

# call for submissions 2017

# NOUR نور

“Rapidly becoming  
the most significant  
festival of its kind in  
Europe.”

Middle East Online



THE ROYAL BOROUGH OF  
KENSINGTON  
AND CHELSEA

## About this brief

This briefing details how to submit a proposal to be part of this year's festival. Nour invites national and international arts organisations and artists, working across all art forms, to submit proposals that demonstrate the vision and values of the festival.

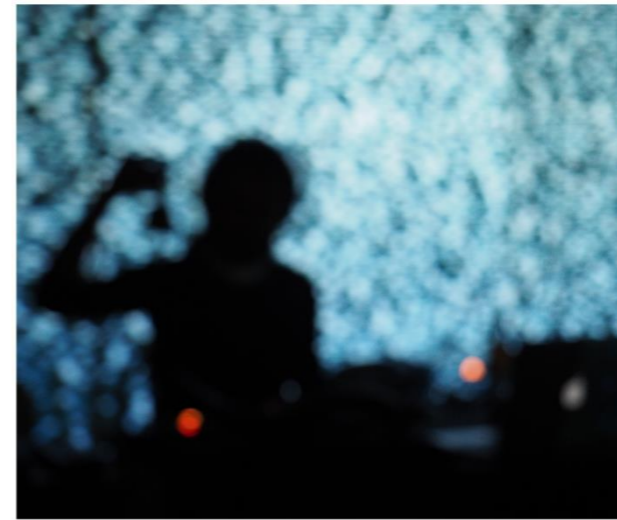
## What is Nour Festival?

Nour Festival celebrates the best in contemporary arts and culture of the Middle East and North Africa (MENA) every October and November in venues across the Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea in London. Now in its eighth year, Nour showcases a broad spectrum of arts and culture - including film, food, music, literature, poetry, performance, urban development and visual arts - and reaches a diverse audience of local, national and international visitors. Growing each year, Nour takes audiences on an unforgettable journey into this region, its cultures and art forms.

Nour 2016 featured 96 performances across 45 events and activities over 17 days, involving 91 artists representing 15 countries from the MENA region, and including 10 UK or European Premieres, working with 41 partners, 16 of them venues, and had a media reach spanning from BBC Arabic TV to Al-Jazeera, Time Out to The National.

## Nour Festival Values

Nour welcomes artists, creatives and cultural practitioners of these regions, their diaspora communities, and those whose work is inspired by this region of the world. Nour prides itself on the high-quality, contemporary nature of the work it features. The Festival itself is non-political and non-religious in nature but recognises that both can inspire great art. It offers audiences insights into the diverse make-up of the Middle East and North Africa today, challenging stereotypes of this region and its people through cultural expression. Above all, Nour looks to inspire, and be inspired by, these reflections, which have established this annual celebration as a crucial meeting point for East and West.



## How is Nour organised?

The Arts Team at the Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea plays the lead role for the festival, working alongside a variety of partners and venues. The Team acts as programme curator, key coordinator and point of liaison for all festival partners, often matching artists and performers with partner organisations and venues, to make the best events possible.

While partners have responsibility for their own events or elements of the Nour programme - from event management to ticket sales - everyone involved in Nour commits to an agreed protocol on publicity, marketing and branding at events, to ensure a consistent and dynamic festival 'look and feel' for our audiences.

## Funding & In-kind Support

Nour Festival has a modest commissioning budget and is only able to award up to £5,000 to any one event, so submissions that have secured additional funding, in-kind support, or identified possible funding from other sources, are at an advantage in selection. However, if your proposal requires more than £5,000 in funding, you may find useful the general information [here](#) by Arts Council England on potential sources of funding.

## Venues

Nour Festival takes place in venues across London's Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea, which boasts a wealth of creative places and spaces; from the Royal Albert Hall to the Tabernacle, from Leighton House Museum to The Mosaic Rooms. There is a listing [here](#) [live on Nour website from 29/02] of some of these, to help you identify a suitable space for your proposal. Some of these venues are official festival venue partners and offer their spaces at a concessionary rate. The Nour Team can help negotiate these partnerships for successful proposals.

Images of Nour 2016 events from top: Khaled Kaddal © Yasmine Hussein • Still from *Halal Love*, Assad Fouladkar • This Sea Is Mine, *Procession* © Sarah Beddington • Nour audience at Amir ElSaffar



## Visas

Artists or organisations from outside of the European Economic Area (EEA) need to secure an appropriate visa to be part of the Festival, and are expected to complete their own visa applications. Nour Festival is not a Licensed Sponsor, but is happy to provide a letter of invitation to support visa applications. There is advice from the UK Government on visa applications [here](#).

## Learning Programme

Nour features a creative learning offer, which draws inspiration from the main festival programme, and features exciting activities to appeal to young children via schools and out-of-school clubs, young people, adults and senior citizens alike. All Artists are invited to propose learning ideas in parallel to their main submission.

## Your Submission

Please complete the online submission form [here](#) on the Nour website; the deadline for submissions is **09:00 GMT on Monday 27 March 2017**. Your submission should be as detailed as possible, particularly with the funding requirements of your proposal. Any additional material in support of your submission, such as PDF documents or electronic publications, can be emailed to [nour@rbkc.gov.uk](mailto:nour@rbkc.gov.uk)

## What Happens Next

Submissions will be considered through April and May, during which time the Nour Team may be in touch. Proposals will then be shortlisted, with the programme finalised in June. If you have not heard from us by the end of June, your application has not been successful this year. Given the high volume of submissions, we cannot provide feedback on unsuccessful submissions.

