



EXODUS & RESILIENCE

exodusandresilience.org

New York · Barcelona · Caracas · Acarigua

International cultural platform · Founding phase · 2026

CURATORIAL NOTE

v1.0 · May 2026

Knowledge Hub

CURATORIAL NOTE

Curatorial Note

Curatorial framework v1.0 · Art, memory and migration as civic infrastructure

ABOUT THIS DOCUMENT

This document is part of the Exodus & Resilience Knowledge Hub. It contains institutional information drawn directly from exodusandresilience.org and the founding documents of the platform. In its founding phase, some indicators are methodological frameworks pending verified data, consistent with the institutional transparency commitment of Exodus & Resilience.

VERSION

v1.0 · May 2026

DATE

May 2026

LANGUAGE

English

WEB

exodusandresilience.org

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Migration as a total cultural process

Exodus & Resilience starts from a central conviction: migration is not only a human mobility phenomenon, but a total cultural process that transforms cities, languages, archives, institutions, family memories and forms of belonging. Exhibitions, public programmes, mediation and curatorial research are, from this perspective, civic infrastructures: spaces where contemporary art allows us to process experiences of loss, displacement and recomposition —not as victimization narratives— but as public knowledge.

Expanded curating

Contemporary curating encompasses research, mediation, educational programmes, archive production, community activation and cultural policy. The four nodes are complete curatorial devices, not just exhibition spaces. The programme is the work. The workshop, the conversation, the shared exhibition are as constitutive of the project as the objects it produces.

Curatorial grammar · Depart · Sustain · Recompose

Depart

Traversing a rupture: displacement, exile, search, expulsion, loss, border, separation, precarity, mourning, beginning. Art can name that rupture without reducing it to victimization or to a statistic.

Sustain

What allows life to continue: migratory networks, care, community, language, work, affections, memory, objects, cultural practices, transnational bonds. The diaspora does not abandon the origin: it sustains it.

Recompose

Constructing new forms of belonging: cultural citizenship, archive, mediation, community, recognition, pedagogy, public space, shared future. Art is the place where that process can be freely explored.

Cultural citizenship as ethical horizon

Cultural rights —the right of every community to participate in public cultural life and to be recognized as a subject within the symbolic space of a society— are the ethical horizon of the work. When a migrant community is excluded from the institutional circuits of art and culture, that exclusion is not only a lack of resources: it is a form of denied citizenship. The platform works to reverse that denial through permanent infrastructure, not through one-off visibility.

Four territories · Four curatorial questions

The platform proposes a field of work where expanded curating, critical pedagogy, public memory and cultural citizenship converge. Each node works a specific dimension of contemporary migratory experience with its own founding question.

NEW YORK

Diaspora, networks and founding support

How can a diaspora transform its experience of loss and recomposition into a cultural infrastructure capable of sustaining memory, artists and communities? New York is a city-network where migratory trajectories, cultural institutions, foundations and transnational communities converge. The founding pilot works the Venezuelan diaspora as a distributed form of cultural presence.

CARACAS

Memory of origin and symbolic return

What does it mean to return culturally to a place when physical return is not always possible, safe or sufficient? Caracas is an active site of memory: it appears in language, affections, images and the need to explain what was lived. The programme works reconnection as critical curatorial practice.

BARCELONA

Contact zone and recomposition of belongings

How is belonging recomposed when life unfolds between the origin that remains and the city that demands adaptation? Barcelona is a contact zone: a space where different cultures meet and produce new forms. TRAMA BCN works the full migratory diversity of the city with proximity cultural mediation.

ACARIGUA

Territorial memory and intermediate city

How is a territory transformed when its human memory is displaced, but bonds continue to act from a distance? Acarigua is a living archive: an intermediate city in Portuguesa state that allows observing migration from where few gazes reach. Works intangible heritage and intergenerational transmission.

Artistic selection criteria

Curatorial rigour

Professional artistic criteria, not community representation. Art does not illustrate: it produces knowledge.

Contextualization

Each artist engages with the conceptual framework of their node. The work connects with the Depart / Sustain / Recompose grammar.

Professional documentation

Every artist generates accessible documentation: technical sheet, critical text, activation record and impact evidence.

Independence

Curatorial direction is independent from funders. No alliance compromises the intellectual coherence of the programme.

Verified diversity

Diversity of gender, generation and origin is documented in each programme. Diversity is not a quota: it is honest curation.

Fair remuneration

Artists receive documented remuneration. The platform rejects the logic of free exposure as a benefit for emerging artists.

A note from the founder on curating

FOUNDER'S LETTER · EXODUSANDRESILIENCE.ORG/EN/FOUNDER-LETTER

"From the perspective of expanded curating, the programme does not begin when an exhibition opens. It begins when conditions are built for researching, documenting, listening, training, mediating, protecting rights and producing public knowledge. Culture can open spaces for symbolic processing and belonging, but only if it is sustained with method, care and time." — Omar Bustillos Palis, Founder and Curatorial Director, Barcelona 2026

NOTE · FRAMEWORK PAGE · FOUNDING PHASE

Curatorial note subject to review by the International Advisory Board currently being constituted. Artistic selection criteria will be published in definitive form when the first operational cycle of each node is activated.

exodusandresilience.org/en/reports/curatorial-note