

# البيت الدنماركي في فلسطين

annual report 2012

the danish house in palestine



# house in palestine the danish house in palestine t

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*about DHIP*





## *about DHIP*

DHIP works to shorten the distance between Denmark and Palestine and to increase mutual understanding between the two people by contributing to the development of Palestinian civil society actors and strengthening bilateral cooperation.

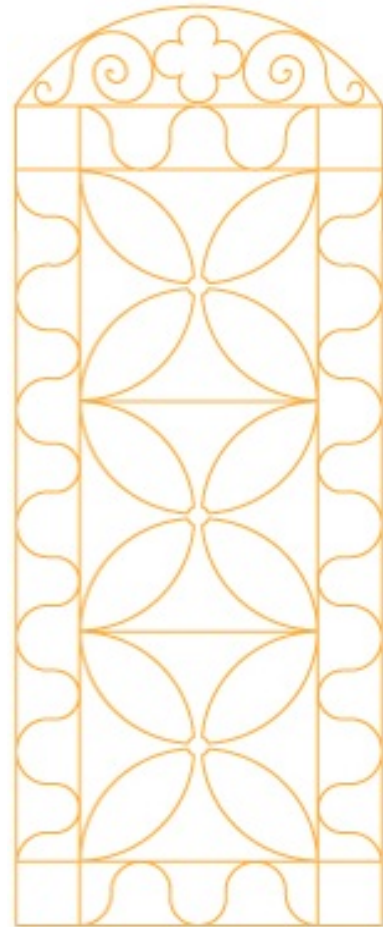
DHIP develops creative frameworks for projects and activities rooted in practical, hands-on collaboration between colleagues across cultures. DHIP aims to enable lasting relationships and establish long-term partnerships between institutions, organisations and individuals rooted in civil society in Denmark and Palestine.

DHIP is a focal point for projects between Danes and Palestinians and works with a wide range of professional organisations in both Denmark and Palestine. As a self-proclaimed “Folkehøjskole”, DHIP aims to be a house of dialogue and culture.





*greeting*



*dear friends, partners and colleagues,*

Here it is: the second edition of DHIP's annual report. We are happy to announce that the now two-year-old DHIP is growing and getting stronger by the day. New contacts, exchanges and friendships between Palestinians and Danes have been established during 2012 – and there are many more to come.

In 2012, DHIP was characterised by a number of new projects and activities; from Go Stargazing to the nursing exchange program, from Couch Talks to Palestine Photo-Marathon 2012, the DHIP family expanded and grew. We also launched our first multi-year project – Design in Context – which will continue until 2014.

2012 also brought an entirely new strategy and activity plan developed by DHIP's partners, advisory committee, board and staff. After signing a contract with DANIDA for activity funding in the coming three years, DHIP is ready to take on the many new projects that are in the pipeline.

As new directors, we would like to take this opportunity to thank Nathalie Khankan for her leadership as Director during DHIP's first two years and for welcoming us to DHIP and to Ramallah. Thank you also to a dedicated DHIP team in Ramallah, past and present interns, the Danish Board and to the members of our local Advisory Committee. And thank you to visitors, friends and partners for advice, support and inspiration.

