

Creative collaboration with young refugees

photography, art & writing

Vincen Beeckman & Aimee Kelley

Brussels project

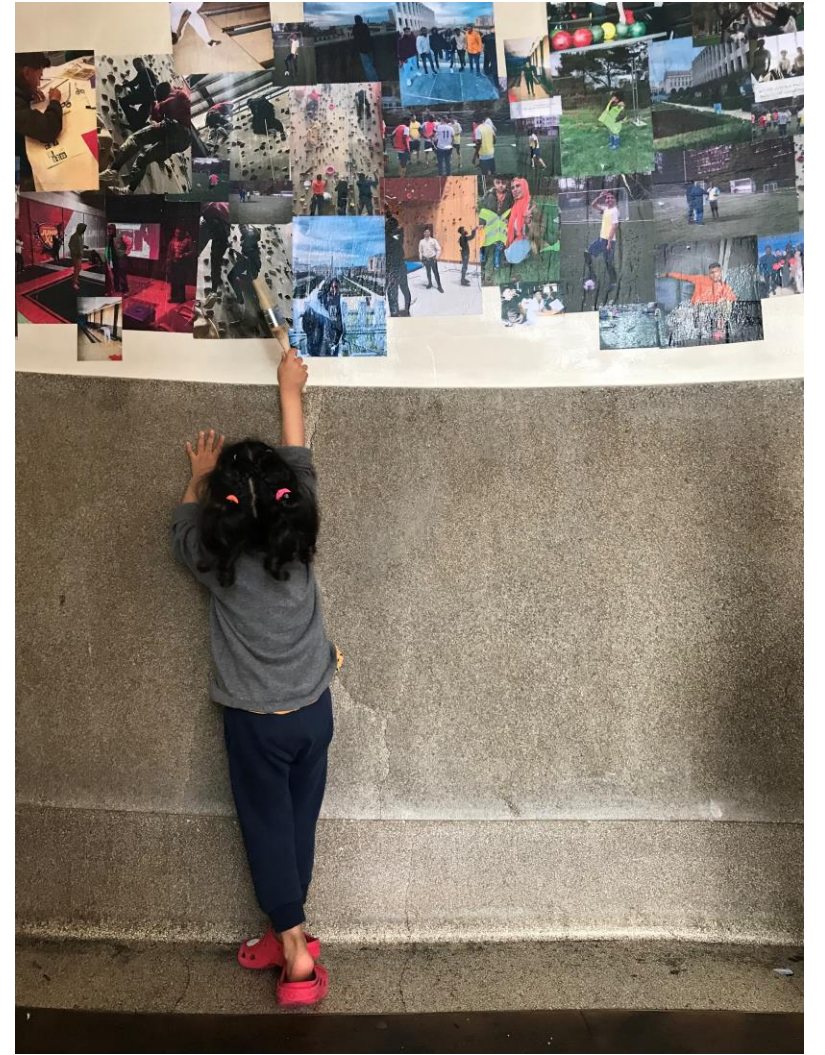
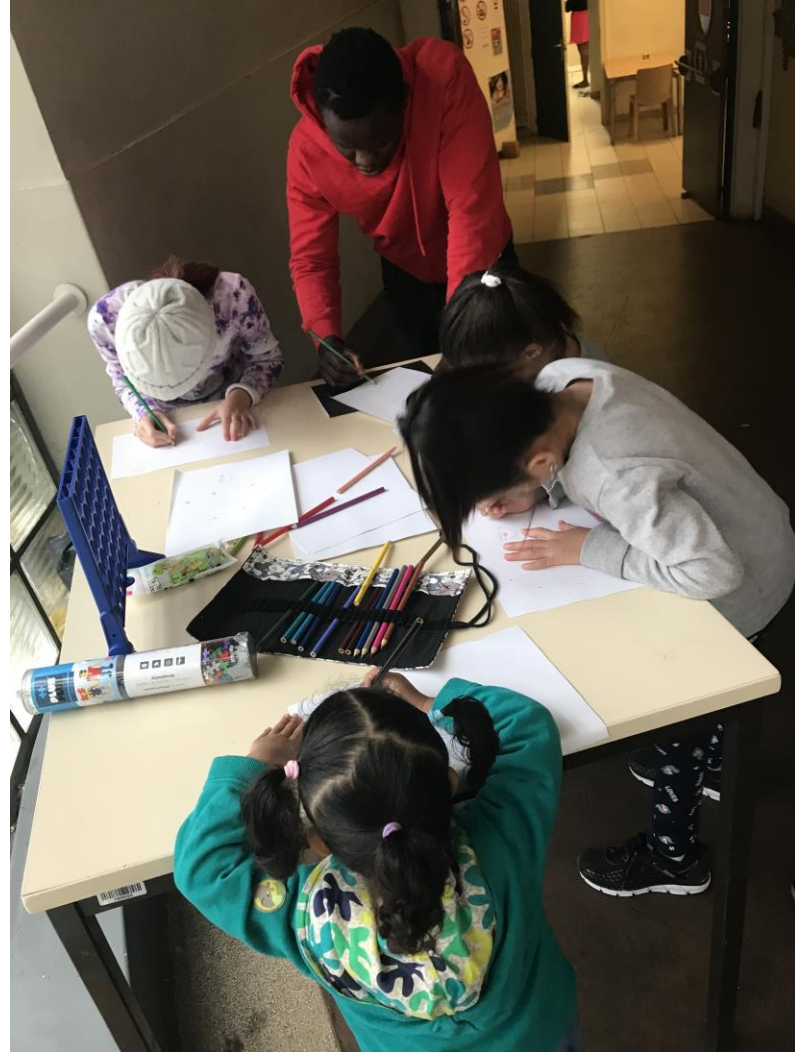
November 2023 – current

