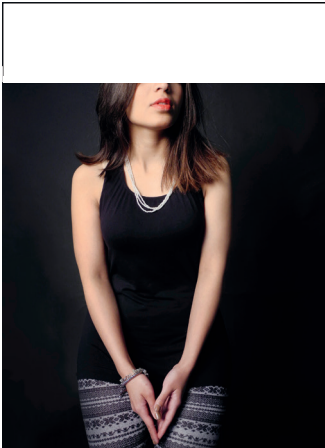




**Women
We Have
Not Lost
Yet**

Issa Touma

Exhibition, Book, Film



Diana

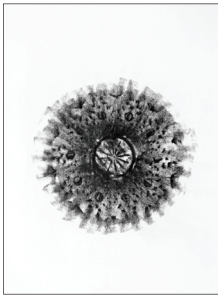
In March 2014, I went to Istanbul to look for work. It had become too hard to live in my neighbourhood in Aleppo. But I couldn't find a job and had to leave again. In a way, I wasn't sorry. Syrians – especially women – are exploited in Turkey. Now I'm back in Aleppo.

Age: 25

Occupation: English literature student

Nationality: Kurdish Syrian

Religion: Muslim



Women We Have Not Lost Yet

and other stories from Aleppo

On 26 April 2015, when the radical Islamist opposition announced the 'Great Attack' on Aleppo, young women of various ethnic and religious backgrounds found refuge in Issa Touma's Le Pont gallery. They were mostly former participants of Art Camping, initiated by Le Pont in 2012. Touma recorded their stories, almost like a final message to the rest of the world. The photo project *Women We Have Not Lost Yet* is the result of those recordings. In September 2015 it was turned into a book and became the centrepiece of the travelling exhibition that premiered at Castrum Peregrini in Amsterdam, The Netherlands.

Women We Have Not Lost Yet and other stories from Aleppo also features *Texture of the City* (frottages/rubbings made by the participants of Art Camping), *9 Days – From My Window in Aleppo* (film edited by Floor van der Meulen and Thomas Vroege) and the *Mini Opera: A Postcard from Aleppo* (video recording of the performance created by composer Merlijn Twaalfhoven and writer Abdelkader Benali). The exhibition pays tribute to those who still live in the ruined city, struggling to hold on to hope amid the horrors of war.

Issa Touma (1962)

is a photographer and cultural animator based in Aleppo (Syria). In 1996 he established Le Pont, a photography gallery and workshop. In 1997 he initiated the Aleppo International Photography Festival. His work can be found in international collections, including the Victoria & Albert Museum, London.

Art Camping

is a collaborative art project launched by Le Pont in 2012, shortly after the outbreak of the Syrian civil war. It encourages young people from various religious and ethnic background to express themselves through art.

Exhibition *Women We Have Not Lost Yet*: 15 two-sided prints 80x107cm on metal stands / *Texture of the City*: 15-25 A4 sized rubbings / *Mini Opera*: *A Postcard from Aleppo*: video.

Book *Paradox* & André Frère Éditions. Design by Kummer & Herrman, 64p, 245 x 335mm, €25. Order online via www.ydocstore.org.

Film *9 Days – From My Window in Aleppo* directed and edited by Floor van der Meulen and Thomas Vroege. Trailer: www.vimeo.com/142867417.

Info

www.paradox.nl/aleppo

Paradox documentary projects

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