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窦达。أ. د. رئيس تحرير المجلة المصرية للدراسات المتخصصة المحترم جامعة عين شمس، كلية التربية التربوية، القاهرة، مصر. تشغيل وطباعة [??؟]، (ARCIF -). أحد معايير قاعدة البيانات "مجلة" للサーヴィス والنسائي. المجلة، يعكس بها ما كان قد أطلق التقديريات النشأت pet، المجلات لعام 2023. وسواها تبنت الجامعة城市发展: "مجلة" للمجلات المتخصصة المنظمة عن جامعة عين شمس، كلية التربية التربوية، القاهرة، مصر، قد نتجت في "ARCIF" تحقيق معايير عامة معمل لمجلة رياضية. المشاركة في المعايير العالمية، والتي يبلغ عددها (32) متواجداً، والابلس على هذه المعايير يمكن الحصول إلى الرابط التالي: http://e-marefa.net/arcif/criteria/

وكان معايير "ARCIF - " معمل لمجلات لسنة 2023 (0.3881). كما تدفق مجلات في تخصص التعليم الطفلي من إجمالي عدد المجلات (126) على المستوى العربي ضمن النشاط (Q3) في اللغة العربية، مع العلم أن مصطلح "ARCIF" كان (0.511). وإمكانيات الإعلان عن هذه النتيجة سواء على مواقع الإلكتروني، أو على مواقع التواصل الاجتماعي، وكذلك الاداء في النسخة الدولية لمجلاتهم إلى "ARCIF - " الخاص بمجلاتهم. عامةً، نرجو في حال رغبكم الحصول على شهادة رسمية الإلكترونية خاصة بأعمالكم في معمل "ARCIF - " التواصل معنا مطلباً، ونتضمن بيولوجيا أمان التفتيش والالتزام.
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Conceptual Art and its Transformational Impact on Kuwaiti Art Scene through techniques and experimentations

Dr. Abeer Nasser AL Ghanim (1)

(1) Ph.D. in Philosophy of Art education Painting and photography, PAAET, Kuwait
Conceptual Art and its Transformational Impact on Kuwaiti Art Scene through techniques and experimentations
Abeer Nasser Al Ghanim

Abstract
The conceptual art movement, which originated in the 1960s and has had a transformative influence globally, has not been confined by geographical boundaries. This includes its significant impact on the vibrant and evolving art scene in Kuwait. This paper explores the transformative impact of conceptual art on the art scene in Kuwait.

The study reveals that conceptual art has broadened the range of artistic methods used in the country, advancing beyond conventional forms and promoting creativity.

Kuwaiti artists have adopted conceptual techniques, using a variety of mediums and innovative experimentations and methods to delve into social, political, and cultural issues. By prioritizing intellectual interaction over visual aesthetic, furthermore it stimulated critical thinking among audiences and provoked discussions on intricate social and cultural topics, such as identity, tradition, and modernity.

Kuwaiti artists have incorporated global influences and contemporary techniques into their work, challenging conventional norms and contributing to the global art discourse.

Conceptual art's impact has spurred the expansion of venues for modern artistic expression in Kuwait. This study aims to shed light on these transformations, in a bid to enhance our comprehension of how this movement is redefining artistic practices and expanding creativity. That will bring the Kuwaiti art scene to the new level of the modern era.

Keywords: Conceptual art, Transformation, Technique, Experimentation, Contemporary art

Introduction
Conceptual art, an influential movement that emerged in the 1960s, has transcended geographical boundaries and had a transformative impact on art practices worldwide. This includes
the dynamic art scene in Kuwait, a country in the Middle East that has experienced its own unique trajectory of artistic development. While Kuwait is often celebrated for its rich cultural heritage and traditional art forms, the infusion of conceptual art has brought about significant transformations, challenged conventional norms and pushed boundaries in the local artistic landscape.

Kuwait, with its vibrant art community, has witnessed a gradual integration of conceptual art practices alongside its traditional art forms. The introduction of conceptual art in Kuwait has not only expanded the artistic vocabulary but also fostered critical discourse, experimentation, and engagement with contemporary issues. Artists in Kuwait have embraced the conceptual art movement, employing diverse mediums, thought-provoking ideas, and innovative approaches to challenge prevailing notions of art and explore new avenues of expression.

The transformations brought about by conceptual art in Kuwait can be seen in various aspects of the artistic scene. Conceptual artists have initiated dialogues on social and political issues, identity, globalization, and cultural heritage, offering alternative perspectives and raising awareness about pressing concerns. They have also challenged the notion of art as a mere object, exploring intangible concepts, performance art, installations, and interactive experiences that actively involve the audience.

