# VCUarts Qatar Research Overview: Activities and Programming



Background + Context

About + Key Highlights

Programming + Initiatives

Institute for Creative Research

Soft Infrastructure

## Background + Context

1998: First branch-campus established in partnership with Qatar Foundation

degree-granting programs: *Graphic Design, Interior Design, Fashion Design* non-degree-granting programs: *Art Foundation* and *Liberal Arts and Sciences* 

2009: Established first MFA in Design program in the region

2010: Building expansion. Increased creative production facilities – doubled.

2011: Established *Painting and Printmaking* program

2012: Established Art History program (BA)

\*Specialized Accreditation
National Association of Schools of Art and Design (NASAD)

## Background + Context

302 Students representing 34 nationalities

1005 degrees awarded to alumni representing 50 nationalities

54 Full-Time Faculty representing 16 nationalities

99 Staff representing 27 nationalities

## Background + Context

2007: Center for Research in Design (CRID) established. Service Bureau model.

2012: First Associate Dean for Research and Development (ADRD), hired

2014/15: CRID closed. All staff and Associate Dean for Research released from contracts.

2019: Dean Berbic, re-establishing Research on the Qatar campus.

Dean's Exploratory program launched.

2020: Associate Dean for Research, hired

Select Exploratory Program projects identified for the Research Lab, pilot initiative

2021: QNRF, Eligibility Criteria, change

Research Lab initiative formalized

Development toward a proposal for Research Institute on Qatar campus

2022: Institute for Creative Research, receives University-Level designation

### About + Key Highlights

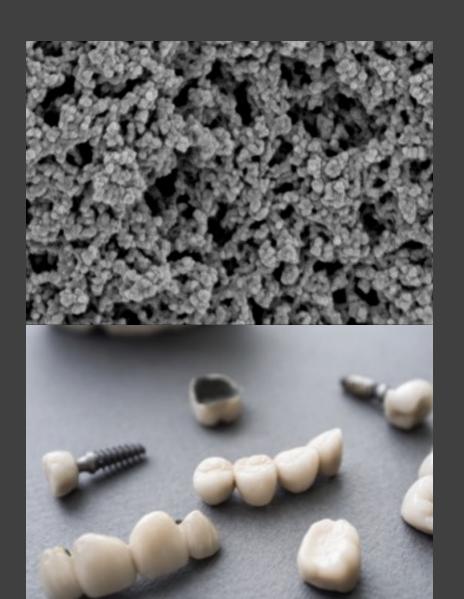
- Cultural heritage and sustainability
- Cultural production
- Emergent technology
- Material studies
- Visual cultures

## About + Key Highlights



Bint Werdan (in Arabic) – J'ai le Cafard (in French), a film scripted and directed by Professor Almumin, explores the often difficult and challenging topic of mental health. The topic is mired in negative assumptions leading to social stigma and personal shame.

## About + Key Highlights

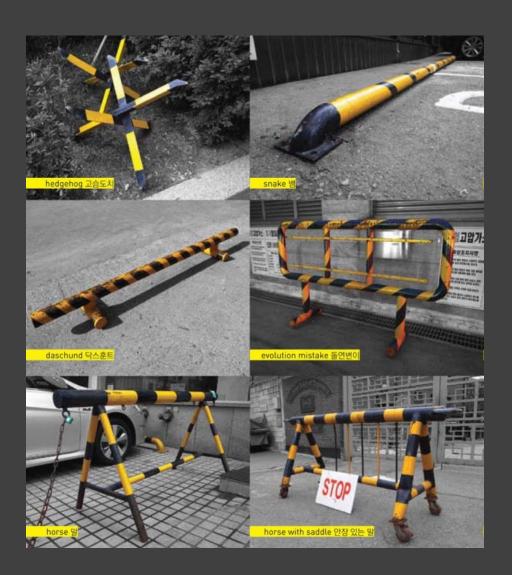


# Methods of Forming Aerogels process produces cost-effective aerogel for a wide variety of thermal insulation, shock absorption, filtration, and other applications in a broad range of industries:

