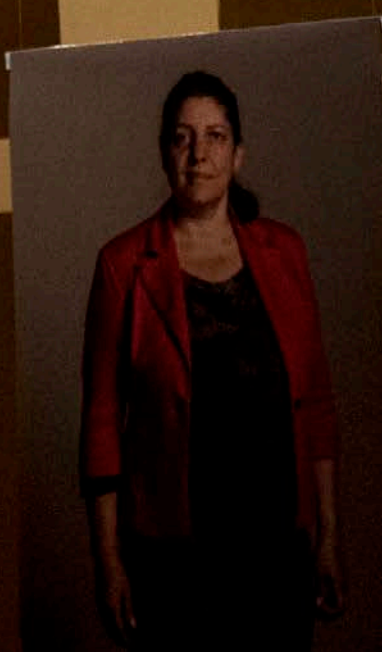
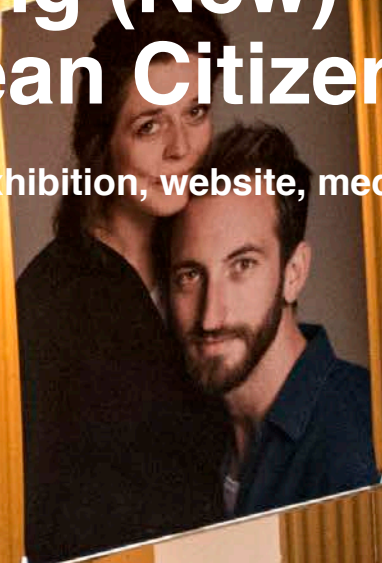




Studio Aleppo

Picturing (New) European Citizens

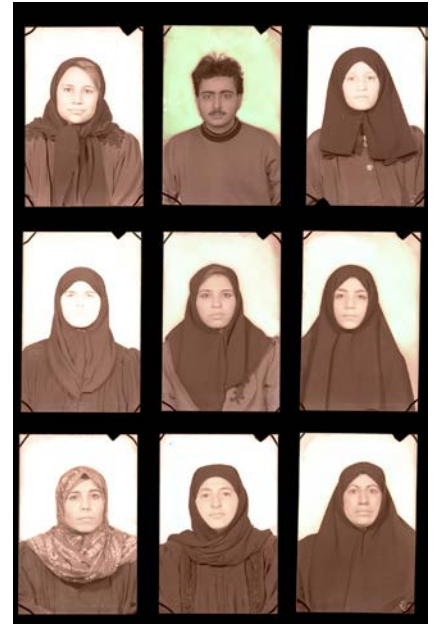
Photo studio, exhibition, website, media campaign





PO Box 113 - 1135 ZK Edam - The Netherlands - t +31(0)299315083 - aw@paradox.nl

1. Introduction	7
2. Background, concept and method	7
3. Platforms	9
A Pop-up photo studio with a prominent photographer and interviewer B Portrait gallery of new portraits C Exhibition of found portraits D Media campaign E Website: www.studioaleppo.eu F Street campaign: posters on bus shelters and billboards	
4. Exhibition in components and requirements	13
A Pop-up photo studio with (a) prominent photographer(s) and interviewer(s) B Exhibition in loco of the taken photographs C Exhibition of the found negatives	
5. Reaching participants	21
6. Formalities	21
7. Events	23
8. Collaborating parties	25
9. Documents	27



Images from the studio photos found in Aleppo

1. Introduction

***Studio Aleppo* is a project of pop-up photo studios, in which citizens are invited to have their portrait taken by a prominent photographer. As an act of solidarity and hospitality, they also pay for the portrait of a refugee and/or his/her family. For both parties, the portraits are a gesture of recognition and acknowledgement. The studios will pop-up in numerous places around Europe, and the resulting images will be published in newspapers, magazines, online media and possibly a street campaign, exhibitions and a website.**

Unknown is unloved

The refugee crisis is high on the global agenda. The Netherlands and Europe as a whole are deeply divided on the issue of migration and asylum. Should the borders be closed immediately, or is there a case to be made for a more humane asylum policy? As the debate grows increasingly emotional, nuance is often hard to find: asylum seekers are depicted either as undesirable aliens (who bend the truth and leech off our wealth), or as pathetic refugees (who should be able to count on our sympathy). The reality, in most cases, is very different.

