ABOUT THE MOSAIC ROOMS

The Mosaic Rooms are a vibrant non-profit cultural space and bookshop in West London dedicated to supporting and promoting contemporary culture from and about the Arab world. We do this through our free access contemporary art exhibitions, our multidisciplinary events, artist residencies and learning and engagement programme.

We believe in the importance of creating a cultural space that presents new thinking and daring creativity, illuminates ideas, inspires understanding, and interrogates contemporary issues. Our vision is for a London audience with a more informed, engaged and critical understanding of Arab culture and society.

We are a non-party political, non-religious organisation, and we are a project of the A.M. Qattan Foundation, a registered charity number 1029450.

www.mosaicrooms.org

...a succinct, intelligent focus on the Arab world has been unfolding at The Mosaic Rooms gallery in Earls Court since 2008...

Rachel Spence, Art Critic, Financial Times
OUR MISSION
A leading London based non-profit cultural organisation dedicated to supporting and promoting contemporary culture from and about the Arab world by:

Initiating dialogue and debate about the Arab world’s most pressing social, political and cultural issues.

Celebrating excellence through a regular public programme including visual arts, design, architecture, literature, film, music, food and current affairs.

Providing an international platform for the arts, particularly new work, away from the commercial pressures of the contemporary market.

Creating opportunities for interaction, collaboration and professional development between artists, collectives and organisations from the Arab world and the UK.

Delivering a high-quality learning and engagement programme particularly to marginalised communities and young people in London.

OUR VALUES
Transparency, independence and freedom of expression
We aim to create a transparent and independent democratic platform for intellectual and artistic exchange between the UK and the Arab world.

Non-party political and non-religious
We believe that public cultural organisations must remain both non-party political and non-religious in order to be as inclusive as possible.

Culture as the source of a rich social conversation
We believe that culture should be exciting yet demanding and thought-provoking, and bold and inspiring without being restrictive or alienating. As such, culture is vital for a truly rich social conversation to take place.

Artistic excellence and originality
We believe in presenting an innovative, progressive, high quality programme that aims to reveal and challenge, discover and support, innovate and provoke new ideas and new thinking!

Hospitable and welcoming
We aim to offer a warm and welcoming space for artists and members of the public to engage respectfully, critically and freely in new ideas and open debate.
PROGRAMME OVERVIEW

Our programme of exhibitions ranges from solo presentations to group shows, with a focus on supporting emerging to established contemporary artists who would benefit from a London platform, and the opportunity to create new and ambitious work. The exhibitions seek to represent and critically reflect on a range of art forms and artistic interests. We showcase artists from the Middle East and North Africa, as well as international artists who create work that directly engages with the region. Our talks and events programme is conceived to expand on and engage in the issues and concepts raised in the exhibitions. It is topical as well as offering broader insight.

Since opening to the public in 2008, we’ve presented an average of 6 exhibitions and 45 multidisciplinary events each year, including:

— Showcasing the perspectives of artists from across the Arab world including Palestine, Iraq, Syria, Algeria, Morocco and Egypt.
— Hosting a diverse range of multidisciplinary events, from book launches to music performances, film screenings to poetry readings and current affairs debates to supper clubs.
— Launching the first UK solo exhibitions of over 20 visual artists so far, many of whom have gone on to exhibit at, or enter the collections of, major museums in the UK.
— Publishing over 10 artist’s books to shed further light on the themes and issues explored in our exhibitions and promote our exhibiting artists.
— Over 30 artists have benefited from our in-house residency.
— Our exhibitions are free to the public as are the majority of our public talks and events to ensure access for all.

Our online archive provides a resource for audiences to access audio and video recordings of our events, materials relating to our exhibitions, and a blog including interviews and posts from guest residents.

One of London’s hidden gems… a hub for exhibitions, literary events, supper clubs and much more.
Roxane Zand, Deputy Chairman, Middle East and Gulf Region, Sotheby’s
VISUAL ARTS

Our contemporary art exhibitions cover a wide range of disciplines from photography, installation, video, painting, sculpture, design and architecture. We are proud to have worked on presenting, commissioning, and producing a wide range of exhibitions. Our exhibitions and artists have included the following:

What Imagined Futures makes clear is that, to be deeply felt, the various narratives of the Arab world must be considered in their specific strains, not as a monolith.

