

## THE PROJECT

Over history, we have recorded uprisings, wars, revolutions. While many of these archives are found on paper, or the digital realm, the streets ultimately inspire events and host public expression in its many forms. On these streets, the walls have often served as the first medium to record opinions on current events as a direct communication with the public. In a globally connected world, snapshots and images of these interjections are seen and shared with acquaintances worldwide, given importance through amplification and statistical overview in social media.

The main focus of INFILTRI project is to document the street art scene and (art)works in the Mediterranean, gain insights on local contexts, allow active participants in the scene (artists, journalists, activists, curators, researchers, among others) to form dynamic networks. The platform and the network hope to explore connections to the historical uses of graffiti and street art, current initiatives and movements in the Euro-Mena region, as well as internationally.

THE INFILTRI PROJECT is already visible online: an open archive and documentation, community and space for discussion on street art. It can be multiplied and take place in partner cities, continuing the research and networking process, as a beginning and platform for connection, exchange

We see the Infiltri mobile and site-specific exhibitions as important means to connect with audiences and exploring local contexts. The question of using frequently illegal means of intervening in public space - street art - in official art institutions has always been disputable. Instead of 'petrifying' the street art through an exhibition, we see a great chance through using photographic documents in official or alternative gallery space, "translated" consciously through the audiences cultural experience, starting a discussion with the living initiatives and actors, and breaking with preconceptions of the other. Current social topics could illustrate and contextualise coded ideological statement - an insight into different contexts and ways how this form of expres-

sion could be "read". This approach also includes the creation of new street, mural and installation art, in cooperation with local actors.

In artistic practice, approaches to public space and the creation of meaning outside established gallery and production structure reflect changing positions of creators, politics, sense of ownership - acts and expressions that blur the line between activism, artistic production, commercialism- combined with an application of new and ever more adaptable technologies. The definition of street art has grown to include interventions, mural writings and paintings, installation art and temporary digital interventions.

At the same time, virtual spaces expand the collective understanding of public space- even our preconceptions of walls are adapting to an age in which the digital extends the physical, one augments and connects the other. A continuity of topics and contents can be observed through iterations of online and offline identities, a reconception of spatial relations and speed of information on a global scale. A new form of self- advocacy, spreading information on causes, issues abroad and local through a reappropriation of private and public territories.

The exhibitions and artistic programmes will provide spaces for encountering contemporary documentation of street art in art gallery spaces, both official and alternative. We will explore contexts, local links and visual cultures of documents we have collected, or via interventions in public space and discussions. The exhibitions content serve as a starting point for the discussion of street art in local perspectives, meeting relevant actors in the host cities scene and promoting new forms of street art and expression in public space itself. Last, but not the least, by expanding the exhibition from artifacts to people, from the closed gallery space to outside streets, the city itself can become a sort of an open space of expression, questioning the boundary between exhibition and activism, establishing connections through living actions on site.

We will engage in a series of collaborative events with a wide variety of partners with a background and interest in street art and those who use it as a medium of communication for causes, topics and messages, who see public space as a common space of creation and exchange. Site-specific interventions, youth workshops, talks and performances, combined with a strong research and network approach over the next three years, documented in printed map and catalogue form will approach the many contexts that lead to

expressions, artistic and activist, in public space. We will explore the boundaries between the streets and academic approaches in research and networking journeys in Middle Eastern and European countries

Our main platform of exchange, [infiltri.org](http://infiltri.org), will feature exclusive and public content surrounding street art and activism. Built on open source software and principles of web anonymity, security and public sharing of information, we hope to provide both an archive and a graphic overview of artistic punctuations in public view.

## BRIEF OVERVIEW

**Project Name** infiltri  
**Website** <http://infiltri.org>

**Type of Project** EU/Mena Documentation and Exchange Platform, Mapping, Art in Public Space, Topical presentations, creation of collaborative art, youth workshops

**Countries Involved** 7  
**Organisations Involved** 9

**Contact** [infiltri@springlessons.org](mailto:infiltri@springlessons.org)





## EXHIBITION FORMATS

All future Infiltri exhibitions are envisioned to reflect the work in progress stage of the long-term project itself, with a possibility of being constantly improved, based on the established networks of partners, conducted research expeditions, available (art)works, texts on street art, speakers and requirements in local contexts. The exhibitions would be one of the means to develop a map of street art in Europe and the Middle East, being built in parallel online, through the Infiltri website, shared on the exhibition as one of the project outcomes.

In trying to establish a model of the future exhibitions for Infiltri project, there are two major challenges: making the exhibitions both mobile and site-specific.

Mobile exhibitions would enable the project authors and members to have portable means of presenting the project in their countries, just as well as in other cities and places where street art network could be established. Organising easy to pack, cheaper for realisation exhibitions would be in line with the guerrilla interventions used by street artists themselves, and would shift focus from the objects to the social networking in local context.

Site-specific is also an important element when installing the mobile exhibitions, relying on local context and resources. The site-specific aspect consists of: using various exhibition spaces (galleries, open air, off/alt. places), creating new street art (in gallery spaces and in the streets) and accompanying activities with the local audience and actors.

## ACTIVITIES

- Creating new street art with international and local artists (depending on the budget, available public walls, permissions, support), supporting the local initiatives;
- Public guidances through mobile exhibition (as a starting point) and the city with guests (mapping the open air street art scene, like walking conferences, with detailed routes);
- Workshops (youth and grown-ups learning how to make street art with artists);
- Topical Lectures (opening a space for local voices to be heard, guests, topics covered on Infiltri web street art archive);
- Project presentation (website, aims, spreading the maps based on the website);
- Screenings (documentaries, street art interventions, interviews, films).



