

Massinissa Selmani

Biography & CV

Born 1980. Algiers, Algeria

Lives and works between Tours, France and Tizi-Ouzou, Algeria

Selmani's work addresses contemporary and political issues through drawings that combine a documentary approach with fictional constructions and animations. He constructs situations that confront, juxtapose, and even superposition the elements in a context that has systematically been concealed. Selmani produces exaggerated and enigmatic scenes inconceivable to reality, bearing witness to the absurdity of human behaviour. He balances depictions between the comical and the tragic and introduces architecture as an instrument of power.

He studied computer science in Algeria and graduated from the École supérieure des beaux-arts in Tours.

Selmani's work has been shown in several international institutions and biennials, including Palais de Tokyo, Paris, France; the Dakar Biennial, Senegal; the Lyon Biennial, France; FRAC Centre, Orléans, France; Modern Art Oxford, Oxford, UK; IVAM, Valencia, Spain; the Museum of African Art of Belgrade, Serbia / Centre Pompidou, Paris, France.

Selmani's work can be found in several prestigious collections of art, including Centre Georges Pompidou, Paris, France; MAC, Lyon, France; Frac Centre Val de Loire, Orléans, France; Samdani Art Foundation, Dhaka, Bangladesh and The British Museum, United Kingdom.

His work has been hailed by a special mention of the jury at the 56th Venice Biennale in 2015. In 2016, He received the Art Collector Prize and the Sam Art Projects Prize for contemporary art. In 2023, Selmani was nominated for the Marcel Duchamp Prize.

Massinissa Selmani has also been featured in the book *African Art Now* by Osei Bonsu, co-published by the Tate Publishing and *Ile, Drawing in the Present Tense* by Claire Gilman and Roger Malbert (Thames & Hudson), and *Vitamin D3: Today's Best in Contemporary Drawing* (Phaidon Publishers).

Education

DNSEP, École supérieure des beaux-arts de Tours. Tours, France

DNAP, École supérieure des beaux-arts de Tours. Tours, France

Solo Exhibitions

2025

Dans quel sens traverser les antipodes. Château de Servières, Marseille, France

Distances. Aranya Art Center. Beidaihe. Hebei Province. China

Loophole. Umberto Di Marino Gallery. Naples. Italy

2024

Oursins de la mémoire. Frac Nouvelle-Aquitaine MÉCA, Bordeaux. France
1000 Villages. Index Foundation. Stockholm. Sweden. Curated by Natasha Marie Llorens
L'un Sans l'autre. Curated by Philippe Piguet. Frac Picardie. Amiens. France
a fault in the mirage. Jane Lombard Gallery. New York. USA

2023

1000 Villages. Curated by Natasha Marie Llorens. rizhome. Algiers. Algeria
Prix Marcel Duchamp, Centre Pompidou – Musée d'Art Moderne. Paris. France
On a Rock, a Brief Circle of Sun. Curated by Roger Malbert. Selma Feriani Gallery. London. UK

2022

On a Rock, a Brief Circle of Sun. Curated by Roger Malbert. Selma Feriani Gallery. Tunis. Tunisia
Après l'ordinaire. Été 78. Brussels. Belgium

2021

Rien sinon du reve au doigt. Galerie Anne-Sarah Benichou. Paris. France

2019

Le calme de l'idée fixe. Curated by Delphine Masson. Centre de création contemporaine
Olivier Debré
CCC OD. Tours. France
Choses Fortuites. Château d'Oiron. Oiron. France

2018

Ce qui coule n'a pas de fin. Palais de Tokyo. Paris. France
Poles Apart. Museum of African Art. Curated by Ivana Vojt. Belgrade. Serbia
Episodes. Itinéraires Graphiques du Pays de Lorient. École européenne supérieure d'art de
Bretagne. Lorient. France

