

# Islam Mahmoud Mohamed Aly

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## Education

- 2016 PhD, The University of Iowa, College Of Education, Teaching and Learning/Art Education
- 2013 MFA, Book Arts, University of Iowa Center for the Book
- 2003 MA in Art Education/Design, Faculty of Art Education, Helwan University, Cairo, Egypt
- 1998 BAE, College of Art Education, Helwan University, Cairo, Egypt. Art Education/Design

## Teaching Experience

- 2018-Present Lecturer, Department of Design, College of Art Education, Helwan University, Cairo, Egypt, Graphic Design, 2D Design, Design Foundations.
- 2015-2018 Assistant Professor of Art Education, Department of Art, The University of Northern Iowa, Foundations in Art Education, 3D Foundations, Visual Perceptions, Research Methods in Art Education, Themes of Art Education, Theories of Child Art and Culture, Issues and Theories in Art Education, Seminar in Teaching Art
- 2009-2013 Lead Teaching Assistant, College of Education, The University of Iowa, Technology in the Classroom, E-portfolio & Distance Education support
- 1999-2008 Instructor, College of Art Education, Helwan University, Cairo, Egypt, 2D Design, Design Foundations, Graphic Design
- 2007-2008 Instructor, The American University In Cairo, Egypt, 2D Design, Design Foundations, Design Theory

## Solo and Small Exhibitions

- 2022 Books Beyond the Format, Ahmed Basyouni Gallery, Faculty of Art Education, Helwan University, Zamalek, Cairo, Egypt.
- 2022 Contemporary Talismans, Ahmed Basyouni Gallery, Faculty of Art Education, Helwan University, Zamalek, Cairo, Egypt.
- 2019 Books Beyond the Format: Islamic Arts Festival, 22<sup>nd</sup> Edition, University of Sharjah, Sharjah, UAE, December 2019 to January 2020
- 2015 Unfinished Business: The Arts of the New Arab Revolutions, Old Capitol Museum, Iowa City, IA
- 2013 MFA Thesis Exhibition, Levitt Center for University Advancement, Iowa City, IA
- 2012 Historical book structures display, Coralville Public Library, Coralville, IA

## Invitation Exhibitions (selected)

- 2022 Adaptation: Artist's Books for a Changing Environment" curated by Julie Chen, UC Berkeley's Environmental Design Library, Berkeley, CA
- 2019 Focal Point Art Book Fair, Bait Al Shamsi, Arts Square, Sharjah, UAE.

- 2019 Swarthmore College's Friends, Peace, and Sanctuary project exhibition, (various locations), March 2019 to October 2019, Swarthmore College (Swarthmore, PA), Twelve Gates Arts (Philadelphia, PA), Parkway Central Free Library (Philadelphia, PA), Philadelphia City Hall (Philadelphia, PA), Booklyn (Brooklyn, NY).
- 2019 Freed Formats: The Book Reconsidered, (various locations), March 2019 to October 2019: Mark Twain Library (Redding, CT), Ridgefield Guild of Artists (CT), Ridgefield Library (CT), Putnam Arts Council (Mahopac, NY), Mahopac Public Library (NY), Five Points Gallery (Torrington, CT), University of Hartford Art School (CT)
- 2017 Department of Art Faculty Exhibition, University of Northern Iowa Gallery of Art, Cedar Falls, IA
- 2017 Invitational Group Fair, Solstice Book Fair for artist's books, fine press, prints, broadsides, and ephemera, Iowa City, IA
- 2017 National Exhibition, EXPRESSIONS the art of the book, Martin Museum of Art, Hooper-Schaffer Fine Arts Center, Baylor University, Waco, TX
- 2017 National Invitational Exhibition, The Art of the Book, the 12th annual exhibition of handmade books, altered books and book-related works, Seager Gray Gallery for contemporary fine art, Mill Valley, CA.
- 2017 National Invitational group exhibition, Of Color: Race & Identity in Artists' Books exhibit, in the Clark Humanities Museum at Scripps College, Claremont, CA, March 6-April 7, 2017
- 2016 Third Space, shifting conversations about contemporary art, Birmingham Museum of Art, AL
- 2016 20/20 Vision, San Francisco Center for the Book, San Francisco, CA
- 2016 The Art of the Book, Seager Gray Gallery, Mill Valley, CA
- 2016 Unhinged: Book Art on the Cutting Edge, The Whatcom Museum, Bellingham, WA
- 2016 Exceptional: Handmade Paper Beyond Substrate, Minnesota Center for Book Arts, Minneapolis, MN
- 2015 Reader's Art: Concealed, Confined & Collected, Minnesota Center for Book Arts, Minneapolis, MN

