

soraya syed sanders | calligrapher | artist

Personal Details

Date of Birth: 22.01.76 Status: Married Nationality: British

Education

- 2005 Awarded *icazetname* (Islamic Calligraphy Diploma), IRCICA, Istanbul, Turkey.
 - 2001—2005 Islamic Calligraphy Apprenticeship, Istanbul, Turkey.
 - 1999—2001 MA Visual Islamic and Traditional Arts, sponsored by the Iqra Trust and awarded Altajir Trust Prize, The Prince's School of Traditional Arts, London.
 - 1995—1999 BA (Hons, First) Arabic and History of Art & Archaeology
School of Oriental and African Studies, University of London.
 - 1994—1995 Foundation Course Art & Design
Central St. Martins' College of Art & Design, London.
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Selected Exhibitions

- 2008 'Letters Embracing', solo show at Café t, Asia House, London.
 - 2008 Sharjah Biennial for the Art of Arabic Calligraphy
Mixed show at the Sharjah Museum of the Art of Arabic Calligraphy.
 - 2007—2008 Kuwait Fair and Conference for Islamic Arts
Mixed Arabic calligraphy show, the Grand Mosque, Kuwait.
 - 2007 Art in Action, solo exhibiting stand in Abrahamic Arts tent, Oxford.
 - 2006 'Speaking Art: An Exhibition of Calligraphy'
Cartwright Hall Art Gallery, Bradford.
 - 2005 'PSP The Beautiful Script'
Mixed contemporary calligraphy show, The Dray Walk Gallery, London EC1.
 - 2005 VITA Interim Show, mixed alumni and student show at the Princes' School.
 - 2005 National Building Museum, Washington DC, USA
Mixed group exhibition from The Prince's School Traditional Arts.
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Selected Projects & Workshops

- 2007—2008 'Visual Dialogues', a three month project in conjunction with Tate Britain, London and Graves Art Gallery, Sheffield.
 - 2007 'Sacred', a practical hands-on workshop at Highgate Library, London as part of the British Library's major exhibition 'Sacred'.
 - 2006 Cartwright Hall Art Gallery
Weekend course on Arabic Calligraphy for adults, Bradford.
 - 2006 'The Art of the Pen in Islam', British Council, Switzerland
Islamic calligraphy and culture, talks and workshops, Zurich and Lugano.
 - 2004 and 2006 'An Introduction to Arabic Calligraphy', Riyadh, Saudi Arabia
Three week course for women and children including members of the Saudi Royal family.
 - 2003 Islamica Magazine, editorial advisor on Islamic Arts section, Jordan.
- In addition to the above, I have lectured at various universities and have undertaken an internship at the British Museum under the curator Venetia Porter.
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Collections

My work is currently in private and public collections in Canada, America, UK, Spain, France, Kuwait and Sharjah.

Commissions & Publications

My visual and written work has been published in magazines, journals and exhibition catalogues in the UK, Turkey, Kuwait and UAE. In 2006, the British Council produced a DVD based on my work with them and most recently, an interview on Radio 4's Woman's Hour was broadcast. I also feature in an upcoming publication called the 'Art of Integration'. Many of my book cover designs and calligraphic logos have been printed worldwide and my clients range from private galleries and museums to the film industry.
