

Mosaic Rooms has reopened with Dima Srouji, Bouchra Khalili, and Expanded Public Spaces

Highlights:

- Mosaic Rooms begins a new chapter as an independent organisation under newly appointed director, Pip Day
- Bouchra Khalili's first public UK solo exhibition, titled *Circles and Storytellers*
- A new permanent commission by Palestinian artist Dima Srouji, *Four Moons from Home*

The reopening introduces a series of new and expanded public spaces, including:

- The Salon, a reimagined space and living room for public programmes and events
- Play Room, a new, fully accessible Creative Learning space
- The beloved expanded Bookshop
- Sound Capsule, a live-radio project housed in Mosaic Rooms' tower space, The Satellite
- An expanded Garden with an outdoor amphitheatre

Returning highlight events include:

- Small Press Fest (June 2026)
- The Edward W. Said London Lecture, presented in partnership with A.M. Qattan Foundation (October 2026)



Photography by Andy Stagg, courtesy of Mosaic Rooms | Download [here](#)

Monday, 23rd February 2026 - Mosaic Rooms has now reopened to the public following a year of extensive refurbishment and organisational reconfiguration. The reopening marks a significant institutional milestone as Mosaic Rooms enters a new chapter. Building on the strong foundations established by the A.M. Qattan Foundation, Mosaic Rooms now moves forward as an independent charity, with transitional support from the Al-Qattan Charitable Trust.

At a moment marked by global crises, eroding human rights, and the intensifying censorship and silencing of voices, particularly those speaking out for Palestine, Mosaic Rooms recommits itself as a space of refuge, resistance and critical cultural exchange. Under the leadership of newly appointed Director **Pip Day**, alongside the organisation's team and recently formed Board of Trustees, Mosaic Rooms continues its work honouring the histories and lived experiences that shape communities locally and across the Arab region, its diasporas and beyond.

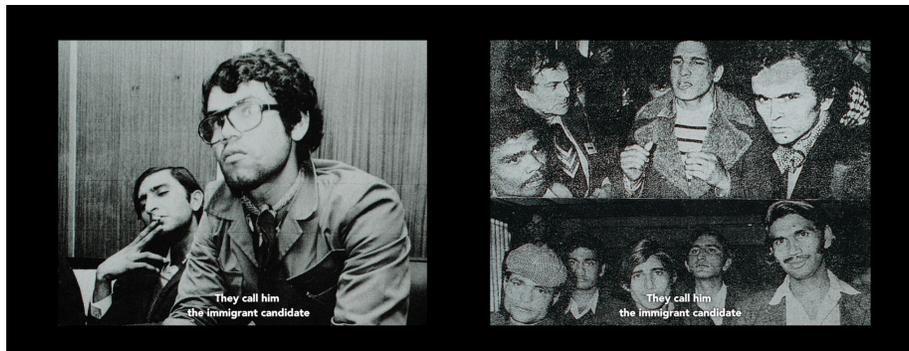
Permanent Commission

The refurbished building is anchored by *Four Moons From Home*, a permanent site-specific commission by Palestinian architect, visual artist, and academic **Dima Srouji**, made possible with support from Art Fund and Al-Qattan Charitable Trust.

Installed in the new entry hall of Mosaic Rooms, the commission comprises large-scale stained-glass windows carved in Jerusalem stone by artisans in Bethlehem. The stones journeyed from Palestine to London, embedding material histories within the fabric of the building and drawing on centuries-old traditions of stained glass as vessels for cultural memory and light.

Four Moons from Home brings to light endangered histories and approaches to cultural heritage as a space for “potential collective repair”. The windows celebrate the four seasons through carvings and coloured glass that are patterned on the seasonal flora of Palestine. Their forms and colours reference *Qamariya* (half-moon) windows seen in Yemen, Egypt, Syria and Palestine, honouring the craft of stonemakers and glassblowers who have illuminated homes and sacred spaces across the region.

The visceral light and shadows cast by the windows are both welcoming to neighbours and passersby and operate as a reminder of the importance of permanence within the fabric of our institutions, especially at a time of forced disappearance.



The Circle still, Bouchra Khalili, courtesy of the artist

Exhibition

Mosaic Rooms reopens with ***Circles and Storytellers***, the first public UK solo exhibition by the esteemed French-Moroccan multidisciplinary artist and educator, **Bouchra Khalili**. Through her work, she suggests new civic imaginations and alternative ways of belonging and forming communities. On display will be the interconnected works *The Circle Project* (mixed media installation, 2023) and *The Public Storyteller* (16mm film and video, 2024). These works mark the conclusion of Khalili's decade-long exploration into the overlooked history of the Mouvement des Travailleurs Arabes (MTA) and its theatre groups, Al Assifa and Al Halaka. This investigation had its first iteration in 2017 with the film installation *The Tempest Society*, which premiered at documenta 14 (Athens/Kassel, 2017).