### **Juried Exhibitions (selected)**

- 2023 Shapes of Things to Come, Sherry Grover Gallery, Bainbridge Island Museum of Art, Bainbridge Island, WA
- 2022 Strikethrough: Typographic Messages of Protest, Letterform Archive, San Francisco, CA
- 2022 Lettered & Bound, Juried multi-venue exhibition, curated by Sha Towers and Alicia Bailey, Regis University Dayton Library and Tallyn's Reach Public Library, Denver, CO
- 2020 Minnesota Center for Book Arts International Prize, Minnesota Center for Book Arts, Minneapolis, MN
- 2020 College Book Art Association Members Exhibition and Conference, Intersections: Book Arts as Convergence, Carroll Gallery, Newcomb Art Department, Tulane University, New Orleans, LA.
- 2019 Word | Image | Object, Juried Exhibition of contemporary artists' book, Denver Public Library, July-December 2019, Denver, CO
- 2019 The Book As Art, Flight Edition, Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta International Airport, Concourse E, Atlanta, GA
- 2018 The Book As Art v.6.0 Pulp exhibition, Decatur Arts Alliance, Decatur GA
- 2018 Cornucopia IX, Juried International Exhibition of contemporary artists' book, Art Students League of Denver Gallery, Denver, CO.

- 2017 Cornucopia VIII, Juried International Exhibition of contemporary artists' book, Abecedarian Gallery, Denver, CO
- 2017 The 6th Annual Juried International Exhibition of Islamic Contemporary Art, Presented by the Islamic Art Revival Series in partnership with Irving Arts Center, Juried by Dr. Linda Komaroff, Senior Curator at Los Angeles County Museum of Art, Irving, TX.
- 2016 College Book Art Association Members Exhibition and Conference, Backstory: Exploring the Boundaries of the Book, Vanderbilt University, Nashville, TN.
- 2016 Ten Years of Artist Books, The Brooklyn Public Library, Curated by Donna Seager, celebrating ten years of "The Art of the Book" exhibition at Seager Gray Gallery.
- 2015 Reader's Art: Concealed, Confined & Collected, Minnesota Center for Book Arts, Minneapolis, MN
- 2015 The Art of the Book, Seager Gray Gallery, Mill Valley, CA
- 2014 Sacred-Profane, International Book Art Juried Exhibition, 23 Sandy Gallery, Portland, OR
- 2014 3rd Annual Juried International Exhibition of Contemporary Islamic Art, LumenArte Gallery, Dallas, TX
- 2014 Book Power Redux, International Book Art Juried Exhibition, 23 Sandy Gallery, Portland, OR
- 2014 College Book Art Association Members' Exhibition, Special Collections Gallery, J. Willard Marriott Library, The University of Utah, Salt Lake City, UT

### Group Exhibitions (selected)

- 2023 Tropic Bound Artist's book fair and Symposium, Miami, FL.
- 2022 CODEX 8 Book Fair and Symposium, Craneway Pavilion, Richmond, CA.
- 2019 CODEX 7 Book Fair and Symposium, Craneway Pavilion, Richmond, CA.
- 2017 EXPRESSIONS the art of the book, Martin Museum of Art, Hooper-Schaffer Fine Arts Center, Baylor University, Waco, TX
- 2017 CODEX 6 Book Fair and Symposium, Craneway Pavilion, Richmond, CA
- 2015 CODEX 5 Book Fair and Symposium, Craneway Pavilion, Richmond, CA
- 2014 Art of the Book, Rochester Public Library, Rochester, NY
- 2013 Cartalogo Bicentenario, National Library of Chile, Santiago, Chile
- 2013 University of Iowa Center For the Book Inaugural MFA exhibition, Iowa City, IA

