

Iman Issa

Exhibition at Kunstmuseum St Gallen, Switzerland
21 December 2019 – 9 August 2020

HERITAGE STUDIES

Heritage Studies is an ongoing series, initiated in 2015, which looks to artworks, objects, and structures from the past in an attempt to understand their relevance to the present and possibly the future. It consists of multiple original displays each of which is based is on an existing museum object or element. Each display is further accompanied by a caption identifying its source. The sources span different regions and cultural lineages but all belong to the past. The term “Heritage Studies” is employed in so far as it signifies a return to the past but one carried out with an idea of a practical end to the present and future. Following is a selection of documentation of displays from the project, along with their accompanying captions.



Iman Issa, Heritage Studies #33, 2019
Copper and painted aluminium, vinyl text, 25 x 200 x 25 cm
Exhibition view at Kunstmuseum St Gallen, Switzerland, 2019 - 2020

HS33

Black Obelisk from Nimrud Iraq

Well known for depicting the historically contested event of the King of Israel bowing before the King of Assyria.

The Museum of World Arts and Culture Collection

Black alabaster

97 x 300 cm

825 B.C.

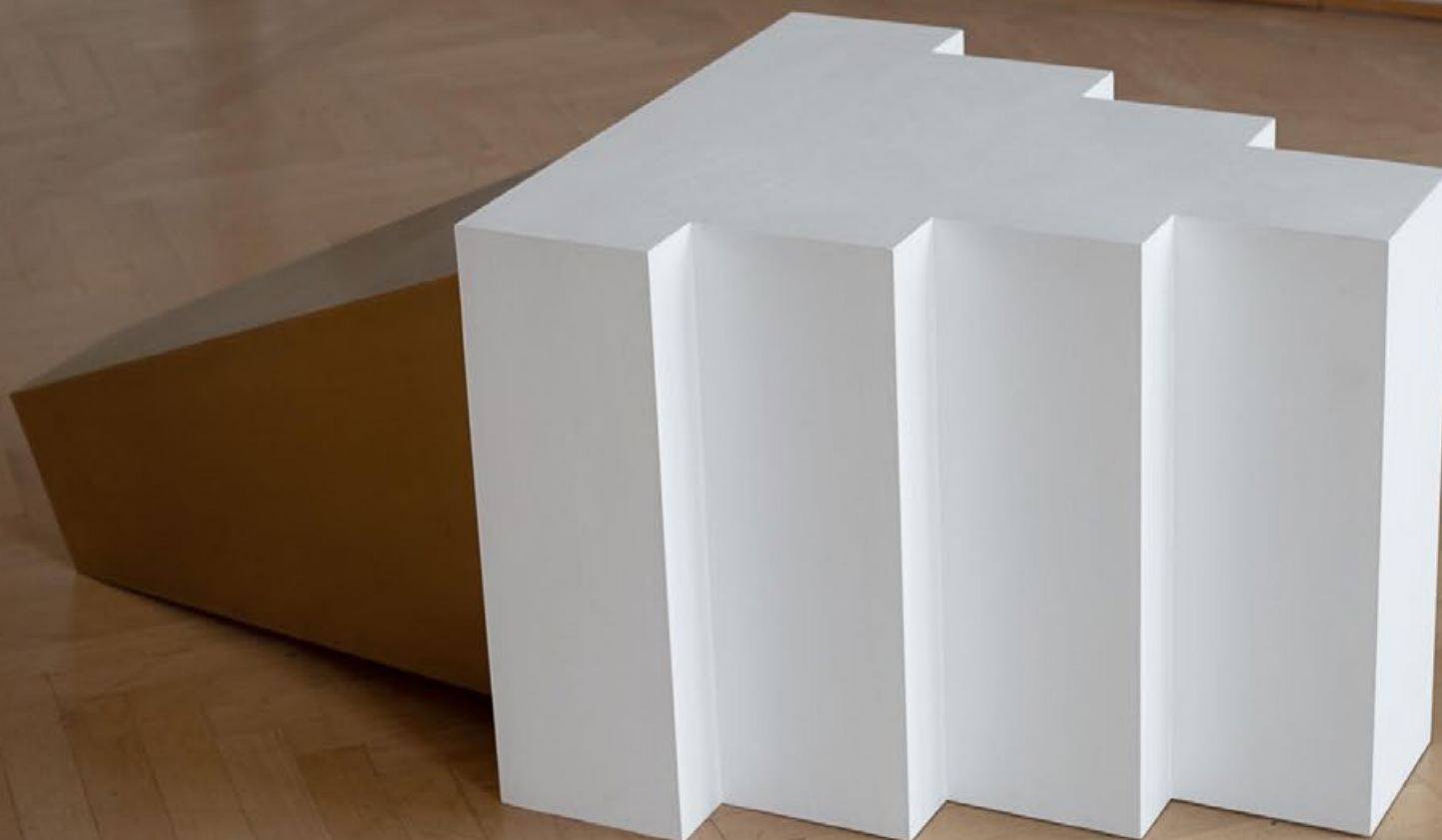
Iman Issa, Heritage Studies #33, 2019

Copper and painted aluminium, vinyl text, 25 x 200 x 25 cm, edition of 3 + 2 AP
vinyl text on the wall

carlier | gebauer



Iman Issa, Heritage Studies
Exhibition view at Kunstmuseum St Gallen, Switzerland, 2019 - 2020



Iman Issa, Heritage Studies #13, 2015
Silicone bronze, painted wood, vinyl text, 160 x 70 x 60 cm

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HS13

Staircase Leading to the Grand Viewing Hall

The hall overlooked the sacred lake by the temple, but is believed to have been merely symbolic, never used for observation or any other purpose.

The International Museum of Ancient Arts and Culture Collection

Sandstone

1055 x 120 cm

1439 B.C.

Iman Issa, Heritage Studies #13, 2015

Silicone bronze, painted wood, vinyl text, 160 x 70 x 60 cm
vinyl text on the wall

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Iman Issa, Heritage Studies
Exhibition view at Kunstmuseum St Gallen, Switzerland, 2019 - 2020



HS7

Statue of King Ahmose

Unifier of the land who established the country's national borders, which it retains to this day.

