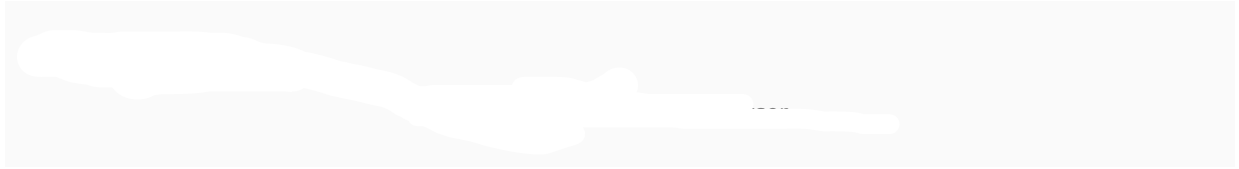


## Alaa Mansour (1989, Lebanon), is the recipient of the Han Nefkens Foundation - Fundació Antoni Tàpies Video Art Production Grant

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***Alaa Mansour (1989, Lebanon), is the recipient of the Han Nefkens Foundation - Fundació Antoni Tàpies Video Art Production Grant 2023, in collaboration with NTU Centre for Contemporary Art, Singapore; WIELS Brussels; Museum of Contemporary Art and Design (MCAD) Manila; and Art Jameel, Dubai***

**The Han Nefkens Foundation – Fundació Antoni Tàpies Video Art Production Grant 2023 aims to be a tool for increasing contemporary artistic production in the video art field and is directed at emerging visual artists living in the territory of Central/West Asia.**

**Alaa Mansour** will receive \$15,000 from the Han Nefkens Foundation to support the production of a new, limited-edition video artwork for which she will have 9 months to complete. The produced artwork will be presented from 2025 at each institution collaborating in this grant: the Fundació Antoni Tàpies in Barcelona, the NTU Centre for Contemporary Art in Singapore, the WIELS Contemporary Art Centre in Brussels, the Museum of Contemporary Art and Design (MCAD) in Manila and Jameel Arts Centre in Dubai.



In order to consolidate the candidates' career **the Han Nefkens Foundation - Fundació Antoni Tàpies Video Art Production Grant** appraises emerging artists who are 50 years old or less and living in the territory of the West and Central Asia (Afghanistan, Tajikistan, Uzbekistan, Turkmenistan, Kyrgyzstan, Khorasan, Uyghuristan, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia, Bahrain, Cyprus, Egypt, Iran, Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Oman, Palestine, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Syria, Turkey, United Arab Emirates and Yemen). The artists have established a solid trajectory but have not had the opportunity to exhibit extensively: this production grant should serve as an important source of support and boost in their career.

**Alaa Mansour** was selected as the recipient of the grant by a jury chaired by Mr. Han Nefkens and composed of Joselina Cruz: Director/Curator at Museum of Contemporary Art and Design, Manila; Helena Kritis: Chief Curator of WIELS, Brussels; Magdalena Magiera, Curator, Outreach & Education at NTU Centre for Contemporary Art Singapore; Ute Meta Bauer, Founding Director at NTU Centre for Contemporary Art Singapore; Imma Prieto, Director at Fundació Antoni Tàpies; Nora Razian: Deputy Director and Head of Exhibitions at Jameel Art, Dubai; Dirk Snauwaert: Director of WIELS, Brussels; in the presence of Hilde Teerlinck: Director of the Han Nefkens Foundation and Alessandra Biscaro: Coordinator of the Han Nefkens Foundation.

**The Selection Committee stated:** *"We have selected Alaa Mansour (1989, Lebanon) as the winner of the Han Nefkens Foundation – Fundació Antoni Tàpies Video Art Production Grant 2023 for her poignant body of work, presenting a profound investigation into the terrible realities of war and violence. We were struck by Alaa's compelling use of a range of images from historical and media archives that call attention*

*to different socio-political points of view, casting an unflinching, critical lens on contemporary political violence. We recognise that Alaa's artistic contribution is a necessary reflection on our times, and concur with her observation of the role of an artist as a socio-political fighter".*

**Alaa Mansour stated:** *"Against the world of terror and despair emerges a call for liberation, an appeal to carry the earth with and through our bodies and souls, to defy and resist colonial capitalism and the right to power, under which millions of people have been decimated. I take this grant as a word of trust and support. It will become a mean to continue working towards the liberation of the spaces of our imagination, our lands, and ultimately our futures. It is a gentle and encouraging push in the collective pursuit toward blowing the lid off the militarisation of the world and its image".*

Alaa Mansour is an artist, filmmaker, and archivist based between Beirut and Marseille. Her work examines the histories of violence and examines modes of power and regimes of images within the scope of necropolitics. Using a multidisciplinary approach she explores concepts of the sacred and the sublime and their potential of horror. She graduated from Université Paris 8 with a Masters in Arts & Creation – Filmmaking (2013). Her films *Ainata* (2018) and *The Mad Man's Laughter* (2021) have been screened internationally (Visions du Réel, Transmediale, European Media Art Festival, Impakt, Videonale). She also participates in and contributes to research activities and the creation of published works.

The shortlist for the Han Nefkens Foundation – Fundació Antoni Tàpies Video Art Production Grant 2023 included:

- Mohammad Alfaraj (b. 1993, Saudi Arabia)
- Anna Dziapshipa (b. 1982, Georgia)
- Marianne Fahmy (b. 1992, Egypt)
- Areej Huniti & Eliza Goldox (b. 1989/1985, Jordan/Germany)
- Saodat Ismailova (b. 1981, Ile de France)
- Saleh Kashefi (b. 1999, Switzerland)
- Alaa Mansour (b. 1989, Lebanon)
- Gohar Martirosyan (b. 1991, Armenia)
- Anvar Musrepov (b. 1994, Kazakhstan)

Eleven internationally recognised art critics and curators carried out the scouting process. By doing so they expand the selected artist's network of contacts as well as discover and get closer to lesser-known video art works, thus further promote this discipline. The initial candidates for the Han Nefkens Foundation – Fundació Antoni Tàpies Video Art Production Grant 2023 were selected by: Joud Al Tamimi, Çelenk Bafra, Raneem Farsi, Ana Gabelaia, Nazli Ghassemi, Maha Maamoun, Dmitri Makhomet, Wejdan Reda, Mari Spirito, Mi You, and Öykü Özsoy Sağnak.

