

Short biography

Maisara Baroud, born in Gaza in 1976, is a university lecturer and visual artist. He has been teaching at Palestinian universities in Gaza since 2002, striving to share his practical experience as a visual artist and interior designer with a wide range of students over many years of academic work at the College of Science and Technology and Al-Aqsa University in Gaza.

Black-and-white dichotomy takes over Maisara's art practice. Using his own techniques, he attempts to shape suffering in works with a human dimension. It is an aesthetic cry that describes what people suffer in different parts of the world and the Palestinian suffering in particular.

He has held seven solo exhibitions addressing diverse themes and humanitarian issues, focusing on suffering related to freedom of movement, migration, refuge, detention, war, and identity deprivation.

- "Rita and the Rifle" (2004): A project inspired by some imagined scenes from Palestinian literary texts.
- "White Phosphorus in the Birth of Aelia" (2009): An installation artwork composed of 1,400 portraits within the exhibition space to create a complete artistic environment and immersive experience, highlighting the destructive effects of internationally banned weapons.
- "Flash" (2009): A painting treatment using colors to capture and discover shapes in moments of sudden, incomplete appearance.
- "Salt Boats" (2019): Highlights the humanitarian issue of illegal and irregular sea migration, fleeing the harsh reality faced by migrants in search of safety and stability.
- "Existence" (2021): A virtual exhibition featuring foggy gray scenes as an aesthetic outcry describing human suffering in various parts of the world, particularly the plight of the Palestinian people.
- "Rubble" (2021): A project in which he re-engineers the burned city, moving away from detailed refinement and freeing himself from all constraints he had previously adhered to in his artistic works, in a desperate attempt to restore the city's shape before it became mere rubble.
- "I Am Still Alive" (2023-2024-2025): A series of daily drawings extending from the start of the war on Gaza until the declaration of the fragile ceasefire, archiving people's lives, living conditions, and daily scenes of killing, hunger, displacement, destruction, loss, and pain.

Maisara's works have been widely exhibited around the world, including in France, the United States, Japan, Italy, Russia, Canada, Qatar, Egypt, Algeria, the UAE, Lebanon, Jordan, Tunisia, Kuwait, India, Finland, the Netherlands, Germany, South Africa, Spain, and Belgium. His collections are held in the Palestinian Museum in Birzeit, Barjeel Art Foundation, Museum of European and Mediterranean Civilizations (MuCEM) in Marseille, and by many art enthusiasts.

Maisara Baroud

Passport: 5465811

Date of birth: 10 Mar 1976

Place of birth: Gaza, Autonomous Palestinian Territories

Nationality: Palestinian (Autonomous Palestinian Territories)

Gender: Male

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Artist-Researcher (Ingénieur de Recherche) at the ANFAA (Alternative Narrative Forms in Audiovisual Anthropology) Amidex Chair - since May 2025

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Research themes

- Visual storytelling that mobilizes images, symbols, and drawings, blending poetry and politics, aesthetics and ethics
 - Visual metaphors and artistic practice as acts of resistance and subversion in the face of artistic and ideological oppression
 - Scroll narratives in the representation of contexts of war and conflict
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Education and Training

- 2010: Master of Fine Arts in Interior Decoration, Faculty of Fine Arts, Helwan University, Zamalek – Cairo, Egypt
Scholarship from Abdel Mohsen Al-Qattan Foundation – Culture and Arts Program
- 2010: International Certification of Digital Literacy (ICDL) – Russian Cultural Center, Cairo
- 2005: 12 hours – Team Building & Management – Community College of Professional & Applied Sciences
- 2005: 36 hours – 3D Max Program – University College of Science & Technology
- 2004: 15 hours – Web Page Design – Gaza Training Community College
- 2000: 144 hours – Mosaic Arts – Islamic University & Quakers Institution
- 1998: Bachelor of Fine Arts in Interior Decoration, An-Najah National University, Nablus, Palestine
- 1993: Drawing and Design within Fine Arts Program – YMCA, Gaza

Memberships

- Member, Palestinian Association of Fine Artists – Ramallah, Palestine
 - Member, Palestinian Association of Fine Artists – Gaza, Palestine
 - Member, General Union of Palestinian Artists
 - Member, National Union for Cultural Arts – Algeria
 - Member, Technical Committee for Art and Schoolbook Design for the First Palestinian Curriculum – Ramallah
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Professional Experience

