

#### Awards, grants, honours

- 2022 **Canadian Museum of Immigration at Pier 21** — Artist residency and project grant.
- 2022 **Ontario Arts Council** — Visual Artist Creation Project grant.
- 2022 **Ontario Arts Council** — Visual Arts Materials grant.
- 2022 **Toronto Arts Council** — Emerging Visual Artist grant.
- 2022 **Ontario Arts Council** — Career Catalyst grant.
- 2021 **City of Ottawa** — Diversity in the Arts project grant.
- 2021 **Ontario Arts Council** — Artist Response Initiative grant.
- 2021 **City of Ottawa** — Youth in Culture emerging artist grant.
- 2020 **Canada Council for the Arts** — Digital Originals grant.
- 2020 **Remarkable Alumni Award**, Southridge School, Surrey, BC.
- 2020 **Canada Service Corps**, Certificate of Recognition (Contribution to Canadian communities).
- 2019 **#RisingYouth Community Service Grant** (Canada Service Corps, TakingITGlobal and the Government of Canada).
- 2019 **Silk Road Institute** — Creative Arts grant. Montreal, QC.
- 2019 **Canadian Online Publishing Award** for Best Academic Print & Digital Publication (Contributor to “Art/iculation”).
- 2018 **Artist for Peace Award**, Les Artistes pour la Paix (APLP). Montreal, QC.
- 2018 **Certificate of Achievement** (Top 10), Portrait Society of Canada “Miracle of the Portrait” competition. Toronto, ON.
- 2018 **Official Selection**, Jubilee Arts International Film Festival (juried), Cinema NOS. Lisbon, Portugal.  
— **Best Short Film**, Jubilee Arts Canada (juried), Toronto, ON. **Best Mixed Media work**, Jubilee Arts Quebec (juried), Montreal, QC.
- 2018 **Acquisition by McCord-Stewart Museum** collection (Prints from the “26 Project” and “Postering Peace”). Montreal, QC.
- 2018 **Canadian Museums Association Award** for Outstanding Achievement in Art Exhibitions (“Géopoétique” group show). Vancouver, BC.
- 2017 **Michaëlle Jean Foundation** — Digital Art grant, CHAI Program: Combatting Hate Advancing Inclusion. Ottawa, ON.
- 2017 **Provincial Winner**, CANFAR Art Exhibit (juried). Canadian Foundation for Aids Research. Toronto, ON.
- 2016 **Conceptual Illustration of the Year** — National (juried), Applied Arts. Toronto, ON.
- 2010 **People’s Choice Award**, Visual Impact group show (juried). Samuel Bronfman Building, McGill University. Montreal, QC.

#### Solo Exhibitions

- 2022 **Centre culturel islamique de Québec**, Hommage aux victimes de l’attentat de 29 janvier, 2017. Québec, QC. (self-produced)
- 2022 **Musée national des beaux-arts de Québec (MNBAQ)**, Salaam. Québec, QC. — cancelled due to pandemic
- 2020 **Online exhibition** supported by Canada Council for the Arts Digital Originals grant: CelebrateHer. (self-produced with catalogue)
- 2018 **Morrice Hall at McGill University**, CelebrateHer in collaboration with Imago Theatre, Montreal, QC. (self-produced)
- 2018 **Collège de Rosemont**, CelebrateHer in collaboration with Imago Theatre, Montreal, QC. (curated)
- 2017 **Arts Underground**, Here is a gift. Whitehorse, YK. (curated)
- 2016 **Canadian Museum of Immigration at Pier 21**, Canada’s Self Portrait. Halifax, NS. (curated)
- 2015 **Galerie Mile-End**, Canada’s Self Portrait. Montreal, QC. (self-produced)
- 2012 **Fridge Door Gallery**, Copycat. Montreal, QC. (curated)

#### Group Exhibitions / Film Screenings (selected)

- 2021 **Gerrard India Bazaar**, Street-level installation of acrylic vinyl panels on Gerrard Street. Toronto, ON. (juried)
- 2020 **OCAD U**, Feminist Art Festival: Narrative Healing. Toronto, ON. (juried)
- 2020 **Myseum of Toronto**: Quarantine Qapsule, in collaboration with Tea Base and Nightingale Nguyen. Toronto, ON. (juried)
- 2019 **Musée des beaux-arts de Mont-Saint-Hilaire**, Biennale du dessin. Mont-Saint-Hilaire, QC. (curated)
- 2018 **Cinema NOS (Portugal)**. Jubilee Arts International Festival, Lisbon, Portugal. (juried)
- 2018 **Rialto Theatre**, Archipelago: A living museum. Montreal, QC. (curated)
- 2018 **Four Seasons Performing Arts Centre**, Jubilee Arts Canada Festival. Toronto, ON. (juried)
- 2017 **Aga Khan Museum**, The Silk Road Institute’s 4th Wall Showcase: Postering Peace, Islamic Heritage Month Launch, Toronto, ON. (juried)
- 2017 **Peel Art Gallery and Museum Archives**, 150 Muslim Contributions to Canada. Brampton, ON. (juried)
- 2017 **Stewart Hall Art Gallery**, Géopoétique. Pointe-Claire, QC. (curated)
- 2017 **Toronto Reference Library**. Nuit Blanche Toronto: Postering Peace. Toronto, ON. (curated)
- 2017 **Stewart Hall Art Gallery**, The art that inhabits us. Pointe-Claire, QC. (juried)

