

# Sandberg Instituut

## تصاميم مجردة من فلسطين DISARMING DESIGN FROM PALESTINE

### DISARMING DESIGN TEMPORARY MASTERS PROGRAM

**Disarming Design is a two-year Master's programme at the Sandberg Instituut Amsterdam committed to design practices in situations of oppression with a particular focus on Palestine, starting september 2020. It derives from the long-term collaboration between the Design Department and the thought provoking design label 'Disarming Design from Palestine'.**



Building upon the relations and involvements of the full team, we aim to define what is needed to enhance the social, political and emancipatory impact of design. We will explore how design can be a vehicle for political resistance and solidarity and how to counteract oppression and injustice through the act of design. We are interested in what ways design practices can inform strategies to set up sustainable positions in politically and geographically violated societies. In parallel, we want to experiment with educational models that stimulate such practices, and set up alternative platforms that reinforce the artistic, experimental and economic independence of designers.

With an indispensable input of the participants in shaping the program, we build collective methods of mutual learning and exchange, develop vocabularies, ideas and common projects. We aim to equip the participants of the temporary Master's programme with the tools to develop community driven platforms for organizing and learning. The program focuses on the artistic work of the participants in finding tools and strategies for resilient, collaborative and sustainable positions, with the aim to establish alternative educational platforms for design.

#### Students

We are looking for a diverse group of practitioners with a design background, radical imagination and educational interests. We encourage people with non-canonical practices and those who have lived under the weight of structural oppression and are determined to counteract it. Applicants have an ability and interest in collaborative work, situated learning and in creating politically driven, experimental practices dedicated to use the space of design as a multiplier of interventions where they are most needed today.

17 Students can be accepted of which approximately a third will be Palestinian, a third from the Netherlands and a third international (European and non-European). The program encourages the Palestinian participants to develop an alternative school for design in Palestine, building upon the involvements and network of the programme.

#### Duration:

September 2020 – July 2022

#### Head of programme:

Annelys de Vet (NL/B)

#### Coordinator:

Francisca Khamis (CL/PS)

#### (Guest) Tutors:

Ghadeer Dajani (PS), Flavia Dzodan (AR/NL), Foundland Collective (Lauren Alexander (ZA) & Ghalia Elsrakbi (SY)), Rana Ghavami (NL), Pascal Gielen (B), Raed Hamouri (PS), Jeanne van Heeswijk (NL), Lara

Khalidi (PS), Yazan Khalili (PS), Nat Muller (NL), Shayma Nader (PS), Marina Otero (ES), PING (Agustina Woodgate (AR), Miquel Hervás Gómez (ES), Sascha Krischock (DE)), Huda Smitshuijzen-

Abifares (LB/NL), Jonas Staal (NL), SulSalSol (Hannes Bernard (ZA), Guido Giglio (BR)), Julien Thomas (CA), Petra Van Brabandt (B)

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As the postgraduate programme of the Gerrit Rietveld Academie Amsterdam, the Sandberg Instituut offers Master Programmes in Fine Arts, Interior Architecture and Design.

The five Main Departments aim to deepen the practices of artists, designers and critics. In addition, the Temporary Programmes reflect on specific urgencies in society and the arts, and the Hosted Programmes focus on collaboration with other institutes. Sandberg Instituut's Main Departments are Critical Studies, Design, The Dirty Art Department, Fine Arts and Studio for Immediate Spaces. An average of only twenty students per programme allows each course to be flexible and open to initiatives from students and third parties. The course directors, who are prominent artists, designers, theorists and curators with international practices, invite tutors and guests who are able to challenge the students to critically reflect on their profession, their work and their progress. The two-year Temporary Programmes are developed according to urgent world issues.

[www.sandberg.nl](http://www.sandberg.nl)

Disarming Design from Palestine is a thought provoking design label for the presentation and development of contemporary design from Palestine. The products are made by designers and artists working in collaboration with local producers and artisans. Each of the designs evoke alternative narratives about life in Palestine as it is today. They are stories of perseverance and hope, dignity and strength of the Palestinian spirit.