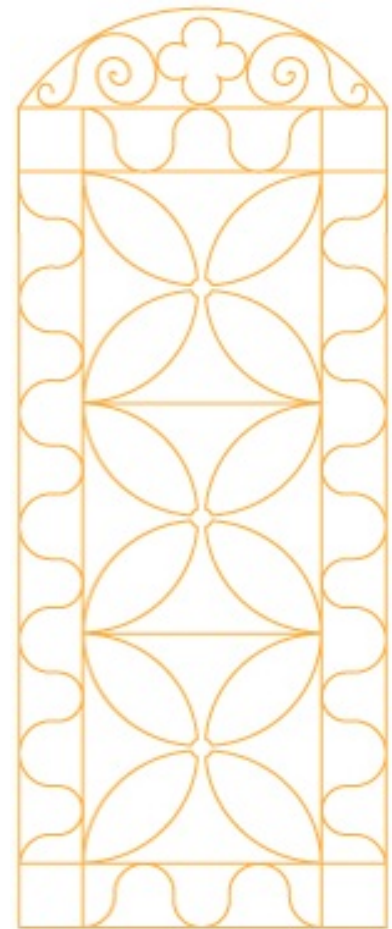
Salamat,

Birgitte and Christian Balslev-Olesen

Directors



*dhippings:  
exchange & cooperation*



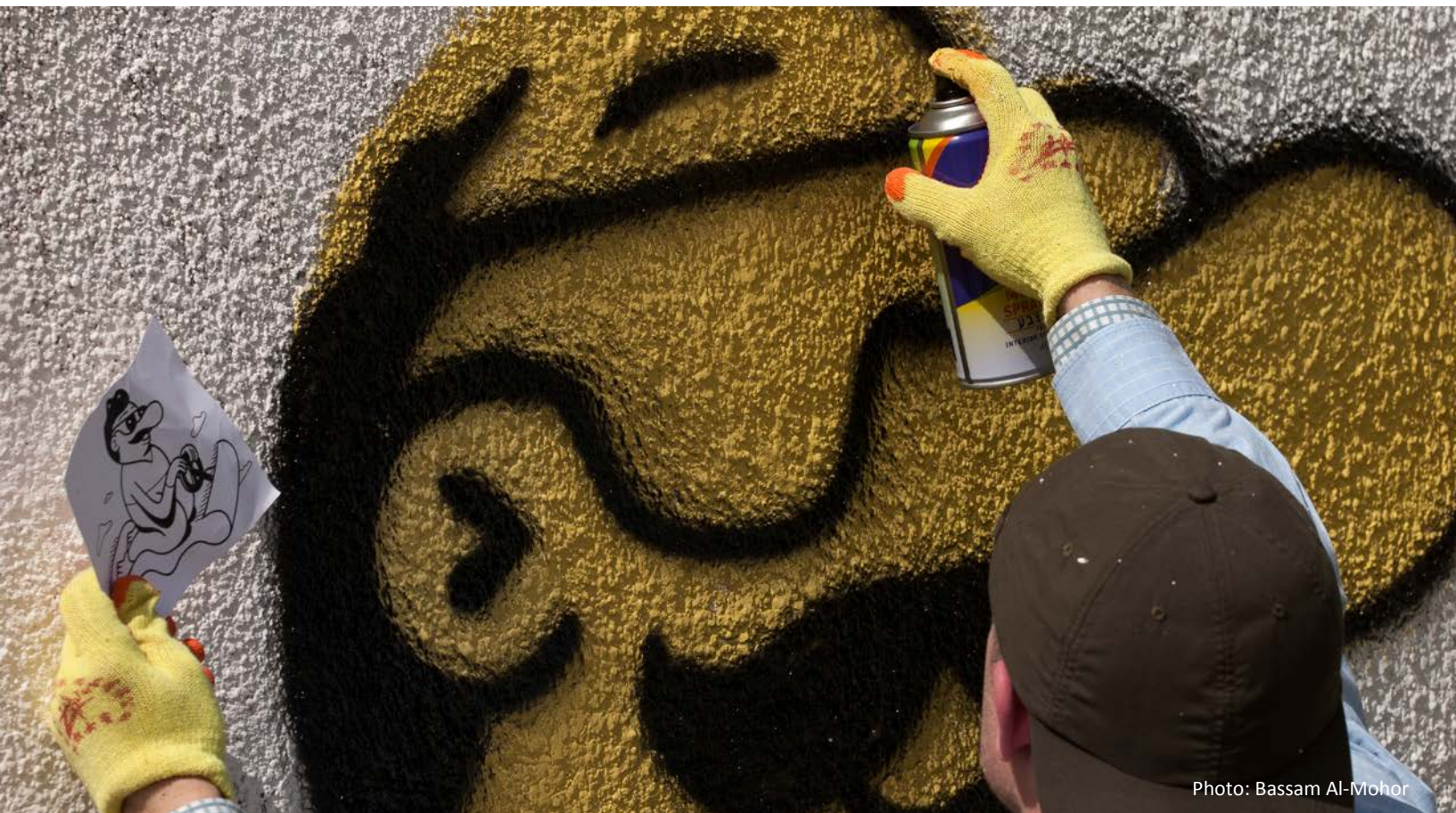


Photo: Bassam Al-Mohor

## *our streets, our art*

In April 2012, the Danish graffiti artist HuskMitNavn (RememberMyName) visited DHIP as part of a weeklong outdoor workshop with Palestinian graffiti and street artists in Hebron, Bethlehem and Ramallah. The aim of the workshops was to explore new sites, meanings, and contexts for graffiti art in Palestine and to bring Danish and Palestinian graffiti artists together for hands-on collaboration and insight into different aesthetics and contexts.

The project sought to highlight and use sites and surfaces in Palestinian cities that are ordinary and everyday-like, as opposed to artists such as Banksy and Blu, who used the Wall as their canvas. With the participation of HuskMitNavn, emphasis on using humour in paintings and sprayings was also on the agenda.

Our streets, our art was supported by The Danish Centre for Culture and Development (CKU).



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## *design in context*

Starting in 2012 and ending in 2014, this project aims to energize the field of design in Palestine. During the project, Palestinian and Danish designers and craftswomen are attempting to rethink traditional, Palestinian embroidery into new contexts with broader appeal.

Participating in the project are, among others, Palestinian designer Omar Joseph Nasser-Khoury and Danish designer Maria Albertsen with two students from the Danish Design School, 12 students from the Fashion and Textile Institute in Beit Sahour, and 12 women from various craft cooperatives organised by Dalia Association.

