



Khalid Mezaina

BORN

1985 Born in Dubai, UAE
Lives and works in Dubai, UAE

EDUCATION

2018 MFA in Textiles, Rhode Island School of Design, United States of America
2006 BS in Visual Communication, American University of Sharjah, United Arab Emirates

SELECTED EXHIBITIONS

- 2023 *Press Print!*, Aisha Alabbar Gallery, Dubai, UAE
- 2022 *Fashcultivate*, UAE Cultural Week, Pallati i Kongreseve, Tirana, Albania
Ink With Hope, KED Beirut, Beirut, Lebanon
Delusions & Errors, Shelter Art Space, Alexandria and Cairopolitan, Cairo, Egypt
Sharjah Guest of Honour, Bologna Children's Book Fair, Bologna, Italy
Portrait of a Nation II: Beyond Narratives, Manarat Al Saadiyat, Abu Dhabi, UAE
- 2021 *UAE Year of the 50th*, Permanent Mission of the UAE to the UN, New York, USA
Welcome! 10 years of Swatch Art Peace Hotel, Alserkal Avenue, Dubai, UAE
Made In Tashkeel, Tashkeel, Dubai, UAE
East – East, Vol. 4: The Curio Shop, HB.Nezu, ILY, hub and Block House, Tokyo, Japan
Scripts and Calligraphy: A Timeless Journey, National Museum in Riyadh, Riyadh, Saudi Arabia
- 2020 *Fashcultivate*, Dubai Design Week, Dubai Design District (D3), Dubai, UAE
The Alumni Return, American University of Sharjah, Sharjah, UAE
- 2019 *How to Maneuver: Shape-shifting texts and other publishing tactics*, Warehouse 421, Abu Dhabi, UAE
Fashcultivate, 1971 – Design Space, Sharjah, UAE
The Alumni Return, Tashkeel, Dubai, UAE
Made in Tashkeel, Tashkeel, Dubai, UAE
Nomadic Traces: Journey of Arabian Scripts, Warehouse 421, Abu Dhabi, UAE
- 2018 *DRAK: Design Ras Al Khor*, Dubai Design Week, Dubai, UAE
Weltformat Graphic Design Festival, Lucerne, Switzerland
RISD Textiles, The Gallery at 200 Lex, New York Design Center, New York, USA
RISD Graduate Show, Rhode Island School of Design, Rhode Island, USA
From Barcelona to Abu Dhabi: Works from the Barcelona Museum of Contemporary Art (MACBA) in dialogue with the Emirates, Manarat Al Saadiyat, Abu Dhabi, UAE
The Whole Nine Yards: Textiles Graduate Biennial Show, Sol Koffler Gallery, Rhode Island, USA
- 2017 *Weltformat DXB – Delusions & Errors: Posters from the Middle East*, Dubai Design Week, Dubai, UAE
Art 4 Sight, Dubai Design District, Dubai, UAE
Portrait of a Nation, ME Collectors Room Berlin, Berlin, Germany
- 2016 *East – East: UAE meets Japan, Vol. 2*, CHI-KA, Alserkal Avenue, Dubai, UAE
East – East: UAE meets Japan, NYU Abu Dhabi Project Space, Abu Dhabi, UAE
Ramadanization, Dubai Community Theatre & Arts Centre (DUCTAC), Dubai, UAE
Made in Tashkeel, Tashkeel, Dubai, UAE
Portrait of a Nation, Emirates Palace, Abu Dhabi, UAE
RCA Secret Dubai, Art Dubai, Dubai, UAE
Al Haraka Baraka: In Movement there is Blessing, Maraya Art Centre, Sharjah, UAE
- 2015 *Emirati Expressions: Conventions of Arts*, Manarat Al Saadiyat, Abu Dhabi, UAE
Art: Process & Practice, Warehouse 421, Abu Dhabi, UAE
Reflections, Emaar Tent and Gallery, Dubai, UAE
Ramadan by Numbers, Rwaq, JBR The Walk, Dubai, UAE
UAE Pavilion, Milan World Expo, Milan, Italy



