MAHER ATTAR

MAHER ATTAR COMBINES HIS BACKGROUND AS AN AWARD WINNING PHOTOGRAPHER WITH HIS WAR-TIME PHOTOGRAPHY AND LIFESTYLE PORTRAIT OF WORLD LEADERS AND CELEBRITIES. HIS CLIENTS INCLUDE MAGAZINES, CELEBRITIES AND NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATIONS.

In 1984, Maher Attar started his career as a war photographer working for Agence France-Presse in Lebanon. His debut as a press photographer was launched in 1985 by a moving photo taken during the war in Lebanon that made it to the front page of New York Times. In 1986, Sygma Photo Agency, now known as Corbis-Getty, appointed him as a Middle East Correspondent. Maher covered the Iran-Iraq war, the Gulf war, the Afghanistan Taliban war, Achille Lauro hijacking, and the American and French hostages crises in Lebanon among other conflicts and events in the Middle East.

In 1990, the agency relocated Maher to France to be on its elite team of Parisbased photographers. He traveled on a number of assignments that covered major world events and followed leaders and celebrities such as French President Jacques Chirac, the Lebanese Prime Minister Rafic Hariri, Queen Rania of Jordan, Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat, the actress Elizabeth Taylor, singer Phil Collins, chef Alain Ducasse, top model Dayle Haddon, sculpturer Bernar Venet, painter Zao Wou-Ki and Spanish architect Santiago Calatrava.

In 2002, Maher established his own photo press agency, MGA Production and successfully recruited key clients including leading publications such as Life, Newsweek, Time, Le Figaro and Paris Match. Maher held a number of positions as a Photographer and a Communication Advisor to Her Royal Highness Princess Haya of Jordan and Director at the office of Her Highness Sheikha Moza bint Nasser, he was in charge of developing Qatar's image bank and organizing programs designed for NGOs to teach children from Asian countries the techniques of photography. As an expert lomographer, Maher was selected by the MEP (European House of Photography) and IMA (the Arab World Institute) to exhibit his latest lomography work at the first photography biennale of the contemporary Arab world in Paris from November 2015 to January 2016.

"BERYTUS. A GLORIFED CITY" MAHER'S LATEST PHOTO PROJECT TELLS THE STORY OF THE CITY OF BEIRUT OVER THE YEARS. HE REPRESENTS HER IN A ONE-WOMAN FIGURE THAT HAS ENDURED MANY PAINS AND IS STILL STANDING. MAHER USES A DRAMATIC PHOTOGRAPHY STYLE TO SHOOT HIS IMAGES. THE ART WORK CARRIES THE MESSAGES OF FREEDOM, DIGNITY, PEACE, INDEPENDENCE AND DIVERSITY. BERYTUS IS A PROJECT FOR HISTORY TO KEEP.

TO FUEL HIS PASSION FOR ART, MAHER HAS HAD THE IDEA OF CREATING A BOOK THAT HAS TOILED IN HIS HEAD FOR MORE THAN TEN YEARS. HOWEVER, IT WAS NOT UNTIL HE RETURNED TO HIS HOMELAND, LEBANON, THAT "Be Creative" CAMETO LIFE.AS AN ARTIST AND A PROFESSIONAL, MAHER TELLS TRUE STORIES OF ARTISTS, BY AN ARTIST.

- "Challenges & Reality" WAS SPONSORED BYTHE EDUCATION ABOVE ALL FOUNDATION AND CAPTURED THE DAY-TO-DAY CIRCUMSTANCES OF CHILDREN AROUND THE WORLD AND THEIR RIGHTS TO EDUCATION. THE BOOK WAS LAUNCHED AT THE UNITED NATIONS HEADQUARTERS IN NEW YORK AND WAS EXHIBITED AT THE UNESCO HEADQUARTERS IN PARIS.
- "AUPRÈS DE MON ARBRE" THE UNITED NATIONS ENVIRONMENT PROGRAMME EXHIBITED HIS WORK AT THE ESPACE PIERRE CARDIN IN PARIS, ENTITLED "*Auprès De Mon Arbre*", FEATURING NINE LARGE FORMAT PHOTOGRAPHS CELEBRATING NATURE, WATER AND LIFE. IN ADDITION, THE UNITED NATIONS PHOTO LIBRARY HAS ARCHIVED AND USED MAHER'S MOVING PICTURE OF THE FRENCH UN PEACEKEEPER DURING AN EXCHANGE OF FIRE IN SOUTH LEBANON IN 1986.
 - "Born In Lebanon" MAHER HAS BEEN RECOGNIZED REGIONALLY AND INTERNATIONALLY FOR HIS ACCOMPLISHMENTS IN THE WORLD OF PHOTOGRAPHY. LEBANON HONORED HIM IN THE EXHIBITION "Born In Lebanon" ALONGSIDE THE WORLD RENOWINED SINGER FAYROUZ AND THE INTERNATIONALLY ACCLAIMED FASHION DESIGNER ELIE SAAB.

