

SFU third-year visual art students: Debbie Chan, Sena Cleave, Sofia Grace, Shinaaz K. Johal, Ritz Li, Daniel Lin, Quinn Lumsden, Sahar Rahmanian, Ravneet Kaur Sidhu, Paige Smith, Xiaotong Sun (Shiny), Lil Waldegger, and Yunze Xie (David)

Sabine Bitter is a Vancouver-based artist and Professor at the School for Contemporary Arts at Simon Fraser University, Vancouver. She collaborates with Vienna-based artist Helmut Weber on projects addressing the politics of representation and space. Engaging with architecture as a frame for spatial meaning, their research-oriented practice resulted in projects like *Educational Modernism* and *Housing the Social*. In 2004, Sabine Bitter, Jeff Derksen and Helmut Weber formed the urban research collective *Urban Subjects* whose collaboration led to several exhibitions, including *If Time Is Still Alive* with Camera Austria, Graz, 2021.

Laura U. Marks is Grant Strate University Professor at the School for Contemporary Arts at Simon Fraser University, Vancouver. Her research focuses on media art and philosophy with an intercultural focus, and on small-footprint media. Her publications include *Hanan al-Cinema: Affections for the Moving Image* (MIT, 2015) and *Enfoldment and Infinity: An Islamic Genealogy of New Media Art* (MIT, 2010). She develops experimental media programmes for venues around the world, most recently the *First Annual Small File Media Festival*, Vancouver, 2020.

Heba Y. Amin is a Berlin-based multimedia artist, researcher, and lecturer. She works with political themes and archival history, using mediums including film, photography, archival material, lecture performance and installation. Amin is currently the 2021 Spring Audain Visual Artist in Residence at the School for the Contemporary Arts at Simon Fraser University. She is the co-founder of the *Black Athena Collective*, curator of visual art for the *MIZNA* journal, and currently sits on the editorial board of the *Journal of Digital War*.

Anthony Downey is Professor of Visual Culture in the Middle East and North Africa (Birmingham City University). He is the Cultural Lead and Co-Investigator on a four-year AHRC funded research project that focuses on cultural practices, education, and digital methodologies in Lebanon, Palestine and Jordan (2020-2024). He sits on the editorial boards of *Third Text* and the *Journal of Digital War*, respectively, and is the series editor for *Research/Practice* (Sternberg Press, 2019–ongoing). He is currently writing up his forthcoming volume *Unbearable States: Digital Media and Cultural Activism in a Post-Digital Age* (2021).

The Audain Visual Artist in Residence (AVAIR) program brings artists and practitioners to Vancouver who have contributed significantly to the field of contemporary art and whose work resonates with local and international visual art discourses. The visiting artists interact with the students and faculty of the School for the Contemporary Arts as well as the broader visual arts and cultural communities and the community-at-large. In keeping with the experimental nature of the School for the Contemporary Arts the terms of engagement are open and change from artist to artist. The cornerstone of the residency is the sharing of artistic research. The program is generously funded by the Audain Foundation Endowment Fund.