- 2014
RCA Secret Dubai, Art Dubai, Dubai, UAE
Art 4 Sight, Zabeel Ladies Club, Dubai, UAE
The Post Oriental Odyssey, The Mine, Dubai, UAE
Capsule Arts Print Collection, Capsule Arts, Dubai, UAE
Made In Tashkeel, Tashkeel, Dubai, UAE
Past Forward: Contemporary Art From The Emirates, touring exhibition, USA
It's All Square, The Jam Jar, Dubai, UAE
- 2013
What Do You Hear?, SIKKA, Al Fahidi Historical Neighbourhood, Dubai, UAE
Capsule Arts Artists Exhibition, Capsule Arts, Dubai, UAE
Wild Things, FN Design Studios, Alserkal Avenue, Dubai, UAE
Design House, SIKKA, Al Fahidi Historical Neighbourhood, Dubai, UAE
- 2012
The Present, Maraya Art Centre, Sharjah, UAE
Crossing the Line, Langford 120, Melbourne, Australia
Genius, Cartoon Art Gallery, Dubai, UAE
- 2011
Feast: Shopopolis, Abu Dhabi Art, Abu Dhabi, UAE
Crossing the Line, Tashkeel, Dubai, UAE
Feast: Shopopolis, Shubbak Festival, Westfield London, London, UK
3Keez of Illustration, American University in Dubai, UAE
MinD - City's Dialogue, Dubai Community Theatre & Arts Centre (DUCTAC), Dubai, UAE
Biladi, SIKKA, Al Fahidi Historical Neighbourhood Dubai, UAE
- 2010
Biladi: A Contemporary Emirati Exhibition from Shanghai World Expo, Tashkeel, Dubai, UAE
UAE & UN Pavilion, Shanghai World Expo, Shanghai, China
Project: Mega, Gate Village, DIFC, Dubai, UAE
Fakie: A Skate Dexhibition, Shelter, Dubai, UAE
- 2009
Dpict, Dubai Community Theatre & Arts Centre (DUCTAC), Dubai, UAE
Mezaina-Rooney, Dubai Community Theatre & Arts Centre (DUCTAC), Dubai, UAE
Emirati Visions, Major German Bank Berlin, Germany
Dubai Underground, Like The Spice Gallery, New York, USA
Re-Source, Elementa, Dubai, UAE
- 2008
Suhour - Emirati Exhibition, Art Connection, Dubai, UAE
Art Below Tokyo, Shibuya Station, Tokyo, Japan
Beyond Conventions, Elementa, Dubai, UAE
Made In Tashkeel, Tashkeel, Dubai, UAE
The Incredible Holga & Wonder Diana, The Jam Jar, Dubai, UAE
New Faces New Visions, Dubai Community Theatre & Arts Centre (DUCTAC), Dubai, UAE
- 2007
Minus Reality, Art Attack Gallery, Dubai, UAE
Sneaker Pimps, Touring sneaker exhibition, www.sneakerpimps.net
3's A Crowd, Five Green, Dubai, UAE
- 2006
Senior Exhibition, American University of Sharjah, UAE
Exposed: Senior Design Graduates Exhibition, Al Qasba, Sharjah, UAE

PROFESSIONAL ACHIEVEMENTS

- 2015 - Present Freelance illustrator, designer and artist
- 2010 - 2015 Project coordinator and graphic designer at Tashkeel, Dubai, UAE
- 2007 - 2010 Artists residencies & projects coordinator + graphic designer at Sharjah Art Foundation, Sharjah, UAE



PROGRAMMES

- 2022-
2023 Jameel Library Commissions: *In Search of Magic*, Jameel Arts Centre, Dubai, UAE
- 2020 Cultural Foundation Art Residency, Abu Dhabi, UAE
- 2014 - 2015 Salama bint Hamdan Emerging Artists Fellowship (SEAF), Abu Dhabi, UAE
- 2011 Delfina Foundation Residency, London, UK



BIO

Khalid Mezaina (b. Dubai, 1985) is an Emirati illustrator, textile artist and printmaker. His practice explores contextual narratives, stories and relationships in places of constant change. Through an experimental and practical approach, the artist illustrates past memories and present observations, reflecting imaginative states of being. Khalid's observations range from a curiosity for regional and historical talismanic practices to observations of a contemporary city like Dubai, that is in a constant state of transformation. His work is playful, often drawing inspiration from comic books, dance and pop music, ceremonial textiles and costumes, and stories about the human condition.

