

QUEENS MUSEUM

Corona Park, Flushing Meadows
New York

The Partnership Gallery

November 21 - December 31, 2015

Bordr

WE EXPLORE BORDERS

WHAT BORDER HAVE YOU CROSSED?

Exhibition that explores your own border crossings
Seminar on borders in space, mind, and time



THE BORDERS THEY CROSSED



Sherif Sadek

"Project Borders Queens" - 2012

Sherif Sadek of Queens, New York, travelled to Egypt with a borrowed camera. He was one of six Bordr project participants - all New Yorkers from five continents returning to their roots. The mission was to photograph and tell stories of borders crossed during their lives between multiple homes.

Sherifs' strongest crossing turned out not geographical, but emotional, it was when he met his wife, Claudia, then crossing into parenthood, and returning to Egypt after the revolution.

Stories of the project became a new media player and laid the ground for the Bordr app.

Project organized by the Bordr team for:
Queens Museum, Columbia University, and The New School



Aida Tomela

"Across African Borders" - 2010, 2014

Aida Tomela of Maputo, Mozambique, was one of eight cross border traders that borrowed cameras to document the life of Southern African cross border traders for a Bordr advocacy project.

Aidas' stories told of injustice and intimidation, but also of family warmth, the making of good grilled chicken, and the frustration of being unable to help those in need.

Stories from the project have travelled exhibitions in nine countries and are now turned into a live interactive database of African borders.

Project organized by the Bordr team for:
Economic Justice Network of FOCCISA, South Africa



Amanda Dahlin

"Borders of Dals Långed" - 2013

Amanda Dahlin of Dals Långed, Sweden, borrowed a camera to photograph the borders of her daily life in school. She was one of 62 pupils in a Bordr school project in arts and literature.

Amanda told the story of her crossing between the schoolyard and the forest where she used to play. Other pupils told of crossings between life and death, young and old, and love and hate.

Stories from the project were used for in-depth workshops, a digital platform, and a mutual public exhibition.

Project organized by the Bordr team for:
The Ekbags Middle School, Bengtsfors County, Steneby School of Craft and Design, Sweden



Said Mohamad Ali Hmada

"Stateless in Jordan" - 2012

Said Mohamad Ali Hmada of Jarash, Jordan, borrowed a camera to document life in the refugee camp where he lives. He was one of ten participants in an OSF/ Bordr research project on statelessness in the Middle East.

Said told stories of being stuck between systems, what life is like without papers, the power hierarchy of the camp, and how basket ball and the Quran becomes escapes from daily life.

Stories from the project were part of OSF research and published in magazines.

Project organized by the Bordr team for:
Open Society Foundation Justice Initiative, New York/Amman

THE BORDERS YOU CROSS

Centred around the stories of people like Sherif, Amanda, Aida, and Said - the exhibition show and tell their most important border stories - this exhibition also, and crucially, ask the exhibition visitors to tell their own stories!

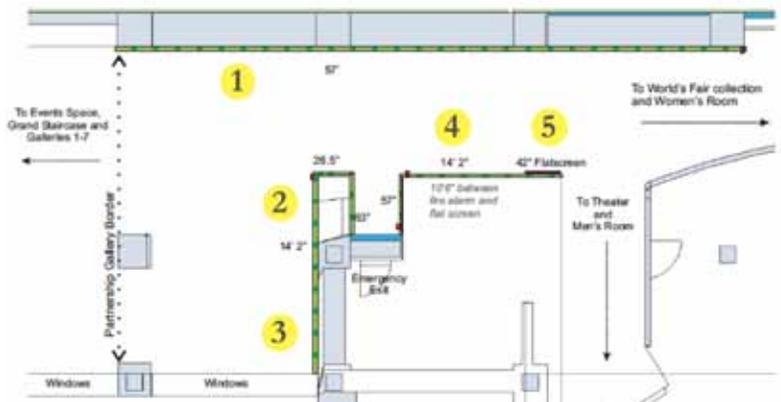
“What border have you crossed?” is part of a continuing, and developing Bordr exhibition series. It is a direct descendant of its Swedish predecessor “Project Borders Vision” at the Steneby School of Craft and Design in 2013.

The exhibition grows and changes constantly with input from its audience. No two visits will be the same, and it will ultimately say as much about Queens as about the visitors, the local-global world they live in, and the borders they care about. The options of input are much varied. Digital and analogue.

The design shown here is preliminary and will be ultimately decided when we work in the space. All the modules are, however, already in existence and tested.



1. On the main wall fifteen, 7’ tall, portraits of participants in Bordr-projects show one border photograph and one story each.



2. “Where do you come from”, “where are you going”, and “where/how/why do you cross the border” - interactive Bordr blackboard.



4. Bordr post-it notes ask about the borders you want to cross towards the future. The visionary borders of the audience.



3. A whiteboard world-map to draw new borders and countries to make your own world.



5. An iPad with the Bordr app, ask: “What border have you crossed” - “here- there” inputs are followed by experience questions. Live border pairings and visualizations shown on the data connected flat-screen TV.



OPENING and SEMINAR

What border have you crossed?

Queens Museum Auditorium, November 21, 2 - 4 pm

The audience are the co-creators of this exercise to create our own narrative across space, mind, and time. We explore the borders of Queens and bring up different aspects of border exploration methodology. How can border experiences be connected? And what does it mean beyond technology and concepts? Along the way we dig into the history and idea of the exhibition, pilot-projects, and the Bordr organization.

Moderator/seminar/workshop leader:
Marcus Haraldsson, acting Exec Director, Bordr

November 21, 2015, Partnership Gallery
Preliminary program

9.30 am

Inofficial opening with link to Sweden
- Live video link to the opening of a Bordr digital station at the Steneby School of Craft and Design, Sweden

12 noon - 2 pm

Informal talks with visitors

2 - 4 pm

Opening and seminar/workshop:
What border have you crossed?

4 pm - 5 pm

Drinks and snacks



