

TBA21
Thyssen-Bornemisza
Art Contemporary

WARRI
AVOVI
At
Vāvīq

A Journey Into Rural Music
Traditions in North Africa and
the Arab World

Thyssen-Bornemisza National Museum

Public and Educational Program

At-Tāriq Exploratorium

Education, for me, is a shared journey of discovery, where listening, experimentation, and collaboration become conduits for creating new ways of understanding and engaging with the world.

—Tarek Atoui

To listen well means sharpening all sensual capacities. Humans can listen with their ears, through the bone of their skull, and by perceiving the vibrations of objects and materials. The *At-Tāriq Exploratorium*—designed by Tarek Atoui—welcomes participants of all ages and abilities to feel and interpret the sounding world through all their sensory modalities. It encourages free and embodied experimentation with sound and music, fostering a common space for discovery and creativity.

Drawing on research materials collected in Morocco and employing methodologies co-developed with sound-makers and educators, the lab provides objects, tools, and instruments for playing with sounds and music. During organized workshop sessions, the Exploratorium transforms into a vibrant space for tactile exploration, sonic activation, and deep listening—opening new pathways to connect with the unexpected sonority of the world around us.

Since 2005, Atoui has been deeply engaged with the pedagogical and community-building potential of performance and sonic activation, which over the years has become a foundational element of his artistic practice. He has devoted himself to teaching through workshops and educational programs for young people and students, honing an immersive methodology that incorporates compositional experiments and engages individuals from diverse backgrounds and abilities.

ON VIBRATION AND RESONANCE— THE HIVE

Every Tuesday and Saturday from
1 March to 17 May at 4:30 pm (except 19 April)
Activity in collaboration with Educathysen

This workshop introduces participants to the concept of vibration, emphasizing that every sound is a vibration traveling through air and materials. It draws attention to the sonic potential of everyday objects, encouraging participants to appreciate and explore their unique sounds. By combining percussion instruments with motorized and vibrating objects, the session demonstrates how instruments can be played in inventive and imaginative ways using simple daily items and organic elements. Together, participants will create sound objects and collaborate to build a collective sonic landscape, engaging with the space and surroundings in a dynamic and interactive way.

IMPORTANT NOTE: we recommend wearing comfortable clothing to better enjoy the activity. It is essential that children are always accompanied to encourage group dynamics and the intergenerational nature of the activity.

ARTIST TALK WITH TAREK ATOUI AND CURATOR DANIELA ZYMAN

February 17, 6:00 pm
Auditorium, Museo Nacional Thyssen-Bornemisza
In English with simultaneous translation into Spanish

Join us for the inaugural Artist Talk, featuring curator Daniela Zyman and artist Tarek Atoui as they engage in a dynamic conversation about his latest commission and artistic practice at TBA21. This event will blend discussion with a unique performative element, shedding light on Atoui's creative and research process and the interplay of sound, space, and history in his work. Together, they will explore the concept of "poetic hospitality" and the role of sound in building cultural connections.

FORGOTTEN TALES THROUGH TIME

March 3, 10:30 p.m.

Florida Park, Parque El Retiro, Reina Mercedes access, Madrid

In collaboration with the art fair ARCO Madrid

A night of music and sonic experimentation curated by Tarek Atoui and featuring an ensemble of vocalists and instrumentalists from Ouarzazate and Zagora, including Fatima El Habibi, Mohamed El Malyani, Mohamed El Kartaoui, Said Ait Lhaj, Fadoua Ennouri, Lahcen Amarrak, Ijja Id Haddou, and Aicha Boukhris, celebrating the exceptional artistry of Amazigh music. These “singers of a thousand verses” are keepers of an unbroken tradition, weaving classical Arabic epics, folk songs, poetic cadence, and vocal ornamentation into hypnotic performances.

Conceived as an experimental and collective compositional space, *Forgotten Tales Through Time* premieres a performance by Susie Ibarra, Nancy Mounir, Ziúr, and Tarek Atoui. The four have collaborated since 2022, experimenting with the interplay between Arabic and Amazigh music and contemporary sonic practices. Drawing on their diverse musical backgrounds, their composition, *At-Tāriq*, explore the rhythms, melodies, and oral traditions of the Arab world and North Africa, invoking and transforming them through electro-acoustic experimentation, improvisation, and live performance.

DJ MAMAKIL uses their art as a powerful tool for expressing activism and recontextualizing Moroccan and Middle Eastern music, incorporating familiar vocals and instrumentals from a wide range of influences.

