

LIDA ABDUL

(Kabul, 1973). Lives and works in Los Angeles and Kabul.

The first artist of her country to represent Afghanistan at the 51st edition of the Venice Biennale in 2005, she was then selected to participate in numerous other Biennales and Triennales: São Paulo Biennial 2006; Gwangju Biennial 2006; Moscow Biennial 2007; Sharjah Biennial 2007; Göteborg Biennial 2007; Venice Biennale 2015; Busan Biennale 2016. Her work has also been presented at: Istanbul Modern, Istanbul; Kunsthalle, Vienna; Museum of Modern Art, Arnhem; Miami Central, Miami; ICA Toronto, Toronto; ZKM Karlsruhe, Karlsruhe; Capc, Bordeaux; CAC, Brétigny; Frac Lorraine, Metz; Musée Chagall, Nice; National Museum, Kabul; Tate Modern, London; MOMA, New York; Location One, New York; OK Centrum for Contemporary Art, Linz; Western Front Exhibitions and Centre A, Vancouver; Indianapolis Museum of Art, Indianapolis; Royal Academy of Arts, London; The Andy Warhol Museum, Pittsburgh; Zentrum Paul Klee, Berne; Museum on the Seam, Jerusalem; Louis Vuitton Espace, Paris; Palais de Tokyo, Paris; dOCUMENTA (13), Kassel; Fundação Calouste Gulbenkian, Lisbon; CAC, Málaga; Fondation Calouste Gulbenkian, Paris; MART, Rovereto; Total Museum of Contemporary Art, Seoul; Fondazione Merz, Torino; CAP, Lyon; Museum of Contemporary Art, Taipei; National Gallery of Art, Warsaw; Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum, New York. She has won the Taiwan Award (2005), the Premio Pino Pascali (2005), the Prince Claus Award (2006), as well as the UNESCO Prize for the Promotion of the Arts (2007). She was a finalist of the First Edition of the Mario Merz Prize (2015). Her work appears in numerous public and private collections, including the Frac Lorraine, Metz; GAM - Torino, the Fondation Louis Vuitton, Paris; the MOMA, New York, and the Guggenheim Museum, New York.

EDUCATION AND RESIDENCIES

M.F.A., University of California, Irvine, California, U.S.A.

B.A., Philosophy, California State University, Fullerton, California, U.S.A.

B.A., Political Science, California State University, Fullerton, California, U.S.A.

Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum, Boston, U.S.A.

Intra-Nation Residency, Banff Centre for the Arts, Alberta, Canada

Cité International Residency, Paris, France

AWARDS

2005

Taiwan Award, 51st International Art Exhibition: La Biennale di Venezia, Venice, Italy

Pino Pascali Award, Polignano a Mare, Bari, Italy

2006

Prince Claus Cultural Award, Amsterdam, The Netherlands

2007

UNESCO Prize for the Promotion of the Arts, Sharjah Biennale, Sharjah, UAE

Shortlisted for the Artes Mundi Prize 2008, Cardiff, Wales, U.K.

2015

Finalist Mario Merz Prize 1, Fondazione Merz, Turin, Italy

SELECTED SOLO EXHIBITIONS

2005

Afghan Pavilion, 51st International Art Exhibition: La Biennale di Venezia, Venice, Italy

Kunsthalle Wien, Vienna, Austria, Ursula Blicke Videolounge, curated by Gerald Matt

2006

Petition for Another World, Museum Voor Moderne Kunst, Arnhem, The Netherlands, curated by Mirjam Westen

Lida Abdul, Giorgio Persano Gallery, Turin, Italy

After War Games, Musées Palais du Tau de Reims, Reims, France, curated by Jerome Descamps

Pino Pascali Museo d'Arte Contemporanea, Polignano a Mare, Italy, curated by Rosalba Brana

Now, Here, Over There. Lida Abdul/Tania Bruguera, FRAC Fonds régional d'art contemporain de Lorraine, Metz, France, curated by Béatrice Josse

What We Saw Upon Awakening, CAC Brétigny Centre d'art contemporain, Brétigny, France, curated by Pierre Bal-Blanc