DDFP believes that design practices function as an instrument for social change, emancipation and self-empowerment. Through the act of design, Palestinian and international practitioners engage in complex politicized realities and empower design as a way to resist oppression. All the items are made by designers and artists working in collaboration with local producers in order to contribute to a more sustainable Palestinian society and human-centered economy. During collaborative workshops we develop new products based on already existing manufacturing processes and inspired by the narratives we share. In Palestine many craftsmen are active, but because of the occupation and their often very marginalized positions they lack enough work and network. With our project we are focusing on the cooperation between contemporary design and local crafts.

[www.disarmingdesign.com](http://www.disarmingdesign.com)

## DETAILS, DATES & REQUIREMENTS

### WHY APPLY TO THIS COURSE?

**Disarming Design Temporary Masters Programme offers a unique opportunity to take part in an international programme at the Sandberg Instituut. Together, we will explore how design practices can be a vehicle for political resistance and solidarity and how to engage and think through the act and impact of design in realities of oppression and injustice. The structure of the course is shaped in collaboration with the participants. The programme aims to equip the participants with the skills necessary to develop community driven platforms for organizing and learning, to be set up and run after their masters diploma, with the network they build up during the course.**

### VISIT THE OPEN DAY

6 February 2020, 2 – 7pm

### APPLICATION DEADLINE

Registration is now open. The deadline to apply for 2020 entry is 1 April 2020. The Disarming Design Programme starts in September 2020. We aim to provide a decision on complete applications before 1 May 2020.

*International students who require a visa should bear in mind visa applications may take several weeks to be processed, so you should apply as soon as possible. For applicants from Palestine we have an early deadline of 1 March, so they can be informed 1 April about their application.*

### APPLICATION PROCEDURE

Based on the on-line forms a team will review the applications based on artistic quality, motivation, background of the applicant and relevance to the programme, and select 30 applicants for an interview in May in Amsterdam (if unavoidable, interviews can be conducted digitally). Based on the application interviews a final selection of 17 students will be accepted.

### FEES

- Fee for EU/EEA students without a Dutch masters degree: € 2.640,00
- All students who followed a masters program in The Netherlands and obtained a Dutch masters degree: € 6.396,00
- Fee for non-EU/EEA students : € 6.396,00

### FUNDING

We are aiming to secure partial scholarships for Palestinian students. It is important that students look for external sources of funding before applying. The course will provide the applicants also with a list of possible funding opportunities.

### COST OF LIVING

The eventual costs vary depending on your personal situation and individual choices. Nevertheless, it's advised to count on at least € 1.130 living expenses per month:

Rent € 350 - 600  
Energy bill € 50  
Internet € 15  
Water € 15  
Health insurance € 120  
Phone bill € 35  
Home & liability insurance € 15  
Groceries € 100 - 150  
Study material & excursions € 100  
Public transport € 50  
Leisure & personal care:  
Gym € 50  
Parties, drinks € 60  
Various (bike, hair) € 150  
Cinema member € 20

### LANGUAGE REQUIREMENTS

All courses and communication at Sandberg Instituut are in English, occasionally in Dutch. But as a foreign student learning Dutch is not compulsory. During the interview, as a part of the admission process, your English language level will be checked. If there is doubt we will ask for proof that English can be regarded as your mother tongue (passport) or that you have followed English in secondary/high school with a positive mark on your diploma.

### PRE-EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS

We can only accept you as a student when you have a valid Bachelor degree in a field relevant to our programme (ie. design, fine arts, applied arts or alike). We will ask for a copy of your diploma after you have been accepted as a student. If you are unable to provide any diploma's, please indicate so in Step 1 of the application process, on the digital registration form. In that case we will evaluate your pre-education as well as your professional experience.