## 2014 PROGRAMME \*

**Mar.** — Launch Event, Talks, Exhibition, Research  
Common Ground Gallery | *Berlin, Germany*

**May** — Mobile exhibition, Talks, Research  
Various | *Alexandria and Cairo, Egypt*

**June** — Exhibition, Talks, Open Gallery, Research  
Inex Gallery | *Belgrade, Serbia*

**Aug.** — Participation in IMPACTing Project Berlin  
*Berlin, Germany*

**Sep.** — Exhibition, Talks, Research  
*Poznan, Poland*

**Oct.** — Publication of Topical Street Art Map

**Nov.** — Participation in Djart Algiers  
*Algiers, Algeria*

\* at the time of writing, January, 2014

# MODULAR EXHIBITIONS

1

## Basic: Documentation & Research Trip

Study, documentation and research trip of 4 project members lasting from 5-8 days.

**Activities:** documenting the local street art scene, collecting narratives and stories that surround it, networking with local actors, interviews and presentations of the project (project itself, web archive, hacktivism and activism).

### Required support

- Travel for project members
- Accommodation for travel members
- Visa costs (if required)
- Operational fee Infiltri team
- Production: Infiltri posters, maps, flyer, making stencils and postcards

**Preparation time:** 3 Weeks



2

## Topical: Research, Exhibition and Talks

Ten days of a study and research trip with a contextualising programme and talks by local actors on topics.

Required time for exhibition realisation: 3 days before the opening, 7-10 days of the exhibition.

**Activities:** documenting the local street art scene, networking with local actors, topical presentations by local activists and NGO's, interviews, presentations of the project, interventions with international and local artists in public space.

Accompanying public programme: lectures, screenings, presentations, contextualised walks.

### Required support

- Production costs for photo exhibition
- Travel for project members
- (opt) Travel costs international experts
- Speakers Fee Local Lecturers
- Accommodation for travel members
- Visa costs (if required)
- Operational fee Infiltri team
- Production: Infiltri posters, maps, flyer, making stencils and postcards

**Preparation time:** 2 Months

3

## International: Research, Collaboration and Creation

Study and research trip accompanied by collaborative workshops with international artists, talks and exhibitions. The duration of this module is determined individually, depending on the length of the workshops and accompanying programme

**Activities:** promoting the project, documenting the local street art scene, networking with local actors, making interviews and presentations of the project (the project itself, web archive, hacktivism and activism), interventions with international and local artists in public space.

Accompanying public programme: lectures, screenings, presentations, contextualised walks.

### Required support

- Locations for interventions
- Material costs for workshops/ artwork
- Production costs for photo exhibition
- Travel for project members
- Travel Expenses for Artists
- (opt) Travel costs international experts
- Speakers Fee Local Lecturers
- Artists Fees (may vary)
- Accommodation
- Visa costs (if required)
- Operational fee Infiltri team
- Production: Infiltri posters, maps, flyer, making stencils and postcards

**Preparation time:** 4— 6 Months



## AIMS 2014

- Opening online and offline forums for discussion, meeting points for street art fans, professionals, audiences, networking;
- Compiling new (art)works, artists, initiatives and texts (material for website and following exhibitions)
- Offering a platform to actives involved with the topics most discussed locally
- Supporting the local street art scene, giving opportunity for new street art interventions to take place, collaborations between local and international artists.
- Promoting new talents
- Creating a discussion beyond street art on topics and issues expressed publicly
- Creating a portable version of the platform for use with touchscreen devices and/or mobile cameras.
- Promoting the Infiltri project

## PROJECT COLLABORATIONS

**Artivists4Change** The project aims to make visible the many efforts and initiatives by artists and activists to the issues of social change and transformation through artistic methods and their application to relevant social topics.

**Dome Project** The Dome Project is a cross-cultural, online network on sustainable alternatives, initiated from Greece & Spain, with a priority towards countries who undergo situations of "crisis" and seek a collective perspective on societal transformation.

**Common Spaces** is an international artistlab designed to unfold over the next couple of years that we are developing in collaboration with colleagues from Arab countries and Germany. At its core will be the role of art in recapturing and redefining public spaces as platforms for social actions, as common grounds that belong to all citizens.

**Graffiti Books Project** aims at the creation of book murals by and for young generations, created alongside youth groups with the collaboration of engaged professionals including authors, illustrators and graffiti artists, curators, pedagogical researchers and social scientists.

**Trans-Cultural Dialogues** is a network of young professionals and cultural innovators rooted in civil sector initiatives in the Euro-Mediterranean region. The mutual denominator of these initiatives and professionals is a creative need to establish a platform for communication between people and ideas, critical and reflective thinking, as well as nurturing international cooperation and exchange.

**Walls of Freedom** is a powerful portrayal of the Egyptian Revolution, telling the story with striking images of art that turned Egypt's walls into a visual testimony of bravery and resistance. It takes a closer look at the most influential artists who have made their iconic marks on the streets. Spanning major Egyptian cities like Cairo, Alexandria and Luxor it is a day-to-day reflection of the volatile and fast-shifting political situation.

## TEAM

**Srdjan Tunic, Serbia:**  
Curation, Project Development

**Annalisa Cannito, Italy/Austria:**  
Research, Curation, Project Development

**Caram Kapp, Germany/Egypt:**  
Project Management, Graphic Design

**Tomasz Mloduchowski, Poland:**  
Technical Director, Fundraising

**Zeyad Salem, Egypt:**  
Public Relations

**Don Karl, Germany:**  
Research, Curation, Project Development

**Daniel Peslari, Romania:**  
Research

## PROJECT PARTNERS

