

call for submissions 2016

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 seventh 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 2015 featured 65 events and activities over 20 days, including nine European Premieres, working with 36 partners, 17 of them venues, and a media reach spanning from BBC Arabic TV to the World Service, Time Out, The National, the New York Times Style Magazine and Wall Street International.

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 Festival looks to inspire, and be inspired by, these reflections that have established Nour 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 between £500 and £5,000 to any one event, so submissions that have additional funding or in-kind support secured, or identified as possible from other sources, are at an advantage in selection. However, if your proposal requires more than £5,000 in funding, there is some useful information provided by Arts Council England [here](#) on potential sources of funding.

Venues

Nour Festival takes place in venues across the Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea in London, 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, so Nour is able to negotiate these partnerships for successful proposals.

Images of Nour 2015 events from top: Hindi Zahra © Tala Hadid | Mesel © Gökhan Karakaya | Darina Al-Joundhi Still, Cairo Time, director Amir Ramses

Visas

Artists or organisations from outside of the European Economic Area (EEA) are required to secure an appropriate visa to be part of the Festival, and will need 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](#).

Your Submission

Please complete the online submission form that you can find [here](#) on the Nour website by **17:00 GMT on Friday 8 April 2016**.

Your submission should be as detailed as possible, particularly in 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

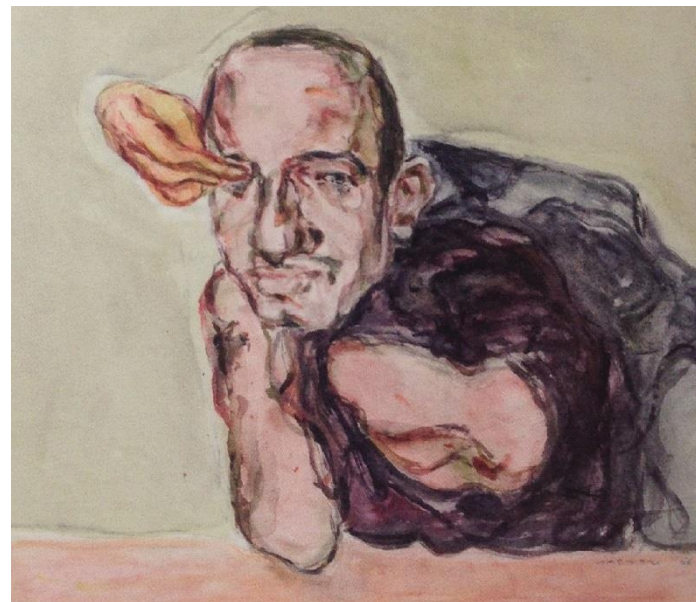
Contact Us

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

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What Happens Next

Submissions will be considered throughout April, during which time the Festival Team may be in touch with you. 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 individual feedback on unsuccessful submissions.



Snapshot of Nour 2015

the programme

Abid Hussain | Adel Quraishi | Adla Al-Sharhan | Ali Raza | Amber Khokhar | Amir Ramses | Dr Anthony Downey | Arwa Abouon | Aser El-Saqqqa | Awat Afroози | Azza Alameddine | Behroz Rahimiyan | Bushra El Turk | Charbel Kamel | Dafarahn | Daniel Gorman | Daniel Robbins | Darina Al-Joundi | Dictaphone Group | Dr Dina Matar Eleanor Knight | Dr Emma Cunliffe | Enas Massalha | Ensemble Zar | Dr Franklin Lamb Gabriel Bauret Ghania Zaazoua 'Princess Zazou' | Guler Ates | Hadi Alizadeh | Hala Ali Hassan Hajjaj | Dr Helen Vassallo | Hindi Zahra | IJAD Dance Company | Jamal Penjweny | Jano Rosebiani | John Gregory-Smith | John McHugo | Dr Jonathan N Tubb Joudie Kalla | Jurjen van der Tas | Kaci Ould Ali | Karin Adrian von Roques | Khalid El-Jelailati | Macadi Nahhas Mais Salman | Mariwan Jalal | Mark Bryant | Marwan Kassab-Bachi | Mediadante | Meriem Bennani | Mesel | 'Mizo' Hamza Ait Mekideche Mohammed Ali | Mohammad Eissa | Mohssin Harraki | Mourad Krinah | Nadeen Aujan Nadine Kadaan | Nadine Khouri | Najlaa Elageli | Nawal El Saadawi | Olcay Bayir Omarivs Ioseph Filivs Dinae | Oreet Ashery | Patrick Altès | Pierre Geagea | Dr Rebecca Bridgman | | Rebwar Saed | Reham Alsamerai | Richard Wilding | Riffy Ahmed | Rim Battal | Robert Abboud | Prof Roger O'Keefe | Roya Arab | Sabry Bouzid | Dr Sam Hardy | Sarah El Hamed | Sean McAllister | Shadi Alzaqzouq | Sharif Sehanoui | Sophie Herkheimer | Souad Douibi | Stephanie Bailey | Tania Diggory | Tania El Khoury | Tarek Moukaddem | Tareq Razzouk | Tariq Elmeri | Thierry Lledo | Tom Stuart-Smith | Tony Elieh | Toufik Douib | Vali Mahlouji | Wejdan Reda | Yasser Ameer | Yazz Ahmed's Family Hafla | Ymene Chetouane | Zahra Barri | Zaid Baqae | Zana

the partners

20th Century Theatre | The Aga Khan University | Al-Hasaniya Moroccan Women's Project | Al Manaar Muslim Cultural Heritage Centre | Arab British Centre | Arts Canteen | Be-Kult | British Council | Chelsea Theatre | Ciné Lumière | Gulan | The Institut d'Etudes Supérieures des Arts | Institut-français du Royaume-Uni | The Ismaili Centre | K2K | Kalimat | Kensington Central Library | Kensington and Chelsea College | Leighton House Museum | London Print Studio | Muse Gallery and Studio | Noon Arts | Print Room at the Coronet Recipease Jamie Oliver | Reorient | Royal Albert Hall | Saatchi Gallery | Saqi Books | Science Museum | Taqasim Music School | The Mosaic Rooms | The Park Gallery | The Pheasantry | The Tabernacle | Third Line Gallery | UKIFF | Victoria and Albert Museum

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

Images of Nour 2015 events from top: Marwan | Pierre Geagea © Danielle Kassouf | Still, Facing the Sea, director Sabry Bouzid | Yazz Ahmed's Family Hafla