

Leading Workshops: Models of Social Participation Projects, and the Role of The Arts in Community

Artist's Projects.

“Al Mahatta” Workshops for young artists

These workshops were carried out for three consecutive years under different titles based on the concept of each workshop, it targeted many young artists to produce artworks where the public from all places were invited, such as:

“Let's Make Bread” Workshop, the idea of the workshop is about the importance of art in the lives of the community, like the importance of having bread every day, and how the community is able to interact with exhibitions and artworks even with the different social, political, and economic conditions.

“Inside, Outside” Workshop, this title is here to tell us the art has an important role in the public space as much as it has in the studio, the museum, or the gallery, as the artwork was transferred from the gallery and the museum to the public space.

“Back and Forth” Workshop, Mobility and traveling between different geographical areas and various residential communities to transfer artistic experience from the urban and residential center and to the different suburbs, towns, villages, and camps, in order to expose as many residents as possible to the artistic experience. The idea of the project was to take many tours to different areas in order to interact with people and to share their thinking about the artworks that are intended to be produced.



International Artist's Workshop “Al Mahatta” 2009/ 2010/ 2011.

With the participation of almost thirty artists from all over the world in each workshop, the idea of the workshop was to choose a local community to reside in it for two weeks, and to work with the local people and guest artists to discuss cases related to that community and its condition in the context for having each participating artist produce artworks regardless of which country they are from, and at the end of the workshop they would produce an exhibition that deals with the issues of that community from an artistic perspective and with the participation of the local residents like the town Birzeit, and Al Far'a camp.



The Local Community and the Social Activists as Art Producers.

The Third Hand “To... and from Qalqilya.”

The exhibition of “The Third Hand” was held in the city of Qalqilya, it exhibited various social issues related to the local community of the city of Qalqilya, and was created through many meetings organized by different groups from the community in Qalqilya (meetings with women, school and university students, and a group of researchers and teachers) throughout one whole year. As those were able to use the artist’s tools in research and expression in order to produce interactive artistic works that the local community participated in by presenting different issues related to the local community in a participatory manner while linking issues with the community and the way to transform them into visual artworks.



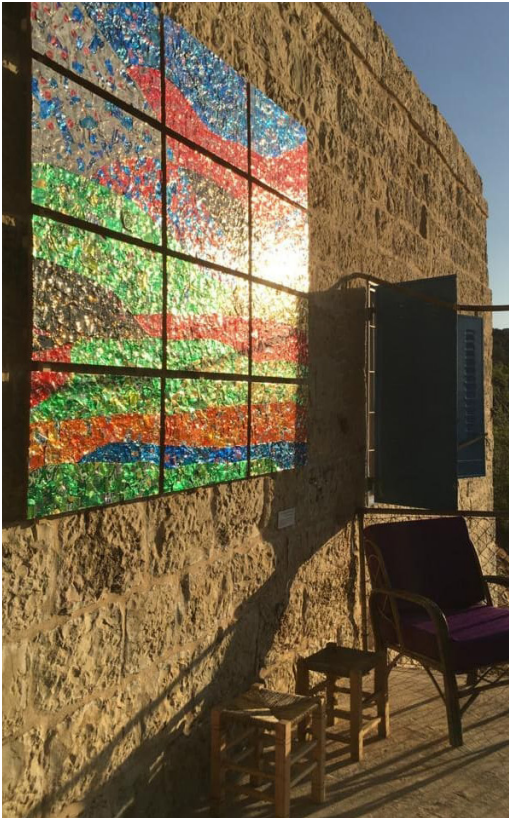
Profiles “From the Community, to the Individual Experience.”

This exhibition comes in the context of the project “Culture, Arts, and Social Participation” that is implemented by the Educational Research and Development Program by AM Qattan Foundation incorporation with the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC) in Qalqilya, as a continuation of “The Third Hand” exhibition produced in May 2017.

