



Beirut  
Printmaking  
Studio

# Annual Report

April 22 - March 23

# WHAT A YEAR!

As we approach the end of another remarkable year for our studio, I am delighted to reflect on the diverse and inspiring programs and exhibitions that have graced our cultural landscape. Allow me to share with you some of the highlights from the past months, including seven exhibitions that have left an indelible mark on our physical presence as a printmaking studio.

This year has been a testament to the enduring spirit of hard work at the studio. Our dedicated artists, part-time instructors, and part-time studio assistants have poured their passion and energy into countless hours of creative exploration, pushing the boundaries of printmaking and analog photography contributing to the vibrant artistic tapestry of Beirut. The commitment to excellence and the relentless pursuit of artistic innovation have been the driving forces behind the studio's successes, making this year a remarkable chapter in our ongoing journey.

In the course of this year, our work took center stage in seven significant exhibitions, with four of them unfolding beyond our national borders. Our works were shown in international platforms such as Journee de la Estampe a Saint Sulpice, Fondation Taylor, Corsica, and the Exhibition Research Lab in Liverpool showing over 200 prints from 25 of our studio members. This remarkable feat reflects a testament to our collective dedication and artistic prowess—undeniably, we have surpassed even our loftiest expectations.

We are profoundly grateful for the unwavering support we've received from Fondation Taylor and the Solidarity with Beirut Printmaking Studio Initiative, spearheaded by Sabine Delahaut and Jean-Michel Uyttersproot. Their invaluable contributions have served as a lifeline, providing essential materials that are indispensable to our studio's creative endeavors.

Throughout this year, our Scholarship Program and Residency Program have seen sustained success, underscoring the enduring

commitment to fostering artistic talent. A total of 11 participants had the opportunity to immerse themselves in these enriching initiatives. Additionally, we hosted a captivating masterclass on mezzotint led by the the Belgian artist, Bernard Minguet, further enriching the educational and creative landscape of our studio. Twenty-five members from our community participated in his masterclass. These accomplishments stand as a testament to our unwavering dedication to nurturing the next generation of artists and providing meaningful opportunities for artistic skill development.

Heartfelt gratitude is extended to all those who rallied behind our studio. Through the unwavering support of our friends and patrons, we successfully crowdfunded a sustainable solution to address the persistent electricity crises that once brought our studio to a standstill daily for two hours. This collaborative effort not only reinstated the uninterrupted flow of creative energy within our workspace but also exemplified the power of community support in overcoming challenges and fostering resilience.

As we reflect on the challenges overcome and the achievements unlocked, we look forward with optimism to the new opportunities and horizons that await in the coming year. We plan to persist with our training programs. However, recognizing the paramount importance of providing our community of artists with ample time for profound creative exploration, we intend to recalibrate our pace. This deliberate adjustment aims to afford artists the opportunity to delve deeply into personal projects, ensuring they are well-prepared to present their work individually and collaboratively in response to any open calls that may arise in 2024. This measured approach reflects our dedication to fostering both individual artistic growth and a vibrant, collective creative spirit within our community.

As we conclude another impactful year at our studio, we express deep gratitude for the artistic achievements, community support, and organizational assistance that have shaped our creative journey. The array of exhibitions, the commitment of our artists, and the generous aid from all of the friends of the studio define this chapter of our creative story. Looking ahead, we celebrate not just the triumphs of the past year but also the resilience and collaborative spirit propelling us toward new horizons in the coming year.

Tarek Mourad  
Director

## MISSION

Diffuse knowledge for interdisciplinary practices in all analog printmaking techniques. The studio draws attention to printmaking practices in Lebanon and to encourages printmakers in their endeavor by providing a workspace equipped with all basic needs. The studio also works on promoting printmaking and printmakers in Lebanon through cultural and artistic activities and offers workshops and courses in analog printmaking and analog photography.

## VISION

The studio is committed to becoming a reference as an inclusive place for the teaching and practice of analog printmaking techniques; to offer archival services for institutions, museums, and professionals, and serving as an off-campus workshop where university students can learn these practices.

