

[Recreation and Leisure](#) · [Sports](#) · [Gossip](#) · [Consumerism](#) ·

## The artist from Umm al-Fahm who grew up in a house of Holocaust survivors

Meet Walid Abu Shakra, a native of Umm al-Fahm living in London, who is considered a groundbreaking and prominent artist in his field, who was adopted and raised in a couple of Holocaust survivors from Hadera. Two weeks ago, he returned to Israel to present an exhibition in Umm al-Fahm and the Tel Aviv Museum, depicting his longing for the landscapes of his childhood in the village, landscapes that were destroyed in favor of modern reality

✉ Fawzi Abu Toameh

07:48 ,03.01.12 :Published

[Share](#)

A few weeks ago, a few days after arriving in Israel, the esteemed artist Walid Abu Shakra went to visit his sister, who lives in Umm al-Fahm. On his way, he noticed the 'bulldozer' uprooting a large old tree. Walid stopped at the side of the road, pulled out his camera and did not remember the tree, just before he disappeared forever from the landscape he had adorned for hundreds of years. It was not enough. The bulldozer beat him, raised the tree in the air, and loaded it onto a truck that waited on the side. "It's a pity," says Walid. "This bulldozer destroyed another important historical site in the life of Umm al-Fahm, and it is very painful to see how history is destroyed before our very eyes and our hands

**:More on mynet**

- [In her life, the artist built herself a tombstone and wrote a eulogy](#) •
- [The remains of the burned "IKEA" branch became an art exhibition](#) •
- [Join the Yedioth Ahronoth page on Facebook](#) •

### Adopt a painter

It is also symbolic that the next morning hundreds of residents of the city, as well as many from all over the country, gathered at the local art gallery to take part in the opening of Abu Shakra's retrospective exhibition, which deals with the commemoration of sites in the city where he grew up and went to England for several years

[דרום](#)

[נגב וערבה](#)

[קיבוץ](#)

[נדל"ן](#)

[מפות](#)

[בעלי מקצוע](#)

In general, Walid Abu Shakra, a father of four children and married to an English woman, is a member of an artist family. He is the oldest brother in the family, and his two nephews, Sa'id and Farid, as well as his young nephew Karim, are well-known artists in Israel, and he is considered one of the most prominent Palestinian artists in the world. He was among the pioneers of the Arab sector to study art and paved the way for many to follow, both in Israel and abroad.



Walid Abu Shakra. "The landscape on which we grew up does not exist anymore"  
Photo: Mor Kochavi

Abu Shakra, who at the age of 16 was forced to leave his home and go to work to help support the family, a large number of children, who was caught in a severe economic crisis, began to create in the 1960s. Between the years 1964 and 1974. He began to work for a living as a property tax clerk in Hadera and in his free time began to visit art classes in Hadera. The art, which was inherent in it, led Abu Shakra to register, within a short time, for art studies at the Avni Institute in Tel Aviv, under the guidance of the late artist Yehezkel Streichman. Abu Shakra also knew a Jewish couple, Holocaust survivors, who had taken over from him and had lived with them for several years.

"They're called Fanny and Aryeh Kuchuk, they've passed away," they adopted me as their son," he says. "They understood that I was involved in painting and art, pushed me, helped me and encouraged me, I used to take classes after work in Hadera, Haifa and Tel Aviv, but because then, in the 1960s, it was very difficult to travel from Umm al-Fahm to these places

"They understood that I was talented after they discovered my" work one day when I drew Aryeh's coat, and Fanny saw the painting and did not believe that I did it, and at that moment she said to me: 'Go and learn art.' For me, living in her room, away from home on the one hand, and the great love I received from them on the other, made me feel like another family in addition to my family in Umm al-Fahm

"I remember that I was very young and very shy at such a age," but their sensitivity and the love they gave me opened up the whole world to me, and they had a significant part in my decision to go and study art. I will not forget that every Friday, when I came home to Umm al-Fahm, He brings with me the Shabbat cookies that Mrs. Kuchuk prepared for me, and my memory of them brings me back to the days of the warm corner I had in the home of this wonderful family, and I felt that they accepted me as one of their children and stayed in touch until they passed away

### A landscape disappears

Abu Shakra's exhibition, which is currently on display at the Umm al-Fahm Gallery, is part of a comprehensive exhibition that displays the wealth of his work over the years. She Presents his first works, which he created until he completed his studies at the Avni School in the mid-1970s, and at the same time his exhibition will also be exhibited at the Tel Aviv Museum at the beginning of next month. This is the first exhibition of an Arab artist to be exhibited at the Tel Aviv Museum for 20 years, after the last exhibition of an Arab artist exhibited in the museum was by Abu Shakra's cousin, Issam Abu Shakra.