2017

Les choses que vous faites m'entourent. Anne-Sarah Benichou Gallery. Paris. France
The pace of the outsides. Akinci Gallery. Amsterdam. The Netherlands
La Vent Ne Veut Jamais Rester Dehors. Selma Feriani Gallery. Tunis. Tunisia
Même dans la pierre il y a du sable. Curated by Philippe Piguet. Galerie de L'Etrave. Thonon-
les-Bains. France

2016

Bleu comme une Orange. Art [] Collector. Curated by Catherine David. Patio Opéra Gallery.
Paris. France
L'Horizon Était Là. La Maison Salvan. Labège. France

2015

Centre de Création Contemporaine Olivier Debré. Tours. France

2013

L'usine ne fait pas les nuages. Paris. France

L'Allure des Choses. Mamia Bretesché Gallery. Paris. France

Group Exhibitions

2024

Selma Feriani x Green Art Gallery. Dubai. UAE

Horizons en mouvement. Frac Centre-Val de Loire. Orléans. France

Drawing Now. Galerie Anne-Sarah Bénichou. Paris. France

Le ciel est joli comme un ange. Galerie Anne-Sarah Bénichou. Paris. France

Inspiré.e.s - Acte 4. commissariat Lucile Hitier. L'ArtSenal. Dreux. France

Spectres Visibles. Christies. Paris. France

2023

Taipei Biennial. Taipei Fine Arts Museum, curated by Freya Chou, Brian Kuan Wood and Reem Shadid. Taiwan. China

De leur temps (7), un regard sur des collections privées. Frac Grand-Large Hauts-de-France. Dunkerque. France

Voyage dans le dessin. Galerie Anne-Sarah Bénichou. Paris. France

La ligne trouble. Agence culturelle départementale Dordogne Périgord. Périgueux. France

2022

In Our Veins Flow Ink and Fire. Kochi-Muziris Biennale. Kochi. India

Gabrovo Biennale. Museum of Humor and Satire. Gabrovo. Bulgaria

2021

Drawing Biennale. The Drawing Room. London. UK

Alger, Archipel des libertés. FRAC Centre - Val de Loire. Orléans. France.

A gorge sèche, après la traversée. IESA Arts & Culture. Paris. France

EN ATTENDANT OMAR GATLATO, Regard sur l'art en Algérie et dans sa diaspora. Les

Parallèles du Sud. Friche la Belle de Mai. Marseille. France

2020

Figurez-vous... MAC Lyon. Lyon. France

The wall at the end of the rainbow. Jan Van Eyck Academy. Maastricht. Netherlands

Untitled. Selma Feriani Gallery. Tunis. Tunisia

2019

Signes personnages. CCC OD. Tours. France

Dimension supplémentaire. Artothèque du Lot. Souillac. France

Waiting for Omar Gatlatto. The Wallach Art Gallery. New York. USA

Signes personnages. CCC OD Tours. Tours. France

Drawing Biennial. Drawing Room. London. UK

2018

No Looking Back. Okay? Maribor Art Gallery. Curated by Simona Vidmar Maribor. Slovenia

Gold. Yutaka Kikutake Gallery. Tokyo. Japan

Inhabiting the Mediterranean. Institut Valencià d'Art Modern (IVAM). Valencia. Spain

Drawing Lab: cinéma d'été. Drawing Lab. Paris. France

A Slice through the World: Contemporary Artists' Drawings. Modern Art Oxford. Oxford. U.K

2017

Walking Through Someone Else's Dream. Architecture Biennial. Frac Centre. Orléans. France

Sharjah Biennial 13. Tamawuj. Curated by Christine Tohme. Sharjah. UAE

Where the f*ck is my sock. Akinci Gallery. Amsterdam. The Netherlands

The intimate enemy. Curated by Pelagica. Pelagica studio and Gallery. Milan. Italy

All we need. Private choice. Paris. France

Newwwar. It's Just a Game?. Curated by Marion Zilio. Bandjoun Station. Bandjoun. Cameroon

All we need. Private choice. Paris. France

Un monde in-tranquille. Abbaye Saint André - Centre d'art contemporain. Meymac. France