- 2022 **JAYU**: Art and Social Justice Anti-Racism Online Residency and Mentorship, Toronto, ON.
- 2022 **Amplified Opera**: Collaborative painting series and digital unveiling, Toronto, ON. (upcoming)
- 2021 **Ismaili Council Edmonton**: Collaborative artwork, "Reach," with Ismaili Muslim youth, Edmonton, AB.
- 2020 **Centre culturel islamique de Québec**: 29 messages à Québec, Portes ouvertes, 3e anniversaire du 29 janvier, Québec, QC.
- 2020 **Southridge School**: 25th Anniversary Mural Commission for Southridge School, Vancouver, BC.
- 2020 **Paul Smith's College (USA)**: Artist residencies. (Recurring: 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020.) Paul Smiths, NY.
- 2019 « **La discrimination : c'est comme ça qu'on vit.** » Artistic poster and mailout campaign critiquing Bill 21. Montreal, QC.
- 2018 **Copenhagen Poetry Club (Denmark)**: Vi ikke jeg. Intercultural art project and postering campaign. Copenhagen, Denmark.
- 2018 **Musée des beaux-arts de Mont-Saint-Hilaire**: Le Manifeste pour la Paix, Mont-Saint-Hilaire and Victoriaville, QC.
- 2018 **LX Factory (Portugal)**: Ela é uma mulher incrível. Street art intervention. Lisbon, Portugal.
- 2017 **Canadian Centre for International Justice**: Commissioned portrait of Homa Hoodfar. Ottawa, ON.
- 2017 **Postering Peace**: Combatting Islamophobia (Film commissioned by the Michaelle Jean Foundation). Montreal, QC.
- 2017 **World Conference on Drowning Prevention**: The Life Jacket Project. Vancouver, BC.
- 2017 **Montreal Vigil for Québec City Muslims**, Parc Metro: Stronger Together. Montreal, QC.
- 2017 **MURAL Festival**: Why support underrepresented artists? Montreal, QC.
- 2017 **Arts Underground**: Artist residency. Whitehorse, YK.
- 2016 **Toronto Symphony Orchestra**: Love letters. Toronto, ON.
- 2012 **Concordia University's School of Extended Learning**: University of the Streets, collaborative artwork. Montreal, QC.

## Talks / Workshops / Performances (selected)

- 2022 **Canadian Museum of Immigration at Pier 21**: "Canada's Storytellers: Aquil Virani." Zoom. Toronto, ON.
- 2022 **JAYU**: "Momentum Exhibition Panel: Artist Mentorship." Online (Zoom).
- 2021 **X University**: "Art and migration" with Professor Harald Bauder. Graduate program in Immigration and Settlement Studies. Toronto, ON.
- 2021 **Silk Road Institute: Ottawa Inshallah** – Artist workshop on "Futurism." Ottawa, ON.
- 2021 **Talisman Theatre**: Moderator and panelist, "Antioch Roundtable: Muslim representation." Montreal, QC.
- 2020 **OCAD U**, Feminist Art Festival: Panelist, "Magnifying the Unseen." Toronto, ON.
- 2020 **Human Rights Film Festival, hosted by JAYU**: Panelist, "Arts for Social Change." Zoom. Toronto, ON.
- 2020 **#JeunesEnAction** – Documentary Launch: Panelist, "Cultures de résilience." Facebook Live. Quebec City, QC.
- 2020 **Paul Smith's College (USA)**: Guest speaker. (Recurring every year: 2013,– 2020.) Paul Smiths, NY.
- 2019 **Musée des beaux-arts de Mont Saint-Hilaire**: Interactive performance, « Un défi de la paix. » Mont Saint-Hilaire, QC.
- 2019 **Centre for Social Innovation**, Beyond the Single Story Media Retreat: Panelist, "Stories as forces of meaning-making." Toronto, ON.
- 2018 **Montreal Museum of Fine Arts**, Power of the Arts National Forum: Panelist, "Arts & Discrimination," Montreal, QC.
- 2018 **Cinema NOS (Portugal)**, Jubilee Arts International Film Festival: Panelist, "International Artist & Filmmaker Q&A." Lisbon, Portugal.
- 2018 **Trampolinhuset (Denmark)**, Workshop facilitator, "Asylbørns fremtid." Copenhagen, Denmark.
- 2018 **The Human Library Organization (Denmark)**, Workshop facilitator, "Vi er alle menneske," Copenhagen Open High School, Denmark.
- 2017 **Arts Underground**: Artist Talk, Whitehorse, YK.
- 2017 **Stewart Hall Art Gallery**: Workshop facilitator, "Participatory portraits." Pointe-Claire, QC.
- 2016 **Canadian Museum of Immigration**: Artist Talk and Interactive performance, Halifax, NS.
- 2016 **Galerie MX**: Guest speaker, McGill Alumni Association. Montreal, QC.
- 2014 **Canadian Race Relations Symposium**: Panelist, "Art & Canadian identity." Ottawa, ON.

