

# SULGER-BUEL GALLERY



## **Fathi Hassan**

Born 1957 in Cairo, Egypt

Lives and works in Edinburgh, Scotland

Fathi Hassan (aka Akkij Fathi) was born in Cairo in 1957 to Nubian-Egyptian parents. His family were forced to leave their homeland of Nubia when the Aswan High Dam was built in 1952, flooding a vast area now under Lake Nasser. Whether in photographs, paintings, installations, drawings or, often, directly on walls, his texts are deliberately illegible intended to highlight the plight of lost languages and oral history as a result of colonial domination.

In 1979, Hassan had received a grant from the Italian Cultural Institute in Cairo and moved to Naples, Italy where he enrolled at the Accademia di Belle Arti and graduated with a thesis on the influence of African art in Cubism.

He was one of the first African and Arab artists to exhibit in the Venice Biennial in 1988; and, over the past 40 years, participated in numerous solo and group shows in Italy, Belgium, Denmark, Egypt, the United Kingdom and New York. For many years he has worked productively with renowned curator Rose Issa and currently lives and works between Edinburgh, Scotland and Italy.

Some of Hassan's work is in the permanent collection of the Victoria and Albert Museum and the British Museum, London and the Smithsonian National Museum of African Art, Washington DC and Farjam Collections among many others. He is the subject of numerous publications and writings by major critics, curators and experts, from Rose Issa, Achille Bonito Oliva, Maurita Poole and Liliane Karnouk to Kathleen Goncharov, Francesca Petracci, Elizabeth Harney and Enrico Crispolti. He also features in the recent book 'Lumieres Africaines' published by Langages du Sud (2018).

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## Public Collections

Victoria & Albert Museum, London, UK  
British Museum, London, UK  
Smithsonian National Museum of African Art, Washington DC, USA  
Metropolitan Museum, New York, USA  
Fondazione Fausto Radici, Bergamo, Italy  
Flash Art Museum, Trevi, Perugia, Italy  
Barjeel Foundation, Sharjah, U.A.E  
Symphonia S. G. R. Milan, Italy  
Williams College Museum of Art, Massachusetts, USA  
Salon First Prize Young Egyptian Art, Painting  
Beirut Art Center  
Rosini Gutman Fondation  
Mmac Marta Massaioli  
Egyptian Museum of Fine Art  
Clark Museum, Atlanta, USA  
Stanford Museum, California, USA  
Texas Southern University Museum, Texas USA

## Solo Exhibitions

- 2020 *Soul Taming* (Curated by Najlaa El-Ageli), Sulger-Buel Gallery, London, UK  
*Dream Waves*, Zamalek Art Gallery, Cairo, Egypt
- 2019 *Whispers*, Lawrie Lawrie Shabibi Gallery, Dubai, UAE
- 2018 *MI = Ester 33* (curated by R. Gasparelli), Brancaleoni Castle, Piobbico, , Urbino, Italy
- 2017 *Slavery*, A.I.C.A, Milan, Italy
- 2016 *Our Language*, (Text by Maurita Poole) Egyptian Museum of Fine Art,  
*The Gesture*, Massaioli Fondation, Fabbriano, Italy  
*Edge of Memory* (curated by Maurita Poole) Clark Museum, Atlanta, USA
- 2015 *Migration of Signs* (Curated by Maurita Poole) Williams Museum, Massachusetts, USA
- 2014 *The Depth of Hope* (curated by Caitlin Doherty) V.C.U., Doha, Qatar  
*New Grammars*, Tribute to Fathi Hassan, Rocca Malatestiana, Fano, Italy
- 2012 *Faces & Voices*, John Rylands Museum, Manchester, UK
- 2011 *Signs of Our Times*, Rose Issa Projects, Leighton House Museum, London, UK  
*Haram Aleikum*, Notions of Shame, Rose Issa Projects, London, UK
- 2010 *Mashrabiya*, Contatto Arte And Studio Protecno Architettura, Faenza, Italy  
*El Muhager*, Meeting with Fathi Hassan, Fondazione Balestra E Studio, Fioravanti, Sorrivoli, Italy  
*Tasaheel*, L'idioma Art Centre, Ascoli Piceno, Italy
- 2009 *Antologica* (curated by Valli Cavedagna) Villa Pisani, Stra', Venezia, Italy  
*Containers of Light* (text by Cecilia Antonini) Andrea Art, Vicenza, Italy  
*Water the Music Soul*, Auditorium Santa Margherita, Venice, Italy  
*Kenuz* (Curated by Milena Grosso), Domus Artis Gallery, Naples, Italy
- 2007 *Fathi Hassan: Selected Works*, Skoto Gallery, New York, USA