Experience

2021	_	PRESENT	FOUNDER AND OWNER OF ART DISTRICT – HOUSE OF PHOTOGRAPHY
2006	_	PRESENT	FOUNDER OF THE PUBLISHING HOUSE ART & PRIVILÈGE EDITIONS
2007	_	2015	DIRECTOR, PHOTO LIBRARY OF THE OFFICE OF SHEIKHA MOZA BINT NASSER OF QATAR
2012		2014	PHOTOGRAPHY CONSULTANT FOR QATAR MUSEUMS AUTHORITY
2002	—	2007	MANAGER & PHOTOGRAPHER AT MGA PRODUCTION, PHOTO PRESS AGENCY
2000	—	2002	PRESS AND COMMUNICATIONS ADVISOR TO PRINCESS HAYA OF JORDAN
1986	_	2002	STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER AT SYGMA PHOTO PRESS AGENCY
1990		2002	PARIS BUREAU, REALISATION AND PUBLICATION OF MAGAZINE REPORTAGES ON COUNTRIES, CELEBRITIES AND ART FOR GÉO, PARIS MATCH, LE FIGARO MAGAZINE, LIFE, TIME, NEWSWEEK, STERN, FOCUS, BUSINESS WEEK, ETC. PRODUCER AND DIRECTOR OF A NETWORK OF PHOTOGRAPHERS IN THE MIDDLE EAST
1986	_	1990	WAR CORRESPONDENT IN THE MIDDLE EAST, BASED IN BEIRUT, AND THEN IN AMMAN (JORDAN) TO COVER THE GULF WAR
1985	_	1986	STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER AT AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE (AFP) BEIRUT (LEBANON) BUREAU, MIDDLE EAST CORRESPONDENT COVERING, NOTABLY, THE ACHILLE LAURO (EGYPT), WAR IN THE PALESTINIAN CAMPS, AND THE TWA HIGHJACKING
1982	_	1985	FREELANCE PHOTOGRAPHER FOR AP AND ANSA PRESS AGENCIES

EXHIBITIONS

- 2021 RISING ABOVE IT ART DISTRICT – HOUSE OF PHOTOGRAPHY I BEIRUT
- 2018 BE CREATIVE, ARTISTS MADE IN LEBANON SALEH BARAKAT GALLERY I BEIRUT
- 2016 CHALLENGES & REALITY KATARA CULTURAL VILLAGE I DOHA
- 2015 LE TEMPS SUSPENDU PHOTO 12 GALLERY, IST BIENNALE OF PHOTOGRAPHERS IN THE ARAB WORLD 1 IMA, PARIS

2015 CHALLENGES & REALITY

UNESCO HEADQUARTERS I PARIS

- 2015 CHALLENGES & REALITY UNITED NATIONS HEADQUARTERS | NEW YORK
- 2013 Challenges & Reality Eaa Village, qncc | doha
- 2013 A STILL ON A LAND IN MOTION ANIMA GALLERY I THE PEARL QATAR
- 2011 DOHARAMA.. PORTRAIT OF A CITY QMA GALLERY, KATARA I DOHA
- 2010 Haute Couture Photography Zaï i doha

2009 23 VISIONS A COLLECTIVE EXHIBITION I DOME CITY CENTER, BEIRUT

- 2007 Once Upon A Time... Souk Waqif Unesco i paris
- 2006 Once Upon A Time... souk waqif police station 1 doha
- 2006 BONHEUR... BY MAHER ATTAR MOIS DE LA PHOTO I PARIS
- 2006 One year Of happiness printemps de la mode i paris
- 2006 BESIDE MY TREE ESPACE CARDIN | PARIS
- 2005 24 HOURS EUROPEANTOUR I LITHUANIA
- 2004 LOOKING OVER JORDAN PRINTEMPS HAUSSMANN | PARIS
- 2004 24 HOURS VILNIUS, LITHUANIA
- 2003 A TWENTY YEAR JOURNEY FESTIVAL DU SCOOP | ANGERS
- 2003 A TWENTY YEAR JOURNEY CENTRAL COLOR | PARIS

BOOKS

- 2018 BE CREATIVE ARTISTS MADE IN LEBANON I Editions Art & Privilège
- 2015 CHALLENGES & REALITY FOR EDUCATION ABOVE ALL FOUNDATION | Editions Art & Privilège
- 2010 DOHARAMA DOHA CITY BETWEEN PRESENT AND PAST | Editions Art & Privilège
- 2009 ON THE ROAD TO SCHOOL FOR REACH OUTTO ASIA NGO I Editions Art & Privilège
- 2008 PORTRAITS... LEBANON Editions Art & Privilège
- 2007 WHERE WE WERE Private Collection
- 2006 BONHEUR, A CABARET DANCER Editions Art & Privilège
- 2006 Once Upon A Time... Souk waqif, the old souk of doha city 1 editions art & privilège
- 2003 A TWENTY YEAR JOURNEY, RETROSPECTIVE Edition MGA Production
- 2001 MORIO MATSUI JAPANESE PAINTER | Editions DCL
- 1989 THE PALACE OF BEITEDDIN 18TH CENTURY'S PALACE IN LEBANON | Private Collection