

CREATING HOPE TOGETHER

VIRTUAL SERIES

UNMASKING

GBV



THURSDAY
MARCH 20, 2024

IMP ACT

TRANSFORMING
CONFLICT WITH ARTS
AND CULTURE

MARKING THE WOMEN'S
HISTORY MONTH

EVENT FLOW

9:00 am ET
2:00 pm CET
10:00 pm JST

9:20 am ET
2:20pm CET
10:20 pm JST

10:15 am ET
3:15pm CET
11:15 pm JST

10:50 am ET
3: 50 pm CET
11:50 pm JST

Welcome and Introduction

Armine Avetisyan, IMPACT

Check-in with the Audience

Bonface Beti, Seba Kourani

STORIES

On creatively countering GBV

1. Olena Kalashnykova (Ukraine)
 - o Fluid Sculpture
2. Camila Cano (Mexico)
 - o Fluid Sculpture
3. Giorgi Rodionov (Georgia)
 - o Fluid Sculpture
4. Samya Arif (Pakistan)
 - o Fluid Sculpture



Engaging with the Audience's Stories through:

LONG STORIES

OR

RANT TECHNIQUE

OR

MAILBOX TECHNIQUE

Olena Kalashnykova, Bonface Beti,
Seba Kourani

Check-out Ritual

Seba Kourani



“

BIOS

SPEAKERS

FACILITATORS

”

OLENA KALASHNYKOVA **Playback Theater Practitioner (Ukraine)**

Olena Kalashnykova is an accomplished playback theater trainer and cultural project manager, currently serving as the vice-president of Neformalaus Ugdymo ir Konsultacijų Centras "Prosperis". With over a 15 years in playback theater, Olena is certified by the Playback Theater Center in New York. She is a co-founder of the Ukrainian School of Playback Theater and the playback theater group "Vakhtery". Her extensive experience includes leading community-based storytelling initiatives and employing theater as a tool for social integration among refugees and marginalized communities. Olena's approach blends her academic background in medicine with her passion for applied theater, emphasizing the transformative power of personal narrative in public discourse.



CAMILA CANO **Practitioner (Mexico)**

Camila Cano Shor holds a degree from Brandeis University, where she majored in Economics, Sociology, and Education Studies— a multidisciplinary background that shapes her approach to developing solutions to address GBV. She currently leads finance, sustainability, and fundraising at Violetta, a Mexican digital platform that leverages AI to prevent violence and promote healthy relationships.



GIORGI RODIONOV

Artist, curator (Georgia)

Artist and curator with a multidisciplinary practice encompassing performance, photography, participatory art, drawing, podcasting, 3D art, art books, and storytelling. Focused on themes of identity, migration, queer issues, and cultural belonging, with a particular interest in the South Caucasus region as a crossroads of diversity. Founder of [untitled tbilisi](#), an art space promoting collaboration and meaningful discussions on social justice, queer issues, and minority rights. Giorgi's work seeks to amplify marginalized voices and foster change through artistic expression and curatorial innovation. He co-founded the queer art festival "[in the mountains](#)" creating a safe space for queer art activists from South Caucasus.



SAMYA ARIF

Visual artist (Pakistan)

Samya Arif, known professionally as OCEÁ, is a Pakistani visual artist, illustrator, and graphic designer whose work explores female perspectives and social paradigms. With a degree in Communication Design from the Indus Valley School of Art & Architecture, she has built a diverse portfolio featuring publications, book covers, film posters, and collaborations with international projects like Coldplay's music video for Taxi Fabric. Her work has been featured in renowned outlets like The New York Times, BBC, and Vice, and exhibited in countries such as Pakistan, India, the US, and Belgium. Samya currently resides in Karachi and teaches part-time at her alma mater.



BONFACE BETI

Artist-peacebuilder, IMPACT Board Member (Kenya)

Bonface is an international artist-peacebuilder, educator and cultural leader who applies theatre-based interventions with individuals and communities to create a story of peace. He integrates and applies theatre-based processes into larger structural transformational issues as a language for social justice, decolonization and peacebuilding. He holds a MA degree in Peace and Conflict Studies from the University of Manitoba, Canada, and is currently working on his PhD there. Widely published in field of the arts and peacebuilding, he hosts international workshops and is part-time instructor at Canada's University of Winnipeg.



SEBA KOURANI

Artists with Elbows (Lebanon)

Seba Kourani, a theater Practitioner based in Beirut, Lebanon, holds a bachelor's degree in theater from the Faculty of Fine Arts. Currently associated with "Artists with Elbows" focusing on creating a connection and space for artistic/ cultural exchange between artists, communities and institutions, she's all about integrating art and theater techniques into projects aimed at catalyzing social change and promoting peace. As a theater practitioner, Seba has collaborated with various organizations, contributing to the design and development of tools and projects in mental health, psychosocial support, and education. Using theater as an interactive tool, she actively engages in dialogue with diverse communities and dedicates her efforts to empowering young people, a key aspect of her work. What sets Seba apart is her commitment to unraveling the connection between the arts and the thought systems shaping the collective uncertainties in cities with unclear futures. Her ongoing artistic project, "Uncertainty," explores this relationship. Currently, she's deep into her studies, focusing on arts, international collaboration, and peacebuilding in the CAS program at Zurich University of Arts.





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