

THE NATIONLESS PAVILION  
presents

*Embodying Borders, a performance series*

25.05 - 27.11 2016



Upcoming:

-  
- Nation25 **takes part in the Round Table  
SPACES OF EXCEPTIONS, opening and book launch**  
**May 25, 7.30 pm @SaLE Docks**

Address: Magazzini del Sale, Dorsoduro 265, next to Punta della Dogana, Venice

- **EMBODYING BORDERS**  
**Performance, Primo Studio**  
A collaboration between **Nation25, Kinkaleri e Nadia Arouri**  
**May 27, 8 pm @SaLE Docks**

---

"No form of power is more elementary than the power exercised by the body"  
Elias Canetti

On May 9 2016 Human Rights Watch published a video portraying the violence and the killings inflicted upon the bodies of Syrians, fleeing their country, at the border with Turkey. At the beginning of April 2016, only one month ago, Europe closed entry routes to 326 people seeking refuge along the Greek border and sent them back to Turkey. In 1989 the decision was made to eliminate the divide between East and West Berlin, but only a few decades later European governments are dealing with the ongoing migration/military emergency by raising walls. The last border we have on Earth is the sea. All this is taking place while global free trade agreements are signed, humanitarian aid is cut, and we are not allowed to inquire and confront the issue of a possible cultural and religious coexistence.

Borders, places where change takes place and perspectives of emancipation manifest themselves, embody the act of questioning hazy political and historical landscapes **-to be suspended and reactivated.**

The creation of dividing lines between sacred and profane, good and evil, life and death, private and public, internal and external, can be traced back to ritual societies and belongs to the strategic game of building the world.

In "*Border as method*"<sup>1</sup>, Sandro Mezzadra deals with the border as an epistemic system, a place of trans-disciplinary knowledge, the center of the production of knowledge itself. From an object -walled stable barbed-wired - of research, the border becomes the object of a perspective of change, from the instability of our contemporary world, something that must be crossed by states, global political players, governance agencies and capital.

During the 15<sup>th</sup> International Architecture Exhibition of Venice "Reporting From The Front", The Nationless Pavilion has decided to work with the dynamics of individual and collective bodies in relation to the architecture of barriers, spurring a reflection on what it means to inhabit the border, appropriate it, measure it, crossing it, going beyond it.

These first appointments are part of cycle that will continue during the whole Biennale period:

Wednesday, May 25

7.30 pm, Sale Docks, Venice

**Exhibition opening round table and presentation of the book "Spazi d'eccezione" ("*Spaces of Exception*") (Milieu Edizioni).**

**Nation25** participates with a new work, Pangea, an emerged land, the outcome of progress in the action "Square Tape" carried out during the 56<sup>th</sup> Biennale Art Exhibition. Summing and reconfiguring the respective countries and Pavilions that granted our request for asylum, we created a new geography where Israel borders with Turkey, Brazil with Hungary, South Africa with Germany to compose a unique land.

Pangea is "the right of all men to live/visit: they join society by virtue of the right to common possession of the surface of the Earth"(from Immanuel Kant, *Perpetual Peace*).

Friday, May 27

8.00 pm, Sale Docks, Venice

**Embodying Borders, Primo Studio.** Performance born from the collaboration between **Nation25, Kinkaleri and Nadia Aroui.**

---

<sup>1</sup> Refer to Sandro Mezzadra, Brett Neilson, *Border as Method or the Multiplication of Labor*, Duke University Press, Durham, 2013

A body, a space, a border. A relation of rethinking the reciprocal distances through the body and its presence, subverting the limit.

Embodying: to incorporate, from the lat. IN and CORPORE, mixing different elements and blending them together, but also to attract and convert to one's own substance.

The power of subverting and crossing the border, the resistance in living the divide, to be reduced but also to fill the emptiness in order to cross it, this all is at play. **Not only "border as method" but "body as method".**

Words make space for bodies filled with different meanings, whose sense and needs are entirely problematized, displaying their potential and infinite abilities within the state of need itself.

