

# Leila Khoury

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## Education

- 2017-20 Master of Architecture (Emphasis in Interior Architecture) + Certificate in Historic Preservation.  
School of the Art Institute of Chicago, Chicago, IL.
- 2011-15 Bachelor of Fine Arts, Interdisciplinary Sculpture. Maryland Institute College of Art, Baltimore, MD.

## Arts Administration

- 2020-26 Exhibition Designer and Coordinator, Fred & Laura Ruth Bidwell Exhibition Space. Cleveland Foundation, Cleveland, OH.
- 2020-22 Creative Engagement Coordinator, SPACES. Cleveland, OH.

## Select Commissions

- 2023-25 Set Designer, Masrah Cleveland Al-Arabi. Cleveland Public Theater, Cleveland, OH.
- 2025 Sculptor, various wall works. Central Outreach Wellness Center, Columbus, OH.  
Sculptor, *Huble Grit* by Amanda King. Transformer Station, Cleveland, OH.
- 2024 Sculptor, *Steadfast Land* installation. Cleveland Botanical Gardens, OH.  
Sculptor, Empress Zenobia bust. Syrian Cultural Garden, Cleveland, OH.
- 2023 Set Designer, *Revelations of the Unconscious Mind (A Surrealist Dreamscape)* by No Exit. SPACES, Cleveland, OH.  
Sculptor, custom residential bas relief. Baltimore, MD.
- 2022 Artist, Boston Activation Project by Conservancy for Cuyahoga Valley National Park, Peninsula, OH.
- 2015 Sculptor, Nizar Qabbani bust. Syrian Cultural Garden, Cleveland, OH.

## Select Exhibitions

- 2025 A Single Word. SPACES. Cleveland, OH.  
You're Welcome. Zygote Press. Cleveland, OH.
- 2022 Among Relatives: Indigenous Voices in the Cuyahoga Valley. Trail Mix Boston. Peninsula, OH.  
Enactive Architecture. Ministry of Culture and Tourism. Columbus, OH.  
August Show. The Mine. Cleveland, OH.
- 2021 Object Lounge. Collar Works Gallery. Troy, NY.  
Printed Matter Virtual Art Book Fair. New York City, NY.  
An Introduction. Current, Cleveland, OH.  
Buds Pt II. PM Threads, Cleveland, OH.
- 2020 A Public Trust. SPACES, Cleveland, OH.  
Small Works. Abattoir Gallery, Cleveland, OH.
- 2019 (dis)comfort zones: Underrepresentation and Invisibility in the Institution. Carroll University, Waukesha, WI.
- 2018 Women to Watch. National Museum for Women in the Arts, Washington DC.  
Women to Watch Ohio (via National Museum for Women in the Arts). Riffe Gallery, Columbus, OH.
- 2017 Tender House Project. McCormick Bridgehouse and Chicago River Museum, Chicago, IL.
- 2017 Sadeer Day Exhibition. Sadeer General Trading & Contracting Co., Subhan, Kuwait.
- 2016 Creative Fusion Artists Group Exhibition. Cleveland Collection Gallery, Cleveland, OH.  
عرايس البحر (The Mermaids). The Sunroom, Cleveland, OH.  
A Little Bit of Tenderness. Data Gallery, Cleveland, OH.
- Aleppo Bathhouse. Market Square, Pittsburgh, PA. via World Refugee Day. Organized by Acculturation for Justice, Access and Peace Outreach (AJAPO).
- Cleveland Orchestra's Fridays @ 7 Concert Series. Severance Hall, Cleveland, OH.

- Aleppo Bathhouse. The Vandal, Pittsburgh, PA.  
al-Jiran. ZAINA Gallery, Cleveland, OH.  
Concrete Images from a Syria Lost. The Trimont, Pittsburgh, PA.
- 2015 DIRGES // CHEMICAL ASH. ZAINA Gallery, Cleveland, OH.  
Kamins Island. ZAINA Gallery, Cleveland, OH.  
DIRGES. ZAINA Gallery, Cleveland, OH.  
Lab Bodies: Borders, Boundaries, and Barricades. Gallery CA, Baltimore, MD.  
LANDSWEPT. Maryland Institute College of Art, Baltimore, MD.  
Antier; Ya'aburnee. La Bodega Gallery, Baltimore, MD.  
Protest Era 3. Annex 2e, Baltimore, MD.  
100% YES (via Refugee Youth Project). Current Space, Baltimore, MD.
- 2013 Ply. Middendorf Gallery, Baltimore, MD.  
2012 ON/OFF. Cleveland Institute of Art, Cleveland, OH.  
Faculty Exhibition. Orange Art Center, Pepper Pike, OH.

### **Art Books, Publications and Exhibition Catalogs**

- 2024 Designer, *Tale of Two Taínos: A Journey Through Culture, Home and History*. Exhibition Catalogue for the Cleveland Foundation (Cleveland, OH.)  
Contributing Illustrator, *Climate Realities and Responses*, Deem Journal Issue 5.
- 2023 Co-Author and Designer, *Complex Structures: Indelible Stories of Coming Home*. Exhibition Catalogue for the Cleveland Foundation (Cleveland, OH.)
- 2022 Co-Author and Designer, *Among Relatives: Indigenous Voices in the Cuyahoga Valley*. Self-published with support from the Conservancy for Cuyahoga Valley National Park (Peninsula, OH.)
- 2021 Author and Designer, *A Soulful Body: The Immigration and Placemaking of Arabs in Detroit*. Published by Empress Editions via their juried 2020 POC Artist Book Residency. (Cleveland, OH.)

