

Monia Ben Hamouda

Biography & CV

Born 1991. Milan, Italy

Lives and works between al-Qayrawan, Tunisia and Milan, Italy.

Monia Ben Hamouda is a Tunisian-Italian visual artist.

Following the belief that each individual is inextricably connected to their family tree and the psychological universe of their ancestors, Ben Hamouda attempts to master her influences in a contemporary and constantly changing landscape. Born into a Muslim community as the daughter of an Islamic calligrapher, she navigates and confronts her generational heritage through what she calls a shamanic process – creating works that act as gestural exorcisms of the expectations placed upon her by tradition and the politicized present, drawing their power from the urgency of expression. Her visual language, which translates into a broad range of formal approaches, is steeped in cultural-religious symbology and rituals.

Ben Hamouda's work has been shown in several international institutions and biennials, such as the 14th edition of the Taipei Biennial (2025), Taipei Fine Arts Museum, Taiwan; Museo Casa Rusca, Locarno, Switzerland; MUSEION Museum of Modern and Contemporary Art, Bolzano, Italy; MACRO – Museum of Contemporary Art of Rome, and MAXXI National Museum of 21st Century Art, Italy.

Her works can be found in public collections such as MAXXI, Rome; FRAC Bretagne, Rennes; Museion, Bolzano; Fondazione Sandretto Re Rebaudengo, Turin; TBA21 Thyssen - Bornemisza Collection, Madrid; and FRAC Corsica, Corse.

She earned a BFA at Brera Academy of Fine Art in Milan and is currently an Affiliated artist resident at the American Academy in Rome. She was awarded with the Maxxi Bvlgari Prize (2024), the Vordemberge-Gildewart Foundation Grant (2024), the Fondazione Merz Prize (2024), the Museion Audience Award (2024), the Pollock-Krasner Foundation Grant (2022), the Italian Council for Contemporary Art (2023; 2024).

Education

BFA at Brera Academy of Fine Art, Milan IT.

Solo Exhibitions

2027

(Upcoming) Solo show. Gasworks. London. UK

2026

Ya'aburnee يقبرني. Fondazione Bvlgari. BVLGARI Hotel. Milan. Italy

After Totality. ChertLüdde. Berlin. Germany

Nor Barth, Curated by Emanuele Guidi. Barth. Bressanone

2025

Path of Totality, Curated by Gioia del Molin. Museo Casa Rusca. Locarno. Switzerland

Post-Scriptum, Curated by Thomas Conchou. La Ferme du Buisson. Noisiel. France

YA'ABURNEE – يقبرني, curated by Anissa Touati. Selma Feriani Gallery. Tunis Tunisia

2024

MAXXI BVLGARI PRIZE IV, curated by Giulia Ferracci. MAXXI National Museum of 21st Century Art. Rome

NYX, double exhibition with Maude Léonard-Contant. Istituto Svizzero. Milan. Italy

2023

About Telepathy and other Violences. ChertLüdde. Berlin

The Destruction of the Idols of Ka'ba. Casa Encendida. Madrid. Spain

2022

Remarkably Clear, Almost Invisible, curated by Anthony Discenza. Ashes/Ashes. New York

Wudu Diorama, curated by Anthony Discenza. Lower Cavity. Boston

Hamra, curated by Karen Vestergaard Andersen and Helen Nishijo Andersen. Ariel Feminism. Copenhagen

The eye, the hands, The Lunacy of Lunar Sightings, curated by Anissa Touati. Jevouspropose. Zurich

2021

Night of Hinnã. ChertLüdde. Berlin

Two suns upon Shatt al Jarid, curated by Nestor Garcia Diaz, Carles Àngel Saurí, Paula García-Masedo. Pols. Valencia

2019

Extended protection, Allegoric Defence, curated by Camilla Edström Ödemark. Gallery CC. Malmö

2017

MIRANDA. Pane Project. Milan

It Won't Only Kill You, it will Hurt the Whole Time You're Dying, Double solo with Michele Gabriele. OJ. Istanbul

Group Exhibitions

2026

Fragments of Fire Worship. Fondazione Bvlgari - official collateral Event La Biennale di Venezia. Biblioteca Nazionale Marciana. Venice. Italy

Méditerranée, Odyssees Contemporaines. Villa Datri Foundation. Vaucluse. France

Nor. Kunstraum Barth. curated by Emanuele Guidi. Brixen. Südtirol. Italy

After Fire. Aranya Art Center. China

2025

The Narrative of Decline, Curated by Bernhard Buhmann. Carbon 12 Gallery. Dubai
14th Taipei Biennial 2025: Whispers on the Horizon, Curated by Sam Bardaouil and Till
Fellrath. Taipei
64 Premio Termoli, Curated by Caterina Riva. MACTE Museo di Arte Contemporanea di
Termoli. Termoli
The Posterity of the Sun, Curated by Ludovic Delalande. Limassol. Cyprus

2024

Milan Drawing Week. Spazio Lima. Milan
A soft edge to break a sword, ChertLüdde Potsdamer Straße 97, Berlin
Kin. Spiritvessel. Espinavessa. Spain
Survival Kit, Curated by Jussi Koitela. Latvian Centre for Contemporary Art. Riga
Sex Reenchanted, Curated by Mehveş Ungan. Heidelberger Kunstverein. Heidelberger
Renaissance, Curated by Leonie Radin. MUSEION Museum of Modern and Contemporary Art.
Bolzano
EXPOSURE. Art, culture, fashion in and out of the showcase, Curated by Katya Inozemtseva.
MUDEC – Museum of Cultures. Milan