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- Safir*, Palazzo Ducale, Urbino, Italy  
*Migration of Dreams* (Curated by Oriana Salvucci), Antichi Forni, Macerata, Italy
- 2006 *Italian Dreams*, Gasp Gallery, Brookline, Massachusetts, USA  
*History of Containers*, Benciv Art Gallery, Pesaro, Italy
- 2003 *Nile Sand* (curated by Francesca Pietracci), Archaeological Museum of Palestrina, Rome, Italy  
9th Cairo International Biennial, Cairo, Egypt
- 2002 *Africamarvel* (curated by Ursula E Michael Schmitt), Municipality of Rastatt, Germany  
*Spirit Matter*, Art-Pro-Art (curated by Franz Moratt), Lahr, Germany  
*Desert Wind*, (curated By A. Nosei And F. Pietracci), Palazzo Esposizioni, Rome, Italy  
*Do Not Fear Indulgence*, Spirale Arte, Verona, Italy
- 1999 *El Mersal*, Pack Gallery, Milan, Italy  
*Blessed Africa*, Riccione (Rosini), Bergamo (Oprandi) Fano (Una Arte), Italy
- 1998 *Containers of Thought* (curated By Ambrogi/ G. Abbondio) Seno Gallery, Milan, Italy
- 1995 *Contentori Di Memoria* (curated By Francesca Pietracci) Annina Nosei Gallery, New York, USA
- 1994 *Saharian Conflict* (curated By Stefania Angrano) Mashrabia Gallery, Cairo, Egypt
- 1991 *Signs of Absence* (curated By Luigi Meneghelli), Prisma Gallery, Verona, Italy
- 1990 *If I Gave You My Soul Ten Times* (curated By Romana Loda) Multimedia Gallery, Brescia, Italy
- 1988 Venice Biennial, Aperto 88, (curated by Dan Cameron and Giovanni Carandenti), Venice, Italy
- 1987 *Sahara* (curated By Gino Gianuzzi and Valeria Medici), Neon Gallery, Bologna, Italy
- 1984 *Alflela: One Thousand Nights*, Studio Ricerca Aperta, Naples, Italy

## Select Group Exhibitions

- 2020 Cape Town Art Fair, Lawrie Shabibi Gallery, Cape Town, South Africa
- 2019 Dallas Art Fair, Dallas, USA  
*Arabicity* (Curated by Rose Issa) M E I, Washington, USA  
*Reimagined Narratives*, Art d'Egypt, Cairo, Egypt
- 2018 1:54 Contemporary Art Fair, Lawrie Shabibi Gallery, London, UK
- 2017 *Animalia* (curated by Angelo Capasso and Nikla Cingolani) Galleria Monti, Rome, Italy  
*Cortesie Per Gli Ospiti* (curated by Gianluca Marziani), Palazzo Collicoli, Spoleto, Italy  
*On the Road*, Galleria Pio Monti, Rome, Italy
- 2016 *African Art Against the State*, Williams Museum, Massachusetts, USA
- 2015 *Mare Motus* (curated by Lea Mattarella and Lorenzo Zichich) Lipari Castle, Sicily, Italy  
*Etico / Etichal*, (Award) Cultural Association Plana Milan Expo, Italy
- 2014 *Asemic* (curated by Michel Dewilde), Hallen Van Het Belfort, Cultuurcentrum Brugge, Belgium  
*Black and Gray*, Skoto Gallery, New York, USA  
*Sacred Drops*, Rastatt, Germany.  
*Ad Personam*, Contemporary Art Francesca Monti, Civitanove, Marche, Italy  
*What Remains*, Rose Issa Projects, London, UK
- 2013 *Re- Orientations II*, Rose Issa Projects, London, UK  
*The Seven Valleys*, Rose Issa Projects, London, UK  
*Egyptology* (curated By Venetia Porter) The British Museum, London, UK
- 2012 *Re-Orientations I*, Rose Issa Projects, London, London, UK  
Sharjah Biennial, Dubai, UAE  
Summer Exhibitions, Royal Academy, London, UK