Active between 1973 and 1977, the MTA and its theatre groups were led by Maghrebi undocumented workers advocating for social justice and the freedom of artistic expression. Both *The Circle Project* and *The Public Storyteller* focus on the forgotten candidacy of Djelalli Kamal, a member of the MTA and Al Assifa, who ran for the French presidential election of 1974 as "the candidate of those who cannot vote."

Al Assifa and Al Halaka (Arabic for “the circle” and “the assembly”), were central to the MTA's activism. The circular formation is the guiding force behind the exhibited works and their display at Mosaic Rooms, manifesting the power of storytelling and performance in forming communities.

Bookshop and Public Spaces

Mosaic Rooms' extensive refurbishment by **a small studio** architects adds bespoke and expanded public spaces which are designed to support gathering, learning and exchange.

The beloved **Bookshop** has expanded to offer more space for gathering, reading, and debate, including quiet reading nooks, meeting spaces, intergenerational areas and a forthcoming lending library. Maintaining its focus on popular and self-published and independent publications, the Bookshop presents an expanded range of books, zines and poetry and children's publications, as well as curated selections engaging critical thinking, poetry and artists' monographs and editions. The bookshop just opened with a dedicated section curated by community-led nomadic bookshop Maqam Books alongside the return of Small Press Fest, our annual publishing fair.

The reopening introduces the **Play Room**, a new accessible community space, open during events for children, families and young people. This embodies our commitment to open-ended, artist-led collective approaches to learning. Conceived as a flexible environment, the space centres sensory exploration, storytelling, movement and material experimentation, grounded in relational practice. Across early-year play, youth-led collective work and family sessions, Play Room supports curiosity, authorship and shared ways of learning.

Within the newly refurbished tower, **Sound Capsule** launches as a new live radio space for responsive collaborative practice, hosting regular transmissions with artists, researchers, collectives and community groups rooted in local contexts and international solidarities.

The Salon builds on Mosaic Rooms' legacy as a space for critical dialogue, participatory public programmes, artists' talks, performances, screenings and multidisciplinary projects, supporting collective learning and immersive experiences. Developed in dialogue with the Bookshop, The Salon will host an extensive programme over 2026 including *A Place without a Door (after Walid Daqqah's letters from prison)*, a series bringing together prison poetry readings, theatrical rehearsals, film screenings, letter-writing sessions and public gatherings.

Mosaic Rooms' newly designed **Garden**, conceived by landscape architects **AARDE** in dialogue with Dima Srouji's window commission, extends the constellation of gathering spaces outdoors. Translating the Palestinian flora held in the stained glass into the surrounding landscape, the garden and new outdoor amphitheatre provide a site for performances, rest, play and gathering.

Sign up for Mosaic Rooms' newsletter [here](#).

Quote from Director, Pip Day:

"I'm deeply honoured to be joining Mosaic Rooms at this pivotal moment, alongside its team and newly formed Board, as the institution evolves into a new organisational form. In a moment of profound uncertainty and unfathomable violence, spaces like Mosaic Rooms, which holds Palestine as its compass, are vital - not only as sites of refuge in these inadmissible times, but as platforms for critical discourse, collective learning and cultural resistance.

I look forward to strengthening connections with artists and communities whose work confronts the inequalities of our contemporary world, speaks to urgent histories and presents, and holds space – in London – for the lived experiences of the Arab region and diasporic communities. Building on the legacy of founder Omar Al-Qattan, outgoing director Rachael Jarvis, and a dedicated, visionary team, I am committed to strengthening the ethical infrastructures and networks of solidarity that have come to define Mosaic Rooms. Central to this work, especially while genocide against the Palestinian people continues unhindered, is advancing critical discourse on colonial accountability and creating the conditions not only to imagine futures that honour our communities, but to take the strategic action required to realise them."

Quote from Bouchra Khalili:

"It is a great pleasure to return to London with an exhibition at Mosaic Rooms, a space known for its commitment to inclusivity and for bringing together diverse communities. I'm thrilled to present a series of works that mark the culmination of ten years of research and production, stemming from the theatrical experiments of a group of Maghrebi factory workers in France during the 1970s. With this presentation at Mosaic Rooms, I aim to invite the audience to reimagine collectively other ways of belonging."

