

YESTERDAY IS RETURNING AND I CAN HEAR IT

KATIA KAMELI

Exhibition: From January 19th to April 16th 2023
An exhibition at Bétonsalon and at ICI - Institut des Cultures
d'Islam, Paris

Openings: Wednesday 18th January, from 4 to 7pm at Bétonsalon
and from 6 to 9pm at ICI

Curated by: Émilie Renard for Bétonsalon and Bérénice Saliou
for ICI

PRESS RELEASE

From Wednesday to Friday, from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m.
Saturday from 2 p.m. to 7 p.m. Free Entrance
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BÉTONSALON
CENTRE FOR ART
& RESEARCH



**Institut des
Cultures d'Islam**

Since the beginning of the 2000s, Katia Kameli has been developing a dense and multifaceted body of work. Grounded in two cultures - French and Algerian - she questions the blind spots of history, taking up the role of an intermediary between different territories. Following the paths she has chosen for herself, she makes connections between distant facts, repairs broken relationships and ensures that the voices of those who have been ignored are heard. In doing so, she writes a counter-narrative in which her different subjects of research mingle and combine to weave together a multitude of perspectives. Kameli's art lies at the crossroads of poetry, visual studies and artisanal techniques. It is the fruit of a construction of relationships, relations that are built out of affinity, proximity and friendship. Her first solo show in these two Parisian cultural institutions brings together an ensemble that includes existing works and her new production.

The exhibition at the Institut des Cultures d'Islam puts her creations of the last 20 years under the spotlight. It showcases a consistent approach in which narratives circulate and are transformed, transposed and superposed across different places and times. In the exhibition, Kameli takes on the role of a translator: her photos, videos, drawings and installations bring into play a formal and conceptual language that comes together in an in-between space situated thought different languages, sounds, aesthetics and cultures. *Le Cantique des oiseaux* [The Canticle of the Birds], a project co-produced by and with La Criée, Centre d'Art Contemporain in Rennes includes a video she filmed in the Goutte d'Or neighbourhood of Paris in partnership with the Conservatoire du 18e – Gustave Charpentier. *Stream of Stories*, a work that addresses the theme of metamorphosis in *Kalila wa Dimna*, the fables that inspired Jean de La Fontaine, is enhanced by a tufted tapestry designed in collaboration with textile artist Manon Daviet.

The exhibition at Bétonsalon is organised around *The Algerian Novel* ; it presents the three videos that comprise the latter (shot between 2016 and 2019) and reveals Kameli's research for a fourth chapter that takes as its starting point *La Noubah des femmes du mont Chenoua* [The Nubah of the Women of Mount Chenoua], a film directed by the Algerian filmmaker and novelist Assia Djebar in 1977. By basing itself on the first Algerian film directed by a woman, copies of which still circulate today, Kameli seems to be continuing the work of Djebar, who looked back at the stories of women in the resistance during the war for independence in the town and mountains of Cherchell. By collecting accounts from women of different generations, she composes a polyphonic, living narrative in which personal and collective stories are made audible amidst the complexities of a colonial past.

The title of the exhibition, « Yesterday is returning and I can hear it », comes from *Women of Algiers in Their Apartments*, a 1980 novel by Assia Djebar.

Biography

Katia Kameli (born in 1973, lives in Paris) is active on both the international art and film scenes.

Her work has been the subject of numerous solo shows: *Le Cantique des oiseaux* (La Criée, Centre d'Art Contemporain, Rennes, 2022); *Elle a allumé le vif du passé* (Frac Provence-Alpes-Côte d'Azur, Marseille, 2021); *The Algerian Novel* (Kalmar Konstmuseum, Kalmar, Sweden, 2020); *She Rekindled the Vividness of the Past* (Kunsthalle Münster, Münster, Germany, 2019); *À l'ombre de l'étoile et du croissant* (Centre Régional de la Photographie Hauts-de-France, Douchy-les-Mines, 2018); *Stream of Stories, chapitre 5* (Ateliers de Rennes, Rennes, 2016); *What Language Do You Speak Stranger?* (The Mosaic Rooms, London, England, 2016); and *The Situationist Effect* (Taymour Grahne Gallery, New York, USA, 2014).

