



AL WISSAM  
SCRIPT

٢٢ عاماً من الحروف الجديدة  
22 Years of New Letterforms



## Wissam Shawkat: Biography

Award-winning calligrapher and designer Wissam Shawkat has long been fascinated by the structure and expressive potential of letterforms. He was introduced to Arabic calligraphy at the age of ten by his primary school teacher, Muhammad Ridha Suhail. Born in Basra, Iraq, in 1974, Shawkat's early exposure to the written letter laid the foundation for a lifelong engagement with calligraphy as both discipline and inquiry.

He studied this demanding medium largely through self-directed practice, examining historical sources, visiting master calligraphers, and exploring collections in libraries and museums.

Over the years, Shawkat has exhibited widely, participated in numerous group exhibitions, and contributed to major calligraphy events both as an artist and as a committee member and jury member. He has also led workshops, lectures, and has come to be regarded as a reference point in the integration of contemporary calligraphy within branding, fine art, and visual communication.

In 2011, his solo exhibition Letters of Love at Reed Space in New York introduced his modern calligraphic works to an international audience. A decisive moment in his practice followed with his 2015 exhibition Monumental 11/11 at Tashkeel. It was at this juncture that Shawkat coined the term Calligraformism, marking the beginning of a conceptual and visual movement that he initiated and developed through numerous solo exhibitions over the past decade, his work investigates the structure, rhythm, and abstraction of letterforms, positioning Arabic calligraphy within contemporary cultural and design contexts.

Over more than two decades, he developed a contemporary calligraphic style known as Al Wissam Script, a system that emerged organically from his design practice and evolved into a coherent visual language.

Based in Dubai, Wissam Shawkat works full-time as an artist, designer, and type designer. His works are held in private collections, featured in museum presentations, and published in books dedicated to Arabic calligraphy, art, and graphic design.

## وسام شوكت: السيرة الذاتية

لطالما كان الخطاط والمصمّم الحائز على جوائز، وسام شوكت، مقتوفاً ببنية الحروف وإمكاناتها التعبيرية. تعرّف على فن الخط العربي في سن العاشرة على يد معلّمه في المرحلة الابتدائية، محمد رضا سهيل. وُلد في مدينة البصرة، العراق، عام 1974، وقد شكّل احتكاكه الميكر بالحرف المكتوب الأساس لانخراط طويل الأمد في الخط بوصفه ممارسةً وانشغالاً فكرياً في آنٍ واحد.

درس هذا الفنّ الدقيق في معظمه من خلال ممارسة ذاتية وعصامية، بالاطلاع على المصادر التاريخية، وزيارة كبار الخطاطين، واستكشاف المجموعات في المكتبات والمتاحف.

على مرّ السنوات، عرض شوكت أعماله على نطاق واسع، وشارك في العديد من المعارض الجماعية، وأسهم في فعاليات خطية كبرى، سواء كفنان أو كعضو في اللجان التحكيمية والتنظيمية. كما قدّم ورش عمل ومحاضرات، وأصبح يُنظر إليه كمرجع في دمج الخط المعاصر ضمن مجالات الهوية البصرية، والفن التشكيلي، والاتصال البصري.

في عام 2011، قدّم معرضه الفردي «حروف حب» في Reed Space بنيويورك أعماله الخطية الحديثة إلى جمهور دولي. وتبع ذلك منعطف حاسم في ممارسته مع معرضه «11/11 Monumental» عام 2015 في تشكيل. في هذه المرحلة صاغ شوكت مصطلح الأشكال الخطية Calligraformism، معلناً بداية حركة مفاهيمية وبصرية أطلقها وطوّرها عبر معارض فردية متعددة خلال العقد الماضي، حيث تبحث أعماله في بنية الحرف وإيقاعه وتجريده، وتضع الخط العربي ضمن سياقات ثقافية وتصميمية معاصرة.

على مدى أكثر من عقدين، طوّر أسلوباً خطياً معاصراً عُرف باسم خط الوسام، وهو نظام نشأ بشكل عضوي من ممارسته التصميمية وتحول إلى لغة بصرية متكاملة.

