, dialogue and exchange ideas that are socially and culturally transformative. [whiteboxny.org](http://whiteboxny.org)

**About FIAF**

FIAF’s mission is to create and offer New Yorkers innovative and unique programs in education and the arts that explore the evolving diversity and richness of French cultures. FIAF seeks to generate new ideas and promote cross cultural dialogue through partnerships and new platforms of expression. [fiaf.org](http://fiaf.org)



**About World Nomads Tunisia**

The biennial *World Nomads* Festival, produced by the French Institute Alliance Française (FIAF), celebrates the phenomenon of 21st-century transculturalism through the arts and scholarly discussion, offering a platform for the exchange of ideas and artistic expression among traditional and contemporary cultures. This May, the fifth edition of the Festival arrives at a particularly suitable time to celebrate the many facets of Tunisia. [fiaf.org/worldnomads](http://fiaf.org/worldnomads)

***World Nomads: SPONSORS***.....

**Corporate Sponsors**

American Airlines, the official airline of FIAF; OpenSkies; Altour; Arab Tunisian Bank (ATB); Carrefour Tunisie; Logfret; Morgan Stanley; Radio France Internationale (RFI); Tunisair.

**Foundations & Agencies**

Organisation Internationale de la Francophonie; Florence Gould Foundation; Fondation Orange; Institut français; Kamel Lazaar Foundation; The Tunisian National Tourist Office; The Violet Jabara Charitable Trust.

**Individual Donors**

Anonymous; René-Pierre and Alexis Azria; Wassila Guiga-Lotfi; Fatma and Lassaad Kilani; Elizabeth Krief and Jacques Manardo; Chiheb Mahjoub; Paulin, Paulin & Paulin; Olfa Rambourg; Jerry M. Sorkin; Soraya and Moez Zouari.

***World Nomads: SPECIAL THANKS***.....

***Un grand merci to all our friends and champions!***

Tahar and Narjess Bayahi; Mohamed Becheur; Hélé Béji; Nejib Belkhadit; Syhem Belkhadja; Ryma Benayed; Salma Ben Mahmoud; Wassim Ben Yahia; Zeineb Ben Yahmed; Dora Bouchoucha - Nomadis Images; Simone Carrica; Lina Chaabane; Elisabeth Daldoul - Editions Elyzad; Jaouida Djehane; Annie Djamal; Kenza Fourati; Marc de Gontaut Biron; Anissa Kasbaoui; Sofia Khaoula Zaied; Nadia Koepp; Sonia Louzir - Deloitte; Karim Maatoug; Saoussen Mahjoub; Mohamed Malouche; Imed Marzouk; Anis Mnif; Pavan Pardasani; Bernard Royet; Mustapha Tlili; Daria Vancavas; Amar Zribi; Tunisian Network for a Successful Society (TUNESS ).

***World Nomads: PARTNERS***.....

**U.S.-BASED KEY PARTNERS:**

Embassy of Tunisia in Washington D.C.; The Cultural Services of the French Embassy; Lost Candor; Permanent Mission of Tunisia to the United Nations; Promo Tunisia; Tunisian American Young Professionals; Waveform.

**TUNISIA-BASED KEY PARTNERS:**

U.S. Embassy in Tunisia; Office National de l'artisanat Tunisien (ONAT); the Tunisian Ministry of Commerce.

## **The After Revolution: VENUES.....**

**Where:** French Institute Alliance Française  
**FIAF Gallery; Le Skyroom, 22 East 60th Street** (between Park and Madison Avenue)  
**Tinker Auditorium, 55 East 59th Street** (between Park and Madison Avenue)

**Information:** [fiaf.org](http://fiaf.org) | 212 355 6100

**Transportation:** 4, 5, 6 to 59th Street / N, R, Q to 5th Ave. / F to 63rd Street

**Where:** **5Pointz, 45-46 Davis Street, Long Island City, NY**

**Information:** [5ptz.com](http://5ptz.com) | 317 219 2685

**Transportation:** 7 to 45 Rd / Court House Square

**Where:** **New Museum IDEAS CITY Festival, 235 Bowery**

**Information:** [newmuseum.org](http://newmuseum.org) | 212 343 0460

**Transportation:** J, Z to Bowery / 6 to Bleecker St / B, D, F, M to Broadway & Lafayette St

**Where:** **WHITE BOX, 329 Broome Street**

**Information:** [whiteboxnyc.org](http://whiteboxnyc.org) | 212 714 2347

**Transportation:** J, Z to Bowery / B, D to Grand Street / F to Delancey / 6 to Spring Street

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