CONCERT AT CASA ÁRABE

March 4, 8:30 p.m.

Casa Árabe, Calle de Alcalá, 62, Madrid

Activity in collaboration with Casa Árabe Madrid

An afternoon with Tarek Atoui and a traditional ensemble from Ouarzazate and Zagora, featuring the participation of Fatima El Habibi, Mohamed El Malyani, Mohamed El Kartaoui, Said Ait Lhaj, Fadoua Ennouri, Lahcen Amarrak, Ijja Id Haddou, and Aicha Boukhris. As part of the public program for the *At-Tāriq* exhibition at the Museo Nacional

Thyssen-Bornemisza, TBA21 and the museum are pleased to collaborate with Casa Árabe.

Designed as an intimate masterclass, the event will seamlessly blend the traditional acoustic sounds of the Atlas region—folk songs, poetic cadences, and vocal ornaments—in a captivating performance in the form of a workshop. The experience will offer a deep immersion into the rich sonic traditions of the region, fostering learning and connection between the performers and the audience.

Traditional Ensemble from the Atlas Region

Together, these musicians form a collective that represents the rich diversity and profound depth of the musical heritage of the Atlas region. By blending ancient traditions with new sonic possibilities, they create a truly unique and evocative musical experience. Each of them brings their own style and expertise, not only to preserve the traditional musical forms of their homeland but also to explore and expand these sounds in dialogue with contemporary trends. This collaboration with international artists adds a layer of innovation, taking the music of the Atlas beyond its roots into a different realm through experimentation and sonic transformation. The result is a sonic journey that transcends boundaries, uniting the past and the future, the traditional and the modern, inviting deep reflection and connection across cultures.

EN EL AULA: TAREK ATOUI

March 11, 5 p.m.

Exhibition space, Museo Nacional

Thyssen-Bornemisza

Activity in collaboration with Educathyssen

Aimed at teachers and educators of Kindergarten, Elementary, High School, and Vocational Training
A guided discussion with Marina Avia, Head of Exhibitions and Public Programs at TBA21. This session will highlight key aspects of the exhibition to assist in preparing for student visits or for independent classroom use. Atoui's installation features structures and sounds that evoke the geography and culture of North Africa, particularly the Amazigh regions—cradles of rich musical, artistic, craft, and intellectual traditions. It invites participants to engage with a soundscape rich in emotions and textured psychogeographical landscapes.

AT-TĀRIQ NOCTURNAL WALKTHROUGHS

Nocturnal walkthroughs tours in Spanish
Exhibition space, Museo Nacional
Thyssen-Bornemisza

Dynamic guided tours led by cultural mediators, including Pablo Zamorano, Marina Hervás, María Gomez Lopez, and La Liminal, all are experts in music, musical pedagogy, oral performance, or dance. The focus of each tour varies depending on the mediator, exploring different aspects of the exhibition. Some tours may emphasize the historical and geopolitical context of the work, while others engage with sound and silence as central themes. Through active interaction with the exhibition, the tours will offer visitors multiple ways of engaging with *At-Tāriq*.

NOCTURNAL WALKTHROUGH, WITH MARINA HERVÁS

Saturday, March 15, 9:00 and 10:00 p.m
By registration through the Museo Nacional
Thyssen-Bornemisza website

Marina Hervás's nocturnal walkthrough, *Elogio de lo roto* [In Praise of the Broken], offers a guided listening experience that explores the power of the fragmentary, the wounded, and the incomplete in shaping our relationship with tradition and rurality. Challenging the dominance of grand narratives and polished knowledge, she invites visitors to consider the informal, ephemeral, and ungraspable forms of knowing that disrupt conventional ways of perceiving and understanding. Through this lens, her tour engages with the sonic work of Tarek Atoui, delving into notions of imagined traditions and utopian geographies.

MARINA HERVÁS holds a degree in philosophy from the University of La Laguna, with degrees in history and music sciences from the University of La Rioja. She holds a master's degree in art theory and a PhD in philosophy from the Autonomous University of Barcelona. She is currently full professor in the Department of History and Science of Music at the University of Granada and deputy director of the Centro de Cultura Contemporánea La Madraza.

EL PRIMER TACTO (THE FIRST TOUCH).
NOCTURNAL WALKTHROUGH,
WITH PABLO ZAMORANO

Saturday, March 22, 9:00 and 10:00 p.m
By registration through the Museo Nacional
Thyssen-Bornemisza website

What is the sonic emanation of the body? What is the bodily emanation of sound?

