

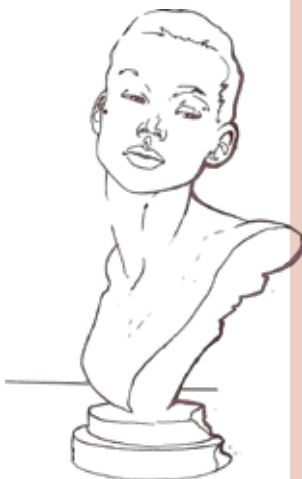
IMMERSIVE
ART
C O N C E P T

JOALI

MEET OUR LOCAL ARTISTS

As the first art-immersive island resort in the Maldives, JOALI Maldives is proud to showcase the creative talents of women artists from across the archipelago. Supporting the artistic and economic aspirations of women is a core value for our brand.

We invite our guests to interact with Maldivian women artists through special workshops, exhibitions and community events through the year. Learn more about the passionate creators we partner with on our art-filled journey.



AZU

Aishath Azleena Ameen

Soap Making

Azu fell in love with the art of soap making in 2017. What started as a passion to learn something new is now her livelihood! Through extensive trial and error, she has developed a precise formula for her handcrafted soaps. At the same time, she values freedom and creativity — which is why each batch of soap has a unique design touch.

With a Bachelor's in Management from the University of London and a Master's in Marketing from Griffith University, Australia, Azu worked in the corporate sector for several years before leaving to focus fully on her own soap business. She finds great satisfaction in being hands-on and creating beautiful things for people to enjoy.



"I look forward to my work every single day. I turn up the music and go to my happy place of creating."

YAANA

Aishath Sajiyaan Abdul Sattar

Mixed Media Art



This stunning piece is inspired by the rich underwater world of the Maldives — the intricate, delicate coral forms and the beautiful colours of the multitudinous organisms that call it home.

Crafted with thousands of porcelain shards, Peled's dramatic sculpture comments on the issue of coral bleaching affecting the region, with striking bursts of colour against a stark white background reflecting hope for future regeneration.

"I love connecting with people through art. My goal is to make pieces that speak both to me and the viewers without words."

SHIRU

Aishath Shirhan

Sewing, Embroidery,
Weaving

Shiru is a self-taught seamstress with over 30 years of experience. A proud mother of four, she has been sewing almost all her life, starting with making dresses for herself as a teenager. With the help of Maldivian craftswomen, she learnt *kasabu viyun*, the traditional embroidery technique used to make the elaborate necklines of Maldivian *libaas* dresses.



Along with this increasingly rare art form, Shiru's creations include *kinaari viyun* (the woven threads on *libaas* sleeves) and *rumaafalhi* (the folded headpiece worn as a hair accessory). Resin art and resin jewelry is an addition she has incorporated with the *kasabu* braids for the modern day. She also sews entire *libaas* dresses and makes jewellery using *kasabu* braids. Shiru loves what she does and takes great pride in helping to revive age-old Maldivian skills like braiding and weaving.

"It makes me very happy to see my traditional creations being worn by people around the world."

ALANIYA

Mariyam Alaniya Abdul Gayoom

Watercolours



Affectionately called ‘irah en’burey maa’, meaning sunflower, Alaniya is best known for her striking watercolour paintings. Incorporating beautiful elements of nature, these works are inspired by her personality and emotions. Being an artist makes Alaniya feel alive, whole and free — free to explore, to express and to try out different things.

Her creative journey began at a young age over weekend “art dates” with her mother, where the two would sit together, paint and discuss different colours and techniques. Alaniya is currently a teacher at Finland International School. Combining her passion for creativity and education, her dream is to help kids express themselves through art.

“I like to think that my art tells a story of beauty, growth, patience and how connected we are to nature.”

A MAAL

Amaal Yoosuf

Henna Artist



“My inspiration comes from the happiness art brings me. With every design, my vision is to share that joy with the world.”

Amaal is an exceptionally talented henna artist who now runs her own local business. With a passion for henna designs, she began drawing tattoos for her family and friends several years ago, ultimately turning her hobby into a career.

While creating henna patterns for guests, Amaal takes inspiration from a variety of sources, including the natural beauty of the Maldives, the works of great artists, and the personality of the clients themselves. She loves to experiment and create unique, intricate tattoos that showcase her creativity. While Amaal focuses mainly on henna art, she is a versatile artist who also enjoys working with other mediums.

ZAHA

Aminath Zaha

Acrylic Painting

At 17 years old, Zaha is the youngest artist in the JOALI community!

Hailing from Kaafu Atoll, she has been passionate about art ever since she can remember, gradually moving from sketching to painting.

She went on to pursue art at the Maldives National University, seizing all available opportunities to explore different avenues of creativity. Now at the cusp of her artistic career, Zaha works mainly with acrylics but also enjoys trying out new mediums.