The asylum seeker does not exist

The biggest problem is that 'the asylum seeker' does not exist, and most of us do not know any asylum seekers. Herein lies the essence of *Studio Aleppo*: by identifying with people and their backgrounds, we hope to overturn the dominant image in the public domain and to strike a more human tone when it comes to receiving refugees from conflict zones. Instead of riots and dead pigs dumped outside refugee centres, we want to see solidarity and a sense of public-mindedness. Not out of some naïve idealism, but because a large number of well-meaning volunteers are making an invisible contribution. And because most refugees would like nothing more than to work or study in order to participate in and contribute to their (temporary) home. However, their voices are rarely heard and they lack a visual identity. *Studio Aleppo* aims to change this through the intelligent use of photography in the public domain, based on pop-up photo studios.

2. Background, concept and method

The ongoing war in Syria has devastated large areas of the city of Aleppo. Countless public buildings, homes and shops have been bombed and looted. Amongst the debris on Bawabet al-Qassab street, Syrian photographer Issa Touma found the remains of the archives of a photo studio: (glass) negatives and prints, made between 1920 and 1970. Every image is a painful reminder of the thousands of people who have fled, been wounded or killed, and of those who have remained in spite of the destruction. However, the project is not limited to Syria and Syrian refugees. Aleppo symbolises a society whose fabric has been ripped apart, but sadly it is not an exception.

***Cartes de visite* versus reportage photography**

Studio portraits have their historical roots in cartes de visite: small, relatively inexpensive



Portrait gallery with self/portraits of painters from the Medici family collection



Studio Aleppo [Amsterdam] with photos by Koos Breukel in Felix Meritis during Unseen Photo Festival, Amsterdam

prints measuring 6 x 10cm that were patented in 1854. For the first time, it became possible for people from all social backgrounds to capture their likeness, as the ruling class was accustomed to doing. Cartes de visite thus symbolise the rise and growing self-confidence of the middle class.

But the studio also provides a neutral environment in which every subject is photographed under the same formal conditions; conditions that do not (or rarely) refer to social circumstances or status. As a result, everyone is equal. This is a fundamental difference with reportage photography, which typically shows people on the move, caught by the camera. It reduces them to 'cases' in the margin, overshadowed by an often deplorable situation. Personal identity is reduced to that of a have-not.

Status of the portrait gallery

In the studio, the individual is paramount. The inclusion of the portraits in a portrait gallery – traditionally the domain of the powerful, the haves – acts as an emancipator. It lends the subject legitimacy and authority: this group (current and future citizens) relate as equal individuals to the social structure (in this case, the city) of which they are both a part.

Statements

Besides the portraits, statements will be collected from each subject. These statements contribute to the idea of 'filling in' the details of the participants' identity. The stories reveal the similarities between Europe's new and current citizens.

Role for prominent photographers, writers and journalists

The success of the project depends on the extent to which the media are prepared to show the results. Equally effective is documenting the creative process and the meetings between the two groups. For both strategies to succeed, a high-profile event is needed. This will only be possible with the involvement of prominent (portrait) photographers, interviewers, writers and journalists.

3. Platforms

Studio Aleppo will be displayed at several international locations and on multiple platforms. These are described in detail on the following pages and include:

- A Pop-up photo studio with a prominent photographer and interviewer
- B Portrait gallery of new portraits
- C Exhibition of found portraits
- D Media campaign: editorial contributions to national and/or regional media (radio, TV, online, newspapers and magazines)
- E Website: studioaleppo.eu
- F Street campaign: posters on bus shelters and billboards

Depending on the situation, modular use can be made of these different elements.

