



A leading figure of Conceptual Emirati art, Mohammed Kazem's practice is at once organic, yet carefully structured. *Canvas* visits the multi-disciplinary artist in his studio at Dubai's Empty 10 gallery in Al-Quoz. Kazem's works are currently featured in two solo shows at Dubai's Gallery Isabelle van den Eynde (2 November–10 December) and New York's Taymour Grahne Gallery (13 November–20 December).

MOHAMMED  
KAZEM



*I don't see the  
end result of  
my works until I  
want to.*



*Each of my scratch  
works involve a  
different way of  
scratching. And each  
one has its own sound.*



Image courtesy the artist.

*For 20 years, people have  
asked me what I use to  
scratch on paper. It's a  
simple pair of scissors.*







*My work has two aspects, the political and the social.*



Image courtesy the artist.

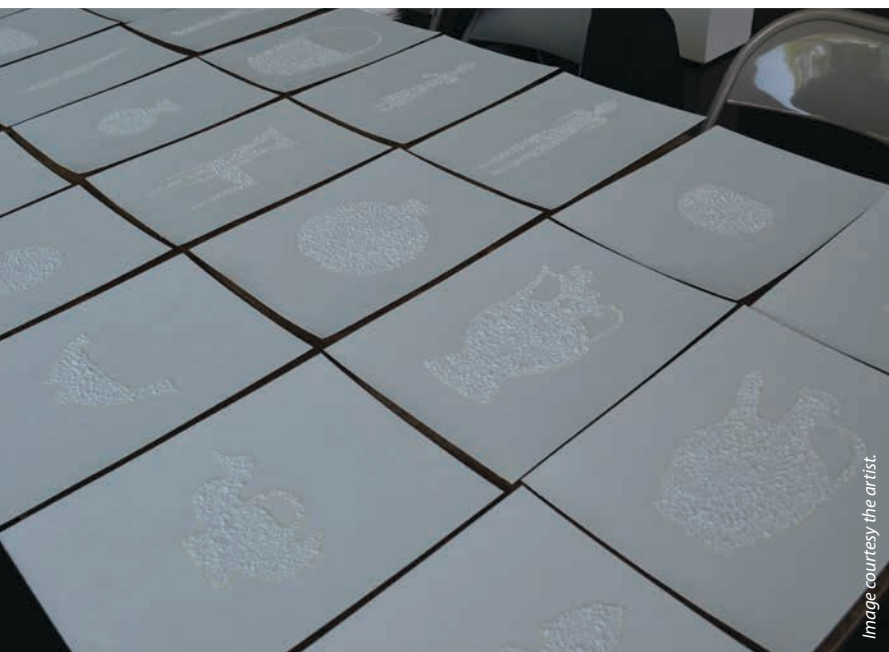
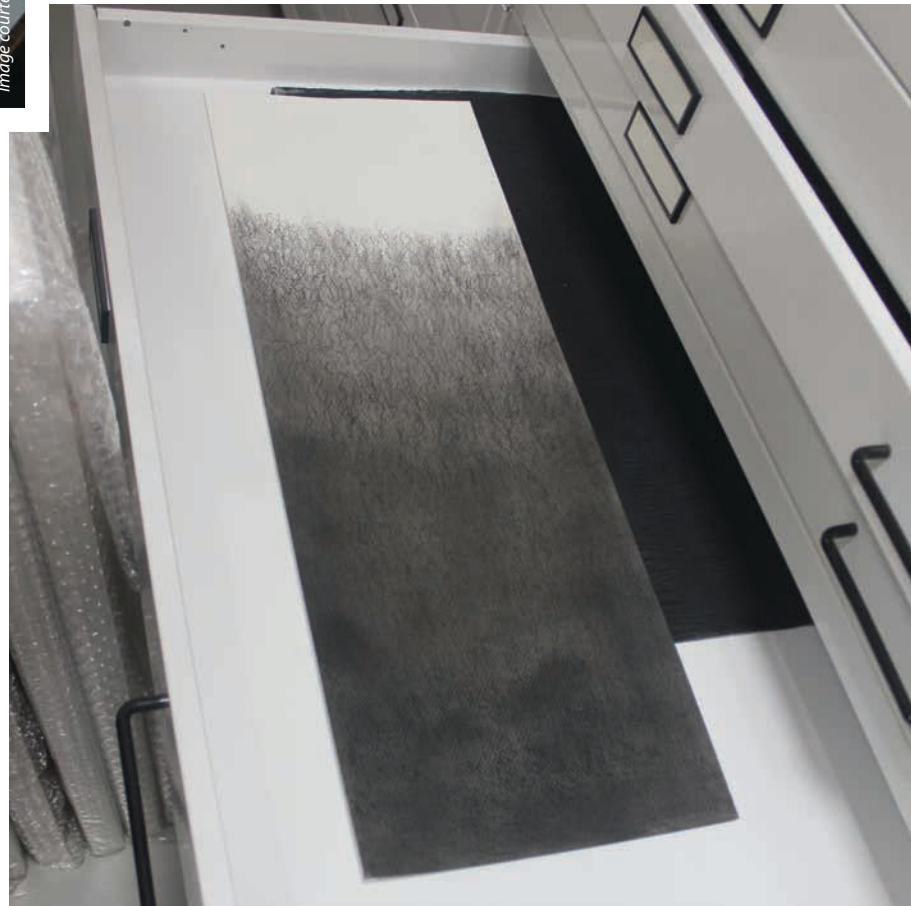



Image courtesy the artist.

*The patterns that I create on these sheets of paper are random. My work doesn't follow any system.*

Photography by Maria Mumtaz, unless otherwise specified.





A middle-aged man with grey hair and a beard, wearing a light-colored checkered button-down shirt and khaki pants, stands in a warehouse or storage room. He is leaning his right arm on a stack of cardboard boxes and has his left hand near his chin in a thoughtful pose. The boxes are labeled with red and white text, including 'CARE' and 'F'. In the background, a grid of small photographs of women wearing headscarves is visible on a wall. A large white scribble is drawn over the lower-left portion of the image. A green semi-transparent box in the lower-right corner contains white text.

*Most of  
my work  
relates to the  
environment,  
so I'm either  
in a factory or  
I'm outdoors.*