

## SUKAINA KUBBA

she/ her | born in Baghdad | lives and works in Toronto | [www.sukainakubba.com](http://www.sukainakubba.com)

### EDUCATION

---

2012	MLitt in Fine Art Practice, The Glasgow School of Art, Glasgow
1998	Bachelor of Architecture, McGill University, Montreal (Professional Degree)
1997	Bachelor of Science in Architecture, McGill University, Montreal

### SOLO AND TWO-PERSON EXHIBITIONS AND PROJECTS

---

2024	<i>Afterfeather</i>	Limited Edition and Publication Launch, Mercer Union, Toronto
2024	<i>Turn Me Into a Flower</i>	solo exhibition at Dundee Contemporary Arts
2023-24	<i>Jealousy</i>	solo, Mercer Union's SPACE Billboard Commission, Toronto
2021	<i>Thinking through Holes</i>	Collective, Edinburgh, video performance with Becky Sik
2019	<i>A Case Of</i>	solo exhibition, BILD.LAB, Fisch Haus, Wichita, Kansas
2016	<i>Peaks</i>	Glasgow Project Room, Glasgow, with Natalie McGowan,
2016	<i>Double-Blind</i>	Intermedia Gallery, Centre for Contemporary Art, Glasgow, with Natalie McGowan
2016	<i>As You Were</i>	Glasgow International 2016, with Carmel O'Brien
2015	<i>Mortem Simulans</i>	Commission by Merchant City Festival, Glasgow, with Carmel O'Brien
2014	<i>WORK OUT</i>	solo project, Hilary Crisp, London, UK
2013	<i>Pavor Nocturnus</i>	solo exhibition, Kendall Koppe, Glasgow

### GRANTS AND AWARDS

---

2023-24	Canada Council for the Arts, Residency Grant, for Dundee Contemporary Arts Print Studio
2023	Ontario Arts Council Exhibition Assistance Grant
2023	Canada Council for the Arts, Residency Grant, for ISCP NYC
2022	The Glasgow School of Art, Research and Development Funding for Alias Domaines
2021	Canada Council for the Arts, Research and Creation Grant for Alias Domaines
2021	Canada Council for the Arts, Research and Creation Grant for An Ancillary Travelogue
2021	Ontario Arts Council, Research and Creation Grant for An Ancillary Travelogue
2021	Canada Council for the Arts, Residency Grant, for ISCP NYC
2019	Wichita City Arts Grant
2015	Glasgow Visual Art and Craft Award
2012	GSA MLitt Nominee for SPIE Graduate Prize, for holding highest ranked MLitt Fine Art thesis
2000	Quebec Arts Council Artist Visual Arts Grant

### RESIDENCIES

---

2024	Invited Artist-in-Residence, Dundee Contemporary Arts Print Studio, supported by Canada Council for the Arts
2022 - 2023	International Studio and Curatorial Program, NY, supported by Canada Council for the Arts
2022	La Wayaka Current, Atacama Desert, Chile
2019	Spring Artist-in-Residence, Fisch Haus, Wichita, Kansas
2015	Dumfries House Residency, Ayrshire, Scotland
2014	Invited Artist in Residence, Hilary Crisp, London, UK
2014	Dumfries House Residency, Ayrshire, Scotland
2013	Invited Artist in Residence, Kendall Koppe Gallery, Glasgow

## SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS AND PROJECTS

---

### 2024

---

- o *Salon* Patel Brown, Toronto, end of year Group Exhibition
- o *It comes to me in waves* Patel Brown, Toronto, curated by Sayem Khan
- o *Greater Toronto Art 2024* The Toronto Triennial, Museum of Contemporary Art, Toronto, curated by Kate Wong, Ebony Haynes and Toleen Touq

### 2023

---

- o *Art Toronto 2023* The Next Contemporary, Toronto
- o *plumbraiser 4.0* fundraising group exhibition for the plumb, Toronto
- o *Line Tracing, Shadow Chasing* the plumb, Toronto, curated by Amanda Boulos
- o *Something Like Arriving* The Next Contemporary, Toronto, curated by Farnoosh Talaei
- o *Another World That Looks Like You* Narrator - Gallery TPW, Toronto, Narrator, curated by Toleen Touq

