

# LUIS DE JESUS LOS ANGELES

1110 Mateo Street, Los Angeles CA 90021  
213 395 0762 | gallery@luisdejesus.com  
luisdejesus.com

## VIAN SORA

Born 1976, Baghdad, Iraq

## EDUCATION

- 2012 MBA, Bellarmine University, Louisville, Kentucky
- 2007 Printmaking, Istanbul Museum of Graphic Art, Istanbul, Turkey
- 2000 BS, Al Mansour University, Baghdad, Iraq

## SOLO EXHIBITIONS

- 2025 Solo Show (forthcoming), Luis De Jesus Los Angeles
- 2024 Solo Show (forthcoming), The Third Line, Dubai, United Arab Emirates
- 2023 *End of Hostilities*, David Nolan Gallery, New York, NY
- 2022 *Subduction*, Luis De Jesus Los Angeles, Los Angeles, CA  
*What You Shout into The Woods Echoes Back*, Moremen Gallery, Louisville, KY
- 2021 *Floodgates*, Moremen Gallery, Louisville, KY
- 2019 *Unbounded Domains*, Moremen Gallery, Louisville, KY
- 2017 *Now Here*, Quappi Projects, Louisville, KY
- 2016 *Displaced Narratives*, 1619 Flux, Louisville, KY
- 2015 *Sacred Journeys*, Festival of Faiths, Actors Theater Gallery, Louisville, KY
- 2011 *Escape into Life*, US Chamber of Commerce, Washington DC
- 2010 *Between Two Worlds*, The Green Building Gallery, Louisville, KY
- 2008 *Prophecy*, Aspen Gallery & Dar el Cid Museum, Kuwait City, Kuwait
- 2007 *Legends of Baghdad*, Showcase Art Gallery, Dubai, UAE  
*Reflections: Istanbul to Baghdad*, IMOGA Art Gallery and Museum of Graphic Art, Istanbul, Turkey
- 2006 *Voyage Into Arabia*, Aspen Gallery, Dar el Cid Museum, Kuwait City, Kuwait  
*Vian Sora: A Woman in Time*, Iraq Museum International Exhibition, Boston, MA
- 2004 *Longing to Past*, Gallery Zamwa – Sulaymaniyah City, Iraq
- 2003 *Vian Sora: Selected Works*, Japanese Foundation Culture Center, Ankara, Turkey
- 2003 *Neher, Sheher...Misafirat (River, City...Voyage)*, Topkapi Palace Museum, Istanbul, Turkey
- 2002 *Periphrasis, Baghdad*, Grundfos Office Gallery, Baghdad, Iraq
- 2001 *Pulses, Shapes and Sense of Time*, Inaa Art Gallery, Baghdad, Iraq

## SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS

- 2024 *Exposure Therapy*, KMAC Contemporary Art Museum, Louisville, KY  
*In the Making: Contemporary Art at SBMA*, Santa Barbara Museum of Art, Santa Barbara, CA  
*Risky Business: A Painter's Forum*, Torrance Art Museum, Torrance, CA
- 2023 *How Do We Know The World*, Baltimore Museum of Art, Baltimore, MD  
*Rounding the Circle: The Mary and Alfred Shands Collection*, Speed Art Museum, Louisville, KY
- 2022 *Crosscurrents: Contemporary Art from the Speed Art Museum Collection and Beyond*, curated by Tyler Blackwell, Speed Art Museum, Louisville, KY  
*Breaking Water*, curated by Amara Antilla and Clelia Coussonnet, Contemporary Arts Center, Cincinnati, OH  
*Selections from the Permanent Collection*, Grinnell College Museum of Art, Grinnell, IA
- 2021 *New Directions: The Shands Collection*, curated by Julien Robson, Quappi Projects, Louisville, KY
- 2020 *We All Declare For LIBERTY*, curated by John Brooks, Quappi Projects, Louisville, KY