- Fedasil reception center
- Residents' photos via WhatsApp
- Selection of excerpts by writers from residents' countries
- Open houses
- BOZAR video project May 2023

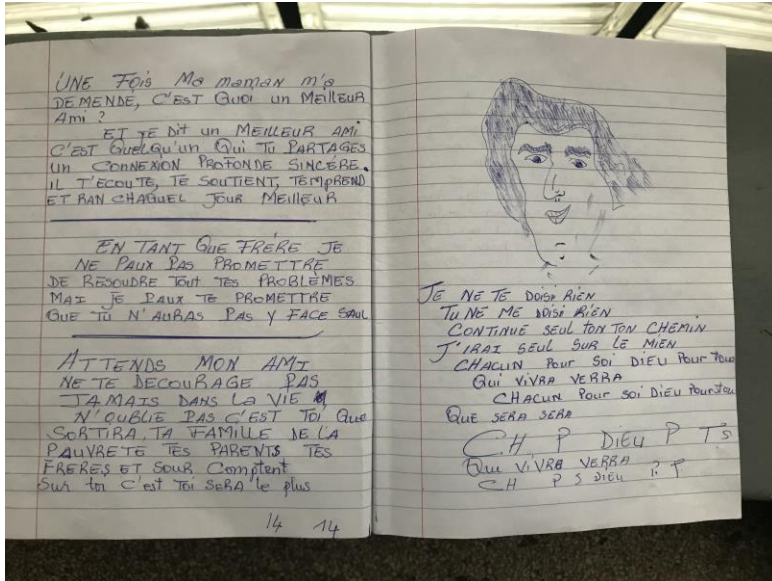


Participation & collaboration





Writing



Be as bright as the sun, brother
Sweet as a date, brother

Don't be mean to your brothers
All loyalty is loyalty brother

There is pain if there are wounds
There is medicine for every sorrow, brother

O brothers, be like hearts
Just the whole world, brother

I won't get better from being sad
Let me be apart brother

💖💖💖
لمر په شان رڼا وی ورور 👤
خوږ لکه خرما وی ورور 👤

لورونو ته بد مه واي يې
ټول وفا وفا وي ورور 🧡👤

خمنه وی ز درد وی که
هر غم ته دوا وی ورور 💊

رونه وی زای ورونه لکه
بس ټوله دنیا وی ورور

ه غمجن به بنه نه شمز 🙄
څو مې چې جدا وي ورور



Part 2: BOZAR video project

- Six residents, seven months
- Short (~30 seconds) videos documenting their everyday lives
- Compiled and exhibited at BOZAR festival
- Attended by current Fedasil residents and some of the artists





Book



REF. [10] A.K. SEND PHOTOS WHATSAPP

WHY DON'T YOU PASTE MY PHOTOS?

