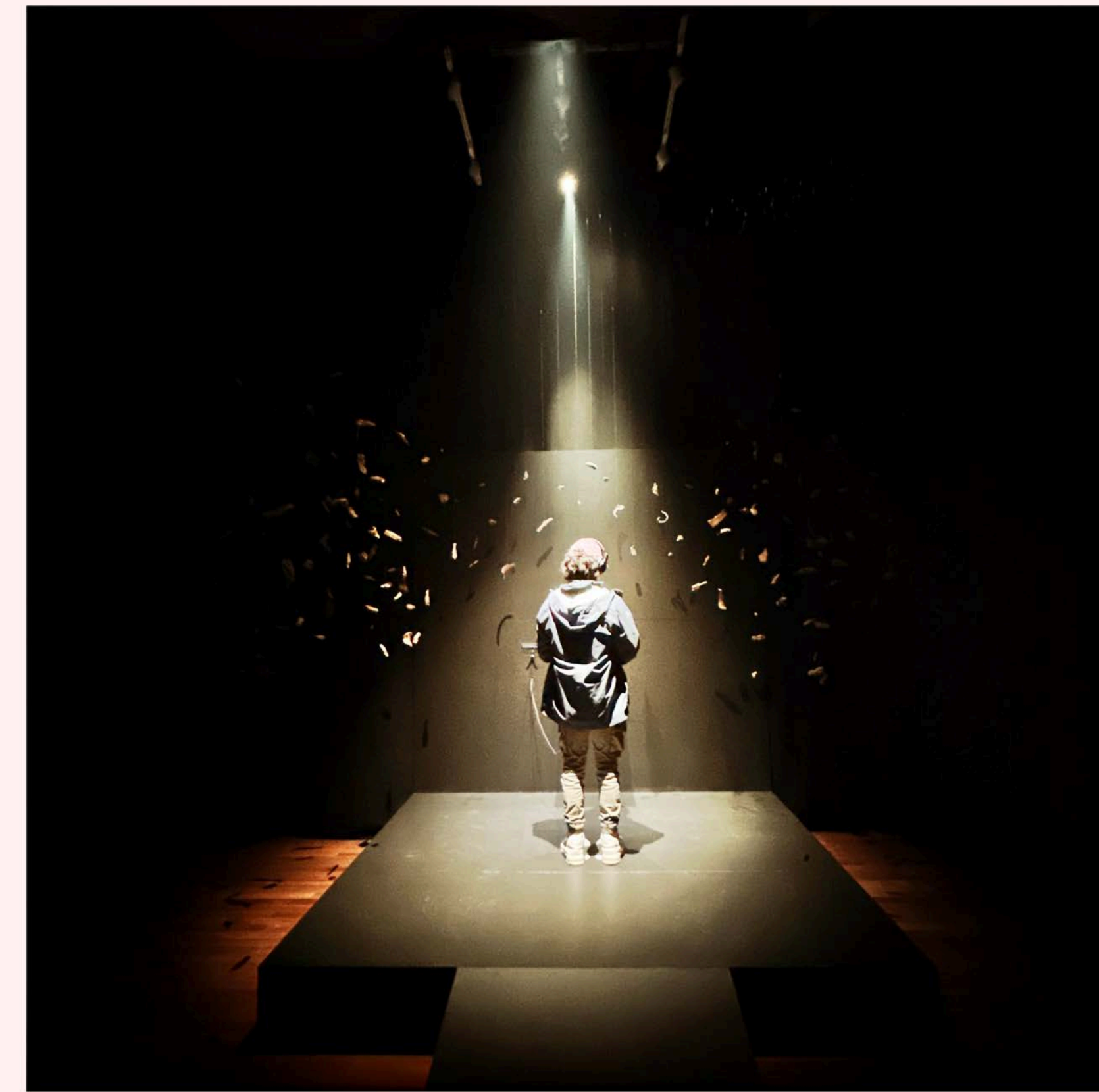
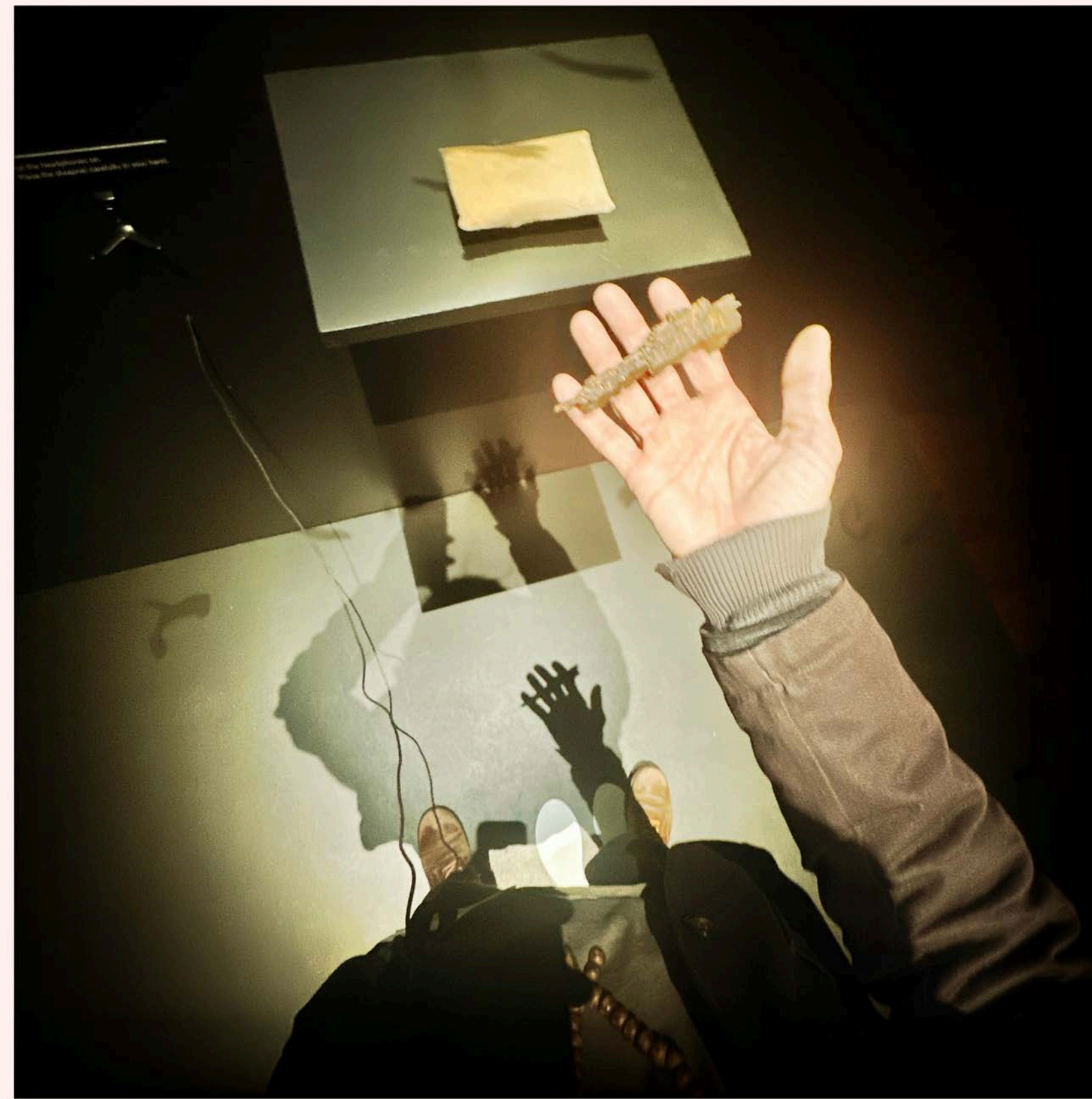


