

UNDYING CITIES:

Narratives of Erasure and Liberation

Tala Sandouka

The City

**2024. Naturally dyed straw and jute fabric on a pine wood frame,
2 Frames, each 70*70 cm.**

The work highlights the logo of the Al-Wasiti Center, designed by the Palestinian artist Kamal Balata in 1994, inspired by a map of the ancient world and the centrality of the city of Jerusalem in it. It engages in dialogue with the “No Man’s Land,” the land that separated the east of the city from the west between 1948 and 1967 and was the dividing line in the gradual normalization of the city from 1948 until today. Its people witnessed this normalization through the awareness of the subconscious mind that carried the nostalgia of its ancient inhabitants.

About the Artist

A visual artist born in Jerusalem, she holds a BA from Al-Quds University - Abu Dis. Her works vary between surreal oil paintings and conceptual art. She worked in graphic design, and currently works in furniture design and production, and upcycling old furniture. Drawing on her family’s traditional carpentry skills, Sandouqa incorporates straw weaving into her work addressing themes around nostalgia, time and place. She also works as a restorer of old fabrics and a program coordinator at the Palestinian Heritage Museum.

