

Fats
patrol

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 fatspatrol



artist bio

Fats (Fathima) is an Indian-Canadian artist born and raised in Dubai. Her work is a mode of story-telling as she often works with symbols and semiotics, as well mythology and folklore, as a way of making sense of our place in the world.

A 3rd culture kid who has spent most of her upbringing influenced by multiple cultures but not fully identified by one, she seeks to find narratives and messages that resonate across borders and categories, universal sentiments, often through natural imagery.

Visually Fats' style is a medley of influences from comic books (her brother is a cartoonist) to Indian block printing to Arabic calligraphy. Her art isn't so much about a particular culture but rather a fusion of several that all seek to tell the same stories and connect people.

Immigrating to Canada when she was 17, Fats completed a BA in Art and Culture at U of T and later an MA in sociology in the UK. Through her study she has developed a love for art with purpose, in particularly public art and outreach and travels to work with challenged communities most recently in India and Jordan.

In 2010 she was awarded the Sheikha Manal Young Artist Award in Dubai. And in 2011 she founded The Domino, a small business and platform that has helped pave the way for Dubai's artist community and grass roots movement.

statement

Art has always given me a way to make sense of who I am and how I experience the world. I grew up in a culture different from my parents with the challenge of having identities pinned on to me, and to push past those to really decide who I am and want to be in spite of the 'supposed to's'. On a personal level art has been everything in my life from giving me purpose to helping me understand myself, to helping me with a long struggle with anxiety, to being able to reach out to other people to having a sense of social obligation in understand how art can serve a bigger purpose. I believe deeply in that; art's ability to transform, to impact and to heal. As such I've spent a good part of my career exploring the different ways art works. Be it in commercial, outreach or public art settings.

My MA dissertation was on art in public spaces. How it makes places out of spaces and creates stand-out moments in monotonous routines. I'm hooked on the moments when strangers connect over a conversation about art on the street and how a community comes together to celebrate art in their space. It is inclusive and accessible.

My own artwork in the last few years has been about creating pockets of romance and magic in a time when humanity seems to be increasingly compromised through some of the crises we're seeing around the world. I try to, in a subtle way, tell stories that are about people, everyday interactions, struggles and triumph, love and hope. Things that connect all of us.

Box Park, Dubai



artist CV

EDUCATION:

BA Specialist Art & Culture, University of Toronto at Scarborough, 2005 – Major in Studio Art
MA Sociology – Goldsmiths, University of London, UK, 2007

ART-RELATED WORK EXPERIENCE:

A Space Gallery – gallery assistant – internship, 2002
Mural Routes – apprentice mentor artist – Project Flight – 2003
Arts for Children of Toronto- artist project leader - 2006
Art Starts – artist project leader – 2006
Dubai Community Theatre & Arts Centre, Gallery and Manager, 2008-2011
The Domino – Founder, Director, 2011 - present

AWARDS & RESIDENCIES:

Sheikha Manal Young Artist Award, Dubai 2010
Nominated for Emirates Woman of the Year 2011 for contribution to developing local art scene in the UAE
Delfina Foundation, artist residency, London, UK August 2012

EXTRAS:

Online Certificate in CSR 2008
Participant of Cultural Leadership International, British Council, Lebanon, 2010
Recipient of Cultural Leadership International 2010 grant, British Council UK
Participant in Cultural Leadership and Innovation 2012, British Council, UAE
Participant in Mission 2062, Paris, 2013
IPAF Certified

FESTIVALS, PROJECTS

Flight, Mural Routes, apprentice mentor artist, Toronto, Canada 2002
Stop motion video: 3 Act Circus, screened at Gulf Film Festival, Dubai, UAE 2010
Sikka Art Fair, participating artist, live installation, March 2012
Yasalam, Abu Dhabi, 2013, 2014
Art Nights @ DIFC, Dubai, 2013, 2014, 2015
Street Nights – street festival – participating street artist, Dubai 2014, 2015
Street Con, street festival, Dubai, 2015
Tiger Translate – Urban art and music festival, Dubai, 2015
Demolition Exhibition – Jersey City, 2015
Shubbak Festival – London, UK 2015
White Cross Street Party, London UK 2015
Party in the Park, Dubai 2015, 2016
The Word is Your Festival, Amman, Jordan 2016
Mother of the Nation Festival, Abu Dhabi, UAE 2016
Abu Dhabi Art Fair, Abu Dhabi, UAE, 2016
Upfest, Bristol, UK, 2016, 2017
Dubai Walls, Dubai, UAE 2017
Baladk Festival, Amman, Jordan 2017
Canada 150 commission, Dubai, UAE 2017
Women in the Walls, Toronto, Canada 2017
Wonderwalls Festival, Adelaide, Australia 2017
Transformations Connected, Steps Initiative, Toronto, Canada 2017
Tiger Air Ink launch, Dubai, UAE 2017
Dubai Airport commission, Dubai, UAE 2017
Todayatapple, Dubai, 2017
8th Street Skate Park Project – Lakeshore Arts, Toronto 2018
Waterford Walls, Ireland, 2018
ArtEmaar, Dubai, 2018
Hands off the Wall, Vienna, 2019
Vector Institute mural project, Toronto 2019
Stackt mural, Toronto 2019
Castlefield Mural Project, Skinny Stong., Toronto, 2019
Beltline Urban Murals Project, Calgary, 2019
CIMU Festival, UNAM University, Mexico City, 2019

