

# GREEN . ART . GALLERY

## SHADI HABIB ALLAH: *DAGA'A*

Screening Dates: 15 January – 7 February 2017

Opening times: Sunday, 15 January 2017, 6 – 9 PM

Green Art Gallery is pleased to present *Daga'a* (18:53 min, 2015) a video work by Palestinian artist Shadi Habib Allah. The work, which was commissioned for the New Museum Triennial in 2015, has since been shown at Portikus, Frankfurt (2016), Hamburg International Short Film Festival (2016), Courtisane Festival, Ghent, Belgium (2016) and the International Rotterdam Film Festival (2016). This will be the work's first presentation in the region.

Shadi Habib Allah embarks on an unlikely journey near gunpoint across the heavily militarized Sinai Peninsula in Egypt led by a network of Bedouin smugglers, who navigate an unmapped terrain. The only signposts are the stories they share about the stakes of living, dying, and moving through this mysterious space. Anecdotes transition into directions and allegiances are blurred, as is the state of the Bedouins, who remain unrecognized citizens of this no man's land.

Their navigation tactics, a formation of discipline of movement and coordination developed by necessity to evade military patrols, mirrors the militarized mentality of the Egyptian army. These desert outliers who quietly continue their lineage with the help of snakes.

### Shadi Habib Allah

Born in Jerusalem, Palestine in 1977, Shadi Habib Allah received a BFA from Bezalel Academy of Arts and Design in 2003 and an MFA from Columbia University in 2010. His practice ranges from film, sculpture and drawing to installation. While each projects defines its own terms based on research and physical engagement, a common thread is opening up suggestive modes of navigation across circulation networks of people, technologies, objects, images and economy to examine ideas of use and value and the structures that hold them in place.

He was twice awarded 2nd Prize for the Young Artist Award from the A.M. Qattan Foundation, and has attended residencies at Delfina Foundation, Cittadelarte, Fondazione Pistoletto in Biella, Italy and Gasworks in London, England. He was nominated for the Luma Award 2011 and was the 2012 recipient of the Louis Comfort Tiffany Award.

Recent exhibitions include: *House of Commons*, Portikus, Frankfurt/Main, Germany (2017), *Biscuits and Green Sox Maaiké*, Reena Spaulings Fine Art, New York, USA (2016) *30KG Shine*, Rodeo, London, UK (2015), *The Verdant*, Hacienda, Zurich, Switzerland (2015); *Surround Audience*, New Museum Triennial, New York (2015), *Empire State* curated by Norman Rosenthal & Alex Gartenfeld, Palazzo delle Esposizioni, Rome, Italy (2013), *Evacuated Containers*, Green Art Gallery, Dubai (2013); *Frozen Lakes*, Artists Space, New York, USA (2013); *Nouvelles Vagues*, curated by Jason Waite and Antonia Alampi, Palais de Tokyo, Paris, France (2013), *Palestine c/o Venice*, Venice Biennale (2009), *In Focus*, Tate Modern, London (2007). Habib Allah will be taking part in the upcoming Sharjah Biennale in March 2017, *Tamawuj*, curated by Christine Tohme.

For more information, please contact the gallery at [info@gagallery.com](mailto:info@gagallery.com) or +971 4 346 9305