FR Pendant notre procédure pour le titre de séjour on te fait savoir les conditions dans lesquelles nous sommes éligibles.

Parfois nous nous rendons compte que tu passes toutes ces conditions. Parfois on te fait savoir que même les personnes qui étaient dans les conditions n'ont pas pu l'obtenir. Nous remettons alors en question notre appartenance à la société et tout notre parcours.

DOUTE

10



REF. [4] A.K. SEND PHOTOS WHATSAPP

DO WE EXIST IF WE ARE NOT SEEN?

FR Parfois dans certaines étapes de notre aventure envers les habitants du pays dans lequel tu te trouves. La manière dont ils nous traitent. Parfois par le système d'accueil des étrangers mis en place.

DÉGÔT

4

Positive impacts

- Recognition – being seen, valued
- Community – “family” photo album/Facebook
- Belonging
- Visibility to outside world
 - Open houses
 - BOZAR exhibit
 - Forthcoming book

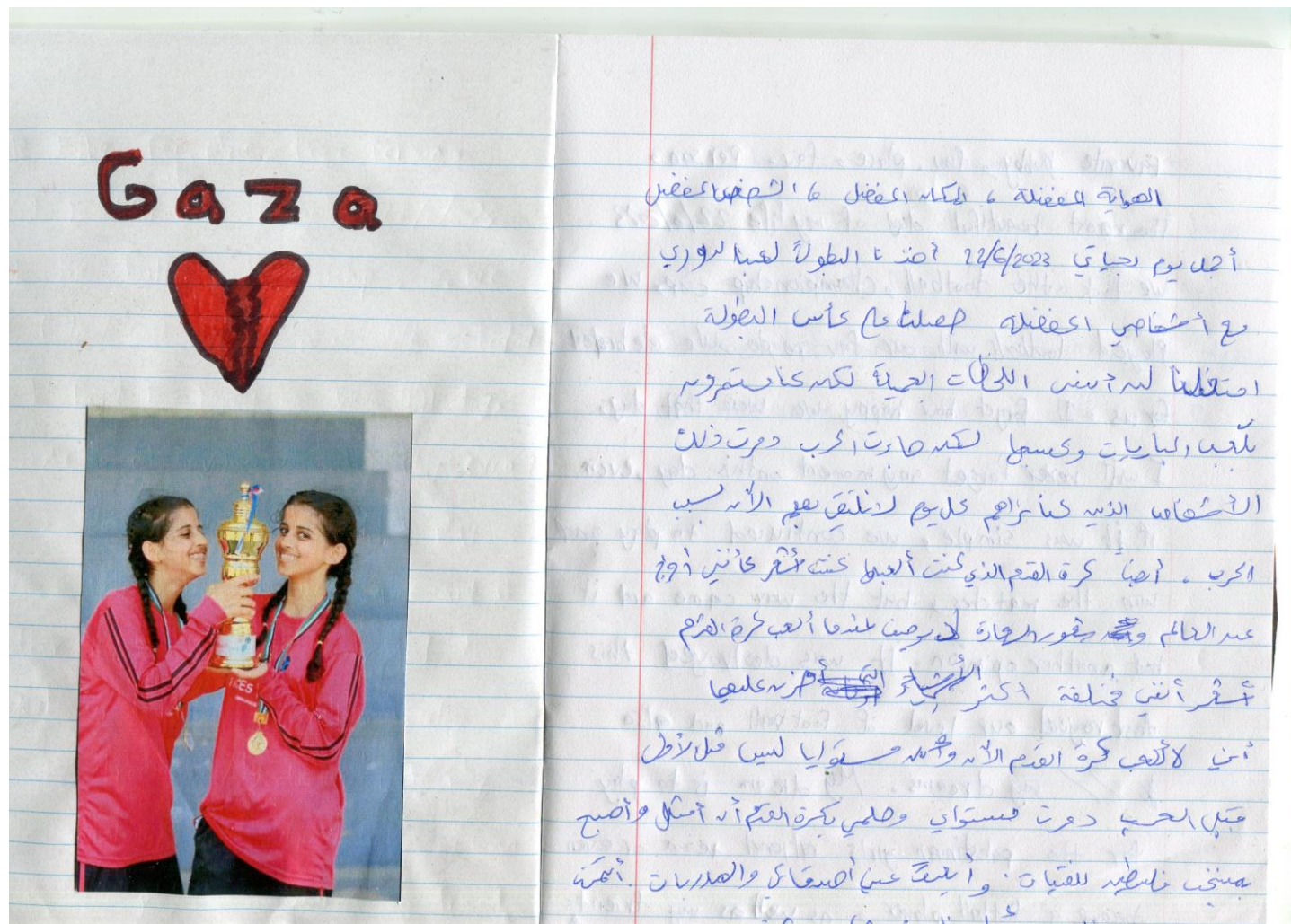
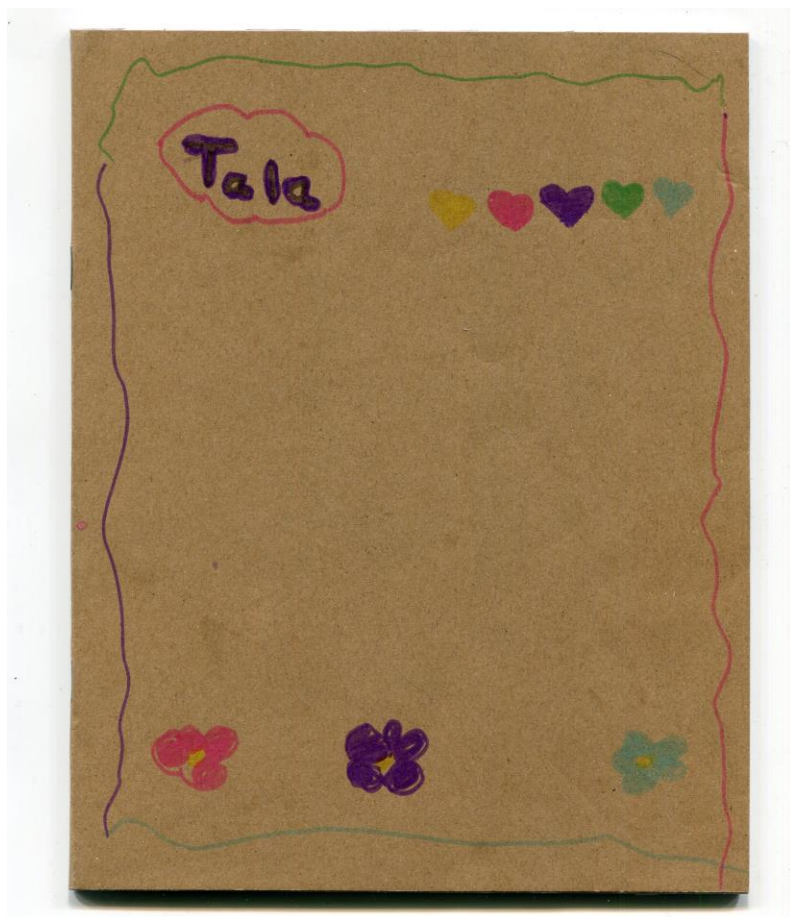
Cairo project

