

# ARCHEOLOGY *of the* FUTURE

*IN 2025, VISION TURNED INTO IMPACT THROUGH AMBITIOUS CULTURAL PROJECTS CONNECTING CENTRAL ASIA, THE MIDDLE EAST, AND EUROPE*

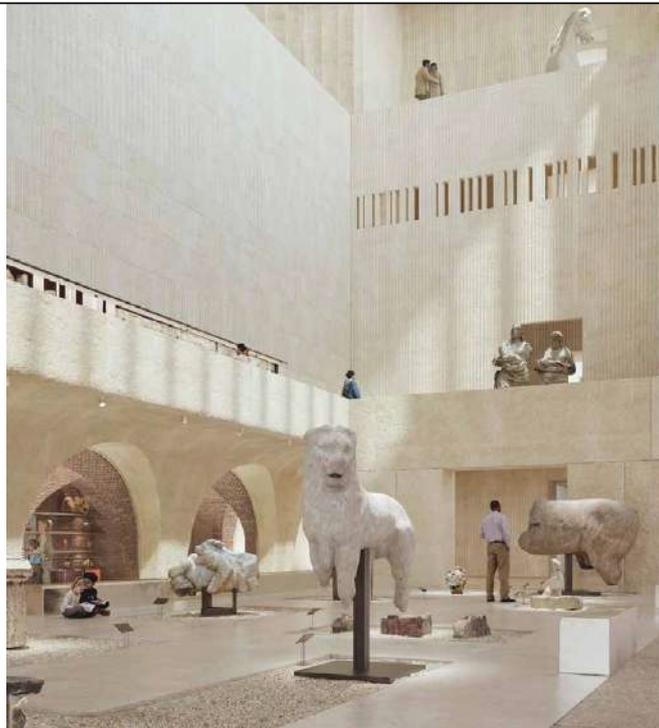
## British Museum Western Range

London, United Kingdom

*"I have often questioned the meaning of art and the boundary between art and architecture"*

In 2025, Lina Ghotmeh — Architecture has been announced as the winner of the international competition to transform the Western Range galleries of the British Museum in London, a pivotal part of the museum's Masterplan and one of the largest cultural renovations worldwide. Over 60 teams competed in a rigorous four-stage process, with LG—A emerging as the unanimous favourite for its sensitive, innovative, and human-centred approach.

The Western Range, in the Smirke building, comprises a third of the museum's gallery



space, including the Parthenon Sculptures and artifacts from Ancient Egypt and the Middle East. Ghotmeh's "archaeology of the future" vision reimagines these galleries as living spaces where history meets contemporary perspectives, fostering curiosity, cultural dialogue, and inclusivity. Sustainability and natural materials are central to the design.

LG—A will work with Ali Cherri (Artist), Plan A (Design Coordination), Purcell (Executive & Conservation Architect), Arup (Structural & MEP Engineering), and Holmes Studio (Graphic Design & Wayfinding).



Dr. Nicholas Cullinan, Director of the British Museum, praised the proposal's sensitivity and material intelligence, while George Osborne, Chair of the jury, highlighted Ghotmeh's balance of respect for heritage with a vision for the future. Ghotmeh reflects:

*"We are honoured to transform the Western Range into a space of connection, learning, and discovery for generations of visitors."*

← : Rendering images during the competition  
© Lina Ghotmeh — Architecture

↑ : Aerial view of the British Museum, Lina Ghotmeh and Nicholas Cullinan during a meeting at the British Museum

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## Qatar Permanent Pavilion in Venice

Giardini di La Biennale di Venezia, Italia

Lina Ghotmeh — Architecture has been selected to design the State of Qatar’s permanent pavilion at the Giardini di La Biennale di Venezia, a historic addition as only the third national pavilion built on the site in over fifty years. The project establishes a lasting presence for Qatar at one of the world’s most celebrated cultural venues.



Rooted in the concept of hospitality, the pavilion embodies openness, inclusivity, and dialogue, offering a space where art, architecture, and creativity from Qatar and the region can engage with an international audience. It reflects the nation’s growing role in the global creative landscape and the studio’s commitment to designing spaces that foster cultural exchange and connection.

Biennale di Venezia, and Luigi Brugnaro, Mayor of Venice. LG—A’s design envisions the pavilion as a permanent platform for dialogue, continuity, and shared meaning, marking a milestone in Qatar’s cultural legacy.

For Lina Ghotmeh — Architecture, this commission is both an honor and an opportunity to create a space where architecture becomes a bridge between cultures, celebrating openness, care, and the exchange of ideas.