- Lecturer, Department of Interior Decoration & Design, Faculty of Fine Arts, Al-Aqsa University
- Director, ARTA Design Office – Interior Designer
- 2002–2021: Lecturer, Department of Engineering Sciences & Applied Arts, Faculty of Science & Technology – Gaza
- 2004: Part-time Lecturer, Faculty of Fine Arts, Al-Aqsa University – Gaza
- 2000–2001: Head of Interior Design Department, EMCC Consulting Center – Gaza
- 2000–2001: Graphic Designer, Aswaq Advertising Company – Gaza
- 1998–2000: Member, National Curriculum Team – Palestinian First Curriculum, Ramallah
- Graphic Designer, Al-Amin Advertising Company – Ramallah
- 1996–1997: Graphic Designer, Montegraf Advertising Company – Nablus

Teaching Experience

- 1996–1999: Art workshops for children – Summer Camps, Friends of An-Najah University – Nablus
- 2001: Clay Modeling and Plaster Molds – Al-Zahra Municipality – Gaza
- 2004: Art workshops for children – Summer Camps, Child Center – Abdel Mohsen Al-Qattan Foundation
- 2005: Furniture Design & Manufacturing – University College of Science & Technology
- 2006: Handicraft Design & Marketing

Judging Experience

- Interior Design Student Projects – Faculty of Fine Arts, Al-Aqsa University – Gaza
- Interior Design Student Projects – University College of Applied Sciences – Gaza
- 2010–2021: Human Rights Art Award – Al-Mezan Center for Human Rights – Gaza
- 2020: “Protect Your Home” Award – Abdel Mohsen Al-Qattan Foundation –
- 2021: Walid Abu Shaqra Art Award – Umm al-Fahm –

Graphic Design Experience

- Designing logos, posters, and brochures for national and scientific events
- Book design, including illustrations accompanying texts

- Logo for Faculty of Pharmacy – An-Najah National University – Nablus
- Logo for First Scientific Pharmacy Conference – An-Najah National University – Nablus
- Logos for British Alumni Association – British Cultural Center – Ramallah
- Logo for National Volunteer Program – Nablus
- Logo for International Conference on Human Rights Violations – Ramallah
- Posters for cultural and academic events across Palestine

Stage & Festival Design

- 2002: Set and costume design – Al-Shater Mish Hassan – Gaza
- 1999: Set design – 4th Sebastia International Festival – Nablus
- 1999: Set design – Marj Ben Amer Festival II – Jenin
- 1998: Set design – 3rd Sebastia International Festival – Nablus
- 1998: Set design – Marj Ben Amer Festival I – Jenin
- 1996–1999: Set and decoration design – Graduates Celebrations, An-Najah National University – Nablus

Interior Design & Supervision Experience

- Design, management, and supervision of housing units (100 units) for Gaza conflict victims – Qatar Red Crescent – Beit Hanoun Municipality
 - Design and supervision of interiors for private apartments and villas
 - Design and supervision of commercial building facades and company offices
 - Projects include: Arab Wood Company, Al-Jalaa Pharmaceuticals, Geneva Exchange Company, Al-Hasaineh Real Estate, Dar Al-Computer, Kayan Contracting Company, etc.
 - Design and supervision of decorations for mosques and hotels, including Al-Hajj Omar Al-Hasaineh Mosque and Al-Jazeera Hotel
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International Exhibitions & Residencies:

- 2025: *Ode to Softness* – Menart Fair, Paris, France
- 2025: “*Key of Return*” **Exhibition** – GlogauAIR, Berlin, Germany
- 2025: “*Key of Return*” **Exhibition** – Mexico
- 2025: *Art in Ruins*: Prints by Five Artists from Gaza – Headingley Enterprise and Arts Centre, Leeds, United Kingdom
- 2025: “*I’m Still Alive*” **Exhibition** – Türkiye Culture Route Festival, Turkey
- 2025: *Gaza Biennale* – Greek Pavilion, Athens, Greece
- 2025: *THE REAL GAZA* – *Art of and about Gaza / Palestine* – Critical Gallery, Turku, Finland
- 2025: *This Is Not an Exhibition* – Traveling exhibition presented by the Palestinian Museum of Birzeit
- 2025: *Palestine Line* – Buzz’Art Gallery, Créteil, France

