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## MEHDI MOUTASHAR

Born in 1943, in Hilla, Iraq  
Lives and works in Arles, France since 1974

## EDUCATION

- 1967-71 École Nationale Supérieure des Beaux-Arts, Paris, France  
1962-66 Académie Supérieure des Beaux-arts, Baghdad, Iraq

## SOLO EXHIBITIONS

- 2023 Arab Museum of Modern Art, Mathaf, Doha, Qatar
- 2022 *Le Farinier*, Cluny Abbey, Cluny, France
- 2021 Abu Dhabi Art Fair, Abu Dhabi, UAE  
*Cardinal Points*, Lawrie Shabibi, Dubai, UAE  
*Racines Carrées*, AL/MA Gallery, Montpellier, France
- 2019 Hoffmann Gallery, Friedberg, Germany
- 2017 *Line and Color, 1968 -1978* , Galerie Orsay, Paris, France  
*Measuring Space*, Albareh Gallery and National Theater of Bahrain,  
Manama, Bahrain
- 2016 Galerie Victor Sfez, Paris, France  
*Lastic*, Galerie AL/MA, Montpellier, France  
*Beyond form: Richard Serra / Mehdi Moutashar*, Palais du Tau, Reims,  
France
- 2014 Le Petit Temple Gallery, Lasalle, France
- 2013 Linde Hollinger Gallery, Ladenburg, Germany
- 2012 AL/MA Gallery, Montpellier

- 2011 Kleine Museum, Weissenstadt, Germany
- 2009 Denise René Gallery, Paris, France
- 2005 Verney-Carron Gallery, Villeurbanne, France
- 2003 Espace Capitole, Arles, France
- 2002 Denise René Gallery, Paris, France
- 1998 Denise René Gallery, Paris, France
- 1997 Kufa Gallery, London, UK
- 1989 Narbonne Towers, Carcassonne & Arab World Institute, Paris, France  
Saint Ravy Gallery, Montpellier, France
- 1988 Méjan Chapel, Arles, France  
Karo Gallery, Berlin, Germany  
Walzinger Gallery, Saarlouis, Germany
- 1986 Dortindeguy Gallery, Anduze, France
- 1985 Hoffmann Gallery, Friedberg, Germany  
Karo Gallery, Berlin, Germany
- 1980 Al-Riwak Art Gallery, Baghdad, Iraq
- 1979 Galerie Leger, Malmö, Sweden
- 1978 Galerie K, Washington, USA
- 1977 Museum of Chartres, France
- 1975 Museum of Modern Art, Baghdad, Iraq
- 1974 Galerie du Haut-Pavé, Paris, France
- 1972 Galerie du Haut-Pavé, Paris, France  
Museum of Modern Art, Baghdad, Iraq
- 1971 Leger Gallery, Copenhagen, Denmark  
Leger Gallery, Malmö, Sweden
- 1970 Museum of Modern Art, Baghdad, Iraq
- 1966 French Cultural Center, Baghdad, Iraq

## **GROUP EXHIBITIONS**

- 2025 Islamic Arts Biennale, Western Hajj Terminal at King Abdulaziz International Airport in Jeddah, Saudi Arabia.