### Publications

- 2022 Strikethrough: Typographic Messages of Protest, Letterform Archive, San Francisco, CA, Exhibition Catalogue.
- 2022 Adaptation: Artist's Books for a Changing Environment", UC Berkeley's Environmental Design Library, Berkeley, CA, Exhibition Catalogue.
- 2019 Swarthmore College's Friends, Peace, and Sanctuary project, Exhibition Catalogue.
- 2019 *Artists' Books Reconsidered: Notes on Pedagogical Possibilities*. Exhibition Essay, Swarthmore College's Friends, Peace, and Sanctuary project
- 2019 Freed Formats: The Book Reconsidered, (various locations). Exhibition Catalogue.
- 2019 Sanctuary Bond, Interview and article by Michael Agresta, [Swarthmore college bulletin, Winter 2019 / Issue II / Volume CXVI](#)
- 2018 The Book As Art v.6.0 Pulp exhibition, Juried International Exhibition of contemporary artists' book, Decatur Arts Alliance, Decatur, GA. Exhibition Catalogue
- 2018 Featured artist on the College Book Arts website for February 2018

- 2018 Third Space, shifting conversations about contemporary art, Birmingham Museum of Art, AL work review and Exhibition Catalogue.
- 2017 Cornucopia VIII, Juried International Exhibition of contemporary artists' book, Abecedarian Gallery, Denver, Colorado. Exhibition Catalogue.
- 2017 The 6th Annual Juried International Exhibition of Islamic Contemporary Art, Presented by the Islamic Art Revival Series and Irving Arts Center, Juried by Dr. Linda Komaroff, Senior Curator at Los Angeles County Museum of Art, Irving, TX. Exhibition Catalogue
- 2017 EXPRESSIONS the art of the book, Martin Museum of Art, Hooper-Schaffer Fine Arts Center, Baylor University, Waco, TX. Exhibition Catalogue.
- 2017 The Art of the Book, 11th annual exhibition of hand made artist books, altered books and book-related materials. Exhibition Catalogue
- 2016 20/20 Vision: Celebrating the Next Generation of Book Artists, Exhibition Catalogue
- 2016 The Art of the Book, 11th annual exhibition of hand made artist books, altered books and book-related materials, Exhibition Catalogue
- 2013 Creating an Islamic Codex, Hand Paper Making magazine, Vol. 28, No. 2
- 2013 28 Letters, 500 Handmade Books, Vol. 2, Lark Books
- 2013 Cartalogo Bicentenario, Exhibition Catalogue
- 2013 Feast! Celebrating food and book art, Exhibition Catalogue

### Exhibitions Curated

- 2023 Juror: The David Ruggles Prize, encouraging and supporting young book collectors of color, Patrick Olson Rare Books, Lowell, MA (Forthcoming)
- 2022 Juror: The David Ruggles Prize, encouraging and supporting young book collectors of color, Patrick Olson Rare Books, Lowell, MA
- 2021 Juror: McKnight Fellowship for Book Artists, Minnesota Center for Book Arts, Minneapolis, MN
- 2016 Co-curator: LitCon Book Art Contest, Cedar Falls Public Library
- 2015 Co-curator: Unfinished Business: The Arts of the New Arab Revolutions, Old Capitol Museum, The University Of Iowa, Iowa City, IA
- 2010 Juror: The Americas Biennial Exhibition of Contemporary Prints, University of Iowa Project Art Gallery, Iowa City, IA

### Workshops & Speaking

- 2022 Virtual Presentation, discussion about journey with book arts and recent work, IBookbinding.
- 2021 Virtual Presentation, Salon Series 31: Using Arabic Letterforms in Contemporary Book Art, Letterform Archive, San Francisco, CA
- 2021 Virtual studio tour, From the Bench, San Francisco Center for the Book, San Francisco, CA, October 2021
- 2020 Zoom artist talk, Painting + Printmaking Department, Virginia Commonwealth University, Doha, Qatar
- 2019 Presentation and workshop, Islamic Arts Festival, 22<sup>nd</sup> Edition, University of Sharjah, Sharjah, UAE, December 2019
- 2019 Workshop lead, accordion book workshop and story share. workshop addressing storytelling and relationship building through bookmaking, Twelve Gates Arts, Philadelphia, PA

