

PRESS RELEASE

Geneva, January 2025

PARTICIPATORY ARTIST RESIDENCY

From March 4, 2025

The International Red Cross and Red Crescent Museum, at the heart of intersection of art and humanitarian action, announces its first ever participatory artist in residence programme.

Following the ceremony of the 10th Prix art humanité on 23rd January 2025, Zahrasadat Hakim has been announced as the winner, and will commence her residency at the Museum on 4 March 2025.

The 10th edition of the Prix Art Humanité

For this project, the Museum is working with the Geneva University of Art and Design (HEAD), the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), the Geneva Red Cross and the AHEAD Foundation.

The Prize aims to support young graduates from the HEAD, who present projects combining social commitment and artistic expression. It highlights the ability of young talent to build bridges between art and humanity. By combining creativity and responsibility, the Prize encourages reflection on humanitarian issues and the exploration of new ways of tackling them.

A participatory Residency at the Museum

Following its renovations completed in 2024, the museum opened a new space, at the heart of international Geneva, 'l'Atelier'. The Museum contributes to the Prix Art Humanité by offering the winner a research and production residency in this space. The artwork will be acquired by the Museum and displayed in its public areas. The Museum thus provides full support for the residency, from research to exhibition and design.

This residency will become an integral part of the Prize until the Museum's 40th anniversary in 2028. Each year, the residency will focus on cultural participation through co-creation with the Museum's audience of a work that resonates with the Museum's core question: How does humanitarian action affect us all, here and now?

About the artist Zahrasadat Hakim



Winner of the Prix Art Humanité on 23 January, Zahrasadat Hakim graduated from the HEAD-Genève with a Master's degree in 2022. Born in Iran in 1983 to Iraqi parents, Zahrasadat Hakim has lived in Geneva since 2011. Self-taught, she works with wood and paint, but also combines weaving and ceramics, video and performance into her artistic practice.

Her first solo exhibition, *J'ai vu une femme qui batait la lumière dans un mortier*, was presented at the Cherish art space in Geneva in 2022. Her work has been shown in numerous group exhibitions, including at the United Nations Office in Geneva (2017), the Monnaie de Paris (2022), Art au Centre in Geneva (2022), Birmingham (2023) and the Inspire art award in Oslo (2023 and 2024).

Her personal experience is marked by the memory of war, having lived through the conflict between Iraq and Iran for the first five years of her life.

She uses lost and found objects and raw materials to create hybrid pieces that evoke the erosion of time, memory, dreams and recollections. She makes and unmakes some of her works and brings in temporary places to imagine a new living space, doomed to disappear.

Nature is also central to her work: by observing plants, she invites us all to rediscover our childhood perspective. This return to simplicity and reconnection with nature enables her to explore notions of care and identity, and to express the need to leave a better world for future generations.

Through her work, she demonstrates the power of artistic practice as an act of resistance and collective healing.

A Tapestry to Co-Create in 2025 at the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Museum



At the Museum, the artist will set up a large loom and invite visitors to work with her. The Museum's 'Atelier' will become a shared space for exchanging ideas, gathering, and practicing the art of weaving. By allowing different generations to work together with wool, the artwork will become a true symbol of unity and mutual aid.

With this project, Zahrasadat Hakim highlights the importance of collective effort and the essential role that everyday actions can play in building the common good.

This process of communal creation, echoing the missions of the Red Cross and Red Crescent, reveals that every individual, regardless of their background or situation, can contribute to the promotion of human dignity.

Meetings and Meals with the Artist at the Museum

Visible during its production in L'Atelier, the project will be highlighted through several events. Throughout the residency, there will be meetings between the artist and humanitarians, as well as weaving workshops.

At the end of these workshops, a traditional Iranian tea or meal prepared by the artist will be offered to the Museum's visitors, providing participants with the opportunity to meet and engage in conversation.

Visuals



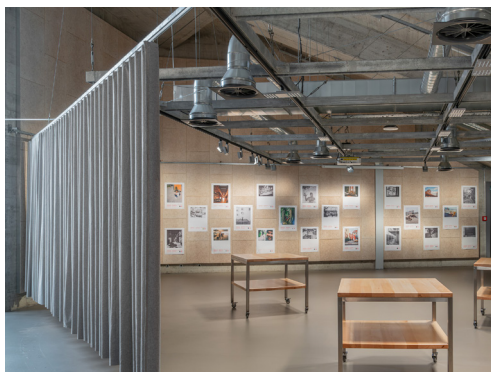
Zahrasadat Hakim © Matthieu Croizier



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Zahrasadat Hakim © Matthieu Croizier



L'Atelier au Musée © Baubüro

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