

Ultimately hoping to create “the Wikipedia of Arabic typography”, London-based calligrapher Soraya Syed has launched an app, Nuqta, through which people can document graffiti, art projects, murals – anything that features interesting use of Arabic type. Syed, who studied visual Islamic and traditional arts, says that at the end of this month “we’ll launch a website that will allow you to search a database of images people have photographed and geo-tagged”. Her aim is to “gather artists who use Arabic letter forms together on one platform”. Here are examples of work that has been collected so far. Nuqta is available free on the iPhone; see nuqta.com. **Tom Lamont**



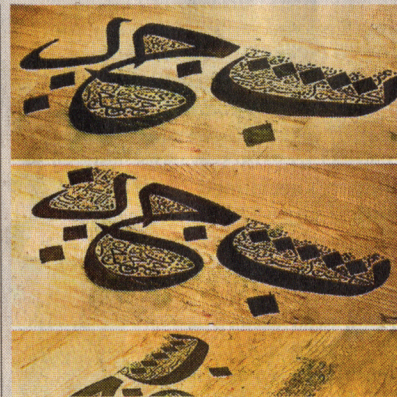
“This beautiful tile work, which includes the word ‘Allah’, is from the Jameh mosque in Iran,” says Syed. “It’s 15th century but it’s still so visually potent.”



“This work on a sea wall in Qatar was done by the Tunisian artist eL Seed. I have trouble reading it, but he’s called it ‘Oh Mermaid’, which I believe is what it says.”



“This mirrored composition is from Malaysia. It’s by an artist called Firdaus Mahadi. ‘Firdaus’ means ‘heaven’ – the word appears twice in the image.”



“This is by a typographer in The Hague called Kristyan Sarkis. Arabic letters in big strokes have been filled with smaller detail. There’s so much going on.”