# **TIFARITI**

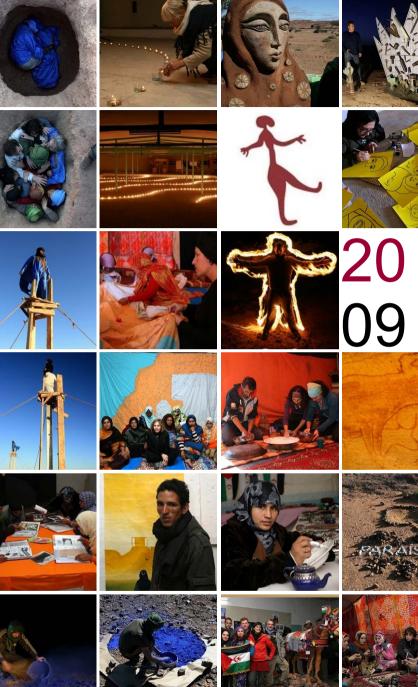


























## ARTifariti 2009

III International Art Meeting in Western Sahara's Liberated Territories 17 to 31 october 2009 Tifariti (Liberated Sahara)

> What's important about art is to liberate people, That's why for me art is the science of freedom"

> > Joseph Beuys















Saharawi people has been waiting for 33 years to the referendum on selfdetermination adopted by the UN to close the process of decolonization to be held. Meanwhile, saharawi families live segregated between the Moroccan occupation and the exile in refugee camps in Algeria.

ARTifariti is an appointment with the artistic practices as a tool to vindicate human rights, the right of individuals and peoples to their land, their culture, their roots and their freedom.

These meetings are held every autumn in Tifariti, the capital of the Western Sahara's liberated territories by artists interested in the capacity of art to question and transform reality.



Aerial image of the "wall of shame", 2.700 kilometers of landmines built by the Moroccan government. This is the central axis of this cultural project of social transformation.

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## artifariti09/basiclineofaction

After taking part during the past two years, in 2007 and 2008, in ARTifariti, I have proudly accepted the responsibility of commissioning the artistic aspect during the next encounters in order to lead, design and optimize such overwhelming creativity that kicks-off in Tifariti during those days, based on an approach that calls on the participation of artists that have attained certain international status, as well as a call to participate in a series of projects that will be carefully selected based on the fact that when an idea becomes a reality we are also responsible for what we create and its impact on the place of creation. Tifariti is a very beautiful place.

The ARTifariti experience is very intense, deeply social, artistic and political, in the best sense of the word, and the success of the second edition of ARTifariti 08 has strengthened this initiative and has become a force that has not stopped growing ever since. ARTifariti has inspired an idea, a direction and an enthusiasm that, in present times of apathy, have become a gift that restores confidence in the fact that uniting forces and focusing our efforts in a sole direction is a powerful mechanism that drives all events in life.

Conditions are tough, the journey is long, difficult and tiring. Breathing through the desert dust, basic necessities are scarce... and all this takes a secondary role because of the kindness and generous welcome of the Sahrawis that makes us reflect on all things that are dispensable and about all we need so we are not forgotten.

The generosity displayed by both hosts and guests created an atmosphere that invaded Tifariti for the second year in a row, where the word solidarity regained its full meaning and all hearts were open to creativity. Everybody's hard work and efforts, as well as the close implication generated in these extraordinary situations help us become better human beings. It all becomes a great collective initiative due to the fact that there is a common goal that resides in many individual forms.















ARTifariti has the official support of the President of the SADR, the Sahrawi Ministry of Culture and the Algerian Ministry of Culture... and all the fuss and commotion created has not been in vain since more and more people, as well as entities, are looking into and joining this initiative. This makes it possible for such an ambitious project to improve a bit more in each edition, without losing awareness of its difficulties.

For future encounters, endorsed by a committee of experts, I intend to conduct the artistic side and I would like for us to be able to combine this aspect with the improvement in basic infrastructures, along with the difficult and risky task of creating a humble orchard in Tifariti. All help is necessary, although we know there is nothing that hasn't previously been imagined.

