

Nina Živančević

Active Activist Performing Action , "" ""

You can put these inverted commas wherever you like, above any act
or action of mine,
The entire cities of Paris, London or Belgrade are my daily stage
where i pound the streets and fill out the refugees' cups with money
As i try not to insult them i tell them
First : *seelaam aleicum*
And when some respond with *aleicum selaam*
Some also add *Shukran*
And to some of them i say
Afuan and some of them ask
Me in English where do i come from
And to some of them i answer
I was born in the state of disgust
And to some of them i say
I was born in a desert
And to some of them
I say i was born in the midst of
Neoliberal madness
And some of them do think
That i am crazy
And some of them think that
I fell in the state of total disgrace
And some of them pat my hand as if
It were Fatima's in disguise of an angel
And so i know
That i have no other choice
But to return home B like broke
T like tired
M like moved to tears
No, i m not an anarchist
My grandfather did it for me
Come to think of it
Now that i'm at home
All alone...

SYRIAN Dark,Very Dark
but still a SONG...

**According to data gathered by UNHCR, so far this year more than
200,000 Syrians have arrived in Europe, adding to the 230,000
already there.**

This new influx amounts to roughly 5 per cent of the total number of Syrian refugees, but that 5 per cent has captured most of the media coverage: life jackets strewn across the beaches of Lesbos and Kos;

the body of the drowned toddler, Alan Kurdi, washed up on a Turkish beach; impromptu tent cities in public parks in Athens; police batons in Macedonia; tear gas and razor-wire fences in Hungary; and an epic march towards Western Europe.

There is a Syrian refugee crisis and a European border crisis and the one cannot be reduced to the other.

The vast majority of the four million refugees are living in countries on Syria's borders.

Turkey is home to an estimated two million.

Jordan 1.4 million and Lebanon 1.2 million.

Russia, Iran, the US, Britain and the Gulf States have all intervened in the conflict, but **none** has been willing to accept large numbers of Syrian refugees on their own territory.

To date, the US has resettled around *1500 Syrians*, while Britain has only recently committed to resettling 20,000 over the next five years. *The Gulf States have resettled none, although Saudi Arabia claims to have allowed in anywhere between 500,000 and 2.5 million Syrians as 'migrant workers'. The number depends on which government official you listen to.*