PRESS RELEASE

Noor Abed

to those who see in the dark

7 November 2026 – 10 February 2027

Opening: 7 November 2026, 3–8pm

41 rue Mazarine, Paris 6e



Noor Abed, *we walk in our sleep*, 2026 (film still), photo credit: Noor Abed, Courtesy of the artist

Galerie Imane Farès presents *to those who see in the dark*, Noor Abed's first exhibition in France.

"The exhibition follows the very structure of the territory that runs through her work, and her films in particular. In the gallery's lower room, four of her films are gathered, from *Penelope* (2014) to *we walk in our sleep* (2026) [shown in France for the first time, just a few months after its premiere at the Biennale Matter of Art in Prague]. This room below can be understood as a well, or as a cave dug deep into the earth: a subterranean chamber from which the rest of her work emanates. Above, closer to the surface, are her photographs, drawings and notes.

In Noor Abed's films, territory, dance, and mourning are inseparable. They do not appear as subjects that the films set out to represent, but rather as forces that continually transform one another. Territory is never simply landscape; dance is never merely choreography; mourning is never confined to grief. Together they form a language through which Abed asks how bodies inhabit a land saturated with memory, violence, disappearance, and forms of life that nevertheless persist (...)

[The photographs, drawings, notes, images] do not constitute the preparatory stages of something waiting to become complete. Nor are they evidence leading towards a definitive interpretation. Fragmentation is itself a mode of research: a way of exploring the necessity of making connections despite their apparent impossibility. (...) The fragment stays close to a moment, to a feeling, to a memory of a loved one... it preserves the singular way in which one person receives and transmits the world. These fragments do not attempt to make experience whole, but near: they keep the joy close, they keep the panic close, within reach, allowing what is personal, unfinished, to become a form of thought in its own right. They embody something profoundly political and radically important: the refusal to transform Palestinian experience into abstraction."

– Chus Martínez, excerpt from the text accompanying the exhibition



Photo © Mahmoud Ziad Shehade

Noor Abed (Palestine) is an artist working at the intersection of performance and film. Her research focuses on the role of collective rhythmic movement and the potential impact shared feelings can evoke in creating and sustaining a community. Abed considers how alternative forms of representation can disrupt established discourses and open up possibilities for new collective imaginaries.

She attended the Whitney Independent Study Program in New York in 2015-16, and the Home Workspace Program (HWP) at Ashkal Alwan, Beirut, in 2016-17. She was a fellow at the Raw Material Company in Dakar in 2019. In 2020, she co-founded the School of Intrusions, an independent educational platform in Ramallah, Palestine. Abed was an assistant curator for documenta fifteen, Kassel 2021-22, an artist in residence at the Rijksakademie in Amsterdam 2022-24.

She was awarded the Han Nefkens Foundation/ Museu Tàpies Film Production Grant in 2022, and her film *A Night We Held Between* was selected as a first-prize winner of the e-flux Film Award 2024. Abed is the Grand prize recipient of the 36th Ljubljana Biennale of Graphic Arts. Her book *Stars at Midday* was published by Occasional Papers in October 2024.

Selected texts:
– Truls Lie, "Noor Abed: Small pockets of resistance", Modern Times review, 3 October 2026
– "Resistance as Ritual", an interview with Noor Abed by Emily Jisoo Bowles, Talking Shorts, 11 August 2025
– "For All Wars to Come", an interview with Noor Abed by Adele Jarrar, NO NIIN Magazine, Issue 18, August 2023

Films in the exhibition

Three films screened in a continuous loop
Penelope (2014)
our songs were ready for all wars to come (2021)
A Night We Held Between (2024)

On Saturdays 7 and 28 November 2026 and 9 and 30 January 2027, as well as on request, *we walk in our sleep* (2026) is screened in place of this loop.



Noor Abed, *A Night We Held Between*, 2024 (film still), photo credit: Noor Abed. Courtesy of the artist



Noor Abed, *A Night We Held Between*, 2024 (film still), photo credit: Noor Abed. Courtesy of the artist



Noor Abed, *a study of a stick: movement notations and notes on defiance* (2025), 36th Ljubljana Biennale of Graphic Arts, The Oracle, 2025, installation view at the Museum of Modern Art (MG+). Photo: Jaka Babnik. MGLC Archive.



Noor Abed, *we walk in our sleep*, 2026 (film still), photo credit: Noor Abed. Courtesy of the artist



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