

## Artist's bio

Sabah Al-Dhafer was born in Nasriyah, Iraq. At the age of fifteen he was accepted to the Institute of Fine Arts in Basra, Iraq, where he lived and received his training in classical art, graduating first in his class in 1989. Al-Dhafer fled Iraq in 1991 due to his involvement in a failed uprising against the regime of Saddam Hussein at the end of the first Gulf war.



After spending 2 ½ years in a refugee camp in the desert of Saudi Arabia he came to the USA as a political refugee in 1993.

He now lives in Seattle WA. Al-Dhafer has taught stone carving at the annual International Stone Sculptor's Symposium at Camp Brotherhood in Mt. Vernon, WA since 1998, and at the California sculpture Symposium, Ocean camp, CA in 2006, he currently teaches stone carving at the Pratt Fine Arts Center in Seattle.

Al-Dhafer brings his classical training to his work. His interpretation of the natural potentials waiting inside marble, granite, and bluestone reveals his artistic vigor. Contrasting highly polished areas with masses of roughly finished stone, he pulls from it supple forms, allowing the natural texture and tones of the media to suggest his subject's life beneath the surface.

### Public Art:

- "Katharine's Place Sculpture Project" Seattle, WA 2007
- "Beginning" bronze sculpture Puyallup, WA 2005
- "Middle East Peace Sculpture" Peace Garden, Seattle Center, Seattle WA 2003

### Solo Show:

- "Witnesses" Christoff Gallery, Georgetown, Seattle, WA 2007
- "War Fragments" UW Odegaard Library, Seattle WA 2006

- "Escape Within" Christoff Gallery, Georgetown, Seattle WA 2005
- Sabah Al-Dhaheer Artwork Odegard Undergraduate Library, Seattle WA 2003

**Selected shows:**

- "Stone Sculpture from Mantel to Garden" Lakewood Center, Lake Oswego, Oregon 2004
- "Art Matters" Lemon Tree Gallery, Tacoma, WA 2004
- "Art Outdoor" San Juan Island, WA 2004
- "Roadside Studio Show" Mount Vernon, WA 2004
- "Arts Downtown" Puyallup, WA 2004
- "Sculpture Show" Kristine Gallery, Seattle 2003
- "Art Matters" Lemon Tree Gallery, Tacoma, WA 2003
- "Art in the Park" Redmond, WA 2003
- "Art Outdoor" San Juan Island, WA 2003
- "Roadside Studio Show" Mount Vernon, WA 2003
- "Arts Downtown" Puyallup, WA 2003
- "Art Outdoor" San Juan Island, WA 2002
- "Arts Downtown" Puyallup, WA 2002
- "Gardens of Art," benefit for the Seattle Art Museum Volunteer Park, Seattle 2002
- "International Stone Sculptors' Symposia Outdoor Show" Mount Vernon, WA 2002
- "Instructors' Art Show" Phinney Art Gallery, Seattle 2002
- "Pratt Annual Art Show" Pratt Fine Arts Center, Seattle 2002
- "Roadside Studio Show" Mount Vernon, WA 2002
- "The Flower and Garden Show" Washington State Convention Center, Seattle 2002
- "Thread of Memories" University of Washington, Odegard Undergraduate Library, Seattle 2002
- "Whidbey Island Stone Carving Symposium Indoor Show" Chinook Center, Whidbey Island, WA 2002
- "Art Outdoor" San Juan Island, WA 2001
- "Arts Downtown" Puyallup, WA 2001
- "Carillon Point Outdoor Sculpture Show" Kirkland, WA 2001
- "Garden Art" Pratt Fine Arts Center, Seattle 2001
- "Gardens of Art," benefit for the Seattle Art Museum, the Highlands, Seattle 2001
- "International Stone Sculptors' Symposium Outdoor Show" Mount Vernon, WA 2001
- "Pratt Annual Art Show" Pratt Fine Arts Center 2001
- "Sculpture 2001" Kirsten Gallery Seattle 2001
- "The Flower and Garden Show" Washington State Convention Center, Seattle 2001
- "The Haheim Gardens Show" Seattle 2001

- "Whidbey Island Stone Carving Symposium Indoor Show" Chinook Center, Whidbey Island, WA 2001
- "Arabic Art Festival Show" Seattle Center House 2001
- "Arts Downtown" Puyallup, WA 2000
- "Carillon Point Outdoor Sculpture Show" Kirkland, WA 2000
- "Edmonds Annual Juried Art Show" Downtown Edmonds, Edmonds, WA 2000
- "In the Beginning There Was Stone" Allied Arts Gallery, Bellingham, WA 2000
- "Smith Tower Sculpture Show" Smith Tower Lobby, Seattle 2000
- "The Flower and Garden Show" Washington State Convention Center, Seattle 2000
- "The Haheim Gardens Show" Seattle 2000
- "Arts Downtown" Puyallup, WA 1999
- "Sculpture '99" The American Institute of Architecture, Seattle 1999
- "The Flower and Garden Show" Washington State Convention Center, Seattle 1999
- "Written in Stone" The Pratt Fine Arts Center, Seattle 1999
- "Arts Downtown" Puyallup, WA 1998
- "Sabah Al-Dhaheer, Featured Artist" Parklane Gallery, Kirkland, WA 1998
- "Sculpture '98" Washington State Convention Center, Seattle 1998
- "The Flower and Garden Show" Washington State Convention Center, Seattle 1998
- "Sabah Al-Dhaheer, Featured Artist" Parklane Gallery, Kirkland, WA 1997
- "The Flower and Garden Show" Washington State Convention Center, Seattle 1997

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