- 3D printing
- Aerospace
- Automotve
- Chemical
- Construction
- Dental
- Electronics

- Lithography
- Marine
- Medical
- Oil and gas
- Public safety
- Rapid prototyping
- Textiles

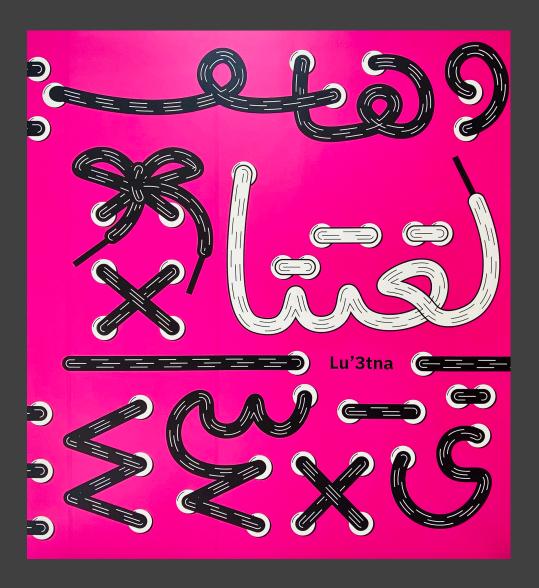
## About + Key Highlights



#### **Borrowed City**

The Borrowed City is the way private citizens use public space for personal benefit, from simply standing or walking in it to more elaborate exploitations, such as commercial or leisure activities. Once individual interaction with public space begins, our presence must be constantly negotiated with the rest of the community, something which changes according to local culture or rules and becomes self-defining, a mutual agreement among citizens.

## About + Key Highlights



#### Lu3'tna

Lu3'tna, which translates to "our language" explored ways in which graphic treatments of Arabic type in public spaces in Qatar could be used to engage visitors during the world cup with Qatari culture and identity.

## Programming Initiatives

- Cultivate a Culture of Research and Scholarship
- Support Faculty Excellence in Research
- Facilitate Student Mentorship in Research
- Increase Visibility and Recognition

## Programming Initiatives

#### **Research labs initiative:**

- Collaboration
- Inter-, cross-, multidisciplinary
- Students + alumni
- Capitalizing on our position as a branch campus



## Programming Initiatives

Art + Law investigates legal frameworks regulating the art market in the gulf

**Boost** a Product Design and Development lab

**D.A.T.** an experimental art + technology lab

Intangible Lab culture and traditional knowledge lab

Mathematics Data Sciences Lab new data processing addressing real world problems

Multimodal Mathematics pedagogical storytelling lab

NanoTech-Textiles nano-technology and textile lab

Sonic Jeel experimental sound lab

TypeAraby Arabic typography lab

WaterWithWater experimental graphic publishing lab

**xLab** computational design lab

## Programming Initiatives

#### **Research Lab Retreat**

- Overview of research initiative (scope, goals, and objectives);
- Activities and outcomes to date;
- Research contributions and impact within the discipline(s), the classroom, and the community.



## Programming Initiatives

#### **A2RU Workshops**

#### **Impact and Dissemination**

Explore tools to identify, articulate, and optimize research impacts in the creative disciplines. Participants discussed strategic approaches to research dissemination driven by their research aims.

#### **Interdisciplinary Collaboration**

Addressed key challenges in interdisciplinary collaborations. Participants explored approaches and processes to effectively capitalize on collaborative opportunities through a series of targeted activities.