- 2019 Co-presenter (with Jean Michelle, Laura Bejarano, gallery educators and Langley Park high school students) Exploring Migration: Empowering Student Storytelling through Art, presentation & workshop with teachers, National Gallery of Art, Washington, DC
- 2019 Co-presenter and workshop facilitator, (with Pavel Acevedo and Laura Bejarano) "I Learn America" A Human Library, workshop exploring the stories of Immigrants using printmaking, zines, and book art, Langley Park high school students, Pyramid Atlantic Art Center, Hyattsville, MD
- 2019 Interview by Matt Kalasky, the Galleries at Moore Radio, Moore College of Art and Design. Suzanne Seesman, Islam Aly, Abdul Karim Awad, and Yaroub Al-Obaidi, discuss Friends, Peace, and Sanctuary project, Philadelphia, PA, podcast featured on [Art Blog podcast](#)
- 2018 Lead presenter: Alternative Structures, a series of the book artist's workshops focusing on advanced book binding practices and creating book structures capable of housing multiple narratives within the same book, part of Friends, Peace and Sanctuary project, Prince of Peace Church northeast Philadelphia, and Fleisher Art Memorial, Philadelphia, PA
- 2018 Guest speaker at Teen Summit, University of Northern Iowa Center for Urban Education, "Spotlight Your Future" Waterloo Center for the Arts, Waterloo, IA
- 2018 Service-learning project presentation "Bound together, connecting generations through stories" Community Engagement Celebration Day, University of Northern Iowa, Cedar Falls, IA
- 2018 Workshops and activities for "Emerging Excellence", a collaboration with elementary art teacher Lysie Maynard for recognizing 6-9th grade students mastery, supported by Art Educators of Iowa, Hearst Center for the Arts, Cedar Falls
- 2018 Presentation and workshop, New Hampton high school students, University of Northern Iowa, Cedar Falls, IA
- 2018 Presentation and workshop facilitator for the Harding Middle School Visit to University of Northern Iowa, Cedar Falls, IA
- 2017 Launch event, Friends, Peace, and Sanctuary project, Swarthmore College Library and the Lang Center for Civic and Social Responsibility, Philadelphia Museum of Art, PA
- 2017 Interview by Laurence Kesterson, for Friends, Peace, and Sanctuary project, Swarthmore College Library and the Lang Center for Civic and Social Responsibility, this interview was featured in the project website <http://fps.swarthmore.edu/>
- 2017 Invited speaker for a lecture "Pages of My Journey with Book Arts", Islamic Art Revival Series, 6th Annual Juried Exhibition of Contemporary Islamic Art, Irving Arts Center, Irving, TX
- 2017 Interview by Spring 2017 Scripps College Art 137 seminar class. This interview was featured in Of Color: Race & Identity in Artists' Books exhibit catalogue.
- 2016 Artist Interview and Book art Workshop documentation, Cedar Falls Public Library, featured on The Arts Overlook, Cedar Falls Cable TV, Cedar Falls, IA
- 2016 Book art Presentation and workshop: LitCon, Cedar Falls Public Library
- 2013 Artist Presentation: A Day in the City of Literature, Iowa City Book Festival, Iowa Artisans Gallery, Iowa City, IA
- 2012 Co-presenter: Low-Tech Printing Techniques for the Production of Artists' Books, The Past, Present, and Future of the Book, ACM Conference, Cornell College, Mount Vernon, IA
- 2011 Co-presenter: Al Mutanabi Project Broadside Reading, Iowa City Book Festival, The Paper Nest, Iowa City, IA
- 2011 Co-presenter: Art Making and Bookmaking, Collaborative project between Grant Wood Elementary School and the University of Iowa

## Conferences

- 2020 Co-Presenter (with Suzanne Seesman, Nora Elmarzouky, and Fadaa Ali), Revisiting Efficacy: A Conversation about Friends, Peace, and Sanctuary (A Grant Funded Book Arts Project) College Book Art Association Conference, Intersections: Book Arts as Convergence, ACE Hotel, New Orleans, LA.
- 2017 Co-Presenter (with Dr. Wendy Miller and Dr. Elizabeth Sutton) Going Digital: Engaging & Assessing Graduate Student Learning in the Changing Educational Landscape, The 5th annual Statewide Teaching, and Learning Conference, Des Moines Area Community College, Ankeny, IA, July 2017.
- 2014 Panelist: College Book Art Association Conference, Present(ation) Public(ation) Install(ation), The University of Utah, Salt Lake City, UT
- 2012 Panelist: Friends Of Dard Hunter Conference and International Association of Hand Papermakers and Paper Artists international conference "Watermarks" Cleveland, OH

## Grants

- 2023 Inclusivity Grant Award, The Fine Press Book Association, USA
- 2023 College Book Art Association Member Support Grant, USA
- 2019 Friends, Peace and Sanctuary, book artist in residence for a two year project bringing book artists and members of Philadelphia's Iraqi and Syrian refugee communities to create artists' books that amplify personal narratives of displacement, immigration, and sanctuary. Swarthmore College, The Pew Center for Arts and Heritage, Philadelphia, PA
- 2013 Global Supplementary Grant Program, Open Society Foundations, USA
- 2012 Junior Scientist Development Visit Grant, U.S. - Egypt Science & Technology Cooperative Agreement, The role of Book Arts and Technologies in Art Education
- 2011 Co-recipient, Iowa Arts Council mini grant, "Art making and Bookmaking" a collaborative project between, Grant Wood Elementary School, College of Education and The University of Iowa Center for the book