*in 36,000 ways*

BY KARIM BEN KHELIFA

**TECH RIDER**  
Version 2026/03/22





Photographs Karim BEN KHELIFA

# 1. TECH RIDER AT A GLANCE (Quick Facts)

## Artwork:

In 36,000 Ways  
By Karim Ben Khelifa

## Format:

Single-user installation  
Approx. 3 minutes per visitor

## Concept:

An intimate, sensor-driven installation in which a single visitor stands within a suspended field of real shrapnel fragments. The experience is triggered by the visitor and shaped in real time by their physiological signals.

## Minimum Room Requirements:

- Width: 6 m
- Depth: 6 m
- Height: 5 m minimum
- Fully darkened or fully controllable low light environment

## Structure:

- Overhead hanging grid or truss
- Suspended shrapnel elements
- Central platform with ramp and vertical panel

## Power:

- 230 V European standard
- Low power consumption
- Two dedicated circuits recommended

## Network:

- Fully offline operation
- No internet required during exhibition

## Crew Requirements:

- Artist
- Mandatory assistant: Enzo Leclercq
- 1 local venue technician for rigging and power

## Installation Time:

- Structure and hanging: 3 days
- Calibration and final setup: 1 day
- Dismantling: 10 to 12 hours

## Special Notes:

- Hanging inert shrapnel elements
- Safety helmets required during installation
- Assistant presence is mandatory for build and strike

## 2. OVERVIEW OF THE INSTALLATION

*In 36,000 Ways* is conceived as a proof of concept for a larger installation. This version offers a focused and intimate encounter with the materiality of war through the presence of real shrapnel fragments.

