

**FARIDA EL GAZZAR / Biography**

Farida El Gazzar was born in 1975 in Alexandria, Egypt. She is a Greek-Egyptian artist based in Athens. From 2003 to 2007, she was co-founder of the creative team WARDA Her ongoing relationship with the Middle East is a result of her early years in Alexandria and Kuwait and has been realized also through her residencies and research in Cairo and Manama. El Gazzar's passion for painting and collaboration led her to specialize in illustration while also exploring other departments in the arts. Her artistic versatility allowed her to work with esteemed organizations like the Greek Ministry of Environment, London National Theater, and editorial magazines, showcasing the boundless opportunities in the ever-evolving world of art. Her works are with esteemed private and institutional collections in China, Greece, Egypt, France, Hong Kong, Italy, Lebanon, London, Portugal, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Spain, UAE, UK, USA among others.

**EDUCATION**

1998-2000

The Royal College of Art, London.

1996-1998

Kingston University, London.

1993-1996

Vakalo School of Art and Design, Athens.

**RESIDENCIES**

2009

Wall mural workshop, Al Riwaq Gallery, Bahrain.

2008-2009

Illustration workshop, Townhouse Gallery, Cairo.

**AWARDS**

2000

'Sheila Robinson Memorial Drawing Award', Royal College of Art, London.

2003

EVGE 'Best Editorial Illustration Award', Athens.

**EXHIBITIONS**

2026

'Optimism, Despite Everyting', Kalfayan Galleries, Athens.

'Not Third but Infinite', (group exhibition), (curated by: ACG Art collection in collaboration with Díla), Plaka, Athens.

Solo project, Art Basel Qatar 2025 (curated by Wael Shawky), Kalfayan Galleries.

2025

Pontevedra Biennial, Spain.

'The Soup' (curated by Giulia Civardi), Madragoa Gallery, Lisbon, Portugal.

2024

'All Things Become Islands Before My Senses' (curated by *Burcu Fikretoğlu* And Gisem Naz Kudunoglou), Leros island, Greece.

2023

'Stigma' (group show) (curated by Alexandros Kassandrinou), Dromokaiteio Psychiatric Hospital, Athens.

'11 Women Artists United For Children', Zoumboulakis Galleries, Athens.

'Don't Wake the Turtles' (solo show), Artissima, Kalfayan Galleries, Athens.

2022

'Don't Wake The Turtles' (solo Show), Artissima, Kalfayan Galleries, Torino.

2021

#5WomenArtists campaign, JP Morgan Collection.

2020 - 2021

'Both Sides Of The Moon' (solo show), Kalfayan Galleries, Athens.

2020

Virtual exhibition, curated by Farida El Gazzar, The Flag Art Foundation, New York, USA.

'Night Garden' (solo show), Kalfayan Galleries, Athens.

2019

Art d'Egypt 2019, several locations at Moez Street (UNESCO World Heritage Site in Historic Cairo, Egypt.

'a.O. – b.c. An audiovisual diary', STATE OF CONCEPT, Athens.

2018

Art d'Egypt – Nothing Vanishes. Everything Transforms, (group show), Manial Palace Museum, Cairo, Egypt.

'Opening Remarks' (group show), Athr Gallery, Jeddah, Saudi Arabia.

2017

Solo show, Kabinett, Kalfayan Galleries at Art Basel Miami Beach.

'NP or the Possibilities of Life'. Curated by Maria Thalia-Carras and Olga Hatzidaki. Organized by locus athens.

2016

'Glory' (solo show), Kalfayan Galleries, Athens, Greece.

2014

'Dream City' (solo show), Gypsum Gallery, Cairo, Egypt.

2013

'Thrills and Chills', CAN Gallery, Athens, Greece.

'Surpreys', Liana Vourakis, Athens, Greece.

'Zoo', Martinos, Athens, Greece.

'Alexandria Vitrines', Liana Vourakis, Athens, Greece.

2012

Art Dubai, Kalfayan Galleries.

Art Platform - Los Angeles, Kalfayan Galleries.

2011

Art Athina, Kalfayan Galleries, Athens.

2010

'Arabic Without A Teacher', Kerameikos, Athens.

'Ophthalmofanes', (curator: Iris Kritikou), Technopolis, Athens.

2009

'Rehang', (curators: November Paynter and Sylvia Kouvali), parallel event to the 11<sup>th</sup> International Istanbul Biennial, Grand Hotel De Londres, Istanbul.

'Thirty Posters on Migration', (curator: Dimitris Karaiskos), IMEPO (Hellenic Migration Policy Institute), Syntagma Metro Station, Athens.

'The Ultimate Experience', (curators: William Wells and Mayssa Fatouh), Al Riwaq Gallery, Bahrain.

2008

'I Also Learned How To Play Backgammon', Myran, Athens.

'Auxlang', (curators: Margarita Kataga and Thereza Papamichail), Artsolutiontemporary, Athens.

2007

'Backgrounds', (curator: Marieke Van Hal), Wannajob, Athens.

2006

'Streetline', WARDA, Athens.

2005

'Monochrome Rosa', WARDA, Athens.

2004

'Draw Drawing', (curator: Giacomo Picca), Gallery 32, London.

2001

'Protection of Primates', London Zoo, London.

'Intrusion', Roundchapel, London.

2000

'The Show', Royal College of Art, London.

'Folio Society Book Illustrations', Royal College of Art, London.

1998

'Absolut Secret Exhibition', Royal College of Art, London.

Conningsby Gallery, London.