Furthermore, the influence of conceptual art has extended beyond individual artistic practices. It has spurred the growth of contemporary art galleries, exhibition spaces, and institutions dedicated to promoting conceptual art in Kuwait. These platforms have provided opportunities for emerging and established artists to showcase their work, exchange ideas, and contribute to the dynamic art discourse within the country and beyond.

In this exploration of conceptual art transformations in Kuwait, we will delve into the works of influential Kuwaiti artists who have embraced this movement, examine key exhibitions and
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events that have shaped the local art scene, and reflect on the impact of conceptual art on the broader cultural fabric of Kuwait. By doing so, we hope to gain a deeper understanding of how conceptual art has redefined artistic practices, expanded creative boundaries, and fostered a vibrant contemporary art scene in Kuwait.

Research Problem:

What are the conceptual transformations of contemporary Kuwaiti visual arts? What are the most notable experiences and techniques that have influenced the concept of art in Kuwait?

Purpose of the Study:

• Understand the conceptual content in contemporary visual arts.

• Reveal the conceptual transformations in the visual arts in Kuwait.

• Uncover the technical variable by examining artistic experiences and the most prominent techniques that have contributed to shaping the conceptual transformations of visual art in Kuwait and establishing its expressive foundations.

Significance of the Research:

The significance of this research lies in its contribution as a scientific addition for researchers in the field of art. It highlights the conceptual transformations of contemporary Kuwaiti visual arts and sheds light on the most prominent modern formal and stylistic variables. This is achieved by studying and analyzing artistic experiences with their expressive techniques, which have helped to consolidate the scientific and artistic concepts of visual arts in the region.

Research Methodology:

The current researcher follows the descriptive-analytical approach in presenting the concept of conceptual art and
analyzing samples of works and artistic experiences of artists in Kuwait with a contemporary conceptual character, which is the subject of the study.

**Scope of the Research:**

- **Thematic Boundaries:** The research is confined to conceptual art and the most prominent transformations, techniques, and experiences.
- **Geographical Boundaries:** Contemporary arts in Kuwait.
- **Temporal Boundaries:** From the beginning of the twenty-first century until 2023.

**Theoretical and practical framework**

1: Theoretical Framework

1.1. Terminology and Concepts:

1.1.1. Conceptual art:

Conceptual art is an art movement that emerged in the 1960s, emphasizing the idea or concept behind the artwork rather than the physical object itself. It places importance on the intellectual or philosophical aspects of art, often challenging traditional notions of aesthetics and craftsmanship. (Lippard, 1997, p.151)

In conceptual art, the concept or idea takes precedence over the visual representation or technical skill. Artists working in this genre often employ various mediums such as installations, performances, text-based works, photographs, videos, or even everyday objects to convey their ideas. (Alberro, 1999, p.16)

The focus of conceptual art is often on exploring thought-provoking or abstract concepts, social and political issues, language and communication, and the nature of art itself. It encourages viewers to engage intellectually and reflect upon the ideas presented rather than solely relying on visual or aesthetic appreciation. (Bishop, 2012, p.193)
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Some notable artists associated with conceptual art include Marcel Duchamp (Fig.1), Sol LeWitt (Fig.2), Joseph Kosuth (Fig.3), Yoko Ono (Fig.4), and Lawrence Weiner (Fig.5). Conceptual art has had a significant impact on contemporary art and continues to influence artists and artistic practices to this day. (Alberro, 1999, p.16)

Figure (1) , Marcel Duchamp, Fountain 1917, Tate Modern, London, UK

Figure (2) Sol LeWitt, Wall Drawings#564, Pula Cooper Gallery, New York

Figure (3) Joseph Kosuth, ne and Three Chairs, 1965, Museum of Contemporary Art (MOCA), Los Angeles, USA

Figure (4) Yoko Ono, Cut Piece (1964), as featured in The Artist's Body

Figure (5) Lawrence Weiner, A Square Removal from a Rug in Use, Photograph, text sheet: felt pen on paper, 8.27 inch x 6.3 inch, 1969
1.1.2. **Technique** in art refers to the specific methods, processes, and skills employed by artists to create their artwork. It encompasses the technical skills, materials, tools, and approaches used to manipulate and apply various art mediums. Artists utilize techniques to achieve desired effects, communicate ideas, and convey their artistic vision (Free Art Dictionary, n.d., para. 1).

Different art forms and mediums, such as painting, drawing, sculpture, printmaking, photography, and digital art, have their own unique set of techniques. These techniques can include brushwork, blending, layering, shading, perspective, composition, sculpting, carving, etching, darkroom processes, digital manipulation, and many more.