August 2024 – current

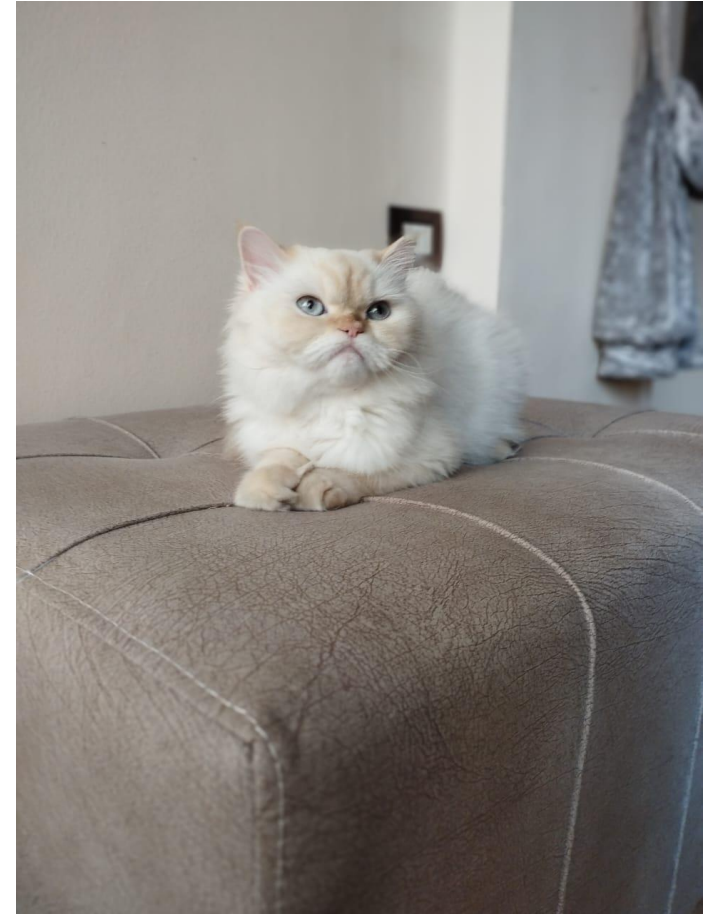
- Art project with Gazan children ages 9-15
- Workshops with homework
- Photography, drawing, painting, writing



