

## ALIA AHMAD

Alia Ahmad (b. 1996, Riyadh) is inspired by the industrialised desert of Riyadh, the colours of Sadu textiles, and forms of calligraphy. Through her mediation of Saudi Arabian landscapes, Ahmad creates placid dreamscapes and linear impressions that excavate the connections between memory, time, and space. Utilising her drawings created in specific locations, she focuses on key geological and topographical aspects, such as local flora in a chosen environment. Through Ahmad's use of visual motifs and mark making, her practice veers towards the linguistic, referencing ancestral traditions of reliefs and hieroglyphics.

Ahmad received her Master's in Fine Art from the Royal College of Art, London, in 2020, and previously completed her BA in Digital Culture from Kings College, London, in 2018. Recent solo exhibitions include *Thought to Image*, Albion Jeune, London (2024); *Terhal Gheim (The voyage of clouds)*, White Cube, Paris (2024); *A meadow ... from a dream*, Kohn Gallery, Los Angeles (2022); *Tracing the Placid*, Hafez Gallery, Jeddah (2022); and *From Our Paths*, Gallery BAWA, Kuwait City (2021). Group Exhibitions include *After Rain*, Diriyah Contemporary Art Biennale, Riyadh (2024); *In the Shadow*, White Cube (Online, 2023); *Considering Female Abstraction*, Green Family Art Foundation, Dallas (2023); *New British Abstraction*, CICA, Vancouver (2023); *The Secret of Alidades, 21,39*, Jeddah Arts, Jeddah (2021); and *Make it Public: Memory Collective*, Design Museum, London (2020), among others.

## CV

Born in 1996, Riyadh, Saudi Arabia

Lives and works in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia

### EDUCATION

2020 Royal College of Art, London, United Kingdom

2018 Kings College, London, United Kingdom

### UPCOMING EXHIBITIONS

2024 Lawrie Shabibi, Dubai, UAE

### SOLO EXHIBITIONS

2024 *Thought to Image*, Albion Jeune, London, United Kingdom

*Terhal Gheim (The voyage of clouds)*, White Cube, Paris, France

2023 *Pièce Unique*, Massimo de Carlo, Paris, France

2022 *A meadow ... from a dream*, Kohn Gallery, Los Angeles, CA, United States

*Tracing the Placid*, Hafez Gallery, Jeddah, Saudi Arabia

2021 *From Our Paths*, Gallery BAWA, Kuwait City, Kuwait

GROUP EXHIBITIONS

2024 *After Rain*, curated by Ute Meta Bauer, Diriyah Contemporary Art Biennale, Riyadh, Saudi Arabia

2023 *In the Shadow*, White Cube (online)

*Papertrail*, Matthew Brown, Los Angeles, CA, United States

*The Mountains Quiver in Anticipation*, Hayy Jameel, Jeddah, Saudi Arabia

*Considering Female Abstraction*, Green Family Art Foundation, Dallas, TX, United States

*New British Abstraction*, CICA, Vancouver, Canada

2021 *The Secrets of Alidades*, 21,39, Jeddah, Saudi Arabia

*Art Dubai*, Hafez Gallery, Dubai, UAE

2020 *RCA Research Biennale*, London, United Kingdom

*Keep for Old Memories by Youngspace*, co-curated with Celine Mo, VICTORI+MO Gallery, New York, NY, United States

*Make It Public: Memory Collective*, Design Museum, London, United Kingdom

BIBLIOGRAPHY

2022 K Volk, Interview with Alia Ahmad, Canvas Magazine, Issue no. 103, May-June

2021 Art Maze Magazine, Issue no.22

2020 C. Al-Aseeli, "Alia Ahmad: 'I don't plan my drawings,'" Zharat Al Khaleej, September 8

2019 S. B. Romdane, "A Saudi Artist's Love Letter to Her Country," Art Maze Magazine, November 26