

ONLINE EVENT  
09.09.2021

# Artistic Freedom & Mobility

LEARNINGS FROM  
THE PANDEMIC

Martin  
Roth  
Initiative



## Session 1: Panel debate: artistic freedom and international exchange beyond Covid-19

**Time:** 2pm-3.30pm CEST

**Content:** The COVID-19 pandemic has hit the creative and cultural sectors hard and restricts the mobility and opportunities of artists worldwide. What did we learn from the pandemic about how to support artists and cultural activists in situations of political, social and economic threat? What coping strategies and best practices evolved for the future work of protection programmes? What innovative and creative formats have been developed and tested and can help support artists in the future?

### Panelists:

- Khaled Barakeh: artist and cultural activist, founder of coculture (Berlin) and partner of „Beyond the Now: Social Art Practice for a post-Pandemic World”
- Manmeet Kaur: India's pioneer female MC, beatmaker, improvisational poet and singer; former MRI scholarship holder as artist-in-residence at SAVVY Contemporary in Berlin (Dec 2019 - Feb 2021)
- António Pedro Mendes: production manager and curatorial assistant at SAVVY Contemporary, co-curator of the projects “Colonial Neighbours” and “The Groundwaters are Connected”

**Welcoming address:** Claudia Roth (Vice-President of the German Bundestag)

**Facilitators:** Dr Lisa Bogerts (MRI research coordinator)  
Maik Müller (head of MRI)

## **Session 2: Workshop: findings and recommendations on how to maintain spaces of artistic freedom beyond the Covid crisis**

**Time:** 4pm-5.30pm CEST

**Content:** The workshop aims to discuss the interim findings of MRI's ongoing research project on artistic freedom and mobility with a focus on Turkey and the Middle East. The participants are invited to a collective reflection on questions such as: How did artists and practitioners under threat experience living under prolonged restrictions and crises? How to create and maintain spaces to protect artistic freedom under such conditions? How to imagine connection, mobility and solidarity beyond Covid-19?

**Input:** Pelin Çakır: researcher and author of a forthcoming study on relocation and learnings from the pandemic

**Discussant:** Dr Ezgi Bakçay: researcher and curator; co-director of Karşı Sanat (independent art space in Istanbul, Turkey)

**Facilitators:** Dr Lisa Bogerts (MRI research coordinator)  
Maik Müller (head of MRI)

Please note that the number of participants for session 2 (workshop) is limited to max. 30 participants.

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### **Registration:**

Registration is open until **2 September 2021**. Please send an e-mail to [info@martin-roth-initiative.de](mailto:info@martin-roth-initiative.de) (or for secure communication, if you have a Protonmail account: [info@mri-application.de](mailto:info@mri-application.de)) with the following **information**:

- 1) your name;
- 2) your field of work/organisation (in case you will be representing one);
- 3) the sessions that you will attend: session 1 (panel debate) and/or session 2 (workshop);
- 4) in case you prefer to attend anonymously: a nickname (that will be visible for other participants during the event).

You will receive a confirmation e-mail if your registration was successful. All registered participants will receive another e-mail with more detailed information (access links, further technical information, etc.) prior to the event. MRI will treat all your personal information confidentially.

The online event will be held on **Zoom**. All sessions will be in **English**.

**Information on data protection and processing of your personal data in accordance with the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) ([EN](#) / [DE](#))**

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