

Mona Gazala

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Education

2020 MFA Sculpture / City & Regional Planning, The Ohio State University

1988 BFA Drawing, Painting, and Printmaking, The Ohio State University

Solo Exhibitions

2026 Trail Markers, screening/artist talk, National Underground Railroad Freedom Center, Cincinnati, Ohio

2026 Ordinary Lives (2-artist exhibit), International Peace Museum, Dayton, OH

2025 Bint, Bassani Theater, Dayton OH

2024 Trail Markers preview, Wexner Center, Columbus OH

2024 Backroads of Empire, Trisolini Gallery, Ohio University, Athens OH

2024 Topographies (2-artist exhibit), Vessel City, Cleveland OH

2023 New Works, Gazala Projects Studio, Gettysburg, OH

2021 Willfully Neglected (2-artist exhibit) OSU Urban Arts Space

2020 Saving the Crew that Matters, OSU Urban Arts Space

2019 Disarticulated. Spaces Gallery, Cleveland OH

2018 Given the Circumstances. Project 1612, Peoria IL

2018 Home-Town. Second Sight Project, Columbus OH

2017 What Remains. Hugh N. Ronald Gallery, Portland IN

2016 Fragmented Histories. Columbus Cultural Arts Center, Columbus OH

2016 Without a Country. Sign House, Columbus OH

2015 The Artifact Project. OSU Hopkins Hall Gallery, Columbus OH

2015 Back to the Garden: Eve's Revolution. House Tremont, Cleveland OH

2014 Remnants. Showpods Chicago Arts District, Chicago IL

2014 Bodies at Rest: Bound Up in This Place. Hopkins Hall Gallery, Columbus

2014 Lath and Plaster: Deconstruction. Cleveland Art League, Cleveland OH

2014 Lost in Translation. Hermann Fine Arts Center, Marietta OH

Select Group Exhibitions and Screenings

2026 Mouthful, Vox Populi Gallery, Philadelphia, PA

2025 Cartography (artist/curator), Urban Arts Space, Columbus OH

2025 Ripples: Invitational Exhibition, Project 1612, Peoria, IL

2025 Power Collapse Memory, film screenings, Vox Populi, Philadelphia, PA

2024 Seoul International Short Film Festival (winner, short doc)

2024 Madrid International Short Film Festival
 2024 Tokyo International Short Film Festival
 2024 Tri-State New York International Film Festival
 2024 (UU)ater, Brenda Tuxford Gallery, Eureka, CA
 2023 Grief Listens, Listen Gallery, Glasgow, Scotland
 2023 Palestinian Voices, Assoc. Arab Film & Media, Brooklyn NY
 2023 Transfer, Art Academy of Cincinnati, Cincinnati OH
 2023 my eye has no iris, Wexner Center, Columbus OH
 2023 Commemorating Nakba, Swords into Plowshares, Detroit MI
 2023 Text Me When You Get Home (artist/curator), Hopkins Gallery, Columbus
 2023 Damask Rose, Random Sample, Nashville TN
 2022 Earth - Nurture - Seed, Storm Studio, Brooklyn NY
 2022 Activists and Agitators, Columbus OH YWCA
 2022 Deeply Rooted, Woman Made Gallery, Chicago
 2022 One Earth Awards Film Festival, Bangalore India
 2022 Columbus Moving Image Review #49 & 51, Columbus OH
 2021 Remote Closeness, National Gallery of Fine Arts, Jordan
 2021 Disinvestment, Roy G Biv Gallery, Columbus, OH
 2021 Posing the Question. Heights Arts, Cleveland, OH
 2020 Symbolic Activities. OSU Fine Arts Library, Columbus, OH
 2019 The City Remembers. Knowlton School of Architecture, Columbus OH
 2019 Gimme Shelter. Cleveland Print Room, Cleveland OH
 2018 Metamorphosis. Percolate Art Space, Pittsburgh PA
 2018 Walking Through Doorways Causes Forgetting, Neil Ave School, Columbus
 2017 This is Now. Gateway Film Center, Columbus OH
 2017 Property. Roman Susan Gallery, Chicago IL
 2017 Common Objects. Union Street Gallery, Chicago IL
 2016 Politics & Power. Anne Street Gallery, Newburgh NY

Literary Events/Publications

2026 Ohio Bards, book launch/reading, Columbus OH
 2025 Words for Palestine, book launch/reading, Arab American Natl. Museum
 2024 Dayton Library Poetry Contest, First Place, "Won't Lay Down"
 2024 Gordon Square Review, "Fish Story" & "Balfour Blackout Composition"
 2024 Ohio Bards Anthology, "Afterglow"
 2024 Palestine Writes. "Won't Lay Down"
 2023 Utopian Megapraxis (UU)ater Anthology, "Moon Over Greenville Creek"
 2022 About Place Journal, "Closeness to the Land"
 2020 Shuruq Arab Literary Festival, "There But Not There"
 2019 Muff Magazine, "There But Not There"

Funded Socially-Engaged Art Projects

- 2026 Flowers from the Holy Land, a collective photographic archive
- 2024 Creative Residency/Film Making exchange at Gazala Projects
- 2023 Text Me When You Get Home – Poetry Readings
- 2020 The Human Library, Columbus
- 2019 The Mike Ingles Story Project, Columbus
- 2019 The Housing Project, a Traveling Sculpture. Columbus & Cleveland
- 2018 Student-Painted Mural in Phoenix Urban Garden, Franklinton
- 2018 As Seen in Franklinton, Columbus
- 2017 Bloom, Bloom with Dana Lynn Harper, Columbus
- 2016 Faces of Franklinton, Columbus