# LUIS DE JESUS LOS ANGELES

1110 Mateo Street, Los Angeles CA 90021  
213 395 0762 | gallery@luisdejesus.com  
luisdejesus.com

- 2019 *KMAC TRIENNIAL*, Curated by Joey Yates, KMAC Museum, Louisville, KY  
*Imagined Monuments*, curated by Keith Waits, Louisville Metro Hall, Louisville, KY
- 2017 *Project 19: The Prolonged Gaze*, curated by Miranda Lash, Zephyr Gallery, Louisville, KY
- 2016 *Navigate*, 1619 Flux Gallery, Louisville, KY  
*Night and the Desert Know Me*, Joan Hisaoka Gallery, Washington DC, USA
- 2012 *Under Cover*, Swanson Contemporary Art Gallery, Louisville, KY
- 2011 *In the Course of Human Events 9/11-2011*, Louisville Visual Art Association, KY
- 2010 *Women Imagining Women*, Pyro Gallery, Louisville, KY
- 2009 *Spring Show*, Total Arts Gallery at the Courtyard, Dubai, UAE
- 2008 *Selected works by four artists*, Aspen Gallery, Kuwait City, Kuwait  
*Istanbul*, Graphic artist annual exhibition, Istanbul Museum of Graphic Art (IMOGA), Istanbul, Turkey
- 2007 *One Stroke*, Lahd Art Gallery, Riyadh, Saudi Arabia
- 2006 *East West Dialogues, Mysticism*, Tugra Gallery, London, UK
- 2005 *Art from the Islamic World*, Aya Gallery, London, UK  
*Women through War*, Al Wasity Art Ministry of Culture Gallery, Baghdad, Iraq
- 2004 *Autumn Exhibition*, curated by Merriam Lequesne, Gallery M, Paris, France
- 2002 Four Artist group show, Zamaan Art Gallery, Beirut, Lebanon  
*Baghdad Art*, International Art Festival, Baghdad, Iraq
- 2001 Sharjah Biennial, Sharjah, UAE

## SPECIAL PROJECTS

- 2023 The Alfred R. Shands III and Mary N. Shands Master Series: Vian Sora, in conversation with Contemporary Curator Tyler Blackwell, Speed Art Museum, Louisville, KY
- 2018 *Video Installation*, Collaboration with the Louisville Orchestra, conductor Teddy Abrams, and composer Sebastian Chang, Louisville, KY  
*Women Artists in the Age of Impressionism*, Audio Recording Project, The Speed Art Museum, Louisville, KY

## AWARDS/RESIDENCIES

- 2021 Great Meadows Foundation Art Residency Studio Program, Berlin, Germany
- 2018-20 Joan Mitchell Foundation Nominee Painter and Sculpture Award
- 2017-19 Great Meadows Foundation Artist traveling grant recipient
- 2003 Grundfos Art Residency Program August, Bodrum, Turkey
- 2003 Grundfos Selected Portfolio Artist, Istanbul, Turkey
- 2002 Grundfos Sponsored Artist, Copenhagen, Denmark

## SELECTED BIBLIOGRAPHY

- 2024 "The Third Line announces its first solo exhibition with Louisville-based artist Vian Sora," [Artdaily](#), Aug. 26  
Terry, Christa. "Art as Resistance: Vian Sora On Veiled Meaning and Unleashed Expression," [Observer](#), May 7  
Calitri, Joanne A. "Art à la Carte with the SB Museum of Art," [Montecito Journal](#), Apr. 9
- 2023 Randone, Amanda. "Iraqi-American Painter Vian Sora Makes A Bold Debut In New York," [Vogue Arabia](#), Dec. 13  
Laster, Paul. "10 Notable Works to See at Art Basel Miami Beach 2023," [Art & Object](#), Dec. 6

