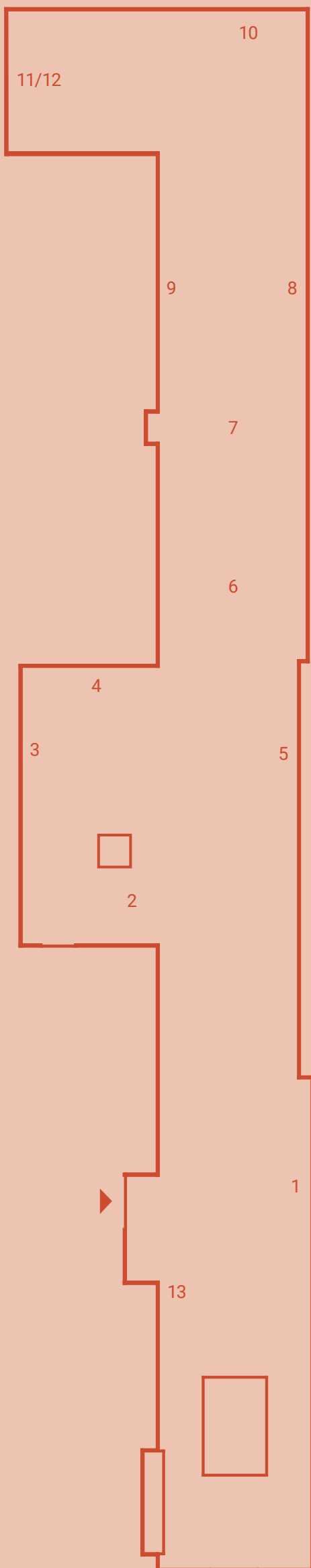


## Works in the exhibition space

- 1 Şener Özmen
- 2 Nuveen Barwari
- 3 Zelal Özkan
- 4 Elif Küçük
- 5 Savaş Boyraz
- 6 Havin Al-Sindy
- 7 Beizar Aradini
- 8 Hêlîn Şahin
- 9 Deniz Aktaş
- 10 Mahmut Celayir
- 11 Fatoş Irwen
- 12 Mehmet Ali Boran
- 13 Miro Kaygalak



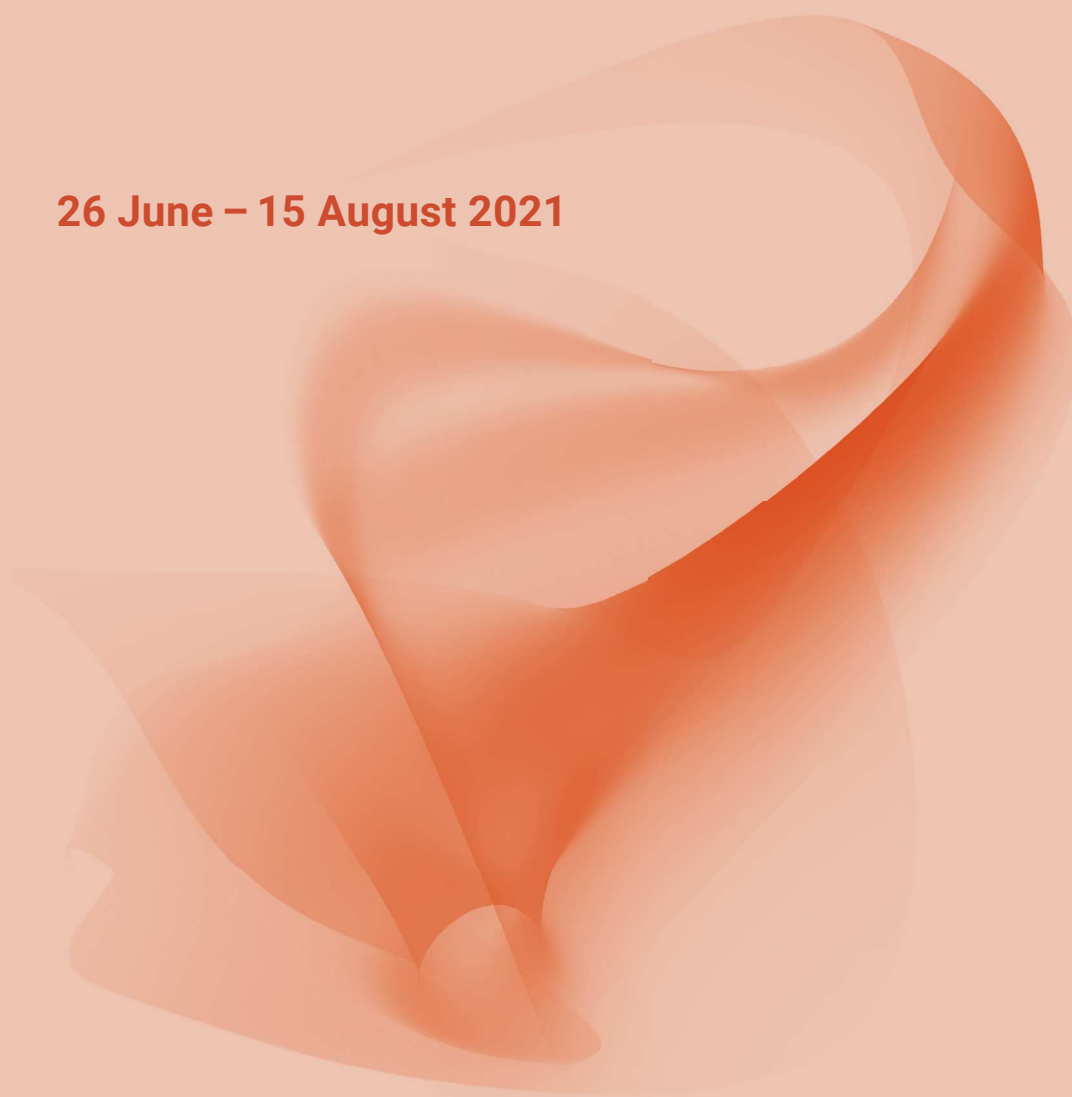
## Opening times

Please refer to the website for the latest information on the accessibility of our spaces during the pandemic

