

## IDRIS KHAN, UK

Idris Khan (b.1978 Birmingham,UK, lives and works in London) draws inspiration for his meticulously executed works from diverse but consistent sources. He looks to the history of art and music as well as to some of the most significant philosophical and theological texts. His practice involves the investigation of memory and creativity, but it also considers the layering of experience which the artist mediates through the physical act of a continuous process of creating and erasing, or adding new layers whilst retaining traces of what has gone before.

Repetition and action have always been central to Khan's practice along with a restricted set of processes. There is the distinct sense of 'beating time', of going back and forth while simultaneously bringing a new creation into being. In the past, Khan's earlier works drew on pre-existing cultural artefacts and were about creating a whole from discrete parts, however his more recent series of works introduce another layer of mediation and are resolutely hand-made. Printed texts are stamped in densely overlaid geometric shapes on the surface of paintings, works on paper, sculptures and wall drawings. The texts are drawn from the artist's own writings in



# IDRIS KHAN

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## BIOGRAPHY

1978 Born in Birmingham, England  
Lives and works in London, England

## EDUCATION

2002 – 2004 MFA with Distinction For Research, Royal College of Art, London  
1998 – 2000 BA Photography, First Class. The University of Derby  
1997 – 1998 Walsall College of Art and Technology, BTEC National Diploma Foundation in Art and Design, Walsall

## SELECTED SOLO EXHIBITIONS

2025 *On Reflection*, Mennour, Paris  
*Over and Over*, Cristea Roberts Gallery, London

2024 *Idris Khan: Repeat After Me*, Milwaukee Art Museum, Milwaukee, Wisconsin, USA  
*Repeat After Me*, Milwaukee Art Museum, Wisconsin, USA  
*After...*, Sean Kelly, New York, USA

2023 *After the Storm*, Fabian Lang, Zürich, Switzerland

2022 *Idris Khan, Château La Coste*, Le Puy-Sainte-Réparate, France  
*The Pattern of Landscape*, Sean Kelly, Los Angeles, CA, USA

2021 *Idris Khan: The Seasons Turn*, Victoria Miro Gallery, London

2020 *ADAA: The Art Show*, Sean Kelly, New York  
*MoCa Westport*, Connecticut, USA 2019  
*Idris Khan: Words Beneath Words*, Victoria Miro, Venice, Italy

2019 *Gallery Edition: Idris Khan*, The Photographers' Gallery, London  
*Blue Rhythms*, Sean Kelly, New York  
*Idris Khan*, Galerie Thomas Schulte, Berlin, Germany

2017 *Idris Khan: Absorbing Light*, Victoria Miro Gallery, London  
*A World Within*, The New Art Gallery Walsall, Walsall, United Kingdom  
*Re-Imaginations*, Idris Khan & Annie Morris, Galerie ISA, Mumbai, India  
*Seven Times*, Galerie Thomas Schulte, Berlin, Germany

2016 *The Whitworth Art Gallery*, The University of Manchester, Manchester, England,  
(2016 – 2017) *Rhythm*, Galerie Thomas Schulte, Berlin, Germany

2015 *Overture*, Sean Kelly Gallery, New York  
*Conflicting Lines*, Victoria Miro Gallery, London

2014 *Zurich Opernhaus*, Set design collaboration with Wayne McGregor

2013 *Beyond the Black*, Victoria Miro Gallery, London  
*Beginning at the End*, Gallery Isabelle van den Eynde, Dubai

2012 *The Devil's Wall*, The Whitworth Art Gallery, The University of Manchester,  
Manchester, England  
*Photographs and Drawings*, Thomas Schulte Gallery, Berlin, Germany  
Fraenkel Gallery, San Francisco, California

2011 *Contrary Motion*, Göteborgs Konsthall, Gothenburg, Sweden  
*Devil's Wall*, Yvon Lambert Gallery, New York

