



RAMZI MALLAT

APORIA

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Saturday 27 November 2025 – Saturday 17 January 2026

Project Loop is pleased to present Aporia, a solo exhibition by our fourth resident artist Ramzi Mallat. To encounter Ramzi Mallat's Aporia is to enter into an uncertain terrain, where thought, matter and time converge in a state of irresoluteness. Following his residency at Project LOOP, Mallat transforms the philosophical concept of aporia into an artistic exploration.

First used by Plato to describe the moment of profound doubt that follows questioning, the term aporia (from the Greek ἀπορία, meaning "without passage" or "no way through") was later formalised by Aristotle as a method, a necessary obstruction through which knowledge advances. Centuries on, Jacques Derrida reimagined it as an unpassable threshold, the space where meaning falters and yet must still be faced: "we await one another at the limit of the possible." (Aporias, Stanford University Press, 1993).

In Aporia, Mallat's works resist both nostalgia and repair, they dwell instead in what the artist calls a 'poetics of aftermath': an aesthetics of instability that reflects the precarity of the times we live in. The artist's practice evokes this aftermath as a living condition rather than a historical event, an impossibility one must inhabit.

Bringing together sculptures, drawings and prints, the exhibition reflects on a world marked by instability. Mallat's *Adrift* (2023), a Mediterranean fishing boat fitted with Levantine mandaloun windows, captures the tension of migration, where opportunity for some becomes danger for others. Through this hybrid form, the artist explores heritage, displacement, and the fragile line between safety and peril. The work stands as an ode to migrants, the anonymous and the unfamiliar, while offering a way to grasp the conflicting forces of the migrant crisis.

Sorrowful and Bellicose (2023), a hanging anchor composed of illegible Arabic text which visually merges the familiar and strange. A jute rope is adorned by copper dendrites in the shape of coral growths, suggesting a repeated submersion in bodies of water. These nautical references symbolise both physical and metaphorical journeys into the sinking unknown, bringing to the forefront themes of erasure, refuge, wreckage and the abyss.

Running through all these gestures is a profound diasporic tension: the question of whether to leave in search of a better future or stay rooted in the place of origin. The artist examines what is lost, what is preserved, and what is continuously re-negotiated when one lives in motion, caught between returning, remaining, or beginning again elsewhere. This emotional conflict is expressed through objects that invoke fragility, protection, and challenge fate.

The result is an exhibition that entwines kitsch tropes with heritage, personal narrative with collective history, and ancient artefacts with forced displacement. Aporia grapples with relentless discord, and enters an immersive narrative that navigates identity, movement, and belonging.

RAMZI MALLAT (b.1996 Beirut, Lebanon) Ramzi Mallat holds a BA in Fine Art from Lancaster University and an MA in Sculpture from the Royal College of Art. In 2022, MALLAT was featured on Forbes Middle East's '30 Under 30' list, and in 2024, he was shortlisted for Bloomberg New Contemporaries. He currently serves as a trustee of the IMOS Foundation (U.K).

Mallat's work has been presented in solo exhibitions at venues including the UNESCO Palace and The Cervantes Institute in Beirut, as well as the Victoria and Albert Museum, P21 Gallery, Marie Jose Gallery and Danuser and Ramírez Gallery in London. He has participated in group exhibitions across the United Kingdom and Europe, including Turf Projects, Standpoint Gallery, Candid Arts and Storey Gallery, and the VIMA Art Fair (Cyprus). His recent short film *Sobhiye* (2022) was recognised by multiple international film festivals, including Lebanese Independent Film Festival (LIFF).







