

Middle Eastern Crafts

Yesterday, Today and Tomorrow

Thursday 11 & Friday 12 October 2018

10.30–17.30



THURSDAY 11 OCTOBER

10.00 *Registration with refreshments*

10.30 **Welcome**

Tim Stanley, Senior Curator, Middle East, V&A

10.40 **Keynote: *Death, Resurrection, and the Hope for Eternal Life: The Changing World of Middle Eastern Crafts from the Sixteenth to the Early Twentieth Century***

Marcus Milwright, Professor, Islamic Art and Archaeology, Department of Art History and Visual Studies, University of Victoria, Canada

Panel 1: EGYPT

Moderator: TBC

11.45

The 'Authentic' and the 'Modern' in Medieval Mamluk Minbars: Restoration Interventions by the Comité de conservation des monuments de l'art arabe (1881–1961)

Dina Bakhom, Specialist in Cultural Heritage Conservation and Management/PhD Candidate at the Université Paris 1-Panthéon-Sorbonne and Leiden University

12.05 ***Khayamiya: Art of the Egyptian Tentmakers***
Seif el-Rashidi, Institute of Historical Research
Sam Bowker, Lecturer in Art History and Visual Culture, School of Communication
and Creative Industries, Charles Sturt University

12.40 Panel discussion

13.00 *Lunch (provided)*

Panel 2: MAGHREB

Moderator: Moira Vincentelli, Emeritus Professor of Art History
and Consultant Curator of Ceramics, Aberystwyth University

14.00 ***North African Crafts under Colonial Status about 1900: The Case of the Pottery Crafts
in Tunisia and Algeria*** (in French)
Clara Ilham Alvarez Dopico, Marie Curie–Clarín Cofund Researcher, University of
Oviedo

14.20 ***Markets, Makers and Anxious Administrators: Ceramics and Craft Fidelity in Early
Twentieth-Century Morocco***
Margaret Graves, Associate Professor, Art History, Indiana University Bloomington

14.40 ***Tunisian Textiles and the Constellation of Modernist Tapestry***
Jessica Gerschultz, Assistant Professor, Department of African and African-American
Studies, University of Kansas

15.00 ***Regaining Our Gaze: Learning from the 'Group of Casablanca', 1960s to Now***
Salma Lahlou, independent curator and founder of ThinkArt (Casablanca)

15.20 Panel discussion

15.45 *Refreshments*

16.10 **Breakout Sessions in Galleries**

17.30 *Close*

FRIDAY 12 OCTOBER

10.00 *Registration with refreshments*

10.30 **Welcome**

Mariam Rosser-Owen, Curator, Middle East, V&A

Panel 3: CRAFT AND TRADITION

Moderator: Camilla Cañellas

10.35 ***Turquoise Mountain, Part 1: Craft Revival and Architectural Restoration (title TBC)***

Thalia Kennedy, Creative Director, Turquoise Mountain

10.50 ***A Practice Rooted in Tradition: My Journey of Discovery***

Naseer Yasna (Mansouri), master artisan in wood and co-founder of Lazo Studio

11.05 ***Palestine Crafts: from Production to Knowledge Production***

Khaldun Bshara, Director, Riwaq (Palestine)

11.20 ***'Not the worship of ashes but the preservation of fire': Traditional Arts Institutes in the Preservation of Architectural Heritage***

George Richards, Head of Heritage, Art Jameel

11.35 ***Safi Ceramics: Inheritance to Inspiration***

Simon Fraser and Elizabeth Wright, Ultra-Indigo Design Strategy Agency and Central Saint Martins, University of the Arts London

11.55 Panel discussion

12.30 *Lunch break*

13.30 **Keynote: *Industrial Designs are the Craftsmen of Today* (title TBC)**

Ahmad Angawi, Jameel House of Traditional Arts (Jeddah)

ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSION

Moderator: Ann Shafer

14.00 ***What Is Local?***

A Moroccan Craft Renaissance in the Post-Fordist Era?

Eric van Hove, artist and founder of Atelier Eric van Hove (Marrakesh)

Titaween Project
Sara Ouhammadou, artist (Morocco)

Defreezing Tradition
Elias and Yousef Anastas, architects (Palestine)

14.30 ***Collaborative Working***

Craft Stories
Amina Aguezmay, artist (Morocco)

The Value of Culture in Design
Kawther al-Saffer, product designer and owner of Saffar Crafts (Kuwait)

Friends with Benefits: Learning and Relearning Collaboration
Omar Al-Zo'bi and Yousef Abedrabbo, graphic designers and co-founders of eye design (Jordan)

15.40 *Refreshments*

Panel 4: NEW BUSINESS MODELS

Moderator: Salma Tuqan, Curator, Contemporary Middle East, V&A

16.00 ***Towards 'Made in the UAE'***
Lisa Ball-Lechgar, Deputy Director, Tashkeel (Dubai)

16.15 ***The Anou Co-operative: Creating an Artisan-led Economy***
Dan Driscoll, Founder/Director, The Anou Co-operative

16.30 ***Lessons from the British Council's Crafting Futures Programme***
Kendall Robbins, Acting Senior Programme Manager, Architecture, Design and Fashion, British Council

16.45 Panel discussion

17.15 **Closing Remarks**
Tanya Harrod, independent design historian

17.30 *Close*

17.30–18.30 *Drinks Reception*

18.00 *Doors/Registration for film screening*

19.00–20.30 **FILM SCREENING:** *The Tentmakers of Cairo*

Free but ticketed, open to the public

Attendees must hold a separate ticket to the screening and be seated by 18.50, at which time standby tickets will be made available on a first come, first served basis.

Reserve your ticket at www.vam.ac.uk/whatson

Programme subject to change without warning

Image: Coppersmiths at work in a shop in Cairo, late 19th century

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