



OMAR HASSAN

Born in Milan, Italy in 1987



"In boxing, as in life, you are alone: Boxing requires hard work and daily effort. When you are knocked down, you must get back up on your feet and continue to fight."

Omar Hassan

Omar Hassan graduated at the Academy of Fine Arts of Brera in 2010 and, after taking part in several group and solo exhibitions, he was invited by Vittorio Sgarbi, curator of the Italian Pavilion, to exhibit at the 54th Venice Biennale in 2011.

After 10 years of training as a professional boxer, Hassan was forced to stop boxing due to a diagnosis of diabetes; being unable to fully explore his passion, the artist returned to his second love, investing all his energy into the artistic practice.

In the series of paintings called "Breaking Through" Hassan combines painting and performance in a vigorously gestural technique inspired by his boxing career, which involves dipping his boxing gloves into paint and punching onto a large canvas. The series "Injections" consists of paintings with single dots and streams of paint dripping down from their core, and they refer to the artist's daily shots of Insulin.

Hassan says he finds inspiration in the work of Graffiti pioneers such as Jean-Michel Basquiat and in Jackson Pollock's masterful abstractions, but he doesn't feel to be categorised according to one style only. His creative impulse takes different forms, from whimsical dappled splotches to lines of wet paint that drip down picture frames to a street installation of massive cubes covered in rainbow tones. Furthermore, both his multilayered artworks on canvas and his cast in plaster or bronze reflect his strong attention to materiality.

Hassan has realized several public works and installations both in Italy and UK. These include "One Wall" at the Palazzo della Regione in Milan, the Museum Mille Miglia in Brescia, the Academy of Fine Arts Aldo Galli in Como, "Colour Cube" in London's Brick Lane, and the

Cris Contini Contemporary

London | Milano | Bruxelles

w. www.criscontinicontemporary.com | e. info@criscontinicontemporary.com
@criscontinicontemporary | #criscontinicontemporary



redcoration of a concrete bollard located alongside the East London Line. All these artworks are characterized by the signature motif of the “Injections” series. Among the latest solo exhibitions, *Quarta Civitas* at the Lavazza Museum in Turin, *Punctum* conceived with the Federico II Foundation at the Palazzo Reale in Palermo, and *IL MONDO È N(v)OSTRO* at the Stellite Foundation in Milan.

Cris Contini Contemporary

London | Milano | Bruxelles

w. www.criscontinicontemporary.com | e. info@criscontinicontemporary.com
[@criscontinicontemporary](https://www.instagram.com/criscontinicontemporary) | [#criscontinicontemporary](https://www.facebook.com/criscontinicontemporary)



ARTIST'S BIOGRAPHY

EDUCATION

2010

He graduated from the Academy of Fine Arts of Brera, Milan, Italy

SOLO EXHIBITIONS AND INSTALLATIONS

2023

Quarta Civitas, personal exhibition for the five years of the complex, Nuvola Lavazza Museum, Turin, Italy

Punctum, personal exhibition created with the Federico II Foundation, Palazzo Reale, Palermo, Italy

2022

IL MONDO È N(v)OSTRO, Stelline Foundation, Milan

Muri d'artista 2022, site-specific installation, curated by Isorropia gallery and Prof. Francesco Martelli, Cittadella degli Archivi, Milan

2021

Breaking Through Black Berlin, Luisa Catucci Gallery, Berlin

Breaking Through Black Berlin, Twice, Bermel Von Lyxburg Gallery, Berlin

2020

SopraSotto, Prometeo Gallery of Ida Pisani, Milan

SottoSopra, Palazzo delle Arti, Naples, Italy

2019

Waiting For, Exhibition in a private house, Isorropia Home Gallery + Artissima Art Fair, Turin, Italy
First Performance of *Breaking Through Black in Miami* at 5Th Gym World Famous Mohamed Ali, Miami, Florida

2018

L'Essenziale è Invisibile agli Occhi: a dialogue with Wassily Kandinsky, Orangerie of the Royal Palace of Monza, Italy

