

# Biography

**Mohamed Abusal** (b. 1976, Gaza) artistic projects are daring, critical and scathing comments on what is deemed permissible in terms of technology and civilization in Gaza today. His "Metro in Gaza" (2012) proposes a network of seven metro lines to connect the different areas of Gaza Strip. He made an illuminated metro sign and set off to fix and photograph this sign wherever he imagines the metro stations should be. His "Shambar" (2013) is on the alternative and creative light solutions created or lived by people in Gaza as a result of the continuous disconnection of electricity. Shown at Al-Mamal Foundation in Jerusalem, and the French Institute in Gaza, Ramallah, and Nablus, the work exists in photographic and painting series. Abusal exhibited extensively around the world over the last decade, notably in France, where he has had several solo exhibitions, in addition to the US, UK, Australia, and Dubai. In 2005 he was awarded the Charles Aspary Prize for Contemporary Art. He is a founding member of "Eltiqa", an active group of contemporary artists that came together in 2002.

## C.V.

### Mohamed Abusal

Born in Gaza, Palestine, 1976. Lives and work in Gaza.

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### Solo Exhibitions

- 2021 **"Ugly Products that don't Serve your Rights"**, Organized by Ministry of Culture – Palestine, Eltiqa Gallery, Gaza.
- 2016 **"Thorns in Bloom"**, Curated by Suliman Mlehat, Zawyeh Gallery, Ramallah, Palestine.
- 2016 **"PainFortable"**, a conceptual research project, Eltiqa Gallery, Gaza.
- 2013 **"SHAMBAR"**, Photography, curated by (Lara Al Khalidi), Showed in Al-Mamal gallery – Jerusalem, & French Institute Galleries (Gaza, Ramallah, Nablus) Palestine
- 2012 **"a Metro in Gaza"**, Installation & Performance photography, curated by (Ala Younis), Showed in French Institute

Galleries (Gaza, Ramallah, Nablus) Palestine, & Gallery of University of LYON-France

- 2011 **"PASSIVE"**, The Cite International des Arts – Paris. & Mica Gallery, SHUBBAK Festival - London
- 2009 **"Light" "Eclairage"**, Center Culture France Network – Gaza, Jerusalem, Ramallah, Nablus. Palestine
- 2009 **"Dot in Calligraphy"**, Carre Gallery (Axe En Provence, Lyon, France)
- 2006 **"Boarders"**, Ville d'Albi, France
- 2005 **"a Story of 99 Cactus"**, Gallery Centre Press, Rodez – France
- 2004 **"The Magic Box"**, The Friends School – Ramallah (Qattan Foundation Art Award), Palestine
- 2001 **"The Identity; between warmth colors and the dream of generations"**, Khalil Sakakini Cultural Center, Ramallah, Palestine
- 2000 **"Blue Window"**, YMCA, Gaza, Palestine

## Group Exhibitions

- 2021 - **"FORWARD"**, Organized by Goethe Institute – Ramallah.
- 2020 - **Sharjah Architecture Triennial**. Curated by Adrian Lahoud. Sharjah, UAE
- **The Weed Control**. Curated by Yazid Anani, Organized by Qattan Foundation. Ramallah, Palestine.
- **OXIGYN**, The 3<sup>rd</sup> Video Art Festival. Haifa Foundation, Gaza, Palestine.
  
- 2019 - **Subcontracted Nations**. Inaugural Exhibition. Curated by Yazid Anani, Assistant Curators: Abed al-Rahman Shabaneh, Aline Khoury. Organized by Qattan Foundation. Ramallah, Palestine.
- **Contemplative Contrast**. Curated by Baha Abu Daya. Organized by Shababik & Qattan Foundation, Gaza, Palestine.
  
- 2018 - **"Impact of Transformation"**, 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Darat Al-Funun foundation, Eltiqa Gallery, Palestine.
- **"SELECTION"**, Curated by Rula Alami, Organized by Art Dubai & Alserkal Avenue, Dubai, UAE.
  
- 2017 - **"Night of Ideas"**, Space of IFG, In cooperation with Eltiqa and Shabaek Galleries.
- **"Art for Hope"**, Art Dubai Season.
  
- 2015 - **"First Biennale of Arab Photo"**, Institute du Monde Arabe, France, Curated by Geraldine Bloch.
- **"87"**, Qalandia International, Under the concept "Archives Lived and Shared", Eltiqa gallery, Gaza Strip, Palestine.
- **"Colors of Life"**, Zawyeh Gallery, Al-Bereh-Ramallah, Palestine. Curated by Suliman Mlihat.
  
