



**STUDIO  
GALLERY**  
*POWERED BY* **AUAF**



**Emerging Assyrian  
Artists Exhibition**

December 2017 - February 2018



**VICTORIA AKHTEEBO** EMAIL: [vakhteebo@gmail.com](mailto:vakhteebo@gmail.com)

Victoria Akhteebo is a Chicago-based artist who began her artistic journey at the age of eight drawing jewelry and fashion designs. She later developed an interest in graffiti art, and studied the craft independently, initially by recreating popular graffiti pieces for practice until she developed her own personal style. Akhteebo hopes her artwork will push viewers out of their comfort zone, not only through her style of work, but by depicting subjects that are often controversial. Her work presents a critical view of life and prompts the viewer to question their own perspective on some of society's biggest questions.



**NOORA BADEEN** INSTAGRAM: [@noorabadeen](https://www.instagram.com/noorabadeen)

Noora Badeen is an Assyrian artist native to Baghdad, Iraq. She moved to the United States in 2012, and is currently studying the Fine Arts at the School of the Art Institute of Chicago. Badeen views art as a way to raise awareness about human suffering and promote social justice for all people of the world. Her work primarily focuses on marginalized women and children in the Middle East and the challenges they face trying to navigate life in conflict-affected areas. She believes in her ability to give them a voice through her pieces. As a student, she is exploring all facets of multimedia, including painting, drawing, and sculpture.



**MAICEL BARSOUM** INSTAGRAM: [@studiomaic](https://www.instagram.com/studiomaic)

Maicel Barsoum is a Chicago area artist of Assyrian and Egyptian background. Having been raised with these two different identities, his work often experiments with the concept of dualism—whether it embraces it or breaks it. He studied at CSU Stanislaus, and moved to Chicago shortly afterwards. The California native spent most of his life focused on traditional forms of art, but his body of work now includes graphic design and digital photography. Both music and nature influence his work.



**LARSA KENA** INSTAGRAM: [@larsakena](https://www.instagram.com/larsakena)

Larsa Kena is an Assyrian artist from Chicago, Illinois. At 18 years of age, Kena has committed herself to a life and career in the arts. She looks to pursue artistic studies as she continues her education. Kena is diversely influenced, and enjoys experimenting with different styles of artwork. She strives to illuminate the emotion behind each piece to evoke a reaction from the viewer. Kena is often inspired by Assyrian traditions and artistry, and brings a modern twist to iconic Assyrian pieces.



**WISAM KHATCHIK** EMAIL: [wkhatchik7277@gmail.com](mailto:wkhatchik7277@gmail.com)

Wisam Khatchik is a local Assyrian artist born in Iraq, immigrating to the United States in 1980. Khatchik holds an Associates Degree in Drafting and Design from ITT Technical Institute in Chicago. Khatchik draws inspiration from modern history as well as current events when creating his artwork. He enjoys recreating iconic figures and symbols, as well as capturing important events in modern history. Khatchik cites color as his greatest inspiration, and believes the use of color is the most impactful part of any piece.



**MAHER MINYANISH** INSTAGRAM: [@minyanish](https://www.instagram.com/minyanish)

Born in Mosul, Iraq, Maher Minyanish is an Assyrian artist working in the Chicago area. He resettled in the United States in 2009. Though he left his homeland behind due to war, he carried his love and passion for his heritage with him. Minyanish feels obligated to create pieces that represent Assyrian history and heritage—a common theme in much of his work. A self-taught artist, Minyanish discovered his passion for art as a child and draws inspiration from the changing world around him. He is driven by human experiences and stories, and is known for his portrait work.



**EDDIE YOUKHANNA** INSTAGRAM: [@eddie\\_art](https://www.instagram.com/eddie_art)

Eddie Youkhanna is a young Chicago-based Assyrian artist from Halmon, Syria. His family escaped the war in Syria, and resettled in the United States earlier this year. His passion for art stems back to his days as a child, when he would spend much of his time in school and at home drawing. Much of Youkhanna's artwork is inspired by Assyrian history and heritage. He believes art is one of the most effective ways to share what it means to be an Assyrian with others.