



## CITY OF SYRACUSE PUBLIC ART APPLICATION

All applications for the installation of public art will be evaluated based on the seven (7) criteria enumerated below. It is understood that some criteria will have more relevance than others depending on the proposed artwork. This will be taken into account and the criteria weighted accordingly.

- Artistic merit and quality, as substantiated by an artist's past history of exhibitions or sales, awards or other recognition, or an outstanding first work, as well as the inherent quality in terms of timelessness of vision, design, aesthetics and excellence;
- Intentionality of the artist, concerning the meaning and proposed or desired effect of the work as Public Art upon the viewing public, as rationalized and elaborated upon in the project description;
- Local significance, creating a sense of excitement in public spaces and presenting fresh ways of seeing the community and city reflected;
- Representation of styles and tastes within the public art collection, acknowledging existing works in the public art collection and striving for diversity of style, scale and media;
- Safety and durability, including the ability of the artwork to withstand weather conditions, as well as structural and surface integrity;
- Unrestricted public viewing, primarily the opportunity for public access, but also suitability for public participation, social and political attitudes, and functional considerations; and
- Installation and maintenance of the work, from practicality of fabrication and transport, to installation and long-term care.

**PROJECT NAME:** Lawrence Abu Hamden: *Walled Unwalled*

**PROJECT TYPE:** Temporary installation, February 6-March 28, 2020 (Thursday- Saturday, dusk-11pm)

**LOCATION:** Urban Video Project, Everson Museum of Art (permissions have been granted)

**ARTWORK TYPE:** Looping video projection (21 minutes)

### **ARTWORK DESCRIPTION:**

Light Work's Urban Video Project presents this application for an exhibition featuring the work of multimedia artist, forensic acoustics researcher, and 2019 Turner Prize recipient, Lawrence Abu Hamdan.

UVP plans to show Abu Hamdan's 2018 piece, *Walled Unwalled*. This piece examines a series of legal cases in which evidence was obtained or experienced through walls, doors or floors. Focusing on crimes experienced at the threshold of perception, it considers how solid

structures are increasingly unable to prevent the flow of information or to maintain the barrier between private and public space.

This twenty-minute video includes monologues, projected images, moving walls and the performance of different sounds. It was filmed inside the Funkhaus sound studios in East Berlin, previously the broadcast headquarters for the GDR state radio. In focusing on the process of acoustic and thermal bleed, *Walled Unwalled* helps us to understand how trauma and violence themselves seep between the senses, and across spatial, temporal and personal boundaries.

**ARTIST BIOGRAPHY:**

Lawrence Abu Hamdan (b.1985, Jordan) is an artist and audio investigator based in Beirut, Lebanon. His background as a touring musician led him to develop a deep interest in sound and its intersection with politics, which has come to share his practice. His audio investigations have been used as evidence at the UK Asylum and Immigration Tribunal and as advocacy for organizations such as Amnesty International and Defense for Children International. The artist is affiliated with the Forensic Architecture department at Goldsmiths College London where he received his PhD in 2017. Abu Hamdan is the author of the artist book *[inaudible]: A Politics of Listening in 4 Acts*. Recent solo exhibitions include the Tate Modern, London (2018); Hammer Museum, Los Angeles (2018); Portikus, Frankfurt (2016); Van Abbemuseum, Eindhoven (2014) and The Showroom, London (2012).

In 2019, Abu Hamdan was nominated, along with three fellow finalists, for Britain's most prestigious award in the visual arts, the Turner Prize. Based on what the nominees mutually assessed to be different, but equally politically important projects of each, Abu Hamdan and his three fellow finalists petitioned the award committee not to select a single winner in the name of "commonality, multiplicity and solidarity." The committee accepted this request, and the 2019 Turner Prize was jointly awarded for the first time ever.

**LINK TO VIEW WORK:**

Walled Unwalled (2018)

<https://vimeo.com/256700729>

pass: funkhaus

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