

Nidhal Chamekh

Biography & CV

Born 1985. Dahmani, Tunisia

Lives and works between Paris, France and Tunis, Tunisia

Nidhal Chamekh's practice reflects on the times that we inhabit. Working across drawing, sculpture, and installations, his artwork is situated at the intersection of the biographic and the political, the lived and the historical, the event and the archive. His oeuvres dissect the constitution of our contemporary identity. Chamekh has developed a language that challenges history and politics in their broader sense. He performs his fragmentary research to convey an ambiguous atmosphere, shifting between the experience and the violence of the individual representation. He represents an imperceptible space between a silent violence mirroring an intimate experience of trauma, dissecting the constitution of our contemporary identity.

He graduated from the School of Fine Arts in Tunis and the University of Sorbonne in Paris. Between 2021 and 2022, he was a fellow at Villa Medici French Academy in Rome, Italy where his artistic project sought to introduce Rome's archaeological heritage and the marginalized cultural production of the City's exiles, in a process of montage where present and past are jointly defined.

Chamekh's work has been shown in several internationally renowned institutions and biennials, including MAC the Museum of Contemporary art Lyon, France; The 12th edition of Bamako Encounters Photography Biennial (2019), Mali; Venice Biennial (2015), Italy; Aichi Triennale (2016), Japan; Yinchuan Biennial (2016), China; The Drawing Room, London, UK; Modern Art Oxford, UK; Skissernas Museum, Lund, Sweden; Frac Lorraine, France; Dream City Biennial, Tunis, Tunisia.

His works can be found in many prestigious collections of art, including FRAC Centre, Orléans, France; British Museum, London, U.K.; Blachère Foundation, France; Hood Museum of Art, Dartmouth, U.S.A.; Guggenheim Abu Dhabi, UAE; Fondation H, Antananarivo, Madagascar; Barjeel Art Foundation, Sharjah, UAE; Kadist Art Foundation, Paris, France; Centre National Des Arts Plastiques (CNAP), Paris, France; Fatma Kilani Collection, Tunis, Tunisia.

Chamekh has also been featured in the book *African Art Now* by Osei Bonsou, co-published by the Tate publishing and Ilex.

Education

PhD researcher in Fine Arts and Art Sciences. Paris I. Panthéon La Sorbonne. Paris. France

Master in Fine Arts and Art Sciences Paris I. Panthéon La Sorbonne. Paris. France

Degree in Fine Arts Ecole Nationale Supérieure des Beaux-Arts. Tunis. Tunisia

Solo Exhibitions

2026

Frictions. Selma Feriani Gallery. Tunis. Tunisia

2024

Et si Carthage. Selma Feriani Gallery. Tunis. Tunisia

2022

Nidhal Chamekh. Novo Projects. Florence, Italy

2019

nos visages. Selma Feriani Gallery. Sidi Bou Said. Tunisia

2016

Mnēmē. Selma Feriani Gallery. Sidi Bou Said. Tunisia

Burn. Primo Marella Gallery. Milan. Italy

2014

Dispars. Aicha Gorgi Gallery. Tunis. Tunisia

Entre les choses. Mariska Hammoudi Gallery. Paris. France

Group Exhibitions

2024

Méditerranées Episode 1: Inventions and Representations. Mucem, Marseille, France

Pause. Frac Lorraine. France

2023

A Convening of Civic Poets. Kadist Art Foundation. Paris. France

2022

Étincelles/Scintille. Villa Medici French Academy. Rome. Italy

2021

Diaspora at Home. Kadist Art Foundation. Paris. France

Summer Group Show. Taymour Grahne. Online

2020

Comme un parfum d'aventure. curated by Matthieu Lelièvre and Marilou Laneuville.

macLYON. Lyon. France

2019

The 12th edition of Bamako Encounters Photography Biennial. Mali. Bamako

Hybrid. Kunsthaus Hamburg. Hamburg. Germany

Diaspora at Home. CCA Lagos. Lagos. Nigeria

The Land's Unknown. 2nd Architecture Biennial. Orléans. France

Dream City Biennial. Tunis. Tunisia

21st Contemporary Art Biennial Sesc_Videobrasil. Associação Cultural Videobrasil and Sesc São Paulo. São Paulo. Brazil
The Armory Show. New York. USA
Drawing Biennial. Drawing Room. London. U.K
Art Club 27. Thursdays at Villa Medici. Villa Medici. Rome. Italy

2018

Memory Matters. Skissernas Museum. Lund. Sweden
A Slice Through the World: Contemporary Artists' Drawings. Modern Art Oxford. Oxford. U.K
The Sea is the Limit. York Art Gallery. York. U.K
Refusing To Be Still. Saudi Art Council. Jeddah. K.S.A

2017

Newwwar. It's Just a Game? Curated by Marion Zilio. Bandjoun Station
Bandjoun. Cameroon
Walking Through Someone Else's Dream. Architecture Biennial. Frac Centre. Orléans. France
Dream City Biennial. Tunis. Tunisia
Fuir. Fondation Blachère. Les Bourguignons. France
The White Hunter. Curated by Marco Scotini. FM Centre for Contemporary Art. Milan. Italy
Graphic witness. Drawing Room. London. U.K.
Drawing Biennial. Drawing Room. London. U.K
Dans Mes Mains, dans Mes Rêves Même. Patio Opéra. Paris. France

2016

The Sea is The Limit. Patrick Heide Gallery. London. U.K
Yinchuan Biennale. For an Image. Faster Than Light. Museum of Contemporary Art Yinchuan. Yinchuan. China
Aïchi Triennale. Homo Faber: A Rainbow Caravan. Museum of Contemporary Art of Nagoya. Nagoya. Japan
Effervescence. Curated by Michket Krifa. Institut des Cultures d'Islam. Paris. France
Inventory. New Works and Conversations around African art. Hood Museum of Art. Dartmouth College. New Hampshire. U.S.A

