

Events & Exhibitions

Spring - Fall 2024



INTERNATIONAL MUSEUM
of **MUSLIM**
CULTURES



"One of our underlying goals in the City of Jackson is to fully represent the culture and experiences of all our residents.

We are very fortunate in this regard to feature the International Museum of Muslim Cultures here in our downtown area. The museum provides a rich and detailed history of the Muslim Culture and I strongly encourage residents to visit and acquire knowledge and insight into our Muslim neighbors and community."

Chokwe Lumumba
Mayor of the City Of Jackson

The International Museum of Muslim Cultures is...

an affirmation connecting the past with the future. It affirms that "we Muslims exist," that our presence flows from rich history. The Museum safeguards and shares diverse culture and heritage for generations to come - offering countless teaching moments, while others may attempt to erase us.

Ayesha K. Mustafaa
IMMC Board of Directors,
Editor of The Muslim Journal





INTERNATIONAL MUSEUM
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Arts Center Exhibit Hall

Although the Arts Center has been our home for many years, our award-winning Covenants & Coexistence Exhibition was housed off campus from 2019-23 in order to provide increased accessibility to our community.

We are pleased to reopen our Arts Center space, reimagined to house our flagship exhibition *Legacy of Timbuktu; Wonders of the Written Word* alongside *Covenants & Coexistence* as well as a dedicated space for an Art Gallery and temporary exhibitions. Local artists are encouraged to submit proposals via:

www.muslimmuseum.org/exhibitions



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STUDIO BASEL

WE HAVE NO BOX TO THINK OUT OF™

Architect & Creative Director: Basel Almisshal
International Museum of Muslim Cultures



The IMMC is proud to unveil the newly revamped Exhibit Hall on the 2nd floor of the Arts Center of Mississippi in the heart of our beloved City of Jackson.

Gallery Talks

Saturday, October 28, 11 am

\$10 member | \$20 non-member | Students Free

Price includes Museum admission.

Join Joseph Peterson, PhD, University of Southern Mississippi Asst. Professor of History, as he shares stories from his book: *Sacred Rivals: Catholic Missions and the Making of Islam in Nineteenth-Century France and Algeria*.

Sacred Rivals shows the ways in which religious prejudices against Muslims transformed into racial ones, as well as the ways in which Algerian Muslims adapted, used, and resisted French culture and imperialism. The book traces some of the roots of anti-Muslim prejudice today, but also reveals that some people of faith were interested in a more respectful dialogue.

Register at MuslimMuseum.org



Saturday, December 2, 11 am

\$10 member | \$20 non-member | Students Free

Price includes Museum admission.

The IMMC teams up with Dr. Ali Diakite, West African archivist and manuscripts expert from the Hill Museum & Manuscript Library in Minnesota to discuss the literary traditions of under-represented and little-known societies.

Register at MuslimMuseum.org

IMMC Gallery Talks
Curated by Director of
Curatorial Affairs,
Dr. Esam Alhadi

Movie Night at the Museum

Join us in our museum theater for a family-friendly film screening series in partnership with Unity Productions. Doors open at 6 pm for time to explore the museum's galleries. Films will begin promptly at 7 pm. Tickets are \$5 for all members and not-yet-members.



Lamya's Poem | 12/7/23

An inspiring and timely tale about a 12-year-old Syrian refugee girl named Lamya. When she flees the violence of her country, she is given a book of poetry by the famous 13th-century poet Rumi. As the perils of her journey mount, the book becomes a magical gateway where she meets Rumi when he was a boy and also a refugee fleeing the violence of his time. Lamya must help young Rumi find his calling and write the poem that 800 years later will save her life.



The Sultan and the Saint | 3/7/24

The Sultan and the Saint tells one of the great, lost stories from history. Set in a past period of East-West conflict, it speaks with urgency to our present. Two men of faith, one an itinerant Christian preacher, the other the ruler of a Muslim Empire, resisted a century of war, distrust, and insidious propaganda in a search for mutual respect and common ground.

Prince Among Slaves | 2/17/24

Prince Among Slaves tells the story of Abdul Rahman, heir to a West African throne who was enslaved and did not return to Africa for 40 years. In that time, he toiled on a plantation, he married a fellow slave, Isabella, and they had nine children. Gradually, he became the most famous African in America, attracting the support of President John Quincy Adams and Secretary of State Henry Clay. Abdul Rahman returned to Africa at the age 67, only to fall ill and die just as word of his return reached his former kingdom.



Register at MuslimMuseum.org



Discovering the Soul of Oman & Mississippi

A Photography Exhibition by Basel Almisshal

Curated by Lina Ali | Opening March 1-31, 2024



Discover the soul of Oman through the lens of award-winning architect and artist, Basel Almisshal. This collection of photographs shares a captivating glimpse of the very essence of Oman - mesmerizing landscapes, captivating marine beauty, and a truly vibrant culture.