The project is scheduled to continue for two years with participation from the Danish Design School in up to four annual workshops with the Palestinian designers, students and artisans. The project is based on results from the pilot project Gender and Design in Palestine (DHIP project from 2011).

Design in Context is supported by KVINFO.



Photo: Michelle Jensen





Photo: Sofie Pedersen

## *impressions from design in context: module 1*

**Josefine Gilbert, student at the Danish Design School:**

"The traditional Palestinian costume is used to express the life cycle of a woman. If the man dies, she will turn her dress inside out to express her grief. When she is ready to meet a new man, she will embroider something red on the dress. And as time passes, the dress will be filled with more and more red embroidery. Older women, who are not interested in men anymore, will embroider with dark green thread. To get this insight into the complex relation between gender, identity and embroidery is very inspirational and something I wish to continue working with in Denmark."

**Ayat Omran, coordinator at Dalia Association:**

"The problem with traditional embroidery is that it becomes so expensive that it only appeals to a very small target audience of rich people. But if the women can rethink their craft work they can make new products that are cheaper and appeal to a larger target group. For example, instead of spending weeks embroidering a full scarf in traditional patterns, they could use only a small detail or part of one of the traditional patterns in a different context. With time we will see what new and alternative ideas will come out of this."

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## *palestine photo-marathon*

On May 1 2012, DHIP hosted the first Palestine Photo-Marathon, where Palestinians and internationals were invited to participate in a one-day photo competition to visually interpret a number of predetermined themes. 39 people completed the competition in either the 6-hour marathon or 12-hour marathon.

The themes were developed by poet and playwrighter Dalia Taha and stand-up comedian and actor Manal Farid Awad in cooperation with DHIP.

A jury of professional photographers evaluated the pictures and determined the winners. The jury consisted of Tanya Habjouqa, Reem Shilleh and Yazan Khalili.

The winners were announced at a reception at DHIP in May 2012, which continued at DHIP throughout June 2012.

The Palestine Photo-Marathon was organised by The Danish House in Palestine (DHIP) with support from International Media Support (IMS) and in corporation with The Palestinian Art Court – al Hoash and Radio Ajyal.

DHIP will host the second Palestine Photo-Marathon on May 1, 2013.



Photo: Rune Kaldau



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Photo: Anna R.

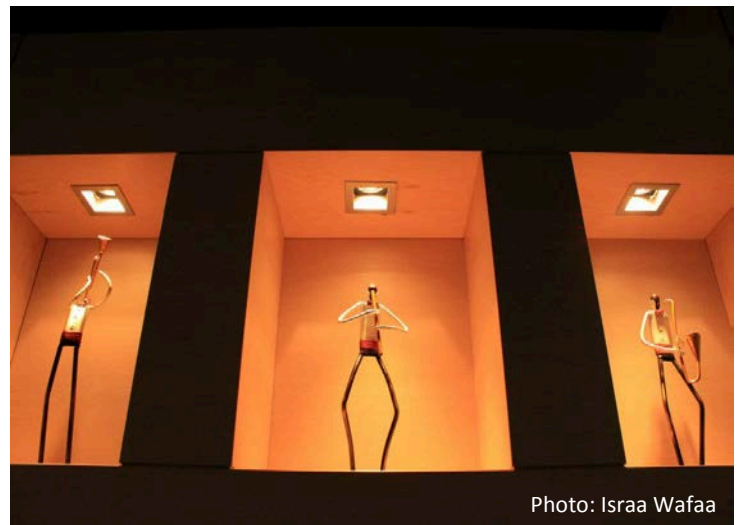


Photo: Israa Wafaa



Photo: Fares Mansour

## *palestine photo-marathon*

Selected photos by participants of Palestine Photo-Marathon 2012.



Photo: Roman Abu Sneineh

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## *go stargazing*

In June 2012, DHIP was all about stars as Danish astrophysicists Silas Boye Nissen and Per Andersen went stargazing with their Palestinian colleagues Ahmed Jabr and Ibrahim Mitwali. The four astrophysicists built a mobile planetarium and went on a road trip to Biddu, Nablus and Ramallah teaching astronomy to children of all ages.

On the road trip, they brought telescopes and interactive workshops explaining lunar eclipses, gravity and density, and the solar system with plastic balls in different shapes and colours, models and posters. The aim of the project was to make science fun and accessible to Palestinian children.

In Biddu, more than 100 children showed up to take part in the workshop and in both Nablus and Ramallah both children and adults joined Silas, Per, Ahmad and Ibrahim.

DHIP hopes to be able to continue the mobile planetarium in the future and give more children in villages across the West Bank the opportunity to 'Go Stargazing'.

The project was made in cooperation with Palestinian Astronomical Society (PAS) and supported by the Danish-Palestinian Friendship Association.