2015

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

2014

La Forme Animale. GVCC gallery. Curated by Zoulikha Bouabdellah. Casablanca. Morocco
Orient Art Express. Curated by Abdelkader Dahmani. Oujda. Morocco
Survivances. Elmarsa gallery. Tunis. Tunisia
Dégénération. Aïcha Gorgi gallery. Tunis. Tunisia
Replicants. Yam gallery. Mexico
Dak'Art 2014. 11th edition of Biennale de Dakar. Dakar. Senegal

2013

Les jours d'avant. 12th edition of Biennale de Lyon - Résonances. Lyon. France
La Nuit Blanche. French Institute. Oran. Algeria
Art O'clock. CNIT. La Défense. France
Les soirées Dessinées. Talmart Gallery. Paris. France
Slash. Aïcha Gorgi gallery. Tunis. Tunisia
Politics #2. Centre National d'Art Vivant. Tunis. Tunisia
Politics. Talmart gallery. Paris. France
Dispars. Talmart gallery. Paris. France

2012

Politics. Centre National d'Art Vivant. Tunis. Tunisia
Dégagements. Arab World Institute. Paris. France

2011

Truismes. Gallery 34. Paris. France

Collections

FRAC Centre. Orléans. France.
British Museum. London. U.K.
Hood Museum of Art. Dartmouth. U.S.A.
Barjeel Foundation. Sharjah. UAE.
Shanti Art Collection. Maine.
Frac Centre Val de Loire. France.
Blachère Foundation. France.
Kadist Art Foundation. Paris. France / San Francisco. USA.
Hood Museum of Art. Dartmouth.
Centre National Des Arts Plastiques. Paris. France.
Guggenheim Abu Dhabi, UAE.
Fondation H. Madagascar.
Fatma Kilani Collection. Tunis. Tunisia.

Prizes

2023 La Fondation des Artistes. France.
2021 Resident at the Villa Médicis. Rome.
2015 Elizabeth Greenshields Foundation. Quebec.
Ivry en Seine. Art and Fusion. Ivry sur Seine. France
2012 Elizabeth Greenshields Foundation. Quebec.
2013 Al Mawred Al Thaqafi Foundation. Brussels.
2009 Spring 2009. Salon d'Art Contemporain. Carrousel du Louvre. Paris. France
Printemps des Arts. 7th edition. El Abdellia Palace. Tunis. Tunisia

Publications

2022 Dessin dans l'art contemporain. Editions Pyramid

- African Art Now: Fifty Pioneers Defining African Art for the Twenty-First Century. Ilex press & Tate Modern
 African Artists, from 1882 to now. Phaidon Editors
- 2021 Vitamin D3: Today's Best in Contemporary Drawing. Phaidon Editors
- 2020 Multitudes. Icônes 81. Paris
 Reflections. Contemporary art of Middle East and North Africa. British Museum
 Esse arts+opinions n°98 – Savoir. Montréal
- 2019 The Last Monument Standing. Middle East Journal of Culture and Communication
 Streams of consciousness. Archive books. Berlin
 Imaginated communities. Videobrasil. Sao Paolo.
- 2018 Memory Matters. Musée Skisernass. Suède
 Blessures. Espace. Art Actuel, pratique et perspectives. Québec
- 2017 INHA, Le Maghreb. Perspective, Paris
 The White Hunter African Memories and Representations. Archive Books
 Marcher dans le rêve d'un autre. Les Presses du réel et Frac Centre
- 2016 Triennale d'Aïchi. Homo Faber : A Rainbow Caravan. Nagoya, Japon
- 2015 All the World's Futures: 56 International Art Exhibition. La Biennale di Venezia
- 2014 Protocollum. Edition Dickersbach
 Asian African Art - New Frontiers of Contemporary Art. Editions Primo Marella galler
 Contemporary African Art. Primae Noctis & Wild Spaces Safaris
 La Forme Animale. Éditions Venise Cadre
 11ème Biennale de Dakar
- 2013 Dégénération. Editions Ammar Farhat, Tunis
 Résonance, 12ème Biennale de Lyon
 Politiques 2, Centre National d'Art Vivant de Tunis
- 2012 Politiques, Centre National d'Art Vivant de Tunis
 Dégagements, Institut du Monde Arabe

Interventions and conversations

- 2022 Resistance of the Memory: Alternative Modes of Appearance. Conversation with Marco Scotini. Naba. Rome
 Workshop with students in Art and Media. Naba, Nuova accademia di belle arti. Rome
- 2021 « Archiver l'absence : deux pratiques artistiques face à la colonialité de l'histoire. »
 Conversation with Fanny Souade Sow modérée by Hajer Ben Boubaker. Kadist. Paris, 2021.
- 2019 Forum : La représentation, la violence et l'évolution constante de notre paysage (politique) : Ala Kheir, Nidhal Chamekh, Seloua Luste Boulbina, Rahima Gambo, Santiago Mostyn. Moderator : George Shire. Musée National. Rencontres de Bamako Les Intensifs. ENSA Paris-Malaquais. Paris
- 2018 Workshop with students in Master of Fine Arts, teaching moderator Ismail Bahri. Paris 8 Université de Paris Vincennes. Paris
- 2017 Public workshop. The Life of images. Drawing Room. London
 Conversation with Kate Macfarlane in the context of the exhibition Graphic Witness. Drawing Room. Londres
 Conversation With the students of the National Institute of Fine Arts as part of la biennale Dream City. Tunis

Conversation with the students of l'EPSAA. Paris
2016 Conversation with Omar Berrada as part of the 1:54 art fair. London

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