



SAHA Studio Opens its Doors as Part of the 17th Istanbul Biennial

SAHA Studio, which aims to foster the artistic production contexts of artists from Turkey and increase their interaction with international art institutions and key players, is among the participants and venues of the **17th Istanbul Biennial**, held between 17 September-20 November 2022 under the co-curation of Ute Meta Bauer, Amar Kanwar, and David Teh. Having been among the permanent supporters of the Istanbul Biennial since its 12th edition in 2011, **SAHA** continues to provide funds and resources for new projects of artists from Turkey participating in the 17th Istanbul Biennial. In addition to the biennial curators, the association provides accommodation at SAHA Residency in Galata to a group of the biennial artists who travel to Istanbul for research.

As part of this collaboration, SAHA Studio opens its doors on every Wednesday and Saturday between 12-7 pm from 17 September onwards and brings the biennial audience together with the residents of the on-going June-December 2022 term, namely **Atıf Akın, Elmas Deniz, Can Küçük, Burcu Yağcıoğlu**, and **Ahmet Öğüt & Silent University Orientation Program** team (Amal Jibril, Suha Nabhan, Yelta Köm). As such, visitors have the opportunity to observe the “behind-the-scenes” of the projects carried out and to follow the research and production processes of the residents who began working on their projects with SAHA’s support at the beginning of the summer. Two days a week, visitors can experience the space in a different way:

Through an archival presentation focusing on SAHA Studio’s five terms from its establishment in 2019 to the present, various documents and data including project videos and portfolios of the program’s alumni, research projects conducted by curators invited within the scope of institutional collaborations, and publications supported by SAHA are made available for the public. Visitors at SAHA Studio can explore the wide-ranging practices of Atıf Akın and Ahmet Öğüt & *Silent University Orientation Program* team in parallel to their respective biennial projects exhibited at Gazhane, while following the creative stages of new works by Elmas Deniz, Can Küçük and Burcu Yağcıoğlu, who were invited as per the collaboration with the **World Weather Network** to produce works with reference to the global climate crisis. Furthermore, a public program at SAHA Studio sheds light on the work of the residents as well as certain themes of the biennial through speeches and panels held throughout the biennial every Saturday at 3 pm.

For more information about the public program at SAHA Studio, follow SAHA's website and social media accounts.

www.saha.org.tr

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/sahadernegi/>

Instagram: @sahadernegi

Twitter: @SAHA_Istanbul

About SAHA Studio

Launched by SAHA Association in 2019 at a repurposed, 350 square-meter space in Beyoğlu, SAHA Studio provides its residents a working space to continue their work, coupled with curatorial feedback and support for the research, production, exhibition, and presentation stages of their projects. Also receiving international curators and writers, SAHA Studio hosts over 10 participants during two terms per year, contributing to the enrichment of the dialogue in the artistic milieu.

SAHA Studio, June-December 2022 Residents: Atıf Akın, Elmas Deniz, Can Küçük, Ahmet Ögüt & Silent University Orientation Program ekibi (Amal Jibril, Suha Nabhan, Yelta Köm), Burcu Yağcıoğlu.

SAHA Studio Selection Committee: Ute Meta Bauer, Amar Kanwar, David Teh (17. İstanbul Bienali); Merve Ünsal, Özge Ersoy (m-est.org); Çelenk Bafra (SAHA)

About SAHA:

Founded in 2011, SAHA has supported the projects of more than 400 artists, curators, writers, and art initiatives in 170 non-profit institutions in 43 countries in 10 years. As a non-profit organization that offers its support to visual arts through a participatory approach in governance and fundraising with its members, institutional supporters, project partners, and consultants, SAHA,

- Collaborates with non-profit organizations to realize exhibitions, publications, projects, and public programs of the invited artists and curators. Over the course of the specific project, SAHA acts as a facilitator and gives production grants if necessary.
- Establishes partnerships with residency and research programs abroad to facilitate the participation of art professionals from Turkey and works directly with the artists and curators invited to SAHA Studio in Istanbul for their new projects and assisting in expanding their networks.
- Helps art institutions and professionals to conduct research in Turkey and produce new projects with artists and curators that they would like to invite.
- Develops funds and programs geared towards contemporary art biennials, art initiatives, and art writers in different parts of the country in order to foster the sustainability of independent artistic production in Turkey.

About the 17th Istanbul Biennial

The 17th Istanbul Biennial, organized by the **Istanbul Foundation for Culture and Arts (İKSV)** and supported by 2007–2026 Biennial Sponsor, Koç Holding, takes place between **17 September-20 November 2022**.

This year, the biennial goes beyond traditional art venues and expands to a dozen different venues including bookstores, second-hand booksellers, hospitals, nursing homes, cafes, metro stops, and a private radio station. In addition to the museums in the historical districts, a calligraphy and bookbinding workshop, a fifteenth-century Turkish bath, a Greek school that has not been used for more than twenty years, and an art space established by immigrant artists are among the biennial venues.

Curated by **Ute Meta Bauer**, **Amar Kanwar** and **David Teh**, and postponed for one year due to the pandemic, the 17th Istanbul Biennial differs from previous editions in terms of its scale, method, and objectives. Considering that this biennial, which was held under the epidemic conditions that affected the whole world, should go beyond the patterns from the past in every sense, the curators focused on a long-term transformation and re-creation processes instead of choosing a theme or title for the exhibition. The Biennial will be a meeting point that nurtures and strengthens the interaction between people working in different geographies and disciplines.

About the World Weather Network

The world's weather is not what it was. We see glaciers melting and water levels rising. Some lands are flooded and others are parched. Everywhere is heating up. Formed in response to the climate emergency, the World Weather Network is a constellation of weather stations set up by 28 art agencies around the world and an invitation to look, listen, learn, and act. From June 21, 2022, to June 21, 2023, artists, writers, and communities will share observations, stories, reflections, and images about their local weather, creating an archipelago of voices and viewpoints. Engaging climate scientists and environmentalists, the World Weather Network brings together diverse world views and different ways of understanding the weather across multiple localities and languages. Climate scientists, environmentalists, and communities will participate in a wide-ranging programme of special events held in each location and online platforms. Over the course of the year, the London Review of Books are commissioning special reports from writers based in many of the locations in the World Weather Network.

For detailed information: www.worldweathernetwork.org ; m-est.org