The National Art Museum Collection

Quartzite

73.5 x 31 cm

1549 B.C.

Iman Issa, Heritage Studies #7, 2015
Wood, painted wood, vinyl text, 198 x 60 x 48 cm
edition of 3 + 2 AP



HS1

Miniature Golden Pyramid

Dating to the last kingdom of Dynasty XXVI, when statues of monuments began to be widely manufactured.

The National Heritage Museum Collection

Gold plated metal, limestone

5 x 4.2 cm

530 B.C.

Iman Issa, Heritage Studies #1, 2015
Blackened wood, 129,5 x 60,9 x 160 cm, vinyl text
edition of 3 + 2 AP

HS2

Colossal Black Statue of King Tut III Holding Amulet of Eternal Life

Erected five years after his death, in the immediate aftermath of his successor's first military expedition.

The National Heritage Museum Collection

Granite

169 x 97 cm

1448 B.C.

Iman Issa, Heritage Studies #2, 2015

Rusted and hand-rubbed steel, white wooden box, vinyl text

160 x 96,5 x 7,6 cm, edition of 3 + 2 AP

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HS11

Twelve Pointed Star from a 13th Century Building Facade

Part of a plaque reused from earlier polytheistic times.

The International Museum of Ancient Arts and Culture Collection

Ivory

70 x 27 cm

A.D. 1229

Iman Issa, Heritage Studies #11, 2015
Wood, two painted plinths, vinyl text
212,5 x 200 x 35 cm
edition of 3 + 2 AP

HS18

Tile with Aerial View of Holy Shrine

Painted in green, white, and blue. It was Found in a 12th century palace in Granada, but believed to have been manufactured elsewhere.

The International Museum of Ancient Arts and Culture Collection

Underglaze

40 x 34 cm

A.D. 1139 – 1490



Iman Issa, Heritage Studies #18, 2015
Copper, vinyl text, 200 x 25 x 35 cm, edition of 3 + 2 AP

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HS23

Commemorative Scarab

Scarabs were believed to symbolize cyclical repetition and regeneration. They were issued in unusually great numbers during Dynasty XVIII.

The International Museum of Ancient Arts and Culture Collection

Limestone

42 x 80 cm

1394 B.C.

Iman Issa, Heritage Studies #23, 2016
brass, painted wood
141 x 127 x 141 cm, vinyl text
edition of 3 + 2 AP



Iman Issa, Heritage Studies
Exhibition view at Kunstmuseum St Gallen, Switzerland, 2019 - 2020

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HS20

Compass

Misdated to the reign of the last ruler of the Safavid Dynasty—the first and last dynasty since the Sasanian Empire to establish a unified state.