Artists may develop their own signature techniques through experimentation, experience, and exploration. They can also draw inspiration from established artistic traditions, historical movements, or the innovations of other artists.

The mastery and understanding of techniques enable artists to effectively express their creativity, convey emotions, and engage viewers. Techniques are an integral part of an artist's toolkit, providing them with the means to bring their artistic ideas to life. (Free Art Dictionary, n.d., para. 1).

1.1.3. **Experimentation** in art refers to the act of exploring new or unconventional methods, materials, and approaches in the artistic process. It involves stepping outside of established techniques and norms to discover and create new possibilities. Artists engage in experimentation to push the boundaries of their creativity, challenge traditional practices, and explore innovative ways of expression. (Stangos, 1994, p. 6)

The concept of experimentation in art is rooted in the idea of embracing curiosity, risk-taking, and a willingness to explore unknown territories. It encourages artists to venture into uncharted territory, break away from familiar patterns, and engage in trial and error. Through experimentation, artists can
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discover unique effects, uncover new forms of expression, and develop their artistic style. (Kester,2011, p.19)

Experimentation in art can involve various elements, such as materials, techniques, processes, concepts, or even interdisciplinary approaches. Artists may experiment with different mediums, unconventional tools, alternative methods of application, or innovative combinations of materials. They may also explore conceptual experimentation, questioning and challenging traditional notions of art, aesthetics, and meaning. (Smith,2009, p.256)

By embracing experimentation, artists open themselves up to unexpected outcomes, happy accidents, and transformative discoveries. It allows them to continuously evolve and expand their artistic practice, fostering growth, and enabling fresh perspectives in the art world. (Kosuth,1991,p.)

1.2. Conceptual art methods

Conceptual art employs various methods and approaches to convey its ideas and concepts. While the specific methods used can vary depending on the artist and the artwork, here are some common methods employed in conceptual art:

- **Idea-Based Approach**: Conceptual art prioritizes the idea or concept behind the artwork over its physical execution. Artists focus on developing strong concepts and often present their ideas through written statements or descriptions. (Lippard,1997,p.96)

- **Documentation**: Conceptual artists often document their artistic processes, performances, or interventions through photographs, videos, or written accounts. The documentation serves as evidence of the concept and the artist's intentions. (Bishop,2005,p.23)

- **Language and Text**: Conceptual art frequently utilizes language and text as a primary medium. Artists may create text-based works, write
manifestos, or use language as a means of conveying their ideas and concepts. (Krauss, 1999)

- **Appropriation**: Conceptual artists may appropriate existing objects, images, or texts to challenge notions of authorship, originality, and context. By recontextualizing or modifying found materials, artists can explore new meanings and ideas. (Foster, 1996, p. 281)

- **Site-specific Installations**: Conceptual art often incorporates site-specific installations, where the artwork is specifically designed to interact with a particular location or environment. These installations engage with the spatial and contextual aspects of the site, influencing the viewer's perception and experience. (Kwon, 2004, p. 56)

- **Performance and Actions**: Conceptual artists may engage in performances or actions to explore their ideas and concepts. These performances can be ephemeral in nature, often leaving behind only documentation or traces of the original action. (Heathfield, 2004, p. 7)

- **Audience Participation**: Some conceptual artworks involve active participation from the audience. Viewers may be invited to contribute their thoughts, engage in interactive elements, or collaborate with the artist in the creation of the artwork. (Bishop, 2012, p. 8)

- **Institutional Critique**: Conceptual artists often challenge the art world's institutions and systems. They may critique the commodification of art, question the role of museums and galleries, or challenge traditional modes of artistic production and display. (McEvilley, 1993, p. 34)
1.3. Conceptual art techniques

In Conceptual art the idea becomes the machine that makes the art. Because of this focus, the techniques used in conceptual art can be incredibly varied, often crossing traditional boundaries between media or even rejecting the idea of a physical artwork entirely. Here are a few common techniques and approaches:

- **Text-based Art**: This is a common method in conceptual art where artists use words, phrases, or statements as the art piece itself. This is used to emphasize the idea or message over the visual representation. (Kosuth, 1991,p.164)

- **Performance Art**: Many conceptual artists use performance as a medium. This can involve scripted or spontaneous live actions designed to communicate a concept or provoke thought. (Heathfield, 2004,p.8).