She has also taken part in numerous group exhibitions: *Bergen Assembly* (Norway, 2022); *La Colère de Ludd* (BPS22, Charleroi, Belgium, 2020); *Un instant avant le monde* (Biennale de Rabat, Morocco, 2019 and Biennale de Dakar, Senegal, 2018); *Global Players* (Biennale für aktuelle Fotografie, Mannheim, Germany, 2017); *Cher(e)s Ami(e)s* (Centre Pompidou, Paris, 2016); *Made in Algeria* (Mucem, Marseille, 2016); *Entry Prohibited to Foreigners* (Havre Magasinet, Boden, Sweden, 2015); *Higher Atlas* (Biennale de Marrakech, Morocco, 2012).

Her films have also been screened in cinemas and at numerous festivals: MK2 Beaubourg, Cinémathèque Française, Utopia Bordeaux, Cinemed, Gulbenkian, IFFR Rotterdam.

Her works are to be found in the following collections: Musée National d'Art Moderne / Centre Georges Pompidou, Centre national des arts plastiques, Frac Grand Large - Hauts-de-France, Frac Poitou-Charentes, Frac Provence-Alpes-Côte d'Azur, Frac Bretagne, MACBA, KADIST.

She recently curated *Europa Oxala* with Antonio Pinto Ribeiro and Aimé Mpane, a project presented at the Mucem (Marseille), the Fondation Calouste Gulbenkian (Lisbon) and the Royal Museum for Central Africa – Africamusuem (Tervuren).

In 2019-2022, she was an associate editor at La Criée, Centre d'Art Contemporain in Rennes for "*Lili, la rozell et le marimba - vernaculaire et création contemporaine*", including the four issues of the journal of the same name.

Katia Kameli graduated from the Ecole Nationale des Beaux-Arts de Bourges and was then selected to take part in the Collège-Invisible post-diploma course organised by the École Supérieure d'Arts de Marseille.

She has been teaching at the University of Lille since 2015, where she is an associate professor in the art department.





Katia Kameli, "Yesterday is returning and I can hear it", 2023. Elements of scenography for chapter 4 of *The Algerian Novel*, prints of photograms of Assia Djebar's film *The Nubah of the Women of mount Chenoua* (1977) and photographs of the shooting by Julien Graux, books and documents by and about Assia Djebar. Bétonsalon - centre d'art et de recherche, Paris, 2023 © Adagp, Paris, 2023 / Katia Kameli. Photo : Marc Damage





Katia Kameli, "Yesterday is returning and I can hear it", 2023. Elements of scenography for chapter 4 of *The Algerian Novel*, prints of photograms of Assia Djebar's film *The Nubah of the Women of mount Chenoua* (1977) and photographs of the shooting by Julien Graux, books and documents by and about Assia Djebar. Bétonsalon - centre d'art et de recherche, Paris, 2023 © Adagp, Paris, 2023 / Katia Kameli. Photo : Marc Damage



Press visit

At ICI, 19, rue Léon, 75018 Paris:

9:30 am: Welcome & coffee, followed by an introduction by Stéphanie Chazalon, director of ICI, and Émilie Renard, director of Bétonsalon.

9:45 am: Visit of the exhibition with the artist and the curators

10:45 am: Departure from the ICI at 10:45 am by bus to Bétonsalon. Q&A and discussion with the artist and curators on the bus.

At Bétonsalon:

Approximately 11:30 am: Arrival at Bétonsalon and beginning of the visit with the artist and curators.

End of the visit around 12:30 pm

Events

Wednesday 18 January

Openings

4 - 7 pm at Bétonsalon

6 - 10 pm at the ICI

Saturday, February 25, from 5 to 7 pm

Meeting about Assia Djebar's cinematographic writing with Marie Kondrat, researcher in comparative literature and teacher at the University of Geneva and Akila Kizzi, teacher and researcher in gender studies at the University Paris 8.

Saturday, March 18, from 5 to 8 pm

Screening of *La Nouba des femmes du mont Chenoua d'Assia Djebar* (1977)

Screening followed by discussion with Katia Kameli and Ahmed Bedjaoui producer of the film

Saturday, March 25, from 5 to 7 pm

Discussion with Sawsan Noweir, actress of *La Nouba*, and Mireille Calle-Gruber, professor of literature and aesthetics at La Sorbonne Nouvelle University, author of the book *Assia Djebar, Le manuscrit inachevé* (2021).

