

## Current report activities Khatt Foundation

The following activities are planned for 2019:

### 1. The Khatt Foundation website

Maintenance and additions professional platform: the khatt.net website

The Khatt website is a successful medium for exchanging information with visual media professionals in the Arab world and all those outside that are interested and / or use the Arabic script or the Islamic visual culture.

The website now has more than 5700 members and that number is still growing. The Khatt Foundation maintains the website and regularly adds editorial content to the site. Khatt answers questions and responds to requests from users of the site. There appears to be a great need for information and data exchange between visual media professionals in both the Western and the Arab world and even beyond.

### 2. Projects

#### 2.1. *Jordan Script Routes*.

Research project on the scripts that have been in use (or invented ) in today's geographic Jordan and their implications on contemporary Jordanian visual culture and the graphic arts. 1 February–30 September 2019

#### 2.2. *Nomadic Traces: Journeys of Arabian Scripts*.

Research project on the Ancient scripts of Arabia covering some extinct but seminal scripts in the development of world alphabetic writing systems including the Latin and Arabic scripts in use today. 1 July–31 August 2019

#### 2.3. *Khatt Chronicles: Stories on Design from the Arab World*.

Podcast series launched in July 2019 with interviews conducted with young and influential/original graphic designers and illustrators in Beirut.

@Beirut Design Week 2019. 2–6 July 2019.

### 3. Exhibitions

#### 3.1. Exhibition: *Nomadic Traces: Journeys of Arabian Scripts*.

The exhibition was curated by Khatt Foundation Director and presented the research project and its application in newly commissioned art and design works by a group of selected 9 young Arab designers.

@Warehouse421, Abu Dhabi, UAE. 16 March 2019–28 July 2019.

#### 3.2. Exhibition: *Jordan Script Routes*.

The exhibition was curated by Khatt Foundation Director and presented the research project and its application in newly commissioned art and design works by a group of selected 3 young Arab designers.

@Amman Design Week 2019, Amman, Jordan. 4–12 October 2019.

#### 3.3. Participated in Exhibition: *MADAR: design research exhibition*.

The Khatt Chronicles podcast & Nomadic Traces projects were featured.

@Dubai Design Week 2019, Dubai, UAE. 12–15 November 2019.

#### 3.4. Participated in: *Focal Point Art Book Fair*

@Sharjah Art Foundation, Sharjah, UAE. 14–16 November 2019.

#### 3.5. Participated in: *Printing Plant Art Book Fair*

@Looiersgracht 60, Amsterdam, The Netherlands. 22–24 November 2019.

### 4. Typography & Design Workshops

#### 4.1. Workshops: *Nomadic Traces Creative Weekend*.

As part of the programming for the closing of the exhibition *Nomadic Traces: Journeys of Arabian Scripts*, the Khatt Foundation in collaboration with Warehouse421 organized a series of workshops as follows:

–The Art of Lettering with Ancient Arabian Scripts. 22 July 2019.

-Palmyrene Clay Structure. 22 June 2019.  
-Letters in the Third Dimension. 22 June 2019.  
-Introduction to Arabic Calligraphy. 21 June 2019.  
@Warehouse421, Abu Dhabi, UAE. 21-22 June 2019.  
4.2. Arabic Typeface Design for Beginners 2019  
@Tashkeel, Dubai, UAE. 2-7 November 2019.  
4.3. Advanced Arabic Typeface Design 2019  
@Tashkeel, Dubai, UAE. 2-7 November 2019.  
4.4. Urban Arabic Typeface Design.  
Workshop conducted for the Masters in Typography students at ECAL (Ecole Cantonale des Arts Lausanne) summer school in Dubai.  
@Tashkeel, Dubai, UAE. 10-14 November 2019.  
4.5. Khatt Foundation: Arabic Lettering 2019.  
@Tashkeel, Dubai, UAE. 15-16 November 2019.

5. Presentations of the activities of the Khatt Foundation.

5.1. *The Archive: Visual Culture in the Middle East. Publishing as an Intellectual Design Platform.*  
@ LAU (Lebanese American University) Byblos, Lebanon. 5 April 2019.  
5.2. *The UAE: 10,000 years of Adaptation, Technology and Social Cohesion.*  
Talk & Discussion as part of the Nomadic Traces Creative Weekend.  
@Warehouse421, Abu Dhabi, UAE, 22 June 2019.  
5.3. *Relevant Graphic Design: Communicating Regional and Cultural Narratives.*  
Panel Discussion: Nomadic Traces Creative Weekend.  
@Warehouse421, Abu Dhabi, UAE, 22 June 2019.  
5.4. *Jordan Script Routes: Connecting Archeology to Contemporary Design.*  
Talk & Panel Discussion @Amman Design Week 2019. 6 October 2019.  
5.5. *Bilingual Design. Matchmaking Arabic & Latin Fonts.* Talk & Panel Discussion.  
@Dubai Design Week 2019. 12 November 2019.  
5.6. *The Politics of Design Publishing: Alternative Narratives from the Arab World.*  
@Printing Plant Art Book Fair, Amsterdam, The Netherlands. 23 November 2019.

6. Educational activities

During 2018, the fund-raising of the educational publications of the publishing house Khatt Books will be supported. Further developments of the Khatt Chronicles podcast series are under development and have earned some followers on social media.

Amsterdam, June 2019