The unveiling of the project was celebrated during the 19th International Architecture Exhibition, attended by Her Excellency Sheikha Al Mayassa bint Hamad bin Khalifa Al Thani, Pietrangelo Buttafuoco, President of La

→ : Winning proposal for Qatar’s future Permanent Pavilion — H.E. Sheikha Al Mayassa Bint Hamad Bin Khalifa Al-Thani & Lina Ghotmeh  
 → : Photo of the conversation between H.E. Sheikha Al Mayassa and Lina Ghotmeh, moderated by Nicolai Ouroussoff



*“The pavilion expresses a dignified presence in space — a subtle yet powerful presence. It doesn’t shout, but speaks through craft, through its form, through resonance.”*

## Jadids Legacy Museum Bukhara, Uzbekistan

Lina Ghotmeh — Architecture is commissioned to transform the Jadids’ Legacy Museum in Bukhara, commissioned by the Uzbekistan Art and Culture Development Foundation (ACDF). The project transforms the historic home of Usmon Khodjaev, pioneering Jadid reformer and first President of the Bukhara People’s Republic, into a 21st-century cultural landmark.



Nestled beside Lyabi-Hauz, the iconic 17th-century square, the museum preserves Khodjaev’s memory while offering a space for reflection, learning, and civic engagement. Lina Ghotmeh explains: “The museum will honor the Jadids’ legacy while inspiring future generations to continue their mission of knowledge and reform.”

The design reinterprets Uzbek vernacular architecture through a contemporary lens, imagining the building as a meeting point where history, memory, and innovation converge. “This project allowed us to explore the courage of the Jadids, who reimagined education and society while placing women at the heart of social transformation,” adds Ghotmeh.



The museum will host exhibitions, research, and public programs, continuing the Jadids’ mission of enlightenment and cultural dialogue, and marking



LG—A’s debut in Central Asia. ACDF Chairperson Gayane Umerova emphasizes: “Their vision is part of Bukhara’s fabric and a powerful inspiration for all generations.”

Uzbekistan’s heritage, identity, and vision for the future.

By transforming Khodjaev’s home into a civic landmark, the project strengthens Bukhara’s role as an intellectual and cultural hub, alongside initiatives such as the National Museum of Uzbekistan by Tadao Ando and the Bukhara Biennial. The Jadids’ Legacy Museum becomes a space where visitors can engage deeply with



← : Rendering Images  
 © Lina Ghotmeh — Architecture  
 Courtesy Uzbekistan Art and Culture Development Foundation (ACDF)

# BUILT WITH CARE: BAHRAIN PAVILION AT EXPO 2025 EARNS INTERNATIONAL RECOGNITIONS

## Bahrain Pavilion

Overall view of the Bahrain Pavilion © Ishaq Madan : ↓



The Kingdom of Bahrain Pavilion, designed by Lina Ghotmeh — Architecture, has officially opened at Expo 2025 Osaka, marking a highlight of the world’s fair. Inspired by traditional Bahraini dhows, the pavilion is built from 3,000 pieces of timber using intricate joinery, with natural ventilation, minimal foundations, and fully reusable materials. Spanning 995 m<sup>2</sup> over four levels and rising 17 meters, it blends heritage, craftsmanship, and sustainability. Located in the Empowering Lives district, the pavilion offers visitors a multi-sensory experience celebrating Bahrain’s maritime history, cultural dialogue, and innovation, while fostering connection between tradition and the future. As Ghotmeh notes, the project embodies sustainability, craft, and the poetics of place, creating architecture that speaks to both memory and imagination.



## A Project Honored on the Global Stage

This year, the Bahrain Pavilion “Connecting Seas” at Expo 2025 Osaka, designed by Lina Ghotmeh — Architecture, garnered significant international recognition. It was awarded the Global Architecture & Design Award 2025 in the Pop-Ups and Temporary (Built) category, and won the LIT Lighting Design Awards 2025 for Visitor Experience & Museum Exhibition, celebrating its innovative lighting and immersive experience. The pavilion was also featured among ArchDaily’s Best Architectural Projects of 2025, highlighting its excellence in design and cultural expression.



*“Rather than replicating the vessel, the architecture captures its essence.”*

↑ : Photo taken during the pavilion opening in the presence of His Highness Sheikh Khalifa bin Ali bin Khalifa Al Khalifa and Lina Ghotmeh  
 ↪ : Interior views and entrance of the pavilion  
 © Iwan Baan, Ishaq Madan



## Gold Awards Best Architecture and Landscape at Expo2025 Osaka



The Pavilion of the Kingdom of Bahrain at Expo 2025 Osaka has been awarded the Gold Award for Best Architecture and Landscape in the Self-Built Pavilions category (under 1,500 m<sup>2</sup>). Inspired by Bahrain’s maritime heritage, the pavilion was praised for its poetic design, with sustainability expressed through its structure, material choices and planned disassembly.