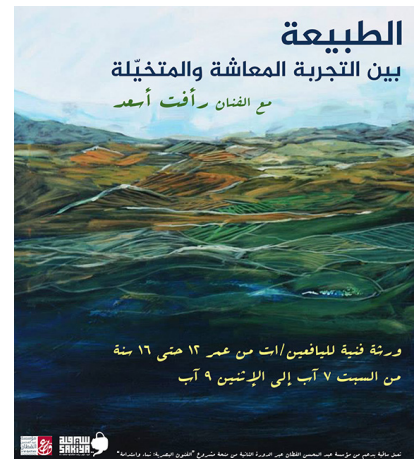
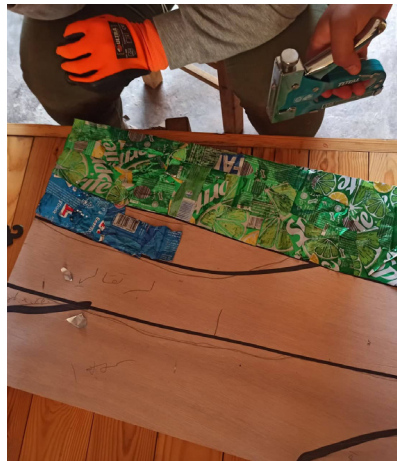
This experience was formed in a new vision of expression, and the nature of the research was directed towards a new context moving away from the collective experience and into a self-experience, working on an independent model for each researcher in the team, the community being the main basis that was relied upon once again for the search of a self- experience; as a model that stimulates the community in a personal point of view, and to search deeply within the image, sound, imagination, and personal narration, through time and space in personal way of research, and to create an image that reflects Qalqilya then and now.



Nature “Between Lived and Imagined Experience”



Producing artworks, drawing and installation, with mixed media from nature, the idea of the project depends on producing artworks from the remnants of high school parties, in that period the parties were spread out in all areas, where large quantities of soft drink cans and juice bottles made out of metal were collected to be used in drawing a landscape from the waste collected from the area around where the children live. A group of male and female children participated in the workshop for three days in order to produce an image of a natural scene without any waste.



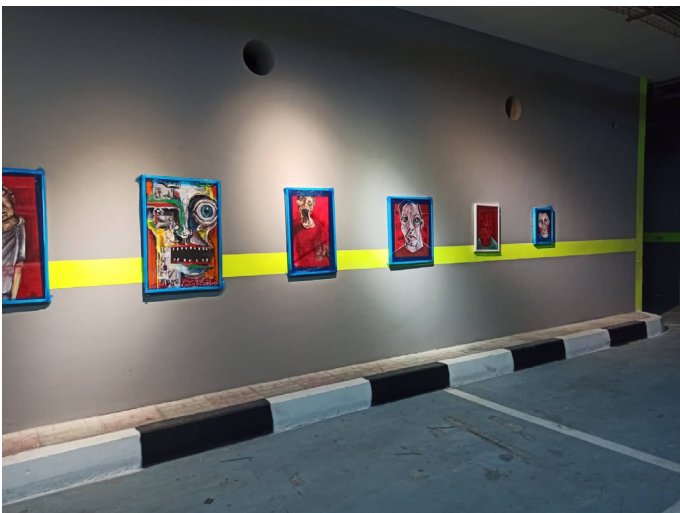
Exhibition “Self Portrait”

<https://youtu.be/Wubb0XJrbwg>

An exhibition produced by the students of the Department of Fine Arts/ College of Fine Arts. The project was produced based on an idea of drawing inspiration from social issues by conducting in-depth research inside the local community, in which the artist (the student) gets to know to themselves, and the relationship between the artist the human is shown in their personal work and the extent in which it is connected to the local community, and the importance of linking the self, and the personal with the social. the exhibition resembles a “Self Portrait” embodies a personal image of the artist and their relationship with their personal work.