2007

Lida Abdul, Musée Chagall, Nice, France, curated by Maurice Fréchuret
Lida Abdul, Musée national Picasso, Vallauris, France, curated by Maurice Fréchuret
Lida Abdul, ICA Prefix Institute of Contemporary Art, Toronto, Ontario, Canada, curated by Scott McLeod
Lida Abdul, National Museum of Kabul, Kabul, Afghanistan
What We Saw Upon Awakening, Location One, New York, U.S.A., curated by Pieranna Cavalchini
White House, Netwerk Centrum voor hedendaagse, Aalst, Belgium, curated by Ronny Heiremans
Modern Mondays, MoMA, New York, U.S.A., curated by Barbara London

2008

In Transit, OK Center for Contemporary Art, Linz, Austria, curated by Martin Sturm
In Transit, Giorgio Persano Gallery, Turin, Italy
In Transit, Le Printemps de Septembre, Toulouse Art Festival, Toulouse, France, curated by Odile Biec
Lida Abdul, Western Front Exhibitions and Centre A, Vancouver, Canada, curated by Candice Hopkins and Makiko Hara
Lida Abdul, IDEA Space, Colorado College, Colorado Springs, Colorado, U.S.A
Lida Abdul, Indianapolis Museum of Art, Indianapolis, Indiana, U.S.A., curated by Sarah Urist Green
Lida Abdul, Alessandra Bonomo Gallery, Rome, Italy
Lida Abdul, GSK Contemporary Royal Academy of Arts, London, U.K.

2010

Lida Abdul, Krannert Art Museum, Champaign, Illinois, U.S.A., curated by Tumelo Mosaka

2013

Lida Abdul, Fondation Calouste Gulbenkian, Paris, France
What We Have Overlooked, Giorgio Persano Gallery, Turin, Italy
Videotank #7: Lida Abdul, Foreman Art Gallery, Bishop's University, Quebec, Canada
Lida Abdul, Centro De Arte Contemporáneo De Málaga, CAC Málaga, Spain

2014

Lida Abdul, Fondation Calouste Gulbenkian, Paris, France

2015

Lida Abdul, CAP Centre d'Art Plastiques, Ville Saint-Fons, Lyon, France

2018

Lida Abdul, Time, Love and the Workings of Anti-Love II, Giorgio Persano gallery, Progetto Fo.To, Turin, Italy

SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS

1997

Made in California, Brea Gallery, Brea, California, U.S.A.
Huntington Beach Art Center, Huntington Beach, California, U.S.A., curated by Tyler Stallings

1999

Compulsive Beauty and its Discontents, University Gallery, California State University, Long Beach, California, U.S.A.
Art History Department, University of California, Irvine, California, U.S.A.
Hot&Sticky, Highways, Santa Monica, California, U.S.A.
Six Degrees, The Art Gallery, University of California, Irvine, California, U.S.A.

2000

Film Screening, Seville, Spain
International Performance Festival Ex Teresa, Mexico City, Mexico
Unraveling, Live Performance SPE, San Diego, California, U.S.A.
Hot&Sticky, Highways, Santa Monica, California, U.S.A.
For Advocate, Unraveling Santa Monica, Highways, Santa Monica, California, U.S.A.
New Media Visionaries, Side Street Projects, Los Angeles, California, U.S.A.
33.3, Deep River, Los Angeles, California, U.S.A.
2nd Coming, Orange County Contemporary Center for the Arts, Santa Ana, California, U.S.A.
Arthouse, Irvine, California, U.S.A.
Execution Funk, Track 16, Santa Monica, California, U.S.A.

2001

Overflowing, Track-16, Santa Monica, California, U.S.A.
The Gathering, Highways, Santa Monica, California, U.S.A.

Slam, Highways, Santa Monica, California, U.S.A.
Live Performance, Track-16, Irrational Exhibit, Santa Monica, California, U.S.A.
In Public, Art Center College Of Art and Design, Pasadena, California, U.S.A.
CAPITAL ART, Track-16, Santa Monica, California, U.S.A.
All Star of LA, Knitting Factory, Los Angeles, California, U.S.A., live performance

2002

All Stars of LA Performance Art, City of Los Angeles Cultural Affairs Department, Hollywood, California, U.S.A.
After the Ruins of Kabul, Bumbershoot Festival, Seattle, Washington, U.S.A., live performance and readings
After Ruins of Kabul, "Not in our Name", The Palace Art Speak, Hollywood, California
Democracy When?, LACE Los Angeles Contemporary Art Exhibitions, Hollywood, California, U.S.A.
After the Ruins of Kabul, Highways, Santa Monica, California, U.S.A.
Project Enduring Look, Chicago Exhibition Studies Space, School of the Art Institute of Chicago, Chicago, Illinois, U.S.A.
GENERATION WHY: ARTISTS OF CONSCIENCE SPEAK, Occidental College, Los Angeles, California, U.S.A.
Performance Marathon, Theatre of NOTE, Hollywood, California, U.S.A.