# LUIS DE JESUS LOS ANGELES

1110 Mateo Street, Los Angeles CA 90021  
213 395 0762 | gallery@luisdejesus.com  
luisdejesus.com

- Sil, Sreerupa. "Vian Sora: Navigating Chaordic Beauty Through 'Abzu'," [The NeoArt](#), Dec. 6  
Artnet Gallery Network. "7 Questions for Gallerist David Nolan on Curating a Dynamic, Seductive Booth at Art Basel Miami Beach," [Artnet News](#), Nov. 30  
White, Katie. "Iraqi-American Artist Vian Sora Evokes the Splendor of Eden and Ancient Assyria in Her Paintings," [Artnet News](#), Nov. 17  
Editor. "Work by Vian Sora demonstrate her unique vocabulary of gestural abstraction through form and color," [Art Daily](#), Nov. 3  
Esposito, Veronica. " 'It was my way to resist': the Iraqi-born artist who grew up under a dictator," [The Guardian](#), Oct. 23  
Talass, Rawaa. "Iraqi-American artist taps into 'personal anguish' with latest work," [Arab News](#), Aug. 10  
Talass, Rawaa. "Iraqi-American painter Vian Sora's swork finds the beauty in decay," [Arab News](#), Jan. 27  
2022 Keenan, Annabel. "Vian Sora's Vibrant Paintings Shine in the Darkest of Times," [Cultbytes](#), Nov. 5  
Dozier, Ayanna. "The 10 Best Booths at The Armory Show 2022," [Artsy](#), Sept. 9  
Oros, Alitzah. "June Editor's Picks: Vian Sora at Luis De Jesus Los Angeles," [Contemporary Art Review.LA](#), Jun. 16  
Martin, Alexander. "Interview with Vian Sora," [UnderMain Magazine](#), Jun. 13  
Springer, Connie. "Breaking Water Group Exhibit at the CAC Explores Water, Fluidity, and Feminism," [Soapbox Cincinnati](#), Jun. 7  
Rosen, Steven. "New Contemporary Arts Center Show Explores the Ways of Water," [Cincinnati Magazine](#), May 6  
Weis, Natalie. "Joy and Terror Coexist in Vian Sora's Unsettling Paintings," [Hyperallergic](#), Mar. 30  
"Contemporary Arts Center Announces Programming for 2022," [Resnicow and Associates](#), Jan. 27  
2021 Wolf, Stephanie. "Destruction, rebirth: Louisville painter Vian Sora finds inspiration in Berlin," [89.3 WFPL News](#), Oct. 7  
2020 Weis, Natalie. "We All Declare for Liberty at Quappi Projects, Louisville," [Burnaway](#), Oct. 27  
2019 Weis, Natalie. "In Search of Bodies Lost: Surveying the Internal Landscapes of Vian Sora," [UnderMain Magazine](#), Aug. 24  
Jones, Dylon. "Artist Vian Sora Finds a Home in Abstraction," [Louisville](#), May 17  
Oberdick, Jessica. "'Unbounded Domans,' duality of light, dark," [Leo Weekly](#), May 1  
2018 Engelhardt, Julie. "Vian Sora, Iraqi-American Artist: FACES of Louisville," [StyleBlueprint](#), Jul. 22  
Rosen, Marty. "Orchestra classics concert, a radical format," [Leo Weekly](#), Jan. 31  
2016 Taylor, Kaylyn. "Visual Voice for the Displaced," [Louisville.com](#), Oct. 22

## COLLECTIONS

AK Bank Collection, Istanbul, Turkey  
Baltimore Museum of Art, Baltimore, MD  
Brooke and Ambassador Matthew Barzun Collection, Louisville, KY  
Brooke and Pam Smith Collection, Louisville KY  
Dar Al Cid Museum, Kuwait City, Kuwait  
French Embassy, Baghdad, Iraq  
Grinnell College Museum of Art, Grinnell, IA  
Henry Heuser, Jr. and Donald Whitfield Collection, Louisville, KY  
Italian Embassy, Baghdad, Iraq  
Kadim al Sahir Paris, France  
KMAC Museum, Louisville, KY  
Ministry of Culture Contemporary Collection, Baghdad, Iraq  
Museum of Contemporary Art San Diego, San Diego, CA  
Pizzuti Collection, Columbus, OH

# **LUIS DE JESUS LOS ANGELES**

1110 Mateo Street, Los Angeles CA 90021  
213 395 0762 | [gallery@luisdejesus.com](mailto:gallery@luisdejesus.com)  
[luisdejesus.com](http://luisdejesus.com)

The Shands Collection, Louisville, KY  
Santa Barbara Art Museum, Santa Barbara, CA  
Speed Art Museum, Louisville, KY  
Stephen Reily and Emily Bingham Collection, Louisville, KY  
Tareq Rajab Collection, Kuwait City, Kuwait