“When the artist redraws their image and their role, and discover themselves inside the community, and then reposition their art experience in its social context not far from their own personal experience, but it becomes the source and the spring that reproduces social and political concerns in the form of artworks of clear depth by using the special artist tools”

Rafat Asad



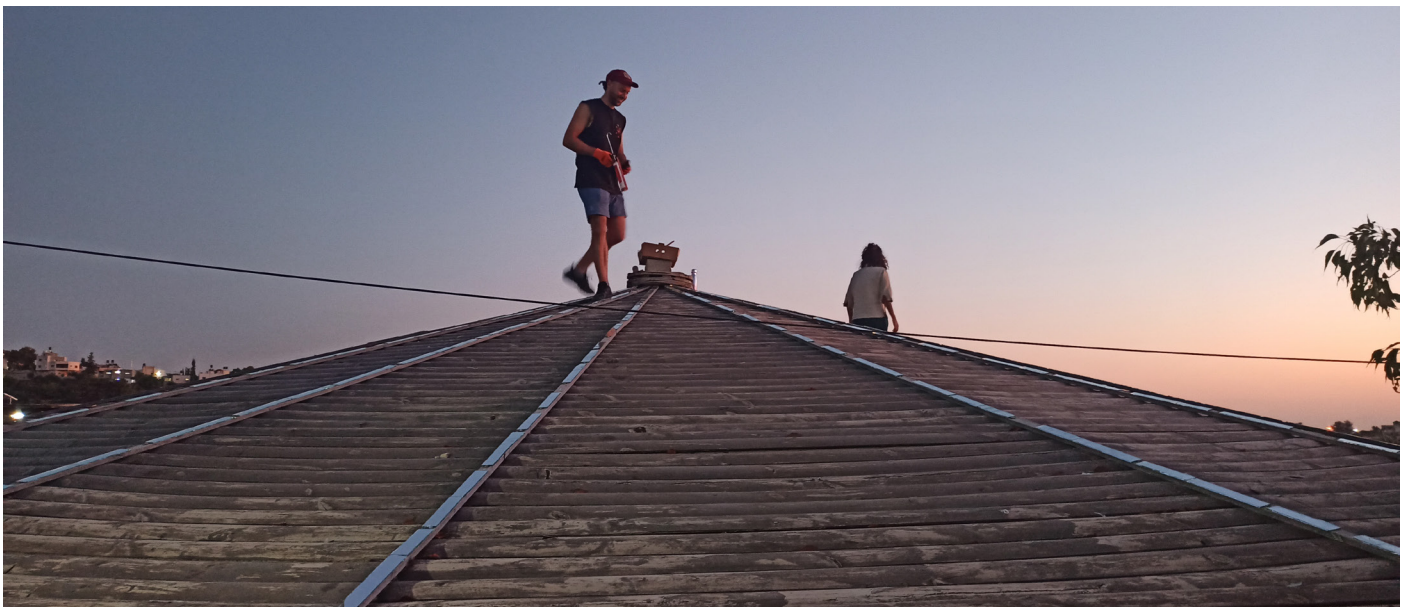
Exchange Projects

The workshop unites art students and artists from Palestine and Belgium for a collaborative project over the course of one week, under the guidance of artists Rafat Asad and Emilio Lopez-Manchero, where the participants create visual artworks using various mediums connected to a theme that is chosen to reflect on the local community and the environment driving the creative process. At the end of the workshop, the resulting artworks and the creative journey are showcased in an exhibition open for the local community.