- 2025: *Introductory text for the special Palestine issue exhibition of La Galerie Magazine* – Rachel Hardouin, France
- 2025: *Il Museo Disperso. Foreigners in Their Homeland* – Adiacenze Gallery, Italy
- 2021: *In Times of Consecutive Shocks* – Art Under Siege, Monica Reyes Gallery – Vancouver, Canada
- 2019: 1st Arab Plastic Artists Forum – Sabah Al-Salem Arts Hall, Kuwait
- 2019: *Arts on the Riverbanks II* – Beit Najm Al-Din for Culture & Arts – Amman, Jordan
- 2018: Palestinian Museum – Connecticut, USA
- 2016: *Art for Hope* – Amman, Jordan
- 2016: *Arts on the Riverbanks* – Beit Najm Al-Din – Amman, Jordan
- 2010: Red Sea Arts Festival – Suez, Egypt
- 2010: *Many Cases for One Sea* – Palestinian Embassy (Poet's House) – Cairo, Egypt
- 2009: *Gateway to Jerusalem* – Ahmed Shawqi Museum – Cairo, Egypt
- 2009: Alexandria Atelier International Salon for Youth – Alexandria, Egypt
- 2007: 13 Artists from Gaza – Avignon, France
- 2005: *The Wall* – Ramallah, USA
- 2004: Palestinian Artists Exhibition – Lebanon
- 2002: *Globalization* – Japan
- 2001: Alexandria Biennale – Egypt
- 2001: *Voice of the Cactus* – Beesan Gallery – Qatar

Local Collective Exhibitions:

- 2019: Gaza Art – Shababeek Contemporary Art – Gaza
- 2018: *Near Everyone* – Qalandia International Festival – Shababeek Contemporary Art – Gaza
- 2018: *All Authority to Imagination* – French Cultural Center – Gaza
- 2017: *Stone Anthem – 30 Years of the First Intifada* – YMCA – Gaza
- 2015: *Stories* – Zawiya Gallery – Ramallah
- 2014: *Abeer Al-Thara* – Palestine International Fine Arts Festival – Gaza
- 2014: *TRACES* – Badico Group – Ramallah
- 2010: Gaza International Video Art Festival – Shababeek Contemporary Art – Gaza
- 2009: *Colours of Hope* Auction – Jerusalem
- 2009: *Gaza: Memory Never Fades* – Shababeek Contemporary Art – Gaza
- 2008: *White Night* – French Cultural Center – Gaza
- 2005: Spring Exhibition – Ramallah
- 2002: *Palestine: A Dream Come True* – Sanabel Hall – Gaza
- 2001: *We Will Be* – Red Crescent Hospital – Gaza
- 2001: *Certificate in Colors* – General Information Authority – Gaza
- 2001: *Sanabel Will Not Die* – Gaza

- 2000: Spring Fine Arts Exhibition – Shomou’ Cultural Forum – Gaza
- 2000: 52nd Nakba Anniversary Exhibition – Gaza
- 2000: *Jerusalem: Dar Al-Karama* – Ramallah
- 1999: *The Journey* – Dar Al-Karama – Ramallah
- 1999: Opening Exhibition of the Palestinian Fine Artists Association Headquarters – Ramallah
- 1993–1998: All Fine Arts College Exhibitions – An-Najah National University – Nablus
- 1993: First Fine Arts Exhibition – YMCA – Gaza

Solo Exhibitions

- 2024: *I Am Still Alive* 2024 at Zawyeh Gallery in Ramallah, followed by exhibitions in the United States, Finland, Cairo, France, Algeria, Belgium, and Spain
- 2021: *Rukam* – French Cultural Center – Gaza
- 2021: *Existence* – ArtScope – Lebanon
- 2019: *Salt Boats* – Waldorf Hotel – Bethlehem
- 2009: *White Phosphor in the Birth of Ilya* – Faculty of Fine Arts – Cairo, Egypt; Dar Al-Thaqafa – Sidi Bel Abbes, Algeria; Rashad Al-Shawa Cultural Center – Gaza
- 2009: *Glimmer* – Dar Al-Thaqafa – Sidi Bel Abbes, Algeria
- 2004: *Rita and the Gun* – Village of Arts & Crafts – Gaza