Notebooks



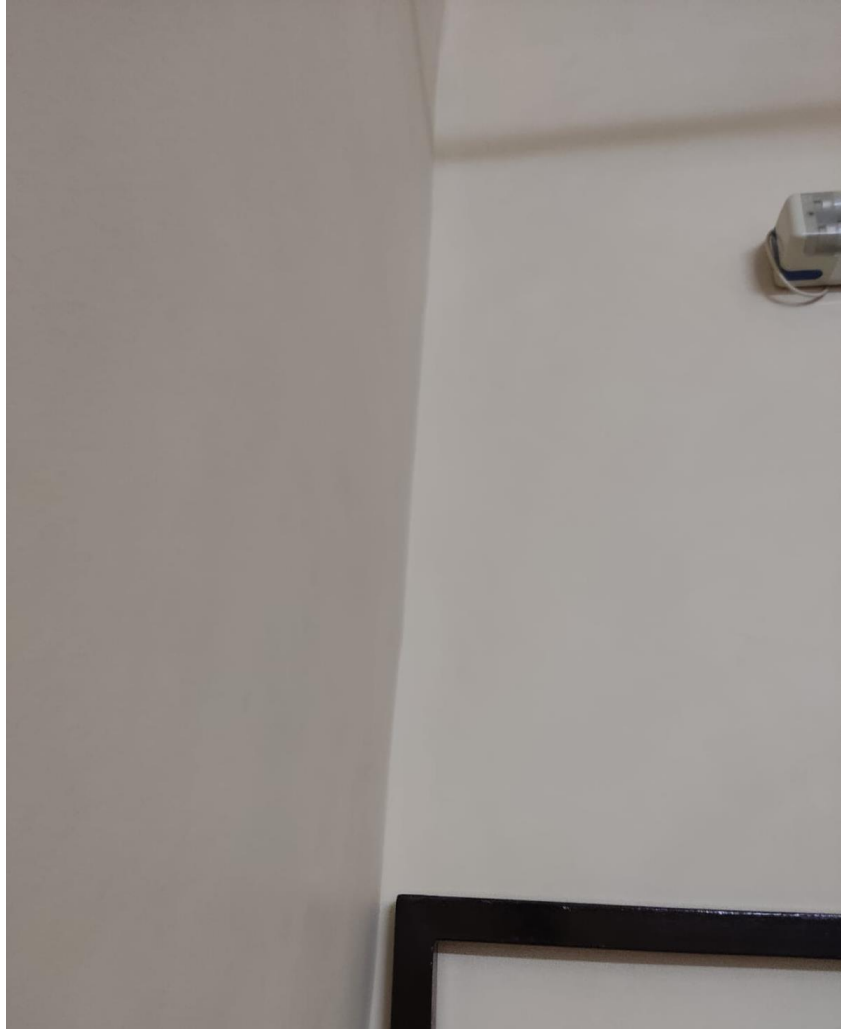
Homework



Take a photo of an activity that you do



Take a photo of something important in your home



For me, I consider the walls of the house to be a very important thing. After my experience with war, I discovered that living between the walls of a wall is a great blessing. We must thank God for it. It protects you from the eyes of people and protects you from the cold of winter and the heat of summer. It protects you from the smoke and pollution of the street, from the noise of the world, and from stray bullets that do not know where they go.

Mays, 15

Take a photo of something important in your home



I love television because it entertains my time and keeps me away from the mobile phone. I check on my country and hear the news daily.

Mera, 11

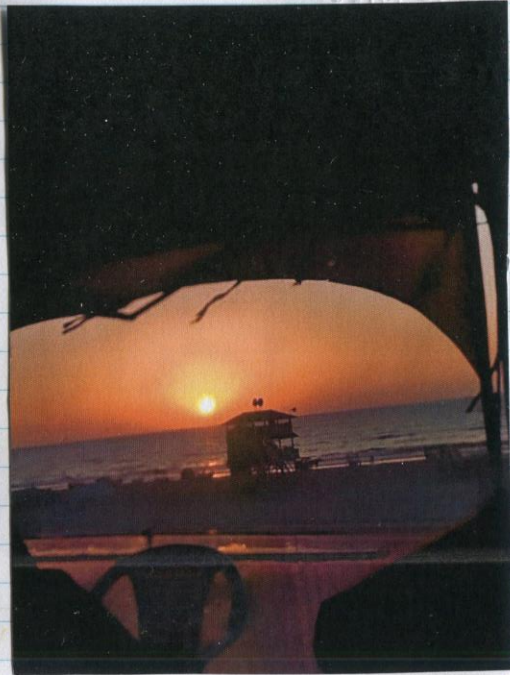
Take a photo of something in your neighborhood



You ask me why I took a picture of a school. All children go to their schools and learn except us Palestinians. You know, I wish I didn't hate going to school. I used to hate writing in class, but now I regret it. I wish I could tell the school how much I missed it and my friends. How much I missed us going early and playing in the yard. I missed us fighting over who would stand first in the queue. I miss you, my friends. I miss you, my teachers. I miss my school. I'm ready to write all over the board just to go to school. I miss Miss Wahiba and Miss Wasima, who were martyred in this war, may Allah have mercy on them.