### 2022

---

- o *Fruit that Falls from a Tree* Before-Law, digital commission for Bamboat Mitchell [www.before-law.com](http://www.before-law.com)
- o *Art Toronto 2022* The Next Contemporary, Toronto
- o *Don't Ask Me Where I'm From* Orlando Museum, Orlando, Florida, Dec 2022
- o *Being on this Boat is not Revenge* by Alias Domaines, Audio commission for Radiophrenia, 2022
- o *Being on this Boat is not Revenge* Borealis Festival for Experimental Music, Bergen, Norway
- o *Don't Ask Me Where I'm From* Art Gallery of Alberta, Edmonton, Alberta

### 2021

---

- o *MINUS TARGET* by Alias Domaines, Borealis Festival, Bergen, Norway

### 2020

---

- o *MINUS TARGET* by Alias Domaines, Radiophrenia 2020, CCA, Glasgow
- o *Plicnic Space Initiative* Costume for MV Brown, [www.plicnic.space](http://www.plicnic.space)
- o *Don't Ask Me Where I'm From* Aga Khan Museum, Toronto

### 2019

---

- o *Don't Ask Me Where I'm From* Galerie delle Prigioni, Treviso, Italy
- o *From Glissant Unfixed and Unbounded* AGO, curated by Catherine Sicot, Wanda Nanibush and Pamela Edmonds
- o *Gwenava International, Eat Prey Love* Curated by Gwenan Davies and Geneva Sills, Glasgow
- o *Careless Whispers III* Costume for MV Brown, HEAVY DUTY, Transmission Gallery, Glasgow

### 2018

---

- o *Exquisite Corpse* New Glasgow Society, Glasgow, curated by James Sayer,
- o *Careless Whispers II* Costume for MV Brown, curated by Andreevich & Shpilko, London
- o *N-E-U P-N-E-U-M-A-T-I-C-S !* New Glasgow Society, Glasgow International 2018
- o *Exquisite Offerings* Glasgow Project Room, Glasgow International 2018, , curated Ellis Luxembourg

### 2017

---

- o *HERE: Locating Contemporary Canadian Artists* Aga Khan Museum, Toronto, curated by Swapnaa Tamhane
- o *ULTRA VIREs* performance with Sarah Rose, CCA, Glasgow, curated by Kari Robertson
- o *Things* 6 Dixon Street, Glasgow, curated by Very Friendly and withfc
- o *Careless Whispers* Costume for MV Brown, Venice International Performance Week, Venice

### 2016

---

- o *Insomnia* audio performance for lightreading, David Dale Gallery, Glasgow
- o *Gwenan International, In The Office* Hope Street, Glasgow, curated by Gwenan Davies

### 2014

---

- o *Gwenan InterKubba* 173 Kenmure Street, Glasgow, curated by Gwenan Davies and Sukaina Kubba
- o *Le Swimming* Glasgow International Festival 2014, Underground Car Park, Glasgow
- o *Lucy Donna* Underground Car Park at Flemming House, Glasgow

### 2013

---

- o *Voyages, Sea Journeys* Künstlerhaus Dortmund, Germany, curated by Imi Maufe and Rona Rangsch
- o *Gwenan and Justin International* 42 Carlton Place, Glasgow, curated by Gwenan Davies and Justin Stephens,
- o *Gwenan International, An Evening of...* 42 Carlton Place, Glasgow, curated by Gwenan Davies
- o *EROTTAA+-US Round-up of Deer* The Glue Factory, Glasgow

### 2012

---

- o *EROTTAA+-US Round-up of Deer* Aalto Media Lume Centre, Aalto University, Helsinki
- o *Masters of Letters* Bermondsey Project Space, London, UK
- o *Gwenan International* 42 Carlton Place, Glasgow, curated by Gwenan Davies

## **ACADEMIC WORK**

---

### **2022- ongoing      SESSIONAL LECTURER, VISUAL STUDIES, DANIELS FACULTY, UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO**

- o Painting Methods and Materials - hands-on course on technical and theoretical aspects of contemporary painting
- o Painting and the Subject - development of subjects and themes drawn from personal, social, and cultural resources
- o Drawing: Experimental Practices - experimentation with materials and practices; theoretical issues in contemporary drawing
- o Colour - Introductory course on colour that looks at its mechanics and interdisciplinary scope
- o Contemporary Printing - technical and conceptual print-based course concerning contemporary art, design and visual culture