2003

Shibuya UNESCO Association, Tokyo, Japan
Alumni Show, University of California, Irvine, California, U.S.A.
Colors of God, Layola Marymount University, Los Angeles, California, U.S.A.
Open Ticket, Guggenheim Gallery Chapman College, Orange, California, U.S.A.
Wide Awake, Highways, Los Angeles, California, U.S.A.
ENTERINTERCESSOR, Raid Projects, Los Angeles, California, U.S.A.
Live Performance, Track-16, Irrational Exhibit 2, Santa Monica, California, U.S.A.

2004

Contemporaneity, Academy of Fine Arts, Tashkent, Uzbekistan; National Museum of Arts, Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan; Foundation for Culture and Civil Society, Kabul, Afghanistan
On healing, D.U.M.B.O, Brooklyn, New York, U.S.A., curated by Bruna Mori and Joe Santarromana
Poetics of Proximity, Chapman University, Orange, California, U.S.A.

2005

Between the Furniture and the Building (Between a Rock and a Hard Place), with Andrea Fraser, Jimmie Durham, CAC Brétigny Centre d'art contemporain, Brétigny, France, curated by Pierre Bal-Blanc
Between the Furniture and the Building, FR66, Paris, France, curated by Pierre Bal-Blanc
Wall to Destroyed, with Monica Bonvicini, Marguerite Duras, Gordon Matta-Clark, FRAC Fonds régional d'art contemporain de Lorraine, Metz, France
Irreducible, Contemporary Short Form Video, Miami Central, Miami, Florida, U.S.A.
In the Shadow of Heroes, Central Asian Biennale, Kyrgyz Republic, curated by Muratbek Djumaliev
Fm 5 Video Festival, Madrid, Spain, curated by Carolina Grau
Video Lounge, South London Gallery, London, U.K.
Vinyl, Redux Projects Gallery, London, U.K., curated by Peter Lewis
Taste of others, Apex Art, New York, U.S.A., curated by Leeza Ahmady
Defense, Sweeney Art Gallery, University of California, Riverside, California, U.S.A.

2006

XXVII Bienal de São Paulo, São Paulo, Brazil, co-curator Rosa Martinez
First Chapter Trace Root, Gwangju Biennale, Gwangju, Korea
The Doubtful Strait, A Visual Art Event, Museo de Arte y Diseño Contemporáneo, Costa Rica, curated by Virginia Pérez
Mens, S.M.A.K, Gent, Belgium; K.U., Leuven, Belgium, curated by Philippe van Cauteren
Painting As a Way of Living, Istanbul Modern, Istanbul, Turkey, curated by Rosa Martínez
The UnQuiet World, The Australian Centre for Contemporary Art, Victoria, Australia, curated by Juliana Engberg
Undercurrents06, Göteborg Konstmuseum, Göteborg, Sweden, curated by Dariush Moaven Doust
Courants Alternatifs, Le Parvis Centre d'art contemporain, Ibos-Tarbes, France, curated by Odile Biec
Courants Alternatifs, CAPC Musée d'Art contemporain, Bordeaux, France, curated by Maurice Fréchuret
Painting Ruins, Foundation for Culture and Civil Society, Kabul, Afghanistan, curated by Ali MacGlip
Fast Futures: Asian Video Art, Mumbai, India, curated by Johan Pijnappel
ACAW Asian Contemporary Art Week, Brooklyn Art Museum, New York, U.S.A.; Nafas, ifa Gallery Berlin; ifa Gallery Stuttgart, traveling show, curated by Pat Binder and Gerhard Haupt
Liberation, Tradition and Meaning/Women on the Edge of Culture, Milwaukee Institute of Art & Design, Milwaukee, Wisconsin, U.S.A.
New territories, De Hallen, Bruges, Belgium, curated by Michel Dewilde