Cassie Packard, Hyperallergic

I Spy With My Little Eye...
Caline Aoun, George Awde, Mirna Bamieh, Nour Bishouty, Pascal Hachem, Charbel-Joseph H. Boutros, Aya Haïdar, Georgette Power, Joe Namy, Stéphanie Saadé, Siska, Lara Tabet, Tala Worrell

Garden State
Corinne Silva

Imagined Futures
Hrair Sarkissian

Mouths At The Invisible Event
David Birkin

The Future Rewound & The Cabinet of Souls
Nadja Kaabi-Linke

My Sister Who Travels
Corinne Silva, Paola Yacoub, Jananne Al-Ani, Noor Abed, Halida Beughriet, Ursula Schulz-Dornburg, Esther Van Deman

Intervening Space: From The Intimate To The World
Nadia Kaabi-Linke

A Tribute To Adonis
Adonis

From Palestine To Israel
Ariella Azoulay

Che, Angel, It’s Me, Donkey
Fadi Yazigi

The Passion Of Simplicity
Nedda El-Asmar

A Girl and Her Room
Rania Matar

Dreams in Black and White
Mohammed Joha

Home
Carvan

YAYA 2012
Jumana Mannaa, Mirna Bamieh, Majd Abdel Hamid, Shada Safadi, Omar Joseph Nasser Khoury, Dirar Kalash

40 Days
Dor Guez

Lost Of The Dictionary Men
Tina Gharavi

A Watchtower of Happiness and Other Landscapes of Occupation
Febrik

Working From Life
Yamou

cairo Year One
Nermine Hammam

home: Museum of Architecture
Iraq-How, Where, For Whom?
Hanaa Malallah & kennardphillipps

Is This Your First Time in Gaza?
Hazem Harb

Ordinary Lives
Rania Matar

YAYA 2008: Fragile Bodies
Akrum Halabi, Majd Abdel Hamid, Hazem Harb, Salama Safadi, Shada Safadi, Laylan Shawabkeh, Wafaa Yasin

Vivid Ruins
Hanna Malallah

Occupied Space 2008

Landscapes of Desire
John Halaka

YAYA 2010
Ahmed and Mohammad Abu Nasser (Tarzan & Arab), Majd Abdel Hamid, Salmon Nawati, Abdallah Al Ruzzi, Ayed Arafah, Jumana Mannaa, Dina Matar

Silk Thread Martyrs
Omar Joseph Nasser-Khoury

The Book of Destruction: Gaza – One Year After the 2009 War
Kai Wiedenhöfer

Portraits from Sainsbury’s Shema Ladva

Poetic Inspirations
Mona Sauda

New Works
Jawad al Malhi

Reflective Consciousness
Bashar Hroub

Is This Your First Time in Gaza?
Hazem Harb

Ordinary Lives
Rania Matar

YAYA 2008: Fragile Bodies
Akrum Halabi, Majd Abdel Hamid, Hazem Harb, Salama Safadi, Shada Safadi, Laylan Shawabkeh, Wafaa Yasin

Vivid Ruins
Hanna Malallah

Occupied Space 2008

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**TALKS**

We present panel discussions, talks and Q&As with leading artists, academics, writers and thinkers in the field of Arab culture and current affairs, including the high profile annual Edward W. Said London Lecture. Our public talks programme seeks to address and provide thought on the most pressing issues currently affecting the region, as well as showcasing its emerging and established artistic voices. Our events have included the following:

The Mosaic Rooms is an intellectual adventure, a point of discovery, and always a richly rewarding experience... Mashaal Gauhar, Blue Chip Magazine
FILM

Our screenings showcase shorts, feature films, documentaries and artist films by both exciting emerging filmmakers, and established directors and producers. In addition to curating our own series of specially selected screenings, we also collaborate with key film festivals to bring the best of Arab cinema to London audiences. Our programme has included the following:

The films appeal to all generations and nationalities... very well received. Ceila Topping, Brown Book
LIVE EVENTS

We present a wide range of live events from play readings and music performances to workshops and lecture performances, as well as our popular supper club series which celebrates the cooking and stories that surround food from the diverse Arab cultures found in London. Past events have included the following:

Food draws people together, it is a universal language which transcends national boundaries, cultures and even divisions — Sara al-Hamad knows this… Funoon
LEARNING & ENGAGEMENT

We deliver a programme of creative learning projects, inspired by our exhibition programme and annual themes. Our programme aims to develop an on-going dialogue with the local community, schools, youth groups and art colleges, encouraging active participation in a range of creative projects and the exchange of ideas relating to issues of culture and society. Projects and workshops are led by London-based artists and visiting artists from across the MENA region.

We welcome enquiries from local community groups and schools. Email us at education@mosaicrooms.org.

Three Percent
Presented in collaboration with Phakama, working with young women aged 16–25 through multi-art form workshops exploring power and freedom and what these mean to young people today. The project culminated in a site-specific performance in the gallery.