The exhibition is curated by Abu Shakra's brother, Said, who is also the director of the gallery. "Walid created things from afar," he explains. "He began to document the environment before he left for London, and since then he has been adding photographs of his childhood during his visits to Umm al-Fahm, which is a right to carry out the research process on our brothers' artistic activities. Political, social, cultural and historical

For example, Transportation, 1970

Haifa, Tel Aviv: For example



### Network space

"Get me Hillary" Clinton's hair" - ... CEO hated in TheMarker

Haim Cohen's recipes for the fish you must Mako

Lufthansa offers 200 million euros for the assets of calcalist

How to fly without paying for a FlyTooty

Easy Ways to 7 Save More ... Money From Y Women's Article

Sponsored by Taboola

The exhibit, "Albatan Mantra", is an expression of Abu Shakra's longing for his childhood in Umm al-Fahm, his family, and the landscapes that shaped his life, the olive trees, the almond orchards and the village elders he has photographed and painted over the years. And indeed, to Walid Abu Shakra, the landscape that has been perpetuated over the years is disappearing

Those who live in Umm al-Fahm do not notice and do not feel" that nature and landscape change rapidly," he says. "Only one like me, who returns from time to time from abroad, sees how everything changes and how the landscape we grew up on does not exist anymore." In the early 1970s, Abu Shakra traveled to London to specialize in engraving

The sense of foreignness in England motivated him to devote himself completely to the landscape of his homeland. Obsessively he scratched the memories of his childhood on copper surfaces, calling to every tree, every plot of land and hill, in their name, just as it was engraved in his memory before leaving the landscape of his birth. Hence the name of the exhibition "Albatan Mantra" named after one of the sites. This name is known to every resident of Umm al-Fahm in the 1960s. It means the guard's position, and it marks a known hill in the landscape that Abu Shakra longs for all his years in England



Walid Abu Shakra. "History is destroyed before our eyes" (Photo: Mor Kochavi)

"לצערי הרב, כל מה שצילמתי וחרטתי כבר לא קיים", הוא אומר. "אנחנו מאבדים אוצר יקר שאי אפשר להחזיר ולשחזר אותו. לא יכול להיות שכל אחד יהרוס את הנוף, אך ורק בשביל לבנות בית או לסלול כביש. אפשר גם לבנות וגם להשאיר את הטבע. המהנדסים והאדריכלים צריכים לקחת את זה בחשבון. על הרשות המקומית לדאוג לשימור הטבע והנוף. לא יכול להיות שעקירת עץ היא דבר כה קל ופשוט. לא יכול להיות שאבנים משנות ה-30 יהפכו לפסולת של אתרי בנייה ויישור שטח. אם נאבד את הטבע, נאבד את התרבות שלנו."

### צוואת האם

מי שדחפה ועודדה את אבו שקרה במהלך השנים, לפתח את כשרונו האמנותי, הייתה אימו מרים ז"ל, שילדה אותו עוד בהיותה ילדה בעצמה ובין השניים נרקם יחס מיוחד. באחד מראיונותיה האחרונים, סיפרה האם כיצד הפך בנה הבכור לחבר ילדות, ילדות אותה איבדה.

"כשבאו לחתן אותי, כשהייתי רק בת 12, שיחקתי בבובות והמשכתי לשחק בהן גם בביתי החדש ולשמור עליהן מכל פגע", סיפרה האם לאחד מבניה. "שנה לאחר מכן נולד וליד, הוא נולד בבית העתיק של המשפחה. אני זוכרת שנתתי לו את הבובות שהבאתי מבית אבא והוא בעצם הפך לשותף לילדות שלי."