↑ : Photo of His Excellency Shaikh Khalid bin Khalifa Al Khalifa, receiving the award  
 ↪ : Nighttime aerial view of the pavilion, © Iwan Baan

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Olga de Amaral  
Exhibition,  
from Fondation Cartier  
to ICA Miami

In 2025, Lina Ghotmeh — Architecture marked the year with the design of the Olga de Amaral retrospective, first at the Fondation Cartier in Paris and subsequently at ICA Miami. The exhibition showcased around a hundred works spanning six decades of the Colombian artist's groundbreaking fiber art.

For Paris, Ghotmeh created a landscape of slate stones linking interior and exterior, while a spiral layout guided visitors through an immersive journey of light, form, and materiality, reflecting Amaral's connection to nature and texture. At ICA Miami, the vision evolved into a "vertical forest", where artworks float organically within the gallery, integrating the artist's motifs with the city's natural environment and enhancing the visitor's spatial experience.

Across both venues, Ghotmeh's design amplified Amaral's exploration of weaving, abstraction,



*"The gallery becomes an open landscape where textiles float among light and columns, leading to the Estelas as a luminous point of origin and arrival."*



and material resonance, highlighting architecture as a medium to frame art, memory, and immersive experience, and reinforcing the studio's commitment to sensitive, poetic spatial storytelling.

↑ : Views of the exhibition scenography of Olga de Amaral at the Fondation Cartier in Paris  
© Cyril Marcilhacy  
→ : Views of the exhibition presented at the ICA Miami  
© Kris Tamburello



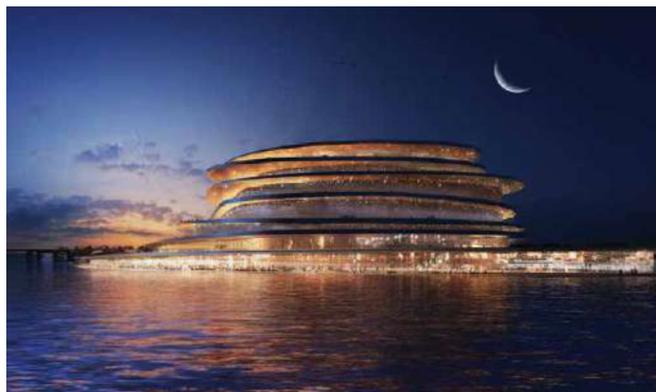
House of Performing Arts Arabian Gulf

Rising from the waters of the Arabian Gulf, the House of Performing Arts unfolds as an architecture of movement, shaped by music, sea, and light. Conceived as a continuous dialogue between land and horizon, the building spirals gently, like a melody carried by the wind, transforming the act of looking out to sea into an experience of gathering, belonging, and shared emotion. More than an object placed on its site, it is envisioned as a living body—listening, absorbing, and resonating with its surroundings.

Resting on the cornice like a maritime presence, the architecture reflects the fluid energy of the Gulf. Its shimmering façade, inspired by fish scales and shifting waters, captures light, sky, and city in constant transformation. By day, it mirrors the sea and sun; by night, it glows with the pulse of the city, breathing with time, season, and atmosphere.



*"A spiral,  
a horizon,  
a symphony."*



Inside, the project reveals its organic heart: a true philharmonic concert hall designed around natural acoustics, where sound travels freely without amplification. Surrounding it, a flexible scenographic system adapts to opera, theatre, conferences, and musical performances. Here, space moves with sound, allowing music, body, and architecture to breathe together in a fully multidisciplinary cultural landmark.

Rendering views during the competition  
© Lina Ghotmeh — Architecture

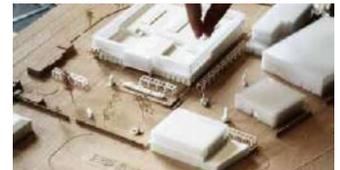
# ARCHITECTURE ACROSS TIME: PAST, PRESENT, FUTURE A PRACTICE IN CONTINUUM

Mathaf: Arab Museum of Modern Art Doha, Qatar

Mathaf Entrance © Lina Ghotmeh — Architecture : ↓



To mark Mathaf: Arab Museum of Modern Art's 15th anniversary, we are honoured to lead a major campus expansion in Doha, redefining the museum as a dynamic hub for creation, research and exhibition. The first phase introduces a majlis-inspired library and social space, with future studios for ceramics, glass, sound and textiles, unifying the campus as a place for artistic production and dialogue.



