



Studio Aleppo

Portraying (new)
European citizens

Exhibition, Website





Images below © Koos Breukel

Studio Aleppo

Picturing (new) European citizens

The ongoing war in Syria has demolished many parts of the city of Aleppo. Public buildings, apartment blocks and shops are bombed and looted, sometimes leaving personal belongings scattered through the streets. One morning, Syrian photographer Issa Tuma found the remains of a collection of glass plates, negatives and prints from a photo studio, made between the 20s and 70s. Studio Aleppo presents these images from the past today, in order to honour the lost people of Aleppo.

In addition, *Studio Aleppo* is a pop-up photo studio, where citizens of the city where the project is on display are invited to have their portrait taken by a prominent local photographer. Refugees who have arrived in this city are invited to do the same. As a welcoming gesture, citizens of the city pay for two portraits: their own and a refugees' portrait. The photos are added to an evolving collection, to be displayed side by side in a portrait gallery, online as well as in a local or national newspaper. Through photographing the recently arrived refugees and including them in a collection of portraits, the project aims to stimulate a feeling of recognition and inclusion.

International project

Studio Aleppo will be organised in different cities across Europe. All cities that have recently welcomed refugees are invited to join the programme and host portrait sessions.

Photo studio

Pop-up photo studio on location, where prominent photographers will portray current and new citizens.

Website

The complete collection of portraits from all over Europe: www.studioaleppo.eu

Exhibition

Found glass plates, negatives and prints from Aleppo. Portrait gallery with photographs of residents and refugees and their stories.

Launch

Amsterdam (NL), Modena (IT), September 2016

Info

paradox.nl/studioaleppo

Paradox

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Paradox creates independent projects in photography, video and media related arts exploring contemporary issues in close collaboration with documentary authors, curators and designers.

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