- 2010 Victoria Miro, London
- 2009 *Be Lost in the Call*, Elementa, Dubai  
Kunsthauz Murz, Murzzuschlag, Austria  
*Silent Writings*, Espace Culturel Louis Vuitton, Paris
- 2008 *Every...*, K20, Dusseldorf  
*Fragile*, Permanent Public Art Commission, 9 Howick Place, London
- 2007 Yvon Lambert Gallery, New York  
Thomas Schulte Galerie, Berlin
- 2006 *A Memory After Bach's Cello Suites*, film installation, Yvon Lambert Gallery, Paris  
Victoria Miro Gallery, London  
*A Memory After Bach's Cello Suites*, film installation, inIVA, London  
Fraenkel Gallery, San Francisco
- 2001 *Future Focus*, The Q Gallery, Derby
- 2000 *Courts*, The City Gallery, Leicester

### SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS

- 2025 Idris Khan and Annie Morris, Galerie ISA, Mumbai  
*Interior Motives*, Hauser & Wirth, London  
*Chiaroscuro: A Century of Charcoal (online)*, Victoria Miro
- 2024 *TÊTE-À-TÊTE*, Muccicia Gallery, Rome, Italy  
*From the Ashes, Migrate Art*, The Old Truman Brewery, London, UK  
*Idris Khan & Annie Morris: When Loss Makes Melodies*, Pitzhanger Manor & Gallery, London, UK  
*Two Worlds Entwined: Annie Morris and Idris Khan*, Newlands House Gallery, Petworth, UK
- 2023-2024 *Teasing*, Mennour, Paris  
*When Loss Makes Melodies (with Annie Morris)*, Pitzhanger Manor & Gallery, London, UK
- 2019 Idris Khan & Annie Morris, Galerie Isa, Mumbai  
*Alterations Activation Abstraction*, Sundaram Tagore, New York  
*Seismography of the Soul: A project by Laurent Grasso*, TEFAF New York Spring, Park Avenue Armory, New York
- 2018 *Actions. The image of the world can be different*, Kettle's Yard at the University of Cambridge, Cambridge, United Kingdom  
*The Matter in Harmony*, Galerie Thomas Schulte, Berlin, Germany Summer Exhibition 2018, Royal Academy of Art, London, United Kingdom
- 2017 *Dissolution of Distance*, Pelaires Gallery, Mallorca  
*From Selfie to Self-Expression*, Saatchi Gallery, London  
*Second Nature*, organised by the K11 Art Foundation, chi art space, Hong Kong
- 2016 *Ludwig Van: The Beethoven Myth*, Cité de la Musique, Paris, France (2016 – 2017)  
*Memory of the Future*, Musée de L'Elysée, Lausanne, Switzerland
- 2015 *In and Out of Time*, Galerie Isa, Mumbai, India (2015 – 2016)  
*By the Book*, Sean Kelly, New York  
*The Dimension of Civilisation*, Yinchuan Museum of Contemporary Art, Yinchuan City, China  
*The Memory of Time: Contemporary Photographs*, National Gallery of Art,