# bê welat

## the unexpected storytellers

26 June – 15 August 2021



neue Gesellschaft  
für bildende Kunst

## Featured artists

Deniz Aktaş  
Havin Al-Sindy  
Beizar Aradini  
Nuveen Barwari  
Mehmet Ali Boran  
Savaş Boyraz  
Mahmut Celayir  
Fatoş Irwen  
Miro Kaygalak  
Elif Küçük  
Zelal Özkan  
Şener Özmen  
Hêlîn Şahin

## Accompanying programme

Hogir Ar  
Mizgîn Müjde Arslan  
Mihemedê Beyro  
Yildiz Çakar  
Ali Kemal Çınar  
Hesen Ildiz  
Hero Kurda  
Mîrza Metîn  
Hêja Netirk  
Fatma Savci  
Karosh Taha  
Diako Yazdani  
Soleen Yusef  
Helim Yûsiv  
Berfin Zenderlioğlu  
and others

Financed by



Supported by



neue Gesellschaft  
für bildende Kunst

Oranienstraße 25  
10999 Berlin

[www.ngbk.de](http://www.ngbk.de)

Instagram:  
[@be\\_welat](https://www.instagram.com/be_welat)

# ngbk

## nGbK project group

Bilal Ata Aktaş, Elif Küçük,  
Duygu Örs, Şener Özmen,  
Engin Sustam

The group show »bê welat – the unexpected storytellers« looks at a wide range of artistic approaches used to make sense of Kurdish realities – largely shaped by communal depression, acts of resistance, trauma, and various conditions of war, colonialism, language prohibitions and states of exile. The focus of this exhibition is on »bê welat«, a condition of home- and statelessness that calls for the rendition and

design of new emancipatory spaces. In this spirit, nGbK will not only be used as a static venue: instead of building on a tradition of ephemerality and outside authorship, the broad programme, curated by fellow Kurdish artists and intellectuals, constitutes an invitation to critically engage with the impact state violence, (neo)colonialism, assimilation laws and sovereignty of authorship have on Kurdish contemporary arts.

While »Kurdishness« is globally tied to images of political activism and anti-colonial resistance, Kurdish artistic interventions are often misunderstood as something supposedly unexpected. But they, too, can be seen as part of a larger Kurdish decolonial practice and self-positioning. Based on the fading tradition of »dengbêjs« - musical bards who orally preserve Kurdish pasts and presents - the aim is to explore newer artistic methods of narrating and materialising Kurdish realities. »bê welat« exhibits works that connect Kurdistan and its various diasporas. These range from re-interpretations of traditional aesthetics, photography, painting all the way to digital sculpting and video art. In their works,

each of the selected artists redefine geography, language and bodies among other aspects. The exhibition’s accompanying programme will expand around »bê welat« through conversations with writers, artists, filmmakers, musicians and scholars. By examining different arts genres such as Kurdish music, theatre, literature and film, the programme aims to facilitate a multidisciplinary exchange within and between Kurdistan’s pluralistic contemporary art scene. »bê welat - the unexpected storytellers« aspires to move away from nostalgia, romanticization and the ever present orientalist tropes, to bring to light material connectivities as well as strategies and perspectives of and on Kurdish resilience.

# program

25 June 2021, 14:00-21:00  
**Soft Opening**  
nGbK / Instagram

1-31 July 2021  
**Online film screenings**  
Vimeo (Original with en subtitles)

»**Gênco**« by Ali Kemal Çınar

»**Toutes les vies de Kojin / The Many Lives of Kojin**«  
by Diako Yazdani

»**Ez firiyam tu mayî li cî / I flew you stayed**«  
by Mizgîn Mûjde Arslan

9-11 July 2021  
**Online film screening**  
Vimeo (Original with en subtitles)  
»**Haus ohne Dach / House without Roof**« by Soleen Yusef

2 July 2021, 18:00  
**Online lecture performance**  
Zoom (en/kur)  
»**The voice of female dengbejs / Dengê dengbêjên jin**«  
with Hêja Netirk

10 July 2021, 18:00  
**Online theater workshop**  
Zoom (kur)  
»**Çîrokên bêzincîrkirî / Unchained stories**« with Berfin Zenderlioğlu

14 July 2021, 18:00  
**Online talk**  
Zoom (en)  
»**Roads to take through film**«  
with Mizgîn Mûjde Arslan, Soleen Yusef and Özgür Çiçek

24 July 2021, 17:00  
**Talk**  
tba (kur/de)  
»**Li sirgûnê wêje, li malê berxwedan / Literatur im Exil, Widerstand zu Hause**«  
with Yildiz Çakar, Hesên Ildiz, Fatma Savci, Karosh Taha and Helim Yûsiv

31 July 2021, 14:00  
**Theater workshop**  
tba (kur/en)  
»**Agoraya Lîstikan / Agora of games**« with Mîrza Metîn

Throughout the exhibition, a series of talks, interviews and portraits will be launched on the Instagram and Vimeo channel of the project group. **Detailed and up-to-date information on all dates at [ngbk.de](http://ngbk.de) and Instagram: [@be\\_welat](https://www.instagram.com/be_welat)**