

“How Sexy!”

Photo Blog by **Alia Haju**

That was the reaction from some men walking past two women tied up with a leash. They were being walked by a man as part of a street art performance on Beirut’s Hamra street about violence against women.

Interactive performance is not very common in Lebanon, and has only surfaced in the last couple of years provoking bedazzlement from most. People demonstrate a range of responses, from astonishment to mockery; some understand that they are watching a street performance and smile knowingly, while others engage in the scene, trying to help the battered characters.

In the last two weeks, a group of students and professional performers have been invading the streets of Ras Beirut enacting this performance at nearly every corner.

Women on a leash, people who drop “dead” on the floor against the backdrop of a body chalk outline- like in a crime scene, and so on. They are the side acts of a free performance choreographed by Cornelia Krafft. *Salome Versus Bluebeard* and will be showing at Masrah-Al-Madina on the 1st and 2nd of December, dedicated to a local NGO against gender-based violence, Kafa.



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