2007

II Moscow Biennial of Contemporary Art, Moscow, Russia, curated by Rosa Martínez
VIII Sharjah Biennial, Sharjah, UAE, curated by Jack Persekian
Re-thinking Dissent, IV Göteborg International Biennial for Contemporary Art, Göteborg, Sweden, curated by Joa Ljungberg and Edi Muka
III Auckland Triennial, Auckland, New Zealand, curated by Victoria Lynn
Thermocline of Art. New Asian Waves ZKM | Zentrum für Kunst und Medientechnologie, Karlsruhe, Germany, curated by Peter Weibel, Wonil Rhee, Catherine David
Memorial to Iraq War, with Sam Durant, Liam Gillick, Christoph Buchel, ICA, London, U.K., curated by Mark Sladen
Timeout: Art and Sustainability, with On Kawara, Giovanni Anselmo, Kunstmuseum Liechtenstein, Vaduz, Liechtenstein, curated by Friedemann Malsch
Selection São Paulo, MAC Museo de Arte Contemporáneo, Santiago, Chile, curated by Francisco Brugnoli
Global Feminisms, Feminist Biennale, Brooklyn Museum, New York, U.S.A., traveling show, curated by Maura Reilly and Linda Nochlin
Culture and Conflict, Stedelijk Het Domein, Sittard, The Netherlands, curated by Els van der Plas
Asian Attitude/Transient Forces, The National Museum in Poznan, Poland; Zendai Museum of Modern Art, Shanghai, China, traveling show, curated by Binghui Huangfu and Shen Qibin
Beyond the Dust, Museo Archeologico Nazionale, Naples, Italy, curated by Renata Caragliano
The Art of Reconciliation, Central Museum of Utrecht, The Netherlands, curated by Peter Stepan
Illuminations, Tate Modern, London, U.K., curated by Lucy Askew and Ben Borthwick
About time II, Nordjyllands Kunstmuseum, Aalborg, Denmark
Relics and Ruins, Espaço Cultural Oi Futuro, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, curated by Alfons Hug
Soft Power, Shanghai Zendai Museum of Modern Art, Shanghai, China, traveling show, curated by Shen Qibin
Riwaq Biennial, Ramallah, Palestine, curated by Charles Esche

2008

4th Triennale of Friedrichshafen, Zeppelin Museum Friedrichshafen, Germany
Biennale Cuvée, Ok Centrum for Contemporary Art, Linz, Austria
Videoformes, Clermont-Ferrand, France
Eurasia. Geographic cross-overs in art, MART Museo di Arte Contemporanea di Trento e Rovereto, Italy
Loss, The Wanås Foundation, Knislinge, Sweden
Yellow Cruise, Louis Vuitton Espace, Paris, France
Artes Mundi 3rd Award Exhibition, National Museum of Cardiff, Wales, U.K.
The Furious Gaze, Centro Cultural Montehermoso, Vitoria-Gasteiz, Spain
Intimacies of Distant War, Samuel Dorsky Museum of Art, New York, U.S.A.

2009

Moving Perspectives: Lida Abdul and Dinh Q Le, Smithsonian Freer Gallery of Art and Arthur M. Sackler Gallery, Washington, U.S.A.
The End, The Andy Warhol Museum, Pittsburgh, U.S.A.
Dream and Reality. Contemporary Art from the Near East, Zentrum Paul Klee, Berne, Switzerland
Anabasis. Rituals of Homecoming - Ludwik Grohman Villa, Lodz, Poland
Futur, FRAC Aquitaine, Bordeaux, France
History of Violence, Haifa Museum of Art, Haifa, Israel
Bilderschichten, EMAF European Media Art Festival, Osnabrück, Germany
Monument to Transformation, City Gallery Prague, Prague, Czech Republic
Stranded positions, Ausstellungsraum Klingental, Basel, Switzerland
Riwaq Biennial, Ramallah, Palestine

2010

HomeLessHome, Museum on the Seam, Jerusalem, Israel
CUE: Artists' Videos, Vancouver Art Gallery, Vancouver, Canada
Monument to Transformation, Miroslav Kraljevic Gallery, Zagreb, Croatia
Individual / War, Ausstellungshalle Zeitgenössische Kunst Münster (AZKM), Germany
Spatial City: An Architecture of Idealism, Institute of Visual Arts, Milwaukee, Wisconsin, U.S.A.
Hyde Park Art Center, Chicago; Museum of Contemporary Art, Detroit, Michigan, U.S.A.
Human Condition, Kunsthaus Graz, Graz, Austria

