

NEW RELEASE 2025

## Susan Hefuna *passage*

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### From drawing to installation: Susan Hefuna's navigation through cultures

*Susan Hefuna – passage*, is a richly illustrated monograph that offers an extensive insight into the artist's multilayered body of work over the past four decades. Published by Kehrer Verlag on the occasion of the exhibition at the MKM Museum Küppersmühle für Moderne Kunst in Duisburg, the volume presents over 100 works from Susan Hefuna's diverse and expansive practice, and includes new as well as rarely seen drawings, textile pieces, photographs, installations, and video stills. This is Susan Hefuna's thirteenth publication with Kehrer Verlag.

Structured around thematic chapters such as *Drawings and Traces*, *Stitches and Words*, *Words and Textiles*, and *Traces of Egypt*, the book unfolds like a visual and conceptual journey through recurring motifs, materials, and ideas in Hefuna's work.

Hefuna's practice defies categorization. Grounded in drawing, it extends into sculptural forms, video, performance, and site-specific installation. Her signature multilayered ink drawings on tracing paper, which are explored in depth in this publication, are often created in series and move between architectural abstraction, urban memory, and organic geometry. These works are accompanied by newer pieces made with fabric, thread, and Egyptian cotton, as well as performative costumes and collaged texts.

The title *passage* refers to transitions: between cultures, between media, and between physical and imagined spaces. Raised between Egypt and Germany, Susan Hefuna draws on her dual heritage to create a visual language that navigates the boundaries between public and private, visible and invisible, traditional and contemporary. The publication reflects this condition of being in between, offering a non-linear and fluid narrative that echoes the very structure of her drawings and installations.

In addition to her signature grid-like structures inspired by the *Mashrabiya*, a traditional architectural element found in Islamic

cities such as Cairo, Hefuna's works explore language as form, identity as process, and the act of seeing as a political gesture. The book presents key works such as *Cityscapes*, *Buildings*, and *Crossroads*, along with more recent textile interventions and collaborative projects.

*A drawing cannot conceal anything. It's impossible to lie in a drawing. A drawing shows everything. A drawing has no gender. A drawing has no nationality. A drawing does not need a passport. There is no time and space. It's a universe of its own. Look at an artist's drawings and you will know everything about the artist.*

— Susan Hefuna

**Susan Hefuna** (b. 1962) is an artist with a cross-cultural heritage of mixed Christian/Muslim, German/Egyptian origins. Her work has been shown internationally and is held in major public collections, including MoMA New York, the Guggenheim (Abu Dhabi and NYC), Centre Pompidou, the Louvre, the Sharjah Art Foundation, Tate Modern, the V&A, and the British Museum. She has participated in numerous biennials, including Venice (2009), Sydney (2012), Sharjah (2007), Seville (2008), and Cairo (1998). In 2013, she received the Contemporary Drawing Prize from the Daniel and Florence Guerlain Foundation, Paris.

### Exhibitions

*Susan Hefuna – passage*

FMKM Museum Küppersmühle für Moderne Kunst

Duisburg, Germany

26.09.2025 – 18.01.2026

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01\_ Landscape, 2021  
80 × 220 cm. Cut-out, ink, thread, Japanese paper. Courtesy by the artist and Pi Artworks, London © Susan Hefuna



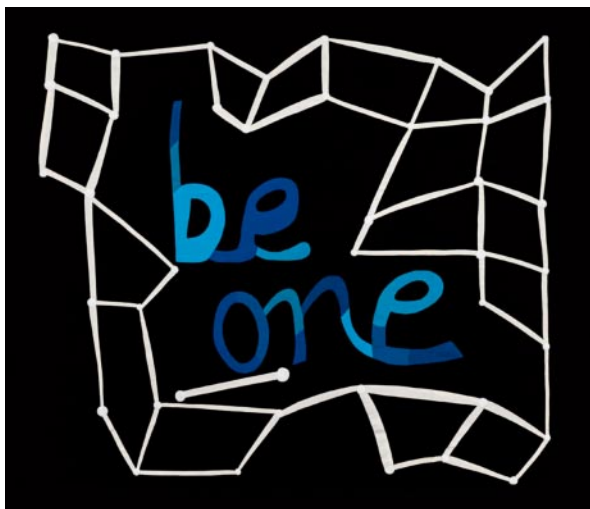
02\_ Landscape, 2021  
80 × 220 cm. Cut-out, ink, thread, Japanese paper. Courtesy by the artist and Pi Artworks, London © Susan Hefuna