Through ARTifariti we are becoming aware of situations that one cannot begin to imagine are actually happening nowadays, and echoing them with the help of creativity we strive to create an international committee that will refocus on forgotten aspects, and to display TIFARITI as a symbol of a present reality that needs to be heard and where freedom is no longer a dream.

PAMEN PEREIRA ARTifariti 2009 Commissioner

**Pamen Pereira** was born in El Ferrol (A Coruña) in 1963. Bachelor of Fine Arts, University of Valencia, 1986. Over the last 20 years her work has been exhibited in many parts of Spain, Europea, America and the Far and Middle East with the help of prestigious Spanish, European and American galleries and museums. Switzerland, Germany, France, Italy, Mexico, Chicago... In 1996 she starts working on her exhibition "Heisser wasser fur den tee" ("Hot water for tea"), for the Zu Allerheilligen Museum in Schaffhausen, Switzerland. Between 1996 and 1997 she lives in Japan where she gives life to "Música del vacío" ("The music of emptiness") at the Recent Gallery in Sapporo, Japan. In 2001 she travels to Teheran, where she prepares the exhibition "Un solo sabor" ("Just one flavour"). In 2006 she departs to the Antarctic along with her project "El fuego del hielo" ("The fire of the ice"). In 2007, she arrives to the Western Sahara where she works closely with the ARTifariti project, becoming the curator of these encounters in the year 2009. She has taken part in numerous national and international fairs and biennial exhibitions.















## artifariti09/tifariti

There are some factors that make this enclave the most appropriate place to develop this Project. Before falling into the hands of the Polisario, Tifariti was the scene of many battles between the Moroccan and Sahrawi armies. And before becoming a symbol of the Sahrawi resistance against the Moroccan colonization, it was bombed and practically destroyed by the Moroccan air force the same day the 1991 cease fire agreement came into effect.

Tifariti is situated in a rugged desert area, where the Hamada starts winding in, with little vegetation even though beneath its surface some aquifers can be found. The landscape is extremely beautiful and shaped by small hilltops with huge rocks in many shapes and forms, and the climate is milder than in other parts of the desert. When the rains come, the land is filled with flowers and truffles. In the vicinity of Tifariti and depending on the season, "jaima" nomads settle in and take turns at grazing of livestock, such as goats and camels. There are many archeological sites in this area, which some experts have termed "Neolithic Sahrawi", because of its unique features. The most famous site -The Erqueyez Complex- is about 40 km away in caves built among the cliffs and elevated rocky plateaus that are absolutely mind numbing. It is in this setting, among paintings of lions, deer, giraffes... the dry oued, the taljas, that one can only begin to imagine what the real African savannah was like.

## artifariti09/programme

17 Oct: Departure flight Madrid-Algiers-Tindouf. Overnight stay at the "27 de Febrero" 18 Oct: Stay at the camps. Visit to places of interest. Meeting with Sahrawi artists and welcoming reception with the Lady Minister of Culture. 19 Oct: Trip to Tifariti. Lodging and contact with surroundings. 20 to 27 Oct: Working with the artists in Tifariti. Visits to the Wall, Ber-Teresit Side Programme (debates and round tables, performances, screenings...) 28 Oct: Night at the camps at the Erqueyez Archeological Complex. 29 Oct: Inauguration of the artworks and return trip to the camps. Visit to Bir-Lehlu and other archeological sites. 30 Oct: Day off at the camps and flight back to Spain in the evening. 31 Oct: Arrival in Madrid at 12 o'clock approximately.

#### ARTIFARIT 20 09 lil international art meeting western sahara's liberated territories















## artifariti09/contents

The Ministry of Culture for the Sahrawi Arab Democratic Republic and the association Friends of the Sahrawi People in Seville (Amigos del Pueblo Saharaui de Sevilla) convene ARTifariti 2009, III Art Encounters in the Liberated Territories of the Western Sahara, with the objective of developing an intercultural creative experience to bring about Tifariti's development as a symbol of hope for the Sahrawi people and the rest of the world, where the arts play a public, political, thoughtful, suggestive and thought provoking role.