“With a vision rooted in our coral reef islands, and inspiration drawn from the nature surrounding us, my aim is to ignite a spark in the next generation, guiding them to learn and grow through the journey of art.”

NAANI

Haleemath Mariya

Acrylic & Oil Painting

“The minute you accept it isn't necessary for everyone to like your art, you're free to create your masterpiece. Those who love it will find you.”

Through her mesmerising brushwork, Naani connects a meticulously chosen palette of hues with the essence of her own creative spirit. Her acrylic paintings capture the inherent beauty of simple, everyday moments, evoking a sense of wonder. She also enjoys oil painting, with a keen interest in exploring a variety of techniques.

Naani's debut on the national creative stage was boosted by the mentorship of Kurahaa Rappe, a renowned Maldivian artist who also happens to be the Resident Artist at JOALI BEING. Naani is currently working at a luxury resort in the Maldives, as an artist-in-residence with Kurahaa Class, a programme for emerging local artists.



HAJJA & JOULE

Hajja Nazwa and Aminath Julaila

Embroidery, Weaving, Macramé

Maldivian sisters Hajja and Joule use intricate techniques to express locally inspired motifs, creating everything from woven baskets to macramé works.

Hajja's captivating blend of photography and embroidery leaves viewers in awe. Incorporating a variety of materials, including fabric, she creates detailed designs inspired by the beauty of nature, traditional patterns, and her own imagination. She is also the founder of an art therapy project centred around embroidery art.



With a background in graphic design, Joule's interest spans craft, painting and design. Her work focuses on exploring different textures, from the weathered walls of cities to islands that have their own tales to tell. She is the co-founder of Anbalange, a women-led company encompassing design, craft, jewellery and sewing.

“Our art expresses the natural beauty of the Maldives...the shapes of leaves and twigs, the colours of shells, and the simple joys of island life.”

JIA

Naajiya Mohamed

Acrylic & Charcoal Art



Capturing both the precision and magic of the natural world, Jia is best known for her hallmark detailing techniques. Her acrylic paintings and charcoal works are wrapped in enchanting elements drawn from her surroundings. Starting with charcoal pencil art in her teenage years, she has remained unwavering in her dedication to art, ultimately leaving her 9-to-5 job to become a full-fledged artist.



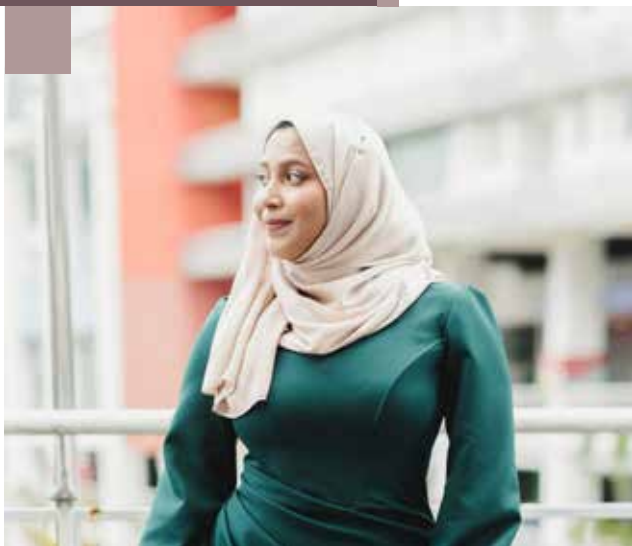
Jia's exhibits at the Faruma International Art Festival caught the attention of renowned Maldivian artist Kuraha Rappe. Under Rappe's mentorship, Jia expanded her repertoire to include acrylics, resin, clay and acrylic pouring, showcasing her versatility at Unveiling Vision 2023: A Contemporary Art Exhibition and at her first solo exhibition in 2024. Jia is currently an artist-in-residence at JOALI Maldives, as part of Kurahaa Class, a programme for emerging local artists.

"I am inspired by my community. My vision is to inspire my community in turn by being more vocal about my story through art."

INSHA

Aminath Insha Hassan

Acrylic Painting



A self-taught artist, Insha creates captivating acrylic paintings inspired by the underwater world. Through her art, she aims to capture and convey the essence and beauty of the oceans and their inhabitants, encouraging viewers to recognise the importance of preserving these natural wonders in their pristine state.

Since embarking on her artistic career in 2017, Insha has exhibited at the National Art Gallery in the Maldives, held her debut solo show 'Tranquil' at Le Cute, and performed live paintings at several popular events. She also participated in the first-ever KULA Art Festival, becoming the festival's best-selling artist. The latest feather in Insha's cap is the 'Little Fish Book of JOALI Maldives', where her hand-painted illustrations offer beautifully detailed representations of marine life in the Maldives.

"Through my work, I hope to spark a love for the ocean and its creatures, fostering a sense of responsibility for its protection."

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