Khalid was part of several international programmes and exhibitions, including Jameel Library Commissions: *In Search of Magic*, Jameel Arts Centre, Dubai, UAE (2022 - 2023); *Press Print!*, Aisha Alabbar Gallery, Dubai, UAE (2023); *Fashcultivate*, UAE Cultural Week, Pallati i Kongreseve, Tirana, Albania (2022); *Ink With Hope*, KED Beirut, Beirut, Lebanon (2022); *Delusions & Errors*, Shelter Art Space, Cairo, Egypt (2022); *Sharjah Guest of Honour*, Bologna Children's Book Fair, Bologna, Italy (2022); *Portrait of a Nation II: Beyond Narratives*, Manarat Al Saadiyat, Abu Dhabi, UAE (2022); *UAE Year of the 50th*, Permanent Mission of the UAE to the UN, NY, USA (2021); *Made in Tashkeel*, Tashkeel, Dubai, UAE (2021, 2019, 2016, 2014, 2008); *Scripts and Calligraphy: A Timeless Journey*, National Museum in Riyadh, KSA (2021); Cultural Foundation Art Residency, Abu Dhabi, UAE (2020); *Nomadic Traces: Journey of Arabian Scripts*, Warehouse 421, Abu Dhabi, UAE (2019); *DRAK: Design Ras Al Khor*, Dubai Design Week, Dubai, UAE (2018); *Weltformat Graphic Design Festival*, Lucern, Switzerland (2018); *RISD Textiles*, The Gallery at 200 Lex, New York Design Center, USA (2018); *From Barcelona to Abu Dhabi: Works from the Barcelona Museum of Contemporary Art (MACBA) in Dialogue with the Emirates*, Manarat Al Saadiyat, Abu Dhabi, UAE (2018); *The Whole Nine Yards: Textiles Graduate Biennial Show*, Sol Koffler Gallery, RI, USA (2018); *Portrait of a Nation*, ME Collectors Room Berlin, Berlin, Germany (2017); *Emirati Expressions: Conventions of Arts*, Manarat Al Saadiyat, Abu Dhabi, UAE (2015); *Art: Process & Practice*, Warehouse 421, Abu Dhabi, UAE (2015); *UAE Pavilion*, Milan World Expo, Milan, Italy (2015); *The Post Oriental Odyssey*, The Mine, Dubai, UAE (2015); Salama bint Hamdan Emerging Artists Fellowship (SEAF), Abu Dhabi, UAE (2015); *Past Forward* (a traveling exhibition commissioned by the UAE Embassy and the Meridian International Center in Washington, DC), Washington, DC, Texas, Los Angeles, CA, Michigan, and Chicago, IL, USA (2014 - 2015); *What Do You Hear?*, Sikka, Dubai, UAE (2014); *The Present*, Maraya Art Centre, Sharjah, UAE (2012); *Crossing the Line*, Langford 120, Melbourne, Australia (2012); *MinD - City's Dialogue*, Dubai Community Theatre & Arts Centre (DUCTAC), Dubai, UAE (2011); Delfina Foundation Residency, London, UK (2011)

Khalid holds a BS in Visual Communications, American University of Sharjah (2006) and MFA in Textiles, Rhode Island School of Design (RISD) (2018). Khalid worked as a graphic designer and projects coordinator at a number of institutions in the UAE, including Sharjah Art Foundation and Tashkeel in Dubai.