- Washington, D.C.
- 2014 *Under Erasure*, Tel Aviv Museum of Art, Tel Aviv, Israel (2014– 2015)  
*One Way*: Peter Marino, Bass Museum of Art, Miami, Florida (2014 – 2015)  
 Special presentation; by Conrad Shawcross, Idris Khan & Yayoi Kusama,  
 Schloss Sihlberg, Zurich  
*Clear*, Gagosian Gallery, Beverly Hills, United States
- 2013 TIME, Bas Museum, Miami, Florida  
*Slow: Marking Time in Photography and Film*, MOCA, Jacksonville, Florida  
*Writing Without Borders*, Lehmann Maupin Hong Kong, Hong Kong  
*Une exposition parlée*, Jeu de Paume, Paris, France
- 2012-13 *Hajj: Journey to the Heart of Islam*, British Museum, London; travelling to:  
 Museum of Islamic Art, Doha
- 2012 *I Wish This Was A Song*. Music in Contemporary Art, The National Museum of Art,  
 Architecture and Design, Oslo, Norway  
 RESISTANCE. Subverting the Camera, The Fine Art Society, London
- 2011 *Lustwarande '11 - Raw*, De Oude Warande, Tilburg, The Netherlands
- 2010 *Art of Ideas Presents: The Witching Hour*, Birmingham Museums and Art Gallery,  
 Birmingham  
*Newspeak: British Art Now Part II*, The Saatchi Gallery, London  
*No New Thing Under the Sun*, Royal Academy, London  
*Haunted*, Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum, New York  
*Haunted*, Guggenheim Museum Bilbao, Bilbao
- 2009 *Still Revolution: Suspended in Time*, Museum of Contemporary Canadian Art.  
 Toronto, Canada  
*Taswir - Pictorial Mappings of Islam and Modernity*, Martin-Gropius-Bau, Berlin  
*The Collection*, Ikon Gallery, Birmingham  
*The Collection*, Victoria Miro Gallery, London  
*Silent Writings*, Espace Culturel Louis Vuitton, Paris, France  
*Natural Wonders: New Art from London* (curated by Nick Hackworth), Baibakov Art  
 Projects, Moscow  
*Order from Chaos: Ori Gersh / Idris Khan / Boo Ritson*, Convento de Santa Inés,  
 Seville, Spain
- 2008 *Order from Chaos: Ori Gersh / Idris Khan / Boo Ritson*, CAF - Andalusian Center of  
 Photography, Spain  
*Bookish – When books become art*, Lewis Glucksman Gallery, Cork, Ireland  
*A Memory After Bach's Cello Suites*, Kunst Film Biennale, Cologne  
 these valued landscapes, Bury St Edmunds Art Gallery, England  
*Under Erasure*, Temple Bar Gallery & Studios, Dublin  
*P2P*, Casino Luxembourg, Forum d'art contemporain, Luxembourg  
*Yours, Mine, Ours*, University Gallery, University of Essex, Colchester  
*Art Park*, Art Dubai
- 2007 *Mario Testino at Home* (curated by Mario Testino), Yvon Lambert Gallery, New York  
*All Tomorrow's Pictures*, ICA, London  
 Birmingham Arts Festival, Birmingham  
*Artprojx*, an artist film compilation, Late at Tate Britain, London
- 2006 *Imposing Order: Contemporary Photography and the Archive*,



- San Francisco Museum of Modern Art  
*Film-maker Focus*, The Encounters Short Film Festival, Bristol  
*Regeneration – 50 Photographers of Tomorrow*, Aperture Foundation Gallery, New York
- 2005 Le Studio – Project Room, Yvon Lambert, Paris  
*Something of the Night*, Leeds City Gallery, Leeds, UK  
*Andmoreagain*, Open Eye Gallery, Liverpool  
*To be continued...* Helsinki Kunsthalle, Helsinki, Finland (British Council)  
*Regeneration – 50 Photographers of Tomorrow*, Musée de l'Elysée, Lausanne, Switzerland /Galleria Corso Como Milan  
*Young Masters*, 148a St. John Street, London  
*Photography 2005*, Victoria Miro Gallery, London
- 2004 *Photo Paris* represented by The Photographers Gallery, London  
*Project Space: 'The Truth Society'*, Northern Gallery of Contemporary Art, Sunderland Arrivals, Pump House Gallery, Battersea, London  
*On The Edge*, Hiscox Gallery, London  
*Summer Show*, Hoopers Gallery, Clerkenwell, London  
*Show 1 MA*, Royal College of Art, London  
*Photography 2004*, Royal College of Art, London
- 2003 *Auslander*. The Dahl Gallery, Lucerne, Switzerland  
*Essen Arts Festival*, Folkwang Museum, Essen, Germany  
*Another Way Is Possible*, Royal College of Art, London

## COLLECTIONS

Kiran Nadar Museum of Art, New Delhi  
 Arts Council Collection, London  
 Art Gallery of New South Wales, Sydney,  
 The British Museum, London  
 Centre Pompidou, Paris  
 The de Young Museum, San Francisco  
 Government Art Collection, London  
 Musée National des Beaux Arts, Québec  
 The National Gallery of Art, London  
 National Gallery of Art, Washington, DC  
 Philadelphia Museum of Art  
 Saatchi Gallery, London  
 San Francisco Museum of Modern Art, San  
 Francisco Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum, New  
 York Whitworth Art Gallery, Manchester