



## OMAR HASSAN

Born in Milan, Italy in 1987



*“In boxing, as in life, you are alone: Boxing requires hard work and daily effort. When you are knocked down, you must get back up on your feet and continue to fight.”*

Omar Hassan

Omar Hassan graduated at the Academy of Fine Arts of Brera in 2010 and, after taking part in several group and solo exhibitions, he was invited by Vittorio Sgarbi, curator of the Italian Pavilion, to exhibit at the 54th Venice Biennale in 2011.

After 10 years of training as a professional boxer, Hassan was forced to stop boxing due to a diagnosis of diabetes; being unable to fully explore his passion, the artist returned to his second love, investing all his energy into the artistic practice.

In the series of paintings called “Breaking Through” Hassan combines painting and performance in a vigorously gestural technique inspired by his boxing career, which involves dipping his boxing gloves into paint and punching onto a large canvas. The series “Injections” consists of paintings with single dots and streams of paint dripping down from their core, and they refer to the artist’s daily shots of Insulin.

Hassan says he finds inspiration in the work of Graffiti pioneers such as Jean-Michel Basquiat and in Jackson Pollock’s masterful abstractions, but he doesn’t feel to be categorised according to one style only. His creative impulse takes different forms, from whimsical dappled splotches to lines of wet paint that drip down picture frames to a street installation of massive cubes covered in rainbow tones. Furthermore, both his multilayered artworks on canvas and his cast in plaster or bronze reflect his strong attention to materiality.

Hassan has realized several public works and installations both in Italy and UK. These include “One Wall” at the Palazzo della Regione in Milan, the Museum Mille Miglia in Brescia, the Academy of Fine Arts Aldo Galli in Como, “Colour Cube” in London’s Brick Lane, and the

**Cris Contini Contemporary**

London | Milano | Bruxelles

w. [www.criscontinicontemporary.com](http://www.criscontinicontemporary.com) | e. [info@criscontinicontemporary.com](mailto:info@criscontinicontemporary.com)  
[@criscontinicontemporary](https://www.instagram.com/criscontinicontemporary) | [#criscontinicontemporary](https://www.facebook.com/criscontinicontemporary)



re-decoration of a concrete bollard located alongside the East London Line. All these artworks are characterized by the signature motif of the “Injections” series. Among the latest exhibitions, *Breaking Through Black Berlin* at the Luisa Catucci Gallery in Berlin and *Sopra | Sotto* at the Prometeo Gallery in Milan.

**Cris Contini Contemporary**

London | Milano | Bruxelles

w. [www.criscontinicontemporary.com](http://www.criscontinicontemporary.com) | e. [info@criscontinicontemporary.com](mailto:info@criscontinicontemporary.com)  
[@criscontinicontemporary](https://www.instagram.com/criscontinicontemporary) | [#criscontinicontemporary](https://www.facebook.com/criscontinicontemporary)



## ARTIST'S BIOGRAPHY

### EDUCATION

#### 2010

He graduated from the Academy of Fine Arts of Brera, Milan, Italy

### SOLO EXHIBITIONS AND INSTALLATIONS

#### 2023

*Punctum*, personal exhibition created with Federico II Foundation, Palazzo Reale, Palermo, Italy

#### 2022

*IL MONDO È N(v)OSTRO*, Stelline Foundation, Milan

*Muri d'artista 2022*, site-specific installation, curated by Isorropia gallery and Prof. Francesco Martelli, Cittadella degli Archivi, Milan

#### 2021

*Breaking Through Black Berlin*, Luisa Catucci Gallery, Berlin

*Breaking Through Black Berlin, Twice*, Bernel Von Lyxburg Gallery, Berlin

#### 2020

*SopraSotto*, Prometeo Gallery of Ida Pisani, Milan

*SottoSopra*, Palazzo delle Arti, Naples, Italy

#### 2019

*Waiting For*, Exhibition in a private house, Isorropia Home Gallery + Artissima Art Fair, Turin, Italy

First Performance of *Breaking Through Black in Miami* at 5Th Gym World Famous Mohamed Ali, Miami, Florida

#### 2018

*L'Essenziale è Invisibile agli Occhi: a dialogue with Wassily Kandinsky*, Orangerie of the Royal Palace of Monza, Italy

*Breaking Through*, Performance & Art Show, Bel-Air Fine Art, Saint-Tropez, France

#### 2017

*Breaking Through Miami Round 2*, 179 NW 25th Street, Miami, USA

Miami SCOPE Beach Art Fair, Miami, USA

*Breaking Through Lugano*, Lugano, Switzerland

*Do Ut Des* curated by Alberto Peruzzo Foundation, in collaboration with Contini Art Uk, Chiesetta della Misericordia, Venice, Italy

