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| Casablanca School (Ecole des Beaux-Arts of Casablanca) |
| **[Enter any *variant forms* of your headword – OPTIONAL]** |
| The Ecole des Beaux-Arts of Casablanca was founded in 1950 by the French during the protectorate era in Morocco (1912-1956). It has remained open since its opening, and is a municipal school, unlike the art school in Tétouan, Morocco. The first Moroccan director of the school was Maurice Arama (1960-1962), who was succeeded by Farid Belkahia (1962-1974). Under Belkahia, the school was a significant institution and influence in the history of Moroccan modernism. In addition to exploring new modernist styles in their personal work, the group was known for a pedagogy that focused on rooting modernism in local visual culture, thereby rejecting inherited French models of easel paintings and still-lifes. Instead, this model highlighted Moroccan visual culture and architecture. Faculty taught students in multiple media, including painting, sculpture, ceramics, and in graphic design. Each year, for a final project, the students would work together on an urban space that would stay open for three months for public visits.For example, in the final year project for 1968, rather than a typical art school showcase, the students were asked to treat the architecture of the gallery in such a way as to highlight the broader materials, plasticity, and space of the gallery itself, thus attempting to integrate and synthetise arts of multiple disciplines and techniques. |
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| Further reading:  (Attalah)  (Belkahia) |