Breaking Through, Performance & Art Show, Bel-Air Fine Art, Saint-Tropez, France

2017

Breaking Through Miami Round 2, 179 NW 25th Street, Miami, USA

Miami SCOPE Beach Art Fair, Miami, USA

Cris Contini Contemporary

London | Milano | Bruxelles

w. www.criscontinicontemporary.com | e. info@criscontinicontemporary.com
[@criscontinicontemporary](https://www.instagram.com/criscontinicontemporary) | [#criscontinicontemporary](https://www.facebook.com/criscontinicontemporary)



Breaking Through Lugano, Lugano, Switzerland

Do Ut Des curated by Alberto Peruzzo Foundation, in collaboration with Contini Art UK, Chiesetta della Misericordia, Venice, Italy

Breaking Through Bologna, Royal Carlton, Bologna, Italy

2016

Breaking Through New York, UNIX Gallery, New York, USA

Breaking Through Milan, curated by Luca Beatrice, in collaboration with Contini Art UK, M.A.C Maimeri Foundation, Milan

2015

Breaking Through, ContiniArtUK, London, UK

2014

L'essenziale è Invisibile agli Occhi, Montesegale Castle, Pavia, Italy

Il dolce far nulla, site-specific installation, Montesegale (Pavia), Italy

2012

Jab, Jab!!, Colossi Arte Contemporanea, Brescia, Italy

Installazione site-specific, Accademia delle Belle Arti Galli, Como, Italy

2011

H.O.2, curated by Ivan Quaroni, Fabbrica Eos, Milan, Italy

One Wall, site-specific installation, Palace of the Lombardy Region, Presidential Corridor

2009

Gaijin, Musashy Gallery, Tokyo, Japan

SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS

2022

SOS Humanity, Simone Benedetto – Silvia della Rocca – Sergio Floriani – Helidon Xhixha - Omar Hassan, Alberto Giacomini Foundation, Lago d'Orta, Italy

2017

Beirut Art Fair, ContiniArtUK, Beirut International & Leisure Centre Downtown, Beirut, Lebanon

Bologna Arte Fiera, Bologna Exhibition Centre, Bologna, Italy, nominated for the 11th edition of the 'Euromobil Prize Under 30' in Bologna

2016

Colour and Matter, Pied a Terre, Porto Cervo, Italy

Motomorphosis: Special project with Ducati and Sotheby's, La Triennale di Milano, Milan, Italy

START, Saatchi Gallery, London, UK

WOP Art, Lugano, Switzerland

Cris Contini Contemporary

London | Milano | Bruxelles

w. www.criscontinicontemporary.com | e. info@criscontinicontemporary.com
@criscontinicontemporary | #criscontinicontemporary



2015

Premio Cairo, Group exhibition as a finalist for Cairo Art Prize, Palazzo della Permanente, Milan, Italy

Breaking Through Miami in support of DRI in collaboration with St Regis and Rosenbaum Contemporary, Miami, Florida, USA

Summer Show, Just Cavalli, Ibiza, Spain

Miami Art Fair, Miami, Florida, USA

Group Exhibition, Rosenbaum Contemporary, Bal Harbour, Florida, USA

ART STAGE, Singapore, Singapore

ArtWynwood Miami, Rosenbaum Contemporary, Miami, Florida, USA

2014

Eccentrico Musivo, MAR, Museum of Contemporary Art, Ravenna, Italy

Qualcosa d'Impatto, Carlo Caldara – Paolo De Cuarto – Omar Hassan, Castello di Gambolò, Pavia, Italy

2013

Sedie d'Artista, SIM-PATIA, Triennale di Milano

Crystal Le Club, Crystal Palace, Brescia, Italy

ArtVerona, Colossi Arte Contemporanea, Verona, Italy

Bubble, Terrazza Aperol, Duomo Square, Milan, Italy

Orientalmente, Palazzo Te, Mantova, Italy

Refreshing Art, Art Factory, Catania, Italy

Bologna Arte Fiera, Colossi Arte Contemporanea, Bologna, Italy

2012

Bergamo Arte Fiera, Colossi Arte Contemporanea, Bergamo, Italy

ArtVerona, Colossi Arte Contemporanea, Verona, Italy

Restart, Fabbrica Eos, Milan, Italy

Roma Contemporary, Fabbrica Eos, Rome, Italy

Arte Accessibile, Sole24ore, Milan, Italy

Robert F. Kennedy Foundation of Europe, Hangar Bicocca, Milan, Italy

2011

54th Venice Biennale, Italian Pavilion, Venice, Italy

Una Mano per Ail, il giusto mezzo, Charity auction at Pomodoro Foundation, Christie's, Milan, Italy