Land – From vast sand dunes, jagged mountains, and lush greenery of Salalah’s monsoon-kissed landscapes, every image speaks to the awe-inspiring topographies of Arabia’s hidden gem.

Sea – Cradled by the turquoise embrace of the Arabian Sea, Oman has always shared a profound relationship with the waters that surround it. Almisshal captures the shimmering seascapes and the coastal culture that echoes with the timeless rhythm of tides.

Spirit – Perhaps the most intimate segment of the exhibition, this theme delves deep into the soul of Omani culture. From the serene courtyards of the Grand Mosque, to the lively traditions of Omani festivals, Almisshal brings to life the spiritual and cultural fabric that holds the Sultanate together.

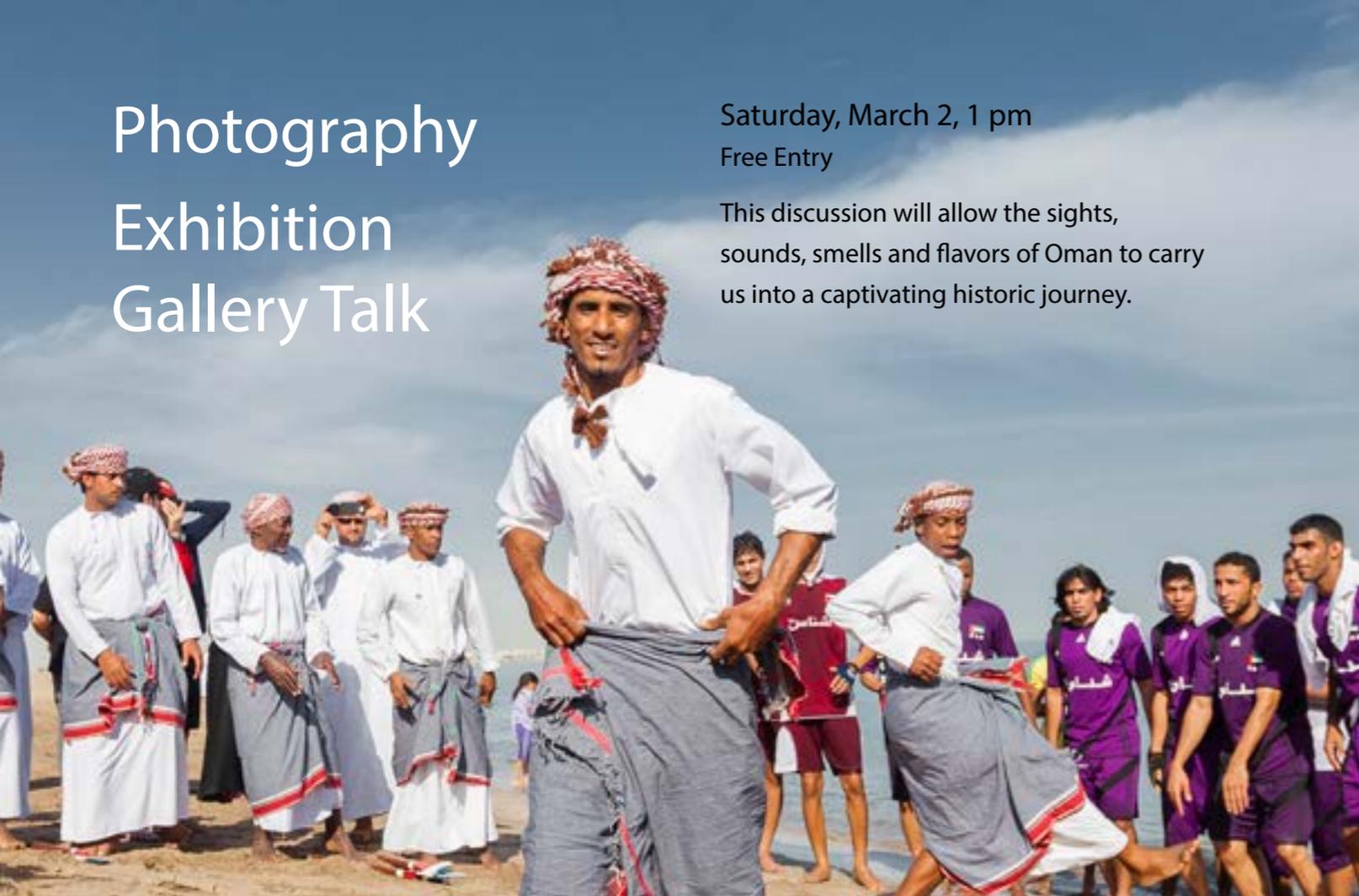
As an architect, Basel Almisshal brings a unique perspective to his art. The precision, symmetry, and balance often found in architectural designs permeate his photographic compositions. His artist’s eye adds a layer of emotional depth and intuition, creating images that are both technically precise and profoundly moving.