PREVIOUS CLIENTS

Red Bull
Adidas
Tiger Beer
Vans
Marriot
Dubai Airports
WWF
Pepsi
Jumeirah
Pullman
Jameson
Virgin Megastore
Canadian Consulate, UAE
EMAAR Properties



OUTREACH

Mural Routes – Flight project (2002)

Art Starts – workshops with youth - preparation for a production (2003)

Arts for Children of Toronto – workshops in schools with youth (2004)

MVF Foundation – Hyderabad, India – charity for victims of Child Labour (2005)

Scribble Foundation - Dharamshala – India -2015 – working with youth in impoverished communities to paint classrooms

Lexington Avenue – Jersey City -2016

American Community School, Abu Dhabi – Mural workshops

Medecins Sans Frontiers Hospital – Amman, Jordan – Rehabilitation hospital in Amman treating victims with war related injuries – painted walls of a ward with patients 2017

Camp Ozanam – Camp for boys - Stouffville, Ontario – mural 2017

Gems International School, Dubai - 2019

walls



Migration
Calgary
2019
Approx. 25 x 6 m

Xoloitzcuintli
Mexico City
2019
Approx. 10 x
8 m



Falcon
Dubai, UAE
2018
Approx. 9 x 4 m





"Jaguar's got your back"

Dubai, UAE

2019

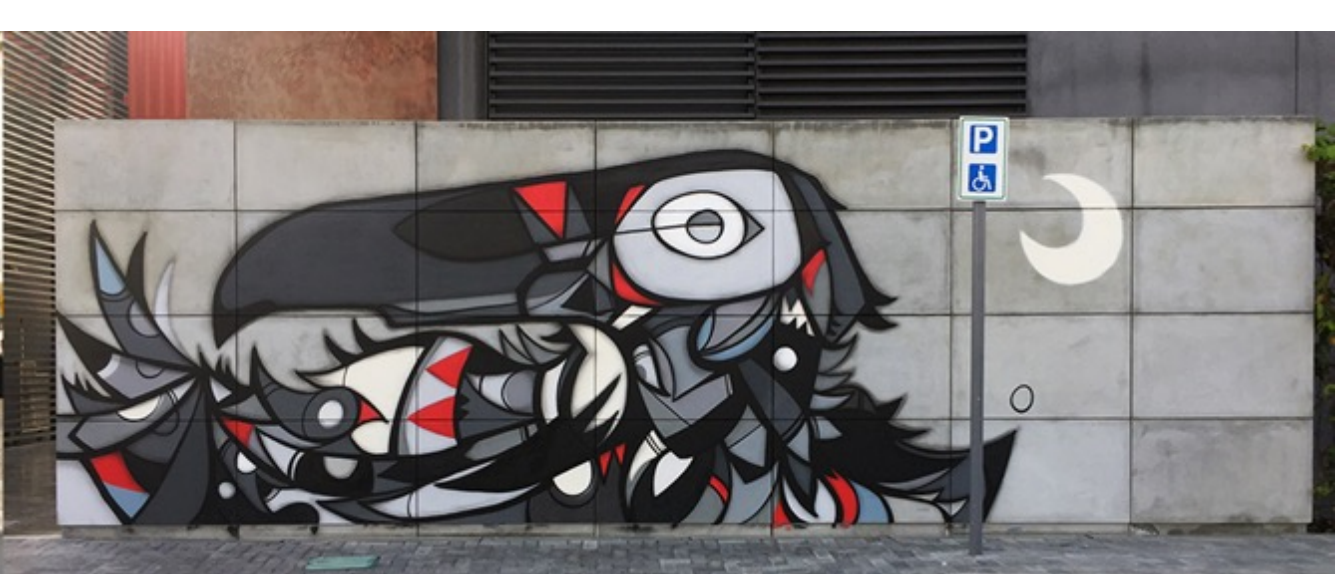
Approx. 7 x 4 m

"Ceann Cait"
Waterford, Ireland
2018
Approx. 22 x 4.5 m



"Kerfuffle"
Port Adelaide, Australia
2017
Approx. 9 x 9m





The Eagle and the Raven
Box Park, Dubai
2017
Approx. 14x4m



Eagle
8th street skate park
Toronto, Canada
2018
Approx. 9x9m



Can't you see
That what is you
Is also me
Amman, Jordan
2017
Approx. 32 x 6m



JBR, Dubai
2016
Approx. 11x11m





commercial





Dubai
International
Airport

Studio work





REFERENCES:

Shaun Warner, Red Bull UAE: shaun.warner@ae.redbull.com

Anjuli Solanki, STEPs Initiative, Toronto: anjuli@stepsinitiative.com

Joel Van de Moore: Wonderwalls Festival, Australia: vto@vanstheomega.com.au