2011

Beyond Memory, Museum on the Seam, Jerusalem, Israel
Shift and Flow, Dorsky Gallery, New York, U.S.A.
Roaming Images, MMCA, Thessaloniki, Greece

2012

dOCUMENTA (13), Kassel, Germany
Nuit Blanche 2012, White Spirit at the Palais de Tokyo, Paris, France
Migrasophia, Maraya Art Centre, Sharjah, UAE, curated by Sara Raza
Shifting Sands: Recent Video from the Middle East, The Stanlee and Gerald Rubin Center for the Visual Arts, The University of Texas, El Paso, Texas, U.S.A.
1st Montevideo Biennial, Montevideo, Uruguay

2013

Transition Project, Yapi and Kredi Art Center, Istanbul, Turkey
43 Salón (inter) Nacional de Artistas, Medellín, Antioquia, Colombia

2014

Art Amongst War: Visual Culture in Afghanistan, 1979-2014, TCNJ Art Gallery, The College of New Jersey, Ewing, New Jersey, U.S.A.
Dhaka Art Summit, Dhaka, Bangladesh
Ravaged, Art and Culture in Times of Conflict, M-Museum Leuven, Leuven, Belgium
Utopian Days x Freedom, Total Museum of Contemporary Art, Seoul, South Korea
Beyond Pressure Public Art Festival, Yangon, Myanmar
Le Musée international de la Croix-Rouge et du Croissant-Rouge, Geneva, Switzerland
Kulturhuset Stadsteatern Stockholm, Stockholm, Sweden
White lest we forget, Limerick City Gallery of Art (LCGA), Ireland
La guerra che verrà non è la prima, MART Rovereto Trento, Italy

2015

Mario Merz Prize. The 5 Finalists, Fondazione Merz, Torino, Italy
Institut des Cultures d'Islam, Paris, France
A room of his own: masculinities in Korea and Middle East, Art Sonje Center, Pocheon, South Korea
56. Biennale di Venezia, Pavilion of Cuba, Venice, Italy
56. Biennale di Venezia, Pavilion of Iran, Venice, Italy
Fairy tales, Museum of Contemporary Art, Taipei, Taiwan
Triennale Brugge 2015, Bruges, Belgium
Gimme Shelter – forts and fictions in the lowlands, KunstFort Asperen, Acquoy, The Netherlands
Siderare, Fondazione Volume!, Rome, Italy
Everything must go: Art and the Market, The Lewis Glucksman Gallery, University College, Cork, Ireland

2016

Mining Warm Data, Dhaka Art Summit, Dhaka, Bangladesh
Inherit in the wind, Fundação Eugénio de Almeida, Évora, Portugal
The Guggenheim UBS MAP Global Art Initiative, But a Storm Is Blowing from Paradise: Contemporary Art of the Middle East and North Africa, Guggenheim Museum, New York, U.S.A.
Surprise, Netwerk vzw, Aalst, Belgium
Busan Biennale 2016, Busan, Korea
Social calligraphies, Zachęta – National Gallery of Art, Warsaw, Poland

2017

QUAD / FORMAT International Photography Festival, Derby, U.K.
Un-Official Stories, Galleria Doris Ghetta, Bolzano/Pontives, Italy
The materiality of the invisible, Bureau Europa, Maastricht, Netherlands
States of Emergency, Imperial War Museum, London, U.K.

2018

Dal-Baħar Madwarha, St Elmo Examinations Centre, Valletta, Malta
The Guggenheim UBS MAP Global Art Initiative, But a Storm Is Blowing from Paradise: Contemporary Art of the Middle East and North Africa, GAM, Milan, Italy

PUBLIC COLLECTIONS

Spencer Museum of Art, Lawrence, Kansas, U.S.A.
FRAC Fonds régional d'art contemporain de Lorraine, Metz, France
OK Centrum for Contemporary Art, Linz, Austria
MoMA Museum of Modern Art, New York, U.S.A.
Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum, New York, U.S.A.