I Want! I Want! Art & Technology. Birmingham Museum & Art Gallery. Birmingham. U.K

Repairs. FRAC Centre. Orléans. France

Dans mes mains. dans mes rêves même. Patio Opéra. Paris. France

2016

Social Calligraphies. Curated by Magda Kardasz. Zachęta - National Gallery of Art. Warsaw. Poland

J'ai des Certitudes sur mes Doutes. L'Arthotèque. Espaces d'Art Contemporain. Caen. France

Stand Up! Dak'art Off. Dakar. Senegal

5x2. Curated by Philippe Piguet. Patio Opéra Gallery. Paris. France Art

Dubai Projects. Curated by Yasmina Reggad. Dubai. U.A.E.

13th Lyon Biennale. La Vie Moderne. Lyon. France

2015

All The World's Futures. Curated by Okwui Enwezor. 56th International Art Exhibition or La Biennale di Venezia. Venice. Italy

Triennale de Vendôme. Vendôme. France

PARÉIDOLIE. Salon International du Dessin Contemporain à Marseille. Marseille. France

Double Take. Curated by Diana C. Betancourt. Nature Morte Gallery. New Dheli. India

Carte Blanche. Officine dell'Immagine. Milano. Italy

Dessine-moi une vidéo. Karima Celestin Gallery. Marseille. France

2014

Subliminaloops. Les Ateliers de la Source. Orléans. France

Walk Under the Same Sky. Yam Gallery. San Miguel de Allende. Mexico

Intervening Space: From the Ultimate to the World. The Mosaic Rooms. London. U.K.

Dibujos; Geografia Variables. Yam Gallery. San Miguel de Allende. Mexico

Produire le Commun. Dakar Biennale. Dakar. Senegal

International Festival of Video Art of Casablanca. Casablanca. Morocco

Portrait Redux. Selma Feriani Gallery. Tunis. Tunisia

2013

Art Connections. Brasov. Roumani

(One) Hope Map. Hallen Belfort. Bruges. Belgium

Group Show. French Cultural Centre. Annaba. Algeria
Group Show. French Cultural Centre. Constantine. Algeria

2012

Alternative Festival. Belgrade. Serbia
Limonaïa. Musée des Beaux-Arts de Tours. Tours. France
Group Show. French Cultural Centre. Algiers. Algeria
Group Show. Bibliothèque Nationale de France. Paris. France
Place au 14 Janvier. Talmart Gallery. Paris. France
Faire Face. Galerie Contemporaine. Chinon. France

2011

Le Jasmin l'Emportera. Jean Vilar Theatre. Vitry-Sur-Seine. France
Habiter la Terre. Melle Biennale. Melle. France
Visions Nocturnes. Musée des Beaux-Arts de Tours. Tours. France

Residencies

2023 Frac Nouvelle Aquitaine. Bordeaux. France
2022 Rhizome. Algiers
2021 Civitella Ranieri. Italy
2015 Veduta. 13th Lyon Biennale. France
2014 Perro Bravo Lithography Studio. Mexico
2011 L'Octroi, Tours. France

Collections

Artothèque de Pessac. Pessac. France
MAC Lyon. France
Art Collector. Paris
Centre Georges Pompidou. Paris
Frac Centre Val de Loire. France
Samdani Art Foundation. Bangladesh
Fonds d'art contemporain – Paris Collections. Paris
Cnap – Centre national des arts plastiques. France
British Museum. United Kingdom
Artothèque d'Annecy. France
Fondation d'art contemporain Florence et Daniel Guerlain. Paris. France
Fondazione Pierluigi e Natalina Remotti. Camogli. Italy

Selected Awards & Recognitions

2023 Marcel Duchamp Prize Nominee
2016 Sam Art Prize 2016. France
10th Art Collector Laureate. France
2015 Special Mention at the 56th Venice Biennale. Italy
2013 Bourse d'Aide à la Création Drac Centre. France

