

Beirut Synthesizer Center



an experiment in autonomous learning and sound practices.

The Beirut Synthesizer Center is a newly formed informal co-op for electronic music enthusiasts. Co-founded by artists Bana Haffar, Elyse Tabet, Hany Manja, and Ziad Moukarzel. The center opened its doors on June 25th, 2021 and operates out of a modest apartment building in the densely trafficked neighborhood of Mar Mikhael.

The center opened largely in response to the compounding financial and economic crises in Lebanon and lack of governmental support for the arts, an initiative that is “much needed during such times” writes Beirut based DJ and urban photographer, Rami Abi Rafeh. Among its sponsors are Los Angeles-based non-profit radio station dublab, and the Beirut Musicians Fund.



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Inspired by the collective ethos of the Synth Libraries in Prague and Portland, Signal Culture, The San Francisco Tape Music Center, and Black Mountain College, the center is an artist-led, experimental space for self-directed study in a focused environment that provides access to various synthesizers and resources. Musicians, artists, makers, and researchers are invited to exchange expertise, discover instruments, record, and collaborate.

In its initial form, the center holds weekly open hours, workshops, artist lectures, discussion nights, movie screenings, and a small reference library.

The Center will be open throughout the summer of 2021, with further plans remaining to be formed.

Beirut Synthesizer Center
Mar Mikhael, Nahr, Fouad Boutros St
beirutsynthesizercenter@gmail.com
+ 961 81 439 351

@beirutsynthcenter
<https://tinyurl.com/2z8vsemv>