



## THE MIDDLE SEA

**Cultures and Landscapes from Mediterranean cities**

*Curated by:* Claudia Zanfi, Director aMAZELab, Arte, Cultura, Paesaggio ([www.amaze.it](http://www.amaze.it))

*In collaboration with:* Fondazione Donna Regina – Museo Madre, Napoli ([www.madrenapoli.it](http://www.madrenapoli.it))

*On the occasion of:* solo show Walid Raad (Lebanon).

**DATES :** From 11 October 2014 to 19 January 2015.

MORE INFO: [www.madrenapoli.it](http://www.madrenapoli.it)

*THE MIDDLE SEA* is a journey along the shores of the Mediterranean coasts, the cities, the inhabitants, the territories and the relationships that have been built between them.

Moving both vertically and horizontally between the Mediterranean and Europe, between East and West, the journey consists of a round trip, an infinite series of arrivals, contacts, migration, contamination and transmission. The effects of globalisation and the changing geopolitical scenario have led to phenomena of rapid transformation in the sense of places, threatening delicate social and environmental equilibria. The abandonment of traditional ways of life and the growth of new megalopolises, the increasing migratory flows and the tourist resorts, the ancient trade routes and the great infrastructures, the complex and hybrid role of the city and the great Mediterranean ports, with their various cycles of both work and play, their social components, the openings and connections to the surrounding territory as well as their ties with the continental dimension behind them.

Istanbul, Beirut, Nicosia, Tel Aviv, Alexandria, Tangeri, Palermo, Barcelona, Marseilles, Athens: these are just some of the cities involved in the project, and which all look onto the Middle Sea. Water has always played a fundamental role in the everyday lives of these coastal towns, influencing their colours and smells, activities and relationships: a precious resource and a point of reference for both the cities and their inhabitants.

**THE PROJECT IS SELECTED BY THE FORUM UNIVERSALE CULTURE NAPOLI (UNESCO OFFICE).**

*THE MIDDLE SEA has been conceived and produced during the decade of the international project **GOING PUBLIC (2003-2013)**, a program to valorize cultures, practices and territories in the Mediterranean and Balkan area.*

#### **CITIES/AUTHORS**

**ALGERS:** by Zineb Sedia (Algers/London) *The Middle Sea* (16')

**ATHENS:** by Zafos Xagoraris (Greece) *Port AMPs / Ampliphones* (3')

**BEIRUT:** by Ali Hassoun (Lebanon) *Beirut Memories* (3,30')

**ISTANBUL:** by Deniz Gul (Turkey), *The Sea* (still from video)

**MARSEILLE:** by Maria Thereza Alves (Brasile), *The Seeds of Change* (12')

**PALERMO:** by Marcello Maloberti (Italia), *Il mare e la superstizione dei marinai* (21'),

**TEL AVIV:** by Ofri Cnaani (Tel Aviv/NYC) *The Floating Symmetry* (11,30')

**TANGER:** by Yto Barrada (Marocco) *La Cinemateque de Tanger* (14')