

Wissam Beydoun

Born in Beirut, Lebanon, in 1961, Wissam Beydoun received his bachelor of art from the Lebanese American University (LAU) with the Sheikh Zayed Award distinction.

Beydoun works with organic forms, creating abstract landscapes that celebrate the majesty of mountains and the overall beauty of nature. His recent oeuvre revolves around his relationship with his hometown. Experimenting with the art of cartography, he maps out Beirut according to his experiences, documenting the emotions embedded in this metamorphic city.

Beydoun has held several individual and collective exhibitions in Lebanon and France, and has participated in Sursock Museum's 'Salon d'Automne'. His work is featured in numerous private collections.

Solo Exhibitions

- 2022 Re-imagining Beirut, Art on 56th Gallery, Beirut, Lebanon
- 2012 Erotic Landscapes, Art Circle Gallery, Beirut, Lebanon
- 2010 Cell Formation, Art Circle Gallery, Beirut, Lebanon
- 2008 Tribeca, Beirut, Lebanon
- 2007 Movements, Espace SD Gallery, Beirut, Lebanon
- 2003 French Cultural Center, Beirut, Lebanon

Collective Exhibitions

- 2022 Menart Fair, Cornette de Saint Cyr, Paris, France
- 2022 Summer 2022, Art on 56th Gallery, Beirut, Lebanon
- 2021 Regeneration, Art on 56th Gallery, Beirut, Lebanon
- 2020 Comeback 2020, Art on 56th Gallery, Beirut, Lebanon
- 2019 Lebanon, Art on 56th Gallery, Beirut, Lebanon
- 2019 Summer 2019, Art on 56th Gallery, Beirut, Lebanon
- 2011 We need more trees, Art Circle Gallery, Beirut, Lebanon
- 2005 Musée Sursock, Salon d'Automne, Beirut, Lebanon
- 2004 Art Lounge, exhibition on the figure of Buddha, Beirut, Lebanon
- 2004 Musée Sursock. Salon d'Automne. Beirut, Lebanon
- 2004 Espace-Chatelet Victoria art Gallery, Paris, France
- 2003 Rochane art Gallery, Beirut, Lebanon
- 1992 Goethe Institute, exhibition of computer generated images, Beirut, Lebanon
- 1989 Festival International de la bande dessinée, comics exhibition, Angoulême, France
- 1989 Dar el Nadwa, Jad workshop, exhibition of comics, Beirut, Lebanon
- 1989 Dar el Nadwa, Jad workshop, publication of a comic's album "From Beirut" (Dar el Kitab), Beirut, Lebanon
- 1989 As-Safir newspaper, Jad workshop weekly publication of comic strips, Beirut, Lebanon
- 1988 Jad workshop, 1st festival of comics in Lebanon, Beirut, Lebanon
- 1988 Beirut University College. Jad workshop, exhibition of comics, Beirut, Lebanon
- 1988 Salon International de la bande dessinée, Jad workshop, exhibition of comics, Beirut, Lebanon
- 1986 Goethe Institute, Jad workshop, exhibition of comics, Beirut, Lebanon

Artist Statement

Re-imagining Beirut.

It is all about Beirut.

It's about a city that is deep under my skin like an old, fading tattoo.

It's about a love and hate relationship that has been going on for almost 47 years.

It is a map: A personal cartography. With an abstract approach, I tried to re-imagine the lace-like, labyrinth urban layouts of streets and buildings, almost chaotic yet so rich, like mapping out my experience in the city for all this time. A city razed so many times with so many wars, invasions and lately the terrifying August 4 explosion, but somehow manage to rise again.

The works are an obsessive variation on the same theme. Each one bringing different emotions to the surface, conveyed in a different technique or media. The intricate labyrinth of the city, the many layers (both sociological and archeological), the sounds, smells, colors... all rendered in acrylic and mixed media for the larger pieces and watercolor and ink for the more intimate sizes. Choosing watercolor as a primary medium helped me in creating magical color washes and layering of forms and colors.

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