It is a yearly encounter with the Public Arts, where one can reflect upon creation, the Arts and society as a whole; a benchmark for all artists interested in the Arts' ability to question and transform reality.

It strives to unite artists and the rest of the citizens in order to create new forms of relationships and the building of a multicultural social network.

Its goal is to encourage interculturality, inviting artists to share their experiences with colleagues and with the rest of society, as well as to contribute in spreading the word about the idiosyncracy and the reality of the Sahrawis through their cultural heritage, promoting the development of the Sahrawi people.

**GUEST ARTISTS:** 6 international artists, selected according to their professional careers and social commitment.

An Algerian artist delegation has been invited.

**INTERNATIONAL CALL FOR PROJECTS**: 6 projects chosen in a selection process (deadline for applications: June 30th).

**WORKSHOPS:** Pottery (local materials and techniques), video sessions, literary circles: tea and Hassaniya Arabic workshop, Communication, Working at Tifariti's orchard and other teamwork experiences.

**PERMANENT PROGRAMME:** A network of physical and virtual artistic action that rounds off and strengthens the yearly encounter in the Western Sahara. Projects can be sent to info@artifariti.org

**TIFARITI'S MUSEUM'S LIBRARY:** Campaign to collect books, catalogues, CDs, DVDs or any other documents of interest in connection with the arts and human rights.















## artifariti09/guidelinestheannouncement

1. This announcement has an international dimension.

2. The subject matter is free of choice and all materials and resources employed will be provided locally (dry trunks, animal bones, fossils, limestone, clay, sand, plaster, cement and recycled materials, steel rounds, construction cement blocks, jaima's fabrics, dyed melfas, as well as leftover war materials...)

3. All works of art presented at the selection process must agree with the projects previously selected by a jury formed to that effect which will judge the artistic value of the proposals.

4. All participating artists will perform their works in Tifariti during an established period of time set for this event. They will perform outdoors or in specially designated areas specially adapted to their performing needs

5. The SADR Ministry for the Arts, organizing body of this event, will provide any material and utensils previously agreed upon with the performing artist.

6. Travel expenses from Madrid, as well as local transportation, room and board for all artists during their stay at the event will be covered by the Organization.

7. All works of art created will become part of Tifariti's cultural heritage and will be exhibited outdoors or at the Ministry for the Arts' Museum.

- 8. Besides their work, all artists waive all copyrights to the Ministry for the Arts, contributing in this way to the spirit and purposes that govern this event.
- 9. The development and contents of this event, as well as all works of art will be broadcast by the media, and will be the object of a special brochure edition.

10. A traveling exhibition will be organised inside and outside the Sahrawi territories in order to publicise the event, and therefore, all artists will allow the filming of their creative process and all other activities taking place in this context.

Participating in ARTIFARITI 2008 implies accepting the guidelines of the announcement.















## artifariti09/workpresentation

All artists who wish to participate in ARTIFARITI's 3th edition must present a project with the following documents:

• Author's name, address, phone number, e-mail address and CV

• Title of the Project and a brief description, by any means that the artist considers adequate, so that the jury can properly understand the underlying idea (text, painting, model...)

• A list of the technical requirements necessary for the development of the work of art (materials, tools, help, build-up according to objectives and conditions, including size and estimated cost)

• Any brochures from past art exhibitions or any other documents the author considers relevant for the best possible evaluation of his/her work and for the support of the project

## From May 1st, 2009 all documents should be e-mailed to **info@artifariti.org** or mailed to:

ARTifariti 2009 Asociación de Amigos del Pueblo Saharaui de Sevilla Calle Virgen de la Antigua, 4 – bajo derecho 41011 Sevilla – España

INFORMATION: www.artifariti.org artifariti.blogspot.com

The deadline for the presentation of the Project expires on June 30th, 2009. The Organization will contact the selected artists before August 1st in order to fulfil any details of the Project specified in the guidelines of the announcement.

## artifariti09/lastedition

PRESS RELEASE: An important group of Spanish, Latin American, Algerian and Sahrawi artists got together in Artifariti 08, the encounters organized by the Ministry of Culture of the Sahrawi Arab Democratic Republic (SADR) and the Association of Solidarity with the Sahrawi People of Seville, to denounce the situation of abandonment and forgetfulness from the international community that the Sahrawi people are suffering and with the illegal occupation of their land by Morocco.