## Publications as Author (selected)

- Virani, A. (2022). Artist publication in collaboration with **Canadian Museum of Immigration at Pier 21**. "100 immigrant stories." Toronto, ON.
- Virani, A. (2022). **Living Hyphen Magazine** (Issue: Healing Across Generations). "Maman Andrée" and "Your letter across generations." (upcoming)
- Virani, A. (2021). Bilingual anthology produced in collaboration with the **City of Ottawa** and the **Silk Road Institute**. "Ottawa Inshallah." Ottawa, ON.
- Virani, A. (2021). **Muslim American Writers At Home (USA)**. "Notre sang, la même couleur II." Freedom Voices. San Francisco, USA.
- Umezawa, A., Virani, A. (2021). Artist publication in collaboration with **Amplified Opera**. "Microphone." Toronto, ON.
- Virani, A. (2020). **International Centre of Art for Social Change** (blog). "FUTURES/forward: Collaborating with the OUR Ecovillage." Vancouver, BC.
- Virani, A. (2018). **Art/iculation Magazine** (Issue: The Art of Healing). "Perfect metaphor." Montreal, QC.
- Virani, A. (2016). **UPPERCASE Magazine**. "Why I care that my art is inclusive." Calgary, AB.
- Virani, A. (2015). **Entitled Magazine (UK)**. "Drawing Canadian Identity." London, UK.
- Virani, A. (2011). **Empty Easel** (emptyeasel.com). "Just one artist statement?" Online.