El Primer Tacto, led by Pablo Zamorano, is an immersive activity that weaves together body, movement, and ritual to explore the liminal space between night and day, the living and the dead. Through guided exercises and creative research, participants will engage with ancestral poetics, sensing the unseen and embodying the transitions that shape our perception of time and existence. This experience invites participants to explore evidential mediumship, a practice where movement becomes a bridge to ancestral connections, unveiling the subtle relationships that link us to those who came before.

PABLO ZAMORANO is a Chilean researcher, creator, and performer living in Spain. His work is driven by approaches that connect new contexts between body and thought, such as creative research, theoretical-practical conceptualization in live arts, and contemporary choreography. His practice explores the knowledge and worldviews of ancestral cultures, such as intuition, embodiment, and transcendence, their means of transmission and contemporary interpretation in various contexts.

NOCTURNAL WALKTHROUGH,
WITH ÓSCAR BUENO

Saturday, April 5, 9:00 pm and 10:00 p.m
By registration through Museo Nacional
Thyssen- Bornemisza

Through a blend of questions, encounters, concerts, scores, and performances, Óscar Bueno explores our relationship with territory and nature. In his latest research, he has focused on the concept of ‘the excitement of the landscape’—a space for reflection and experimentation that has become central to his artistic practice, recurring throughout his work. In this performative visit to Tarek

Atoui's exhibition, Óscar will engage with participants in exploring how to excite the landscape—and, in turn, how to deepen our observation and listening.

ÓSCAR BUENO graduated in Music with a specialization in Piano and earned a degree in Dramatic Arts with a focus on Textual Interpretation from ESAD Asturias. He later completed a Master's in Scenic Practice and Visual Culture at the University of Castilla-La Mancha and the Museo Reina Sofía in Madrid. His artistic practice unfolds at the intersection of music, choreography, and visual arts. In addition to developing his own creative projects, he collaborates in the processes of other artists, creating broad frameworks that allow him to approach questions from multiple perspectives. Currently, his research focuses on *Los paisajes ajenos* (Foreign Landscapes), a project exploring how music, imagery, and action can generate new landscapes or reveal hidden ones within those we already know.

MUTUAL RESONANCES.

NOCTURNAL WALKTHROUGH, WITH JOHAN POSADA—LA PARCERÍA

Saturday, April 12, 9:00 p.m. and 10:00 p.m.
By registration through the Museo Nacional Thyssen-Bornemisza website

This proposal will delve into the sonic memory of the communities that have passed through, lived, migrated, grown, and died in Madrid throughout different eras. We will explore the sonic traces of diverse traditions, such as Ecuadorian Andean music, Caribbean salsa from Panama, Cuban music, flamenco, and the vibrant Madrid scene of the 80s, creating a rich layering of these cultural resonances. The intervention will combine vinyl records, cassette tapes, visual acetate archives, historical concerts, and interview fragments, creating a listening space that links the migratory past with the present.

JOHAN POSADA is the founder of the Asociación Cultural La Parcería and the artistic director of the Centro de Experimentación y Documentación Artística (CEDA) at La Parcería. Holding a master's degree in Film and Television Production from the Instituto de Cine de Madrid, he has worked on Ibero-American film co-productions and projects that combine music, community, and memory. He has led programs such as *Relaciones Sonoras* and has

been a resident researcher in the Intersticios project at the Museo Reina Sofía. Additionally, he has created festivals like Nuestra Cosa Fest and events such as Salsódromo Madrid and the concert series Berlín Is Tropical. His work has been featured in major cultural events, including Madrid Navidad de Encuentro by the Madrid City Council, 1969, La Parcería at the Museo Reina Sofía, Reggaetón Manifiesto at Matadero Madrid, and Imaginarios Polirrítmicos at the Museo Thyssen-Bornemisza. Through La Parcería, he continues to promote projects that foster cultural re-existence, using art and music as tools for reclaiming identity and memory. Johan is also the director of the festival Sonidos Diaspóricos, whose first edition will take place in 2025.

NOCTURNAL WALKTHROUGH, WITH MARÍA GÓMEZ LÓPEZ

Saturday, April 26, 9:00 p.m. and 10:00 p.m
By registration through the Museo Nacional
Thyssen-Bornemisza website

This tour, led by María Gómez López, explores how we construct a sense of belonging to the places we inhabit, examining the role of the soundscape in shaping our connection to space. Through a combination of selected works, personal experience, and research, she invites visitors to engage deeply with the sonic dimensions of place and memory.