# footprint

12

courses &  
workshops  
offered

68

participants

---

3

programs

48

participants

---

90

people  
visited the  
studio on  
a monthly  
basis

150+

individual  
plates  
produced

75+

individual  
photographs  
produced

# PROGRAMS

## PRINTMAKING SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

Through the support of the “Solidarité avec Beirut Printmaking Studio” initiative headed by Sabine Delahaut and Jean-Michel Uyttersprot, we were able to develop our Printmaking Scholarship program.

Open for university students, it offers a fully funded one-year apprenticeship to learn the different techniques in printmaking resulting in a collective exhibition.

The third cohort of five scholarship holders completed their apprenticeship with a collective exhibition “The Hand that Prints - 3rd edition” in Beirut. The proceeds of their sold prints funded the following year’s cohort of 3 scholarships.

## PRINTMAKING RESIDENCY PROGRAM

Open for emerging artists, it offers a fully funded one-year residence to work in printmaking and to produce original body of work. Residents will show their work in a collective exhibition.

We launched the first residency cohort with the support of AFAC and Culture Resource. We are currently in the second cohort of this program due to complete their residency in summer.

The scholarship and residency programs aim to raise a new generation of printmakers through an alternative and inclusive learning model. As well as providing them with several opportunities (locally and internationally) to showcase their work

## MASTERCLASS SERIES

The first masterclass happened in October 2021 with the support of AFAC and Culture Resource having Sabine Delahaut as the first visiting instructor.

The goal of this program is to introduce our community to specialised techniques in printmaking and analog photography through a three week masterclass with an invited artist that has mastered their technique. It also aims in providing space for exchange between them and the invited artists.

This year we held our second masterclass in April. The invited artist was Bernard Minguet teaching mezzotint. We had 25 participants in his masterclass.



# exhibitions

JUNE 2022

## **Journee de l'Estampe Contemporaine a Saint Sulpice**

Paris, France.

JULY 2022

## **Impressions from an Archive**

In collaboration with the Arab Image Foundation, Liverpool Arab Arts Festival and Exhibition Research Lab at the John Moores University in Liverpool.

Liverpool, England.



AUGUST 2022

## **Impressions from an Archive**

In collaboration with the Arab Image Foundation, Liverpool Arab Arts Festival and Mina Image Center.

Beirut, Lebanon.



SEPTEMBER 2022

## **BPS at Fondation Taylor**

Exhibition held at the Fondation Taylor, in Paris hosting the works of our community along with 5 printmaking associations and hosting Assadour Bezdikian as "godfather".

Paris, France.



AUGUST 2022

## **IMPRINTO1**

First Printmaking Residency Program exhibition at our studio.

Beirut, Lebanon.

# PARTNERSHIPS GRANTS & SUPPORT



## **Impressions from an Archive**

In collaboration with the Arab Image Foundation, Liverpool Arab Arts Festival, Exhibition Research Lab at the John Moores University in Liverpool and Mina Image Center, this year we concluded this project yielding two exhibitions (in Beirut and in Liverpool) showing the works in printmaking produced at the studio. This partnership involved all of our studio community, from darkroom to printmaking.

## **Workshop with CSB-SD Creative Space**

In collaboration with Creative Space, we delivered a workshop for 20 fashion designers in using the cyanotype printing technique on fabrics that were later used in their fashion creations.

## **Zabbura Collective**

This year we also launched a “special” fundraising calendar with the help of anonymous supporters in order to raise funds for our yearly rent.

## **Fondation Taylor**

We are very thankful for the continued support of the Fondation Taylor not only in helping us receive the materials needed for the continuation of our work but as well for supporting us with cotton paper and an amazing exhibition of the works of our printmaking community, printmaking associations and Assadour Bezdikian.

## **Solidarite avec Beirut Printmaking Studio**

The initiative started by Sabine Delahaut and Jean-Michel Uytensproot, and supported by over 120 artists from all over the world, have been a continued vital lifeline in guaranteeing the studio materials and tools for printmaking.

## **UPS Fundraiser**

With the help of the friends of the studio, we managed a lightning fast fundraiser that managed to provide the studio with a battery back-up system so that work would no longer halt for 2 hours during the cut in electricity supply.

