

## Statement

Today I'll tell you about my experience. This is the experience of a student who has a strong passion for the arts, particularly sculpting on clay. I was seeking for someone who would value my creative abilities and guide me in the proper path, and the opportunity came when I was admitted to Reading University to finish my master's degree. From here, the educational staff attempted to welcome my creativity and worked hard to nurture it, providing all means and technological capacities for its growth. Throughout the academic year, the university's lectures played a significant role in the development of creative energies, particularly the lecture titled (Writing as Critical), which began with the phrase (I write about the things I can't paint and paint about the things I can write about).

This statement made an influence on me since it opened up new avenues for me to articulate my views and express them in my critical practises. Also significant in developing my abilities and creative style were the lectures given by my colleagues, as I profited immensely from them and from presenting their thoughts and experiences, as well as from the artists who were impacted by them. When they demonstrated their influence on artists from their hometown, this was a new addition and development to my knowledge, especially since I was an Arab student with no exposure to other cultures. This encounter exposed me to a diverse range of cultures and artists. And my experience with submitting Presentation was also extremely beneficial in terms of building my self-confidence and advising me on how to apply my ideas creatively via exchanging thoughts with colleagues and educational staff.

And I do not forget the role of the feed back that is provided when I was booking an appointment with the doctors in the department, as they gave me a lot of advice and sought to shed light on many artists to benefit from them, especially since I am an Arab student and I do not know many foreign artists. I also benefited a lot from the artists who are hosted weekly in the theater, as they had a great influence in changing my thoughts. I had a feeling when the artist stood up and talked about his experience (why not come one day and be the same artist and explain my experience to the audience) This was a great motivation and motivation for me In order to develop greatly, and those who influenced me greatly, such as the artist (Dean Kenning )<sup>(1)</sup>

Academic tutorials also played an important part in answering several technical issues that I had. When we visited a number of museums with Dr. Kirsten Cook in Module Mapping the Art World, it was a one-of-a-kind experience since I learned a lot about the artist (Damien Hirs)<sup>(2)</sup> And the extent of development that art has reached through NFT, which is still unknown in our Arab countries.

And I will never forget my first encounter in Madrid, at the Museo del Prado, where I performed a Visual analytical for artwork and became familiar with the analytical process. I learnt how to do Visual Analysis and what actions I take throughout the analysis. It was for art critique offered in the first show by Dr.Kate Allen and Dr.Julia Crabtree, as well as in the second exhibition by Dr. Christine Ellison and Dr.Pil Kollektiv, that had a significant influence in diverting my thoughts to the road of creation. And the artist Shama Khanna, who assisted us in organising the show, plays an important role. Because we each work with a different idea and a different method of implementation, I learned from her how to create a thought that connects us all. Her method of determining the elements that connect us together is a fresh addition to my knowledge as well as a new experience for me.

The female form plays an important role in my artistic endeavours. I have been inspired by the diverse manifestations of female power and strength. Through Sculpture and clay as a medium I try to translate this empowering and enlightening experience into these different shapes and forms that I give to the female figures. The form and event described in these works stems from personal experience and a culture that calls for liberation and breaking away from restrictions. My three works in second exhibition are a story of three female friends, each of whom tries to express her suffering. The first female (silent music) loves to play the guitar, but in the Gulf society it is forbidden for a girl to play any musical instrument, as she was deprived of her hobby because of these societal customs and traditions. The second female (Existence) suffers from marginalization. In some Gulf societies, women may suffer from being neglected since the men is usually prioritized over the women, She did not find

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( 1)<https://www.instagram.com/p/Ckich2SlyHw/?igshid=YmMyMTA2M2Y=>

( 2) <https://www.instagram.com/reel/CjihFegg4s/?igshid=YmMyMTA2M2Y=>

anyone noticing her in life. So this led her to remove her face and place it in her hand to try to get the attention of those around her. The last figure, the third female (solitude) embodies a sense of taut societal constraints. In these sculptures, there is a deliberate effort aimed at liberating women and securing their strength.