↑ : HE Sheikha Al Mayassa Bint Hamad Bin Khalifa Al-Thani & Lina Ghotmeh during the project announcement  
Detail of the site model

Construction Starts Play Earth Project, Toyama Prefecture, Japan



At the end of 2025, Lina Ghotmeh — Architecture marked a key moment for Play Earth Park in Toyama with the Anzen Kigansai, a traditional Shinto ceremony blessing the land before construction.

Rooted in the philosophy of Archaeology of the Future, the project merges architecture and nature, from underground explorations of roots and insects to a tree-like observatory. Construction will begin in early 2026, opening a new chapter in immersive, nature-led design.

← : Photos taken during a traditional Shinto ceremony



↑ : Rendering image and model of the project  
© Lina Ghotmeh — Architecture

A Shared Home for Work SOPIC Headquarters, Tarbes, France



Completed in Tarbes, the new SOPIC headquarters by Lina Ghotmeh—Architecture reimagines the workplace as a shared home. Spanning 1,000 m<sup>2</sup>, the building unfolds from a pilotis ground floor to sunlit offices and terraces facing the Pyrenees. Rooted in local materials and the memory of Bigourdan houses, its bioclimatic design fosters connection, well-being, and collaboration between architecture, landscape, and people.

Views of the project façade © Franck Brouillet

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Lina Ghotmeh — Architecture wins the design for the Museum am Rothenbaum.

MARKK, Art Museum, Hambourg, Germany

We are delighted to begin the transformative journey of reimagining the MARKK Museum in Hamburg.

A symbol of the city's rich history as a hub of trade and culture, the museum houses a vast collection that spans the globe, showcasing diverse histories and legacies. Our vision for MARKK is to create a dynamic space that fosters workshops, creation, and collaboration, celebrating impermanence and the ever-changing nature of our world. This modernization will position MARKK as a vital cultural destination for both the community and visitors from afar.



↑ : Photo during the announcement of the architect for the project  
 ← : Rendering views of the entrance and the inner courtyard, © LG—A

On the World Stage: Awards, Lectures and Cultural Exchange



In 2025, Lina Ghotmeh was appointed Chevalier of the Ordre des Arts et des Lettres by the French Ministry of Culture. She was also featured in AD100 Middle East and the Observer's Art Power Index, and named Architect of the Year by the ICONIC Awards, further highlighting her studio's cultural and architectural impact.

Throughout the year, Lina Ghotmeh shared the studio's vision worldwide through lectures and conversations at the University of Melbourne, UTS Sydney, Design-Talks Reykjavik, AEDES Berlin, and Seoul National University. She also delivered the AIA UK / RIBA

Keynote Lecture and participated in the Hyundai Card Da Vinci Motel in Seoul, engaging audiences on architecture, craft, and cultural dialogue.

These moments both highlight the studio's ongoing commitment to shaping global architectural discourse and foster meaningful connections across cultures.

Top row, starting from the left: Lina Ghotmeh portrait by Brigitte Lacombe, Lina Ghotmeh holding the L'Express award  
 Photos from various conferences during 2025



*"It is a way to share and to continuously learn; it is a great way to see the human potential for advancement through knowledge."*

← : Lina Ghotmeh holding the Prix de l'Innovation awarded by L'Express in 2025, recognizing her pioneering contributions to architecture.

Lectures Worldwide



*DOCUMENTARIES, DISPLAYS, RESIDENCES, CRAFTS...  
ART IN THE GATHERING*

Arts in Motion, BBC | Lina Ghotmeh — Architecture Featured in the First Episode of BBC Culture's New Season



BBC Arts in Motion, produced in partnership with Rolex, has released a new episode dedicated to Lina Ghotmeh — Architecture, offering insight into a practice shaped by memory, craft, and environmental sensitivity.

Architecture Meets Empathy London, United Kingdom



During London's Frieze Week, Lina Ghotmeh was honoured to take part in Architects for the Birds, a charity auction organised by Christie's with the Tessa Jowell Foundation and Norman Foster, supporting brain cancer research.

The studio presents Twirling Glass, a glass-blown piece reflecting on fragility, care, and coexistence, alongside works by leading international architects.

↔ : Photos taken during the auction © Lina Ghotmeh — Architecture



The film explores key projects including the British Museum's Western Range, Stone Garden in Beirut, and the Bahrain Pavilion for Expo 2025 Osaka. Featuring voices from Lina Ghotmeh, Nicholas Cullinan, Director of the British Museum, Christelle Harrouk, Editor-in-Chief of ArchDaily, and Klaas de Rycke of Bollinger+Grohmann, the episode highlights architecture as a collective endeavor—where design, engineering, and narrative converge through dialogue, material intelligence, and care.