International Residencies & Conferences

- 2025: **Palestine: Artists Speak** – Roundtable moderated by Marion Slitine, in collaboration with Ma’an Collective, Friche la Belle de Mai, Marseille
- 2025: **Gaza: Artists Speak 2** – Roundtable at the Arab World Institute (IMA), initiated by MA’AN Collective, Paris,
- 2025: **I Am Still Alive** – Presentation of Maisara Baroud’s artistic work, IMERA, Marseille,
- 2025: **I Am Still Alive: A Visual Narrative of Gaza** – *Cinethnographies – Narrations Indociles*, Labo Friche, Marseille,
- 2025: **Drawing at the Borders of Memory and Homeland** – Micro-Folie, Sevrans–Paris,
- 2025: Event within the **Palestinian Cinematic Archives Program** – Cinema Nova, Brussels,
- 2025: **Roundtable: Visual Messages in the Art of Genocide in Gaza** – Potassi K19 Gallery, Barcelona,
- 2025: **International Conference: “From the Nakba to al-Ibāda: Thinking and Acting in the Face of the Ongoing Destruction of Palestine”** – Collège de France, Paris,
- 2025: **Images and Readings Encounter: Gaza Is Watching Us** – 41st Youth Book and Press Fair, Montreuil–Paris,
- 2025: Maisara Baroud: Testimonies from Gaza – Artists for Palestine, Paris,
- 2022: 2nd International Scientific Conference – Faculty of Fine Arts, Diyala University – Iraq
- 2019: International Site Meeting – Kerkennah Island, Tunisia
- 2019: Arab Fine Arts Forum – Qatar

- 2019: Artistic Evening – Al-Shmeisani, Jordan

Publications (Drawings, Texts, and Articles)

- 2025: **UN GRITO POR LA INFANCIA DE GAZA**, edited by Texell Feixas Torras & Cristina Mas Andreu – Barcelona
- 2025: **Palestine Is Everywhere**, edited by Skye Arundhati Thomas – United Kingdom
- 2025: **World War 3 Illustrates the Present (The Right to Live in Peace)** – USA
- 2025: **Argument**, Artistic and Literary Review, Special Palestine Issue – Paris,
- 2025: **La Fierté de Gaza**, Emmanuel Dror – Paris,
- 2025: **Archiving Gaza in the Present: Memory, Culture, and Erasure**, edited by Dina Matar & Venetia Porter – United Kingdom,
- 2025: **Daybreak in Gaza: Stories of Palestinian Lives & Culture**, edited by Mahmoud Muna & Matthew Teller

Press Articles

- 2025: “**Palestinian Artist Maisara Baroud Draws Life under Bombardment from Gaza**”, by Ahmed Rizk – *Sabah El-Kheir Magazine* (Egypt),
- 2025: Publication of drawings in **Junge Welt** newspaper, Germany,
- 2025: Publication of drawings in **Palästina Journal**, Germany,
- 2025: Publication of drawings in **Piauí Magazine**, Issue 225, Brazil
- 2025: “**A Palestinian Exhibition in Cairo by Maisara Baroud (I Am Still Alive: On the Borders of Memory and Homeland)**”, by Mahmoud Baraka – *Akhbar Al-Adab* Newspaper, Egypt
- 2025: “**A Hymn to Gaza**” – *Al-Ahram Weekly* interview with Maisara Baroud, by Rania Khallaf, Egypt
- 2025: “**Maisara Baroud: ‘Today, Remaining in Gaza Means Dying’**”, by Gwenaëlle Lenoir – *Mediapart*, France

Radio & Television Interviews

- 2025: Publication of drawings on the **Radio France** website as part of the program *What One Sees of Gaza*,
- 2025: **Sabahiyat AraBel**, episode aired -Brussels
- 2025: **Nharak Saeid Program**, *I Am Still Alive* exhibition, produced by Al-Nahar TV– Egypt

Drawing Workshops

- 2025: **Scroll Narratives** – *Cinethnographies: Narrations Indociles*, MucemLab & Polygone Étoilé, MuCEM, Marseille,
- 2025: **Scroll Narratives – Drawing Workshop**, IMERA, Marseille,
- 2025: **Presentation of Maisara Baroud’s Artistic Practice, Aperitif & Drawing Workshop**, IMERA, Marseille,

