

Ranine Jakobić El Homsí: Curator, Architect, and Cultural Strategist

Executive Women | [Art,Culture](#) | February 9, 2026



Ranine Jakobić El Homsí

In the vibrant intersection where architecture meets art, where space tells a story, and exhibitions breathe life into everyday life, you'll find **Ranine El Homsí**, a visionary whose work is redefining the cultural landscape of Lebanon and the wider region one step at a time. With a unique dual expertise in interior architecture and art curation, **Ranine** doesn't just organize exhibitions; instead, she builds experiences, looks after communities, and champions the voices of Lebanese artists in all of **Lebanon** and on the world stage. Her career is a testament to the power of interdisciplinary vision, proving that the structural intelligence of architecture and the narrative depth of curation can combine to create something far greater than the sum of its parts. This synthesis is not only a professional strategy; it is her signature, a way of seeing and shaping the world that turns every project into a holistic sensory and intellectual human encounter.



A Dual Mastery: Building Spaces, Building Stories

Ranine's foundation is as solid as the structures she designs. Holding a Licence in Interior Architecture from **ALBA (Balamand University)** and a Master's in Art Criticism & Curation from **Saint Joseph University** in partnership with **Sorbonne Nouvelle Paris-3 (former Paris-6)**, a degree she was the first to earn in **Lebanon**. **Ranine** embodies a rare synthesis of the spatial language and the aesthetic stories and influences. This dual training is the secret behind her immersive, thoughtfully designed exhibitions. It allows her to approach a blank gallery not just as a container for art, but as a dynamic element of the narrative itself and its impact within a specific context. Walls become guides, lighting shapes guiding motion, and flow dictates pace. Whether it's the interactive journey of **"Allo, Beirut?"** at **Beit Beirut**, a project that required meticulous spatial planning for its social archival and educational aims, or the cross-cultural dialogue of **"BEY-DXB Collective"** in **Dubai**, her projects are not just viewed; they are felt and lived in. This architectural sensibility was brilliantly displayed in her roles as scenographer and curator for exhibitions like "Stories from the Present Past" in **Saida** (with **IF Saida** and **Al Sharqy foundation**) and "Capture" in **Dar el Mona Batroun**, where the physical environment was meticulously crafted to enhance the thematic resonance of the artworks, creating a cohesive and powerful audience experience.

More Than a Curator: A Cultural Catalyst

What describes Ranine El Homs: an architect of experiences, a guardian of cultural memory, and a catalyst for artistic voices. Her journey is marked by a series of pivotal roles that weave together the fabric of Lebanon's art scene. From enhancing visitor engagement at the Modern and Contemporary Art Museum (MACAM) to assisting in the strategic operations of the Beirut Art Fair, where she recruited teams and supervised VIP programs, and from developing innovative educational programs like the "Travelling Art Caravan" for the Saradar Foundation to managing private art collections across Beirut, Paris, and Nice, Ranine's impact is both deep and wide. Each role expanded her toolkit: at UMAM D&R, she handled exhibition budgets and digital archives; at Al Mohtaraf, she delved into artist promotion and product design; and as a writer and journalist from 2012-2018, she developed her voice in art criticism in Arabic, French, and English. This multi-layered background enables her to navigate the entire ecosystem of art, from the creative spark and archival precision to the logistical frameworks and public engagement, with unparalleled fluency.

Her entrepreneurial spirit led her to found **'Inspired to Curate'** (formerly Curatrices Projects) in 2021, a platform born from a direct desire to create sustainable opportunities for local talent. Under this banner, she has produced resonant exhibitions like **Hunna Art Exhibition** at **ABC Art Space**, where she acted as curator, scenographer, and producer of the parallel cultural program, and the groundbreaking **BEY-DXB** as part of **BoulevArt in Dubai**. **This same entrepreneurial drive also led her to establish BeyArt, an initiative now operating for nearly three years.** Each project is a testament to her mission: to create platforms where art transcends boundaries and fosters connection. Her work with **The Talent Lab**, where she conceived and moderated an Arts & Business conference at **Phoenicia Hotel** with ministerial support, further highlights her commitment to building the infrastructural dialogue necessary for a thriving arts sector. She understands that for art to flourish, it must be supported by robust networks, professional development, and strategic partnerships.

A Network of Influence and Collaboration

Ranine's work is characterized by powerful collaborations. She partners with a constellation of leading institutions, the **Lebanese Ministry of Culture**, **l'Institut Français**, **Beit Beirut**, and **Beirut Art Fair**, to name a few. These partnerships are not merely transactional; they are symbiotic relationships built on a shared vision for cultural enrichment. Her ability to navigate between the creative and the administrative, the artistic and the commercial, makes her an invaluable bridge in the art world. This was evident in her work as a ministerial private consultant's assistant for the **Night of the Museums**, where she coordinated between sponsors and museum directors, and in her foundational work with **Beirut Art Critics**, which helped shape critical discourse. Her collaborations are strategic, each one extending her reach and amplifying her core mission of advocacy and education.

The Heart of the Matter: Passion for Lebanese Art

Without a doubt, what truly sets **Ranine** apart is her profound, unwavering dedication to the **Lebanese artistic community**, especially independent artists. Given her over a decade of experience, she possesses an intimate understanding of its nuances, challenges, and immense potential. Her work is driven by a love for her country's creative spirit and a commitment to ensuring it is seen, celebrated, and sustained. She doesn't just curate art; she curates hope, resilience, and identity. In a landscape marked by instability, her projects, from the archival consulting for the **Fédération des Congrégations Mariales** to the contemporary pulse of her own exhibitions, act as vital acts of cultural preservation and bold proclamation. She operates with the deep-seated belief that Lebanese art holds a unique and essential voice, and her entire career is a vehicle to ensure that voice echoes in galleries from **Beirut** to **Dubai** and beyond.

Looking Ahead: The Future is Immersive

As she reflects on past successes, **Ranine's** gaze is fixed firmly on the future. Currently, with an upcoming exhibition project in June, she continues to push the envelope, exploring how art and spatial design can create even deeper, more personal encounters with art. This forward-looking approach ensures her relevance in an ever-evolving global art scene. Her multilingual prowess, fluent in Arabic, French, and English, with strong Italian and basic German, further equips her for this international dialogue. **Ranine El Homs** stands as a defining figure: an architect who builds narratives, a curator who constructs environments, and a cultural leader who is tirelessly drafting a brighter, more interconnected future for the art of her homeland and the region.

News: Ranine is currently developing a new community-engaged project for spring 2026 with an art institution and young people. This initiative will bring together school children from the North region with a woman Mural artist, **Marie-Joe Ayoub**, to create a collaborative public artwork, further

emphasizing her commitment to education, local communities, and empowering **Lebanese** artistic voices.

Editor's Note:

Some professionals work in the art world, and then some live for it, who weave it into the very fabric of their being and, in turn, weave communities together through it. **Ranine El Homs**i is decidedly the latter. Reading her bio and speaking with her, one is immediately struck not just by her impressive credentials, but by the palpable warmth and conviction in her voice when she speaks of **Lebanese** artists. In a region often defined by its headlines, **Ranine** is quietly, powerfully rewriting the narrative, one exhibition, one artist, one beautifully designed space at a time. She reminds us that art is not a luxury; it's a language of resilience, a blueprint for healing, and **Ranine** is one of its most eloquent translators. It is an honor to spotlight her journey.

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