

HODA TAWAKOL (b. 1968, London, UK)

Lives and works in Hamburg, Germany.

Born in London (1968) and raised in Paris, Hoda Tawakol is a Franco-Egyptian artist based in Hamburg, Germany. Her practice is built on the twin pillars of wit and criticality. Her colourful, engaging textile works—collages, sculptures, installations—ripple with vitality while tackling compelling issues of gender and bodily control. At once captivating and disarming, the works spring from a range of media, yet focus largely on the female body, its distortions and transformations across a woman's life. In a universe of transformation, the body forever hovers between physical and ethereal, reality and abstraction, presence and absence.

While her artistic strategy is focused on topics touching on certain cultural practices, patriarchal social structures and the ancient relationship between body and nature; her material mastery is vast. A diversity of unpredictable hand-dyeing techniques—batik, spotting, painting, tie-dye—vivify her textile work. Her sculptures, whether assertively figurative or cryptically morphed, enlist a variety of materials - the braided mesh of the veil, bulbous nylons filled with rice, portraits with blankets and felt - with which she consistently experiments. In 2023, for her first solo institutional exhibition at the Dortmunder Kunstverein, Germany, the artist created an installation of large-format textile sculptures transforming the premises into a palm grove – figuratively too as a place of fruitful utopias and of resistance, between sensuality and brutality.

EDUCATION

- 2011 Diploma of Fine Arts at the Hochschule für bildende Künste, Hamburg, Germany, class of Andreas Slominski
1993 Masters of Business and Administration at ESCP Europe in Paris, Oxford and Berlin

SOLO EXHIBITIONS

- 2026 Upcoming Solo Show at M.Bassy, Hamburg, Germany (November 2026)
2025 *My Mothers: The Siren, the Vessel, the Womb*, Gallery Isabelle, Dubai, UAE
2024 *Roots*, sculpture garden of the Georg Kolbe Museum, Berlin, Germany
2023 *Silent Voices in a Palm Grove*, Dortmunder Kunstverein, Dortmund, Germany
2022 *Le Lait du palmier et le souffle des yeux*, Goethe Institut & La Friche Belle de Mai Marseille, France
Delicious Monster, Ruttkowski68, Düsseldorf, Germany
2021 *Corps (In)Visibles*, Institut Français, Berlin, Germany
2020 *Between Bodies*, Gallery Isabelle van den Eynde, Dubai, UAE
2019 *Immaculate*, Galerie im Marstall, Ahrensburg, Germany
2018 *When the Dates Turn Red*, Gallery Isabelle van den Eynde, Dubai, UAE
2014 *Incommunicado*, Sfeir-Semler gallery, Hamburg, Germany
Le palais des concubines, Palais für aktuelle Kunst (PAK), Glückstadt, Germany
2011 *Harem*, Sfeir-Semler gallery, Hamburg, Germany
Behind the window, Sfeir-Semler gallery, Beirut, Lebanon
Membrane, Produzentengalerie, Hamburg, Germany
2010 *Inside out*, Freshfields Bruckhaus Deringer, Hamburg, Germany
Hoda Tawakol, Galerie Conradi, Hamburg, Germany

SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS

- 2026 *Move, Pause, Return*, Gallery Isabelle, Dubai, UAE
Sexed Power 9, Mom Art Space, Hamburg, Germany
2025 *Purple Path*, European Capital of Culture, Limbach-Oberfrohna, Germany
Gabriele Münster Preis, Art Collection Chemnitz, Museum Gunzenhauser, Chemnitz, Germany
From the Cosmos to the Commons, Stadtpark Hamburg, Germany
Between Stars and Signals, Kunsthaus Hamburg, Germany