‘Captivating, moving and very powerful. Thank you!’
‘Outstanding show. Terribly moving.’
‘The performance was really good, it inspired me a lot to rethink about all the opportunities I have and do not appreciate.’

Visitor comments

Mogadishu: Lost Moderns
Photography and Poetry Workshops

‘I learned how to use a professional camera for the first time… it’s opened an option in my career.’
Yusuf, age 17, participant

‘I learned loads of different ways to take photos, landscape, action, detail and portrait… at first I only used to take selfies, now I take in my surroundings more, and take more photos of my surroundings.’
Siriyn, age 14, participant

Home
Artist duo kennardphillipps worked with young people to express their ideas on home using collage, scanning, photoshop and printing techniques. In collaboration with: Making Communities Work and Grow, Chelsea Youth Club, Earl’s Court Youth Club, and RBKC.

‘I enjoyed the fact that I was able to create an art piece based on what I believe in.’
Kauthar, participant

‘I enjoyed being creative and thinking outside the box and using all the different materials.’
Charlotte, participant

‘I enjoyed most exploring all the types of work Peter and Kat came and explained their meanings.’
Mohammed, participant

Memento: Exploring ideas of Home
A project with students on the FdA Interior Design course at Chelsea College of Art who worked with family members to uncover memories of domestic practice. Project led by Fernando Rihl and Reem Charif.

Oral Histories
Bridge + Tunnel worked with the Yemeni community in London to capture a range of oral histories of first and second generation Yemenis during a weekend workshop.

Survival Kit for the 21st Century
Project devised by Dia Batal and Reem Charif, with workshops led by Dia at two secondary schools encouraging young people to consider what is important to their lives through a variety of different mediums resulting in the creation of a survival kit.
PARTNERSHIPS
We work in partnership with local, national and international organisations to disseminate our combined arts programme to the widest possible audience — in London and beyond. Our previous collaborations have been with The British Museum, ICA, Iniva, Delfina Foundation, ikon gallery, Southbank Centre, Ffoto Gallery, Casa Árabe, Shubbak Festival, London Design Festival, London Festival of Architecture, Nour Festival, Palestine Festival of Literature, Hay Festival, English Pen, Freeword, Literature Across Frontiers, Poetry Translation Centre, Goethe Institute, Iraqi Cultural Centre, Goldsmiths University of London, University of Arts London, London College of Communication, amongst many others.

SUPPORT US
The Mosaic Rooms are an A.M. Qattan Foundation project. The A.M. Qattan Foundation provides The Mosaic Rooms with a rent-free space and a proportion of our annual budget. The rest is sought through public funding, partnerships, and individual donations. Our programme has previously been supported by Arts Council England, Goethe Institute, Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea, as well as by individual sponsors.

As a charity and non-profit we welcome your support whether as an institution or an individual. This can be done through:
— Exhibition sponsorship
— Learning & Engagement project sponsorship
— Our Benefactors programme

Please contact us on +44 (0)20 7370 9990 or info@mosaicrooms.org if you would like to discuss further.

THE MOSAIC ROOMS BOOKSHOP
The Mosaic Rooms Bookshop stocks a wide range of titles covering Arab fiction, current affairs, politics, art, poetry and more, written in both Arabic and English — including titles which are often not available in mainstream bookshops. Books can be bought in store and read over a cup of coffee in our newly refurbished café/reading room, or purchased online by visiting The Mosaic Rooms website at www.mosaicrooms.org.

LIMITED EDITIONS
The Mosaic Rooms offers a series of limited edition artworks by participating artists. They offer a unique opportunity to purchase affordable artworks and support The Mosaic Rooms and the artists. For more information visit our online shop www.mosaicrooms.org/limited-editions.

We also work with selected exhibiting artists and curators to produce unique publications. These are also available to purchase online www.mosaicrooms.org/mosaic-rooms-publications. For any stockist enquiries please contact info@mosaicrooms.org.

GET INVOLVED
There are a number of ways in which you can contribute to the valuable work we are doing. You can:
— Visit us!
— Sign up to our newsletter and follow us on social media
— Shop online
— Collaborate with us
— Hire The Mosaic Rooms for your event

CONTACT
To discuss any of the above options further, please contact us on +44 (0)20 7370 9990 or info@mosaicrooms.org.
Opening hours during exhibitions
Tuesday–Saturday, 11am–6pm

Office hours during exhibitions
Monday–Friday, 10am–6pm

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Cover image: David Birkin, The Evidence of Absence, 2015