A Pop-up photo studio with a prominent photographer and interviewer

The photo studios set up around Europe (in cooperation with local partners) are at the heart of *Studio Aleppo*. Having one's portrait taken (and certainly in the formal setting of a photo studio) is a form of recognition and acknowledgement. The basic principle is the welcoming hand offered by current citizens to newcomers: as a gesture of solidarity and hospitality, current citizens pay for two portraits (during the Amsterdam edition 50 euros),



Example of an editorial for the media campaign

one for themselves, one for a refugee and/or his/her family. Besides helping to change perceptions, this may, can and will encourage meetings between the two groups, meetings that will be facilitated by the design of the website. Short interviews, using a standard list of questions, will be conducted with all the subjects. The resulting texts, in combination with the portraits, will lay the foundations for mutual contact.

The involvement of prominent photographers and interviewers will play a role on several fronts: it will increase media visibility of (the story behind) the project, encourage current citizens to participate and build trust in *Studio Aleppo*, which newcomers may need to take part in the first place. After all, photography for them is not an innocent instrument; it is also part of a mechanism of social control.

All visitors to the photo studio will receive a small print to take home and will be asked to sign a consent form, allowing their portrait and statement to be published on the website and possibly also as part of one of the campaigns and/or the exhibition. Afterwards they will also be send a small digital file (jpeg).

The photographers and interviewers will work on the project for free. They will retain copyright to the materials, but Paradox and/or its partners will have permission to use the materials in any or all of the elements that make up *Studio Aleppo*.

B Portrait gallery of new portraits

A selection of the portraits taken in the photo studios around Europe will be included in a touring exhibition, which will take the form of a physical portrait gallery of '(New) European Citizens', as referred to in the project's subtitle. The exhibition is suitable for display in museums and cultural institutions as well as in public places. If required, it can also be adapted for use outdoors.

Depending on the location, the exhibition can be combined with the photo studio. The formal nature of the portrait gallery greatly contributes to the notion that we are looking at equal, contemporary citizens, who together support and invest in the society of which they are part. The portraits can be accompanied by (short versions of) the collected statements.

C Exhibition of found portraits

Museum venues can also choose to include the remains of the archive of what was probably Studio Maser (Egypt) in Bawabet al-Qassab street in Aleppo. These sometimes severely damaged acetate and glass plate negatives and prints, found by photographer Issa Touma in 2015, will be displayed on small lightboxes and tables. A selection of the images can be projected on a monumental scale.

We do not know the fate of the people portrayed. The found materials are a painful reminder of the destruction of the social and physical fabric of what was, until a few years ago, a flourishing multi-ethnic, multi-religious metropolis.

D Media campaign: editorial contribution to national and/or regional media

The effect on public opinion of a project like *Studio Aleppo* is first and foremost due to visibility in the media. The portraits will thus be actively used in an editorial campaign. Paradox will work on this with national and regional news media. With Lots of People, a young Amsterdam agency, Paradox will develop an editorial concept combining text and visuals that can be used internationally for an extended period of time. Paradox previously adopted this approach for a project on Ukraine, featuring work by the French artist Emeric Lhuisset (2014), and for a project about the war in Syria, featuring work by Issa Touma (2015).



Interviews with participants at Felix Meritis, Amsterdam



Article in Het Parool, Amsterdam newspaper about Studio Aleppo

E Website: www.studioaleppo.eu as the start of a social network

The website will be built around the successful concept of the campaign *I Hear You* (www.ihearyou.me), which Paradox developed in collaboration with Free Press Unlimited in 2014. The starting point of the site was video statements (made by journalist Antoinette de Jong and Cause Collective) from random, 'ordinary' Afghans on the eve of the first Afghan elections. The site, developed by the young Amsterdam agency Lots of People, facilitated a high degree of participation via social media. The result was so fresh and surprising that, despite the media fatigue surrounding Afghanistan, the media coverage (including by NRC Next and EenVandaag) was overwhelming. The *Studio Aleppo* website will, in combination with the photo studios, aim for a similar result.