*Breaking Through Bologna*, Royal Carlton, Bologna, Italy

Cris Contini Contemporary

London | Milano | Bruxelles

w. [www.criscontinicontemporary.com](http://www.criscontinicontemporary.com) | e. [info@criscontinicontemporary.com](mailto:info@criscontinicontemporary.com)

[@criscontinicontemporary](https://www.instagram.com/criscontinicontemporary) | [#criscontinicontemporary](https://www.facebook.com/criscontinicontemporary)



## 2016

Breaking Through New York, UNIX Gallery, New York, USA

*Breaking Through Milan*, curated by Luca Beatrice, in collaboration with Contini Art UK, M.A.C Maimeri Foundation, Milan

## 2015

*Breaking Through*, ContiniArtUK, London, UK

## 2014

*L'essenziale è Invisibile agli Occhi*, Montesegale Castle, Pavia, Italy  
*Il dolce far nulla*, site-specific installation, Montesegale (Pavia), Italy

## 2012

*Jab, Jab!!*, Colossi Arte Contemporanea, Brescia, Italy  
Installazione site-specific, Accademia delle Belle Arti Galli, Como, Italy

## 2011

H.O.2, curated by Ivan Quaroni, Fabbrica Eos, Milan, Italy  
*One Wall*, site-specific installation, Palace of the Lombardy Region, Presidential Corridor

## 2009

Gaijin, Musashy Gallery, Tokyo, Japan

## SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS

## 2022

*SOS Humanity*, Simone Benedetto – Silvia della Rocca – Sergio Floriani – Helidon Xhixha - Omar Hassan, Alberto Giacomini Foundation, Lago d'Orta, Italy

## 2017

Beirut Art Fair, ContiniArtUK, Beirut International & Leisure Centre Downtown, Beirut, Lebanon  
Bologna Arte Fiera, Bologna Exhibition Centre, Bologna, Italy, nominated for the 11th edition of the 'Euromobil Prize Under 30' in Bologna

## 2016

*Colour and Matter*, Pied a Terre, Porto Cervo, Italy  
*Motomorphosis*: Special project with Ducati and Sotheby's, La Triennale di Milano, Milan, Italy  
*START*, Saatchi Gallery, London, UK  
*WOP Art*, Lugano, Switzerland

## 2015

*Premio Cairo*, Group exhibition as a finalist for Cairo Art Prize, Palazzo della Permanente, Milan, Italy  
*Breaking Through Miami* in support of DRI in collaboration with St Regis and Rosenbaum Contemporary, Miami, Florida, USA

Cris Contini Contemporary

London | Milano | Bruxelles

w. [www.criscontinicontemporary.com](http://www.criscontinicontemporary.com) | e. [info@criscontinicontemporary.com](mailto:info@criscontinicontemporary.com)  
[@criscontinicontemporary](https://www.instagram.com/criscontinicontemporary) | [#criscontinicontemporary](https://www.facebook.com/criscontinicontemporary)



Summer Show, Just Cavalli, Ibiza, Spain  
Miami Art Fair, Miami, Florida, USA  
Group Exhibition, Rosenbaum Contemporary, Bal Harbour, Florida, USA  
*ART STAGE*, Singapore, Singapore  
*ArtWynwood Miami*, Rosenbaum Contemporary, Miami, Florida, USA

#### **2014**

*Eccentrico Musivo*, MAR, Museum of Contemporary Art, Ravenna, Italy  
*Qualcosa d'Impatto*, Carlo Caldera – Paolo De Cuarto – Omar Hassan, Castello di Gambolò, Pavia, Italy

#### **2013**

Sedie d'Artista, SIM-PATIA, Triennale di Milano  
Crystal Le Club, Crystal Palace, Brescia, Italy  
ArtVerona, Colossi Arte Contemporanea, Verona, Italy  
Bubble, Terrazza Aperol, Duomo Square, Milan, Italy  
Orientalmente, Palazzo Te, Mantova, Italy  
Refreshing Art, Art Factory, Catania, Italy  
Bologna Arte Fiera, Colossi Arte Contemporanea, Bologna, Italy

#### **2012**

Bergamo Arte Fiera, Colossi Arte Contemporanea, Bergamo, Italy  
ArtVerona, Colossi Arte Contemporanea, Verona, Italy  
Restart, Fabbrica Eos, Milan, Italy  
Roma Contemporary, Fabbrica Eos, Rome, Italy  
Arte Accessibile, Sole24ore, Milan, Italy  
Robert F. Kennedy Foundation of Europe, Hangar Bicocca, Milan, Italy

#### **2011**

54th Venice Biennale, Italian Pavilion, Venice, Italy  
*Una Mano per Ail, il giusto mezzo*, Charity auction at Pomodoro Foundation, Christie's, Milan, Italy  
AAM, Sole24Ore, Milan, Italy

