

BESSMA KHALAF

Born: 1978, Baghdad, Iraq

Lives in Vallejo and works in Oakland, CA

EDUCATION

2007 MFA, Photography, California College of The Arts, San Francisco, CA

2003 BA, Photography, San Diego State University, San Diego, CA

SOLO EXHIBITIONS

2023 *ritual*, Romer young Gallery, San Francisco, CA

2019 *Torch Song*, Romer Young Gallery, San Francisco, CA

2015 *Confluence*, Louie-Meager Art Gallery, Ohlone College, Fremont, CA
Untitled (Earth Day Performance), Southern Exposure, San Francisco, CA

2014 *Yes, Even You*. Gallery Four, Baltimore, MD

2012 *Re-Enchanter*, Steven Wolf Fine Arts, San Francisco, CA

2009 *You're Not There*, Steven Wolf Fine Arts, San Francisco, CA
Garden, Keys That Fit Gallery, Oakland, CA

2007 *Graduate Exhibition*, California College of Arts, CA

2005 *Betty Doppelganger Does The Big Fake*, Magpie Gallery, San Diego, CA

2003 *Kill Them Both*, The Farm Art Space, San Diego, CA
America, Permanent Holiday. Flor Y Canto Gallery, San Diego, CA

GROUP EXHIBITIONS

2023 *Under The Influence*, City Gallery, San Diego, CA

2023 *Pyramid Scheme*, Bass and Reiner Gallery, San Francisco, CA

2022 *Shifting Terrains*, Mills College Art Museum, Oakland, CA

2021 *Elemental Exposures*, USF Thacher Gallery, San Francisco, CA

2020 *Home/Body*, Slide Space 123, Mills College Online Gallery, Oakland, CA

2019 *Built Environments*, SFSU Fine Arts Gallery, San Francisco, CA

2018 *Somatic Gesture*, RNG @ Minnesota Street Project, San Francisco, CA
Jackpot!, Wattis Institute, San Francisco, CA

2017 *Environmental Estrangement*, Aggregate Space Gallery, Oakland, CA

2016 *Preternatural*, Jack Fischer Gallery, San Francisco, CA

2015 *Tongue-in-Cheek*, Di Rosa Gatehouse Gallery, Napa, CA
Second Nature, Hashimoto Contemporary, San Francisco, CA

2014 *The Way Somewhere*, Royal Nonesuch Gallery, Oakland, CA

2013 *The Long Conversation*, Southern Exposure, San Francisco, CA
NADA NYC, Queens Nails Gallery, New York, NY

- Ouroboros, Root Division, San Francisco, CA
Thinking Like The Universe, Hatch Gallery, Oakland, CA
Supra Natural, Berkeley Central Arts Passage, Berkeley, CA
Continuations, Asian Resource Center Gallery, Oakland, CA
- 2012 *Making A Scene*, Southern Exposure, San Francisco, CA
I'm So Goth I'm Dead, Queens Nails Projects, San Francisco, CA
25th Anniversary Show, Arts Benicia, Benicia, CA
Hi-Jack, Jack Shainman Gallery, New York, NY
Visions From the New California, 18th Street Art Center, Los Angeles, CA
Playback, Queen's Nails Annex, San Francisco, CA
DocumentO, Krowwork Gallery, Oakland, CA
- 2011 *California Continued*, Smith Andersen North Gallery, San Anselmo, CA
 Art Pad SF, Steven Wolf Fine Arts, San Francisco, CA
- 2010 *Time After Time: Actions and Interactions*, Southern Exposure, San Francisco, CA
- 2009 *Live and Direct*, Ping Pong Gallery, San Francisco, CA
Artists' Film Series, California College of Arts, San Francisco, CA
- 2008 *Detourned Menu*, ISE Cultural Foundation, New York, NY
Value Max, Steven Wolf Fine Arts, San Francisco, CA
East of the West, Somarts Gallery, San Francisco, CA
- 2007 *LTC Plus One*, M1 Gallery, San Francisco, CA
Cream From the Top, Benicia Art Center, Benicia, CA
- 2006 *Detourned Menu*, The Lab, San Francisco, CA
Immediate Future, SFAC Gallery, San Francisco, CA
Awesome: The Contemporary Sublime, Play Space, San Francisco, CA
Trucker Hats vs. Sideways Haircuts, Club Six, San Francisco, CA
- 2005 *Juried Biennial*, William D. Cannon Art Gallery, Carlsbad, CA
Closer Apart, Limbo Fine Art, San Diego, CA
Love Lust and The Politics of Dancing, Limbo Fine Art, San Diego, CA
- 2003 *Verwood and The Cinder Girl*, The Farm Art Space, San Diego, CA
New Photography, The Muse Gallery, San Diego, CA
The Machine Shop Show, San Diego State University, San Diego, CA
- 2002 *Henpecked Heidi*, Everett Gee Jackson Gallery, San Diego, CA

AWARDS / SCHOLARSHIPS

- 2012 The Vision From The New California Award
- 2006 The Murphy and Cadogan Fellowship in Fine Art
 California College of the Art Scholarship
 The Byron Meyer Scholarship
- 2005 California College of the Arts Scholarship
 The Byron Meyer Scholarship

BIBLIOGRAPHY

- 2023 Quick, Genevieve, Chaldean mysticism of shadow and fire in Bessma Khalaf's 'ritual', 48hills, May 8
- 2015 Pereia, Lorenzo, investigating the nature of transformation, Wide Walls, November
- 2014 Staff, Best of Baltimore 2014, Best Gallery Show, September 15
McCabe, Bret, Controlled Burn, Baltimore City Paper, June 4
- 2012 Glosemeyer, Julia, What Can Goth Do For Politics?, Daily Serving, August
Helfand, Glen, Bessma Khalaf at Steven Wolf Fine Arts, Artforum, May
- 2011 Bowles, Nellie, Art Pad SF Review by Nellie Bowles, SF Chronicle, May 19
Projections part 1 and 2, Zyzzyva, Spring issue
- 2009 Helfand, Glen, Bessma Khalaf at Steven Wolf Fine Arts, Artforum, October
McCrystal, Carol Anne, Review: The Garden at Keys That Fit Projects, Nightmare City Magazine, fall issue
Reed, Aimee, Bessma Khalaf at Steven Wolf Fine Arts, Daily Serving, November
- 2006 Kluth, Mary Ann, Bessma Khalaf, This Land Is My Land, Stretcher Magazine December
- 2004 Kendricks, Neil, Anxiety Alley, The San Diego Union Tribune, July 29
- 2003 Verwood and The Cinder Girl, The Farm Press

RESIDENCIES

- 2012 Vision from the new california at Kala Art Institute, Berkeley, CA
- 2011 Queen's Nails Annex, San Francisco, CA

TALKS & LECTURES

- 2022 Mills College Art Museum, Oakland, CA
- 2021 The University of San Francisco, San Francisco, CA
- 2020 The Oxbow School, Napa, CA
- 2018 Mills College, Oakland, CA
- 2017 University of Cincinnati, Cincinnati, OH
- 2017 Napa Valley College, Napa, CA
- 2015 Ohlone College, Fremont, CA
- 2015 Maryland Institute College of Art, Baltimore, MD

GALLERY REPRESENTATION

Romer Young Gallery, San Francisco, CA