

The background is a complex, abstract painting. It features a dense arrangement of colors, including various shades of green, brown, blue, and white. The texture is highly visible, with thick brushstrokes and a collage-like quality. There are some discernible shapes, such as what might be a tree or a building, but they are heavily layered and integrated into the overall abstract composition.

eclectica
contemporary

Evolution of Ibrahim Khatab (2018–2025): A Focused Retrospective

Ibrahim Khatab



Ibrahim Khatab was born in Cairo in 1984 and works as a co-teacher at Cairo University. His practice spans across the mediums of painting, video art and installation. Khatab has been practicing since he was 12 years old, when he created billboards on cloths and walls that were put up in the streets of Cairo. This early experience continues to influence his work and also ignited his passion for Arabic calligraphy, which can consistently be seen as a significant element across his body of work.

Since 2007, Khatab's work has frequently been presented in group shows and solo exhibitions. He has garnered notable recognition locally and regularly exhibits across various art centres and galleries in Cairo. Additionally, Khatab has seen impressive exposure abroad, having exhibited widely – from Sweden to Cape Town to Oman. He has regularly participated in the annual Youth Salon, Cairo and has also led many workshops in Visual Arts Center, Oman; Fine Arts Association, Doha; and Sharjah Children Biennial (2013). He has been awarded various prizes for his work and in 2018 obtained his PhD from Cairo University.

Khatab has shown in numerous group exhibitions and fair booths with Eclectica Contemporary, namely: Alive Memory, a solo show at Eclectica Contemporary in 2020, Miart 2023, Ard Al-Alawa: The Banners Land at SOLO Booth at Investec Cape Town Art Fair 2024, Abu Dhabi Art Fair 2024, Khatab was recently awarded the RDC Acquisition Prize at Investec Cape Town Art Fair 2025. Notable collections include Egyptian Museum of Modern Art, Cairo University, a featured in the Leading Artists of African Descent program, Art X Lagos - Nigeria (2022), Stefan Gierowski Foundation in Poland (2024).

Evolution of Ibrahim Khatab (2018–2025): A Focused Retrospective

Evolution of Ibrahim Khatab (2018–2025) presents a concise retrospective charting seven years of artistic development through a tightly edited selection of seven to ten works. Spanning poster, paint on wood, and sculpture, the exhibition foregrounds decisive shifts in Khatab's material language and formal strategies.

Rather than an exhaustive survey, the exhibition isolates key moments of transition from street-based poster surfaces to increasingly layered painterly compositions and three-dimensional forms. Calligraphy, texture, and urban residue operate as structural devices, embedding memory, repetition, and resistance across mediums. Each work marks a point of rupture or refinement, positioning Khatab's practice as one of continual transformation rather than resolution.



IBRAHIM KHATAB

Untitled (in green), 2018

Mixed media on board

146 x 154 cm

USD 5,900 ex. VAT



IBRAHIM KHATAB

Untitled (5), 2020

Mixed media on board

101,5 x 101,5 cm

USD 3,900 ex. VAT



IBRAHIM KHATAB

Hearts, 2021

Mixed media on recycled wood

151 x 148 cm

USD 6,000 ex. VAT



IBRAHIM KHATAB

Arib, 2022

Mixed media on recycled wood

146 x 146 cm

USD 6,250 ex. VAT



IBRAHIM KHATAB

Talking walls , Blue, 2024

Mixed media on wood

120 x 120 cm

USD 5,000 ex. VAT



IBRAHIM KHATAB

Talking walls, Pink, 2025

Mixed media on wood

120 x 120 cm

USD 5,000 ex. VAT



IBRAHIM KHATAB
Sculpture in Green, 2022
Mixed media
71 x 40 x 50 cm

USD 3,500 ex. VAT

eclectica contemporary

With an increasing focus on African Art around the world, Eclectica Contemporary aims to present a carefully selected and focused collection of art from the continent that interrogates issues facing us in a globalized world. The art at Eclectica Contemporary often showcases practices and materials from art history but which push these boundaries and explore uncharted territories of representation, technique and theory.

Based in Cape Town, South Africa, Eclectica Contemporary sees itself as an African gallery with an international vision. We celebrate the diversity and depth of art making on our continent while aiming to contextualize it for a growing global market.

Our program of exhibitions shows a mix of solo shows by gallery artists alongside curated group shows. In addition, the Eclectica Contemporary exhibition space has facilities for experimental, new media and project- based works.

For any enquiries please contact
info@eclecticacontemporary.co.za
+27 021 422 4145