



Dana Awartani

Born 1987 Jeddah, KSA

Lives and works in Jeddah, KSA

Education

- 2012 Manuscript Illumination Apprenticeship, Istanbul, Turkey
- 2011 Masters Degree in Traditional Arts; The Princes School of Traditional Arts, London, England
- 2009 Bachelorette Degree in Fine Art; Central Saint Martin's College of Art and Design, London, England
- 2006 Foundation Degree in Art and Design, Byam Shaw School of Art, Central Saint Martin's, London, England

Selected Solo Exhibitions

- 2022 When Fire Loves Water, Athr Gallery at No 9 Cork Street, London, UK
- 2018 The Silence Between Us, Curated by Laura Metzler, Maraya Art Centre, Sharjah, UAE
- 2017 Detroit Affinities: Dana Awartani, Curated by Jens Hoffman, Museum of Contemporary Art Detroit, Detroit, US
- 2015 The Hidden Qualities of Quantities, Athr Gallery, Jeddah, Saudi Arabia

Selected Group Exhibitions

- 2023 Desert X: DX 23, Coachella Valley, Southern California, USA (forthcoming)
Islamic Arts Biennale: *Awwal Bayt*, King Abdulaziz Intl. Airport, Jeddah, KSA (forthcoming)
- 2022 Biennale de Lyon: *manifesto of fragility*, Fagor factories, Lyon, France
Stories of Paper, Louvre Abu Dhabi, Abu Dhabi, UAE
Sarab, Desert X, Al-Ula, KSA
Abundant Futures, C3A Centro de Creacion Contemporanea de Andalucia, Cordoba, Spain
- 2021 Feeling the Stones, The Diriyah Biennale Foundation, Riyadh, KSA
The Architecture of Transformation, BNKR, Munich, Germany

- Reflections : Contemporary Art of the Middle East and North Africa, The British Museum, London, UK
- When in Doubt, Go to a Museum, The City Museum of Ljubljana, Ljubljana, Slovenia
- The Secrets of Alidades, Saudi Art Council, Jeddah, KSA
- Light Upon Light, Noor Riyadh, KSA
- Loose Leaves : Process, Materials, Sound from Listen to my words, NTU Centre for Contemporary Art Singapore, Singapore
- 2020 Black Box, In the Beginning : Media Art and History (Online Exhibition), Hirshhorn Museum, Washington DC, USA
- St Age, Thyssen-Bornemisza Art Contemporary (Online Exhibition), Vienna, Austria
- How to Tread Lightly, St Age Expanded, an exhibition, Museo Nacional Thyssen-Bornemisza, Madrid Spain
- Miniature 2.0, Pera Museum, Istanbul, Turkey
- 2019 Imagined Communities, Contemporary Art Biennale Sesc Videobrasil, Sao Paulo, Brazil
- An Instant Before the World, Rabat Biennale, Rabat, Morocco
- Zamakan, Ithra, Dhahran, KSA
- 2018 *Infinite Present: Revelations from Islamic Design in Contemporary Art*, Cambridge Arts Gallery 344, Cambridge, USA
- Unsettlement, Monash University Museum of Art, Melbourne, Australia
- When the Clocks Strike Thirteen*, Athr Gallery, Jeddah, Saudi Arabia
- 2017 *On the Sex of Angels*, Nicodim Gallery, Bucharest, Romania
- I went away and forgot you*, Galleria Franco Noero, Torino, Italy
- JiWA*, Jakarta Biennale, Jakarta, Indonesia 2017 Bridges, United Nations, New York, USA
- Cities of Conviction*, Utah Museum of Contemporary Art, Salt Lake City, USA *Negotiating Space*, The Mosaic Rooms, London, UK
- Exhibition 1*, IAIA, New York, USA
- 21,39: Safar*, Jeddah, Saudi Arabia
- 2016 *GENERA#ION: Contemporary Art from Saudi Arabia*, San Francisco, USA
- Forming in the Pupil of an Eye: Kochi-Muziris Biennale*, Kochi, India
- For An Image, Faster Than Light: Yinchuan Biennale*, Museum of Contemporary Art, Yinchuan, China
- Take Me [I'm Yours]*, Jewish Museum, New York, USA
- NOT NEW NOW: Marrakech Biennale*, Marrakech, Morocco
- 2015 "Unity" A Quincy House Art Exhibition, U.S Embassy, Riyadh, KSA
- Reinventing the Vernacular, Asir, KSA
- 2014 The Language of Human Consciousness, Athr Gallery, Jeddah, KSA
- 21,39: Moallaqat, Jeddah, KSA
- 2013 *Illumination: The Light of Tradition*, Linlithgow, Scotland
- Parallel Lines*, Athr Gallery, Jeddah, Saudi Arabia

Show of Faith, Qatara Center, Doha, Qatar
Rhizoma at Edge of Arabia, Venice Biennale, Venice, Italy
Mostly Visible, Jeddah, Saudi Arabia

Art Fairs

- 2022 Art Dubai, Dubai, UAE
- 2021 Shara Art Fair (7th Edition), Jeddah, KSA
- 2019 Abu Dhabi Art, Abu Dhabi, UAE
- 2018 Art Dubai, Dubai, UAE
Abu Dhabi Art, UAE
- 2017 Abu Dhabi Art, Abu Dhabi, UAE
- 2016 Art Basel, Hong Kong
Art Dubai, Dubai, UAE
- 2014 Art Dubai, Dubai, UAE
Abu Dhabi Art, Abu Dhabi, UAE
Start Art Fair, London, UK
- 2013 Abu Dhabi Art, Abu Dhabi, UAE

