

**Younès Rahmoun**

Habba-Zahra: you offered me a seed,  
I give you shadow and flowers

13 March – 2 May 2015



**The  
Project  
Space**

  
**John Jones**  
LONDON

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John Jones Project Space is pleased to present a solo exhibition of works by Younès Rahmoun, one of Morocco's most regarded contemporary artists. Winner of the 2014 John Jones Art on Paper Award at Art Dubai, Younès Rahmoun employs a wide range of media in an ongoing quest for spiritual universality.

Younès Rahmoun is best known for a body of work that combines his religious and spiritual beliefs with the everyday concerns of living within a global context. His work first came to attention in 1998 when he was invited to participate in *The Disoriented Object* at the Museum of Decorative Arts in Paris. By 2001, Rahmoun started working in a way that directly engages with his spiritual exploration, incorporating Sufi thought into his work as well as Oriental philosophy. This shift towards the spiritual is borne out of a personal search for meaning – a pursuit that has informed and enriched Rahmoun's artistic output.

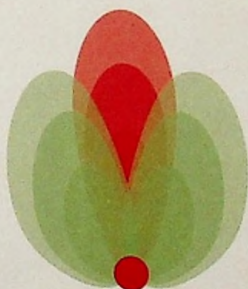
I do not distinguish 'Younès the practicing Muslim' and 'Younès the artist' – I am both. What I do is simply a reflection of myself. In my artistic work, I seek to discover myself and explain my own path of exploration. My work is the trace and the concrete result of that exploration.

The spiritual journey is a consistent theme running through Rahmoun's work. In the video animation *Habba* (2008-2011) a seed travels through space in search for the ideal place to grow. The seed is given life. It takes root and produces branches and, in turn, fruit and new seeds. This is the cycle of life and a visualisation of the repetition inherent within our day to day existence.

The use of numbers is another recurrent motif, employed by Rahmoun to directly reference Sufi faith. For example, in *Zahra Saghira* (2008) seventy-seven flowers are depicted in simple pencil drawings, each flower is unique but with an identical red dot – or seed – at its heart. The seventy-seven flowers refer to the seventy-seven branches of faith in Islam. The flower symbolises a kind and peaceful way of being.

At the centre of the exhibition is a sculpture from Younès Rahmoun's *Darra* series. 'Darra', which means 'atom' in Arabic, simultaneously alludes to the infinite and microscopic scales of life. The structure within the atom recalls the flower and, of course, the seed; two motifs running through the exhibition, which refer to the origins of man and the universe.

I try to give shape or to visualise invisible things, intangible things like faith, the soul, the spirit, the awakening, etc.



*Zahra, 2010*  
Digital prints  
Each 60 x 50cm  
Courtesy of the artist  
and Imane Farès, Paris

Clockwise from left:  
(26/77, 34/77,  
05/77, 16/77)

## Biography

Younès Rahmoun was born in 1975 in Tétouan, in Morocco, where he still lives and works. He studied at the National Fine Arts Institute of Tétouan and set up his studio, in 1998, in a small room of the family home. Rahmoun's work has been presented in numerous international institutions such as Istanbul Modern, MACBA in Barcelona, Palais de Tokyo in Paris, Musée d'Art Moderne Arabe in Doha (Qatar) and MuHKA in Antwerp. He has also been included in the 5th Biennial of Marrakech in 2014, Manifest 9 in 2012 and the 54th Venice Biennale in 2011. Rahmoun is represented by Galerie Imane Farès in Paris.

