

For Immediate Release



## **Special one-time performance about Lebanese people's relationship with the shore to be held on the Corniche on May 20**

Beirut, Lebanon- 12/05/2011 - Thirty-five AUB students led by their performance arts instructor will be presenting a one-time performance art journey on the AUB Beach - Corniche at 6.30 pm on May 20, 2011, depicting Lebanese people's complex relationship with the sea and the shore.

Entitled "along the white line," the performance, which is choreographed by AUB instructor Cornelia Krafft, is inspired by the ancient Greek mythological story of Zeus' abduction and seduction of Europa, Phoenician princess of the coastal city of Tyre; but the performance is adapted to the Lebanese condition and set in contemporary Lebanon. It will interweave stories from Greek mythology with accounts of ancient Arab wisdom. Performers will use movement, sounds, and voices and will be accompanied by the 40 members of the AUB Choral Society led by conductor Thomas Kim.

The performance will interpret the dichotomous character of the shore with its power to pull in and send out, while exploring Lebanese people's urges for leaving the homeland or staying faithful to it.

Scheduled to start right before sunset at 6.30 pm sharp, the performance, will end at twilight.

For more information please call: 70- 64 65 56. Admission is free, but places are limited. Gates close at 6.30 pm sharp. Access is through the AUB Students Hostler Center.

A documentary about "along the white line," accompanied by performed fragments of the actual seashore event will later be screened on June 20, 2011 at the Dawwar al-Shams Theater [Theatre Tournesol], in Tayyouneh, as part of "The Allegora" art platform, which will take place from May to August 2011.

**Cornelia Krafft** is a German-born choreographer, installation and performance artist. Krafft's work translates literature into spatial contexts, using nature or deserted urban settings as a stage. She completed her MA at the Academy of Fine Arts in Vienna, Austria. After working in several other countries, including Austria, Italy, Norway, Australia and Lebanon, she joined AUB in 2009 as a professor of performance art at the Fine Arts and Art History Department. Her latest choreographic performance, "777" - shown in May 2010 involved 40 AUB students and was staged at the dilapidated former cinema Dome City Center, Downtown Beirut - was widely reviewed in Lebanon, USA and Canada. She was also selected to perform one of her other works in the 2011 Venice Biennale, a major Italian arts festival, as part of the Lebanon Pavilion, but Lebanon canceled its participation purportedly due to the instability in the region and the country.

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**For more information please contact:**

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**Note to Editors**

**About AUB**

Founded in 1866, the American University of Beirut bases its educational philosophy, standards, and practices on the American liberal arts model of higher education. A teaching-centered research university, AUB has more than 600 full-time faculty members and a student body of more than 7,000 students. AUB currently offers more than 100 programs leading to the bachelor's, master's, MD, and PhD degrees. It provides medical education and training to students from throughout the region at its Medical Center that includes a full service 420-bed hospital.

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