03\_ Pass Age, 2025  
198 × 211 cm Collage, Egyptian cotton Courtesy by the artist and Pi Artworks, London © Susan Hefuna



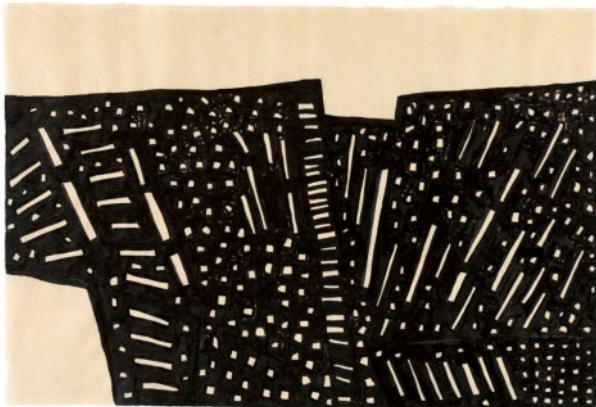
04\_ Listen, 2025  
284 × 269 cm. Collage, Egyptian cotton Courtesy by the artist and Pi Artworks, London © Susan Hefuna



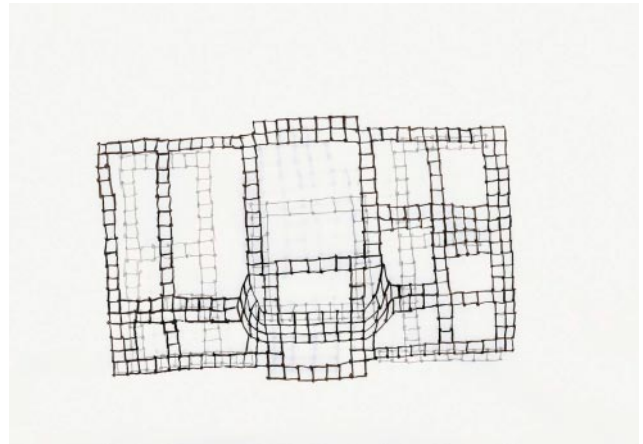
05\_ Be One, 2015  
200 × 200 cm. Collage, Egyptian cotton © Susan Hefuna



06\_ ME, 2024  
155 × 150 cm. Egyptian cotton © Susan Hefuna



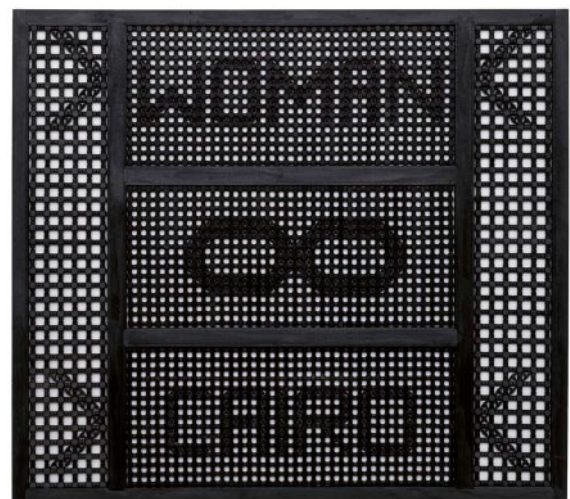
07\_ Cityscape, 2015  
64 × 95 cm © Susan Hefuna



08\_ Building, 2004  
68 × 103 cm. Ink on tracing paper © Susan Hefuna



09\_ Red Building, 2004  
41,5 × 31,5 cm. Watercolor on paper © Susan Hefuna



10\_ Woman Cairo, 2011  
160 × 199 cm. Turned wood, ink © Susan Hefuna



11\_ Woman behind Mashrabiya, 1997  
160 × 140 cm. Photography mounted behind plexiglas. Private collection Japan  
© Susan Hefuna



12\_ Nile Delta, 2000  
140 × 160 cm. Photography mounted behind plexiglas © Susan Hefuna