The Spanish National Visual Arts Prize Eva Lootz, that defined this experience as "beautiful and hard, at the same time", proposed with her installation "Light For All" the need to promote the development of the Sahrawi people, through a program of promotion of solar energy, to better their harsh conditions of life. The Granada artist Isidro López-Aparicio remained 24 hours in a hole two meters deep, dressed up with the Darraa, the Sahrawi traditional suit, to denounce the isolation suffered by this people and, afterwards rose to an elevated platform from which he watered everybody with a spray to invite communication and hope. The Galician artist Pamen Pereira joins him in this performatic occasion from an adjacent space, also dressed up with the melfa, the Sahrawi woman's dress. The Sahrawi Trojan Horse, the sculpture built out of armaments remains by the Mexican artist Rolando de la Rosa that carries the many unfulfilled UN resolutions in favor of the Sahrawi people, has been carried from Tifariti to the wall, so the world knows about this invisible Wall of Shame.

In the same week that an international treaty was signed in Oslo for the prohibition of cluster bombs, Federico Guzmán made a work denouncing the devastation carried by Morocco in the Sahara. Together with Federico and Taína –his pet e-mule- travelled the members of the Naná collective: Pililli –lead singer of Moakara-, Carmen Carmona, Ricardo Garrido and Victoria Gil. All have worked in different processual proposals based in the interaction with the Saharawi community and the denunciation of its dramatic situation.

The blue energy hole of the Galician artist Fernando Casás, the Sahrawi woman in ceramic by the Peruvian Rosamar Corcuera and the Western Sahara road map sewn in fabric by the Argentinean Claudia Martínez, both works carried out by Sahrawi women; the interventions of the Algerian artists on what was the Spanish House during the colony, now in ruins after bombardment; The silkscreen workshop with which Alonso Gil has dressed up everybody in slogans for a Free Sahara; the silhouettes of Sahrawis in everyday attitudes after a longed return home by Ana Olías; the miraculous rain drops installation – made in ceramics- that hangs from a talja, the tree of the desert, by Ángeles Benítez; the Shadow Of The Gnomon, a hand that denounces the appropriation of Western Sahara natural resources by the Moroccan invader, by Guillermo Roiz; the colourful and hopeful paradise that María Ortega has created in Tifariti; the ocean that the Canarian artist Nuria Meseguer has given back to the Sahrawis; the revealing Sahrawi letters written by La Hostia Fine Art collective between Tifariti-Madrid-Tifariti... and the Sahrawi painters works, in which they affirm their identity and their struggle, have all left their mark in the Sahra liberated by the Frente Polisario with the aim to promote the freedom of its people and to reclaim the fulfilment of international legality.

All national TV channels, several Latin American TV channels, Al-Jazeera and a substantial number of digital and printed media echoed the 2008 ARTifariti encounter. News coverage can be seen at the official website.



















## artifariti09/documentation

WEB: http://www.artifariti.org/
BLOG: http://artifariti.blogspot.com/
PROGRAMME ARTifariti 2008:
http://www.artifariti.org/artifariti\_v2/pdf/programaartifariti2008.pdf
BROCHURE ARTifariti2007: http://www.artifariti.org/pdf/catalogoartifariti2007.pdf
TRIPTYCH ARTifariti2007:
http://artifariti.blogspot.com/2008/05/editado-el-trptico-artifariti-2007.html
YOUTUBE CHANNEL ARTifariti: http://www.youtube.com/user/ARTifariti
PHOTO GALLERY ARTifariti: http://www.flickr.com/photos/26821872@N08/sets/

Click on/type the links to access the documents.



## artifariti09/contact

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> www.artifariti.org http://artifariti.blogspot.com/

























## artifariti09/sponsorships&contributions

## ARTifariti's Sponsorship Programme offers different ways to collaborate:

Agreements Sponsorship Contributions (services, technical resources or infrastructures) Material donation Sponsoring media Friends of ARTifariti

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