Quote from Dima Srouji:

"This commission represents a pivotal moment in my practice, allowing me to realise my first permanent public installation at an institutional scale. Working with Mosaic Rooms strengthens my ongoing dialogue with cultural institutions committed to critical and inclusive practice, and positions my work within a wider public discourse in the UK. Installed at the welcome space of the gallery, the windows embody both archive and offering, holding a place for breath, endurance, and the persistence of Palestinian memory."

A selection of key dates:

New Public Programme | Footnote to the Present

Coming soon

This programme brings together artists, filmmakers, writers and theatre makers, and those who turn to the street, to performance and to collective rehearsal as sites of possibility, for forging and demanding justice.

With artists **Jasmina Metwaly** and **Philip Rizk**, **Ahmed Tobbasi** and **Yasmin Shalaldeh**, **Joey Simmons** and many others, including a collaboration with **MayDay Rooms**.

Dima Srouji, permanent commission *Four Moons from Home*

and

Bouchra Khalili exhibition *Circles and Storytellers*

18th February - 14th June

Accompanying events, curated in close conversation with Khalili include:

Film | *Ali in Wonderland [Ali au pays des merveilles]* by Djouhra Abouda and Alain Bonnamy (1976, 59min)

Second screening 26th February, 8:20pm offsite at Ciné Lumière, in collaboration with Institut Français [TICKETS HERE](#)

Join us for a screening of the newly restored experimental film by Algerian filmmaker Djouhra Abouda, co-directed with Alain Bonnamy. A pioneering work of immigrant cinema in France, directed by a woman, *Ali in Wonderland* closely observes the daily gestures and lived realities of immigrant workers in 1970s France. Through its visually incisive language and rhythmic montage, the film shot on 16mm, offers a powerful critique of labour, exploitation and racism, addressing conditions that remain sharply resonant today.

In Response | *Four Moons from Home*

March 2026 - March 2027

Seasonal programming at the intersection of critical ecologies and the politics of food will unfold in response to Dima Srouji's permanent installation *Four Moons From Home*. The spring chapter opens with the premiere of a durational sound piece by artist Dirar Kalash on 12th March. In summer, on 12th June, Lobna Sana, Bedouin architect and artist from the Naqab, will present a new chapter through collective building in the garden.

Sound Capsule

From March

Live transmissions from The Satellite in collaboration with Radio Alhara will launch in spring and run all year. The project is developed through a Curatorial Research lab with MA Curating and Collections, Chelsea College of Arts and artists Mark Gergis (Syrian Cassette Archives), Olivia Melkonian, Soundcamp and others tba.

Performance | Faster than light, always

17th April, 7pm

Faster than Light Always is a collaborative sound and dance work by musician Julmud and dancers Sasha Shadid and Adan Azzam. Rooted in the landscape of the Cremisan Valley, the piece reflects on how occupation forces have used Bethlehem's last remaining green space to further suffocate its community, using the body to evoke and reclaim the land's terraces, curves and trees. In partnership with Another Sky Festival.

Play Lab: Lum'a -لمعة- a glimmer, a glint, a flicker of light

28th February – 30th November

A long-form, artist-led project by Chahine Fellahi, developing a series of gently unfolding playrooms for local and London-based children and families, shaped by light, colour, Arabic calligraphy, poetry and storytelling.

Youth and Family Programmes

February – December

Alongside *Play Lab*, Mosaic Rooms' Creative Learning programme includes *Young Collective* (delivered in partnership with CARAS) as well as a series of recurring family and early-years sessions, including *Yalla Let's Play* and *Tiny Fridays*. These programmes provide open-ended sensory approaches to play and creativity throughout the year and are led by invited artists and facilitators including: Natalie Zervou-Kerruish, Zareen Islam and Grace Thompson.

Small Press Fest

6th-7th June, 12-6pm

The 4th iteration of our annual publishing fair, focused on small-press and independent publishers and zine makers.

Literary Programme | Book Club with Maqam

Coming soon

In collaboration with Maqam Books we will host a bilingual Book Club where texts will be read and discussed in Arabic and English respectively.

Book Launch | Witness to the Hellfire of Genocide: A Testimony from Gaza

Date tbc

Wasim Said's recently published testimony will be presented.

Edward W. Said London Lecture

15th October, 7pm offsite at the Royal Geographic Society.

The annual Edward W.Said Lecture returns through a collaboration between Mosaic Rooms and A.M. Qattan Foundation.

Book Fairs

Upcoming participation in book fairs includes Sticky Fingers Publishing Fair on 11th April and PageMasters Zine fair on 2nd-3th May.

Follow us to learn more about our upcoming programmes and events via [Instagram](#)

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Notes to Editor:**[ASSETS HERE](#)**

Biography of artists [here](#)

Website [here](#)

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