A single visitor enters a darkened space and stands inside a dense cluster of hundreds of suspended shrapnel pieces. The experience begins when the visitor takes a piece of shrapnel placed on a shelf.

At that moment, all warm lights fade out, leaving a cold, focused light illuminating the visitor's hand. Through headphones, the visitor hears the artist's voice. As the visitor remains still, the system captures physiological signals using sensing technologies originally developed for surveillance, motion tracking, and through-wall detection.

The visitor hears their own heartbeat. This heartbeat subtly shapes the sonic environment.

The work avoids showing images of war. Instead, the physical presence of the material invites the visitor to confront their own imagination of violence and conflict.

A facilitator is recommended to guide visitors and ensure safety.

## 3. SPATIAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL REQUIREMENTS

### Room Conditions:

- Fully darkened space or fully controllable low light
- Black walls or black curtains covering full wall height

- One entrance opening approximately 1 m wide
- Entrance and exit through the same passage
- Space outside the room for a short queue of 3 to 4 visitors

### Environmental Conditions:

- Stable temperature
- No strong heat sources near sensors
- Minimal sound bleed from outside

### Floor:

- Flat and clean surface
- Suitable for cable covers and temporary floor protection

## 4. STRUCTURAL REQUIREMENTS

### Hanging Structure (one of the following):

- Aluminium truss:
  - 4.5 m wide
  - 4.5 m deep
  - 5 m high
- Or black painted walls of similar dimensions with integrated support

### Additional Structural Needs:

- Ceiling or overhead grid for hanging shrapnel lines
- Load-bearing points approved for suspended elements
- Safe clearance around all hanging elements

### Visitor Platform:

- Wooden square platform
- Height: 25 to 40 cm

**Vertical Panel:**

- Height: 2.2 to 2.5 m
- Painted matt black

**Ramp (accessibility for all):**

- Width: 1.2 m
- Length: 2.5 m
- Painted matt black

## 5. MANDATORY KEY PERSONNEL

**Important:**

This installation cannot be installed or dismantled without the physical presence of Enzo Leclercq, the artist's assistant.

A defining characteristic of the work is that each shrapnel fragment is individually prepared, handled, and suspended. Prior to transport, every fragment is wrapped with a 0.35 mm nylon wire cut to a precise length and stored in an individual transparent zip bag.

During installation, the artist and Enzo Leclercq remove each fragment one by one, determine its position in space, and hang it manually. This process is highly specific, time-consuming, and cannot be delegated to untrained local crew without risking damage or compromising safety.

Dismantling requires the same care. Each fragment must be removed, the wire rewound, and the piece returned to its individual bag.

For these reasons, Enzo Leclercq must be present for the entire installation and dismantling period. The venue must also provide one local technician to assist during both phases.

## 6. TECHNICAL SYSTEMS OVERVIEW

### 6.1 Sound

**Artist Provides:**

- Audio interface
- Two microphones
- Specialized audio cables

**Venue Provides:**

- Closed over-ear headphones with long cable

### 6.2 Sensors

The installation uses sensing technologies originally developed for surveillance, target detection, motion tracking, and through-wall monitoring.

**Key Constraints:**

- Sensor must remain fixed once calibrated
- No one may stand behind the visitor during operation
- No strong heat sources near sensor
- Optimal camera height: 1.35 m

**Artist Provides:**

- Primary sensing device
- Thermal imaging camera or microwave sensing system
- Mounting hardware
- Scale and cushion for shrapnel interaction
- Two printed white footprints for visitor positioning

### **Venue Provides:**

- Black shelf for scale
  - Height: 1.1 m
  - Size: 20 x 30 cm

## 7. COMPUTING AND CONTROL

### **Artist Provides:**

- Mac Mini M2
- Amplifier
- Buttkicker with mounting hardware
- Focusrite audio interface
- Arduino controller
- USB hub
- All specialized cables and adapters

### **Venue Provides:**

- HDMI monitor (approx. 24", backstage)
- Keyboard and mouse
- Secure, hidden space for computer and hardware
- Cable routing solutions to keep cables hidden or covered

## 8. LIGHTING REQUIREMENTS

### **General:**

- All lights must be DMX controlled
- Lights must be positioned centrally above the visitor

