

View of Sara Sadik, *Ultimate Vatos: Force & Honneur*, Westfälischer Kunstverein, Münster, Germany, 2022. Courtesy of the artist and Galerie Crèveœur. Commissioned by Westfälischer Kunstverein  
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PRESS RELEASE

## Sara Sadik

# „Ultimate Vatos: Force & Honneur“

March 26-June 6, 2022

Opening: March 26, 6pm

Venue: Westfälischer Kunstverein, Rothenburg 30, 48143 Münster, Germany

Hours: Wed-Sun, 11am-7pm

Admission: 4,00 € / 2,00 € concession / free to members

Press contact: Angela Theisen, theisen@westfaelischer-kunstverein.de

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Sara Sadik

## „Ultimate Vatos: Force & Honneur“

The videos, performances, installations and photographs of Sara Sadik (\*1994 in Bordeaux, lives and works in Marseille, France) take the form of mangas, video games, docu-fictions as well as CGI-animated films. In doing so, the artist with Moroccan-Algerian roots explores manifestations of what she calls “Beurcore” – the youth culture that emerged among members of the working class from the North African diaspora. Beurcore defines both a hybrid identity and a collective movement constituted through music such as rap and hip-hop, language, fashion, specific symbols and social media. With references to these characteristics of belonging, the artist succeeds in a sharp and at the same time empathetic analysis of the social constraints and expectations on young adults in a post-migrant society. Ultimately, she is concerned with the valorization of a social class, which inspires a white majority society through its codes and music, and yet enjoys very little social prestige overall.

The artist’s own life as well as other true stories from her circle of friends and social media, above all Instagram, form the basis for the scenarios of her works. They are mixed with fictional elements and imbued with a futuristic aesthetic. These docu-fictions allow for a change of perspective, especially since they are told in the first person, which triggers a process of identification in the viewers. Mostly these stories focus on young people from working-class neighbourhoods. In *Lacrizotiek* (2019), for example, children from the Cité de la Busserine in Marseille become actors in a news programme in which they report on the arrival of aliens. For *Carnalito Full Option* (2020), a television play about being chosen as the ideal man, Sadik worked with five boys out of reformatories. Beyond the clichés and stereotypes the artist plays with, the young men also reveal intimate and personal emotions in their dialogue with the camera, which testify to deeply felt friendships, striving for success, but also sincere doubts and vulnerability.

Sadik is interested in the question of identity through the prism of masculinity. In her most recent video work *Khobtogone* (2021), this becomes clear when she lets Zine, the young male protagonist, talk about his life, his love for a young woman and his friends, as well as his worries and fears. Characteristics read as masculine, such as success, toughness and strength, are balanced in an almost painful contrast by vulnerability, love, insecurity and melancholy. The film is pervaded by sentences like: “Sometimes I have the feeling of being just a body, an empty, dehumanised body. A body that doesn’t have the right to feel, that exists only to feel mutely.” Such statements foreshadow the social and political violence Sadik’s protagonists endure. At the same time, the characters’ monologues also open up paths to self-love, as Félix Boggio Éwanjé-Épée and Stella Magliani-Belkacem noted in their text on Sadik’s exhibition *Hlel Academy* at CAC Bretigny 2021. Finally, love for oneself and for one’s people proves to be a source of energy that makes it possible to overcome social oppression and exclusion.

For Westfälischer Kunstverein, Sadik has developed a new video installation in which she delves into her observations on the conditioning of masculinity, which is traditionally closely linked to qualities such as physical and psychological strength. *Ultimate Vatos* offers a scenario that is set between *The Hunger Games*

# Westfälischer Kunstverein

(2012, Gary Ross) and a voyeuristic survival training, and follows a single protagonist as he completes this cross-border training programme. In the process, Sadik opens up an intimate moment for us to share with the protagonist, revealing him in all his humanity.

*Ultimate Vatos: Force & Honneur* is the artist's first institutional solo exhibition in Germany and is curated by Oriane Durand and Kristina Scepanski.

The project is supported by Kunststiftung NRW.

With the kind support of the Bureau des arts plastiques of the French Insitute Germany and the French Culture Minister.

## GUIDED TOURS

Friday, April 29, 5pm

Saturday, May 14, noon

## About Sara Sadik

b. 1994, Bordeaux (FR)  
lives and works in Marseille (FR)

### Education

2016-18 Ecole des Beaux-Arts de Bordeaux (FR)

### Solo and Duo-Shows (selection)

2021 Crèveœur, Paris (FR)  
CAC Brétigny, Brétigny-sur-Orge (FR)  
2019 Zetla Zone, Voiture 14, Marseille (FR)  
2018 Le monde chico, Silicone Gallery, Bordeaux (FR)

### Group Shows (Selection)

2022 16. Biennale d'art contemporain de Lyon (FR)  
2021 the view from there, Regent Street, Sadie Coles HQ, London (UK)  
2020 Manifesta 13 - Stade Orange Vélodrome, Marseille (FR)  
2019 Waiting for Omar Gatlatto, Wallach Gallery, New York (USA)  
Do Disturb, Palais de Tokyo, Paris (FR)  
2018 All the ills that esh is heir, WORM, Rotterdam (NL)  
2017 Hoolifemmes, MoMA Warsaw at Open'er Festival, Gdynia (PL)  
Alternative Facts, 221A, Vancouver (CA)

### Screenings

2021 Festival Lo Chermo del Arte, Florence (IT)  
CONTRA LA RAZA, Matadero, Madrid (ES)  
2019 Festival Oodaaq, Rennes (FR)  
Video Art Festival, Turku (FI)  
Girl Haus Cinema Festival, Cambridge (US)