يقيم وسام شوكت في دبي، ويعمل كفنان متفرغ ومصمّم. وتوجد أعماله في المجموعات الخاصة، وتُعرض في مؤسسات متحفية، ونُشرت في كتب متخصصة بالخط العربي، والفن، والتصميم الجرافيكي.



“Amazed by you”, 2025.  
Pigment inks on treated  
handmade paper  
45 x 85 cm  
₹ 49,500



“Life Worth Living”, 2025.  
Pigment inks on treated  
handmade paper  
45 x 85 cm  
₹ 49,500



“You Ask Me What Love Is”, 2025.  
Pigment inks on treated handmade paper  
120 x 42 cm  
**Sold out**



“The Earth is my Homeland, and  
Humanity is my Family”, 2025.  
Pigment inks on treated  
handmade paper  
65 x 85 cm  
₹ 57,000



“He Who Ventures,  
Attains”, 2025.  
Pigment inks on treated  
handmade paper  
54 x 65 cm  
₹ 52,500



“Only Freedom”, 2025.  
Pigment inks on treated handmade paper  
110 x 45 cm  
₹ 60,000



"Every Land that Grows love is a Homeland", 2025.  
Pigment inks on treated handmade paper  
65 x 85 cm  
₹ 57,000



"No State Lasts Forever", 2025.  
Pigment inks on treated handmade paper  
55 x 65 cm  
₹ 52,500



"Each Context has its appropriate Discourse", 2025.  
Pigment inks on treated handmade paper  
63 x 63 cm  
₹ 45,000



"Learn first, then Speak", 2025.  
Pigment inks on treated handmade paper  
56 x 62 cm  
₹ 45,000



"Bond", 2025.  
Pigment inks on treated handmade paper  
57 x 72 cm  
₹ 45,000



"A Loving Heart can Embrace the whole World", 2025.  
Pigment inks on treated handmade paper  
62 x 74 cm  
₹ 55,500



"Transcending Anger Through Love", 2025.  
Pigment inks on treated handmade paper  
62 x 75 cm  
₹ 52,500



“People are the Soul of Places”, 2025.  
Pigment inks on treated  
handmade paper  
50 x 60 cm  
₪ 45,000



“Love Spring II”, 2022.  
Pigment inks on treated  
handmade paper  
54 x 92 cm  
₪ 40,500



“Love is an Everlasting Spring”, 2025.  
Pigment inks on treated  
handmade paper  
50 x 65 cm  
₪ 37,500



“Wisdom is Grounded in Justice and Truth”, 2025.  
Pigment inks on treated  
handmade paper  
62 x 62 cm  
₪ 45,000



“Al Wissam Love Carpet 2”,  
2025.  
Pigment inks on treated  
handmade paper  
35 x 120 cm  
₪ 66,000



“Great Deeds”, 2025.  
Pigment inks on treated  
handmade paper  
40 x 95 cm  
₪ 49,500



“Absent from My Mind”, 2025.  
Pigment inks on treated handmade paper  
65 x 85 cm  
₹ 52,500



“Heart & Sight”, 2022.  
Pigment inks on treated handmade paper  
64 x 92 cm  
₹ 52,500



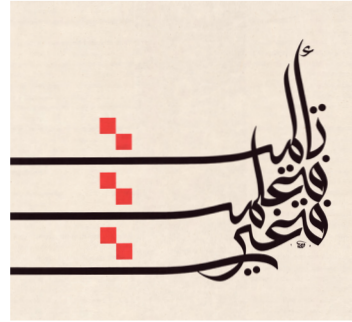
“Towards you”, 2025.  
Pigment inks on treated  
handmade paper  
48 x 105 cm  
**Sold out**



“Basmala”, 2025.  
Pigment inks on treated  
handmade paper  
52 x 110 cm  
₹ 55,500



“Love is Life”, 2025.  
Pigment inks on treated  
handmade paper  
63 x 63 cm  
₪ 37,500



“I Suffered, I Learned, and I  
Changed”, 2025.  
Pigment inks on treated  
handmade paper  
63 x 58 cm  
**Sold out**



“The Lord is my Shepherd; I  
Shall not want”, 2025.  
Pigment inks on treated  
handmade paper  
52 x 64 cm  
₪ 49,500