**Press coverage** (selected)

2022	Podcast	<b>Silk Road Institute</b> , “Muslim Canadian Artists: Aquil Virani.” Tendisai Cromwell. Toronto, ON. (upcoming)
2022	Television	<b>CTV National</b> , “Portrait series honours victims of Quebec mosque shooting.” Genevieve Beauchemin. Montreal, QC.
2022	Television	<b>Ici/Radio-Canada</b> , « On ne vous oubliera pas. » Camille Feireisen. Toronto, ON.
2022	Television	<b>CTV Atlantic</b> , “Artist Aquil Virani on his collaborative art project.” Ana Almeida. Halifax, NS.
2022	Radio	<b>Radio-Canada</b> , « L’artiste-en-résidence dévoile les histoires de l’immigration » Isabelle Ménard. Toronto, ON.
2022	Radio	<b>CBC Québec</b> , “Artist Aquil Virani honours victims of shooting at Quebec City mosque.” Peter Tardif. Québec, QC.
2022	Print	<b>Toronto Star</b> , “Show them as people.” Angelyn Francis. Toronto, ON.
2022	Online	<b>La Presse</b> , « Aquil Virani rend hommage aux victimes. » Éric Clément. Montreal, QC.
2022	Online	<b>CBC News</b> , “Portraits honour Quebec mosque shooting victims.” Ainslie MacLellan. Montreal, QC.
2021	Documentary	<b>CBC Radio One: Doc Project</b> , “Thirty.” (40:42). Produced by Alisa Siegel. Edited by Alison Cook. Toronto, ON.
2021	Television	<b>CTV Atlantic</b> , “Sharing stories through art.” Jennifer Grudic. Halifax, NS.
2021	Television	<b>CBC Ottawa News</b> and <b>Our Ottawa</b> , “New Ottawa Art Book.” Adrian Harewood. Ottawa, ON.
2021	Radio	<b>CBC Ottawa: All in a Day</b> , “Ottawa Inshallah.” Alan Neal. Ottawa, ON.
2021	Print	<b>Ottawa Citizen</b> , “Stamps of approval.” Lynn Saxberg. Ottawa, ON.
2021	Online	<b>APT613</b> , “New anthology features local Muslim artists and reflects on possible futures.” Erika Ibrahim. Ottawa, ON.
2020	Documentary	<b>Adrijan Assoufi (filmmaker)</b> , “Cultures de résilience.” Produced by TakingITGlobal. Montreal, QC.
2020	Podcast	<b>Never Was Average + #RisingYouth</b> , “# 5 – Déterrer l’islamophobie.” Eva Jomphe. Québec, QC.
2018	Print	<b>Le Devoir</b> , « De l’art comme outil pacifiste. » Caroline Montpetit. Montréal, QC.
2018	Print	<b>La Presse</b> , « Aquil Virani célèbre la diversité des femmes. » Éric Clément. Montreal, QC.
2018	Print	<b>TVA Nouvelles</b> , « Aquil Virani, artiste pour la paix 2018. » Montréal, QC.
2018	Television	<b>Global News</b> , “CelebrateHer: Twelve inspiring, everyday women.” Laura Casella. Montreal, QC.
2018	Radio	<b>CBC’s Homerun</b> , “CelebrateHer with artist Aquil Virani and honouree Rachel Zellars.” Sue Smith. Montreal, QC.
2017	Print	<b>Le Devoir</b> , « Des oeuvres, un silence et des mots. » Odile Tremblay. Montréal, QC.
2017	Print	<b>Whitehorse Star</b> , “Arts Underground artist-in-residence Aquil Virani.” Vince Fedoroff. Whitehorse, YK.
2017	Online	<b>The Globe &amp; Mail</b> , “The Quebec City Mosque Attack: What we know so far.”
2017	Online	<b>CBC North</b> , “Yukon chiefs’ personalities ‘shine through’ in colourful paintings.” Philippe Morin. Whitehorse, YK.
2017	Online	<b>Bramptonist</b> , “New PAMA Exhibits Highlight Diversity of Communities in Canada.” Leslie Hatton. Brampton, ON.
2017	Television	<b>OMNI TV</b> , “PAMA: Muslim contributions to Canada.” Mahnoor Yawar. Brampton, ON.
2017	Television	<b>Global News</b> , “Notable women for an extraordinary project.” Laura Casella. Montreal, QC.
2017	Radio	<b>NPR (USA)</b> , “Paul Smiths College freshmen collaborate with Montreal artist on new art.” Todd Moe. New York.
2016	Online	<b>Artistorian</b> , “100 artworks in 1 week?” Cassandra Marsillo. Montreal, QC.
2016	Print	<b>The Coast</b> , “Consider your Canada at Pier 21.” Morgan Mullin. Halifax, NS.
2016	Television	<b>Breakfast Television</b> , “100 artworks in 1 week.” Derick Fage. Montreal, QC.
2016	Television	<b>CBC’s Daybreak Telecast</b> , “Free art!” Mike Finnerty. Montreal, QC.
2016	Radio	<b>NPR (USA)</b> , “A new school year and new art at Paul Smiths College.” Todd Moe. New York.
2015	Print	<b>La Presse</b> , « Esquisse de l’identité canadienne. » Éric Clément. Montreal, QC.
2015	Print	<b>URBANIA Magazine</b> , « Autoportrait en 842 fragments. » Julie Chaumont. Montreal, QC.
2015	Online	<b>Canadian Geographic</b> , “Crowdsourced art on Canadian identity.” Carys Mills. Toronto, ON.
2015	Online	<b>Applied Arts Magazine</b> , “Canadian Identity.” Kristina Urquhart. Toronto, ON.
2015	Television	<b>Breakfast Television</b> , “What is Canada’s Self Portrait?” Montreal, QC.
2015	Television	<b>Channel 3 News (USA)</b> , “New Paul Smith’s students welcomed with unique art project.” Rose Spillman. Vermont.
2015	Radio	<b>NPR (USA)</b> , “Pounce!” Todd Moe. New York.
2014	Television	<b>CBC</b> , “Canada’s Self Portrait at Heritage Days.” Edmonton, AB.
2013	Print	<b>Adirondack Daily Enterprise (USA)</b> , “Unifying Freshmen.” Shaun Kittle. New York.
2013	Radio	<b>NPR (USA)</b> , “Revealing the artist in everyone.” Todd Moe. New York.
2012	Online	<b>Leacock’s Magazine</b> , “COPYCAT.” Jessica Prupas. Montreal, QC.
2012	Television	<b>Global News</b> , “Focus Montreal: We Are All Artists” Richard Dagenais. Montreal, QC.

**Education (Self-taught)**

2022	Member, <b>Drawing Board Collective</b> (drawingboard.info), Montreal. 2016 - present.
2020	<b>International Centre of Art for Social Change: FUTURES/forward</b> program, 2020. Toronto, ON.
2012	<b>Bachelor of Arts (BA)</b> in Liberal Arts, Philosophy, Marketing, McGill University, 2008 - 2012. – J.W. McConnell Major Scholarship (\$20K), Semiahmoo Rotary Club Scholarship, Jim Ison Shield for Public Speaking