Jood, 10

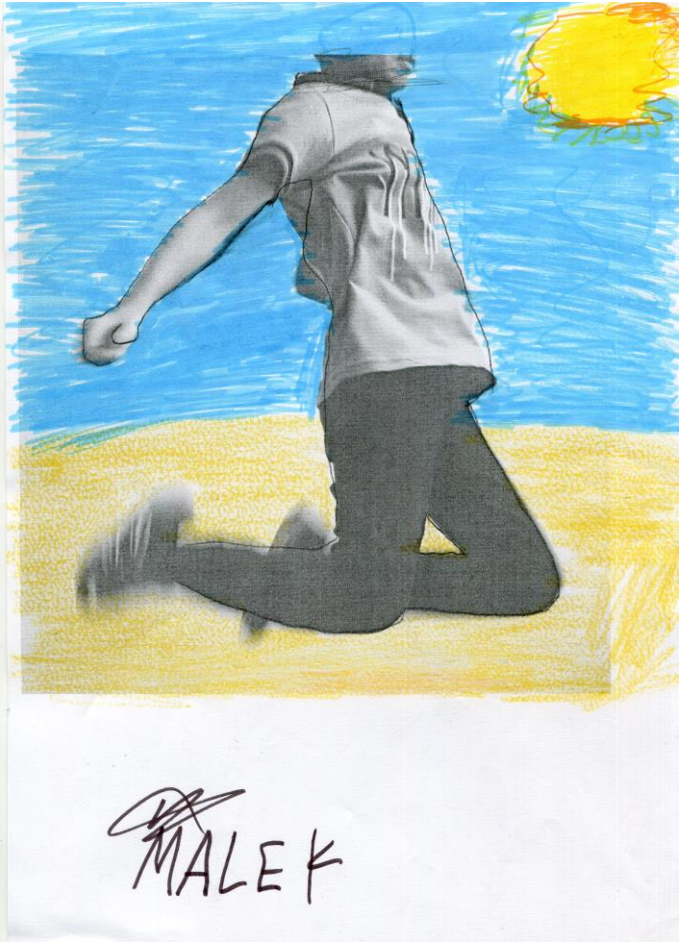
→ Gaza shore ←



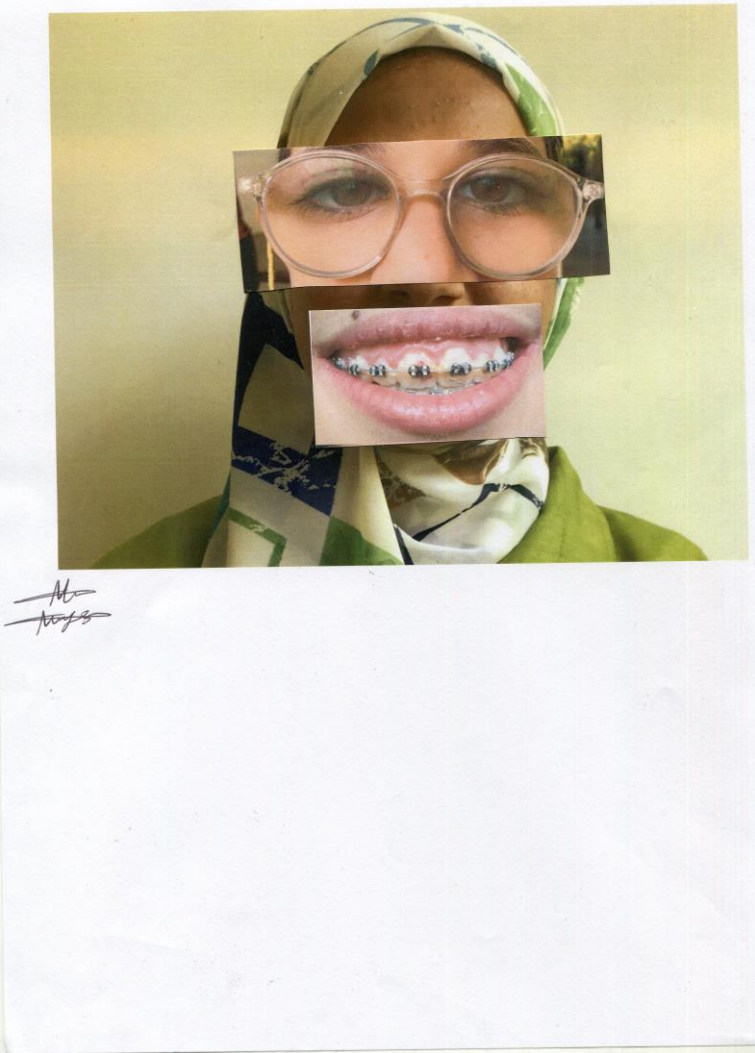
* صورة لبحر غزة قبل يومين من الحرب كنا ظالمين نخرج
حو أختنا وبابا ونفقد على البحر وقتها كنا مشغولين ليليا
ومشغولين لبحر غزة أختنا كانت تادي الصورة علينا نبتل بحرب
مبارتنا والبحر والعبارة الطرة التي كنا فاشينها علينا
عاش

This pic is a pic of Gaza sea 2-Days before *
The war we were out to feel better and spend
a good time with the family and eat some
good food enjoying summer time and take
a ride with our car with dad (I miss him so much)
I look at this pic and remember the beautiful
life we were living before the war separated us.