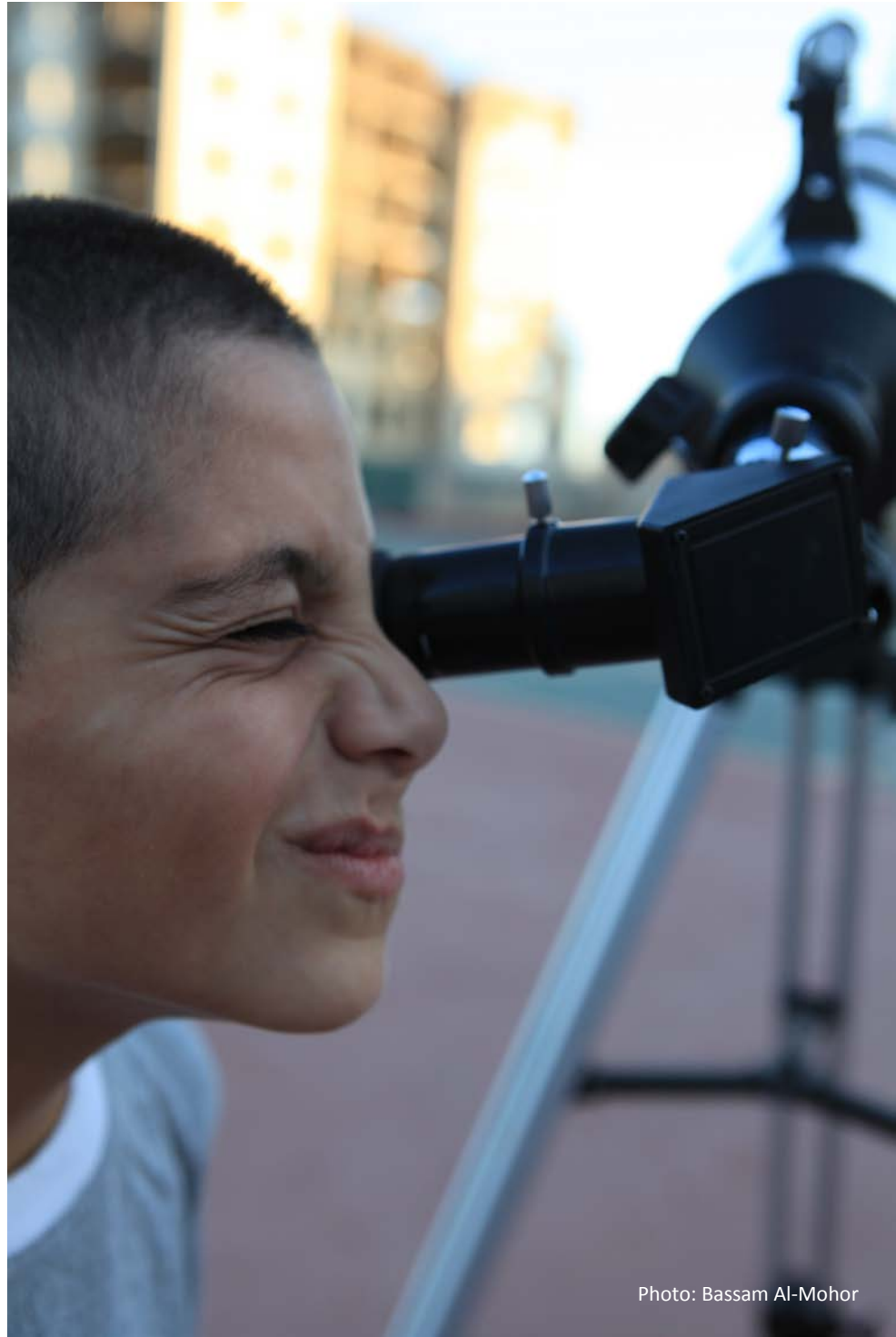


Photo: Bassam Al-Mohor



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10 Danish travel agents from Danish travel agencies visited DHIP in November 2012. DHIP partners Canaan Fair Trade and Riwaq presented their work and joined in the debate about tourism in Palestine.



