

## Biography

Dalia Baassiri was born in 1981 in Lebanon where she is based at present. In 2003, she graduated from the Lebanese American University with a bachelor's degree in graphic design and went on to pursue a master's degree in fine art at Chelsea College of Arts in London, where she also took part in various group shows.

As a multidisciplinary artist drawing has been a primary tool of expression, alongside painting and photography. At Galerie Janine Rubeiz, in 2014, she participated in the exhibition "Clin d'oeil" and "Nostalgic Imagery", an exhibition curated by Baks/Art and her work has been showcased by the gallery at Beirut Art Fair. Baassiri's work has been awarded with a prize by Fabriano, Maraya and the Lebanese Web Design Awards. In 2015, she has been selected for a 2 months residency program for emerging Middle-Eastern artists offered by the the Kempinski Young Artist Programme in partnership with the Siena Art Institute (Italy). The residency consisted of 3 main stages; conceptualization in Berlin, artwork execution in Siena then back to Berlin for solo exhibition "von Beirut nach Berlin, Dialogue of Spaces" at Kempinski Hotel Bristol. Lately, ArteEast has granted Baassiri a dual 4 months residency program at Residency Unlimited in New York and Sculpture Space in Utica (NY). Her work is permanently exhibited at Galerie Janine Rubeiz.

## Artist Statement

Lines are everywhere but we cannot see them. Like cells, they progressively multiply, expand and intertwine, forming endless possibilities of forms. I perceive the world as a giant spherical drawing room inhabited by beings and elements that are constantly in motion. Their impulses push them from one point to another, creating a series of linear paths. Each being or element has a corresponding destination mapped and documented within this drawing. The wave heads to the shore, the cloud accompanies the wind, the plant reaches for the light, and the human chases happiness from one place to another. Accordingly, their existence consists of the sum of their own trajectories, which ultimately shape their fate. In such a context, everything on this planet plays the role of the artist.

I am currently exploring my experience of the world by highlighting the quotidian and overlooked activities such as window cleaning and floor sweeping, and allowing them to infiltrate and shape my practice. The process raises questions concerning my approach and understanding of art. Graphite is the primary medium enabling me to manifest my concerns. I consider it as the mediator between art and the familiar. It plays the role of a conventional drawing tool yet enacts the dust and the dirt of everyday life. Its solubility generates a substantial muddy effect that stimulates my engagement with the surface.

## Solo Exhibitions

2017

Wiped Off, Galerie Janine Rubeiz, Beirut, Lebanon

2015

von Beirut nach Berlin, Dialogue of Spaces, Kempinski Young Artist Programme Fellowship in cooperation with Siena Art Institute, Kempinski Hotel Bristol, Berlin, Germany

2013

Ink Infection, AltCity Hamra, Beirut, Lebanon.

2012

It's Mental, Chelsea College of Arts, MA course, Project space A124, London, UK

## Group Exhibitions

Upcoming

November 2017, Abu Dhabi Art Fair, UAE

July 2017, Summer Collective, Galerie Janine Rubeiz, Beirut, Lebanon

2016

Bitasarrof, The Lebanese National Library, Beirut, Lebanon

Fine Arts Alumni Biennial, Lebanese American University, Beirut, Lebanon

2015

Beirut Art Fair, Janine Rubeiz Gallery, Beirut, Lebanon

2014

Beirut Art Fair, Galerie Janine Rubeiz, Beirut, Lebanon

Nostalgic Imagery, Group Exhibition with the collaboration of BAKS/Art Concepts, Galerie Janine Rubeiz, Beirut, Lebanon

Clin D'oeil 2014, Janine Rubeiz Gallery, Beirut, Lebanon

The young Collectors Auction, Ayyam Gallery, Dubai, UAE

2013

Beirut Art Fair, Galerie Janine Rubeiz, Beirut, Lebanon

Summer Exhibition, Galerie Janine Rubeiz, Beirut, Lebanon

LAU Alumni Exhibition, Lebanese American University, Beirut, Lebanon

2012

MA Degree Show, Chelsea College of Arts, London, UK

Painting in Conversation, the Bussey building, London, UK

Round Chapel Salon, Chelsea Salon Series, London, UK

Foul Perfection, The Castle, London, UK

## Awards

2016

Dual Residency, Residency Unlimited, New York and Sculpture Space, Utica, sponsored by ArteEast, New York, USA

2015

Kempinski Young Artist Program Visual Arts Fellowship, Berlin, Germany  
Fellowship at Siena Art Institute, Siena, Italy

2011

The Bench Artist Award by Maraya Organization, Beirut, Lebanon

2005

2 Golden & One silver Award by the Lebanese Web Design Awards, Beirut, Lebanon

1997

Best Female Interpretation Acting Award by the French Cultural Center of Lebanon

1992, 1993, 1994

Fabriano Drawing Prize, Sidon, Lebanon

## Education

2012

MA in Fine Art, Chelsea College of Art and Design, University of Arts, London, U.K.

2003

BS in Graphic Design, the Lebanese American University, Beirut, Lebanon