Thursday, March 30, from 7 to 9 pm

Conference by Natasha Marie Llorens, writer, independent curator and professor of art theory at the Royal Institute of Art in Stockholm

Thursday, April 13, from 6 to 8 pm

Conferences by Nabil Djedouani, director, actor and researcher, founder of the Digital Archives of Algerian Cinema

Saturday, April 15, from 5 to 6 pm

Discussion with Katia Kameli, Bérénice Saliou and Émilie Renard.

Visits

Saturday, January 28, from 2:30 to 5:30 pm

Taxi TRAM, in partnership with ICI, with Katia Kameli

Registration: taxitram@tram-idf.fr

Saturday, April 15, from 5 to 6 pm

Discussion with Katia Kameli, Bérénice Saliou and Émilie Renard

Group visits are led by a mediator. They are free of charge, subject to reservation and adapted to all audiences. Any group requiring a guided tour in a foreign language or in sign language can let us know four days beforehand.

All our activities are free, upon registration : publics@betonsalon.net

Artmaking workshops

Saturday, February 4, from 2:30 to 4:30 pm-

Nawba

Workshop for all ages, from 8 years old, with Célin Jiang

Wednesday, March 1st, from 11 am to 4 pm

Making of (flag) (with a lunch break on site)

Workshop open to all, with Mathild Cameirao

Wednesday, March 22, from 2:30 to 4:30 pm

Raï Ta K7

Workshop for all ages, from 6 years old, with Susie Richard, based on a proposal by Katia Kameli

Saturday, April 1st, from 2:30 to 4:30 pm

The archivist

Children's workshop, from 8 years old, with Célin Jiang

Parallel programs

Friday, January 27, February 24, March 24,
from 6 to 8:30 pm

Cap pour l'île des vivantxs

Reading sessions around lesbian writings,
with Monique Wittig and beyond

Thursday, February 2, April 6, from
12 to 2 pm

Midi-deux

meeting by and for students

Friday, February 3, April 7, from 6 to 8:30 pm

Writing with mittens

Writing workshop on and around, for, with,
under and alongside art

Friday February 17, from 3 to 6pm

Béton Book Club

Collective surveying session around Edward
Saïd's book, *L'Orientalisme. L'Orient créé par
l'Occident* (1978)

Friday, March 10, from 3 to 6 pm

Parties prenantes

Retroperspectives on the history of
Bétonsalon

Upcoming exhibition

Abdessamad El Montassir

Mémoire des cendres

Spring 2023 Laureate of the ADAGP &
Bétonsalon 2022 grant

About Bétonsalon

Bétonsalon develops activities in collaborative ways, with local, national and international organisations. Our program includes solo or collective exhibitions, with emerging, reemerging, confirmed or forgotten artists, multidisciplinary events with the best exchange quality, actions and research focused on mediation and experimental pedagogy, research and creation residencies, outdoor projects engaged with local visitors and structures, and other actions which are yet to be defined.

Bétonsalon is a nonprofit organisation established in 2003. Inserted within the Université de Paris campus, 13th arrondissement since 2007, Bétonsalon is the only Centre of art certified to be located inside a French University.

Practical informations

Bétonsalon
Centre for Art and Research
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Access:
Metro 14 & RER C:
Bibliothèque François-Mitterrand

Free entrance
from Wednesday to Friday,
from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m.,
Saturday from 2 p.m. to 7 p.m.

All events are free of charge.
The entire space is wheelchair-accessible. Group visits are free of charge with advanced booking.

Please check our program on social media. Twitter · Facebook · Instagram: [@betonsalon](https://www.instagram.com/betonsalon)

Press contact

Bétonsalon : presse@betonsalon.net, +33 (0)1 45 84 17 56

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Bétonsalon – Centre for Art and Research is a cultural institution of the City of Paris, certified institution of national interest by the Ministry of Culture.

Bétonsalon – Centre for Art and Research is member of d.c.a. / association for the development of art centers in France, Tram, réseau art contemporain Paris/Île-de-France, and Arts en résidence - Réseau national and BLA! - national association of mediation professionals in contemporary art, as well as a partner of the Souffleurs d'Images service for access to culture for blind and visually impaired people.