GALLERY ISABELLE

إيسابل

- Everybody! What Bodies Tell*, Museum der Moderne, Salzburg, Austria
Cities Under Quarantine, SaMoCa, Riyadh, Saudi Arabia
- 2024 *Orangerie of Care*, nGbK, Berlin, Germany
- 2023 *Cities Under Quarantine*, Mathaf, Doha, Qatar
Carpet Mapping, Schloss Britz, Berlin, Germany
HEADS, masked, transformed, Museum für Neue Kunst Freiburg, Freiburg, Germany
GEGENWARTSGESELLSCHAFT / 50 years, Produzentengalerie Hamburg, Produzentengalerie Hamburg, Germany
Seeing through Space, Museum for Art in Wood, Philadelphia, USA
Collective Healing, Metro Han Istanbul, Istanbul, Turkey
Mixed Pickles 12, Ruttkowski 68, New York, USA
- 2022 *HOME SWEET HOME II*, Ingeborg Wiensowski, Germany
- 2021 *Cities Under Quarantine - The Mailbox Project*, Villa Romana, Florence, Italy
Easterfield Festival, Hamburger Kunstverein, Hamburg, Germany
Silent Transformations, Biennale Internationale Donna, Trieste, Italy
Animal Kingdom, Âme Nue, Hamburg, Germany
Mixed Pickles #9, Ruttkowski 68 Goldberg Studio, Munich, Germany
- 2020 *Either he's dead or my watch has stopped: Groucho Marx (while getting the patient's pulse)*, Schirn Kunsthalle, Frankfurt, Germany
Seeking a now that can breed futures, Âme Nue, Hamburg, Germany
Gartendergegenwart, Rothenbaumchaussee, Hamburg Germany
- 2019 *Home Sweet Home*, Wiensowski, Hamburg Germany
Hi Ventilation, Harburger Bahnhof Kunstverein, Hamburg
- 2018 *Kontiki*, Künstlerhaus Lauenburg, Lauenburg, Germany
- 2017 *Between departure and arrival*, Schloss Agathenburg, Agathenburg, Germany
Highball, Wiensowski & Harbord Salon, Berlin, Germany
Wunsch- und Wunderkammer, University of Fine Arts (HfbK), Hamburg, Germany
- 2015 *Vom Grossen und Ganzen II*, Collection Haus N in the Gerisch foundation, Neumünster, Germany
On Remote Control, Lothringer 13 Hall, Munich, Germany
- 2014 *Nullpunkt aller Orte*, Sohst-Brennenstuhl Collection, Museum of Modern Art in Bremen, Germany
Archaea, Beton Art Space, Artist Run Festival, Copenhagen, Denmark
- 2013 *Hold und mächtig? Das Bild der Mutter in den Kulturen*, RELIGIO - Museum of Religious Culture, Telgte, Germany
- 2011 *Leningrader Hängung Nr. 101*, Ph-Projects gallery, Berlin, Germany
Hiding & Revealing, diploma exhibition, University of Fine Arts (HfbK), Hamburg, Germany
- 2010 *The freedom of choice*, the Kunstverein, Hamburg, Germany
Index 10, Kunsthau Hamburg, Hamburg, Germany
Group show, Ph-Projects gallery, Berlin, Germany
The Andreas Slominski Class Show, Meanwhile it shows, Velada Santa Lucia Contemporary Art Festival, Maracaibo, Venezuela
- 2009 *Index 09*, Kunsthau Hamburg, Hamburg, Germany
Lost & Found, Museum of Art & Ideas, Hamburg, Germany
Baahlsaahm Knochen #1, Vandel, Berlin, Germany
Dreams that money can't buy, Westwerk, Hamburg, Germany

COLLECTIONS

The Salama bint Hamdan Al Nahyan Foundation, Abu Dhabi,
 UAE Open Space Contemporary, Istanbul, Turkey
 The Progressive Art Collection, Mayfield Village, Ohio, USA
 Sammlung Haus N, Gunda & Peter Niemann Collection, Quarnbek, Germany
 Weserburg Museum of Modern Art, Bremen, Germany
 Dubai Culture & Arts Authority Collection, Dubai, UAE
 The iSelf Collection, London, UK
 The Naila Collection
 The Seibt Contemporary Collection, Hamburg, Germany
 The Fairuz and Jean Paul Villain Private Collection, Abu Dhabi, UAE
 Artothek, Kunsthau Collection, Wiesbaden, Germany

AWARDS

- 2024 Publication Grant from Stiftung Kunstfonds Bonn
- 2010 Achievement grant award of the Ministry of Science and Research for foreign students in Germany New
 Position Art Prize, Freshfields Bruckhaus Deringer, Hamburg

RESIDENCY

- 2022 Artist in residence at the Goethe Institut Marseille and at La Friche Belle de Mai in Marseille, France

PUBLICATIONS

- Some Ties Linger On*, 2025 (published by Kerber Verlag)
- The Eyes of My Mothers*, 2023 (published by Dortmunder Kunstverein)
- Between Bodies*, 2020 (published by Gallery Isabelle Dubai)
- Immaculate*, 2019 (published by Sparkassen-Kulturstiftung Stormarn)
- When the Dates Turn Red*, 2018 (published by Gallery Isabelle Dubai)