- 2014 - **"ARTPALESTINE 2014"**, April 2014 at White Box Center, New York City, curated by Mary Evangelista

- "**Windows Into Gaza**", Royal Hibernian Academy Gallery, Dublin, Ireland, curated by Felim Egan
  - "**Traces**", Memorial collective exhibition curated by Yasmin Sharabi
  - **Museum of Manufactured Response to Absence (MoMRtA)**, curated by Ala Younis, Sakakini culture center, Ramallah, Palestine.
  - "**Imagery – Beyond Oblivion and Remembering # Zero Edition**", Al Hoash in Jerusalem. Curated by "Alia Rayan & Yazid Anani".
  - "**A PRISM WHEN IN THE SHADE**", TEMPORARY AGENCY SPACE, Brooklyn NY, Curated by Jack Davidson
- 2013
- "**Jordanian, Palestinian, French** ", Artists Union Space, Amman, Jordan
  - "**Deep into that Darkness Peering**", Dual Exhibition Curated by "Lara Al-Khalidi", Sakakini Culture Center, Ramallah - Palestin
  - "**MoMRtA**", Public National Museum of Modern and Contemporary Art, Algiers, Exhibition curated by "Ala Younis"
- 2012
- **AMBIENTARTE (Terza Edizione)**, Yacht Med Festival, Sede Associazione Culturale Novecento, Italy
  - **DEFIANCE**, The Stone Space gallery, Leytonstone, London. Curated by Arts Canteen (Aser Al-Saqqa)
  - "**a Meeting in Eltiqa House**" Workshop & Collective Exhibition, Eltiqa Artists House, Gaza
  - **Middle East festival**, Lyon University
  - **Francophone Day**, French Institute Gaza & Jerusalem
- 2011
- **MAGMART** / International Video Art Festival, Italy
  - **Autre Monde**, Mobile exhibition, Toulouse municipality show room, Moissac, France
  - **Newcastle Gateshead Art Fair**, United Kingdom, Curated by Arts Canteen (Aser Al-Saqqa)
  - **Repercussions of Blue**, In Memory of Rhonda Adnan Saad, An exhibition featuring selected art works from the Yvette and Mazen Qupty art collection. Al Hoash Gallery, Jerusalem, Palestine
- 2010
- **Visual Stories**, Eltiqa Artists House, Gaza - (Cooperate with Qattan, PCHR, Eltiqa)
  - **GAZART**, Exhibition & Workshop, Eltiqa artists house
  - **CREATIVE PALESTINIAN ART**, Art Sawa, Dubai - 14 March 2010
  - **Politography**, Photography and exhibition workshop, Eltiqa & Shababeik, Directed with Goeth Institute.
  - **VIDEO'APPART Paris–Dubai BiennialHosting**, 10–28 March, 2010 (France/Korea) - Courtesy of Galerie Mamiya Bretesché
  - **Colors of Hope**, UNDP annual auction exhibition, Ambassador Hotel, Jerusalem, Palestine
- 2009
- **Art Rest**, Organized by Eltiqa, PRCS – Gaza, Palestine

- **Traces Du Guerre**, CCF – Gaza, Palestine
- **ELTIQA**, Gallery Brigitte Griffault, Le Scribe – Montauban – France
- **Colors from Palestine**, Bank of Palestine hall – Gaza & Ramallah, Cooperate with French Consulate

2008 - **ELTIQA**, L'Accadi Gallery, Cajarc, France

- **"Here not Here"**, workshop, between Gaza & Ville de Najac, France
- **Without Preparing**, photograph exhibition, Place Makan, Amman, Jordan
- **"La Nuit Blanche"**, CCF, Gaza

2007 - **Gaza Seasons**, Gallery of Arab Bookshop, Geneva, Switzerland

- **ELTIQA**, Mobile exhibition, Albi, Toulouse, France
- **Gaza shoed pieces**, Albi, Toulouse, Rodez – France

2006 - **From Sands to Gray & From Gray to Sands**, Photography workshop with Swiss Artist, Gaza, Palestine

2005 - **10 Artists from Palestine** – Mobile @ 10 Cities in France (June2004-November2005)

- **"Pienture Photography Palestine" PPP** – Le Manoir de la Ville de Martigny – Switzerland. –From June until September

2004 - **Palestine in Photographs** – UNISCO gallery – Beirut, Lebanon

- **Photos from Palestine** – Hungary (Palestinian Ministry of Culture organization)

2003 - **Williamsburg Bridges Palestine**, New York, USA

- **Seeds of Art** – ZARA Gallery - Jordan
- **I Remember 1948**, The Performance Space, Cleveland Street, Redfern, Sydney, Australia
- **Made in Palestine**, Art Car Museum, Houston, TX, USA
- **6 Artists from Gaza**, CCF Centre Cultural France, Jerusalem, Palestine
- **Art Across Borders**, A traveling exhibition of contemporary Palestinian and Iraqi art Retail Therapy Gallery,

Capitol Hill (Corner of Pike and Broadway), Babylon Art & Cultural Center, Minneapolis, Minnesota, USA

