

Asia Society, PEN World Voices and Performance Space 122  
Present

## 33 rpm and a few seconds Rabih Mroué/Lina Saneh



**Tuesday, April 29, 8:00 P.M.**

**Asia Society  
725 Park Avenue at 70<sup>th</sup> Street  
New York City**

This program is approximately 60 minutes  
Followed by an artist talk-back with  
Rabih Mroué and Shirin Neshat



## *33 rpm and a few seconds*

*Text and direction:* Rabih Mroué & Lina Saneh  
*Set design, graphic and animation:* Samar Maakaroun  
*Director of photography:* Sarmad Louis  
*Assistant technical production:* Sarmad Louis & Thomas Köppel  
*Translation:* Ziad Nawfal  
 *Casting and production:* Petra Serhal  
*Editing:* Najib Zeitouni & Sarmad Louis

*With:* Nagham Abboud, Samir Abou Jaoudé, Thomas Bowles, Edy Gemaa, Raseel Hadjian, Colette Hajj, Wadad Hneine, Paul Khodr, Ibtisam Kishly, Eliane Mallat, Muriel Moukawem, Elie Njeim, Antoine Ozon & Najeeb Zeytouni

*Voices:* Abdallah Al Machnouk, Gheith El Amine, Raphael Fleuriet, Charbel Haber, May Kassem, Nesrine Khodr, Victoria Lupton, Diran Mardirian, Rabih Mroué, Ziad Nawfal & Lina Saneh

*Chant:* Fatima Bazzi

*Music:* "Ya Jaret El Wadi" by Mohammed Abdel Wahab & "Le Dernier Repas" by Jacques Brel

*Co-produced by:* Ashkal Alwan, the lebanese association for plastic arts (Beirut), Festival d'Avignon, Festival delle Colline Torinesi (Turin), Kampnagel (Hamburg), Kunstenfestivaldesarts (Brussels), La Bâtie - Festival de Genève, Malta Festival (Poznan), Scène nationale de Petit-Quevilly - Mont-Saint-Aignan (Rouen), Stage-Helsinki Theatre Festival & Théâtre de l'Agora - Scène Nationale d'Evry et de l'Essonne - steirischer herbst.

### **Artist Biographies**

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**Rabih Mroué** lives and works in Beirut. He is an actor, director, playwright, and visual artist who began putting on his own plays, performances, and videos in 1990. His unique interdisciplinary work exists at the crossroads of theater, performance, and the visual arts. Mroué's storytelling pits facts against made-up truths and propaganda that are imbued with a peculiar sense of humor. He is contributing Editor to *Kalamon* (Lebanon) and *TDR* (New York), one of the founders and Executive Board of the Beirut Art Center Association (BAC) and a 2013/14 fellow at The International Research Center in Berlin. In Beirut, he is known for controversial work that reflects his country's political climate. The Lebanese Interior Ministry banned his 2007 performance piece about that country's civil war, *How Nancy Wished That Everything Was an April Fools' Joke*. The ban was later reversed. In 2008, he starred alongside Catherine Deneuve in the film *I Want to See*, which detailed the effects of the Lebanese Civil War. In 2010, he was awarded the PS122's Spalding Gray Award. A respected visual artist, Mroué made his UK debut in 2011 with the solo exhibition, *The People Are Demanding* at

Iniva (Institute of International Visual Arts) at the Rivington Place gallery. Previous theater works include: *Riding On A Cloud*, *33 tours et quelques second*, *The Pixelated Revolution* *The Inhabitants of images*, *Who's Afraid of Representation*, among others.

**Lina Saneh** is a Lebanese actress, director, playwright and member of Home Workspace Curricular Committee-Ashkal Alwan. She was a professor at Haute Ecole d'Art et de Design in Geneva (2008-13) and a fellow at the International Research Center "Interweaving Performance Cultures"/ Freie Universität in Berlin (2009/10) Her theater works include: *33 rpm and a few seconds*, *Photo-Romance*, *Lina Saneh Body-P-Arts Project* (a website project and installation), *Someone Must Have Been Telling Lies About Me* (video-installation), *Appendice*, *I Had A Dream*, *Mom* (vidéo), *Biokhraphia*, *Extrait d'Etat Civil*, among others.