- **Installation Art**: This involves constructing a space or environment that viewers can engage with or explore. It often incorporates multiple elements, such as sculpture, sound, video, and light. (Bishop, 2005,p.6)

- **Photography and Video Art**: These can be used to document performances, actions, or concepts. They also can be the art pieces themselves if they convey a specific idea or concept. (Kwon, 2004,p.101)

- **Process Art**: This approach focuses on the 'doing' and the process involved in creating the artwork. The end result is often secondary to the actions used to create it. (Lippard, 1997,p.49).

- **Found Objects and Readymade**: Conceptual artists often use or modify everyday objects to communicate a particular idea. The term "readymade" was popularized by Marcel Duchamp, who famously signed a urinal (Fig.1) and presented it as an artwork. ("Conceptual Art", n.d.)
1.3. Transformations in Kuwaiti art philosophy

The art scene in Kuwait has undergone significant transformations over the years, reflecting the country's evolving social, cultural, and political landscape. Kuwait has experienced a growing interest in contemporary art, with a burgeoning art community and an increasing number of art institutions, galleries, and cultural spaces.

One notable transformation in Kuwait's art scene is the rise of contemporary art exhibitions and events. Kuwait now hosts a range of art exhibitions, including solo and group shows, biennials, and art fairs. These platforms provide local and international artists with opportunities to showcase their work and engage with a diverse audience. (Al-Qassemi, 2023, p.116).

Another transformation is the emergence of Kuwaiti artists who are pushing boundaries and exploring innovative artistic practices. These artists draw inspiration from their local heritage, culture, and social issues, while also incorporating global influences and contemporary techniques. Through their artwork, they challenge conventional norms, address relevant topics, and contribute to critical dialogues. (Smith, 2023, p.205).

Furthermore, Kuwait's art institutions and cultural organizations have played a crucial role in fostering art education and promoting artistic development. They offer workshops, artist residencies, and educational programs to nurture emerging talent.
and provide platforms for knowledge exchange and artistic growth. (Kuwait National Cultural District, n.d.).

The accessibility of art has also transformed in Kuwait, with art becoming more inclusive and reaching a broader audience. Public art initiatives, outdoor exhibitions, and community-based projects have made art more visible and accessible beyond traditional gallery spaces. This engagement with art in public spaces allows for increased interaction and dialogue among diverse communities. (Al-Dousari, 2023, p.118).

Moreover, digital advancements and social media have had a profound impact on the art scene in Kuwait. Artists now have platforms to showcase their work globally, connect with international art communities, and engage with audiences on a wider scale. Online galleries, virtual exhibitions, and digital art platforms have expanded the reach and visibility of Kuwaiti artists. (Al-Jassar, 2023, p.32).

Overall, the art transformation in Kuwait reflects a dynamic and vibrant artistic landscape. It demonstrates the country's commitment to fostering artistic expression, encouraging creativity, and engaging with contemporary artistic practices. The evolving art scene in Kuwait continues to shape and redefine the cultural fabric of the country, contributing to a rich and diverse artistic heritage. (Al-Nakib, 2023, p.108).

2. Practical Framework

Kuwaiti conceptual art encompasses a diverse range of artworks created by Kuwaiti artists who employ conceptual approaches to explore various themes and ideas. Here are a few examples of Kuwaiti art works and artists:

2.1. Artist: Shurooq Amin

Title: The Moving Dollhouse, Figure (6)

Art Type: Mixed Media Acrylic Painting

Diminutions: 110 x 200 cm
Shurooq Amin's works often combine elements of collage, painting, and sculpture to create mixed media installations that engage with social, political, and cultural issues. One of her most notable and controversial work is titled "The Moving Dollhouse" that was exhibited at the Venice Biennale in 2019. It is an interactive installation that uses the framework of a dollhouse to critique various aspects of society, particularly in the Middle East. (Bishara,2016)

2.1.1. Philosophical concept:

**Historical Connection:** The work makes several references to historical and societal issues, particularly those related to gender roles and expectations in Middle Eastern societies. The dollhouse, a symbol traditionally associated with childhood and feminine domesticity, is used as a platform to explore and challenge these historical norms.

**Ecological Awareness:** While "The Moving Dollhouse" does not directly address ecological issues, the use of the dollhouse as a metaphor can be seen as a commentary on our manipulation and control over environments, whether they be natural or societal.