- 2024 *Arab Presences, Modern Art and Decolonisation* (Paris 1908-1988), Musée d'Art Moderne de Paris, Paris, France
- 2023 *Spotlight*, Frieze Master's, London, UK  
*As if by Chance?*, Museum of Fine Arts, Cholet, France  
*Beirut and the Golden Sixties: A Manifesto of Fragility*, Arab Museum of Modern Art, Mathaf, Doha, Qatar
- 2022 *Beirut and the Golden Sixties: A Manifesto of Fragility* at the 16th Lyon Biennale, macLYON, Lyon, France  
*Arts in Poetry*, Chapelle des Pénitents, Aniane, France
- 2019 Jameel Prize 5, Jameel Arts Center, Dubai, UAE
- 2018 *Bagdad Mon Amour*, Institute of Islamic Cultures, Paris, France  
Jameel Prize 5, Victoria & Albert Museum, London, UK
- 2015 *Homage to Malevitch's Black Square*, Vasarely Museum, Budapest, Hungary
- 2011 Deleuze-Rochetin Gallery, Uzès, France
- 2010 *François Morellet and Mehdi Moutashar*, Institute of Islamic Cultures, Paris, France
- 2009 *Notations*, Academy of Art, Berlin, Germany  
ZKM Center for Art and Media Technology, Karlsruhe
- 2008 *On the Line*, Matisse Museum, Cateau-Cambrésis, France
- 2005 *The Arabic Book*, BNF, Paris, France  
*The Rhythmic Field of the Mind, Islamic Arts and Geometric Abstraction*, Espace d'Art  
Concret, Mouans-Sartoux, France
- 2003 *Arab Workshops*, UNESCO Palace, Beirut, Lebanon  
*Art in Motion*, Leeuwarden, Netherlands (work in situ)  
Khan Assad Pasha, Damascus, Syria (work in situ)
- 2001 Tokyo Art Institute, Tokyo, Japan  
*Abstract Art*, Denise René gallery, Centro Atlantico de Arte Moderno, Las Palmas, Gran Canaria, Spain  
*Asiart*, Museum of Contemporary Art, Genoa, Italy (work in situ)
- 2000 Tsukuba Museum of Art, Ibaraki, Japan  
Marugame Genichiro Inokuma Museum of Contemporary Art, Kagawa, Japan  
Urawa City Museum of Art, Saitama, Tokyo, Japan  
Himeji City Museum of Art, Hyogo, Japan

- 1998 März Gallery, Mannheim, Germany
- 1997 Sharjah Biennial 3, Sharjah, UAE (work in situ)
- 1994 *Beside the Baroque*, Livitice, Czech Republic
- 1991 *Water and Europe: Garden of Prebends*, Tours, France (work in situ )
- 1988 *The Corner*, Cantonal Museum of Sion, Switzerland
- Stadt Museum, Ingolstadt, Germany
- Constructions and Designs, Schöneberg Bahnhof, Berlin, Germany
- 1987 *Two Square*, Wilhelm Hack Museum, Ludwigshaven, Germany
- Concrete Seven*, Kunsthaus, Nuremberg, Germany

## **ARCHITECTURAL DESIGNS & STUDIES**

- 1982 Created several murals for the buildings hosting the Non-Aligned Arab Countries Summit in Baghdad, Iraq.
- 1982/85 At the invitation of the architect Rifat Chadirji, designed several fountains, the outdoor railings, monumental doors, terraces, paving and wall coverings for the Council of Ministers building project in Baghdad (in partnership with TAC, Cambridge, U.S.A., and Berthet-Pochy International in Paris and Avignon).
- 1983 As part of the 1% for art programme, he designed the gate for primary school in Arles (architect: Robert Claude).
- 1987 Designed the set for Enlil, a ballet by the Compagnie Nationale Quentin Rouillier, Caen.
- 1989 Study for a park, French Cultural Centre in Marrakech.
- 1991 Study for an intersection at the northern entrance to the city of Arles.

## **PUBLIC COLLECTIONS**

Cincinnati Art Museum

Virginia Museum of Fine Arts

PACA Regional Contemporary Art Fund, Marseille, France

National Center for Plastic Arts, Paris, France

Victoria & Albert Museum, London, UK

Kleine Museum, Weissenstadt, Germany

Montbéliard Museum, France

General Council of Bouches-du-Rhône, France

Klingspor Museum der Stadt, Offenbach, Germany

Museum of Fine Arts, Cholet, France

National Library, Paris, France

National Gallery of Fine Arts, Amman, Jordan

Institut du Monde Arabe, Paris, France

Museum of Modern Art in Tunis, Tunisia

Gulbenkian National Museum of Modern Art, Baghdad, Iraq

## **AWARDS**

2018      Jameel Prize 5, Victoria & Albert Museum, London, UK

## **PUBLICATIONS**

2014      *Mehdi Moutashar*, François Barré; Pierre Manuel; Gérard Bodinier;  
Dominique Clévenot. Editions Actes Sud, 2014