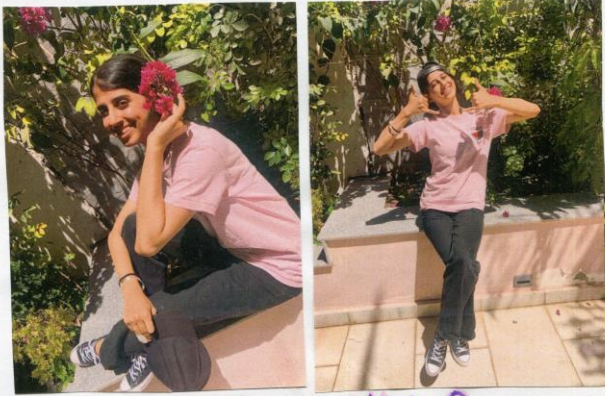
Workshop – in motion



Workshop – self portraits

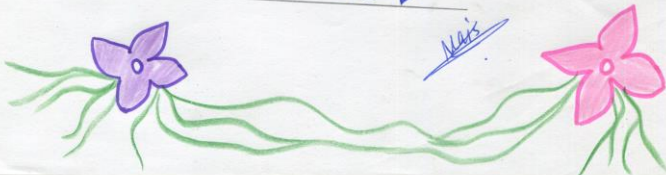


Workshop – Who is/My name is...



Who is Mais?

I am Mais, I am 15 years old, from Gaza - Palestine and I lived in the Tal Al-Hawa neighborhood. I love football, Dabkah, singing, and playing the piano. I love my family and my cities, Gaza and Egypt. I love myself, I am confident in myself, I love pictures, and I also love life. ♥



my name mohammed saleh

my hobby: Football and swimming

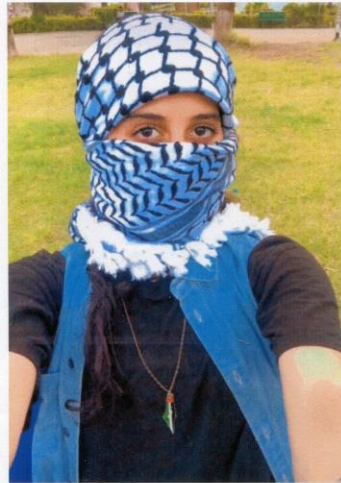
I love my mother and father
but I don't love my sister
I love my self



Hello, my name's May ♥

I am 14 years old. I am of Palestinian origin but I also have Egyptian citizenship. My father is Palestinian and my mother is Egyptian. Among my hobbies, I love dabke very much and I love swimming and cooking. I dream of becoming a good journalist and I hope to be a successful woman in the future who will get her own ^{car} and ^{my} build own company and my own and also I want to be successful on my own and do not need anyone. I hope to travel to many countries and build good relationships. In the end, I hope to return to my beautiful country Palestine, and pray in Jerusalem soon, God willing.

Workshop – the future



The future

None of us knows anything about the future. What will happen before God? only Allah knows our fate

Where we are going and what will happen. Days change in seconds. Everything changes.

People change and their desires change. I myself want to become a dentist and an ~~world class~~ international football player.



آن يدي أهليلج شر كس علمتنا ان أقدر على الحربية أحقق الامنة بين الناس



Journalist

اعتقد انه مهنة اصعب من مميزات لا تتغير معلومات اخبار الجمهور هي ايضا اخبار الامارات
الفرق على البنت جمع المعلومات وتحليلها وتبويبها في واضح ولها دور في تعزيز حقوق الانسان وتاهم
في نقل الحقيقة حسب امسائر الظلمانية. اريد ان اصبح صحفية حتى اقول الحقيقة و
المعاد الصريحه التي حبستها وهو حامي من الطغاة اتمنى ان لا يتغير.

Positive impacts

- Activity – something to do; out of the house
- Creativity, self-expression
- Self-confidence
- Forward-looking

More info

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