“Time is a Sword”, 2025.  
Pigment inks on treated  
handmade paper  
63 x 63 cm  
₪ 52,500



“Mirror of my Mind”, 2025.  
Pigment inks on treated  
handmade paper  
34 x 68 cm  
₪ 30,000



“Gateway to the Heart”,  
2025.  
Pigment inks on treated  
handmade paper  
45 x 95 cm  
₪ 55,500



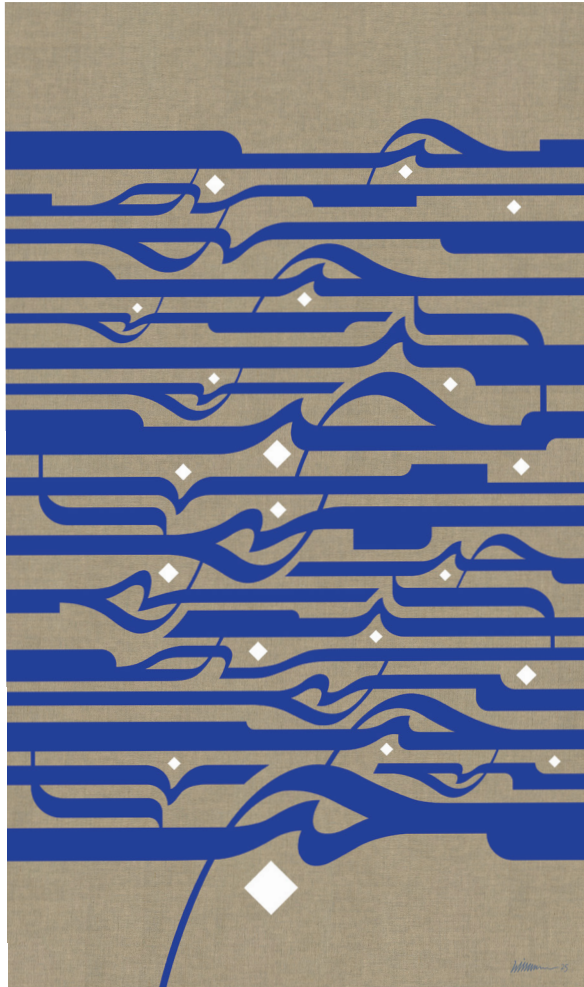
"Mahaba", 2025.  
Acrylic Colors on Linen Canvas  
125 X 50 cm  
₹ 49,500



"Eshq", 2025.  
Acrylic Colors on Linen Canvas  
125 X 70 cm  
₹ 49,500



"A Laugh", 2025.  
Acrylic Colors on Linen Canvas  
125 X 125 cm  
**Sold out**



"Depth", 2025.  
Acrylic Colors on Linen Canvas  
100 x 170 cm  
**Sold out**



"Love 12", 2022.  
Pigment inks on treated  
handmade paper  
42 x 60 cm  
**₹ 33,000**



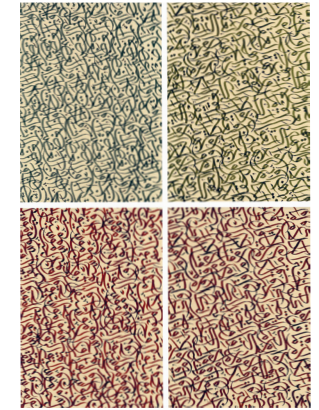
“Love is the Lifeline of Life”, 2025.  
Pigment inks on treated handmade paper  
38 x 29 cm  
₹ 10,500



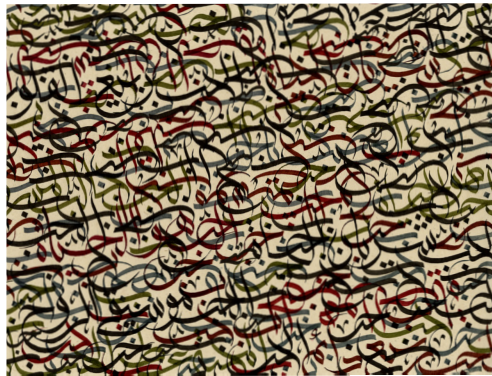
“The Throne Verse”, 2025.  
Pigment inks on treated  
handmade paper  
92 x 135 cm  
**Sold out**