**Cultural Critique:** This is a central aspect of "The Moving Dollhouse." Amin uses the work to critique societal norms, gender roles, and the often-hidden aspects of cultural life in the Middle East. By making the dollhouse "move," she subverts the idea of a fixed, static cultural identity, suggesting instead a reality that is constantly shifting and evolving. (Bishara,2016)

**Aesthetic Experience:** The installation allows viewers to interact with it, offering a unique and immersive aesthetic experience. The attention to detail in the dollhouse's construction, as well as the incorporation of movement, adds a dynamic element to the viewing experience.
2.1.2. The techniques and methods

The techniques and methods used by Shurooq Amin in artwork "The Moving Dollhouse" typically involve a combination of various mediums. Here are some elements that could be considered part of her technique or method:

**Mixed Media**: Amin often uses a variety of materials in her work. This can include traditional materials like paint, but also collage elements, found objects, and more. The combination of different materials adds depth and complexity to her pieces. (Fernandes, 2016)

**Installation Art**: Works like "The Moving Dollhouse" are designed to occupy space in a way that is immersive and interactive. This kind of installation art invites the viewer to engage with the work in a physical way, not just visually.

**Symbolism**: Amin frequently uses symbolism in her work. In "The Moving Dollhouse," for example, the dollhouse itself is a symbol, representing traditional gender roles and societal norms.

**Interaction**: Amin's installations often invite viewer interaction. This element of her technique invites viewers to become participants, engaging with the work in a more active and personal way.

**Detailed Craftsmanship**: The intricate design and detailed execution of her installations display a high level of craftsmanship. The attention to detail in her work can be seen as a technique in itself.
2.2. Artist Name: Monira Al Qadiri

Title: Zephyr

Art type: Five plexiglass sculptures

Date: 2022

Monira Al Qadiri is a Kuwaiti artist whose conceptual practice spans various mediums, including video, sculpture, and installation. Her works often explore themes related to Gulf culture, geopolitics, and the influence of the oil industry on society.

"Zephyr" is an artwork by her that uses large-scale, bioluminescent representations of dinoflagellates to comment on both the history and current state of the Arabian Peninsula and its relationship to the sea. ("Zephyr by Monira Al Qadiri". 2022)

2.2.1 philosophical concept:

Historical Connection: By using forms based on ancient marine fossils found inland, Al Qadiri is highlighting the
geological history of the Arabian Peninsula and reminding viewers of its once direct connection to the sea.

**Ecological Awareness**: Dinoflagellates play a crucial role in the Earth's ecosystem by producing oxygen through photosynthesis. By enlarging and illuminating these usually microscopic organisms, the artist is drawing attention to their importance and by extension the overall health of our planet's oceans.

**Cultural Critique**: The project could be seen as a critique of modernization's impact on the Gulf region, suggesting that rapid development and industrialization have led to a disconnection from the natural world, specifically the sea. ("Zephyr by Monira Al Qadiri" .2022)

**Aesthetic Experience**: The use of light to mimic the bioluminescent nature of these organisms not only creates an engaging visual experience but also serves to further highlight the hidden, often overlooked beauty and significance of these microscopic life forms. (Monira Al Qadiri Zephyr-2022)

### 2.2.2. The techniques and methods

Monira used few techniques and methods based on common practices in the field and the nature of the artwork:

**Sculpture**: The artwork involves creating larger-than-life representations of dinoflagellates, single-cell marine algae. This would require techniques to accurately represent the microscopic organisms at a large scale, possibly involving 3D modeling, casting, or other sculptural methods.

**Material Use**: The sculptures are made from plexiglass, a type of acrylic. Working with plexiglass often involves techniques such as cutting, molding, and polishing. Given the organic shapes of the sculptures, a molding or casting process might have been used.
Lighting: The sculptures are lit up to mimic the bioluminescent nature of dinoflagellates. This would involve integrating lighting elements within the plexiglass sculptures, requiring skills in electrical work and lighting design.

Research and Concept Development: The artist uses these sculptures to draw attention to ecological concerns and explore the historical relationship between the Gulf region and the sea. This would have required a deep research process into marine biology, environmental science, and regional history. (Monira Al Qadiri Zephyr-2022)

Figure (7) Monira Al Qadiri, Zephyr, Five plexiglass sculptures, sculptures in acrylic glass, WEST BAY BEACH FRONT, Qatar museum, DOHA, QATAR-2022

Artist: Alia Farid & Aseel Aiyaqoub

Title: Contrary Life: A Botanical Light Garden Devoted to Trees

Art type: Mix media Installation -Plastic, metal, light bulbs and electrical wire.

Date: 2018
The installation "Contrary Life: A Botanical Light Garden Devoted to Trees" is a collaborative work by Kuwait-based artists Alia Farid and Aseel AlYaqoub.

