

Sara Ouhammadou

Biography & CV

Born 1986. Draguignan, France

Lives and works Paris, France & Marrakech, Morocco

Sara Ouhammadou's culture informs her practice as a continuous dialogue. She began her career as a designer for fashion brands, but has moved towards a more social practice, addressing the diverse challenges facing the artisan craftsmen community in Morocco. Her practice questions the availability of design as a tool for economic, social and cultural development with a focus on the Arab world. Sara's art is deeply rooted in cultural exploration and the intersection of traditional and contemporary aesthetics. She often draws from her Moroccan heritage, blending artisanal craft techniques with modern artistic practices. Her work explores themes of identity, globalization, and the transformation of cultural symbols. Through her use of materials such as textiles, ceramics, and mosaics, her art reflects on the idea of cultural exchange and the shifting meanings of objects as they move through different contexts.

Sara Ouhammadou has participated in numerous prestigious artist residencies, including the French Institute Artist Residency in Morocco (Dar Al Ma Mûn, 2013-2014), Edge of Arabia Artist Program in NYC (ISCP NYC 2015), and the CULTURUNNERS project in Detroit and San Diego (2015). More recently, she honed her creative process at Villa Albertine in both Houston and Los Angeles and through the Art Explora program at Cité Internationale des Arts in Paris. These global experiences have played a key role in shaping her dynamic artistic approach.

Her work has been featured in solo exhibitions, including Display at IFA Berlin (with a second part opening soon at MACAAL Marrakech), curated by Meriem Berrada and Alya Sebti, and Assieds-toi, prend un verre de thé at Fondation Thalie, curated by Nathalie Guiot and Ludovic Delalande. Ouhammadou has also participated in prominent group shows such as Être Méditerranée at MO.CO. Montpellier Contemporain, the Biennale Ghërdeina in Italy, the Triennale Chaleur Humaine in Dunkerque and Global(e) Resistance at Centre Pompidou, Paris. Through these exhibitions, her work resonates within complex thematic frameworks, addressing global and social issues.

Her contributions to the art world have earned her various awards, including the 2014 Arab Fund For Art and Culture (AFAC) Award and the 2015 Wanted Design NYC Special Prize. Additionally, her pieces are part of renowned public collections, such as the Centre Georges Pompidou and the Victoria & Albert Museum in London.

Selected Solo Exhibitions

2024-2025 Display - IFA Berlin and MACAAL Marrakech. Curators: Meriem Berrada and Alya Sebti
 2023 «Nour Ala Nour» (Lumière sur lumière/Light on light), Comptoir des Mines Galerie, Marrakech
 2021 Je te rends ce qui m'appartient, tu me rends ce qui t'appartient - Galerie Polaris, Paris
 2018 AA - Appartement 22, Rabat, Morocco, curator: Abdellah Karroum.
 2017 Wasalnalilo/On en est arrivé là - Galerie Polaris, Paris
 2014 Entre 2 - Riad Denise Masson, Institut Français, Marrakech, Morocco

Selected Group Exhibitions

2023 Triennale Chaleur Humaine - Frac Grand Large, Dunkerque, curated by Camille Richert et Chloe Brun. Script and Calligraphy - Ministry of Culture of Saudi Arabia, curated by Huda Smitshuijzen AbiFares. Note from below - ACUD gallery Berlin, curated by Bhavisha Panchia
 2022 Love – Palacão Cadaval, Portugal, curator Mouna Mekouar
 Warché - Fondation Thalie, Bruxelles, Belgique, curators : Anissa Touati.
 Les êtres lieux - Maison de la Culture du Japon ,Curator: Elodie Royer , Paris
 2021 Connectivités - MUCEM - Marseille
 Notes of a Seeress - IFA, Berlin, curators: Inka Gressel and Susanne Weiß
 Répare Reprise - Cité Internationale des Arts, curator : Nora Philippe
 Moroccan Trilogy - 1950-2020 - Museo Reina Sofia, Madrid, curated by Manuel Borja-Ville and Abdellah Karroum. Le Déracinement - Z33, Hasselt, Belgium, curated by Silvia Franceschini & Jeanne Coppens
 2020 Le Port : A la croisée des Histoires, Musée d'Histoire - Manifesta 13 Marseille - The European Nomadic Biennale, Marseille, curator : Alya Sebti
 Global(e) Resistance, Centre Pompidou, Paris, curated by Christine Macel, Alicia Knock & Yung Ma
 Notre monde brûle – Our world is burning, Palais de Tokyo Paris, curator: Abdellah Karroum
 Ceramic collection exhibition - Victoria And Albert Museum London, curator: Mariam Rosser Owen

Residencies

2023 Villa Albertine – Houston / Los Angeles 2023
 2022 Iaspis, Stockholm, Suède
 2021 Cité Internationale des Arts, programme Art Explora – résidence Cité des Arts - Paris

Public Collections

2024 Daloul Art Fondation
Barjeel collection
2023 Frac Bourgogne
Frac Pays-de-la-Loire
2022 Ifa Berlin
2021 The Ministry of Culture of Saudi Arabia
2020 MATHAF Qatar
Fond National d'Art Contemporain France
Centre Georges Pompidou
V & A Museum London
2017 Poitou-Charentes
Nouveau Musée National de Monaco

Prix/Awards

2021 Nomination pris AWARE par Eva Barois Declavel
2019-2024 ONE PERCENT ART NEW YORK CITY, Chosen artist for the one percent public space art of New York city, Little Syria to be realized in 2023