Photo: Michelle Jensen



✚ *dhippings:*  
*programs & events*

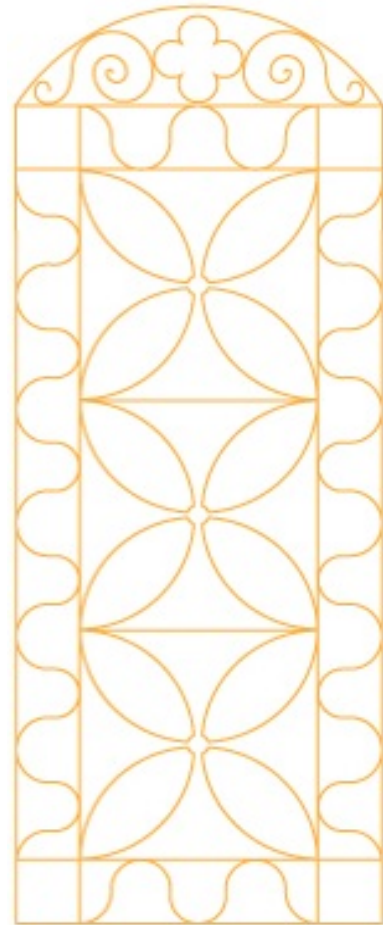




Photo: Sofie Pedersen

## *nursing exchange program*

In 2012, DHIP launched our nursing exchange program: A cooperation between Al-Quds University in Jerusalem and the Danish nursing school at University College Capital (UCC) in Copenhagen that aims to create educational ties as well as ensuring a flow of knowledge and skills between the two institutions.

The first Danish nurse student, Maria Mbalyowere, arrived in the beginning of September 2012 ready to learn about nursing and public health in Palestine. She spent the first week visiting health NGO's, hospitals and clinics throughout the West Bank as part of the introduction week organised by DHIP. For the following four weeks, she attended courses in public health, community health and paediatrics at Al-Quds University, and worked with nurses at the UNRWA clinic in Qalandia refugee camp.

The next Danish nurses will arrive in Ramallah in the beginning of 2013.

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Photo: Nermin al-Qadi

## *WITH/IN Palestine: international volunteer*

In 2012, DHIP welcomed nine volunteers as part of DHIP's volunteer program WITH/IN Palestine. They volunteered in organisations all over Palestine, such as Ibdaa Centre in Dheisheh Refugee Camp, Right to Play in Ramallah and Sharek Youth Forum. Three out of the nine volunteers were medical volunteers and were, among other places, volunteering at Augusta Victoria Hospital in Jerusalem.

For all volunteers, DHIP organises the stay, finds a suitable organisation and monitors the volunteer throughout the stay. DHIP offers general volunteer stays as well as specialised volunteer stays for medical and nurse students. These will be placed in either a Palestinian hospital, clinic or in a health NGO under the supervision of Palestinian doctors, nurses and other professionals.



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On October 22, 2012, DHIP's staff and friends of the house went to Deir Ghassaneh to help olive farmer Faisal Barghouti with his annual olive harvest.



Photo: Michelle Jensen

## *DHIP events*

### **Danish-Palestinian CoM/pOsitions**

DHIP CoM/pOsitions showcase Danes and Palestinians collaborating in actual settings, situations and projects. From movies to exhibitions, discussions to workshops, CoM/pOsitions are about Danish-Palestinian connections and cooperation.

### **SPLACES: Contemporary Danish-Palestinian documentaries**

To explore and promote contemporary Danish and Palestinian documentary cinema, DHIP continued its film series titled SPLACES in the winter of 2012. From North Korea to Haifa, and Bogotá to Cairo, these compelling documentaries took the audiences around the world to familiar and unfamiliar SPACES and PLACES.

### **Educational development**

DHIP organises educational development programs for educators and students of history, international politics or religion and organises visits to Palestinian NGO's, academic and political institutions to give the participants an increased understanding of the Palestinian situation and culture.

### **Other DHIP events**

DHIP works to promote all types of Danish-Palestinian cooperation and assisted in 2012 a number of different projects, receptions and events, e.g. film screenings for the organisations Youth:Occupied and Shashat, exhibition for Karen Blixen Museum, reception for the project Game Girl Workshop and much more.



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## *DHIP events*

### ✚ Couch Talks

DHIP Couch Talks are a series of discussions taking place in DHIP's blue couch. The discussions have been between Danes and Palestinians, and between Palestinians and Palestinians. The themes of the discussions in 2012 have for example been Public Space, Youth Activism, Primary Health Care, and Museums as a Space.





*organisation*





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## *staff*

Christian Balslev-Olesen, Director

Birgitte Balslev-Olesen, Director

Abeer Habash, Office Manager

Naela Awad, Housekeeper

Karen Nordemann, Coordinator

Mohammad Awar, Accountant

## *interns*

Rune Kaldau (spring 2012)

Haneen Al-Sheikh (spring 2012)

Michelle Jensen (fall 2012)

Sofie Pedersen (fall 2012)

Aya Sarsour (fall 2012)



## *board of the association DH/IP*

Sune Segal (chair)  
Jørgen Bæk Simonsen (vice-chair)  
Jutta Helles (cashier)  
Ulla Lundberg (secretary)  
Ulla Munch-Petersen  
Noman Kanafani  
Lise Bach Hansen  
Michael Irving Jensen (alternate)  
Birgitte Rahbæk (alternate)  
Jørgen Flindt Pedersen (resigned)