The Regional Museum of Arts and Culture Collection

Steel with bone and silver inlays

14 x 1.5 cm

A.D. 1620 – 1740

Iman Issa, Heritage Studies #20, 2016
Bronze, painted white box, 125 x 23 x 38 cm, vinyl text
edition of 3 + 2 AP



Iman Issa, Heritage Studies #26, 2017, Brass, white wooden plinth, 176 x 20 x 161,5 cm, vinyl text, edition of 3 + 2 AP
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HS26

Pair of Winged Dragons on a Candlestick Shaft

Symbolizing both the hell of destruction and the light of the divine, dragons had multiple meanings, which made them one of the most popular subjects during the Seljuk period.

The National Museum of Global Art Collection

Copper alloy

27 x 45 cm

A.D. 1271

Iman Issa, Heritage Studies #26, 2017

Brass, white wooden plinth, 176 x 20 x 161,5 cm, vinyl text, edition of 3 + 2 AP
vinyl text on the wall

carlier | gebauer



Iman Issa, Heritage Studies
Exhibition view at Kunstmuseum St Gallen
Switzerland, 2019 - 2020

HS17

Column from the Courtyard of the Lions

With an inscription reading, "Ordered by the Son of the Victorious, May His Victory Be Glorified."

The Regional Museum of Arts and Culture Collection

Limestone

1072 x 97 cm

A.D. 1378

Iman Issa, Heritage Studies #17, 2016

Wood, vinyl text, 200 x 55 cm

edition of 3 + 2 AP

carlier | gebauer





HS27

Dome

Restored to its original style by the Commission for the Conservation of Arab Monuments in 1939.
The Regional Museum of Arts and Culture Collection

Stone

230 x 355 cm

A.D. 1279 (built) / A.D. 1303 (rebuilt)

Iman Issa, Heritage Studies #27, 2017
Wood, painted wood, vinyl text, framed
70 x 73 x 85 cm, edition of 3 + 2 AP
sculpture and vinyl text on the wall

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Iman Issa, Heritage Studies
Exhibition view at Kunstmuseum St Gallen
Switzerland, 2019 - 2020



HS19

Sundial

Unlike models prevalent in Europe at that time, most surviving examples were erected vertically.
The International Museum of Ancient Arts and Culture Collection

Stone

136 x 71 cm

A.D. 1188

Iman Issa, Heritage Studies #19, 2016
Brass, vinyl text, 250 x 67 cm, vinyl text
edition of 3 + 2 AP

1902
L'œuvre est une sculpture en bois peinte, réalisée en 2016 par Iman Issa. Elle est composée d'un cône blanc et d'un cône vert, qui sont assemblés pour former une seule forme. La sculpture est présentée sur un socle en bois.



Iman Issa, Heritage Studies #22, 2016
Painted wood, vinyl text, 68 x 68 x 245 cm, edition of 3 + 2 AP
sculpture

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HS22

Cylinder with Building Inscription

Inscription is in cuneiform script and includes prototypes for the building of the legendary 'Ziggurat of the Foundation of Heaven and Earth.'

The Global Museum of Ethnic Arts and Culture Collection

Baked clay

22 x 22 cm

604 B.C.

Iman Issa, Heritage Studies #22, 2016

Painted wood, vinyl text, 68 x 68 x 245 cm | edition of 3 + 2 AP
vinyl text on the wall

carlier | gebauer

HS34

Statue of a Water Goddess from the Royal Palace of Mari

Originally incorporating running water into its design, it is considered to be one of the most inventive statues of Near Eastern antiquity.

The Global Museum of Ethnic Arts and Culture Collection

White stone

56 x 142 cm

1900 B.C.

Iman Issa, Heritage Studies #34, 2019
Aluminium, vinyl text, 213 x 12 x 12 cm

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Iman Issa, The Revolutionary, 2010
5.58 min audio track on loop
audio work composed by the artist
and generated using text to speech software

<https://soundcloud.com/rodeogallery/the-revolutionary/s-YPDaR>

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Iman Issa, Book of Facts: A Propositipon, 2017
Book, shelf, stool

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