2002 - **Williamsburg Bridges Palestine**, New York, USA

- **Marwan Kassab Bachi** Students Exhibition, Darat Al Funun, Amman, Jordan

2001 - **Arabic Jerusalem**, Jordanian Artists Union, Amman, Jordan

- **We Will Be**, PRCS, Gaza, Palestine
- **The 4<sup>th</sup> Al Sharjah Biennale**, UAE
- **September Harvesting**, Arts Village, Gaza, Palestine

2000 - **In the Shadows of the Intifada**, Arts Village, Gaza, Palestine

1999 - **4 Young Artists**, Khalil Sakakini Cultural Center, Ramallah, Palestine

- **Horizons**, YMCA, Gaza, Palestine
- **Jerusalem is a Bridge for Return**, a Mural Project, Latin School Hall, Gaza, Palestine

1997-1998 - **Free Colors**, Holst Cultural Center, Gaza, Palestine

- Friendship of UNRWA & Japan Exhibition, UN, Gaza, Palestine

1999-2001 - Amman's Summer Exhibition, Arts Palace, Jordan (1999, 2000 & 2001)

1994-1997 - Participated in several group exhibitions

## Education, Courses & Workshops

2002-2011 - Self Developing in multimedia and graphic techniques

2010 - POLITOGRAPHY, Photography workshop, Directed with Goethe Institute

2001 - Graphic Design Course, University of Macromedia, USA

1999 - BA Degree in Accounting – IUG - Gaza

99-2003 - Graphic techniques courses by Professor Marwan Bachi – Member of Berlin Arts Center, Darat Al-Funun, Art Academy. Amman, Jordan

1998 - Illustration Workshop for Children's Stories, French Cultural Center, Gaza

- Mural Painting Course, Japanese Artist "Tetso Kimetany", UNDP Gaza

## Scholarships, Residencies, Awards

- 2016 Nominated by **MUCEM** for attend **Camargo Foundation** residency.
- 2016 **GAZA Inedite**, Scientific and Cultural Days Event, organized by: (Institut français de Jérusalem, Institut français du Proche-Orient (Ifpo), Institut du monde arabe (IMA), Consulat général de France à Jérusalem, BULAC (Bibliothèque universitaire des langues et civilisations de l'Inalco - Institut national des langues et civilisations orientales), Institut des Cultures d'Islam, Mucem (Musée des Civilisations d'Europe et de Méditerranée).
- 2015 Won **AFAC** Visual Art Production Award, "PainFortable" research project.
- Won **AFAC** Visual Art Production Award, 2012, "SHAMBAR" conceptual project.
- Won **AI-Mawred** Production Award, 2010-2011, "Metro in Gaza" conceptual project.

- 2011 **City International des Arts** Residency-Paris, Nominated from Qattan Foundation, French Consulate & M. O. Culture in Palestine.
- 2005 **Charles Aspry Prize** for Contemporary Art.
- 2004 Nominated by **TDK** – Senegal International Art Program.
- 2004 Nominated by Qattan Foundation – **Hassan Hourani Art Award**.
- 2004 Nominated by **Vermont Studio** Center to acquire The International Vermont Scholarship in January, USA
- (Years 1999, 2000, 2001) Nominated by Khalil Sakakini Cultural Center to participate in **Darat Al Funun** Summer Academy, under the supervision of Artist Marwan Kassab Bachi, Amman, Jordan.

## Achievements

- **(IN.TR.EL. Artfair)** THE INTERNATIONAL TRANS BOUNDARY ELECTRONIC ART-FAIR. ([Go to Platform](#))
- Creating (**GCAP** I, II & III) "Gaza Contemporary Art Program", through Eltiqa gallery in Gaza Strip.
- A founding member of **ELTIQA group for contemporary art** in the year 2002
- Palestine Art online community portal, managing, research and document
- Working in graphic, illustration and web design field since the year 2000
- Giving art rules lessons through Eltiqa gallery and programs with NGOs

## Bibliography, Reviews, Publications

- "PREMIERE BIENNALE DES PHOTOGRAPHES DU MONDE ARABE CONTEMPORAIN" Livre. ISBN: 978-94-6161-262-5. DEPOT LEGAL: D/2015/0012/46
- Creative Palestine book, Published by Art Sawa gallery, Dubai, UAE, 2010
- Colors of Hope, UNDP, Jerusalem, Palestine 2010
- Radio MontiCarlo interview, France, 2009
- Al-Ayyam newspaper, Article by "Tahseen Yaqein" Ramallah, Palestine, 2000
- Preoccupying Zones - The Young Artist of the Year (2004), "Hasan Hourani Art Award", Qattan foundation, Palestine 2004
- "Made in Palestine" book, Station museum, Huston USA 2003
- "The Butterfly's burden", Using one of Identity painting for the last poem Diwan for "Mahmoud Darwish", Copper Conion Press, Canada