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- The Skin I Live In*, Pack Gallery, Milan, Italy  
*Only Words Great Artists of The Second Half of the 20th Century*, Per Mari E Monti Gallery, Italy
- 2011 *Summer Show*, Skoto Gallery, New York, USA  
*Mixed Hanging*, Rose Issa Projects, London, UK  
*Abu Dhabi Art*, Rose Issa Project, UAE  
*Mediamorfosi 2.0* (curated by Gabriele Perretta), Sud Lab, Portici, Naples, Italy  
*The Art of Writing*, Art Forum of Wiesbaden, Germany  
*Transformation*, New York, USA  
*Abu Dhabi Art*, Rose Issa Projects, UAE
- 2010 *Arabicity*, Rose Issa Projects at Beirut Exhibition Center, Beirut, Lebanon  
*Arabicity*, Rose Issa Projects at The Bluecoat Arts Centre, Liverpool, UK  
*The Temple Of Zeus*, Valle Dei Templi, Agrigento, Italy
- 2009 *Adorned/Unadorned*, Skoto Gallery, New York, USA  
*Invites*, Museum Arnhem, Netherlands  
*Mafrique*, Spazio Moroso, Milan, Italy  
Arabian World Festival, San Severina, Cortona, Italy
- 2008 Dakar Biennale, Senegal  
*In The Mediterranean*, Ex Aurum, Pescara, Italy  
Marina Di Ravenna (Award), Municipal Art, Museum of Ravenna, Italy
- 2007 *Contemporary Videofusion*, Studio Ro, Rome, Italy  
*The Temple of Wind* (curated by G. Gradassi) Genus Gallery, San Benedetto Del Tronto, Italy  
*Inscribing Meaning* (curated by E. Harney and C. Kreamer), Fowler Museum, USA  
*Italian Dreams and Dreaming of Italy* (curated By Carlo Faticoni) Teatro Junghans At Sguardi Sonori, Venice, Italy  
*Espijismos* (curated by Aziza Alaoui) San Pedro Museum, Puebla, Mexico  
*Horizon Lines: Landscape Between Description and Abstraction* (curated by Maurizio Ciaccaluga) Modern Art Gallery, Genoa
- 2006 *Text Messages: Five Contemporary Artists*, October Gallery, London, UK
- 2005 *Textures: Word and Symbol in Contemporary African Art*, Smithsonian National Museum of African Art, Washington DC, USA  
*Inside Italians No.3*, Italian Institute of Culture & Novarum Projects, Copenhagen, Denmark  
*Travelling Show with The Oprandi Gallery*, Bergamo, Hong Kong, Beirut, Brussels, Paris Granada
- 2004 *Sicily And The Arabs* (curated By L Zichichi And G. Sicuri) Loggiato S. Bartolomeo, Palermo, Italy
- 2003 *Places of Affection* (curated by Angelo Capasso) Hotel De Ville, Brussels
- 2002 *A Postmodern Babel*, Italian Art of the 90s (curated by Edoardo Di Mauro) Palazzo Pigorini, Parma, Italy
- 2001 *Gold Imagination* (curated by Enrico Crispolti), Vanvitellian Pier, Ancona, Italy
- 2000 *Transafricana* (curated by Renato Barilli), Ex-Church of S. Giorgio In Poggiale, Bologna, Italy  
*Alleviating Unstoppable Impulses* (curated by Pietro Finelli) University Of Pavia, Pavia, Italy
- 1999 *Contemporary African Art*, Italian Institute for Africa And the Orient, Rome, Italy
- 1997 *Go, Thought Italian Art 1984/96* (curated by Edoardo Di Mauro) City Museum, Turin, Italy  
*Under Different Skies* (curated by Artistio Middle East), Copenhagen, Denmark
- 1996 *The Abode of The Gods* (curated by Luigi Meneghell) Villa Anselmi, Bolzano/Verona, Italy
- 1994 *Angrano*, Il Cairo, Egypt
- 1993 *Mare Nostrum III* (curated by R. Pontremoli), Immart Gallery, Rome, Italy

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- Diocce- Calligrafie* (curated by E.B. Gentili) M. S. Filippo Neri, Turin, Italy  
*Noah' S Ark* (curated by F. Pietracci) Trevi Flash Art Museum, Perugia, Umbria, Italy  
1992 *Ter-Dislocations of Art* (curated by Achille Bonito Oliva) Civic Gallery, Termoli, Italy  
1991 Akhaton, 7 Contemporary Egyptian Artists (curated by Farina-Siniscalco) Palazzo Diamanti, Ferrara, Italy  
1990 Meeting of Peoples, Villa Lazzarini, Rome, Italy  
XXXIII Young Egyptian Artists, Egyptian Academy, Rome, Italy  
1989 Art Salon Under 35", Painting Prize, Ministry of Culture Award, Il Cairo, Egypt  
1988 Capua – South East Direction, Campano Museum, Capua, Italy  
1986 *New Tendencies in Italy*, Travelling Show, Centro Grisanti, Milan And Perterre, Florence, Italy  
1985 *A New Generation in Italian Art* (curated by Enrico Crispolti) Fortezza Medicea, Siena, Italy  
1984 City with no Boundaries (curated by G. Perretta) Pomigliano D'arco, Napoli,  
1983 *Temperatura Flegrea* (curated by Fathi Hassan) Terme Di Baia, Naples, Italy

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