### **2013 to 2018      LECTURER AND CURATOR, THE GLASGOW SCHOOL OF ART**

- o Lecturer, Undergraduate Painting and Printmaking, 2016 -2018
- o Interim Program Leader (2017) and Lecturer, Master of Research in Creative Practices
- o Visiting Lecturer, MLitt in Fine Art Practice, 2013 - 2018
- o Curator and Co-Director, LAST FUTURES, a year-long cross-institutional Programme, with exhibition and performances at Tramway, with Royal Conservatoire of Scotland (RCS), Glasgow University and BBC Scottish Symphony Orchestra
- o Curator, New Dreams, a cross-institutional project, Exhibitions at the GSA and Glasgow University
- o Program Coordinator, Phoenix Bursary, a year-long project with the Fine Art graduates after the Mackintosh fire in 2014
- o Curator, Phoenix Bursary Exhibition, 2015, at the Reid Building, GSA
- o Producer and Curator, NEU NOW, the European League of Institutes of the Arts and Royal Conservatoire of Scotland
- o Curator, 1913: RITE OF SPRING, Exhibitions and performances at Tramway and other venues, with the RCS and BBC SSO

### **2013 - 2024      VISITING CRITIC/ LECTURER/ ADVISOR/ SPEAKER**

- o 2023-2024      MFA Mentor at Lesley University College of Art and Design, Cambridge, MA
- o 2018-2024      Waterloo School of Architecture, Cambridge, Ontario (invited critic and M.Arch external supervisor)
- o UAAC 2023 at Banff, Artist Talk for "Modern and Contemporary Art in the Diasporas of the MENA" led by Tammer El Sheikh
- o MFA, School of Fine Art and Music, University of Guelph
- o Joint Art Design Program, Sheridan College / UTM, Mississauga, Ontario
- o Faculty of Fine Arts, Concordia University, Montreal
- o MFA, Parsons School of Design, The New School, New York
- o Barnard and Columbia Colleges Architecture Programme, New York
- o Master of Architecture, Royal College of Art, London, UK
- o Research Assistant, Canadian Centre for Architecture, Montreal

## **CURATION, ART COLLABORATIONS AND OTHER WORK**

---

### **2022**

- o AI Voiceover for *Before Law*, commissioned by Bamboat Mitchell, Toronto
- o Narrator for *We Were Here All Along*, a short film directed by Saadia Muzaffar, Toronto

**2021** Performance for *Dolphins, Ships and Other Vessels*, by Bambitchell, Henry Art Gallery, Seattle

### **2019**

- o Narrator: *Beasts and Bugs before the Law*, a film by Bambitchell, Mercer Union, Toronto; Henry Art Gallery, Seattle
- o Artist Workshop *Objects of Adornment* at MAKE ICT, Wichita, Kansas

### **2018**

- o Invited Artist/ workshops for *Other Libraries* with Govan Community Project, and Centre for Contemporary Art, Glasgow
- o Project Manager for Syrian Artist Nihad Al Turk, hired by Creative Scotland, Edinburgh
- o Performer, *I'm Going to Tell You About My Life*, by Esther Ferrer, Pearce Institute, Glasgow International 2018

### **2016 to 2017**

- o Producer/ Counterflows Festival 2017
- o Readings and Performance for Adam Lewis Jacob at CCA Creative Lab, Glasgow; and Collective, Edinburgh
- o Arabic English Interpreter, translator for Legal Aid for asylum seekers with Govan Community Project, Glasgow
- o Producer, Counterflows Residency, Andrea Neumann and Adam Campbell, CCA Creative Lab, Glasgow

### **2013 to 2014**

- o Co-Curator, *Gwenan InterKubba*, with Gwenan Davies, Kenmure Street, Glasgow
- o Founder and Curator, UNDERGROUND CAR PARK, Glasgow, a year-long program of Events and Exhibitions at Fleming House

### **2001 to 2010**

- o Senior Architect: Arif & Bintoak, Dubai
- o Architect (stagiaire) Menkes Schooner Degenais Letourneux, Montreal
- o Architect (stagiaire) Affleck & De La Riva, Montreal

## SELECTED PUBLICATIONS/ PRESS/ TALKS

---

### 2024

- o *Sukaina Kubba, Turn Me Into a Flower*, Exhibition Publication, Dundee Contemporary Arts, Scotland
- o Sukaina Kubba's "Turn Me Into A Flower" by Crystal Bennes, *e-flux Criticism*
- o A Passion for Errantry: Paths and Diversions of Diasporic Identity in Sukaina Kubba's Art, Academic Paper by Tammer El-Sheikh for *Asian Diasporic Visual Cultures*, summer 2024
- o Sukaina Kubba: Turn Me Into a Flower, by Sarah Messerschmidt, *Art Monthly*, June 2024
- o "Sukaina Kubba: *Turn Me Into a Flower*; Tracing and retracing experiments in making and materials", *Decorating Dissidence*
- o "Iraqi artist Sukaina Kubba unravels history of rug making in new exhibition," Melissa Gronlund, *The National, Arts and Culture*
- o *GTA24*, Exhibition Catalogue, Museum of Contemporary Art, Toronto
- o "Dreams from the Ford plant, an aunt's treasured rug and 'soup joumou': 25 artists make us feel what they felt growing up in the Toronto area" *GTA24 - Interview by Glenn Sumi, Toronto Star*
- o *Jealousy*, three commissioned writings around Kubba's SPACE Billboard commission, Mercer Union, Toronto