1- Moving by Drawing - Drawing by Moving - 2024



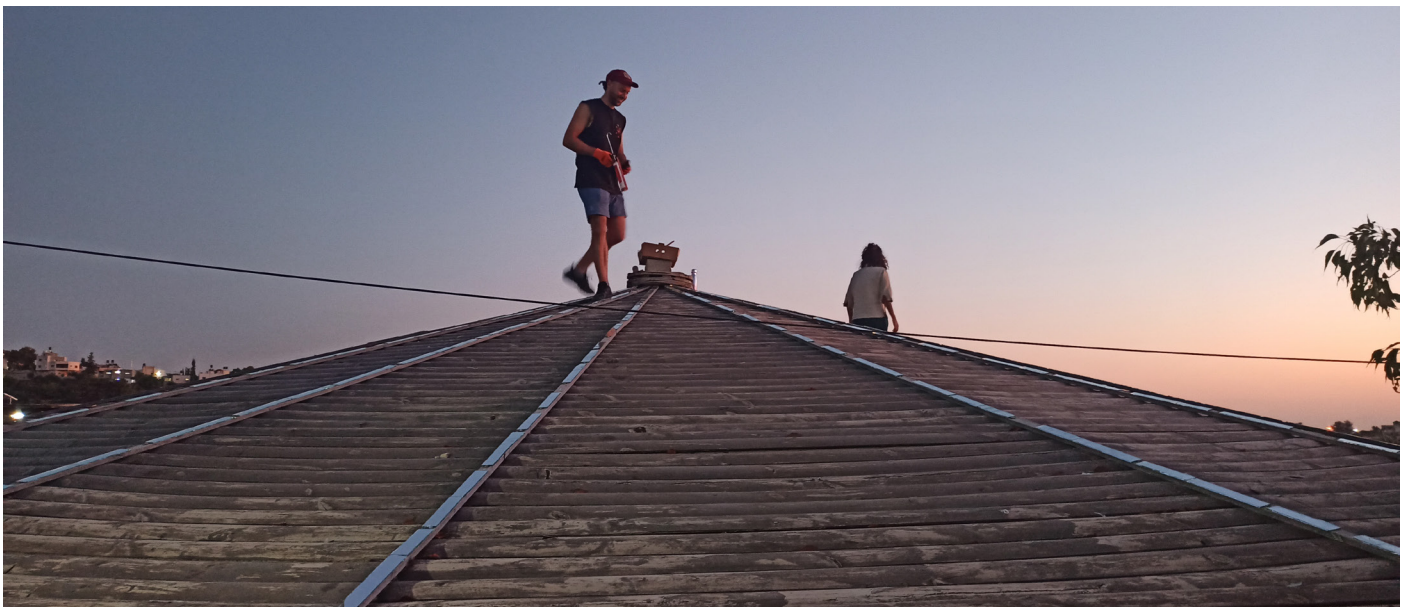
2- Art of Today on A place of Yesterday -2023 BirZait



3- The Line



4- To be An artist in Kufor Ni`ma -2022



Links

<https://rafatasad.com/>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aYh0s0Fn03M>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XMZ34fTKm-U>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=A0ELbm7urYo&t=13s>

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XekgF_Fq-Ds

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fLpNpdsjLak&t=137s>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pUIihqofblo>

<https://www.middleeastmonitor.com/20160528-a-place-is-where-your-memories-are-an-interview-with-artist-rafat-asad/#.V0sINioJx00.twitter>

<https://www.mutualart.com/Artist/Rafat-Asad/1520834785DE4736>

<https://artfacts.net/artist/rafat-asad/267463>

<https://dafbeirut.org/en/rafat-asad>

<https://www.christies.com/en/lot/lot-6230387>

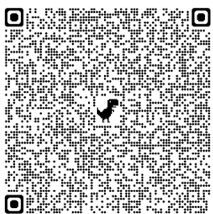
<https://aaa.org.hk/en/collections/search/library/eltifabypass-rafat-asad>

<https://www.jadaliyya.com/Details/33366>

<https://www.bankofpalestine.com/en/about/art-collections>

https://www.fannaporter.com/usr/documents/exhibitions/list_of_works_url/19/afa_catalogue.pdf

<https://youtu.be/Wubb0XJrbwg>



Radio Monte Carlo
International interview