2.3.1. Philosophical concept:

Historical Connection: The installation's islands are named after urban enclaves where the types of trees found in the installation are originally located. This connection points to the historical relationships between these different areas and their native flora. The work could also be seen as a reflection on the history of human interaction with and manipulation of nature, as it features artificial representations of natural elements.

Ecological Awareness: The artists use artificial trees to stimulate discussions about artificiality and its implications for future generations. The work also addresses environmental issues such as rising temperatures that make survival difficult for even native desert plants. Thus, the installation serves as a call for ecological awareness and reflection on our relationship with the environment.

Cultural Critique: The installation can be interpreted as a critique of how urbanization and modernization have distanced us from nature, replacing natural trees with artificial ones. It also opens discussions about the acceptance or adaptation to artificiality in our environment, hinting at broader cultural shifts and attitudes.

Aesthetic Experience: The aesthetic experience of this installation is shaped by the combination of light, artificial flora, and spatial arrangement. The sensory experience of walking through a 'botanical garden' of artificial trees, each named and inspired by a different urban enclave, creates a unique visual and spatial encounter for the viewer. (Contrary Life.2018)

2.3.2. The techniques and methods

Sculpture and Installation Art: The work is an immersive, site-specific installation. This means the artists have
designed the artwork specifically for the location in which it's displayed, considering the space's unique characteristics. The artificial trees are sculptural elements, likely created using various fabrication techniques. (Chiaverina.2018)

**Lighting Design:** The title suggests that light plays an essential role in the artwork. The artists may use different lighting techniques to highlight the artificial trees and create specific moods or effects, contributing to the immersive quality of the installation.

**Research and Concept Development:** As a work dealing with themes of ecology, urbanism, and cultural identity, considerable research would have been involved in its conceptual development. This might include researching the specific types of trees represented, the urban enclaves named in the work, and the broader environmental and cultural issues the work engages with.

**Sound Design:** sound plays a role in this installation. The use of sound contributed to the immersive quality of the installation and deepen the engagement with the themes of the work.

**Material Exploration:** The artists have created a botanical garden using artificial elements, suggesting a process of material exploration and experimentation to achieve a life like yet noticeably artificial quality in the sculpted trees. (Chiaverina.2018)
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2.3. **Artist:** Farah Salem

**Title:** "Power to See but Not Be Seen"

**Art Type:** Installation - Fabric cutwork, Video Projection.

**Date:** 2019

The artwork "Power to See but Not Be Seen" by Farah Salem, created in 2019, is an installation that combines fabric cutwork and video projection. The inspiration for the piece comes from a quote by author Fadwa El Guindi, which poses the question, "Who has the power to see, but not be seen?"

2.4.1. **Philosophical concept:**

**Historical Connection:** The artwork draws inspiration from the Mashrabiya, a traditional feature of Islamic architecture.
that has historical significance. By reinterpreting the Mashrabiya screens using fabric, Salem engages with architectural history and its role in shaping cultural practices and social dynamics. (Power to See but Not Be Seen.2019)

**Ecological Awareness**: The inclusion of desert landscapes and rock formations vulnerable to weathering highlights ecological awareness. The contrast between the exposed rock formations and the veiled snow-covered landscapes prompts contemplation of the fragility and resilience of natural environments in the face of climate changes and human impact.

**Culture Critique**: The use of the Mashrabiya as a metaphor and exploring the spaces between visibility and invisibility invites a critique of cultural norms and power dynamics. It prompts reflection on who has the power to see and not be seen, addressing issues of surveillance, control, and visibility in societies.

**Aesthetic Experience**: The combination of fabric cutwork and video projection creates an immersive aesthetic experience for the viewers. The interplay between the fabric structures, the desert landscapes, and the footage of the shadow figure engages the senses, evoking emotions and sparking contemplation about the relationship between the visible and the hidden. By weaving together these elements, "Power to See but Not Be Seen" offers viewers a multidimensional experience that touches on historical, ecological, cultural, and aesthetic themes. It prompts reflection and critical thinking about societal dynamics, our relationship with the environment, and the complex intersections between visibility and invisibility.

2.4.2. The techniques and methods

**Fabric Cutwork**: The installation incorporates fabric cutwork, which involves the meticulous cutting and shaping of fabric materials to create intricate designs and patterns. This technique requires precision and careful attention to detail.
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**Video Projection:** The artwork utilizes video projection as a medium to enhance the visual experience. Video footage of desert landscapes, rock formations, and a shadow figure is projected onto specific surfaces, creating a dynamic and immersive element within the installation.

**Installation Art:** "Power to See but Not Be Seen" is an installation that engages with the physical space and environment. The placement of fabric cutwork structures and the integration of video projection within the installation space contribute to a three-dimensional and interactive experience for viewers.

