

TUBA AHSAN

Visual Artist & Fashion Designer

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PROFESSIONAL SUMMARY

Internationally recognized visual artist and fashion designer with 17+ years of professional experience (since 2008). Creator of oil paintings exploring themes of women's identity, resilience, and cultural heritage across civilizations. Co-founder of Birlikte Sanat (Together for Art) Society, a Turkish artist collective promoting cultural understanding through art and humanitarian initiatives. Organizer of the globally touring "Rising from the Ashes" exhibition series, which has raised nearly \$400,000 USD and funded construction of 18+ sustainable wooden homes for 2023 Türkiye-Syria earthquake victims. Works exhibited across 6+ countries including the United States, Italy, Qatar, Kuwait, Bangladesh, and Malaysia, with coverage in major international publications.

AREAS OF EXPERTISE

- **Visual Arts:** Oil painting specializing in abstract expressionist works depicting women through civilizations, cultural identity, and humanitarian themes using glazing techniques for depth and texture
- **Fashion Design:** Haute couture, modest fashion, accessories design; designs worn by Turkish pop stars and celebrities, featured in TV productions and distributed across MENA region
- **Community Art Programs:** Art workshops and creative programs for refugee and orphan children; trained under Cemal Toy Atölyesi (Art School)
- **Cultural Diplomacy & Exhibition Organization:** International exhibition coordination in partnership with Turkish embassies and cultural institutions across multiple continents

PROFESSIONAL TRAINING

- Oil painting and art instruction training under **Cemal Toy**, renowned Turkish artist, at Cemal Toy Atölyesi (Art School)

MAJOR INTERNATIONAL EXHIBITIONS

Voices of Resistance | Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia | February 5-11, 2024

KL City Art Gallery (KLCAG). Collaborative exhibition exploring themes of resilience and solidarity, organized with Turkish Embassy in Malaysia, Yunus Emre Institute, and Kakiseni. Inaugurated by Turkish Ambassador Emir Salim Yuksel. Included art therapy program for refugee and orphan children. Featured in The Malaysian Reserve.

Rising from the Ashes | Dhaka, Bangladesh | September 22-26, 2023

Aloki Convention Center. Five-day bilateral exhibition featuring Turkish and Bangladeshi artists. Organized by Cemal Toy Art School, Beyond Innovations and Technology, and Tuba Ahsan. Inaugurated by Turkish Ambassador Ramis Men. Featured in The Financial Express, The Daily Star, Dhaka Tribune, and Jamuna TV.

Rising from the Ashes | Milan, Italy | June 2023

Palazzo Delle Stelline. Supported by Invest Türkiye and Turkish Airlines. Presented works to European audiences at this prestigious historic venue in Milan's cultural district.

Rising from the Ashes | Kuwait City, Kuwait | May 22, 2023

Boushahri Art Gallery, in cooperation with Turkish Embassy. Charity exhibition inaugurated by Turkish Ambassador Tuba Nur Sonmez. Featured interview in Kuwait Times.

Women Solidarity for Earthquake Victims | Doha, Qatar | 2023

Rixos Golf Hotel. Collaboration with Turkish Embassy in Qatar and Cemal Toy Atölyesi. Focused on empowering women and supporting disaster victims.

Colors of Hope | New Jersey, USA | March-May 2023

IMUR Gallery, 67 Greene Street, Jersey City. Group exhibition with artists Cemal Toy, Ruveyda Gormezoglu, and Zafer Ors. Curated by Ivy Sarioglu. Works symbolizing hope and resilience following the Türkiye-Syria earthquake. Featured in Jersey City Times.

