

**Museo del Novecento and Fondazione Furla
present**

ADELITA HUSNI-BEY
Frangente/Breaker

January 17 and 18, 2018
Museo del Novecento, Milan

The third event in FURLA SERIES #01
Time after Time, Space after Space
Curated by Bruna Roccasalva and Vincenzo de Bellis

Museo del Novecento and Fondazione Furla present Libyan-Italian artist **Adelita Husni-Bey**, who for the third event of *Furla Series #01 - Time after Time, Space after Space* will stage *Frangente/Breaker*, a three-act performance that unfolds both inside and outside the museum galleries.

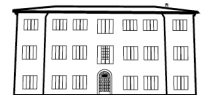
Power dynamics, human relationships, and education are themes central to the work of Adelita Husni-Bey, which ranges through different media and often draws on cross-disciplinary collaboration. Taking a participatory approach to performance, the artist organizes complex workshop situations that explore the relationship between the individual and collective spheres.

Frangente/Breaker is a performance in three acts that combines a site-specific project with a performative reinterpretation of a sound work from 2013 and a public action from 2011, brought together as a single reflection on authority, on barriers, borders, and nationalism, and on the perception of otherness.

The first act, *Cementarmato* (2018), is a participatory performance that encourages visitors to interact with the museum collection. Inviting viewers to observe and interpret a selection of the works on view, the artist engages them in an exercise of the imagination inspired by the Theater of the Oppressed, showing her ongoing interest in the theater and in anarchist and collectivist theories of education.

The second act, *Sull'Esilio* (2018), is a complex investigation of the ideas of homeland, rootedness, and labor. Based on a sound installation that Husni-Bey made in 2013, the performance involves several residents of a center for asylum seekers at the former Montello barracks in Milan: three pairs of people, each made up of an Italian teacher and of a newly-arrived migrant, will read a series of texts written by exiles. The reading will call attention to the relationship between the teacher, who represents the "host" country, and the "exiled" person who needs assistance with the task. The authors of the texts include historical figures such as Palestinian writer Samih al-Qasim, anarchist Emma Goldman, and Roman elegist Ovid, spanning different places and eras.

The third and last act, *Action for a Sandbag Brigade* (2011), is inspired by the image of constructing dikes; it shows two groups of performers struggling to create their own protective barrier, without ever achieving their goal.



Frangente/Breaker is informed in part by the essay *Reflections on Exile* (2002) in which Edward W. Said says that “between the nationalism and the ‘other’ is banishment—the outside, where those unwelcome were banished to be forgotten. It is the perilous territory of non-belonging.” Bearing a title with multiple meanings—a wave, and its length; a barrier, and a difficult juncture or risky circumstance—the performance is an exploration of the social and political dynamics governing our relationship with the “other,” an invitation to reflect on the concepts of nation, community, and displacement within the complex landscape of contemporary life.

Adelita Husni-Bey. *Frangente/Breaker* is the third event in **Furla Series #01 - Time after Time, Space after Space**, a performance-centered program that will present five events by five artists from different generations and backgrounds, to showcase a wide range of approaches to this form of expression.

The series began in the fall of 2017 with events dedicated to Simone Forti and Alexandra Bachzetsis, and will include two more events featuring Paulina Olowaska (March 6, 2018) and Christian Marclay (April 13-14, 2018).

Special thanks to Zona 8 Solidale and the Macao immigrant theater group for taking part in the performance. Zona 8 Solidale is a network of associations, political parties, labor unions and individuals interested in constructing an open model of hospitality that encourages exchange inside and outside the refugee shelter at the former Montello barracks in Milan, which housed some 270 asylum seekers until it was recently shut down. Zona 8 Solidale has fought against the decision to uproot Montello residents from their adoptive home, their jobs, and their social and cultural context.

Adelita Husni-Bey. *Frangente/Breaker*
January 17 and 18, 2018

7 pm
Museo del Novecento, Milan

Admission free, but capacity is limited and reservations are required

Booking opens on Wednesday, January 10

Reservations at:

<https://www.eventbrite.it/d/italy--milan/furla-series-#01/?crt=regular&sort=best>

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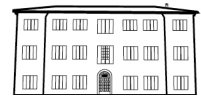
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**ADELITA HUSNI-BEY**

Born in Milan in 1985. She lives and works in New York.

Adelita Husni-Bey is an artist and pedagogue interested in anarco-collectivist education, theater, law and urban studies. Her practice encompasses workshops, publications, radio broadcasts, exhibitions, and collaborations with activists, architects, jurists, spoken word poets, actors, urbanists, athletes, students, and teachers across different backgrounds. She studied at the Chelsea College of Art and Design, and at Goldsmiths University in London, and she is a 2012 Whitney Independent Study Program fellow.

Recent solo exhibitions include: *White Paper: On Land, Law and the Imaginary*, Centro de Arte dos de Mayo, Mostoles, 2016; *A Wave in the Well*, Sursock Museum, Beirut, 2016; *Movement Break*, Kadist Foundation, San Francisco, 2015; *Playing Truant*, Gasworks, London, 2012. She has participated in *Dreamlands*, Whitney Museum, New York, 2016; *The Eighth Climate*, 11th Gwangju Biennale, 2015; *Really Useful Knowledge*, Reina Sofia Museum, Madrid, 2014; *Utopia for Sale?*, MAXXI, Rome, 2014. She has held workshops and lectures at ESAD Grenoble, 2016, The New School, 2015, Sandberg Institute, 2015, Museo del Novecento, 2013, Temple University, 2013, Birkbeck University, 2011 amongst other spaces. She is a 2016 Graham Foundation grantee, and in 2017 she represented Italy, along with Roberto Cuoghi and Giorgio Andreotta-Calò, at the Venice Biennale.

FURLA SERIES #01

Time after Time, Space after Space, co-produced with the **Museo del Novecento in Milan**, is the first edition of the **Furla Series**. Through this project, curated by **Bruna Roccasalva** and **Vincenzo de Bellis** and launched in 2017, **Fondazione Furla** will present exhibitions and events dedicated to some of the leading artists from the Italian and international scene, in collaboration with Italy's foremost art institutions.

The partnership between Fondazione Furla and the Museo del Novecento is a unique opportunity to weave together past, present and future, forging a conversation between twentieth-century masters and key figures of our time. In the year that marks the fiftieth anniversary of Lucio Fontana's death, and the months leading up to it, *Time after Time, Space after Space* is also a tribute to this figure who played a fundamental role in drawing attention to the artistic potential of material gesture, presenting a succession of performances "lit" by his famous *Struttura al Neon per la IX Triennale di Milano* (1951).

The program will include projects by **Alexandra Bachzetsis**, **Simone Forti**, **Adelita Husni-Bey**, **Christian Marclay**, and **Paulina Olowska**, who from September 2017 and April 2018 will be invited to reinterpret the museum space through new productions or reenactments of milestone performances from their careers.