In this view the frontier is not an object de-responsibilized from human action, but it transforms into the body on which it is still possible to project its functions, needs, the fears of governments, the falls and implosions of nationalisms, the crisis of the systems still tied to an old idea of geography, the anger of those who - at war - are seeking refuge and are still resisting.

**The Primo Studio** (*First Study*) is the result of a period of artistic residency in **Spazio K** in Prato and is the prologue to a research path leading to the following Studies of the cycle *Embodying Borders*, open to the public, a work in progress in Venice during the months of the Biennale.

Saturday, May 28

**Embodying Borders** comes to light in a site-specific, not pre-established, not traceable a priori manner, in the path of the **Biennale Urbana**, in collaboration with **Stalker-Osservatorio Nomade**.

**The Nationless Pavilion 2016** opens its second edition keeping its non-exhibition form, in collaboration with local entities and creative realities present in the venetian territory, activating processes that cross paths with fellow citizens, migrants and refugees.

---

**The Nationless Pavilion** is a curatorial project started in Venice in 2014 following the idea of updating two concepts pertaining to the artistic exhibitions that take place with the formula of the National Pavilions: the concept of Nation-State and its representation in the context of exhibitions. Hence, a *Pavilion* was established thanks to those who have left their original nations and are questioning the nationalistic policies and the safeguard of borders, through the power of their bodies and migration.

*The Nationless Pavilion* favors work processes based on direct experience and laboratorial forms, embryonic shapes of works and exhibition as achieved outcomes.

Conceived by Sara Alberani, *The Nationless Pavilion* is one of the *Nation25* projects, and was first held during the 56th Biennale Art Exhibition of Venice.

[www.nation25.com/#!/about3/cn7o](http://www.nation25.com/#!/about3/cn7o)

**Nation 25** refers to the 25th nation on Earth, an imaginative nation that really exists, constituted by 60 million individuals that have fled their country or are displaced from their homes due to war and racial and gender violence. It is an art platform that seeks to shine a light on the experience of migration, marginality and invisibility, and what they activate. Founded in 2014 by Elena Abbiatici, Sara Alberani and Caterina Pecchioli and based between Rome, Brussels and Amsterdam, it intends to generate a dialogue between artists, curators, humanitarian, activists, both refugees and not. [www.nation25.com](http://www.nation25.com)

**Kinkaleri** was founded in 1995 as an artistic collective composed of six people. It operates between experimental theater, movement research, visual installations, sound materials and performance, looking for a language not on the basis of a style, but directly in the evidence of an object. The group is currently composed of Massimo Conti, Marco Mazzoni, Gina Monaco. [www.kinkaleri.it](http://www.kinkaleri.it)

**Nadia Arouri** is a Palestinian dancer and choreographer and founder of the Palestinian community dance movement **YANTHE** - Youth, Art, and Levante. She studied Contemporary Dance Pedagogy, musicology, and cultural management. She works in both Palestine and Vienna. [www.yante-icanmove.org](http://www.yante-icanmove.org)

**S.a.L.E. Docks** is an independent space for visual arts and experimental theatre born in Venice in 2007 thanks to a group of activists coming from the experience of the "Centri Sociali" and the autonomous social movements.

S.a.L.E. Docks is an open testing ground for cultural production and for con-research. S.a.L.E. Docks is run by art and theatre workers, artists and students. Our programme (exhibitions, workshops, shows, publications, seminars, occupations and direct actions) is always evolving. [www.saledocks.org](http://www.saledocks.org)

**SpazioK** is the operative base in Prato of the collective Kinkaleri and at the same time is: "An attempt to restart from possible, intertwining paths and trajectories, occasions, practices, visions and sounds ...".

**Biennale Urbana** explores the limits and inhabits the existing distances in-between Biennale (Arts), Venice (City) and the Lagoon (Territory); BURB is an emerging trans-local agency that clusters and weaves formal and informal realities, local and international institutions, cultural and social practitioners, visitors and inhabitants, in a common action for change. BURB serves as common ground between artistic action, transdisciplinary education and urban transformation; BURB experiments actions, practices, strategies and tools to steps outside the "Contemporary" dimensions of Art, Architecture and City. [www.biennaleurbana.com](http://www.biennaleurbana.com)