Awards, Grants, Prizes, Residencies

- 2021 Recipient of the National Cultural Award by the Ministry of Culture of Saudi Arabia
- 2020 Instituto Sacatar Residency Award - 21st Contemporary Art Biennale Sesc Videobrasil
Artists-in-Residence - NTU Centre for Contemporary Art Singapore
- 2015 Artist in Residence-delfina Foundation, London, UK

Talks

- 2018 Artist talk alongside Curator Laura Metzler, in collaboration with Art Jameel as part of “Silence Between Us”, Jameel Arts Centre, Dubai, UAE.
- 2017 Artist talk alongside Curator Jens Hoffman, as part of “Detroit Affinities: Dana Awartani”, Museum of Contemporary Art, Detroit, USA.
Panellist alongside Rasha Abbas (Writer), Norah Krief (Actor/Singer) and Sulafa Hijazi (Artist), moderated by Maysoon Pachachi (Film maker), as part of “International Equality: Female Artists in International Context”, Institut Francais, Shubbak Festival, London, UK.
Artist talk alongside Zahra Al Ghamdi (Artist) and Reem Al Nasser (Artist) moderated by Curator Vassilis Oikonomopoulos (Tate Modern), as part of “Shift”, Mosaic Rooms, London, UK.

- Artist talk alongside Muhanned Shono (Artist) and Majid Angawi (Artist), moderated by Curator Till Fellrath, as part of “Safar”, 21,39, Jeddah, Saudi Arabia.
- Panellist alongside Rebecca Anne Proctor (Editor-in-Chief/Harper’s Bazaar Art Arabia), moderated by Ashkan Baghestani (Sotheby’s Middle East Specialist) as part of “The confluence of Art and Fashion and the importance of craftsmanship”, organized by Burberry and Sotheby’s, Dubai, UAE.
- 2014 Panellist alongside Rasheed Araeen (Artist), Richard Deacon (Artist) and Saleh Barakat (Agil Gallery), moderated by Chris Dercon (Tate Modern), as part of ‘The Language of Human Consciousness’, Jeddah, Saudi Arabia.
- 2015 Panellist as part of ‘Makkah vs Makkah’ organized by the AA visiting school, Jeddah, Saudi Arabia.
- Guest speaker at ‘Reinventing the Vernacular: Asir’ an initiative by Dar Al Hekma University, Asir, Saudi Arabia.
- Panellist on ‘Islamic Arts and Craftsmanship Revival in a Modern Era’ as part of Saudi Design Days, Riyadh, Saudi Arabia

Collections

- Thyssen-Bornemisza Art Contemporary Jameel Arts Centre, Dubai, UAE
- Sheikh Zayed National Museum, Abu Dhabi, UAE
- The Greenbox Museum, Hoofddorp, Netherlands
- The British Museum, London, UK
- Hirshhorn Museum and Sculpture Garden Museum, Washington DC, USA
- The Guggenheim, Abu Dhabi, UAE
- Al Mansouria Foundation, Jeddah, KSA
- King Abdulaziz Centre for World Culture, Ithra, KSA

Publications

- 2022 The Architecture of : Deception, Confinement, Transformation - BNKR
- 2021 Reflections : Contemporary Art of the Middle East and North Africa - The British Museum
- 2019 Geometry and Art in the Modern Middle East - Skira
- 2015 One of 100 - Maserati / Ermenegildo Zegna
- 2014 Contemporary Kingdom : The Saudi Art Scene Now
- Nostalgia : Contemporary Artists from the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia - Imago Mundi

Selected Bibliography

- 2020 Art Review Magazine, Biennale de Rabat
- 2019 The National, 'Internalised Colonialism : Politics and Culture Merge in works by Middle Eastern artists at Videobrasil
Arte!Brasileiros, 'Imagine Communities', no need to scream to be heard
- 2017 Art Asia Pacific, 'Shift, Zahrah Al-Ghamdi, Dana Awartani, Reem Al-Nasser
Frieze, Shift : The Mosaic Rooms, London, UK
Anna Seamen, Shift : Three Young Saudi Artists in London
Financial Times, Beyond the Veil : Saudi women making their presence felt in the arts
Art Review Magazine, Once upon a time in Jeddah
The Art Newspaper, Saudi women artists make their mark at 21,39 festival in Jeddah
Hyperallergic, New York's New Institution Devoted to Arab and Islamic Art Seeks a Sense of Place
Art in America, Exchange Program : The New Institute of Arab and Islamic Art
The Brooklyn Rail, ArtSeen : Exhibition 1
- 2016 Frieze, Marrakech Biennale 6
Art Radar, A feminine look at Saudi Arabia's "Genera#ion" at Minnesota Street Project, San Francisco
The Jewish Museum, Three Women Artists Address Social Practice
Our Town, Now Art Belongs to You and Me
Verve Magazine, A Curatorial Vision of Kochi-Muziris Biennale 2016
The new Indian Express Days (Riyadh, KSA), Saudi-Palestine artist's creative genius wows KMB