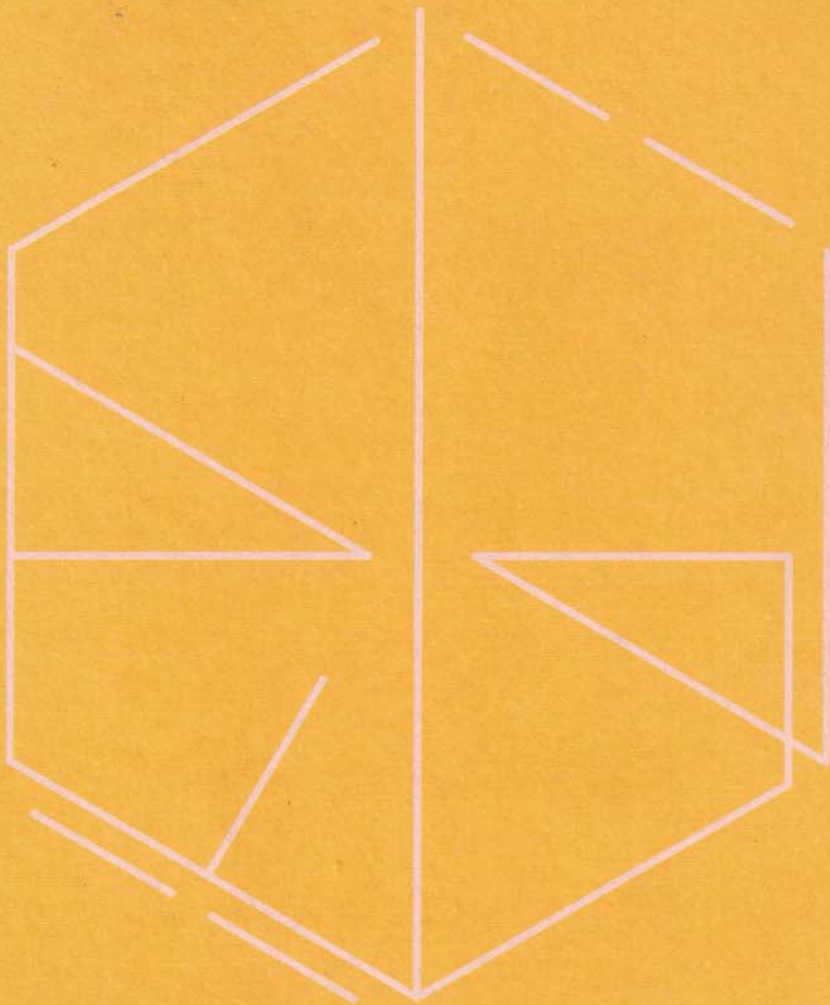


BROWNBOOK

AN URBAN GUIDE TO THE MIDDLE EAST

الدليل الحصري للشهرق الأوسط



DESIGN DIRECTORY

Special Edition

EURO 17⁰⁰
AED 85⁰⁰



DECEMBER 2012

**Q&A With
designer Khalid Shafar**



Q Why did you decide to go into the field of design?

A It was always my long-term goal to be a designer. I enjoyed obtaining my business degree and then went on to study Fine Arts and Interior Design at the American University in Dubai. Designing furniture was a passion I developed more and I was advised to do a full cabinet making and woodworking course. I found a course in Nelson, New Zealand and here I am today. This opened up a new path in life for me.

Q What is your inspiration?

A My lifestyle, surroundings, the city I grew up in and my life memories are always rich sources of

inspiration. Yet a designer is always sensitive to the beauty of things around him and I find inspiration in many things - architecture, crafts, art, and people.

Q How does the regional industry compare to other parts of the world?

A I guess we are still in our infancy stage in term of a design community. Although we have a great potential market for designers, the supply of local talent and designers is very small to serve this market and therefore there is a tendency to shift to international brands.

Teaching Art of Calligraphy

Next spring, the London-based Arab British Centre will be hosting a twelve-week calligraphy course. The two-month session will teach the Naksh script of Arabic calligraphy, explain the development of Arabic writing and improve appreciation of this traditional art form. The course is open to non-Arabic speakers and taught by an Iraqi graphic designer, Mustafa Ja'far. It will commence on 3rd of April and run until 19th June.

A Hybrid Culture

The eighth edition of Tasmeem Doha, the biennial international art and design conference is scheduled to take place next March under the theme of hybrid making. The week-long event will bring together scholars, students and practitioners to discuss critical issues in design and art. Tasmeem Doha will take place from 10th to 17th of March

Calligraphy at Boston University

Next spring, the Department of History of Art and Architecture at the Boston University will introduce a painting and calligraphy subject as part of their Muslim studies course offerings. The module will examine the manuscript traditions of the Islamic world, as well as consider genres such as literary, religious and historical manuscripts.

Dubai Re-Introduces Design

Following the successful launch of the first design-orientated fair last year, Design Days Dubai (DDD) is set to return in March. The fair is dedicated to collectible and limited edition furniture pieces and will exhibit 44 of the world's leading galleries. Visitors can also look forward to a programme of talks, performances and workshops. According to Cyril Zammit, the fair director, it was set up because there was a niche in the market. 'No one else in the region was displaying collectible pieces of design and after seeing the art market mature in Dubai, it was the right time to venture into design,' he says.



*Product Space Divider
Designer Khalid Shafar
Collection Arabi
Year 2011*

Khalid is an Emirati bespoke furniture and interior designer with a passion for the tale of objects. He is based between New Zealand and Dubai