All the portraits and statements will be included on the website (preferably) and all subjects will be asked to agree to communicate with others about their contribution. Using a menu structure, each statement will become a tool to bring people into contact with one another. This applies both to those who appear on the site and to visitors to the site. The option to link to Facebook (or other social media) aims to make a follow-up conversation as easy as possible. Paradox hopes and anticipates that, besides contributing to a (favourable) representation of refugees, *Studio Aleppo* can also make a tangible contribution to the creation of a social fabric in (for refugees) a new place.

F Street campaign: bus shelters and billboards

Studio Aleppo's impact can be significantly strengthened with the addition of a bus shelter/billboard campaign. The campaign should have strong links to the website and is part of the collaboration with Lots of People.

Paradox previously experimented with a street campaign in 2003, as part of *Go No Go*, an exhibition about migration in FOAM and Imagine IC (both in Amsterdam) with photographer Ad van Denderen. In 2014, Paradox developed a book on newsprint with the French photographer Emeric Lhuisset (about the Maydan revolution in Ukraine). This was also translated into a street campaign, including in Sloviansk (in Donbass, eastern Ukraine).

4. Exhibition in components, requirements and fee

Studio Aleppo is a modular exhibition and can contain the following components. It can be adapted to almost any available space:

- A Pop-up Studio with (a) prominent local photographer(s) and interviewer(s)
- B Exhibition in loco of the taken photographs
- C Exhibition of the found negatives

A Pop-up Studio with (a) prominent local photographer(s) and interviewer(s)

As previously mentioned the pop-up studio is the core part of the exhibition, it is the moment dedicated to taking portraits of the participants of *Studio Aleppo*. Participants receive a small print of their portrait to take home as well as a small digital file (jpeg). Also the option can be offered to order a large digital file or print for a fixed price, to be



Pop-up studio Koos Breukel at Felix Merits, Amsterdam



Pop-up studio Issa Touma Spaarndammerbuurt district in Amsterdam

agreed with the photographer. This is a chance for the photographer who is working voluntarily to still have some financial benefit from the project.

After taking the portrait, all participants will be interviewed about their background, future plans and dreams and the current city they live in. The interviews will provide context with the portraits and will be used in the media campagne and the online gallery: studioaleppo.eu.

We prefer to see the studio as part of the exhibition, but it can be adjusted to the available space.

- 1: Pop-up studio in the exhibition space,
2. Pop-up studio in another (adjacent) space at the venue
3. Pop-up studio in a different location in the city.

Requirements

Hard- and software

Studio set, including background, (flash)lamps, camera.

(The photographer uses his own equipment or equipment can be rented)

Computer with editing software

Canon Selphy printers for the small take home prints.

Recording devices

Standard list of questions provided by Paradox (See page 27 of this brochure)

Staff (per day):

1 Photographer,

1 Assistant,

1 image editor (The photographer can work with his own staff (assistant, image editor).

2 interviewers (working simultaneously, minimum),

1 host.

Transcribers, after studio day (interviews are to be used in the online gallery and as part of the media campagne)

Estimated hours of organization: 40 hours.

B Exhibition in-loco of taken photographs

The exhibition shows the taken portraits, presenting the (new) citizens of the city in a 'portrait gallery'. Size and exhibition design vary depending on the space available. Preferably a location that has a (symbolic) importance for the city and its citizens or the neighbourhood. The presentation can be done in different ways, we add two examples of Studio Aleppo [Amsterdam], but other designs might work better for the given space.

Example 1, monumental presentation (Felix Meritis, Amsterdam)

During Unseen Photo Festival in Amsterdam, 17-25 September 2016, Paradox hosted Studio Aleppo [Amsterdam] at Felix Meritis, a monumental building in the city centre. For one weekend Koos Breukel took portraits of the (new) citizens of Amsterdam. Forty-eight large portraits (106 x 140 cm) were printed and framed on site. Everyday images were added to the evolving portrait gallery, while visitors could walk in and see the installation come together.

Requirements

Hard and software:

Large format printer (Images can be printed on site or at a lab).