## *board of the independent institution*

Sune Segal (chair)  
Hanne-Vibeke Holst (vice-chair)  
Michael Irving Jensen  
Jens Thodberg Bertelsen  
Jutta Helles  
Ulla Lundberg  
Uffe Elbæk  
Jacob Axel Nielsen (resigned)  
Jørgen Flindt Pedersen (resigned)

## *advisory committee in ramallah*

Ghassan Abdullah  
Yazid Anani  
Sam Bahour  
Samia Botmeh  
Huda Imam  
Ali Khilleh  
Khaled al Sabawi

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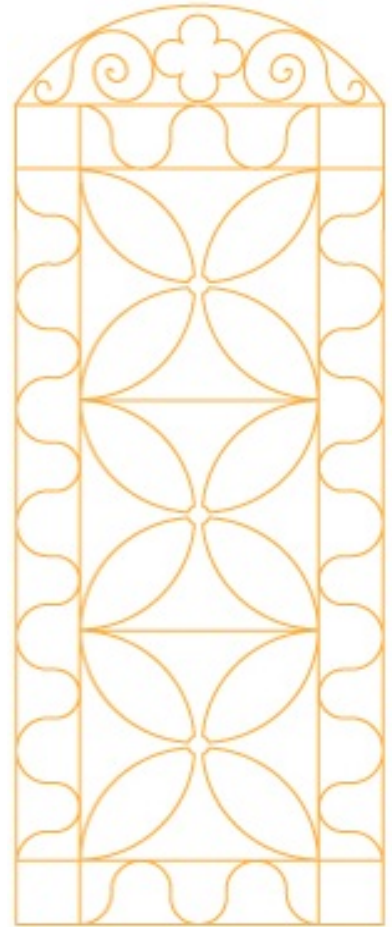
Photo: Sofie Pedersen

In October 2012, DHIP hosted a group of young Danish-Palestinians from the organisation PalUng. They met with Sam Bahour from DHIP's Advisory Committee to discuss the situation in Palestine, and how they can communicate this to the Danish public.





*annual overview*



In 2012, DHIP certainly dropped its anchor and established itself as a stable and strong focal point for Danes and Palestinians. Within DHIP's model of vocational exchange, DHIP initiated a number of creative and educational projects and events.

DHIP's flagskib – det første flerårige samarbejdsprojekt, Design i Kontekst – blev igangsat i 2012. Ambitionen med projektet er at lære kvinder og studerende at bruge deres kreativitet til at finde inspiration og nyskabende ideer.

DHIP's exchange projects in 2012 also focused on creative expression, with HuskMitNavn's visit in April, Palestine Photo-Marathon in May and Go Stargazing in June. These projects all explored creative ways to tell stories, communicate messages and explain phenomena.

As a reoccurring event, DHIP introduced the Couch Talk series in 2012, which turned DHIP into a true "forsamlingshus" (community meeting house) – a place where people meet and discuss social, political and cultural issues. The Couch Talks have inspired audiences, municipalities and organisations, and DHIP

plans to expand the series in 2013 and introduce it all over Palestine.

