

UV brings together major international artists at La Nau to raise Gaza's voice through an exhibition

The University of Valencia will inaugurate on December 10 at 7:30 p.m., at the La Nau Cultural Center, the exhibition *Olives Are Born in Gaza*, a collective project curated by the Valencian artist ESCIF and Teresa Juan. It brings together some of the most prominent names in international contemporary art to reflect, through artistic creation, on the resistance and dignity of the Palestinian people. The exhibition is part of UV's institutional commitment to defending human rights and raising awareness of the situation in Gaza, offering a journey built around a universal symbol: the olive tree that continues to grow even amidst devastation.

The exhibition features more than twenty works by fifteen artists, including installations, photography, painting, video, muralism, and collaborative pieces. Participants include, among others, Banksy (United Kingdom), Shepard Fairey (United States), Emily Jacir (Palestine), Lamia Ziadé (Lebanon/France), Blu (Italy), Aruallan (France), Wilfredo Prieto (Cuba), Sam3 (Spain), Daniel Muñoz (Spain), and Valencians Fermín Jiménez Landa, David Segarra, and ESCIF himself, along with Palestinian photojournalists Majdi Fathi, Saher Alghorra, and Haitham Imad, as well as contributions from the Palestinian Community of Valencia, BDS País Valencià, and the Delàs Center for Peace Studies.

Among the most significant pieces is the audiovisual installation created expressly for the exhibition by Italian artist Blu, a key figure in the recent history of muralism. Lebanese artist Lamia Ziadé has painted *in situ* a mural originally created in 2016 on the wall between Lebanon and Israel (on the Lebanese side, in the village of Kfar Kila). The gallery also houses a large printed canvas by Emily Jacir, three by three meters, lent by the Simondi Gallery and previously exhibited at the Venice Biennale. One of the most striking interventions is the temporary installation on the building's north façade (Plaça del Patriarca) of the monumental illustration *Can you hear us?* by Shepard Fairey—eight meters by five and a half—, presented as part of the international *Unmute Gaza* campaign. ESCIF, together with Banksy, also presents in the gallery a fiberglass sculpture depicting an axe from whose handle a flower emerges, a gesture that encapsulates the idea of resistance through beauty.

The exhibition extends into the La Nau cloister, where the Palestinian Community of Valencia has worked with ESCIF to create painted panels that make their voices visible collectively and in first person. The exhibition also includes a set of reproductions of photographs by Aruallan / Hans Lucas Agency taken in the West Bank and texts by collaborating organizations, which visitors can freely take with them, allowing the images and stories to circulate beyond the gallery.

The main text of the exhibition was written by journalist and documentarian David Segarra, whose experience on the 2010 Freedom Flotilla—attacked while transporting fifty journalists, ten of whom died in the assault—forms one of the conceptual foundations of the project.

The exhibition will be open at the Sala Acadèmia until March 22, 2026.

A special issue of ‘Pasajes and free visits’

Before the inauguration, at 6:00 p.m., the dossier *Gaza. The Unceasing Wound*, a special issue of the magazine *Pasajes de Pensamiento Contemporáneo*, will be presented. The event will be hosted by Ester Alba, Vice-Rector for Culture and Society at the University of Valencia, and will feature interventions by journalist and professor Lola Bañón, Professor of Philosophy of Law Cristina García Pascual, Professor of Philosophy of Law Massimo La Torre, writer and editor Gustau Muñoz, and Professor of Human Geography Joan Romero. The official opening of the exhibition will take place at 7:30 p.m. in the Cloister and Sala Acadèmia of the La Nau Cultural Center.

Olives Are Born in Gaza will be on view from December 10 to March 22, 2026. The University of Valencia will offer free guided visits, which [require prior registration through this link](#).