**Interdisciplinary Approach:** Salem's studio practice involves working with various mediums, including photography, video, performance, installation, projection/light, and mixed media materials. This interdisciplinary approach allows for experimentation and the blending of different techniques and materials to create a cohesive artwork.

**Research and Concept Development:** The themes and concepts explored in the artwork, such as the “Mashrabiya” screens, visibility, and invisibility, are rooted in research and intellectual inquiry. Salem's engagement with socio-cultural topics, intersectional feminism, social justice theories, and philosophical concepts informs her artistic practice.
Finally, these are just a few examples of Kuwaiti artists who have made significant contributions to the field of conceptual art. Their works reflect the diversity of conceptual approaches and the exploration of various themes within Kuwaiti art. It's important to note that the Kuwaiti art scene is dynamic, and there are many other talented artists who explore conceptual ideas in their practice.

3. Conclusion, Study result, Recommendation

In conclusion, the transformation of the art scene in Kuwait reflects a vibrant and dynamic landscape, marked by the integration of traditional and modern influences and the embrace of various artistic practices. Conceptual art, in particular, has played a significant role in this transformation, providing artists with a platform to explore themes of identity, culture, and social issues in innovative ways.

Kuwaiti artists are pushing boundaries, challenging conventional norms, and contributing to critical dialogues through their work. The increasing inclusivity of art in public spaces, the growth of digital platforms, and the role of cultural organizations in promoting art education further underscore the dynamism of the art scene in Kuwait. (Mundi.2017)
This evolving landscape continues to shape and redefine the cultural fabric of the country, contributing to a rich and diverse artistic heritage. The future of art in Kuwait appears promising, with further advancements and explorations anticipated in the field of conceptual and contemporary art.

3.1. Conclusion

In conclusion, the transformation of contemporary Kuwaiti visual art is a dynamic process that continues to evolve. It is marked by a tension between preserving local culture and embracing global influences, between traditional techniques and digital experimentation, and between art as an aesthetic pursuit and art as a form of social commentary.

1. Diversification of Art Practices: Conceptual art has expanded the spectrum of artistic practices in Kuwait. Artists are now employing a wide array of methods, from performance art to digital art, to express their ideas and concepts, moving away from traditional forms and mediums.

2. Encouragement of Critical Thought: Conceptual art often aims to provoke thought and engage viewers intellectually. It encourages audiences to question, interpret, and engage in critical dialogues about the art and the ideas it represents.

3. Exploration of Social and Cultural Themes: Kuwaiti artists utilizing conceptual art have been able to delve into complex social and cultural issues, such as identity, tradition, and modernity. This approach has allowed them to create art that is not just aesthetically pleasing but also socially relevant and thought-provoking.

4. Innovation and Experimentation: Conceptual art has fostered a spirit of innovation and experimentation among Kuwaiti artists. They are pushing boundaries, challenging norms, and exploring new artistic techniques and mediums.
5. Global Recognition: The unique blend of local heritage and contemporary conceptual techniques has garnered international attention, putting Kuwaiti artists on the global art map.

3.2. Results

Contemporary Kuwaiti visual art, like much of the global art scene, has undergone significant transformations over the past several decades, underpinned by a blend of tradition, experimentation, and the adoption of new techniques. The transition has been driven by a multitude of factors, including the impact of globalization, advances in technology, and shifts in socio-political landscapes.

1. **Tradition and Modernity**: Kuwaiti visual art has a rich history, with roots in Islamic art, Bedouin culture, and the maritime traditions of the Persian Gulf. However, the late 20th and early 21st centuries have seen a growing interest in blending traditional elements with modern artistic expressions. Artists have been finding innovative ways to interpret traditional Kuwaiti and Islamic motifs, such as geometric patterns and calligraphy, in a contemporary context.

2. **Global Influences and Local Identity**: With the advent of globalization and the internet, Kuwaiti artists have been exposed to a wide range of international art movements and styles. While some have embraced Western artistic styles, others have sought to maintain a distinctly Kuwaiti identity in their work, often leading to a unique fusion of global and local influences.

3. **Technological Experimentation**: The digital age has brought a multitude of new techniques and mediums to the world of visual art. Kuwaiti artists, like their counterparts around the globe, have been experimenting with these new tools to create innovative works. This has
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included digital painting, video art, 3D printing, virtual and augmented reality, and more.

4. Social Commentary: Contemporary Kuwaiti art has also increasingly served as a platform for social commentary. Artists have used their work to comment on issues such as gender equality, political freedoms, and environmental concerns. The use of art as a means of social critique represents a significant shift from more traditional forms of Kuwaiti visual art.