MARÍA GÓMEZ LÓPEZ holds a PhD in art history and is a Juan de la Cierva postdoctoral researcher at the Autonomous University of Madrid, where she combines research with teaching. Her work focuses on the convergence of art and cartography in contemporary production from the Arab world, with a particular interest in the power of art to construct narratives and spatial belongings rooted in personal experiences of place. Currently, her research examines how fiction, utopia, and myth shape mobilities and the creation of narratives, images, and imaginaries between Spain and Morocco, as well as within the broader context of Atlantic and Mediterranean spaces.

NOCTURNAL WALKTHROUGH, WITH LA LIMINAL

Saturdays, May 10, 17, 9:00 p.m. and 10:00 p.m
By registration through the Museo Nacional
Thyssen-Bornemisza website

La Liminal will present a journey that crosses the threshold between movement and stopping, between action and inactivity, directing the participants to contemplate and listen. A reflection on the meaning and the need for welcome and shelter at a time marked by mobility and displacement.

LA LIMINAL is a collective that investigates the city and its histories through activities that seek to analyze public space collectively. Their actions are activated through strategies of cultural mediation, and take the form of urban tours, walking investigations, drifts, visits to exhibition spaces, workshops and training projects. They have organized tours and programs independently as well as for institutions such as the Museo Nacional Centro de Arte Reina Sofía, the Centro de Arte Dos de Mayo (CA2M), the Centro de Cultura Contemporánea Condeduque, Tabacalera Promoción del Arte, and Medialab Prado.

AMAZIGH POETRY READING BY HIND HAIK WALD-GHZALA AND HASSAN LAGUIR

March 21, 5:00 p.m.
Exhibition space, Museo Nacional
Thyssen-Bornemisza
In collaboration with Fundación Euroárabe
de Altos Estudios

Hind Haik Wald-Ghzala will recite Amazigh poetry in both its original language and Spanish translation to celebrate International Poetry Day. This event will create a meaningful connection between the exhibition and the cultural roots of the poetry. This celebration will honor the origins of the poems while inviting reflection on the power of language, translation, and cultural exchange.

Hind Haik Wald-Ghzala holds a degree in translation and interpreting from the University of Granada and a diploma

in tourism business and activities from the UNED. She has a master's degree in Arab and Hebrew Cultures: al-Andalus and the contemporary Arab world from the University of Granada. She is currently working at the Euro-Arab Foundation for Higher Studies-Granada, in the department of cooperation and projects.

HASSAN LAGUIR originally from southern Morocco, is a researcher specializing in Amazigh culture. He coordinates the International Chair of Amazigh Culture, created in 2014 by the Fundación EuroÁrabefor Higher Studies under the patronage of the Dr. Leila Mezian Foundation of Morocco. In 2021, he edited the collective book *The Berbers in the Iberian Peninsula. The contribution of the Amazigh to the history of al-Andalus*. A poet in his mother tongue, Tamazight, he has published the poetry book **ⵜⴰⵎⴰⵣⵉⵏⵜ**.

DJ SET BY AZU TIWALINE

May 18

Garden, Museo Nacional Thyssen-Bornemisza

In celebration of International Museum Day and as a closing event for Tarek Atoui's *At-Tāriq*, Azu Tiwaline's celebratory DJ set will reinterpret the rich sonic landscapes of rural North Africa through contemporary electronic and experimental music. This immersive evening of deep listening and rhythmic exploration offers a fitting finale, honoring the journey of *At-Tāriq* through sound.

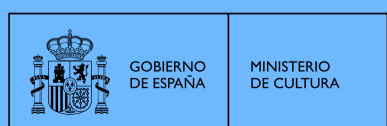
AZU TIWALINE is a Tunisian producer based in France, fusing Amazigh music with elements of dub, trance, and techno. Inspired by the need to explore her Saharan origins, Tiwaline mixes organic and raw sounds with the vibrations from the desert, where entrancing music resonates, and ecstatic rituals are integral to the cultural landscape.

GUIDED TOURS (ON DEMAND)

We are excited to announce that, for the first time, we are offering guided tours on demand! Groups from public institutions are invited to reach out to Claudia Schafer at public.programs@tba21.org to register for a tour.

Your requests will be reviewed and a visit tailored to your group's needs will be scheduled accordingly.

The public program of Tarek Atoui. *At-Tāriq* has been generously supported by Spain's Institut Français, Casa Árabe, Fundación Euroárabe de Altos Estudios and Melilla IWA Fest.



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