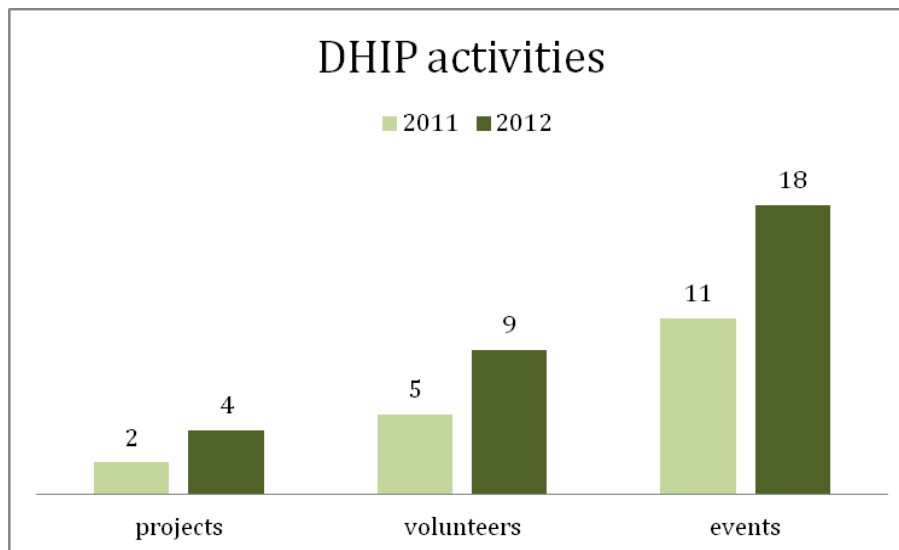
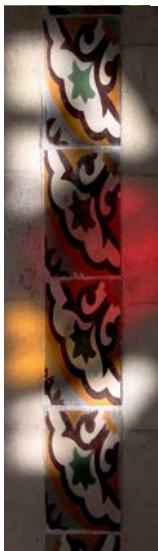
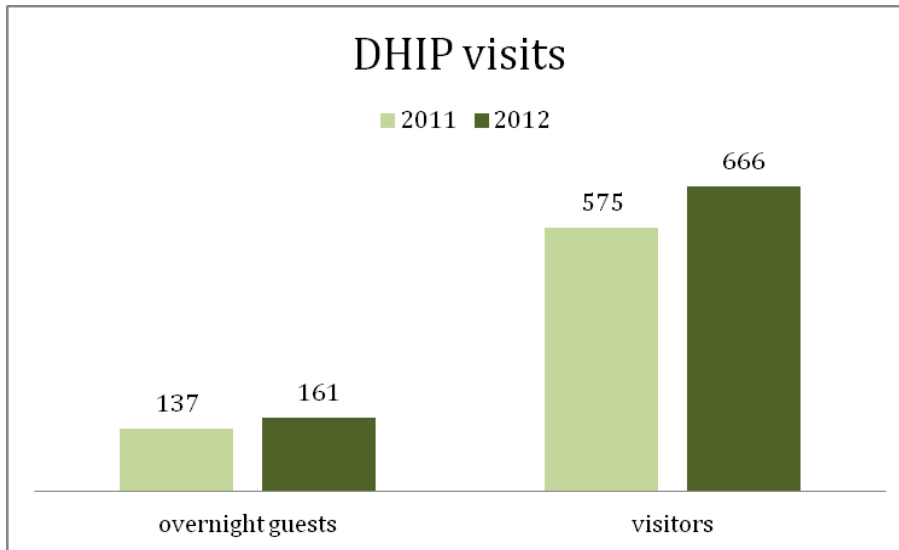
Strategically, DHIP took a big step in 2012 and signed a three year contract with DANIDA. The contract will ensure funding of DHIP's activities, and thus the basis for new projects and events has been improved. Following this contract, DHIP also developed a new strategy and activity plan for 2013-2015.

**HuskMitNavn's visit in April, Palestine Photo-Marathon in May and Go Stargazing in June ... all explored creative ways to tell stories.**

The year 2012 was also a year for a major goodbye and hello. Director Nathalie Khankan left DHIP in August and handed over the steering wheel to new directors Christian and Birgitte Balslev-Olesen.

2012 proved that DHIP is sailing and sailing well. The number of guests requesting rooms, meetings and visits have increased. DHIP is ready for 2013 and the years to come with an expanding DHIP team in Ramallah set to implement the new visions and plans.

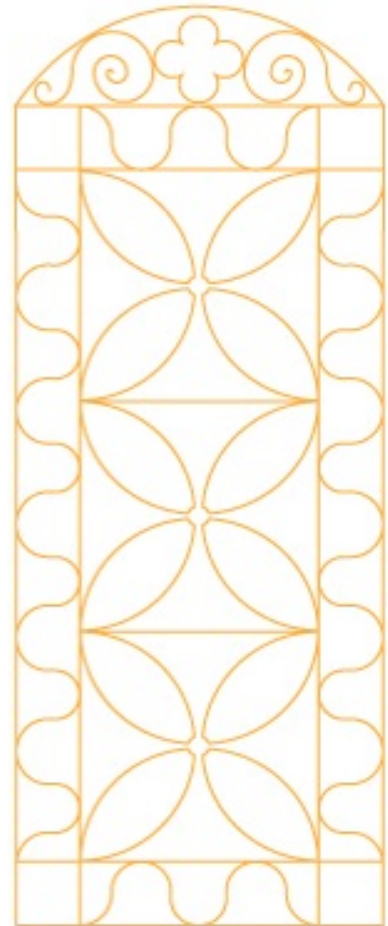
## *DHIP in numbers*







*financial overview*



## *2012 statement of activities (dkk)*

### **INCOME**

#### Project grants (unspent 2011 and 2012)

Danish MOFA	1,020,000
KVINFO	892,996
CKU	53,000
International Media Support	46,863
BUPL	10,000
Danish Palestinian Friendship Assoc. in DK	5,000

**Total project grants** **2,027,859**

#### Unrestricted grants/income

DHIP programs and activities	73,118
Accomodation	76,505

**Total unrestricted** **149,623**

**Total available income** **2,177,483**

### **EXPENSES**

Projects/activities	800,315
Rent and operating costs	306,014
Administration	80,960
Depreciation	12,000

