

Curatorial



Portfolio

Melissa Ghazale

artist. curator. performer.

INTRODUCTION

I'm Melissa, I'm a Lebanese artist and cultural practitioner working across performance, curation, and community-based practices. I create playful, participatory formats that engage all generations—from children to adults.

My artistic work focuses on language and censorship, my curatorial practice centers on collective, pedagogical approaches that emphasize horizontal collaboration and knowledge-sharing. These experiences fuel my commitment to research and community-rooted artistic work.



ART EDUCATION



In The Middle East

The AUB Byblos Bank Art Gallery
2021-2022

Plateau I

Curator:
Octavian Esanu

Guest Curators:
Miha Vipotnik
Melissa Ghazale

1

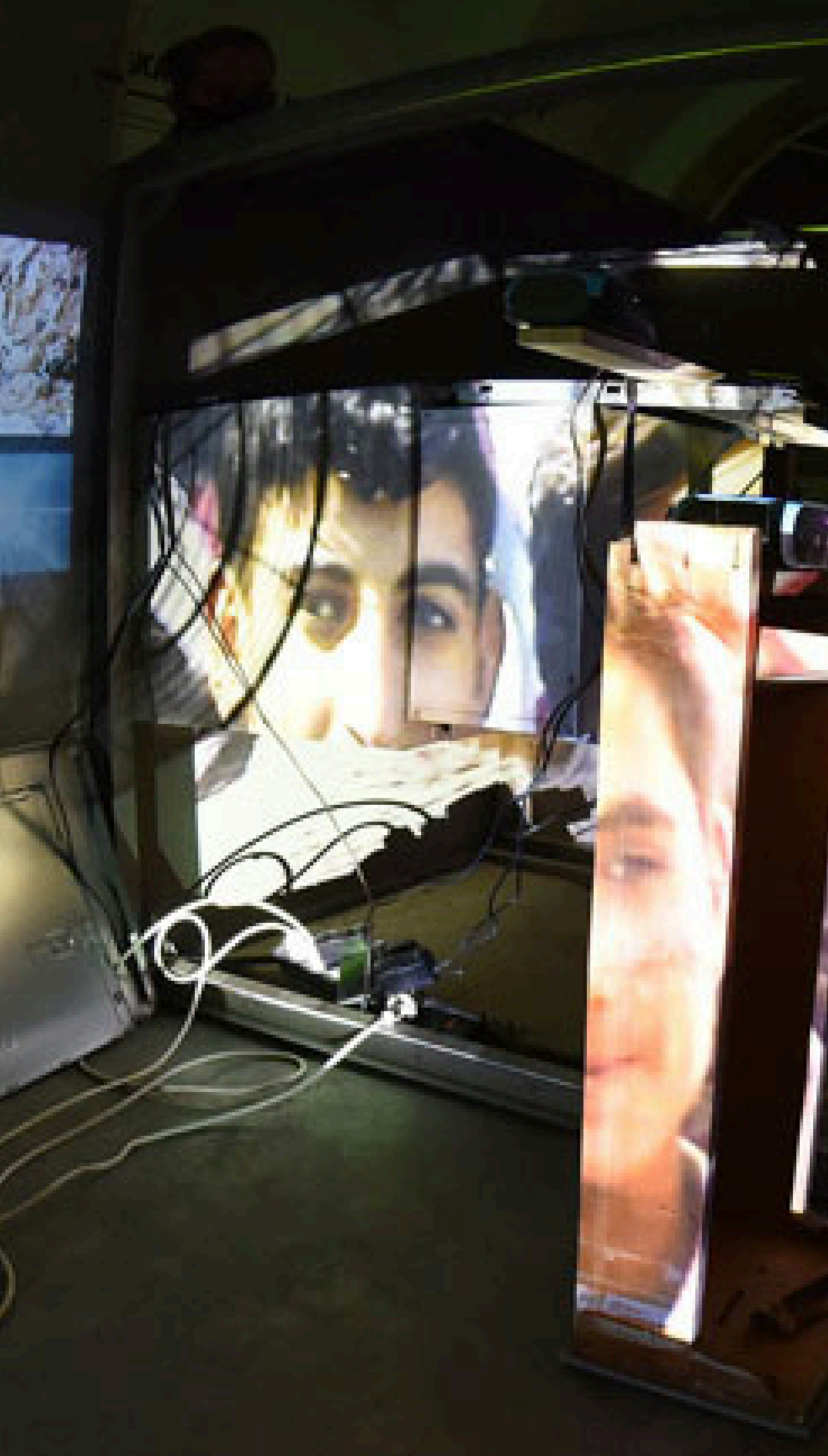
Plateau II

Guest Curators:
Miha Vipotnik
Melissa Ghazale
Lucija Smodiš
Kaja Kraner

Usek Students

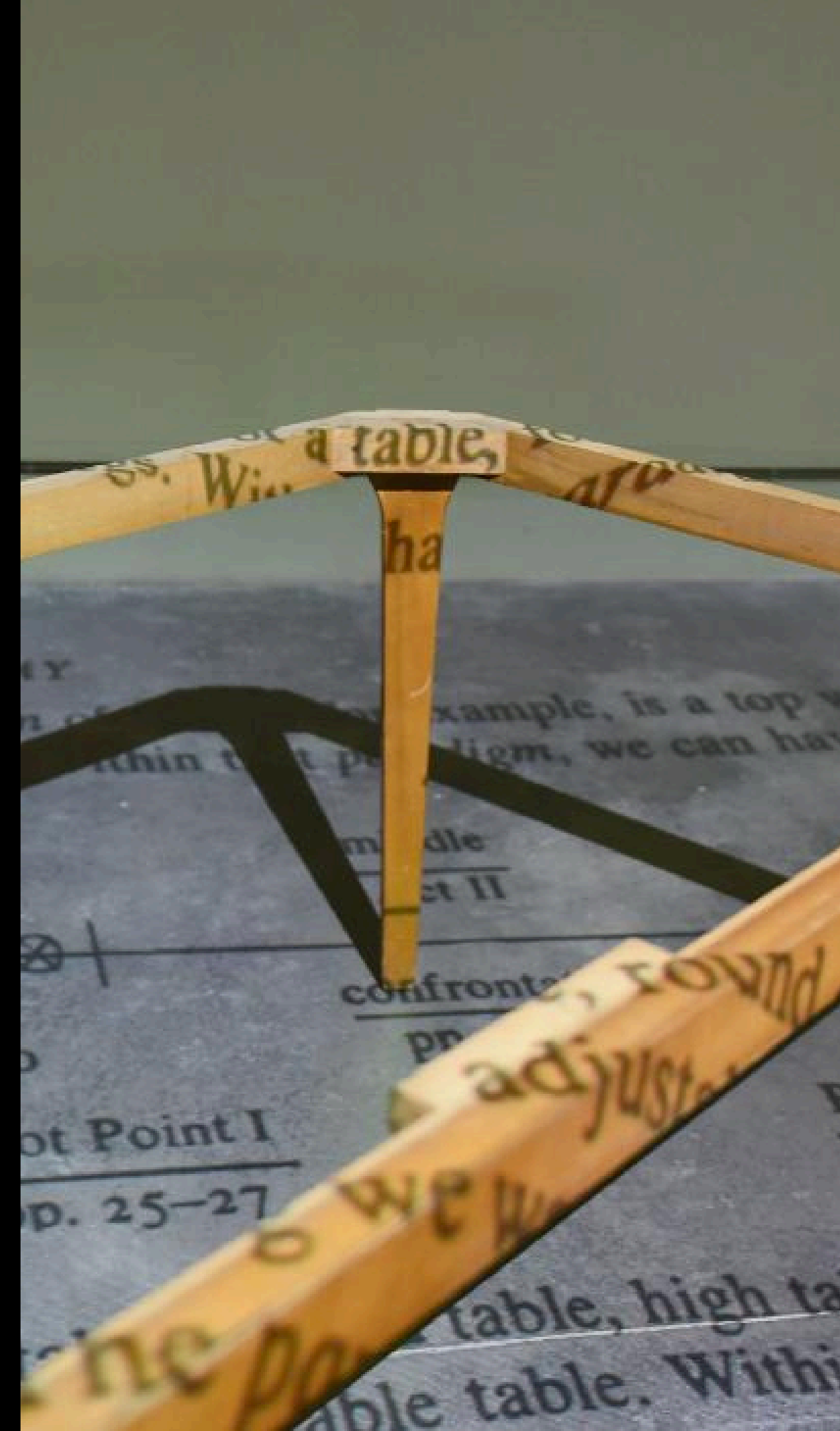
2





Plateau I

The project revolves around the pedagogical activities of Miha Vipotnik, a pioneer Slovenian video artist who joined the Department of Film and Television in 2002. Slovenian-Lebanese duo are cocurating an exhibition by putting on display documentation, video-works, sketches, and relics from various workshops organized by Vipotnik during his teaching career in Lebanon.