### Qatar National Research Fund (QNRF)

National Priorities Research Fund - Standard

National Priorities Research Fund – Cluster

Undergraduate Research Experience Program

Virginia Commonwealth University School of the Arts in Qatar

Research Overview: Activities and Programming on the Qatar Campus

### Institute for Creative Research

#### Goals:

- Partner with local industry in Qatar for increased community engagement
- Increase awareness of societal impacts and contributions of Creative Research
- Support impactful research through multi-disciplinary collaborations with VCU and Education City Partner Universities
- Support human capacity development in creative research
- Provide an inclusive and equitable mentoring environment for diverse faculty that augments and extends what is provided by individual departments

### Institute for Creative Research

The mission of the VCUarts Institute for Creative Research is to advance research, scholarship, and creative practice in Qatar. The institute supports experimental, exploratory, and traditional inquiry in the creation and application of new knowledge through applied, empirical, practice-based, and practice-led modes. The institute seeks to cultivate multi-disciplinary research collaborations and partnerships with Qatar Foundation Partner Universities and the VCU Monroe Park and Medical campuses for broader impact.

### Institute for Creative Research



Institute for Creative Research Announcement, May 2022.

### Institute for Creative Research

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### Institute for Creative Research

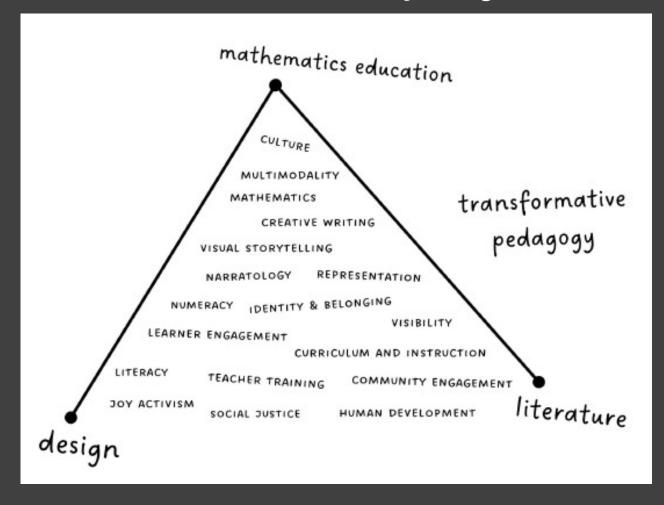


#### **Intangible Lab**

Seeks to preserve and extend living culture & traditional knowledge within Qatar intangible cultural heritage, transmitted from generation to generation, is constantly recreated by communities and groups, and provides them with a sense of identity and continuity, thus promoting respect for cultural diversity and human creativity

### Institute for Creative Research

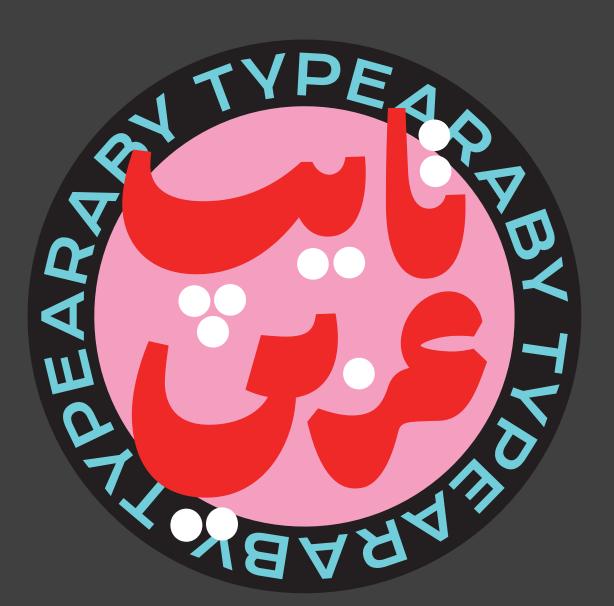
#### Multimodal Mathematics: Storytelling and Cultural Relevance



Virginia Commonwealth University School of the Arts in Qatar

Research Overview: Activities and Programming on the Qatar Campus

### Institute for Creative Research



#### **TypeAraby**

seeks to cultivate a contemporary vision for Arabic type while maintaining and promoting its traditional calligraphic roots as an important mechanism for language sustainability