2023

Darker, Lighter, Puffy, Flat, curated by Laura Amann. Kunsthalle Wien. Wien
L'autre Musée, The Treasures Of A Major Contemporary Art Collection. Frac Bretagne. Rennes
Spirit Vessel Residency, curated by Sira Piza and Andrew Birk. Espinavessa
My Demons My Angels. ChertLüdde. Berlin
Olga Fröbe-Kapteyn – Deep Knowledge. Kunsthalle Mainz. Mainz
Retrofuture, collection. MACRO – Museum of Contemporary Art of Rome. Rome
www, curated by Natalia Serkova & Vitaly Bezpalo. Den Frie Centre of Contemporary Art.
Copenhagen

2022

The Lying Body: Only the Futures Revisit the Past, curated by Emanuele Guidi. Arge/kunst.
Bolzano
A Feminine Lexicon, curated by Pia Diamandis, Giacomo Donati and Elena Tortelli. Museo
Salvatore Ferragamo, Florence

2021

Perno 4, curated by Musketeers, project coordinator Clarissa Tempestini, Museo Diffuso
Contemporane. Serralunga d'Alba
Ducato Prize winners Exhibition, Volumnia, Piacenza

2020

Endless Nostalgia, curated by Treti Galaxie. 101 Numeri pari. Museo Pecci Prato. Piazza del
Campidoglio Rome and Online
Collagen Shadows, curated by Zoë De Luca. ADA. Rome
Blade Banner, curated by Dafne Boggeri, Sprint & Istituto Svizzero. Museo Civico di Scienze
Naturali. Milano
Love Data – Alios 16 me Biennale d'Art, Contemporain Théâtre Cravey Pavilion. La Teste-de-
Bûch

2019

NORTHERN LIGHTS, curated by Something Must Break. Alta art space. Malmö
Unsupported Message Format, curated by Pierre Clement. Galerie Valeria Cetraro. Paris
Orrido 120 residency, curated by Something Must Break and Zoe De Luca, Swan Station. Buco
del Piombo
Swamp Horses, curated by Andrew Birk, *Spirit Vessel + ALTAN*. Espinavesa
2018 WET. Haunt project space. Yogyakarta
Swamp Thing versus Man-thing, curated by Anthony Discenza. Et.al gallery. San Francisco
First I Have to Put my Face On, Like a Little Disaster, curated by Cristina Gigliotti. Polignano a
Mare
Hope, curated by New Scenario. Universitätssammlungen Kunst. Dresden
Trigger Party #6, curated by Siliqoon. Marselleria Permanent Exhibition. Milan
Fantasy Direct vol II, The Wrong – Digital Art Biennale. Nathan Road. Hong Kong

2017

The Bunt, curated by Fred Powell. Ginny Projects. London
Assiette ou Virage et Dérapage, curated by Something Must Break. Milan

2016

Milano Film Festival, Milan
VideoEspanso. RivoliDue Fondazione per l'Arte. Contemporanea. Milan

2014

L'Intimità dell'immagine come luogo in comune, curated by Gianni Caravaggio. Viafarini
DOCVA. Milan

Residencies & Lectures

2025 Residency at American Academy in Rome - Bvlgari MAXXI American Academy in Rome
Affiliated Artist in collaboration with MAXXI and Whitney Museum, Rome
2024 Artist Talk at MAXXI - Museo nazionale delle arti del XXI secolo
Artist Talk at Italian Embassy in Riga, Latvia
2023 Artist Talk at Kunsthalle Mainz, Germany
2022 Lower Cavity Residency Holyoke, Massachusetts
2021 Talk at Artissima Fair, Turin
Visiting Professor at Istituto Marangoni, Florence
Visiting Professor at Hochschule für Bildende Künste, Dresden
2019 Orrido 120 residency, Swan Station, Buco del Piombo
2016 Academy Awards residency, Viafarini, Milan
2015 Filmidee summer residency, Filmidee, Sardinia
2014 Jury member at Filmmaker Festival, Milan

Curatorial Projects

2024 *To Romanticize with Indecision*, Curated by Monia Ben Hamouda & Michele Gabriele.
Cassina Projects. Mila

Collections

MAXXI. Rome. Italy

TBA21 – Thyssen-Bornemisza Art Contemporary Collection. Madrid

Kunsthaus. Zurich

FRAC Corsica. Haute-Corse. Corsica

FRAC Bretagne. Rennes

Museion, Museum of Modern and Contemporary Art Bolzano. Bozen

Sandretto Re Rebaudengo Collection. Turin

Catalogues/Publications

Catalogue: “Path of Totality”, Published by *Mousse Publishing*, December 2025

Catalogue: “Darker, Lighter, Puffy, Flat” edited by Stadt Wien Kunst GmbH/Kunsthalle Wien, 2024; ISBN: 97839034121632020

“Flatland Reader,” edited by Nuno Patricio, *O Fluxo Editions*, 2020, Lisboa, PT.

Catalogue: “Ducato Prize 2020,” *Ducato Prize*, online.2018

“Young Black Romantics,” published and edited by Ndayé Kouagou, 2018. Paris