**Total expenses** **1,199,289**

*2012 balance sheet (dkk)*

**ASSETS**

Current assets	1,547,572
Prepaid expenses	60,440
Fixed expenses (net)	11,500

**Total assets** **1,619,512**

**LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS**

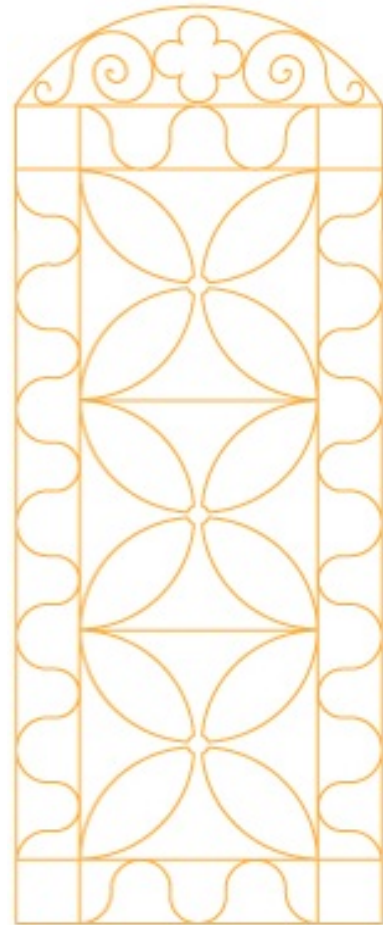
Accruals and payables	1,448,248
Net assets	171,264

**Total liabilities and net assets** **1,619,512**





*thank you*



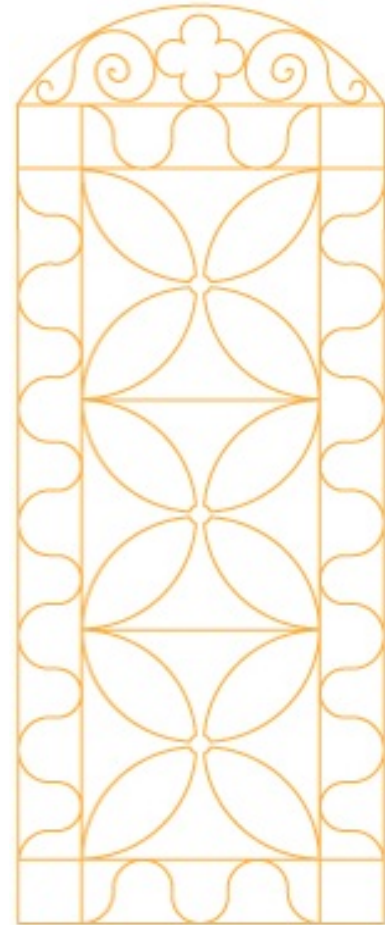
*a special thank you to:*

Al-Hoash gallery  
Al-Quds University  
Augusta Victoria Hospital  
Basil Ayish  
Biddo Youth Centre  
Birzeit University Museum  
BUPL  
Canaan Fair Trade  
Center for Jerusalem Studies  
Dalia Association  
Dalia Taha  
Danish Center for Culture  
and Development  
Dar al-Iman Orphanage  
Dar al-Kalima College  
Fadi al-Ghoul  
Falafel Abu Khalil  
Farhat Farhat  
Faten Farhat  
Follow the Women  
Friends Boys' School, Al-Bireh  
Grethe Weber  
Grundfos  
Hebron Rehabilitation  
Committee  
HuskMitNavn  
International Academy of Art  
in Palestine

International Media Support  
Juzoor for Health and Social  
Development  
Karen Blixen Museum  
KVINFO  
Lotte Buch-Segal  
Maher Khatib  
Mahmoud Abdallah  
Manal Farid Awad  
Maroof Rabba'  
Mohammad Dawood  
Mohammad Jaradat  
Morten Brynskov  
Nadia Habash  
OmarJoseph Nasser-Khoury  
Palestinian Astronomical  
Society  
Per Kallestrup  
Phoenix Centre, Dheisheh  
camp  
Palestine Photo-Marathon  
participants  
PalUng  
Radio Ajyal  
Ramallah Municipality  
Reem Shilleh  
Riwaq  
Sam Bahour

Shashat  
Shoruq Harb  
Tamer Institute for  
Community Education  
Tanya Habjouqa  
The Danish-Egyptian  
Dialogue Institute  
The Danish Ministry of  
Foreign Affairs  
The Danish Representative  
Office in Ramallah  
The Danish-Palestinian  
Friendship Association  
The Fashion and Textile  
institute in Beit Sahour  
The Palestinian Ministry of  
culture  
The Palestinian Ministry of  
Education  
The Royal Danish Academy of  
Fine Arts, School of Design  
Umaiye Khamash  
University College Capital  
Vibeke Vinther  
Walid Abu Halaweh  
Yazan Khalili  
Yazed Anani

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*Text & layout: Karen Nordemann, Sofie Pedersen and Michelle Jensen*

*Translation: Aya Sarsour, Abeer Habash, Karen Nordemann and Michelle Jensen*



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