## Honors

- 2022 Semifinalist for the 2022 Minnesota Center for Book Arts International Prize.
- 2020 Semifinalist for the 2020 Minnesota Center for Book Arts International Prize.
- 2017 Colorado College Purchase Award, Cornucopia VIII, Juried International Exhibition of contemporary artists' book, Abecedarian Gallery, Denver, Colorado.
- 2015 Exhibit Award, College Book Art Association Members' Exhibition, Vanderbilt University, Nashville, TN
- 2014 Best of Show, Art of the Book, Rochester Public Library, Rochester NY
- 2014 Purchase Award, ARTBOUND 2014, Juried Student Book Arts Competition, University of Florida Libraries
- 2014 Exhibit Award, College Book Art Association Members' Exhibition, University of Utah, Salt Lake City, UT

## Collections (Selected)

Bainbridge Island Museum of Art, Bainbridge Island, WA  
Baylor University, Special Collections, Waco, TX  
Bibliotheca Alexandrina Book Arts Collection, Alexandria, Egypt  
Birmingham Museum of Art Library, Special Collections, Birmingham, AL  
Duke University, Rubenstein Rare Book Library, Special Collections, Durham, NC

George Mason University, Fenwick Library, Special Collections, Fairfax, VA  
Indiana University, Fine Art Library, Artist Book Collection, Bloomington, IN  
Lafayette College, Skidmore Library, Special Collections, Easton, PA  
Letterform Archive, San Francisco, CA  
Maryland Institute College of Art, Decker Library, Artist Book Collection, Baltimore, MD  
Massachusetts College of Art, Godine Library, Artist Book Collection, Boston, MA  
Miami University Libraries, Special Collections, Coral Gables, FL  
Michigan State University, Fine Arts Library, Special Collections, East Lansing, MI  
National Library of Chile, Santiago, Chile  
New York Public Library, Rare Books, Special Collections, New York, NY  
Newberry Library, Special Collections, Chicago, IL  
Northwestern University, Deering Library, Special Collections, Chicago, IL  
Ohio University, Alden Library, Special Collections, Athens, OH  
Ringling School of Art and Design, Kimbrough Library, Special Collections, Sarasota, FL  
San Diego State, Library, Special Collections, San Diego, CA  
SCAD Atlanta Campus Library, Special Collections, Atlanta, GA  
SCAD, Savannah Campus, Jen Library, Artist Book Collection, Savannah, GA  
Scripps College Press, Denison Library, Special Collections, Claremont, CA  
Smithsonian Institute, National Museum of African Art, Warren M. Robbins Library, Washington, DC  
Swarthmore College Library, Special Collections, Philadelphia, PA  
Temple University Libraries, Special Collections, Philadelphia, PA  
The British Library, Arabic Collection, Asia and Africa Department, London, UK  
The Metropolitan Museum of Art, Thomas J. Watson Library, New York, NY  
University of California Santa Cruz, McHenry Library, Special Collections, CA  
UNC Chapel Hill, Art Library, Special Collections, Chapel Hill, NC  
University of Alabama, W.S. Hoole Special Collections Library, Tuscaloosa, AL  
University of California Los Angeles, Young Library, Special Collections, Los Angeles, CA  
University of California Santa Barbara, Davidson Library, Special Collections, Santa Barbara, CA  
University of California, Berkeley, Environmental Design Library, Special Collections, Berkeley, CA  
University Of Denver, Special Collections, Denver, CO  
University of Florida, Special Collections, George A. Smathers Libraries, Gainesville, FL  
University of Iowa Libraries, Special Collections, Iowa City, IA  
University of Missouri Libraries, Ellis Library, Columbia, MO  
University of Texas at San Antonio Libraries, Special Collections, San Antonio, TX  
University of Washington Libraries, Special Collections, Seattle, WA  
Virginia Commonwealth University, James Cabal Library, Special Collections, Richmond, VA  
Virginia Commonwealth University Qatar, Library, Special Collections, Doha, Qatar  
Walker Art Center, Rosemary Furtak Collection, Minneapolis, MN  
Yale University, Haas Arts Library, Special Collections, New Haven, CT