VAIN SORROWFUL AND BELLICOSE

2023

Mild steel, jute rope and copper

200 x 31 x 7 cm





CONSTELLATIONS OF PROTECTION XVI
2024
Patinated bronze
26 x 18 x 12 cm



CONSTELLATIONS OF PROTECTION V
2023
Patinated bronze
22 x 18 x 8 cm



CONSTELLATIONS OF PROTECTION XIV
2024
Patinated bronze
18 x 14 x 7 cm



CONSTELLATIONS OF PROTECTION IX
2023
Polished Bronze
24 x 16 x 11 cm



CONSTELLATIONS OF PROTECTION I
2023
Patinated bronze
18 x 12 x 5 cm



CONSTELLATIONS OF PROTECTION XV

2024

Patinated bronze

25 x 16 x 12 cm



CONSTELLATIONS OF PROTECTION X
2024
Patinated bronze
24 x 17 x 14 cm



CONSTELLATIONS OF PROTECTION XVII

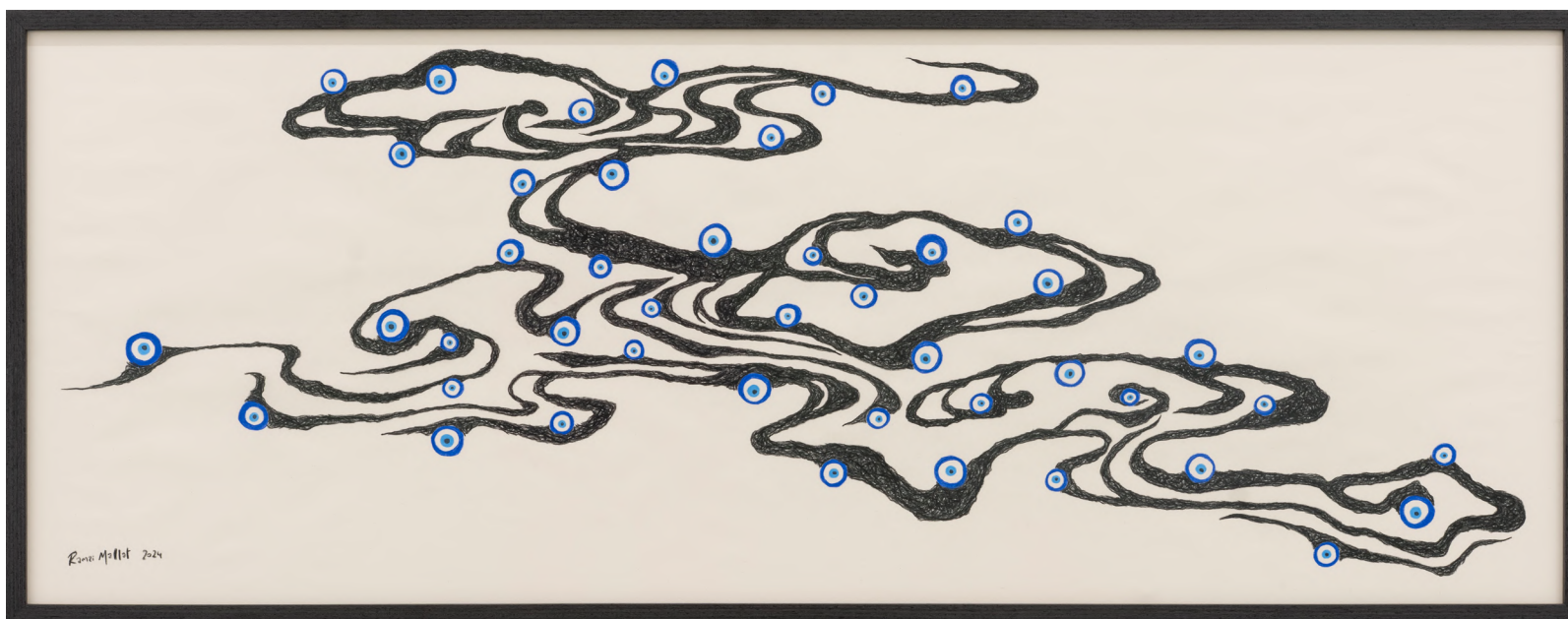
2024

Patinated bronze

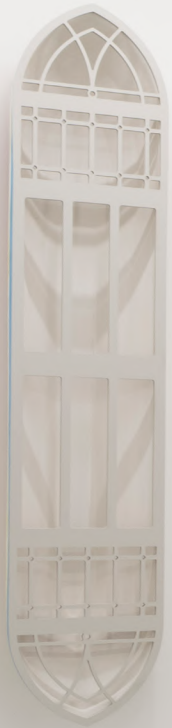
20 x 15 x 14 cm



VISTA VISION VI
2024
Wax pencil on papert
125 x 45 cm (Unframed)