Computer with editing software

Hanging system (Studio Aleppo [Amsterdam] used steal cables and aluminium frames



Exhibition view at Felix Meritis, projection of the found negatives and portrait gallery



Example of exhibition in the Spaarndammerbuurt district in Amsterdam

that hold the images, combined with steel plates as weight to keep the images straight. If the image size is ca. 106 x 140 cm, the host venue can hire Paradox's system

Staff:

1 Image editor/printer
3 Framers and Installers

Example 2, shop window presentation (Spaarndammerbuurt, Amsterdam)

Unseen Photo Festival asked Paradox to host a small photo studio as part of the festival in the Spaarndammerbuurt, a neighbourhood which is awaiting the opening of an asylum seekers centre and was also the Unseen festival heart in 2016. Paradox transformed the social neighbourhood café 'Effe bij Moeder An' into a photo studio, where Issa Touna portrayed residents from the neighbourhood. Twenty-four A4 prints were placed in the large shop window of the space, creating a display that could be seen from the street.

Requirements:

Hard and software:

A4 printer (Images can be printed on site or at a lab).
Computer with editing software

Staff:

1 Image editor/printer
1 Framer and Installer

C Exhibition of the found negatives

The found negatives are the starting point of the project. They have an important value in the exhibition as they are the material link between new portraits of European citizens and past Syrian citizens, whose fate is unknown. The negatives can be shown on light boxes and as a slide show. A combination of these two options is preferred.

Requirements:

Hard and software:

3-4 light boxes, depending on size. Covered by (plexi)glass plates to protect the negatives. Best is to have LED based light boxes to ensure the quality of the negatives.
media player, HD projector, projection screen. (slideshow)

Staff:

1 person, 1/2 days



Framing the prints at Felix Meritis



Hanging system at Felix Meritis

Component	Material/Support	Video/Audio Players	Monitor/Projector	Staff	Taking down	Fee	Remarks
General fee	Paradox provides you with the package of the concept, interview questions, quit claims, contract with the photographer, a Studio Aleppo logo and takes care of the online gallery.					€ 1000,00	
Pop-up Studio	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Technical studio equipment: cameras, studio background, flashes, lights and computer. - Selfie printer (purchase ca. 110€, sponsorable). 	Recording equipment: microphones and recording device		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Local photographer + assistant (1-2 days) - Image editor * - Interviewers (min. 2/ day) - Host - Transcription interviews * 			* Workload depends on amount of participants (images and interviews). It is recommended to find volunteers for transcribing.
Option 1: monumental presentation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Large format prints (on site printer or lab, sponsorable) - Framing system (optional to rent Paradox's) - Equipment: cables, screws, tools 			1 supervisor + 2-3 assistants**, 6 days (48 x 106x140 cm prints)	4 people, 1,5 days	Aluminium frames Paradox full set (60) € 200 p/w	* The cost of the printing depends on the size, quantity, the sponsor involved. ** Assistants can be volunteers
Option 2: shopwindow presentation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - A4 prints (on site printer or lab, sponsorable) - Equipment for installation 			1 person, 0,5 day (24 prints)	1 person, 0,5 day		Alternative methods for hanging the prints can be for example tape or magnets.
Exhibition of found negatives	A) 3-4 preferably LED light boxes	B) HD Media Player (for example Raspberry Pi or COOD-E, purchase ca. €100 purchase)	B) - XGA projector > 2000 ANSI/Lumen - Projection screen	A+B) 1 person x 3h ca		Found negatives and slideshow € 100 p/w	Only negatives and slideshow provided by Paradox
Extra	Promotional material, banners, flyers, etc.						You will receive a Studio Aleppo [<i>city name</i>] logo from Paradox to be used in all outings.


studioaleppo.eu

EN NL

**STUDIO
ALEPPO
amsterdam**

**'Old' and 'new' Amsterdam residents: have your
portrait taken by photographer Koos Breukel!**

**Participate in this project and become part of an
(online) portrait gallery of the new Amsterdam.
And engage in a conversation!**



studioaleppo.eu



LOCATION
Felix Meritis, Keizersgracht 324, Amsterdam

STUDIO
Saturday 17 and Sunday 18 september, 11:00 – 17:00

EXHIBITION
Monday 19 until Sunday 25 September, 10:00 – 18:00



Screenshots www.studioaleppo.eu: call for participants and practical information

5. Reaching participants

Finding participants for *Studio Aleppo* can be done in various ways. In any case it is advisable to connect with the right partners. In the case of Studio Aleppo [Amsterdam] many locals responded quickly to our call on Facebook. Reaching newcomers to join the project turned out to be more difficult.