With thanks to:

Galerie Imane Farès



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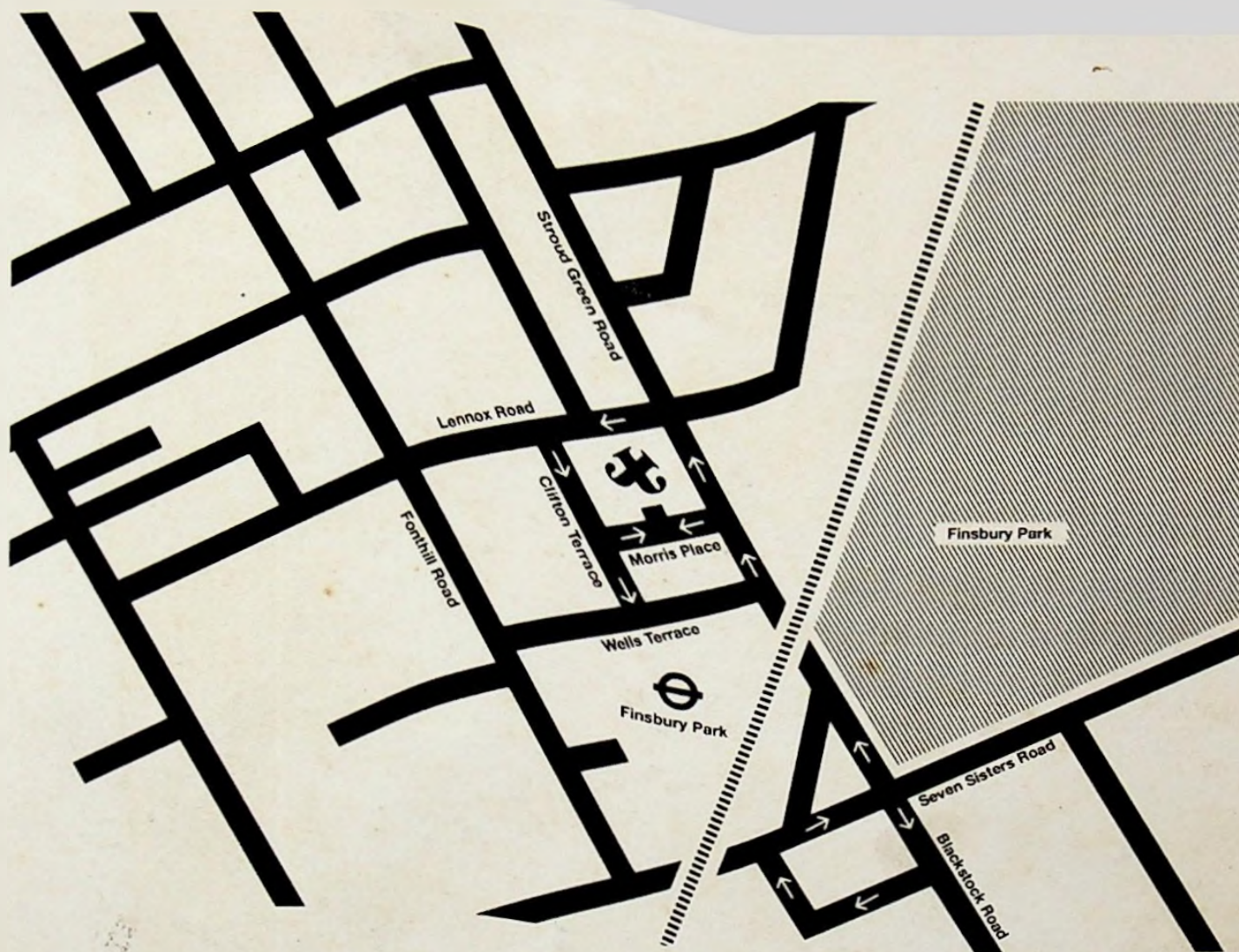


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# The Project Space

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## Opening hours

Tuesday–Friday, 11am–6pm

Saturday, 10am–3pm

Admission Free

**Tube:** Finsbury Park

**Bus:** 4, 19, 29, 106,  
153, 210, 236, 253,  
254, 259, W3, W7

Cover Image:

Younes Rahmoun

*Habba (Seed)*, 2008–2011

Video animation, 7min

Courtesy of the artist and Imane Fares

**Music:** Esteban Algora

Musicians: Ingar Zach, Alessandra

Rombola and Esteban Algora

Technical assistance: Mohamed Ahblb

and Willy Legaud

Production: Ar'Dev