### 2023

- o Paper presentation at UAAC Conference Banff; panel chaired by Tammer El-Sheikh
- o "Artists at Work" at ISCP NYC, Sukaina Kubba and Ruth Owen
- o Review of *Something Like Arriving*, by Shakuntala Fernandopulle, Art Toronto Magazine

### 2022

- o Artist talk for Sotherby's Summer Institute, NYC, at ISCP NYC

### 2021

- o "Documents in Time", by Sukaina Kubba, commissioned by *MAP Magazine and Document Human Rights Film Festival*

### 2020

- o *Don't Ask Me Where I'm From* Exhibition Catalogue published by Imago Mundi and the Aga Khan Museum

### 2019

- o "An Artist's Perspective" Review of CASE OF at Fisch Haus for NPR Radio Wichita

### 2018

- o *HommAges*, No.1 Contributing Artist, publication by Mulholland O'Brien Brown
- o LAST FUTURES BBC Interview for curated exhibition : [www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/p062h0wm](http://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/p062h0wm)

### 2017

- o *OTHER LIBRARIES* Editor and Designer, published at the Centre for Contemporary Art, Glasgow
- o *HERE: Locating Contemporary Canadian Artists* Exhibition Catalogue, published by the Aga Khan Museum, Toronto
- o *HERE: Locating Contemporary Canadian Artists:* Reviews in Art Forum, the Globe and Mail and Canadian Art
- o *HERE: Locating Contemporary Canadian Artists* Interview and Panel Discussion

### 2016

- o ULTRA VIREs published by lightreading (Sarah Rose and Sonya Lacey), David Dale Gallery, Glasgow, Sans Serif Amsterdam, New York Art Fair, and Good Press, Glasgow
- o NEW DREAMS BBC Interview for curated exhibition
- o TalkSee Photography Artist Interview with Geneva Sills, curated by Nina Bacos

### 2015

- o Queens Park Music Club, Volume 2 published by Queens Park Railway Club, Glasgow
- o Phoenix Bursary Exhibition Catalogue published by the Glasgow School of Art
- o Selected Press for Phoenix Bursary and Exhibition:
  - [www.bbc.com/news/uk-scotland-glasgow-west-33616401](http://www.bbc.com/news/uk-scotland-glasgow-west-33616401)
  - [www.bbc.com/news/av/uk-scotland-29884511/glasgow-art-school-students-resume-studies](http://www.bbc.com/news/av/uk-scotland-29884511/glasgow-art-school-students-resume-studies)
  - ARTNews: <http://www.artnews.com/2015/07/27/a-year-after-fire-glasgow-school-of-art-students-present-new-work/>
  - Herald: [www.heraldscotland.com/arts\\_ents/13416682.phoenix-graduates-rising-from-the-flames-of-glasgow-school-of-art/](http://www.heraldscotland.com/arts_ents/13416682.phoenix-graduates-rising-from-the-flames-of-glasgow-school-of-art/)
  - Evening Times: [www.eveningtimes.co.uk/news/13409155.phoenix-bursary-exhibition-at-glasgow-school-of-art/](http://www.eveningtimes.co.uk/news/13409155.phoenix-bursary-exhibition-at-glasgow-school-of-art/)
  - A-N News: [www.a-n.co.uk/news/phoenix-bursary-exhibition-for-gsa-graduates/](http://www.a-n.co.uk/news/phoenix-bursary-exhibition-for-gsa-graduates/)
  - Scotland Now: [www.scotlandnow.dailyrecord.co.uk/news/students-affected-glasgow-school-art-6122775](http://www.scotlandnow.dailyrecord.co.uk/news/students-affected-glasgow-school-art-6122775)

### 2014

- o Artist Talk, Glasgow Artist Guild, Glasgow

### 2013

- o La Femme Sombra Artist Book for Voyage, Künstlerhaus Dortmund, Germany
- o Interview for the LIST, Scotland for Pavor Nocturnus at Kendall Koppe, Glasgow