

# Hirafen

Nov 4, 2023 — Mar 20, 2024 | Atelier du centre technique du tapis et du tissage (C3T), Tunis, Tunisia

The *Hirafen* exhibition offers a unique dialogue between contemporary art and crafts. Nineteen multidisciplinary artists have been invited to draw on the expertise of Tunisian weaving and braiding crafts to create specific works of art as part of a research and production residency in Tunisia. Through their respective artistic practices, these artists of different origins and generations have each developed a singular approach that delves into the variety of dimensions of an intangible heritage to be discovered, and whose non-linear history is marked by changes, influences and ruptures.

From the north to the south of Tunisia, in towns and villages, in the public areas of the medinas and in the intimacy of the home, women and men have always woven and embroidered thread and braided natural fibres gathered from their surrounding environment. Their age-old gestures have generated works whose rich diversity of materials, colours and motifs are the result of a wide range of skills and techniques that have been passed down through the time.

Exploring the handicraft tradition provides artists with a field in which to experiment, but also to connect with making, the gesture of the hand and, more broadly, with nature and history. The idea behind this exhibition is to create an opportunity for dialogue between artists and craftsmen and women, and to raise the question of how we can work together to make things. Knowledge continues to be passed on and gestures repeated ad infinitum, to preserve a collective memory that is still very much alive, as demonstrated by the *Hirafen* exhibition, where the diversity of its many voices enriching the narrative.

Exhibition curators:

Ludovic Delalande

Nadia Jelassi

Hirafen is the 5th edition of Talan l'Expo and marks the 10th anniversary of its creation.

## ARTIST LIST

Majd Abdel Hamid (1988, Syria), lives and works between Paris and Beirut  
Joël Andrianomearisoa (1977, Madagascar), lives and works between Paris, Antananarivo and Magnat l'Étrange  
Asma Ben Aïssa (1992, Tunisia) lives and works in Tunis  
Meriem Bouderbala (1960, Tunisia), lives and works in Tunis  
Dora Dalila Cheffi (1990, Finland) lives and works between Tunis and Helsinki  
Binta Diaw (1995, Italy) lives and works between Milan and Dakar  
Jennifer Douzenel (1984, France) lives and works in Paris  
Aïcha Filali (1956, Tunisia) lives and works in Tunis  
Mohamed Amine Hamouda (1981, Tunisia) lives and works in Gabès  
Sonia Kallel (1973, Tunisia) lives and works in Tunis  
Abdoulaye Konaté (1953, Mali) lives and works in Bamako  
Aymen Mbarki (1983, Tunisia) lives and works in Tunis  
Chalisée Naamani (1995, France) lives and works in Paris  
Sara Ouhaddou (1986, France) lives and works between Paris and Marrakech  
Zineb Sedira (1963, France) lives and works between Paris, Algiers and London  
Aïcha Snoussi (1989, Tunisia) lives and works between Sète and Tunis  
Moffat Takadiwa (1983, Zimbabwe) lives and works in Harare  
Ali Tnani (1982, Tunisia) lives and works in Tunis  
Najah Zarbout (1979, Tunisia) lives and works in Sousse