Call for participants

Paradox for example put out an online call in collaboration with Refugee Start Force, an online platform connecting Dutch and refugees in order to create a network. The call was also put out by other initiatives connecting refugees with the Dutch for example through housing programmes, volunteers, workshops, etc. Next to that, participants who registered were asked if they knew more people who would like to be involved. In a rare occasion, a Dutch Amsterdam resident came together with a newcomer, but this approach can also be promoted in the call for participants. Volunteers of initiatives involved with newcomers could in that case tell about the project and motivate people to participate.

Difficulties

Having your portrait taken can also be experienced as threatening by some. It is important to make sure the project is promoted in a trustworthy manner. It is therefore recommended to work with organisations that already are interconnected and are known amongst refugees. It is important to make a concise, clear call for participants, which states what the project involves.

Registering

Participants can register through an online form or an email. People fill out their data and two preferred timeslots. All participants must then be matched into a schedule, and personally answered by email (staff venue). This email confirms date, time and address when and where participants are expected.

Payment

We recommend to make participants pay upfront, to reduce the chance of no-shows. For newcomers, who don't pay for the portrait, registering for the portrait studio is still a non-committal agreement, resulting in a couple of no-shows.

6. Formalities

Quit claim

All participants sign a quitclaim in which they agree with their portrait possibly being used in the exhibition, online, in print media (newspaper, magazines, etc.), books and future exhibitions. (see page 28)

Copyright

The rights of the images remain with the photographer, however the host venue and Paradox should have access to the digital files in order to use them on their website, in the online gallery, the media campaign and future exhibitions, without paying a fee.

Prints of the exhibition remain with the host venue, although Paradox reserves the right to ask for (a selection of) prints, without paying a fee, to be shipped over in case an overview exhibition will be prepared. It is to be agreed between the host venue and



Found negatives displayed on lightboxes at Felix Meritis, Amsterdam



Slide show with found negatives

Paradox whether it is preferable to make new prints or use existing ones. Shipping and printing costs are for Paradox.

Access to the images and interviews

Within 2 weeks after the photo studio, Paradox will receive access to the images. All files should be labelled with a name, location and date. Within 4 weeks after the photo studio, Paradox will receive access to the transcribed interviews and audio. Paradox is responsible for the editorial content in the online gallery.

7. Events

Studio Aleppo was launched at Unseen Photo Festival 2016. The collaboration with festivals (photographic or not) is appreciated and welcomed. Talks and conferences about the theme can also be an opportunity to collaborate.

***Studio Aleppo* through the Netherlands**

To increase the impact and reach of the project, Paradox looks for collaborations within the Netherlands to organize studio's throughout the country during one weekend.

In a prominent, meaningful location for the city, ideally in every province, a photo studio will be opened for refugees, residents and volunteers. Throughout the day, a prominent photographer and interviewer will take photos and gather statements. Participants will receive a small print to take home and the portraits and statements will be added to the online archive at www.studioaleppo.eu. Wherever possible, Paradox will cooperate with local partners (photographers, funding bodies) and will investigate whether the portraits can be presented in small exhibitions in local town halls. We hope to realise this project in early 2017.

***Studio Aleppo* in Europe**

During Unseen Photo Festival in Amsterdam, which brings together leading industry figures, opportunities will be sought to roll out *Studio Aleppo* – and thereby further influence the representation of refugees – in other locations around Europe. Talks are currently underway with, among others, GfHF (Gesellschaft für Humanistische Fotografie) Berlin. The number of parties is expected to grow rapidly.

A prerequisite is that all the portraits and statements resulting from the photo sessions are added to the website www.studioaleppo.eu, which will become a growing archive of current and future European citizens.