#### **2010**

*Creativeworld*, Frankfurt, Germany  
*Scrittura Visiva*, Marelia Gallery, Bergamo, Italy  
ArtVerona, FabbricaEos, Verona, Italy  
*M(A)mbiguity*, Fabbrica del Vapore, Milan, Italy  
*Kilometro 20+1*, Torrione Farnese, curated by Dany Vescovi, Castell'Arquato, Italy  
*Il MA*, Katy House Gallery, Monfalcone, Italy  
*In-Tortona*, Spazio Concept, Milan, Italy

#### **2009**

*Tokio Flash*, Fabbrica del Vapore, Milan, Italy  
*26 for Tibet*, Tsetan Sonam, Milan, Italy  
*26 for Tibet*, Centro Guarinoni, Fortunago, Italy  
*Streets without Wall*, Misericordia Museum, curated by Chiara Canali, Florence, Italy  
*Attuttotondo*, Villa Orsini, Scorzè, Venice, Italy

**Cris Contini Contemporary**

London | Milano | Bruxelles

w. [www.criscontinicontemporary.com](http://www.criscontinicontemporary.com) | e. [info@criscontinicontemporary.com](mailto:info@criscontinicontemporary.com)  
[@criscontinicontemporary](https://www.instagram.com/criscontinicontemporary) | [#criscontinicontemporary](https://www.facebook.com/criscontinicontemporary)



*Incursioni*, Associazione Culturale Artificio, Milan, Italy  
*Una Mano per l'AIL*, Palazzo Clerici, Milan, Italy

**2008**

Group Exhibition, Bagolino, Brescia, Italy

## **SPECIAL PROJECTS**

**2022**

*Più di Uno*, tapestry created in a special edition for Triade

**2021**

*Double*, collaboration between Omar Hassan and Mondo Marcio

**2020**

*Famoso*, collaboration between Omar Hassan and Sfera Ebbasta

## **COLLECTIONS AND MUSEUMS**

Puzzle Public, Bagolino, Brescia, Italy  
Rimembranze di Conte Rosso, Milan, Italy  
Dolce Far Nulla, Monteselegale, Pavia, Italy  
One Wall, Palazzo della Regione, Milan, Italy  
Borgio Verezzi in Wonderland, Borgio Verezzi, Italy  
Columns of San Donato Milanese Station, San Donato Milanese, Italy  
Mille Miglia of Colors, Mille Miglia Museum, Brescia, Italy  
Aldo Galli Fine Art Academy, Como, Italy  
Color Cube, Brick Lane, London, UK  
MAR Art Museum of Ravenna, Ravenna, Italy  
Fondazione Maimeri, Italy  
Fondazione Peruzzo, Italy  
LyfeBulb, USA  
Private Collection, Tokyo, Japan  
Private Collection, London, UK  
Private Collection, Miami and New York, USA  
Private Collection, Madrid, Spain  
Private Collection, Milan, Italy

## **PUBLICATIONS**

**2021**

*Per le strade*, autobiography, Baldini + Castoldi

**2020**

*SottoSopra*, exhibition catalogue, Peruzzo Editore

**Cris Contini Contemporary**

London | Milano | Bruxelles

w. [www.criscontinicontemporary.com](http://www.criscontinicontemporary.com) | e. [info@criscontinicontemporary.com](mailto:info@criscontinicontemporary.com)  
[@criscontinicontemporary](https://www.instagram.com/criscontinicontemporary) | [#criscontinicontemporary](https://www.facebook.com/criscontinicontemporary)

**2017**

*Do Ut Des*, exhibition catalogue, Peruzzo Editore, Essays by Dr. Claudio Strinati, Francesca Gavin

*Breaking Through Lugano*, Exhibition catalogue, Peruzzo Editore

**2016**

*Breaking Through Milan*, Solo exhibition catalogue, with forewords by Luca Beatrice, Gianni Maimeri, Saturnino Celani

*Breaking Through New York*, Solo exhibition catalogue, with foreword by Dr. Karin Hehenberger MD PhD

**2015**

*Breaking Through*, Solo exhibition catalogue, with forewords by Baroness Barbara Young and Cedar Lewisohn

*16th Premio Cairo*, Award Shortlist Catalogue

**2014**

*Eccentrico Musivo*, Exhibition Catalogue, MAR Art Museum of Ravenna

**2013**

*London Street Art*, by Frank Steam 156 Malt

**2011**

*Lo Stato dell'Arte*, 54th Venice Biennale official catalogue

*H.O.2*, Solo exhibition catalogue, with foreword by Ivan Quaroni

**Cris Contini Contemporary**

London | Milano | Bruxelles

w. [www.criscontinicontemporary.com](http://www.criscontinicontemporary.com) | e. [info@criscontinicontemporary.com](mailto:info@criscontinicontemporary.com)  
[@criscontinicontemporary](https://www.instagram.com/criscontinicontemporary) | [#criscontinicontemporary](https://www.facebook.com/criscontinicontemporary)