### **Required Lighting:**

- 1 cold light focused on visitor standing position
- 1 cold light focused on the shrapnel placed on the cushion
- Minimum 10 warm lights focused outward onto the shrapnel field
- Optional low-intensity warm or neutral safety light

### **Example Fixture:**

- Showtec Performer Profile Mini or equivalent exhibition-grade profile

## 9. EQUIPMENT PROVIDED BY VENUE

- Black walls or curtains, 5 m high
- Electric drill and screws
- Approved tape for floor cable routing
- Cable covers
- Ladder reaching full structure height or Genie lift
- Security helmets during installation
- Elegant black chair or stool and small desk for facilitator
- Power distribution with 7 to 11 outlets

## 10. INSTALLATION SCHEDULE

### **Pre-Arrival:**

- Booth, platform, ramp, and hanging grid fully built and ready

### **Day 1 to Day 3 (approx. 10 hours per day):**

- Install hanging structure

- Hang shrapnel and adjust spacing
- Artist and assistant present
- One venue technician assisting
- Ladder or lift required

#### **Day 4 (approx. 8 hours):**

- Sensor installation and calibration
- Scale installation
- Buttkicker installation
- Audio setup and testing
- Lighting focus and programming
- Safety walkthrough

#### **Dismantling:**

- 10 to 12 hours
- Artist and assistant present
- One venue technician assisting
- Ladder or lift required

## 11. OPERATIONAL REQUIREMENTS

### **Staffing**

- One facilitator recommended

### **Facilitator Responsibilities**

- Provide safety instructions if needed
- Ensure visitor does not touch hanging elements

- Monitor system functionality
- Reset system if needed
- Report issues to artist or technician

### **Daily Routine:**

- System restart before opening
- System shutdown after closing
- Removal of shrapnel from cushion by staff
- Simple on/off procedure provided

### **Cleaning:**

- Floor dusting only
- No cleaning of shrapnel
- No touching of hanging elements by unauthorized staff

## 12. SAFETY AND RISK ASSESSMENT

- All shrapnel fragments are inert and safe
- No hazardous residues
- Each fragment is securely mounted
- Visitors must remain on platform
- Venue fire regulations must be followed at all times

## 13. TRANSPORT AND INSURANCE

### **Transport:**

- Shrapnel shipped in padded cases
- Number of cases: 2

- Total weight approx. 35 kg
- Sensors and electronics shipped separately as fragile

#### Storage:

- Secure temporary storage required before and after installation

#### Insurance:

- Transport insurance: provided by venue
- Exhibition insurance: provided by venue
- Replacement value: €35,000

## 14. VISUALS AND DIAGRAMS (APPENDED)

- Floor plan (top view)
- Side elevation with camera height
- Shrapnel hanging layout
- General view structure

## 15. INSTALLATION TEXT + DISCLAIMER

### Public Version (1077 characters / 161 words)

In this intimate, site-specific variation of his ongoing project *In 36,000 Ways*, artist and former war correspondent Karim Ben Khelifa invites audiences to confront the physical and emotional weight of modern warfare, through their own bodies.

Inside a solitary booth, a single shard of missile shrapnel, collected by the artist from frontline sites in Ukraine, is presented to the visitor. But this is no passive display. As each person enters, their presence is detected, and subtle physiological signals are captured non-invasively.



These signals are translated into a responsive low-frequency soundscape, where the visitor's own heartbeat becomes a quiet yet persistent rhythm of resilience within the wreckage.

By turning the visitor into a living interface, the installation collapses the distance between observer and event. What once served as a tool of targeting and destruction is recontextualized as a portal to memory and reflection.

In 36,000 Ways transforms military residue into a sensorium of resistance—where silence carries echoes, and presence becomes testimony.

### **Short Version (265 characters / 41 words)**

Inside a booth, a visitor faces a missile shard from Ukraine. Their own body, non-invasively sensed, triggers a soundscape where heartbeat becomes resilience. In 36,000 Ways transforms the tools of war into an intimate interface for memory, empathy, and reflection.

### **Public Disclaimer**

This installation uses non-invasive biofeedback technologies to detect small physiological signals, such as your heartbeat, to create an immersive, personalized sound experience.

No personal data is stored or shared. All biofeedback is processed locally and in real time, solely for the duration of your participation, and the computer processing that data isn't connected to the internet.

By entering the installation, you acknowledge and consent to the temporary, non-invasive sensing of your physiological signals. You may withdraw your participation at any time by exiting the installation.

## 16. CONTACTS

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