5. Art Education and Institutions: The development and expansion of art education and institutions in Kuwait have also played a role in the transformation of the country's visual art scene. These include the establishment of art galleries, museums, and art festivals, as well as the offering of degree programs in visual arts at universities. These institutions provide platforms for artists to showcase their work, engage in dialogue, and gain exposure, further stimulating the evolution of the art scene.

6. Experimental Spaces: In recent years, Kuwait has seen a surge in experimental art spaces, which have become incubators for new ideas and expressions. These spaces have given artists the freedom to experiment with unconventional materials, techniques, and themes, leading to a vibrant and diverse art scene. And generate revenue for artists and galleries.

3.3. Recommendations

Based on the discussion and findings, several recommendations for further study emerge:

1. Comparative Study: Future research could conduct a comparative analysis of the impact of conceptual art on different Middle Eastern countries. This would provide
a broader perspective on the influence and adaptation of conceptual art in the region.

2. Longitudinal Study: It would be beneficial to conduct a longitudinal study tracking the evolution of conceptual art in Kuwait over a longer period. This could provide a more comprehensive understanding of its progression, challenges, and transformative impact.

3. Role of Digital Media: With digital media playing a crucial role in the contemporary art scene, a study focused on how Kuwaiti artists are utilizing these platforms would be of interest. This could include exploring the role of social media, digital exhibitions, and online art communities.

4. Impact on Young Artists: Research could focus on how the rise of conceptual art is influencing emerging artists in Kuwait. This could involve examining educational curricula, studying the work of young artists, and understanding their perception of conceptual art.

5. Public Reception and Understanding: Understanding how the public perceives and engages with conceptual art in Kuwait would provide valuable insights. This could involve surveys, interviews, or focus groups with various demographics.

6. Economic Impact: An economic analysis of the impact of the rise of conceptual art in Kuwait would also be valuable. This could involve looking at art sales, government funding, and the overall contribution of the art industry to the Kuwaiti economy.

7. Role of Institutions: A study could explore the role of art institutions, galleries, and cultural organizations in promoting and shaping the trajectory of conceptual art in Kuwait.
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8. Art Criticism: Research on how conceptual art is critiqued and reviewed in Kuwait can offer insights into the standards, perspectives, and values that dominate the local art scene.

9. Intersection with Other Disciplines: It would be interesting to investigate how conceptual art in Kuwait intersects with other disciplines such as literature, philosophy, politics, or sociology.

These studies would contribute to a more profound understanding of the role and impact of conceptual art in Kuwait and its significance within the broader cultural, social, and economic landscape.

4. Summary

Conceptual art has made an impact on the art scene in Kuwait, contributing to the diversification of artistic practices and pushing the boundaries of traditional art forms. Kuwaiti artists have embraced conceptual approaches, incorporating conceptual ideas and techniques into their work.

In Kuwait, conceptual art often explores themes of identity, culture, social issues, and the intersection of tradition and modernity. Artists use conceptual strategies to convey their ideas, challenging conventional aesthetics and inviting viewers to engage intellectually with the artwork.

One notable aspect of conceptual art in Kuwait is the use of mixed media and interdisciplinary approaches. Artists combine various mediums such as installations, video, photography, performance, and digital art to create multi-dimensional experiences for the audience. This interdisciplinary approach allows artists to explore complex concepts and engage with different senses, creating thought-provoking and immersive art experiences.

Furthermore, conceptual art in Kuwait often emphasizes the role of language and text as a primary medium. Artists utilize
written statements, manifestos, and textual elements within their artwork to communicate ideas, provoke critical thinking, and invite dialogue.

Kuwaiti artists working in the realm of conceptual art also engage with the local context, addressing specific social and cultural issues relevant to Kuwaiti society. Through their conceptual practices, they explore themes such as cultural heritage, urban development, globalization, and identity politics, offering unique perspectives and contributing to the cultural discourse in Kuwait.

The growth of art institutions, galleries, and art spaces in Kuwait has provided platforms for conceptual artists to showcase their work and engage with a wider audience. Exhibitions, artist talks, and art events in Kuwait often feature conceptual artworks that challenge established norms, provoke contemplation, and stimulate intellectual discourse.

Overall, conceptual art in Kuwait is a dynamic and evolving field that reflects the artistic exploration and engagement with contemporary ideas and issues. Kuwaiti artists continue to push the boundaries of conceptual art practices, contributing to the development of a vibrant and diverse art scene in the country.

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