

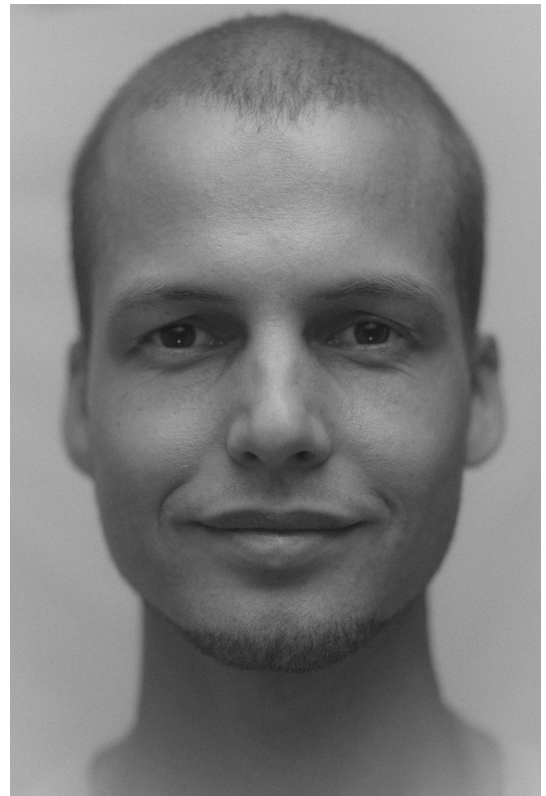
About Abdus Salaam

Abdus Salaam (b. 1989) is a visual artist who lives and works in Cape Town, South Africa.

Salaam is a self-taught multi-disciplinary artist inspired by natural beauty, ecology and spirituality. Salaam reveals a sensitivity to three-dimensional spatial expression and the metaphysical connotations inherent in nature, materials, forms and colours. Contemporary in his mystic abstraction, his work is rooted in poetry, calling from a familiar place to a state of peaceful and intensive longing, using materials to explore the immaterial and always working alone to imbue his intention into his work. Moving freely between mediums – from sculpture to painting, video, photographic ‘light paintings’, poetry, augmented reality, and music – he creates poetic worlds, from the intimate to large-scale installation. His work is a cultural fusion of Western, Eastern and African sensibilities, shaped by his international coming of age and rooted in the dramatic landscapes around Cape Town, where his earliest memories were shaped on a farm, spending time painting and sculpting with natural materials in the mountains of South Africa with his mother.

Salaam is represented in collections locally and abroad, including the Mohammed Afkhami and EKARD Collections. He held two sold out solo presentations in 2022, both at the Investec Cape Town Art Fair and Abu Dhabi Art. In 2023 Salaam was a finalist in the Art Figura Prize, culminating in an exhibition in Perla Castrum Museum in Schwartzberg Castle, Germany. In 2023 he was selected as the artist in residence for the prestigious Institute of Public Architecture’s Blockhouse Residency on Governor’s Island, New York. In November 2023, he presented a second sold out presentation at Abu Dhabi Art.

In 2024, Salaam completed a residency at the prestigious Nirox Foundation, followed by a critically acclaimed exhibition. In June 2024, he completed the Giorgio Angeli Residency in Pietrasanta, Italy.



Abdus Salaam, And remember the day we shall roll up the universe like a scroll, 2024

CV

Solo Exhibitions

2024

Abu Dhabi Art Fair, Abu Dhabi, Manarat Al Saadiyat, United Arab Emirates
'Insaan: human being', NIROX Foundation, Johannesburg, South Africa
'Insaan', RMB Latitudes art fair, Johannesburg, South Africa

2022

Abu Dhabi Art Fair, Abu Dhabi, Manarat Al Saadiyat, United Arab Emirates
'The Space Between', THK Gallery, Cape Town, South Africa
'Soft As Stone', Investec Cape Town Art Fair, Tomorrows/Today sector, THK Gallery, Cape Town, South Africa

2021

'Falls Of Abundance', Online exclusive, THK Gallery, Cape Town, South Africa

2019

'The Ocean of Limitlessness', AVA Gallery, Cape Town, South Africa

2018

'The Ocean of Limitlessness', Addis Foto Festival, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia
'An Experience – Namibia', V&A Waterfront, Cape Town, South Africa
'The Ocean of Limitlessness', The Castle, Cape Town, South Africa

2017

'An Experience – Namibia', V&A Waterfront, Cape Town, South Africa

2016

'An Experience – Namibia', V&A Waterfront, Cape Town, South Africa

Group Exhibitions

2024

Investec Cape Town Art Fair, THK Gallery, Cape Town

2023

Investec Cape Town Art Fair, THK Gallery, Cape Town

2022

'Synaptic', THK Gallery, Cape Town, South Africa
'Seeds of the Fig', Reservoir Projects x WITW at Krone Gallery in Tulbagh, South Africa.

2021

'Tell Me Three Things About Yourself', Jaffer Modern, Cape Town, South Africa

2019

Unresolved Category, Gallery MOMO, Cape Town, South Africa
'From Behind a Clear Mirror', Robert Sherwood, Cape Town, South Africa

2018

'Throwing Shapes', SMITH Gallery, Cape Town, South Africa

2017

'The Ocean of Limitlessness', Amplify Gallery, Cape Town, South Africa
'Mercy', Amplify Gallery, Cape Town, South Africa

Residencies

2024

Giorgio Angela Residency courtesy of Galleria Giovanni Bonelli, Pietrasanta, Italy
NIROX Foundation, Johannesburg, South Africa

2023

Institute for Public Architecture Residency, New York City, USA
Künstlerstadt Kalbe Winter Campus Grant Residency, Kalbe Milde Germany

Prizes

2023

Art Figura Sculpture Prize Nominee, Schwarzenberg Castle Museum, Germany