

FARAH
SALEH



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PAST-inuous

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"We came together from Gaza, Nablus, Edinburgh and Berlin on Zoom to unfold and exchange our grandparents' gestures in Palestine before the Israeli Occupation."

Farah Saleh is a Palestinian dancer and choreographer active in Palestine, Europe and the US. She studied linguistic and cultural mediation in Italy in parallel with her studies in contemporary dance. Since 2010 she took part in local and international projects with Sareyyet Ramallah Dance Company (Palestine), the Royal Flemish Theatre and Les Ballets C de la B (Belgium), Mancopy Dance Company (Denmark/Lebanon), Siljehom/Christoffersen (Norway) and Candoco Dance Company (UK).

Saleh has also been teaching dance, coordinating and curating artistic projects since 2010 with the Palestinian Circus School, Sareyyet Ramallah and the Ramallah Contemporary Dance Festival. In 2016 she co-founded the Ramallah Dance Summer School, which runs now annually. In 2014 she won the third prize of the Young Artist of the Year Award (YAYA) organised by A.M. Qattan Foundation in Palestine for her installation, 'A Fidayee Son' in Moscow and in 2016 she won the dance prize of Palest'In and Out Festival in Paris for the duet La Môme. She is currently an Associate Artist at Dance Base in Edinburgh, UK.

'Past-inuous' is an interactive video dance installation created through an international digital collaboration with 11 Palestinian dancers and video artist, Lucas Kao. The dancers, most of whom are third generation refugees, currently live in Palestine and the diaspora including Edinburgh, Berlin, Gaza and Nablus.

The idea was conceived in November 2019 to reflect the ongoing Palestinian refugee problem since 1948, by the creation of Israel on Palestinian land and the expulsion of Palestinians all around the world, now estimated to be 5 million.

The work considers the bodies of the eleven artists as living archives. It attempts to dig into these archives to find connections between the artists' daily gestures of the present, and the gestures of their expelled families in the past. In doing this it aspires to reflect on the future of the Palestinian refugee cause in particular, and its connection to the current global refugee condition.

The work will be available in November 2020 as an interactive dance video, with an interactive installation available in 2021.