Guest Lecturer/speaker

- 2026 Denison University, art/activism lectures, Granville, OH
- 2026 International Peace Museum, film discussion, Dayton, Ohio
- 2025 Journal of Curriculum Theory, panel discussion, Dayton, OH, Oct
- 2025 Project 1612: Art, identity, activism panel discussion, Peoria, IL, July
- 2025 Urban Arts Space Gallery, film discussion, Columbus OH, July
- 2024 Ohio University, Visiting Artist Lecture & studio visits, Athens OH, Sept.
- 2023 Ohio State University, Hopkins Gallery curator talk, Columbus, June
- 2023 Arab Arts Alliances, MOVE Conference Dearborn MI, April
- 2021 Dear Fellow Settler Colonial podcast (Verge), June
- 2020 Indigenous Alliances, Rachel Corrie Foundation, October
- 2019 SPACES Gallery, Cleveland, June
- 2019 Department of Art, The Ohio State University, Columbus, February
- 2018 Department of Geography, The Ohio State University, Columbus, October
- 2018 The Ohio Art League, Columbus, August
- 2018 Franklinton Historical Society, Columbus, May
- 2017 Knowlton School of Architecture, The Ohio State University, September

Recent Grants and Fellowships

- 2025 Ohio Arts Council – Artist Project Grant
- 2025 Foundation for Contemporary Arts Emergency Grant
- 2023 Ohio Arts Council – Artist Projects Grant
- 2022 Darke County Endowment for the Arts
- 2021 Greater Columbus Arts Council
- 2020 Puffin Foundation West
- 2019 Franklinton Arts District
- 2019 Dean’s Graduate Enrichment Fellowship
- 2019 Hishmeh Foundation
- 2018 Franklinton Arts District
- 2018 Decapital
- 2018 Ohio Arts Council
- 2018 Puffin Foundation West

Bibliography

- 2026 Hill, Brittany, Gazala shows documentary at International Peace Museum, Daily Advocate, February
- 2025 Downing, Andy, Hambouz and El Chaer strike a balance in Gazala Projects exhibition, Matter News, November
- 2025 Downing, Andy, Dual Urban Arts Space Exhibitions Transcend Borders, Matter News, July
- 2024 Downing, Andy, Mona Gazala walks a winding path in 'Trail Markers,' Matter News, Sept
- 2024 Bass, Chloe, Questions to Social Practice Artists, A Blade of Grass, July
- 2024 Downing, Andy, 'Transfer – Moving' finds a home at Gazala Projects, Matter News, January 3
- 2023 Downing, Andy. Palestinian Filmmakers link Past, Present. Matter News, September 5
- 2023 Shunnarah, Mandy. Rural Curator Brings Palestinian American Artists Together. Arts Midwest, July 18
- 2022 Downing, Andy. Mona Gazala takes control of the story. Matter News, December 12
- 2021 Downing, Andy. Artists fight cultural erasure in thought-provoking new exhibition, Columbus Alive, May 24
- 2020 Elder, Johnny. Interview with Mona Gazala, OSU Urban Arts Space, Vimeo
- 2020 Downing, Andy. Artist Mona Gazala wants Columbus to save other crews, Columbus Alive, March 4
- 2020 Layla Muchnik-Banali. "Mona Gazala," Ballast exhibition catalog essay, Ohio State University, February 22
- 2020 Downing, Andy. Mona Gazala signs off at Sullivant Avenue's Sign House, Columbus Alive, January 7
- 2019 Kemper, Rebecca. Artist Residencies as Placekeepers under Creative District Displacement Pressures, N Carolina Planning Journal #44
- 2019 Fischer, Jim. The Mike Ingles Story Project, Columbus Alive, April 17
- 2018 Tonguette, Peter. Franklinton Unfiltered: Hashtag becomes an artistic cause Columbus Monthly, March
- 2018 Barghouty, Ghezal. All Eyes on Franklinton: Second Sight Artists Bring Surroundings to Light, The Lantern, January 8
- 2018 Fischer, Jim. Home Town and Color Experiment at Second Sight, Columbus Alive, January 17
- 2017 Fischer, Jim. Mona Gazala's big dig. Columbus Alive cover story, July 12
- 2016 Fischer, Jim. Second Sight features faces, residents, Columbus Alive, September 8
- 2016 Oster, Vicki. Mona Gazala = Second Sight Project, Ohio Crafters and Artisans, September 6
- 2016 Tonguette, Peter. Mona Gazala incorporates discarded items in her creations. Columbus Dispatch, January 24

- 2016 Fischer, Jim. Artist Mona Gazala's Fragmented Histories at Columbus Cultural Arts Center, Columbus Alive, January 14
- 2014 Tigges, Jesse. Beyond Art: Mona Gazala's Second Sight is the house open to all artists, Columbus Alive, October 1
- 2014 Starker, Melissa. Franklinton Abode Doubles as a Home for Creativity, Columbus Dispatch, Jan 3
- 2013 Gill, Michael, Herding Cats: 4 Artist Organizers Discuss the Hows and Whys, CAN Journal, January