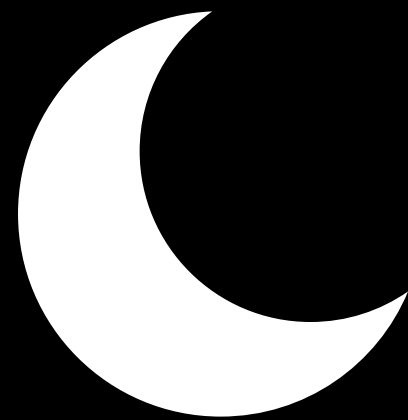
Plateau II

The exhibition is based on Emile Hannouche's art collection, which Vipotnik sees as a starting point for contemporary interdisciplinary, and transmedia art program. The project involves digitalizing the collection and using it in cultural initiatives. By curating this exhibition with his students, we explored both its educational value and how specific art media evolve alongside technological advancements.





ARCANA



The Witch Gatherings

1

Once Upon A Blue Moon

Reshmeyya Lebanon
30/31/01 Oct-Nov 2020

2

Once Upon A Pink Moon

Raachine Lebanon
23/24/25 April 2021

3

On Horoscopes, Techmagic, & Alternative Histories

Haven's House
Online + Lebanon
10/11/12 June 2022





Arcana 1 & 2

Arcana is a series of immersive, full-moon retreats founded by Melissa Ghazale and Stephany Hobeika in 2020. Gathering local and international women artists, the 3-day program offers workshops in art therapy, somatic practices, and holistic approaches. Set in remote natural settings, participants live collectively—sharing meals, chores, and experiences—to foster community in times of crisis.



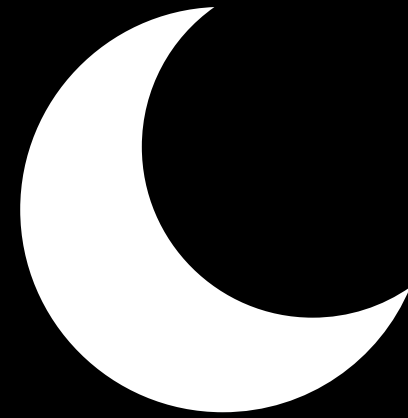


Arcana 3

This edition explores diverse methods, mediums, and worlds—drawing from the magical and maleficent aspects of digital technology, finance, and representation that shape our daily lives. It invites alternative ways of seeing and relating, beyond fixed institutions, binaries, and into collective, otherworldly imaginaries. If the supernatural exists with us in real time and space, then is it not natural?



ARCANA



collaborations
featured artists
sponsors

1

Self Funded

Melissa & Stephanie

Witches:

Farah Azrak
Angela Brussels
Yasmine Jaber
Serena Kesrouani
Lara Saab

2

Sponsors:

Haven For Artists

Catering:

Riwaq

Witches:

Farah Azrak
Yasmine Jaber
Mirella Salame
Flavia Juska Bechara
Sarah Abou Jaoude
Thalia Bassim

3

Sponsors & Host

Haven For Artists

Curatorial Text

Lara Saab

Communication

Aia Atoui

Witches:

Rosa Nussbaum
Batool Desouky
Samar el Summary
Nadine Makarem
Sarah Huneidy
Carla Habib



I DON'T WANT TO TALK, BUT...

ZIKO HOUSE 2021

Curated by Melissa Ghazale, the show highlights a selection of artists as well as non-artists who produced works under the theme of teenage hood and the lingering crisis from this era. The exhibition is multidisciplinary and includes installation, perfume, performance, video-art, sound installation, painting and sculpting.





Artists:

Yara Asmar
Nader Bahsoun
Thalia Bassim
Abed El-Latif Khalifah,
Serge Ghazale
Marc Ghazali
Aya Kazoun
Claudia Khachan &
Olivier Nemnom,
Stephanie Korab, Shirine
Sbaiti,
Celine Seta Rahme, Sako
Sislian,
Marwan Tohme



TABLES RONDES

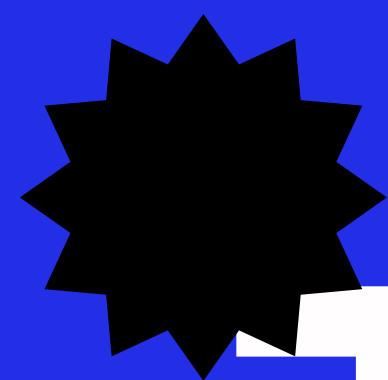
- ★ **“Culture in the time of Genocide” by Rana Bassil, with Samy Galby and Dora Cell.**

TOUR VAGABONDE, FRIBOURG / 2024

- ★ **“Diversity & Institutions” by Noémie Michel with Nayansaku Mufwankolo and Federica Martini.**

C-A-L-M, LAUSANNE / 2024.





Thank You

