

Israel protest artist's work stays at Dismaland

Reports that Shadi Alzaqzouq was banned from the park have been refuted by a follow-up story on the artist's website



Shadi Alzaqzouq covered his art in bedsheets to protest against Israel Photo: Facebook

By Helena Horton

12:28PM BST 29 Aug 2015

An artist, originally commissioned by Banksy for his dystopian theme park, Dismaland, stated that his work was banned from the park after he protested against Israel.

This now appears not to be the case after he wrote an update on his website.

Shadi Alzaqzouq, 34 covered his own artwork in a bedsheet with "RIP Gaza: Boycott Israel" written on it, and laid down in front of the display, after he found out that the theme park was featuring Israeli artists.

- The new trailer for Banksy's Dismaland is really creepy
- Banksy bans Disney lawyers from his 'Dismaland' theme park

Dismaland put up a sign next to the exhibit saying: "The artist has decided to cover his work to protest at being exhibited alongside artists from Israel. We are hoping to resolve the situation as soon as possible and apologise for any disappointment."

In an interview with al-Araby, the artist stated that his work was due to be banned from the park because it was 'too ugly' after being covered with a sheet.

However, he has now written an update on his website which states the contrary:

"My Work is still at Dismaland, and will remain so until the end of the exhibition.

On Sunday August 23, I unilaterally decided to hold an organised performance to emphasize Gaza's situation and to show my discontent at being exhibited alongside Israeli artists, one of them having served in the army. The organisers of the show allowed this protest to take place without prejudice. I am supporting the Boycott of Israel in all its forms, be it economical or cultural, as it seems to me that though the solution to the conflict is political, only an international citizen boycott can force our governments to sanction Israel for its continuous violation of our rights to exist. Dismaland is a show like no other and I am honored to have been selected by Banksy to figure amongst the participants and to show my artwork and its spirit to a larger public."

It seems that if you want to see his protest work at the park, you still can.



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