As for the case of the Degree Show exhibition, my idea was extended from the second exhibition, as it is about what women suffer in our society. The idea is entitled (prohibition mixing between genders. And the irony of it) "prohibition mixing between genders" is a term that refers to a situation in which some oppose the integration of the sexes in some areas, such as work, education or society. This attitude can be related to religious, cultural or social beliefs. However, one must be aware that "prohibition mixing between genders" can lead to gender discrimination and inequality, and can negatively affect social and economic development, and prevent opportunities for individuals in society.

Therefore, we must work to achieve gender equality and encourage mixing and positive interaction between individuals regardless of their nationalities, cultures or beliefs. Women in our society may suffer severely from this problem. Mixing of the sexes is forbidden among students at the university. There are lectures given to young men who must be presented by a male professor, and other lectures given to girls which must be presented by a female professor. And it must be done in completely separate buildings, and this is not only in the university, but also in schools. There are schools for boys and others for girls. Also those who teach them must be of the same gender. And the matter extended to a lot of jobs, as there are many jobs in which mixing is prohibited, as well as in the matters of our daily life, so it is forbidden for us to mix with men, even if they are relatives. The clerics are trying with great force to suppress women, as this matter harms women in society, which made me mock the reality in which we live. As for the men, I sought to show their strength and tyranny through the reptiles and insects that I carved on their bodies. Each person has a size that represents the impact he leaves on those around him in the community, so there was a variety of sizes and lengths for the shapes..In a social level, it can help break down barriers and promote a sense of community and teamwork. These sculptures help raise awareness of the suffering of women in most of the patriarchal societies.

I get inspired by artists like Djakou Kassi Nathalie She tries her best to infuse content into pottery and show that it is an art. And you want people to see what's behind the cups and utensils. You hope that the ideas you put forward will influence people.

Her most recent artwork is currently on display in Los Angeles, at Signature African Art Gallery. It is a symbol of strength and support for marginalized communities. Covering larger-than-life clenched fists, African masks and messages carved in clay cry out against racism and discrimination.

I was influenced by her method, as she uses pottery to express some issues that touch reality, such as racism, I was impressed by her style when she presents three works of different sizes in most of her exhibitions.

I get inspired by Antony Gormley is an artist. He is a British sculptor who is known for his figurative works that explore the relationship between the human body and space. Gormley's works often involve casting his own body or the bodies of others in various poses and positions, creating installations that challenge the viewer's perception of their own body and its relationship to the surrounding environment.

"Field" is a sculptural installation created by Antony Gormley in 1991. The installation is made up of thousands of small, handmade terracotta figures, each one unique and representing a different individual. These figures are arranged in a grid-like pattern on the floor, covering the entire surface of the space. The installation was first exhibited at the Salvatore Ala Gallery in New York in 1991, and has since been exhibited at numerous other galleries and museums around the world. "Field" is one of Gormley's most famous works, and is often cited as an example of his interest in exploring the relationship between the individual and the collective, as well as his fascination with the human form and its potential for endless variation and transformation, I was greatly influenced by it in the implementation of my last idea (prohibition mixing between genders).

As well Rebecca Warren is a contemporary British sculptor known for her figurative works that explore the boundaries of sculpture and its relationship to the body. Warren's sculptures often incorporate a mix of materials, including bronze, clay, and found objects such as plastic toys and other everyday items. Her works often reference the human form, but with exaggerated or distorted features that challenge traditional notions of beauty and perfection.

Klara Kristalova is a contemporary Swedish artist known for her ceramic sculptures and works on paper. Kristalova's sculptures often depict human and animal forms, with an emphasis on the emotional and psychological states of her subjects. Her works often incorporate elements of fantasy and folklore, and she is known for her ability to convey a sense of fragility and vulnerability in her sculptures.

Brian Booth Craig is a contemporary sculptor. His work translates classically derived figures into contemporary icons. His females nudes are imbued with a sense of agency. Mixing 21st century gestures with surprising talismans, his statues are very much of our time, despite the medium's classical origins. Verist in nature, Craig's figures capture moments of individual self-assertion. From which, I sensed the feeling of strength in the naked females, which prompted me to focus in my work on that strength through the physical formation of each girl. When you see the sculptures that I presented, you feel the strength of the individual assertion of each character, despite the inner suffering that each character feels.

**Documentation in My Website:** <https://emanalmukaimi.com>

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