"החברות שלי עם אמא הייתה כמו ברית דמים שנרקמה מאז שנולדתי", הוא מסביר. "אני הייתי השותף שלה במשחקים אלה ולמעשה אמי חלקה איתי את תחושת הבדידות שלה ואת הילדות שלה. כשגדלתי הייתי כמו חבר של אמא וחלקתי איתה את הקשיים ואת מלחמת ההישרדות. היא זו ששלחה אותי ללמוד אמנות והיא זו שפרשה לי את הכנפיים לעולם הגדול.

"לצערי הרב, סגירת המעגל איתה הייתה כשחזרתי מאנגליה כדי ללוותה בימיה האחרונים. מצאתי אישה צנומה, חיוורת וחולה מאוד אך הייתה בה אותה נחישות של פעם. היא ביקשה ממני לחזור לעיסוקי האמנות. המפגש איתה היה מפגש מאוד קשה עבורי כי ידעתי שזמנה לחיות זמני איתה קצוב מאוד.

"התערוכה החדשה הינה מענה הולם לצוואתה של אמי. אני מתרגש מהצגתה במוזיאון תל אביב וזו הזדמנות נפלאה להראות את האמנות הפלסטית לקהל היהודי. אני מאמין שהאמנות היא כלי חשוב שמגשר בין תרבויות. לצערי הרב הציבור היהודי יודע מעט מאוד על התרבות הפלסטית המקומית וזוהי הזדמנות מופלאה עבורי לבוא אליהם באופן אישי עם מסרים מאוד חיוביים ותרבותיים. אני מקווה מאוד שתהיה לי תרומה ביצירת בסיס של הבנה לשותפות בין יהודים לערבים במדינה".

Recommend

Share

7 people recommend this. Be the first of your friends.

[שלחו כתבה](#)



[הדפסה](#)



[תגובה לכתבה](#)



Promoted Links by Taboola

## כתבות נוספות

**מתקפת הסייבר הבאה לא תצטרך מחשבים**

TheMarker

**המתכונים של חיים כהן לדגים שאתם חייבים לנסות!**

Mako

**מנכ"ל אפל טים קוק: "999 דולר לאייפון X - זו מציאה"**

calcalist

**...Tiny Device Allows You To Track Anything (it's Ge**

TrackR Bravo

**ניווט ללא אינטרנט ולגמרי בחינם!**

Fly.Tooty.co.il

**טרגדיה: אורית והב, אם לשני ילדים קטנים מראש העין, נפטרה בגיל 37**

**חשד לחטיפה ואונס קבוצתי אתמול באזור התעשייה**

**רופאים נאבקים על חייו של צעיר שהתמוטט במסעדת 'נאפיס'**

## כשהאחות הקטנה מוצאת מקור הכנסה מפוקפק

### Interest

Blogs  
professionals -  
professionals  
Real Estate  
News  
WINWIN- boards  
Kalkalist  
xnet  
news Schools  
Subscription to  
magazine

Holon  
Rishon Lezion  
Rehovot and  
surrounding  
areas  
Ramle - Lod  
**South**  
Ashdod  
Ashkelon  
Southern  
communities  
Sderot and the  
southern  
communities  
**Negev and  
Arava**  
Eilat  
Beer Sheva  
The Negev  
settlements  
kibbutz

כפר סבא  
נתניה  
רמת השרון  
רעננה  
**ירושלים**  
ירושלים  
ירושלים  
וסביבתיה  
מודיעין ושוהם  
**מרכז**  
בקעת אונו  
Petah Tikva  
Ramat Gan -  
Givataim  
Tel Aviv Jaffa  
**lowland**  
Bat Yam

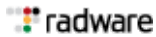
### איזורים

**קריות וצפון**  
קריות  
כרמיאל  
עכו ונהריה  
עמק וגליל  
**חיפה**  
חיפה  
נשר, טבעון  
והסביבה  
**שרון**  
הוד השרון  
הרצליה  
חדרה  
ישובי השרון

### אודות ועזרה

האימייל  
המקומי  
תנאי שימוש  
תקנון מופעים  
[פרסמו אצלנו](#)  
כתבו אלינו  
עזרה

developed by:  
 YIT

 radware

© All Rights Reserved

[דרייברת תקשורת](#)