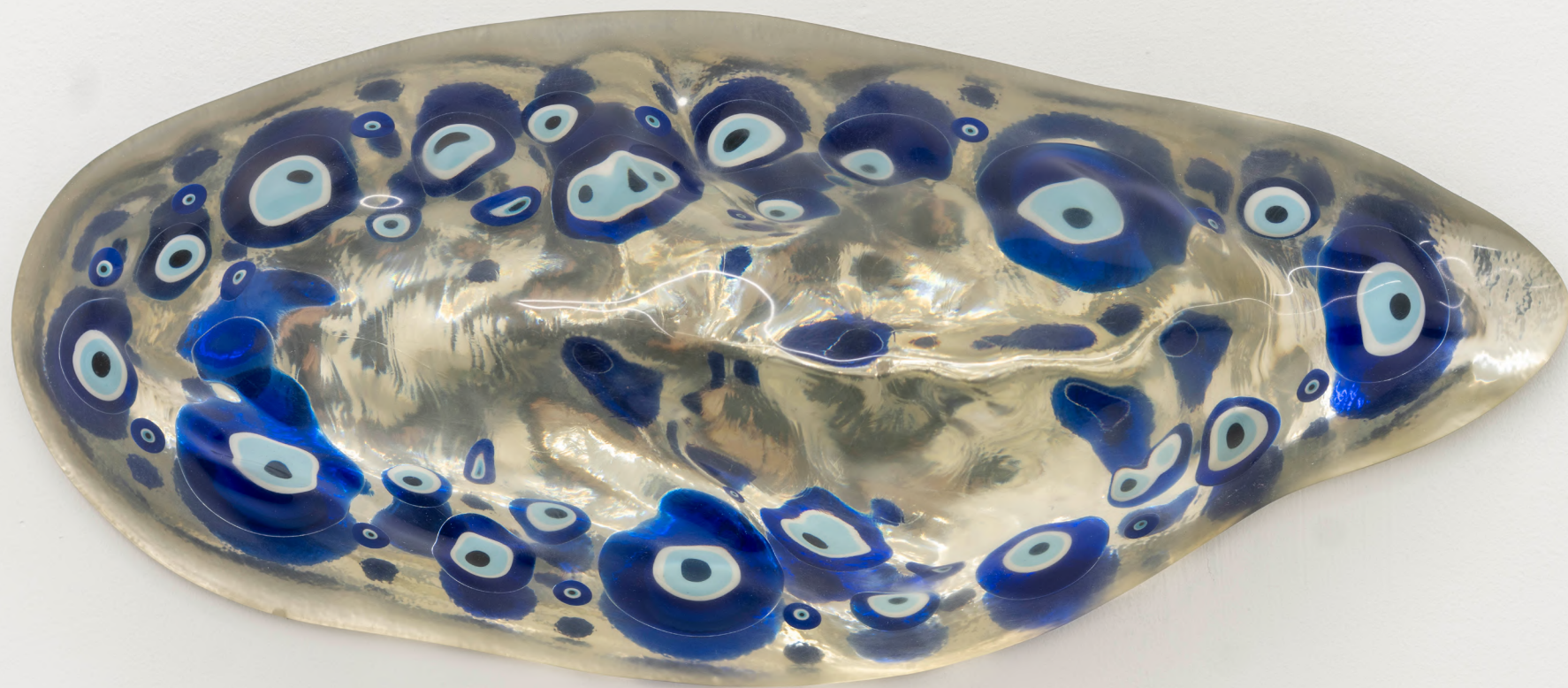


VISTA VISION VIII
2024
Wax pencil on papert
119 x 45 cm (Unframed)

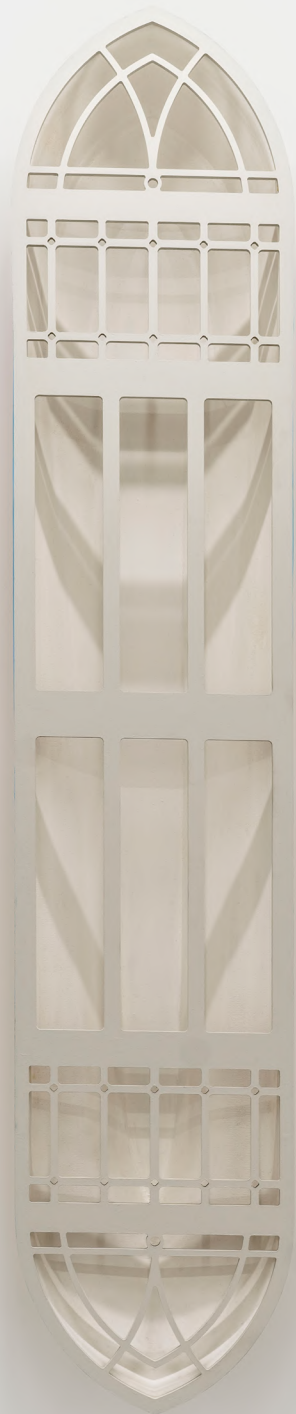




BILLOW AND BEHOLD
2023
Glass and resin
26 x 171 x 16 cm







ADRIFT
2023
Wood and paint
245 x 45 x 30 cm





B. 1996 in Beirut, Lebanon
Lives and works in London, UK and Beirut, Lebanon

EDUCATION

2023 MA Sculpture, Royal College of Art, London
2017 BA Fine Art, Lancaster University, Lancaster

SOLO EXHIBITIONS

2025 *Not Your Martyr*, V&A x LDF, V&A, London, UK
Suspended Disbelief, Takeover, Beirut, Lebanon
2024 *Emotional Territories*, Marie Jose Gallery, London, UK
2023 *Fault Lines*, P21 Gallery, London, UK
2022 *Means To No End*, Danuser & Ramírez Gallery, London, UK
2018 *Unearthed*, Cervantes Institute, Beirut, Lebanon
2017 *Roots*, UNESCO Palace, Beirut, Lebanon

SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS

2025 *EX-VOTOS Rites of Life/Rites of Infernos*, TANK Project Space, London, UK
Takeover, VIMA Art Fair, Limassol, Cyprus
2024 Residency Competition - Shortlisted Artists, The Muse Gallery, London, UK
2023 *RCA2023 SHOW*, Truman Brewery
SupaStore Shut Up, Turf Projects, London, UK
2022 *A Murmuration*, Candid Arts Trust, London, UK
Lapped Seams and Silver Linings, Standpoint Gallery, London, UK
We Won't Stop Showing, SET Woolwich, London, UK
Work In Progress, Royal College of Art, London, UK
2019 *Stronger Roots for Stronger Alliances*, organized by the Arab Foundation for Equality, The Landmark, Nicosia, Cyprus
2017 *53 More Things to do in Zero Gravity*, Peter Scott Gallery, Lancaster, UK
Room With A View, The Storey Gallery, Lancaster, UK
2015 *Summer Showcase*, Peter Scott Gallery, Lancaster, UK

RESIDENCIES

2026 Villa-Legodi Center for Sculpture, NIROX Foundation, Johannesburg, South Africa
2025 Project Loop, London, UK
2022 Standpoint Gallery, London, UK
2016 IMOS Foundation, New Romney, UK

AWARDS

2024 Shortlisted, Residency Competition, The Muse Gallery, London UK
Shortlisted, Bloomberg New Contemporaries, London, UK
2022 '30 Under 30' Lister, Forbes Middle East, Dubai, United Arab Emirates
Trustee, IMOS Foundation
Official Selection, Story? International Student Documentary Film Festival, Cork, Ireland
Official Selection, Lebanese Independent Film Festival (LIFF), Beirut, Lebanon

SPEAKER APPEARANCES

2024 SoAH MA Alumni Session, Royal College of Art, London, UK
2023 Artist Talk: Ramzi Mallat in conversation with Najlaa El-Ageli and Yahya Zaloom, P21 Gallery, London, UK
2022 Forbes Middle East '30 Under 30' Summit, El Gouna, Egypt

PUBLICATIONS

2024 Al-Tiba9 Art Magazine, Issue 16
2023 FORM Journal Issue 1, Villa-Legodi Center for Sculpture, NIROX Foundation, Johannesburg, South Africa

AUCTIONS

2025 Modern & Contemporary Middle Eastern Art, Artscoops, Beirut, Lebanon
Art for Lebanon Charity Auction, Maison Pan, London, UK
2024 Center For Lebanese Studies' 40th Anniversary Charity Auction, The Athenaeum Club, London, UK

PRESS

[Memorial, Ramzi Mallat reimagines Aug. 4 Memory, L'Orient Today, 2025](#)

[Ramzi Mallat displays 'Not Your Martyr' at V&A South Kensington for London's Art Fair season, Artscoops Magazine, 2025](#)

[In conversation with Ramzi Mallat: Memory, Fragility, and the Vulnerability of Peace, Marie Claire Maison Arabia, 2025](#)

[Not Your Martyr at the V&A remembers the Beirut blast, Fact London, 2025](#)

[Ramzi Mallat's London Design Festival installation is a bittersweet ode to Beirut, Wallpaper*, 2025](#)

[Ramzi Mallat - Not Your Martyr - Interview by Matteo Pini, TANKTV, 2025](#)

[7 Middle Eastern Artists You Should Know, Fresh from VIMA Art Fair, AD Middle East, 2025](#)

[Between Belief and Doubt: Ramzi Mallat's Suspended Disbelief, The Markaz Review, 2025](#)

[Déstabiliser le regard et explorer les croyances ancestrales avec Ramzi Mallat, L'Agenda Culturel, 2025](#)

[Suspended Disbelief - Ramzi Mallat Explores Myth, Faith and Belief, This is Yung, 2025](#)

[Ramzi Mallat's relentless journey of discovery, rediscovery and self-reflection, Artscoops Magazine, 2025](#)

[Interview - Ramzi Mallat, Al-Tiba9 Contemporary Art, 2024](#)

[A Londres, des maamouls colorés et la magie de l'Orient de Ramzi Mallat, L'Orient Le Jour, 2023](#)

[Intimate Solidarities: Ramzi Mallat at P21 Gallery, Canvas Magazine, 2023](#)

[Artist Spotlight: Ramzi Mallat at P21 Gallery, Fad Magazine, 2023](#)

[Convo No. 16: Ramzi - A Beirut-based artist's life and works, Hey Magazine, 2023](#)