### Institute for Creative Research

- Establishing an Advisory Board
  - QF, VCU, External members
- Launching Independent Website
  - Feature Research Labs Activities, Outcomes, and Impacts
- Qatar Week
  - Anderson Gallery
  - Research Lab exhibition Closing Reception, Sept 20th

## **Soft Infrastructure**

- Student and Alumni engagement:
  - Research Assistantships
  - Undergraduate Fellowships
  - Post-Graduate Fellowships
- Capturing Research Expenditures
- Revenue Index, Index coding in Banner, reconciliation processes
- Streamlining processes for reporting and promoting research activities.
- Identifying tools for capturing Research Impacts in the Arts
- Resource development

### Resource Development

#### DIS:CO

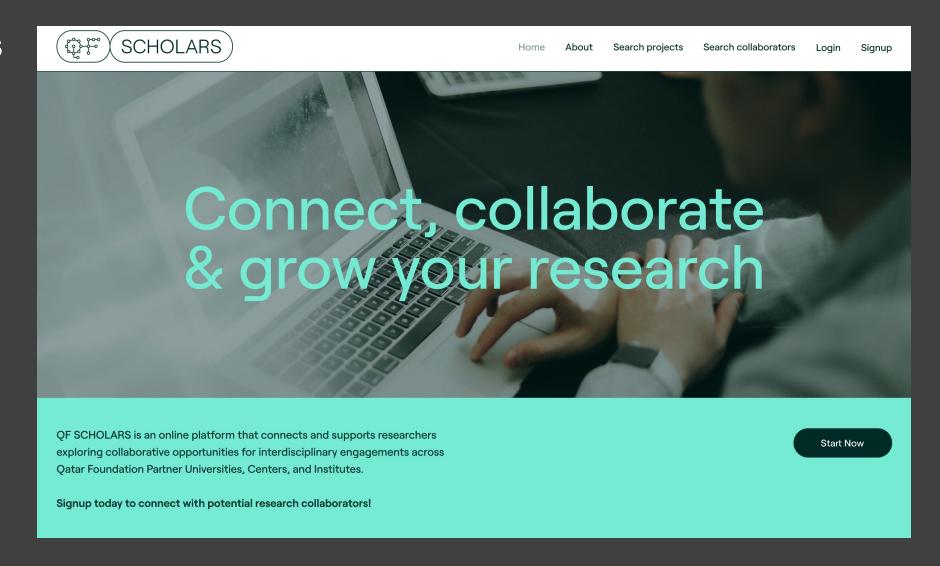
Serving the VCU School of the Arts and VCUarts Qatar community, DIS:CO (discovery and collection) is a community driven repository of relevant opportunities in support of research, scholarship, creative activities and professional development across disciplines.

#### **QF Scholars**

QF Scholars is an online platform that connects and supports researchers exploring collaborative opportunities for interdisciplinary engagements across Qatar Foundation Partner Universities, Centers, and Institutes.

Research Program Planning 2022 2023

#### **QF Scholars**



Virginia Commonwealth University School of the Arts in Qatar

Research Program Planning 2022 2023

**DIS:CO** 

disco.qatar.vcu.edu

What are you looking for?

PROFILE PUBLISH RESOURCE

2022.07.24

COMMUNITY COLLECTION + DISCOVERY

VCUARTS RICHMOND + QATAR



Open Call: Sharjah Art Foundation

### The Hopper Prize : Grants for Artists

The Hopper Prize was established to provide grants, visibility, and career enhancing validation to artists who demonstrate a



MediaFutures



Journal for
Artistic Research
– Call for
Submissions

#### Andy Warhol Foundation Arts Writers Grant

The Andy Warhol Foundation Arts Writers Grant, administered by Creative Capital, supports emerging and established

### vcuarts QATAR