“Nothing Remains the Same”, 2025.  
Pigment inks on treated handmade paper  
38 x 29 cm  
₹ 12,000



“Four Seasons”, 2025.  
Pigment inks on treated handmade paper  
27 x 38 cm (per panel)  
₹ 33,000



“Love & Life”, 2025.  
Pigment inks on treated handmade paper  
38 x 29 cm  
**Sold out**



“Al Wissam Love Carpet 1”, 2025.  
Pigment inks on treated  
handmade paper  
92 x 127 cm  
₹ 150,000



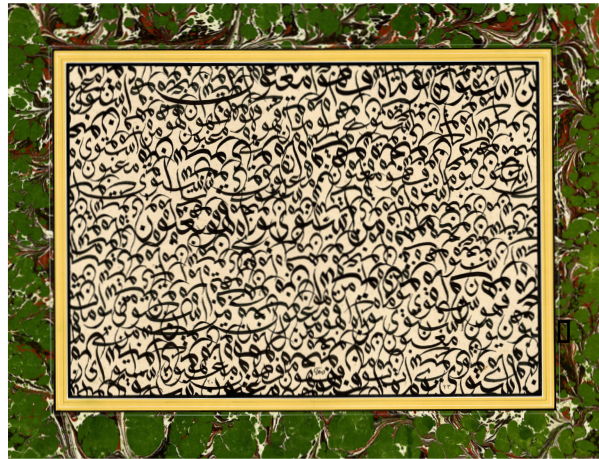
“People are the Soul of Places, 2”, 2025.  
Pigment inks on treated handmade paper  
38 x 29 cm  
₹ 10,500



“State of love”, 2025.  
Pigment inks on treated  
handmade paper  
55 x 65 cm  
₹ 49,500



“Mashq Al Wissam 1”, 2023.  
Pigment inks on treated handmade paper  
49 x 38 cm  
₹ 24,000



“Mashq Al Wissam 2”, 2023.  
Pigment inks on treated handmade paper  
49 x 38 cm  
₹ 24,000



“Embrace 1”, 2025.  
Pigment inks on treated handmade paper  
60 x 60 cm  
₹ 49,500



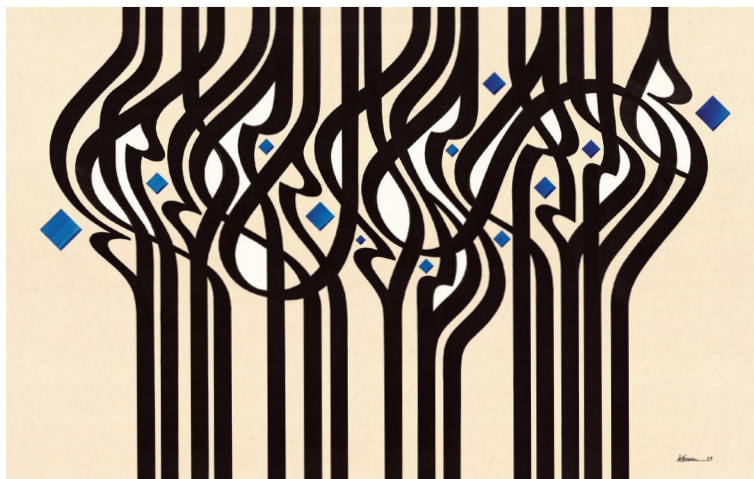
“Embrace 2”, 2025.  
Pigment inks on treated handmade paper  
60 x 60 cm  
₹ 49,500



“Embrace 3”, 2025.  
Pigment inks on treated handmade paper  
60 x 60 cm  
₹ 49,500



“Embrace 4”, 2025.  
Pigment inks on treated handmade paper  
60 x 60 cm  
₹ 49,500



"Lost in Love 14", 2023.  
Pigment inks on treated  
handmade paper  
90 x 57 cm  
**Sold out**



"Lost in Love 15", 2025.  
Pigment inks on treated  
handmade paper  
45 x 140 cm  
**₹ 55,500**



“By their fruits you will  
know them”, 2021.  
Pigment inks on treated  
handmade paper  
50 x 50 cm  
**NOT for sale**