

# SOUNDTOGRAPHY



Soundtography is rooted in the synchronicity of womanhood, birthed by voices that speak the language of resilience, scented with the histories we carry within us, a dance with the stories which define us, touched by the spirit of freedom.

**Kinana, Maham & Tanya**

## CALL TO ARTISTS

Soundtography invites artists to attend a series of 12 artistic, meditative and self-reflective workshops around themes of identity, displacement and migration starting in Spring 2019.

We invite Toronto based artists from all backgrounds who self-identify as womxn and have either migrated as adults to Canada or are indigenous to trace both their physical and emotional displacement journeys through the medium of sound. Please read through next pages for more details.

# Soundtography Workshops Application

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## Important Dates:

- Submissions deadline: January 15, 2019.
- Notification of shortlist: January 30, 2019
- Notification of inclusion: March 15, 2019.
- Workshop start date: April 13, 2019

## Conditions of Entry:

- Toronto based artists
- All artistic practices are considered
- Artists must self-identify as womxn
- Having migrated to Canada as an adult/or
- An indigenous person
- Willingness to commit for the period of 12 weeks
- Willingness to make sound recordings between workshops

Click [here](#) if you wish to apply!

For any questions and inquiries please contact us via email: [info@soundtography.com](mailto:info@soundtography.com)

## About Soundtography

Soundtography is an independent collaborative artistic project using sound imprints to map out the migration and displacement journeys of a group of Toronto based artists who self-identify as womxn. We will be mapping out those journeys through a series of collaborative, reflective and medita-tive workshops.

The project is divided in two phases: the first is the creation and exploration phase, which pertains to a series of 12 collaborative, creative and medi-tative workshops.

Contributing artists will go through an artistically meditative experience around their migration journeys both on the physical and emotional levels. On an individual level, artists will be able to explore, reclaim and represent their narratives through the unique medium of sound and nurture their artistic practice. The project will allow us to collectively envision healing through creating the map, visualize where our stories meet/connect and the power that emerges from this collective representation.

By the end of these workshops, all contributing artists would have produced their individual sound map, in addition to one collective map. These sound prints will be collected and further processed by sound artists to create a final installation that will be produced after the production phase is over, all collaborating artists are invited to take part in this process. We will also encourage artists to work with us in order to create a Soundtography team to discuss future collaborations and projects where similar spaces can be replicated.

These workshops will be taking place in the Spring of 2019 (April - June), once every weekend over the span of 12 weeks. Each workshop will be around 4 hours long, and they will require participants to reflect and create sound recordings as homework between sessions. During the workshops, collaborating artists will be led through the process of sound recording and editing to deliver such materials.

## The Idea/Concept Behind Soundtography

Being displaced and/or migrating as adults carries the notion of uprootedness. Transplanting our roots into a foreign soil is a difficult process, given that we have already established them in a different one. We find ourselves in a contradictory state; wanting to belong but fearing we will be untethered from our cultures in the process. In a sense Soundtography is not only an exploration of this journey and the transformation it brings, but also an attempt at reconciling these two concepts that seem in rivalry. Maps as we know them exist as divisive lines imposing certain, singular definitions of who we are and who we could become.

Soundtography is meant to be a wave of resistance against the violent imposition that our cartographic history and trajectory impose upon us.

It is also a symbolic dialogue between a group of women who may not share the same cultural roots or visible identities, yet have all come together to share one land that holds both our present and future. Inviting these unique feminine energies to converse around displacement and resilience through a meditative symbolic medium (sound) gives the chance to not only reflect on the individual within the collective and the collective within the individual, but also provides the opportunity to explore the paths that led us to where we are from a different perspective. In this recognition of our individual pasts, we hope to unearth places of strength and resilience within our own journeys as much as the journeys of others. To understand and reflect on our experiences in a transcendence of the verbal language so that we may create an alternative vision of maps as they're intuitively meant to be; a compass for our shared human destiny of movement and coexistence.

## About the Artists

Kinana Issa | Writer, Activist and Audiovisual Artist/Producer

Kinana Issa has dedicated her art and writing as a tool of loyalty to humanity. Her writing and artwork revolve around questions of identity, gender, transformation and revolution. She is an honorary fellow of the International Writing Program at Iowa University. Kinana has authored over ten experimental audio-visual works, two short films, and scripts including the acclaimed performance Gardens Speak documenting Syrian revolution oral history through the personal narratives of ten people who were buried in Syrian gardens. She leads creative writing and multimedia workshops, and acted as a committee member for the Syrian Film Festival in Toronto. She regularly speaks on art and revolution, most recently in the Creative Time Summit in 2017. She is also a core member at the Dabke collective, responsible for the creative direction amongst other organizational aspects.

Maham Malik | Visual Artist, Researcher and Curator

Maham's work is inspired by the relationship between identity and space, she works in the intersection of art and social justice, exploring the transformative ability of art to imagine and express identity beyond certainties. As co-founder of The Dabke Collective, she works as a lead artist and has co-curated several multi-disciplinary arts exhibits. Visual art is a necessary means for her to connect with her own roots and explore conceptions of alternative histories and femininity. She was awarded a fellowship at the University of Cambridge to further work on her ethnography "The Elusive Afghan: an attempt to recover a lost voice", which explored the spatial violence and exclusion faced by Afghan refugees in Pakistan. This interdisciplinary project included a photographic series capturing the perspective of the community she was working with. She has also been involved in designing interventions through social programming in Pakistan and Toronto, currently leading workshops with youth around equity and inclusion.

Tanya Qadir | Curator, Dancer and Researcher

Tanya's artistic interest is rooted in the context of social change, recognizing that art not only reflects the past and the present but also inspires a picture of the future. As co-founder and lead artist of the Dabke Collective, she has co-curated several interdisciplinary art exhibits. She has also been involved in the curation of various art exhibits at Tanzara Gallery in Pakistan. A researcher with specific interest in the history of art and gender issues, she has done research for various organizations such as Kuch Khaas-Pakistan, Equality Now-New York and Acces Asie-Montreal. She is also a Kathak dancer, having participated in several dance performances in Pakistan. After relocating to Canada, she uses dance as a means to explore creative processes that connect her to her roots. Tanya holds a degree in International Development and Art History from McGill University.

## This project is hosted by The Dabke Collective



DABKE: SOUNDS OF REPOSSESSION

The Dabke Collective is an artistic movement geared towards activism through participatory, collaborative art and story-telling. It seeks to create spaces for the repossession of silenced voices, unheard stories and alternative realities. The projects are meant to foster a collective imagination that allows us to think outside of the binary of 'us' and the 'other', and instead engage in dialogue which connects us.

## This project is supported by:



Conseil des arts  
du Canada

Canada Council  
for the Arts



charles street video

The background features two large, abstract, wavy shapes. The top shape is composed of many thin, parallel orange lines that create a sense of depth and movement, resembling a sound wave or a stylized letterform. The bottom shape is composed of many thin, parallel teal lines, also creating a sense of depth and movement. The lines are closely spaced and curve in various directions, giving the overall composition a dynamic and organic feel.

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