**Shirin Neshat** is an Iranian born artist/filmmaker living in New York. She has held numerous solo exhibitions at galleries and museums internationally. Neshat directed a feature film, *Women Without Men*, which received the Silver Lion Award in the 66th Venice International Film Festival in 2009. Neshat is represented by Gladstone Gallery in New York City.

#### **About Asia Society**

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Asia Society is the leading educational organization dedicated to promoting mutual understanding and strengthening partnerships among peoples, leaders and institutions of Asia and the United States in a global context. Across the fields of arts, business, culture, education, and policy, the Society provides insight, generates ideas, and promotes collaboration to address present challenges and create a shared future.

The Asia Society Performing Arts program has been a pioneer in the presentation of traditional and contemporary Asian performing arts in the United States since 1957, when it presented the American debut of Ravi Shankar. We are committed to presenting the finest Asian and Asian-American performing arts, both contemporary and traditional. We see the arts a catalyst for bringing together people, creating understanding and igniting creativity.

#### **Asia Society Staff**

**Rachel Cooper**, Director, Global Performing Arts and Cultural Initiatives

**Rachel Rosado**, Program Officer, Cultural Programs

**Stephen Mrowiec**, Global Performing Arts and Cultural Programs Intern

**Hesh Sarmalkar**, Director, Events and Visitor Services

**Elaine Merguerian**, Director, Communications

**Eric DeArmon**, A/V Manager

Major support for performances at the Asia Society is provided by the Doris Duke Charitable Foundation, the Helen and Will Little, and the Fan Fox and Leslie R. Samuels Foundation, Inc.

## **PEN World Voices of International Literature**

For its 10th anniversary, the Festival celebrates those who have dared to stand "on the edge," risking their careers, and sometimes their lives, to speak out for their art and beliefs. Building upon PEN American Center's tradition of defending freedom of expression, the festival will foster cross-cultural dialogue among writers, artists, and citizens around the globe, offering connective tissue for a new generation to see beyond cultural divisions and misconceptions. Join us for a wide range of events, including debates, one-on-one conversations, participatory workshops, and performances in venues throughout the city. [WorldVoices.Pen.org](http://WorldVoices.Pen.org)

**PERFORMANCE SPACE 122 (PS122)**, a not-for-profit, New York City East Village institution founded over 30 years ago, is recognized internationally for its presentations of contemporary theater, dance, music and live art. PS122 has developed a set of programs designed to re-establish the value of live performance, provide singular experiences for audiences that inspire critical thinking and sustain the creative process for artists throughout their career. Through partnering with peer organizations as well as contemporary institutions who share our belief in the cultural importance of live performance, PS122 currently commissions and presents artists in all disciplines in spaces all over the city during an annual fall & spring season and COIL festival in January.

[PS122.ORG](http://PS122.ORG) | [PS122.TV](http://PS122.TV) | [facebook.com/PS122](https://facebook.com/PS122) | [@PS122](https://twitter.com/PS122) | [#RISK](https://hashtag/risk)

## **PS122 STAFF**

Vallejo Gantner - Artistic Director  
Winnie Fung - Director of Business & Organizational Resources  
Derek Lloyd - Director of Production  
Jess Edkins - Creative Producer  
Bevin Ross - Institutional Giving & Capital Campaign Manager  
Jeso O'Neill - Communications & Branding Manager  
Lori Vroegindewey - Individual Giving & Special Events Manager  
Alex Reeves - Creative Technology Developer  
Chris Walters - Box Office Manager  
Danielle Brockmann - Programming Associate  
Jon Harper, Gavin Hecker - Technicians

## **Performance Space 122 receives support from the following organizations:**

Edith Lutyens and Norman Bel Geddes Design Enhancement Fund, Gesso Foundation, Harkness Foundation for Dance, Jerome Foundation 50th Anniversary Grant, Jerome Robbins Foundation, Lambent Foundation Fund of Tides Foundation, Albert & Anne Mansfield Foundation, The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation New York Theater Program, Mertz Gilmore Foundation, Morrison Foerster Foundation, National Endowment for the Arts, National Performance Network (NPN), New York State Council on the Arts with the support of Governor Andrew Cuomo and the New York State Legislature, New York City Department of Cultural Affairs in partnership with the City Council, Peg Santvoord Foundation, The Fan Fox and Leslie R. Samuels Foundation, Shubert Foundation, The Harold and Mimi Steinberg Charitable Trust, Trust for Mutual Understanding.