

Photo from the exhibition at Heimdal Art Assosiation, Norway

## Documentary work in the exhibition PARTICIPATORY OBSERVATION AND DOCUMENTARY METHODS IN EDIT PALESTINE (2019)

19 large format (93 x 65 cm) documentary photographs of people, everyday motifs and condensed situations in private and public spaces in Palestine became the series PALESTINIAN GESTURES. – Restrictions on movement of Palestinians as well as foreigners on Palestinian land is justified with "security" purposes. All the people are affected by the vast and complicated infrastructure of movement restrictions. You have to wait in line, go through military outposts, check points and a separation barrier on your way in and out of Palestine. It is easy to forget the proximity of destinations in this small, divided piece of land. PALESTINIAN GESTURES relates to movements, both in front of and behind the lens. In her work, Brynhild Bye-Tiller investigates methods of collecting and processing documentary material. By participating directly in an environment, Bye-Tiller shows how participation can influense a documentary photography. She examines structures and methods that allows human contact to blend with a traditional photographic approaches



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The public were invited to participate in a text-based workshop called KEEP ON WRITING. All kinds of texts were welcome, both short and long reflections, personal thoughts or descriptions of East Jerusalem, Palestine. More than 30 texts became a part of the exhibition, they were put up on the wall and in the book EAST JERUSALEM, PALESTINE. The book was a cooperation with Palestinian Balqees Rjoub, who wrote free and poetic texts to each of Brynhild Bye-Tiller's photographs from East Jerusalem. In total 19 photographs and 19 texts in Arabic translated to English by Nariman Sharawneh. All of the material were put together in an assemblage on the wall and in the book. Rjoub also participated in the exhibition opening and the book launch on Saturday 26th October 2019, live from Ramallah by reading some of her texts. In a lecture, somewhere between being performative and informative, Bye-Tiller said something about what kind of questions she asks, what methods she uses and the artist's role in a conflict area. The exhibition alternated between a narrative expression in photography and exploring methods of participation and collecting and processing documentary material.