



EXILE – Free poets on the run

EXILE Poetry is an interactive app and theatrical event that lets the audience experience the writings of three exile poets in public spaces.

By means of a GPS coordinated app, the listeners are brought on a poetic audio journey in shopping centres, libraries and cultural centres of various cities. While walking through these spaces, poems about freedom will be read to you in Swedish, English, Arabic or Persian.



How does it work?

- Download the App EXIL on your smartphone through Google Play or AppStore.
- Put on your headphones and start the journey by following the map. Walk towards the nearest position.
- Listen to the poem that is being activated automatically once you are on the right position.
- Share your reflections and interact with the app



The audience can interact with the poetry by writing their own reflections. Each poem is followed by a question: What does exile mean to you? What gives you strength? What is home to you?

At the end of the journey, the audience are gathered at a central place in the site. The participants' reflections from all the cities are linked together and become visible on a screen for all at the same time.

Poets



- **Faraj Bayrakdar:** Born in 1951 in Syria. He published his first collection of poems in 1979, before he got seized by Syrian intelligence. He was held in prison and tortured for 14 years. After an extensive international campaign, Bayrakdar was released and found refuge in Sweden where he now lives and works.
- **Jila Mossaed:** Born in 1948 in Iran. She published extensively in Persian before she fled the repression and came to Sweden in 1986. Today she is a world-renowned writer and has published six poetry collections in Swedish.
- **Nelly Sachs:** Born in 1891 in Germany. After escaping a concentration camp, Sachs fled to Sweden in 1940 together with her husband and mother, where she lived and worked until her death in 1970. A major theme in her poetry is the Holocaust. Sachs was awarded the Nobel Prize in literature in 1966.

Photo: Rebecca Medici

RATS TEATER

Research, Arts & Technology for
Society

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Stockholms
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Technical requirements

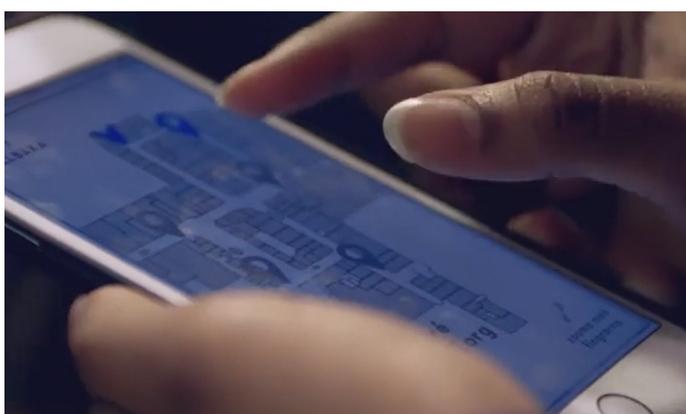
- A soft copy of the location's map, with six spots highlighted on it (to place the I-Beacons on - the GSP senders that activates the App)
- The six spots should be 50 meters away from each others and of 3 to 4 meters high.
- A digital screen, alternative screen and video projector connected to a computer (to present the reflections of the audience at the end of the journey).
- A responsible technician in charge of placing the I-Beacons and the screen, in addition to testing the app. (The technician is to be put in contact with EXIL app developer for further instructions).



Photo: Rebecca Medici

With EXILE, we promote freedom of speech and dialogue between people. We also seek to extend the possibilities of performing arts - to function in mobility between different cities and media platforms, by bringing it outside the standard cultural venues and to reach out to those who do not usually visit theatres and cultural centres.

We want to support everybody's right to freely participate in the cultural life in which public participation forms a deep dialogue about our daily issues.



The *EXILE Poetry App* is a production of RATS Theatre - Stockholm University's research theatre and Östgöteatern in Norrköping, with the support of the Swedish Arts Council.

RATS TEATER

RATS Theatre – Research, Arts and Technology for Society

RATS Theatre makes artistic productions that involves research, technology and society. The theatre's productions were met with attention especially for its unique ICT (Information and communication technique) and artistic interpretation that meets new audience. RATS Theatre has already produced several digital App performances with focus on public participation: Haimon 2014, Maryam 2013 and Antigone's diaries 2010. Since 2016, RATS is Stockholm University's research theatre.



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