

ARCHITECTURAL ASSOCIATION SCHOOL OF ARCHITECTURE

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# Mittelmeerland 3

## BEIRUT, LEBANON

11-21 APRIL 2012

AMERICAN UNIVERSITY OF BEIRUT



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### American University of Beirut

Mittelmeerland is investigating the future of the Mediterranean. Over a period of three years the intention is to research six different Mediterranean cities.

Beirut is the destination after Tangier and Dubrovnik. Algiers, Istanbul and Alexandria will follow.

Beirut forms the meeting point of three continents – Europe, Asia and Africa – and functions as a trading hub. Its port has been constantly extended to meet the demands of a growing population and economy. Once embedded in the urban fabric, it has now become a giant container port that blocks one third of the city's coastline.

Against this backdrop of diversity, conflict, unpredictability and complexity, can we say how Beirut's coastline is going to change in relation to the Mediterranean? What are the driving forces behind its reconstruction? What is the vision for a city of many cultures in need of modernisation? We will work on five different areas along the coastline, analysing existing conditions and future projections, playfully appropriating small-scale phenomena, translating found

conditions into large-scale landscape ecologies and envisioning urban change. The architectural portraits, urban biographies, narrative maps and imaginative collages that we produce will ultimately feature in a publication of the workshop's research on waterfront cities around the Mediterranean.

During the workshop a one-day symposium will be held. Its purpose is to examine how the Mediterranean region can reposition itself as a 'territory' based on climatic and economic conditions, and subject to specific social, political and spatial dynamics and experiences.

The workshop is open to architecture and design students and professionals worldwide.

#### Applications

The deadline for applications is 28 March 2012. Application forms and additional information are available online at: [www.aaschool.ac.uk/beirut](http://www.aaschool.ac.uk/beirut). All participants travelling from abroad are responsible for securing any visa required for entry to Lebanon, and are advised to contact their home embassy early. After payment of fees, the AA School can provide a letter confirming participation in the workshop.

#### Accommodation & Costs

The AA Visiting School requires a fee of £695 per participant, which includes a £50 Visiting Membership, payable online at: [www.aaschool.ac.uk/beirut](http://www.aaschool.ac.uk/beirut). Fees do not include flights or accommodation, but accommodation options can be advised. Participants need to bring their own laptops, digital equipment and modelmaking tools. Please ensure this equipment is covered by your own insurance as the AA takes no responsibility for items lost or stolen at the workshop.

#### More Information

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#### Programme Site

<http://www.mittelmeerland.org>