### **Residencies and Fellowships**

- 2025 Artist In Residence, SPACES. Cleveland, OH.  
Artists + Residence, Arab American National Museum. Detroit, MI.
- 2024 PROOF (Print Residency of Ohio's Future) Fellowship, Zygote Press. Cleveland, OH.
- 2019 Makers Circle. Marshall, NC.
- 2016 Creative Fusion. Cleveland Foundation, Cleveland, OH.

### **Teaching Experience**

- 2012-26 Teaching Artist, Orange Art Center. Pepper Pike, OH.  
2026 Teaching Artist, Valley Art Center. Chagrin Falls, OH.  
2025 Long Term Substitute 3D Art Teacher, Chagrin Falls High School. Chagrin Falls, OH.  
2020-21 Teaching Artist, Cleveland Museum of Art Virtual Studio Programs. Cleveland, OH.  
Teaching Artist, Cleveland Museum of Art Summer Camp. Cleveland, OH.  
2015 Teaching Assistant, Introduction to Sculpture with David Brooks. MICA, Baltimore, MD.  
2012-15 Teaching Artist, MICA Community Art Partnership, Baltimore, MD.  
• Refugee Youth Project.  
• The Arc of Baltimore.  
• Baltimore Franciscan Center.

### **Artist Talks, Lectures and Panels**

- 2025 *A Single Word* Artist Talk. SPACES. Cleveland, OH.  
*Women to Watch* Alum Panel. Toledo School For the Arts. Toledo, OH.  
PROOF Fellows Artist Talk. Zygote Press. Cleveland, OH.

- 2022 Low Power Happy Hour Artist Talk. Cuyahoga Valley National Park. Peninsula, OH.
- 2021 Women of Color Advancing Peace, Security and Conflict Transformation. Virtual Conference Artist Panel.
- 2020 Patricia Summerville Arts Professional Panel. Murray State University. Murray, KY.
- 2020 Lyric by the Lake Theater Artist Talk. Fairport Harbor, OH. (Cancelled due to COVID-19).
- 2018 *Women to Watch* Artist Talk. Riffe Gallery. Columbus, OH.
- 2017 The King's Academy Artist Talk. Madaba, Jordan.

## Awards

- 2024 Creative Impact Fund, Assembly for the Arts.
- 2020 AIA Chicago Foundation Student Design Competition (nominee).
- 2018 Certificate of Recognition, President of the Ohio State Senate.
- 2017-20 Dean's Scholarship, School of the Art Institute of Chicago.
- 2017 Ox-Bow Steketee Merit Scholarship.
- 2011-15 Merit Scholarship, Maryland Institute College of Art.  
Dean's List, Maryland Institute College of Art.

## Curatorial Projects

- 2022-24 Cleveland Babies Secret Books. Cleveland, OH.
- 2023 Complex Structures: Indelible Stories of Coming Home. Cleveland Foundation. Cleveland, OH.  
Home Soon: An exhibition of art created by youth within the Cuyahoga County Detention Center alongside Mayfair Elementary School students. Co-hosted with the Tamir Rice Foundation. SPACES, Cleveland, OH.
- 2015 Kamins Island. By Leila Khoury. ZAINA Gallery, Cleveland, OH.  
Dirges/Chemical Ash. By Leila Khoury and Antoinette Nero. ZAINA Gallery, Cleveland, OH.  
LANDSWEPT. By Leila Khoury and Steph Tarlton. Maryland Institute College of Art, Baltimore, MD.  
Antier; Ya'aburnee. By Leila Khoury and Erick Benitez. La Bodega Gallery, Baltimore, MD.  
100% YES (in collaboration with Refugee Youth Project). Current Space, Baltimore, MD.

## Juries

- 2026 2027 Echo Artists in Residence. SPACES. Cleveland, OH.
- 2024 2026-27 Open Call. Vessel City. Cleveland, OH.
- 2024 2024-25 Open Call. Vessel City. Cleveland, OH.
- 2022 Caregiver Art Show. Cleveland Clinic. Cleveland, OH.
- 2021 Fieldhouse Art Mural Selection Committee. West 117 Foundation, Inc. Cleveland, OH.

## Select Bibliography

- 2022 [The Ministry of Culture and Tourism establishes first bureau in Franklinton](#), Columbus Monthly.
- 2021 [School of the Art Institute of Chicago presents 10 student architectural projects](#), Dezeen.
- 2019 [Pillagers and Preservation, A Conversation with Leila Khoury](#), The Queer Arabs Podcast.
- 2018 [Artist Spotlight: Leila Khoury](#), National Museum of Women in the Arts.  
[The Artist Re-Creating and Preserving Palmyra in Metal](#), OZY Rising Stars.  
[How Female Sculptors Are Pushing the Bounds of Metal as a Medium](#), Hyperallergic.  
[Ohio Metal Sculptors Crack Art World's Glass Ceiling](#), NPR Ideastream.  
[Spotlight: Riffe Gallery-Women to Watch Ohio 2018-Leila Khoury](#), The Ohio Channel.
- 2016 [Aleppo Bathhouse: One American Artist's Personal Response to the Syrian Crisis](#), VICE.  
[Preserving Syria Through Art](#), Your Middle East.  
[Cleveland Artist Spotlight: Leila Khoury](#), Arts Cleveland.  
[A Dedication for the Son of Syria](#), Arab America.