SELECTED ARTWORKS

"Women Through Civilizations" Series — Oil paintings celebrating women's inner power across cultures

- Africans (2023, 75cm x 45cm) — Unity and strength of African heritage
- Anatolian Dance (2024, 55cm x 70cm) — Rhythmic beauty of Turkish folk traditions
- Anatolian Wedding (2024, 75cm x 45cm) — Sacred traditions of Anatolian ceremonies
- Anatolian Women (2024, 35cm x 57cm) — Guardians of tradition and resilience
- Turkoman (2023, 70cm x 40cm) — Cultural identity of Turkoman people
- Inca (2023, 50cm x 70cm) — Spirituality and symbolism of Inca civilization

"Cultural Landscapes" Series

- Bosphorus (2024, 45cm x 70cm) — Istanbul's iconic strait as bridge between continents
- Istanbul (2024, 45cm x 70cm) — Crossroads of Eastern and Western civilizations
- Asian Breeze (2023, 75cm x 55cm) — Harmony with nature and peaceful landscapes

"Resilience" Series

- Rising From the Earth (2024, 45cm x 70cm) — Rebirth and human resilience
- To Reach (2022, 45cm x 70cm) — Human aspiration and transcendence
- Travelers (2022, 45cm x 35cm) — Migration and shared human journey
- Nexus (2024, 60cm x 60cm) — Moments of connection and convergence
- Intersection (2024, 50cm x 70cm) — Life's intersecting paths
- Encounter (2023, 35cm x 50cm) — Transformative moments of meeting

PRESS & MEDIA COVERAGE

International Publications

- **Kuwait Times** (May 2023) — "Art exhibition seeks to help Turkey quake victims 'rise from the ashes'" — Feature interview
- **Jersey City Times** (April 2023) — "Art Against Disaster: 'Colors of Hope' at IMUR" — Exhibition review
- **The Financial Express, Bangladesh** (September 2023) — "'Rising from the Ashes Exhibition 2023' commences in Dhaka"
- **The Daily Star, Bangladesh** (September 2023) — "Rising From the Ashes: Turkish Embassy initiates diplomatic outreach through art"
- **Dhaka Tribune** (September 2023) — "Rising from the Ashes: Tuba's collaboration for a charitable cause" — Extended interview
- **The Malaysian Reserve** (February 2024) — "Artists come together in solidarity with Palestine"
- **Jamuna TV, Bangladesh** (September 2023) — Television broadcast coverage

Fashion Industry Publications

- **Harper's Bazaar Turkey** — Fashion design features for KAYRA brand (scarves, accessories)
- **Marie Claire Turkey** — Fashion design features for KAYRA brand

FASHION DESIGN CAREER

Professional Experience (2008-Present)

- 17+ years spanning haute couture, modest fashion, accessories, and fast fashion design
- Designs featured in Turkish TV productions and worn by Turkish pop stars and musicians
- Designs distributed across MENA region (Middle East and North Africa)
- Co-founded fashion design studio with designers Serap Cebeci and Emine Çiçekci
- Global manufacturing connections: Bangladesh, China, Vietnam, Turkey
- Consulting for startup fashion brands on manufacturing and retail strategy

Brand Collaborations

- **KAYRA** — Turkish modest fashion brand; designed scarves, handbags, and accessories
- **HumaziTex Limited** — Bangladesh-based textile manufacturing (affiliated)

Industry Engagement

- Première Vision Paris | Intertextile Shanghai | Canton Fair | Hong Kong Fashion Week | Textile World

HUMANITARIAN IMPACT

The "Rising from the Ashes" exhibition series, organized by Tuba Ahsan in collaboration with Birlikte Sanat Society and Cemal Toy Art School, has achieved significant impact:

- Generated nearly **\$400,000 USD** in total sales from exhibitions across six countries
- Funded construction of **18+ sustainable wooden homes** for 2023 Türkiye-Syria earthquake victims
- Art therapy and workshop programs for **refugee and orphan children** in Malaysia (February 2024)
- Cultural exchange programs bridging Turkish artists with international art communities

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

- **Birlikte Sanat Society** (Together for Art Platform) — Co-founder; Turkish artist collective organizing humanitarian exhibitions
- **Cemal Toy Art School** — Collaborative artist, exhibition organizer, and trained instructor
- **Turkish Embassies** — Cultural partnerships in Kuwait, Bangladesh, Malaysia, Qatar
- **Yunus Emre Institute** — Cultural programming and art outreach initiatives
- **Geutanyoe Foundation Malaysia** — Refugee support and art therapy programs
- **IMUR Gallery (USA)** — Exhibition venue, Jersey City, New Jersey
- **Boushahri Art Gallery (Kuwait)** — Exhibition venue and partnership

LANGUAGES

Turkish (Native) | English (Professional Working Proficiency)