



Institute for Women and Art

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Project Abstract

Title: Women and Art in the Egyptian Revolution: Creative Energies Unleashed

My project examines the art of the ongoing revolution in Egypt *as act* or activism—its processes, forms, and goals—and *as art* as a creative product. It looks at Egyptian women as artists and activists analyzing their visual and verbal narratives of revolutionary creativity. In the fluid time and space of revolution I ask a number of questions. How does art anticipate revolution? How do artists and their work perpetuate, define, and support revolution as a work in progress? In what ways are artists simultaneously activists? How do or can social and political activists who are not artists employ the tools of art in their revolutionary campaigns? What work does visual narrative do that verbal narrative cannot do? And how do verbal narratives enhance visual discourse? Art producers in time of revolution are recalcitrant creatively bold producing dynamically polyvalent work that assails and thrusts beyond patriarchal fetters whether secular or religiously mired. This project builds in research I conducted for my essay in the *Women and Art in the Fertile Crescent* titled “The Art of Revolution in Egypt: Brushes with Women” with the aim to produce a book-length work on women artists and the ongoing revolution in Egypt.