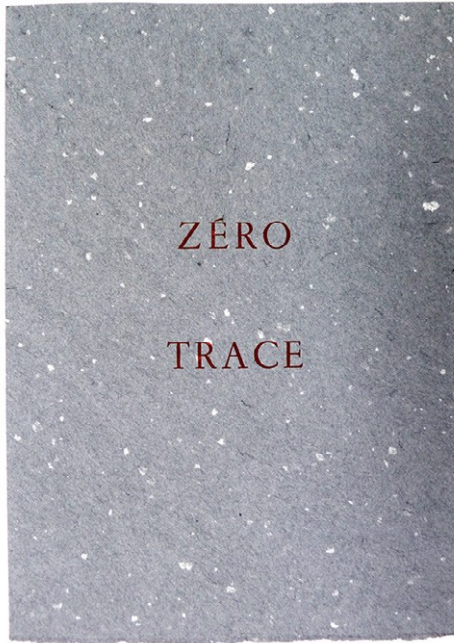


Al-Mutanabbi Street Starts Here
The Island gallery space, Bristol, UK
Saturday 4th March 2017
12.30-1.30pm

This event is one of many 10th Anniversary Readings for al-Mutanabbi Street taking place internationally over 4th and 5th March 2017, from Australia to Iraq, Paris to Quebec.



Images above - left: Jane Kennelly, right: John Bently, for *An Inventory of Al-Mutanabbi Street*

On March 5th 2007, a car bomb was exploded on al-Mutanabbi Street in Baghdad. Al-Mutanabbi Street is in a mixed Shia-Sunni area. More than 30 people were killed and more than 100 were wounded. Al-Mutanabbi Street, the historic centre of Baghdad bookselling, holds bookstores and outdoor bookstalls, cafes, stationery shops, and even tea and tobacco shops. It has been the heart and soul of the Baghdad literary and intellectual community. Beau Beausoleil, poet and bookseller - founder of The Al-Mutanabbi Street Coalition, has been working since that day to establish a dialogue in solidarity with al-Mutanabbi Street.

Our event in Bristol will have readings by Ama Bolton, Angie Butler and others. A selection of artists' books and broadsides made for the project will be on display.

Readings run from 12.45pm - 1.15pm, with time either side to view artworks and discussion to mark the 10th anniversary of al-Mutanabbi Street (12.30 – 1.30pm).

This event is free, all welcome.

Gallery space (Entrance from Bridewell Street, 1st Floor) The Island, Nelson Street, Bristol, BS1 2LE, UK. We regret that the 1st floor space areas are not accessible to wheelchair users. <http://theislandbristol.com/spaces/gallery-space/>

Any questions, please contact Sarah Bodman: Sarah.Bodman@uwe.ac.uk
For information on the project: www.bookarts.uwe.ac.uk/projects/al-mutanabbi-street.html