

FRIEDMAN BENDA
515 W 26TH STREET
NEW YORK NY 10001

NAJLA EL ZEIN

- Present Lives and works in Amsterdam, The Netherlands
- 2010-2019 Lived and worked in Beirut, Lebanon
- 2008-2010 Lived and worked in Rotterdam, The Netherlands
- 2007 Graduated from École Camondo, Paris, France with a BA in Product Design and a MA in Interior Architecture and Spatial Design
- 2001 Attended Atelier de Sèvres, Paris, France
- 1985 Moved to Paris, France
- 1983 Born in Beirut, Lebanon

Select Exhibitions

- 2024 *Najla El Zein: Opacity, Transparency, and Everything in Between*, Friedman Benda, New York, NY
Design Doha Biennial, Doha, Qatar
Enthroned, curated by Jessica Silverman and Marc Benda, Jessica Silverman Gallery, San Francisco, CA
- 2023 *Mirror Mirror: Reflections on Design at Chatsworth*, Chatsworth, Derbyshire, UK
- 2022 “Us, Her, Him” public installation, Flag Plaza, Doha
“Her, Him”, public installation, National Museum of Qatar Roundabout, Doha
- 2019 *Najla El Zein: Transition*, Friedman Benda, New York, NY
- 2018-2019 *Women + Design: New Works*, Dallas Museum of Art, Dallas, TX
- 2017 *Jungle Protocol*, House of Today, Beirut, Lebanon
- 2015 *Maison et Objet, Precious*, Elizabeth Leriche, Paris, France
Heartland - Territoire d'affects, Beirut Exhibition Center, Beirut, Lebanon
- 2014 *Naked*, House of Today, Beirut, Lebanon
Around the Table, SMO gallery, Beirut, Lebanon
- 2013 *The Wind Portal*, Victoria and Albert Museum, London, UK

2012 *Art is the Answer*, Boghossian Foundation, Brussels, Belgium

Public Collections

Dallas Museum of Art, Dallas, TX
St. Louis Art Museum, St. Louis, MO
Qatar Museums, Doha, Qatar
Victoria and Albert Museum, London, UK

Award

2024 "Us, Her, Him" wins Dia al-Azzawi Prize for Public Art, Tamayouz Excellence Award

Select Press

2024

Bhoot, Mrinmayee. "Lebanese-French designer Najla El Zein's sculptural work explores material liminality," *StirPad*, July 16, 2024.

"Melting, Jeweled, Chiseled Glass in July's Design Shows," *Curbed*, July 8, 2024.

Barandy, Kat. "At Friedman Benda, Najla El Zein exhibits soft sculptures of stone, ceramic and glass," *Designboom*, June 28, 2024.

Touati, Anissa. "Najla El Zein," *appartamento* issue 33, May 13, 2024.

2023

Terrebonne, Jacqueline. "England's Chatsworth House Opens a Dynamic Exhibition with Friedman Benda," *Galerie* magazine, March 24, 2023.

Bertoli, Rosa. "Chatsworth House Design Exhibition Explores Contemporary Design Themes in An Eclectic Setting," *Wallpaper**, March 17, 2023.

2020

Mencarelli, Elisa. "Non è ciò che sembra: la tendenza effetto soft che piace al design," *Architectural Digest Italy*, May 19, 2020.

Donoghue, Katy. "Checking in: Najla El Zein is planting seeds, cooking, and finding bursts of energy," *Whitewall*, May 8, 2020.

2019

Dominquez-Siemens, Ana. "Beirut En El Mapa," *ELLE Décor Spain*, November 2019.

Donoghue, Katy. "Najla El Zein's 'Transition'," *Whitewall Magazine*, summer 2019.

Chemaly, Tracy Lynn. "In Conversation with Najla El Zein," *A Magazine*, May/June/July 2019.

Jungerius, Mechteld. "Najla El Zein: Transition," *TL Magazine*, March 20, 2019.

Waddoups, Ryan. "Designer of the Day," *SURFACE Magazine*, March 5, 2019.

Howarth, Dan. "Najla El Zein's 'sensual' furniture goes on show in New York," *Dezeen*, March 4, 2019.

Chemaly, Tracy Lynn. "Post-Pregnancy Contemplation in Najla El Zein's Furniture series," *domus*, March 4, 2019.

Martin, Hannah. "One to Watch: Personal History," *Architectural/Digest*, March 2019.

Shehmir, Ayesha. "9 Transformation of Life," *Harper's Bazaar Interiors Arabia*, Spring 2019.

2018

Quinto, Anne. "Metropolis's Best of 2018: The 6 Objects and Exhibitions That Represented This Year," *Metropolis*, December 24, 2018.

Mason, Brook. "The Dallas Art Museum Invests in Contemporary Design By Women," *Architectural Digest*, October 29, 2018.

Jow, Tiffany. "Design of the Day: A Bench With a Very Surprising Bulge," *Surface*, August 6, 2018.

Musante, Guido. "Through the Looking-Glass," *Interni*, May 2018.

"Spatial Distortions," *Icon Design*, March 2018.

"Welcome to Miami," *Vogue Arabia*, January 28, 2018.

2017

"The Best of New York's Salon Art + Design," *Architectural Digest*, November 10, 2017.

"Inspiring Objects Abound at The Salon Art + Design Fair," *Vogue*, November 9, 2017.

"To watch, Najla El Zein," *Whitewall Magazine*, Summer issue 2017.

"A walk on the wild side," *Selections Magazine*, #40, 2017.

2016

"Najla El Zein, transmettre l'émotion," *L'aventure*, May 2016.

2015

"Come on," *Sense, Frame Magazine*, May/June 2015.

"House of Today," *Icon*, March 2015.

"The many women of Najla El Zein," *Selections* #29, 2015.

Artsy, Artsy Editorial, *8 women who are redefining the Middle East*, March 16, 2015.

2014

Gazsi, Melina. "Sensorial Brushes by Najla El Zein are designed to stimulate the skin," *Dezeen*, December 18, 2014.

"The Breathing Wall," *T-r-e-m-o-r-s*, October 17, 2014

"Le Pavillion Des Arts et du Design, un cabinet de curiosités à Paris," *Le Monde*, April 3, 2014.

"La nouvelle vague Libanaise, Najla El Zein, le design version art," *Elle Decoration France*, April 24, 2014.

"Les incroyables contes de Najla El Zein," *Deco Magazine*, 2014.

2013

"A capital lift for designers," *The Independent*, September 14, 2013.

Viladas, Pilar. "Primer | What Not to Miss at This Year's London Design Festival," *T Magazine*, September 14, 2013.

Ghandour Hert, Maya. "The Wind Portal, de Najla El Zein, au V&A museum," *L'Orient Le Jour*, September 18, 2013.

Andrews, Kate. "The wind portal tries to grasp and emphasize common emotions and senses," *Dezeen*, September 29, 2013.

Patel, Riya. "LDF top ten installations," *Frame*, September 29, 2013.

2012

"A spoonful of Najla El Zein," *Oasis*, Issue 22.

"At a glance," Brownbook, cover page, Special edition for Design Days Dubai.

Choy, Yoko. "Design Days Dubai 12," *Wallpaper**, March 29, 2012.

"Najla El Zein wows Dubai audience with her spoon installation," *Curve Magazine*, May 2012.

2011

"City guides, Tel Aviv et Beyrouth," *IDEAT*, September 2011.