↑ : Images taken from the BBC episode © BBC Culture

La Biennale di Venezia "10,000 Hours of Care" by Lina Ghotmeh — Architecture presents the Hermès Workshops project



At the 2025 Venice Architecture Biennale, 10,000 Hours of Care presents the Hermès Workshops: an installation honoring time, craft, and collective knowledge through material and care.

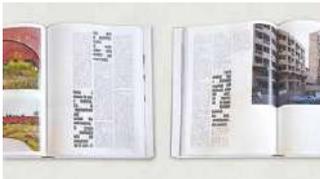
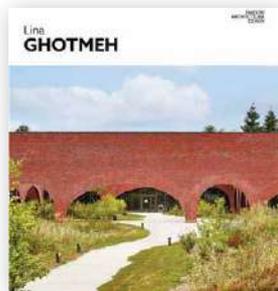


View of the model of the Hermès Workshops Project at the Venice Biennale 2025, © LG—A

Publications



Overview of articles from PIN UP Magazine, Culturshock, Kinfolk, Purple Magazine, and Maestri Architettura Design.



Windows of Light & A Table !



2024 marked a year of significant literary and creative milestones for Lina Ghotmeh — Architecture. *Windows of Light*, commissioned by Zumtobel Group and published by Lars Müller, celebrates architecture through light and space, engaging in a dialogue between light, architecture, and society—core themes of Ghotmeh’s practice. The book addresses urgent questions around light pollution, its impact on ecosystems, and the unequal access to artificial light, still a privilege in many parts of the world. Drawing on memories of her childhood in Beirut, Lina Ghotmeh reflects on the cultural dimensions of light, grounding her approach in a methodology that examines history and challenges established ideas.

Published on the occasion of the Serpentine Pavilion 2023, *A Table !* expands on the central ideas of the practice. The book brings together images, sketches, studio research materials, and Lina Ghotmeh’s watercolours, alongside contributions from architecture, art, photography, and fiction, including an extensive interview with Hans Ulrich Obrist. Essays by Bernard Comment and Beatriz Colomina explore Ghotmeh’s roots and her understanding of architecture as a living system. Contributions from David Žilber, Ali Cherri, Michael R. Bloomberg, and the Pavilion’s security team further reflect on space, care, and collective experience, echoing the spirit of the Pavilion as a place of gathering.

Time100 Next Aga Khan, RIBA, IAA, Saint Gobain

TIME

Lina Ghotmeh has been recognized in the TIME100 Next 2025, celebrating 100 leaders shaping the future across culture, design, science, and society. The list honors those redefining influence and inspiring change for generations.



Lina Ghotmeh attends the 2025 TIME100 Next Event at The Current at Chelsea Piers on October 30, 2025 in New York City. © Photo by Kevin Mazur/Kevin Mazur/Getty Images for TIME

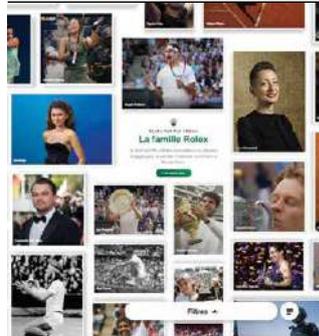
Ghotmeh walked the red carpet in New York alongside global changemakers, reflecting on the role of hope, creativity, and collaboration in addressing humanity’s challenges. The Award highlighted the work of activists, scientists, and artists making tangible impact worldwide, while representing architecture’s contribution to a better, shared future.

This accolade underscores Ghotmeh’s commitment through her studio, Lina Ghotmeh — Architecture, to design spaces that foster dialogue, resilience, and sustainability, demonstrating the transformative power of architecture on society and the environment.



↑ : Lina Ghotmeh on the cover of Sayidaty, November 2025

Lina Ghotmeh Joins the Rolex Family



In 2025, Lina Ghotmeh joined the Rolex Family, a circle of remarkable talents recognized for their vision and perseverance. New members include actress Zendaya, actor Leonardo DiCaprio, violinist and conductor Renaud Capuçon, and Polish dancer Jakub Józef Orliński, each contributing to culture and the arts in meaningful ways.

← : Lina Ghotmeh during a photoshoot for Rolex



↑ : Lina Ghotmeh sketching the Qatar Pavilion, photographed for Cultureshock Magazine. © Brigitte Lacombe