Photography Exhibition Gallery Talk

Saturday, March 2, 1 pm
Free Entry

This discussion will allow the sights, sounds, smells and flavors of Oman to carry us into a captivating historic journey.



In 1698, the East African island of Zanzibar became a colony of the Arabian Sultanate of Oman after Saif bin Sultan, the ruler of Oman, defeated the Portuguese in Mombasa, (present day Kenya). In 1840, Omani ruler Said bin Sultan moved his court from Muscat to Stone Town on the island of Unguja, known today as the island of Zanzibar. This area became an important hub for trade, particularly the lucrative slave and spice trades.

Fulbright Fellow Ahlam Yassin, M.Ed. joins us for an in-gallery conversation on The Sultanate of Oman; from Arabia to Zanzibar. The discussion will explore the effects of the slave trade on Omani art, cultural evolution and expression. Swahili texts and drumming patterns can be found in Omani music, and understanding how Omani cultural nuances came from Zanzibar, as opposed to a fleeting influence, will be a central tenet of the discussion.

On View

“Oman | Land, Sea & Spirit” offers a poignant, intimate view into a nation rich in natural beauty and cultural heritage. Join us and embark on a journey of wonder and reverence through the lens of Basel Almisshal, a journey that promises to linger in your memory long after you’ve left the gallery.



Photo credit: Basel Almisshal



Curated by historian and composer, LuFuki Ismaeel Dhul-Qarnayn, XRoads, is an exhibit and oral history archival project that explores the intersections between “jazz,” Black Muslims, and social justice movements. XRoads explores the under-documented historical and contemporary intersections between the Golden Age of jazz and the Golden Age of Black Islam with a focus on Detroit as an epicenter of American music and religious history, with Malcolm X seamlessly tying them together. el-Hajj Malik el-Shabazz, formerly known as Malcolm X was a “jazz” lover and the “jazz” musicians were deeply influenced by his uncompromising stance against injustice and oppression.

April 2024 | **Islamic Heritage Month**

XRoads

EXPLORING THE INTERSECTIONS OF
BLACK MUSLIMS AND “JAZZ”

LuFuki is a composer, organizer, guitarist, and cultural curator who views music as a spiritual practice that brings about healing and unity and whose art practice centers around Black ancestral legacy. He formed the collective, LuFuki and Divine Providence and has released four albums since: Inner Horizons, Elephants and Mountains, First Light, and Love&Light.

LuFuki holds a Masters’s degree from Wayne State University in Near Eastern Studies, specializing in the Arabic Language, with a concentration in the literary genre of Tasliyah, praise poetry of the Prophet Muhammad, and a Bachelor’s degree from the University of Michigan in Africana Studies and History.



Gallery Exhibit




**ISLAMIC
HERITAGE**
MONTH
April 2024

eL Seed

Documentary Film Screening

World renowned French-Tunisian calligraphi artist eL Seed has brought his signature artwork to many corners of the world ranging from the favelas of Rio de Janeiro to the Egyptian “garbage village” of Zaareeb where his multi-building mural made him an art world sensation over night.

Join us for a screening of All Arts’ video documentary on eL Seed where he shares stories of strife and success as well as rare insight on ‘Perception’, his most ambitious project to date. The movie provides fascinating documentation of an enlightening human experience for all involved.



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QUEEN

The Muslim Woman

On view | Fall 2024
IMMC Art Gallery
Curated by Lina Ali

QUEEN; The Muslim Woman pays tribute to extraordinary women who defied history with their audacious ascension to thrones at times when the West was grappling with basic women's rights. This exhibit showcases works by seven female artists, each with her own creative and distinct style of painting. The artwork will exemplify Muslim Queens throughout history including Razia Sultan of India, Queen Amina of Zaria, and Ottoman Sultana Kösem, honoring not only the brave accomplishments of these incredible women but also the broader narratives of strength, resilience, and wisdom displayed by countless Muslim women throughout history.

Featured artists include Faiqa Uppal, Laila Masri, and Safia Latif.

QUEEN; The Muslim Woman is generously supported by the City of Jackson
and the Mississippi Arts Commission.

Faiqa Uppal
2018



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Visit the International Museum of Muslim Cultures

MUSEUM HOURS

Tuesday - Friday: 10 am - 5 pm

Saturday 10 am - 4 pm

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