

THE CENTER FOR BOOK ARTS

28 West 27th St. Third Floor
New York, NY
10001

Arabic Type: Between Heritage and Modernity

A series of discussions on Arabic typography and type design

New York, NY, Jan 27, 2020 – **The Center for Book Arts** is hosting a series of three seminars dedicated to Arabic type design and typography, curated by typography expert Dr. Nadine Chahine, taking place on March 5, 7, and 19.

The theme of the series revolves around concepts of modernity in Arabic type design, the heritage of Arabic letterforms in the context of current technologies, contemporary Arabic branding design, and the history of Arab graphic design. The series brings together renowned and award winning designers working with Arabic type, both from the US and the Middle East.

Meet the experts at the panels:

Modernity in Arabic Type Design will be held on March 5, 2020 from 6:30-8:30pm.

The evening will feature Wael Morcos, with a talk entitled *Right to Left: A Practice*, Dr. Nadine Chahine discussing *The Politics of Arabic Graphic Design*, and Thomas Jockin, who will be presenting *Two Decades of Type Directors Club Award-Winning Arabic Typefaces*. An opening reception will follow.



Courtesy of Wael Morcos



Contemporary Arabic Graphic Design will be held on March 7 from 5:30-7:30pm. The afternoon will feature Tarek Atrissi, who will be discussing *Branding with Arabic Typography*; Tala Safi  will be presenting, *"Haza al Massa" (or "Tonight")*, a documentation of the golden years of Lebanese cinema through posters, zines, press books, and film ephemera; and Bahia Shehab, who will be giving a talk entitled, *From Calligraphers to Type Designers: Arabic Script in Transition*.

Courtesy of Tala Safi  and Tony Elieh

The final panel, [*Technology and Heritage*](#) will be held on **March 19**, from 6:30-8:30pm. The evening will feature David Crossland who will discuss Variable Fonts, and Mamoun Sakkal, who will present *Calligraphy, Type, Image: A Journey into Arabic Script*.



Courtesy of Mamoun Sakkal

For more information about the series, please visit centerforbookarts.org/events. Since 1974, The Center for Book Arts has promoted active explorations of both contemporary and traditional artistic practices related to the book as an art object. The Center seeks to facilitate communication between the book arts community and the larger spheres of contemporary visual and literary arts, while being a model organization locally, nationally, and internationally within the field. We achieve this through exhibitions, classes, public programming, literary presentations, opportunities for artists and writers, publications, and collecting.

Support for The Center for Book Arts' 2020 History of Art Series is provided, in part, by public funds from the New York City Department of Cultural Affairs in partnership with City Council.

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