



RIDIKKULUZ

Legal Name Samer Akroush
Email Ridikkuluz@gmail.com
Instagram @Ridikkuluz
Website Ridikkuluz.com

EDUCATION

2016 St. John's University, BS, Queens, NY
2014-5 Studied Abroad in *Spain, France & Italy*
Languages *English & Arabic*

RESIDENCIES + AWARDS

2020 **Brooklyn Public Library-** Macon Library Artist-in-Residence | Brooklyn, NY | May 2020
2016 **Rowaq Al Balqa-** Artist-in Residence | Fuheis, Jordan | January 2016
2015 **XOL Gallery-** Artist-in Residence | Baltimore, Maryland | March 2015
2012-6 **Khalil Gibran Scholarship Award**

RIDIKKULUZ (PRONUNCIATION: "ridiculous"/RĪ¹DĪKƏLƏZ/ RĪ-DĪK-Ə-LƏZ) b. 1994

is a self-taught, New York-based, Jordanian-American multidisciplinary artist working in painting, sculpture, performance and video. His work focuses on marginalized identities and their spaces through figurative portraiture. *He* encompasses identity, duality and intense emotion all while bridging the gap between Western and Arab culture. The **Rowaq Al-Balqa** foundation in Jordan gave him an artistic premise early on with mentorship from various MENA fine-artists. **RIDIKKULUZ** graduated in 2016 from St. John's University & furthered his studies abroad in France, Spain and Italy. *His* work has since been featured in the music videos of **Lupe Fiasco** and **Kiing Sky**. In 2018, He was interviewed by Amman Radio for his depiction of the Royal King and Queen in Jordan. **RIDIKKULUZ** is a Khalil Gibran Scholar who was chosen to create a mural in 2020 for *Brooklyn Public Library* at the Macon Branch. Most recently, He created the cover art for **DJ Lorant's** new single, "More Freedom". **RIDIKKULUZ** is a part of New York's ballroom scene belonging to the **House of Xtravaganza** and specializing in the performance category, "arms control". Press features include *The Journal News*, *TENZ Magazine*, *Aziz Art Magazine*, *the Daily 49er*, *Hors Centre: French Embassy & Queens College Newsletter* and *Arts Westchester Magazine*. **RIDIKKULUZ** has exhibited in Westchester, New York City and Jordan.

SOLO EXHIBITIONS + PERFORMANCES

2019 "*Reading Faces: Work by RIDIKKULUZ*" **Prato Gallery** | White Plains, New York | April 2019
"*Palestinian Cultural Gala*" **New York University** | New York, New York | May 2019
2017 "*Dum Khalthoum VS Fairouz*" Live Painting at **BIZ G87 Gallery** | Larchmont, NY | September 2017
2015 "*Gypsy*" Live Painting Performance at **St. John's University** | Sevilla, Spain | September 2015

GROUP EXHIBITIONS

2020 "*Postcards from the edge*" at Bortolami Gallery by [Visual Aids](#) | Manhattan, New York | November 2020

- 2019** *"Im-Migration"* at [Riverfront Art Gallery](#) | Yonkers, New York | November 2019
"Collection MMXIX" at **Warzy Contemporary** | Dobbs Ferry, New York | May 2019
"Ya Tayr Al Tayir" at [The Peoples Forum](#) | Manhattan, New York | March 2019
- 2018** *"Processing Process"* at **Prato Gallery** | White Plains, New York | November 2018
"Clandestino Private Art Auction" at **Lotus Blue** | Manhattan, New York | October 2018
"The Group Show" at **Prato Gallery** | White Plains, New York | May 2018
"Yonkers Arts Weekend" at **Urban Studio Unbound Gallery** | Yonkers, New York | May 2018
"The People You Meet & The Places You Go" at **BIZ G87 Gallery** | Larchmont, NY March 2018
- 2017** *"Unravel: Picturing the Dreamscape"* at **BIZ G87 Gallery** | Larchmont NY | June 2017
"Amman Street Fashion" by ArtMeJO at **The Zara Center** | Amman, Jordan | February 2017
"2017 Yonkers Artist Showcase" at **Riverfront Gallery** | Yonkers, New York | March 2017

ARTIST TALKS + LECTURES

- 2020** Guest Speaker at [Stanford University](#) | April 2020
- 2019** Artist Talk at **Riverfront Art Gallery** | Yonkers, New York | November 2019
- 2019** Artist Talk at [The Peoples Forum](#) | Manhattan, New York | March 2019

OTHER WORK

- 2019** Digital Cover of **DJ Lorant's** single *"More Freedom"* | September 2019
- 2018** Commissioned Painting featured in **Kiing Sky's** *"Pray for me"* music video | June 2018
Commissioned Painting for Royal Jordanian Court of **King Abdullah & Queen Rania** | September 2018
Large-scale painting for **Ritz Carlton Hotel** | White Plains, NY | April 2018
- 2017** Digital art and Paintings featured in **Lupe Fiasco's** *"Made in the USA"* music video- August 2017

PRESS

- 2019** [Arts Westchester- Art News | Westchester, NY | December 2019](#)
[Tenz Magazine- Interview | New York, NY | October 2019](#)
[Arts Westchester- Featured Artist in Exhibition | Westchester, NY | June 2019](#)
[Hors Centre Newsletter- Cultural Services of the French Embassy in collaboration with Queens College. 2 page spread | Queens, NY | January 2019](#)
[Patch.com - features "Reading Faces: Works by Ridikkuluz" | White Plains, NY | April 2019](#)
- 2018** [Wasat Al Balad Amman Radio Interview on "Moonlight in Jordan" King & Queen Portrait Commission with TV Personality Hani Al-Badri | Amman, Jordan | February 2018](#)
- 2017** [Aziz Art Magazine 8 page spread | London, England | July 2017](#)
[Journal News - Artist Interview BIZ G87 | Westchester, NY | June 2017](#)