

VIAN SORA

BORN

- 1976 Baghdad, Iraq
Lives and works in Louisville, Kentucky

EDUCATION

- 2012 MBA, Bellarmine University, Louisville, Kentucky
2007 Studied Printmaking, Istanbul Museum of Graphic Art
(IMOGA) Istanbul, Turkey
2000 BS, Computer Sciences, Al Mansour University, Baghdad, Iraq

SOLO EXHIBITIONS

- 2025 Travelling solo museum exhibition at Santa Barbara Art Museum, Santa Barbara, CA; Speed Art Museum, Louisville, KY; Asia Society Texas, Houston, TX (upcoming)
2024 House of Pearls, The Third Line Gallery, Dubai, UAE
Noosphere. Independent New York, David Nolan Gallery, New York, NY
2023 End of Hostilities, David Nolan Gallery, New York, NY
2022 Subduction, Luis De Jesus Los Angeles, Los Angeles, CA
What You Shout into The Woods Echoes Back, Moremen Gallery, Louisville, KY
2021 Floodgates, Moremen Gallery, Louisville, KY
2019 Unbounded Domains, Moremen Gallery, Louisville, KY
2017 Now Here, Quappi Projects, Louisville, KY
2016 Displaced Narratives, 1619 Flux, Louisville, KY
2015 Sacred Journeys, Festival of Faiths, Actors Theater Gallery, Louisville, KY
2011 Escape into Life, US Chamber of Commerce, Washington DC
2010 Between Two Worlds, The Green Building Gallery, Louisville, KY
2008 Prophecy, Aspen Gallery & Dar el Cid Museum, Kuwait City, Kuwait
2007 Legends of Baghdad, Showcase Art Gallery, Dubai, UAE
Reflections: Istanbul to Baghdad, IMOGA Art Gallery and Museum of Graphic Art, Istanbul, Turkey
2006 Voyage Into Arabia, Aspen Gallery, Dar el Cid Museum, Kuwait City, Kuwait
Vian Sora: A Woman in Time, Iraq Museum International Exhibition, Boston, MA
2004 Longing to Past, Gallery Zamwa – Sulaymaniyah City, Iraq
2003 Vian Sora: Selected Works, Japanese Foundation Culture Center, Ankara, Turkey
2003 Neher, Sheher...Misafirah (River, City...Voyage), Topkapi Palace Museum, Istanbul, Turkey
2002 Periphrasis, Baghdad, Grundfos Office Gallery, Baghdad, Iraq
2001 Pulses, Shapes and Sense of Time, Inaa Art Gallery, Baghdad, Iraq

SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS

- 2024 Risky Business: A Painter's Forum, Torrance Art Museum, Torrance, CA
2023 Rounding the Circle: The Mary and Alfred Shands Collection, Speed Art Museum, Louisville, KY
2022 Crosscurrents: Contemporary Art from the Speed Art Museum Collection and Beyond, curated by Tyler Blackwell, Speed Art Museum, Louisville, KY

- Breaking Water, curated by Amara Antilla and Clelia Coussonnet, Contemporary Arts Center, Cincinnati, OH
- 2021 New Directions: The Shands Collection, curated by Julien Robson, Quappi Projects, Louisville, KY
- 2020 We All Declare For LIBERTY, curated by John Brooks, Quappi Projects, Louisville, KY
- 2019 KMAC TRIENNIAL, Curated by Joey Yates, KMAC Museum, Louisville, KY
Imagined Monuments, curated by Keith Waits, Louisville Metro Hall, Louisville, KY
- 2017 Project 19: The Prolonged Gaze, curated by Miranda Lash, Zephyr Gallery, Louisville, KY
- 2011 In the Course of Human Events 9/11-2011, Louisville Visual Art Association, KY
- 2010 Women Imagining Women, Pyro Gallery, Louisville, KY
- 2009 Spring Show, Total Arts Gallery at the Courtyard, Dubai, UAE
- 2008 Selected works by four artists, Aspen Gallery, Kuwait City, Kuwait
Istanbul, Graphic artist annual exhibition, Istanbul Museum of Graphic Art (IMOGA), Istanbul, Turkey
- 2006 East West Dialogues, Mysticism, Tugra Gallery, London, UK
- 2005 Art from the Islamic World, Aya Gallery, London, UK
Women through War, Al Wasity Art Ministry of Culture Gallery, Baghdad, Iraq
- 2004 Autumn Exhibition, curated by Merriam Lequesne, Gallery M, Paris, France
- 2002 Four Artist group show, Zamaan Art Gallery, Beirut, Lebanon
Baghdad Art, International Art Festival, Baghdad, Iraq
- 2001 Sharjah Biennial, Sharjah, UAE

SPECIAL PROJECTS

- 2023 Art Basel Miami Beach, Meridians, Abzu
- 2023 The Alfred R. Shands III and Mary N. Shands Master Series: Vian Sora, in conversation with Contemporary Curator Tyler Blackwell, Speed Art Museum, Louisville, KY
- 2018 Video Installation, Collaboration with the Louisville Orchestra, conductor Teddy Abrams, and composer Sebastian Chang, Louisville, KY
Women Artists in the Age of Impressionism, Audio Recording Project, The Speed Art Museum, Louisville, KY

AWARDS/RESIDENCIES

- 2021 Great Meadows Foundation Art Residency Studio Program, Berlin, Germany
- 2018 Joan Mitchell Foundation Nominee Painter and Sculpture Award
- 2017 Great Meadows Foundation Artist traveling grant recipient
- 2003 Grundfos Art Residency Program August, Bodrum, Turkey
- 2003 Grundfos Selected Portfolio Artist, Istanbul, Turkey
- 2002 Grundfos Sponsored Artist, Copenhagen, Denmark

COLLECTIONS

- AK Bank Collection, Istanbul, Turkey
- Baltimore Museum of Art, Baltimore, MD
- Brooke and Ambassador Matthew Barzun Collection, Louisville, KY
- Brooke and Pam Smith Collection, Louisville KY

Dar Al Cid Museum, Tareq Rajab Collection, Kuwait City, Kuwait
Fidelity Art Collection, Boston, MA
French Embassy, Baghdad, Iraq
Grinnell College Museum of Art, Grinnell, IA
Henry Heuser, Jr. and Donald Whitfield Collection, Louisville, KY
Italian Embassy, Baghdad, Iraq
Jim and Irene Karp Collection, Charleston, IN
Kadim al Sahir Paris, France
KMAC Museum, Louisville, KY
Leder Collection, New York, NY
Ministry of Culture Contemporary Collection, Baghdad, Iraq
Museum of Contemporary Art, San Diego, CA
Pizzuti Collection, Columbus, OH
The Shands Collection, Louisville, KY
Santa Barbara Art Museum, Santa Barbara, CA
Shah Garg Collection, New York, NY
Speed Art Museum, Louisville, KY
Stephen Reily and Emily Bingham Collection, Louisville, KY