## Contact Us

Please feel free to get in touch, if you have any question about making your submission.

Nour Festival of Arts

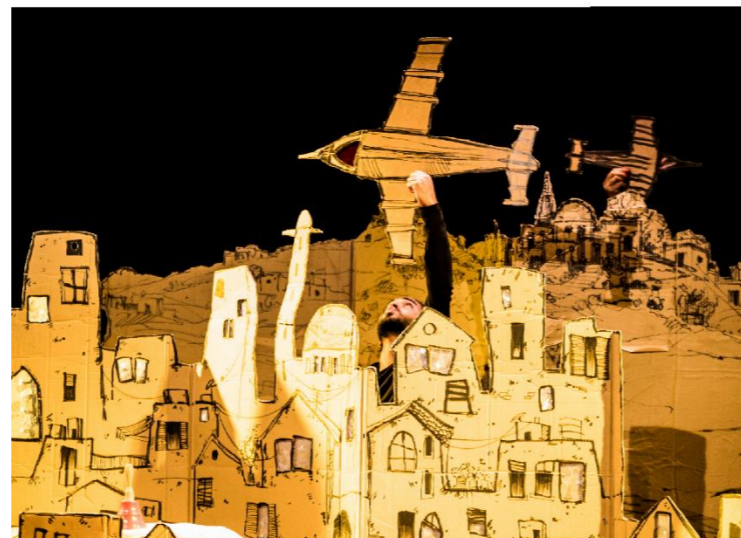
Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea

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London W8 6PW

[nour@rbkc.gov.uk](mailto:nour@rbkc.gov.uk)

[www.nourfestival.co.uk](http://www.nourfestival.co.uk)



## Snapshot of Nour 2016

### the programme

Adib Rostami • Ali Al-Zaidi • Amir ElSaffar • Anastasios Gaitanidis • Angelina Abel • Anna Sikorska • Anwaar Al-Shawabkeh • Arab Puppet Theatre Foundation • Arjanan Manuelpillai • Arshid Azarine • Assad Fouladkar • Azza Allamedine • Basil Khalil • Bruno Boudjela • Caroline Gervay • Caroline Jones • DJ Ipek • Donna Males • Duri Lalani Rubab • El Far 3i • Ellene Masri • Evi Stamatou • Farnaz Jahanbin • Fatemeh Shams Fatima-Zohra • Francesco Ianuzzelli • G. Emfietzis • Ghareeb Iskander • Graham Day Hadiyah Hussain • Hanieh Delecroix • Jennifer Langer • Jose Ramón Caamaño Joseph Tawadros • Kareem Samara • Katayoun Rouhi • Kate Beales • Katia Kameli Kevin Jackson • Khaled Ben Slimane • Khaled Kaddel • Khalid Salim • Khaver Idrees Kiana Shafiei • Levi Hind • The London Uygur Ensemble • Lulu Norman • Martin Evans Mehdi Rostami • Merit Ariane • Mo'min Swaitat • Mohammed Alfaraj • Mostafa Sheshtawy • Nadira Amrani • Nash Meghji • Nazand Begikhani • Nick Cattermole Olcay Bayir • Omer Eltigani • Parastou Forouhar • Q80Tone • Reem Kelani • Rihab Azar • Rosie Goldsmith • Roya Arab • Sabine Choucair • Sabrina Mahfouz • Sajad Abbas Salah ElBrogy • Salam Salman • Sam Holland • Sarah ElRashidi • Sherif Elbendary • Silk Road Rising Theatre Company • Siobhán Shilton • Sofia Calmicova • Sophie Besse Sophie Robehmed • Stella Grigovits • Sue Mayo • Tahar Ben Jelloun • Tara Jaff • The Khoury Project • Varia Amiri • Walaa Sbait • Wareth Kwaish • Yaiza Varona • Yaz Fentazi Trio • Zainab Ayon

### the partners

Aga Khan Museum Toronto • Al-Hasaniya Moroccan Women's Project • Arab British Centre • Arts Canteen • ASHAR Theatre of Palestine • Barakat Trust • Border Crossings British Council • Bureau Export • CCME • Chelsea Theatre • Drayton Arms Theatre Exiled Writers Ink • Have Sound • Institut-francais • Ismaili Centre • Kensington & Chelsea College • Kensington Central Library • Leighton House Museum • National Council for Culture, Arts & Letters Kuwait • Notting Hill Arts Club • NYLA Gallery • Palestinian Regeneration Team • Qalandiya International • Rose Issa Projects • Royal Albert Hall Saqi Books • Science Museum • Songlines magazine • Tabernacle • The Mosaic Rooms The Pheasantry Pizza Express Group • UKIFF • V&A Museum • Vertebra Arts • Volunteer Centre Kensington & Chelsea • West Bank Gallery • Westway Trust

*Nour – which means light or illumination in many Middle Eastern language - challenges preconceptions, sparks debate and provides insight into the MENA region through the celebration of its contemporary arts and culture.*

Images of Nour 2016 events from top: This Flesh Is Mine, ASHTAR Theatre & Border Crossings © Jamie Wiseman • Joseph Tawadros © Josue Castro • Performance In Need Of An Audience, Arab Puppet Theatre Foundation © Jose Ramón Caamaño • Glitch, Salah El Brogy © Jane Hobson