Postproducing the images



Selfie printed portraits of participants



Issa Touma and a participant with her printed portrait



Closing event of Studio Aleppo [Amsterdam] at Felix Meritis

8. Collaborating parties

Studio Aleppo was initiated by Paradox and will be executed in collaboration with various parties. All parties will contribute (a minimum of) one day's work free of charge. This applies to the organisers, photographers, designers, journalists and so on. In addition, no copyright fees will be charged for the use of the portraits in the media, the campaigns and the exhibition. Sponsors will contribute cash or provide goods and services in kind.

Collaborating parties of the project:

Lots of People

A young, dynamic Amsterdam concept and development agency, with which Paradox previously collaborated on the websites www.ihearyou.me and www.mewe.nu (a project by Koos Breukel). Lots of People will design the website as well as the Centercom campaign and an editorial format.

Issa Touma / Le Pont

Photographer from Aleppo (Syria). In 1996, Touma established Le Pont gallery, where since 2012 he has organised Art Camping: workshops in which participants from different backgrounds are encouraged to express themselves through art and culture. Touma found the archive material that forms the basis of this project on the street in Aleppo, and will have a photo studio in the Spaarndammerbuurt during Unseen Photo Festival.

Z_Lab

The idea for *Studio Aleppo* was born during workshops organised by Z_Lab. Z_Lab is a podium for experimentation and education, bringing together Bas Vroege (Paradox), post-graduates at Leiden University (Master's in Film and Photographic Studies) and Fondazione Fotografia in Modena.

Paradox

Paradox's mission is summed up in the concept Explore and Share. Explore and Share stands for both an inquiring and critical attitude towards the socio-political aspects of society, and the search for new technological means to reach a contemporary audience with the resulting stories. It also stands for sharing the insights gained with colleagues. For each project, Paradox assesses which platform can best be developed to reach as large an audience as possible in a critical but nuanced way. Sometimes the result is a book, an app, a film or a website, but more often it is a combination of a number of these, with an exhibition as a core element.

Since 1993, Paradox has developed 60 such multi-platform projects, which have been shown in 160 international (physical) locations as well as online and via app, film and book distribution.

Paradox is supported by the Mondriaan Fund and the Adessium Foundation.

Collaborating parties in the Netherlands:

The Asylum Search Engine / Prospektor

An interactive initiative by Eefje Blankevoort (Prospektor) and Els van Driel, which invites everyone to have their say about the current asylum policy. The project consists of a web documentary, a TV and radio documentary, an exhibition and events/meetings that were

held across the Netherlands between 30 March and 20 June 2016. Using the knowledge gained during this period, The Asylum Search Engine will contribute to *Studio Aleppo*.

VluchtelingenWerk Nederland

An independent organisation representing the interests of refugees and asylum seekers in the Netherlands, from arrival through to integration into Dutch society.

Collaborating parties Studio Aleppo [Amsterdam]:

Unseen Photo Festival

An international photo festival and fair in Amsterdam, taking place this year for the fifth time. The festival's main location this year is the Spaarndammerbuurt. A number of major cultural institutions, including Felix Meritis, are also participating.

Felix Meritis

Located in an eighteenth-century canal house on the Keizersgracht in Amsterdam, Felix Meritis stimulates and strengthens relationships between the arts, media, education, culture, the sciences and politics. The first portrait studio and exhibition were held here.

Streets of the World

Photography project by photojournalist Jeroen Swolfs, whose mission is to document streets in every country in the world. He will show his work in the foyer and café of Felix Meritis during Unseen Photo Festival.

Photographer: Koos Breukel

During the first photo studio in Felix Meritis, Koos Breukel (The Hague, 1962) will spend the weekend taking portraits. Breukel is the 'other' Dutch portrait photographer. Like his colleague and good friend Rineke Dijkstra, Breukel's portraits are never superficial. Neither are they mercilessly revelatory images, but unprejudiced portraits that do justice to the individual, to his or her flaws and, above all, personal dignity.