### Residencies

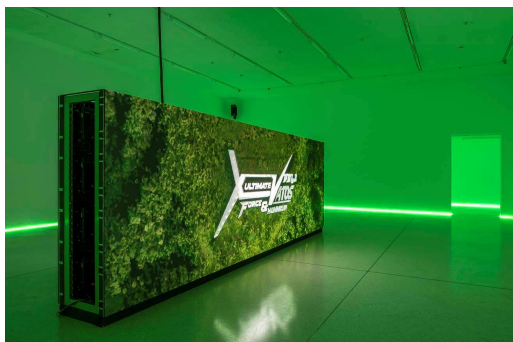
2021 Luma Foundation, Arles (FR)  
2018 Triangle (FR)

### Collections

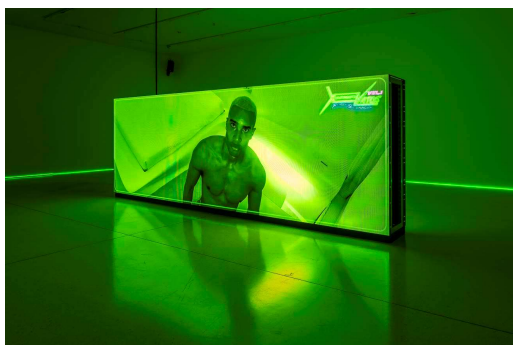
Centre National des Arts Plastiques (FR)  
Musée d'Art Moderne de Paris (FR)  
FRAC Nouvelle-Aquitaine MÉCA (FR)  
FRAC Provence-Alpes-Côte d'Azur (FR)  
Fonds Communal d'Art Contemporain, Marseille (FR)

## Sara Sadik „Ultimate Vatos: Force & Honneur“

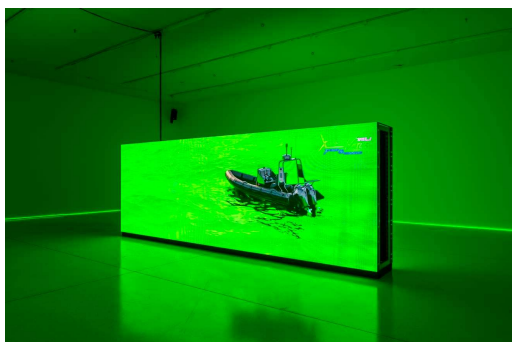
### IMAGE GALLERY



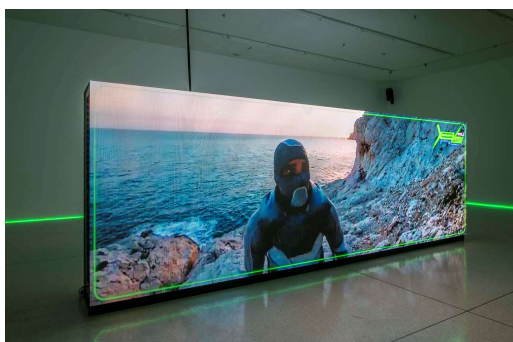
View of Sara Sadik, *Ultimate Vatos: Force & Honneur*, Westfälischer Kunstverein, Münster, Germany, 2022. Courtesy of the artist and Galerie Crèvecœur. Commissioned by Westfälischer Kunstverein  
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## Sara Sadik „Ultimate Vatos: Force & Honneur“

### IMAGE GALLERY



This illustration can be used without a caption.



Sara Sadik, *Ultimate Vatos*, 2022, video stills. Courtesy of the artist and Galerie Crèveœur. Commissioned by Westfälischer Kunstverein  
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# Westfälischer Kunstverein

## Sara Sadik „Ultimate Vatos: Force & Honneur“

An exhibition at the Westfälischer Kunstverein, Münster, Germany

March 26-June 6, 2022

Opening: March 26, 6pm

Curated by Oriane Durand and Kristina Scepanski

*The project is supported by Kunststiftung NRW.*

*With the kind support of the Bureau des arts plastiques of the French Insitute Germany and the French Culture Minister.*

Kunststiftung  
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*The Westfälische Kunstverein is supported by Landschaftsverband Westfalen-Lippe and the City of Münster.*



Press contact  
Westfälischer Kunstverein  
Angela Theisen  
T. +49 (0) 251 46157  
theisen@westfaelischer-kunstverein.de



# Westfälischer Kunstverein

## SERVICE

### Westfälischer Kunstverein

Rothenburg 30, 48143 Münster, Germany

T. +49 (0) 251 46157

Office hours: Tue-Fri, 10am-5pm

[info@westfaelischer-kunstverein.de](mailto:info@westfaelischer-kunstverein.de)

[www.westfaelischer-kunstverein.de/en](http://www.westfaelischer-kunstverein.de/en)

[www.facebook.com/WestfaelischerKunstverein](https://www.facebook.com/WestfaelischerKunstverein)

Instagram @westfaelischerkunstverein

Founded in 1831, the Westfälischer Kunstverein is one of the oldest art associations in Germany and enjoys international standing. The Kunstverein still promotes and establishes young contemporary art to this day and, from the post-war period by the latest, has assumed significant responsibility for the sponsorship of young, up-and-coming artists on an international level in the field of visual art in the City of Münster. The work of several young artists, who would later achieve international recognition in their own right, were presented here to a broader audience for the first time.

### Hours

Wed-Sun, 11am-7pm

Closed on Mondays and Tuesdays

### Admission

4,00 € / 2,00 € concession\* / free to members

\*Concessions for pupils, students, trainees, people with disabilities, jobseekers

### Accessibility

The foyer and the main exhibition room can be reached barrier-free via the forecourt and the main entrance. A WC for people with disabilities can be found in the neighbouring LWL-Museum für Kunst und Kultur.