AAM, Sole24Ore, Milan, Italy

2010

Creativeworld, Frankfurt, Germany

Scrittura Visiva, Marelia Gallery, Bergamo, Italy

ArtVerona, FabbricaEos, Verona, Italy

M(A)mbiguity, Fabbrica del Vapore, Milan, Italy

Kilometro 20+1, Torrione Farnese, curated by Dany Vescovi, Castell'Arquato, Italy

Il MA, Katy House Gallery, Monfalcone, Italy

In-Tortona, Spazio Concept, Milan, Italy

Cris Contini Contemporary

London | Milano | Bruxelles

w. www.criscontinicontemporary.com | e. info@criscontinicontemporary.com

@criscontinicontemporary | #criscontinicontemporary



2009

Tokio Flash, Fabbrica del Vapore, Milan, Italy

26 for Tibet, Tsetan Sonam, Milan, Italy

26 for Tibet, Centro Guarinoni, Fortunago, Italy

Streets without Wall, Misericordia Museum, curated by Chiara Canali, Florence, Italy

Attuttotondo, Villa Orsini, Scorzè, Venice, Italy

Incursioni, Associazione Culturale Artificio, Milan, Italy

Una Mano per l'AIL, Palazzo Clerici, Milan, Italy

2008

Group Exhibition, Bagolino, Brescia, Italy

SPECIAL PROJECTS

2022

Più di Uno, tapestry created in a special edition for Driade

2021

Double, collaboration between Omar Hassan and Mondo Marcio

2020

Famoso, collaboration between Omar Hassan and Sfera Ebbasta

COLLECTIONS AND MUSEUMS

Puzzle Public, Bagolino, Brescia, Italy

Rimembranze di Conte Rosso, Milan, Italy

Dolce Far Nulla, Monteseale, Pavia, Italy

One Wall, Palazzo della Regione, Milan, Italy

Borgio Verezzi in Wonderland, Borgio Verezzi, Italy

Columns of San Donato Milanese Station, San Donato Milanese, Italy

Mille Miglia of Colors, Mille Miglia Museum, Brescia, Italy

Aldo Galli Fine Art Academy, Como, Italy

Color Cube, Brick Lane, London, UK

MAR Art Museum of Ravenna, Ravenna, Italy

Fondazione Maimeri, Italy

Fondazione Peruzzo, Italy

LyfeBulb, USA

Private Collection, Tokyo, Japan

Private Collection, London, UK

Private Collection, Miami and New York, USA

Private Collection, Madrid, Spain

Private Collection, Milan, Italy

Cris Contini Contemporary

London | Milano | Bruxelles

w. www.criscontinicontemporary.com | e. info@criscontinicontemporary.com

@criscontinicontemporary | #criscontinicontemporary



PUBLICATIONS

2021

Per le strade, autobiography, Baldini + Castoldi

2020

SottoSopra, exhibition catalogue, Peruzzo Editore

2017

Do Ut Des, exhibition catalogue, Peruzzo Editore, Essays by Dr. Claudio Strinati, Francesca Gavin

Breaking Through Lugano, Exhibition catalogue, Peruzzo Editore

2016

Breaking Through Milan, Solo exhibition catalogue, with forewords by Luca Beatrice, Gianni Maimeri, Saturnino Celani

Breaking Through New York, Solo exhibition catalogue, with foreword by Dr. Karin Hehenberger MD PhD

2015

Breaking Through, Solo exhibition catalogue, with forewords by Baroness Barbara Young and Cedar Lewisohn

16th Premio Cairo, Award Shortlist Catalogue

2014

Eccentrico Musivo, Exhibition Catalogue, MAR Art Museum of Ravenna

2013

London Street Art, by Frank Steam 156 Malt

2011

Lo Stato dell'Arte, 54th Venice Biennale official catalogue

H.O.2, Solo exhibition catalogue, with foreword by Ivan Quaroni

Cris Contini Contemporary

London | Milano | Bruxelles

w. www.criscontinicontemporary.com | e. info@criscontinicontemporary.com
@criscontinicontemporary | #criscontinicontemporary