Breukel has had solo exhibitions at the Museum of Contemporary Art, Pori, Finland, Musée Européenne de la Photographie, Paris, and the Fotomuseum Den Haag. His work is included in the collections of the San Francisco MoMA, Nederlands Fotomuseum, Rotterdam, Gemeentemuseum Den Haag, Frans Halsmuseum, Haarlem, Stedelijk Museum, Amsterdam, and the Musée Européenne de la Photographie, Paris.

In 1994, the BKVB Fund awarded Breukel the Photography Incentive Grant, for his first book *The Wretched Skin*. Numerous books and awards have followed, including *Hyde* (1996, Best Book) and *Photo Studio Koos Breukel* (2001, Best Book). In 2013, he presented *ME WE*, a major exhibition of his work, in The Hague and published a book of the same name. Over several weekends, visitors to the exhibition could have their portrait taken by Breukel in his studio in the Fotomuseum.

9. Documents

Questions used to conduct the interviews with all participants of *Studio Aleppo*.

Naam/Name:

NIET VERPLICHT / ONLY IF YOU WANT TO
man/vrouw male/female

1. Waar ben je opgegroeid?
Where did you grow up?

2. Hoe lang ben je al in Amsterdam / NL?
For how long how have you been in Amsterdam?

3a. Wat betekent Amsterdam voor je? (kwaliteiten)
What does Amsterdam mean for you?

3b. Wat betekent NL voor jou?
What does NL mean for you?

3b. Wat betekent Europa voor jou?
What does Europe mean for you?

4. Wat is je vak? Wat studeer je?
What is your profession? What are you studying?

5. Wat zijn je dromen, wat hoop je in de komende 10 jaar gaan te doen/bereiken?
What are your dreams, what do you hope to do/ to achieve in the upcoming 10 years?

5b. En daarna?
And beyond?

5c. Waar hoop je dan te leven?
Where do you hope to live then?

6a. Wat zijn de belangrijkste waarden van de maatschappij waarin je bent opgegroeid?
What are the most important values of the socitey you grew up in?

6b. Welke daarvan hoop je nooit te verliezen?
Which ones do you never hope to lose?

7a. Wat is het leukste of mooiste dat je hier (Amsterdam/NL/Europe) is overkomen?

What is the nicest or most beautiful thing that happened to you in Amsterdam/NL/Europa)?

b. Wat was je slechtste ervaring?

What was the worst/most painful experience?

8. Waar ben je het meest trots op?
What are you most proud of?

9. Waar moeten we aan werken in deze stad/in dit land?
What do we need to work on in this town/this country?

DANKJEWEL! / THANK YOU!

Consent form used for *Studio Aleppo*:

Consent Form

I, name:

house number and street:

postcode and city:

telephone number:

e-mail:

date of birth:

hereby grant permission to (photographer) and Paradox to publish and/or reproduce the photographs taken by him on in, without my prior consent and without financial compensation, in books, exhibitions and in the media, including (but not limited to) the internet, magazines, newspapers etc. In the event that the photographs are used for commercial purposes, I will be contacted in advance via the (e-mail) address above.

PLEASE NOTE: If my (e-mail) address is no longer correct and no (e-mail) change of address is known, (photographer) and Paradox may assume that I have consented to the proposed publication and/or reproduction, that I waive any objections which I may now or hereafter have and that I will not hold any party, including (photographer) or Paradox, responsible for any loss and/or damage arising from such use.

Furthermore, I will not hold responsible either (photographer) or Paradox or the person and/or organisation that publishes and/or reproduces the photographs, for any caption and/or for the content of the article in which the photographs are depicted.

I declare that I am 18 years or older, that I have read and agree with this consent form, and that I am authorised to sign this document and to provide the abovementioned consent and indemnity.

Amsterdam, ... September 2016,

Name:

Signature:

If I am under 18 years old, my parent/guardian declares the following: I, the parent/guardian of the abovenamed person, have read and agree with this consent form and with the possible future publication and/or reproduction of the photographs in all media, and that I am authorised to sign this document on his/her behalf.

Name:

Signature:



www.paradox.nl