

# Textile Creativity in Architecture “Architextiles”

## “One of modern textiles trends”

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### Abstract

The subject of using textiles as a structural element for dividing the internal space of public facilities has long fascinated researchers as unorthodox approach to conventional textile design.

This study aims to find out innovative approaches for employing textile designs in dividing and equipping public spaces. Its importance lies in strengthening the modern artistic trends in creative thinking in the field of textiles. As well as spreading the visual culture of Islamic Arts through utilizing Arabic calligraphy in achieving innovative textile designs.

Accordingly, the successful structure is the one that complies with the environment that it was derived from, as well as the prevalent traditions and at the same time leads to the comfort of people who live in that area..

Subsequently, the idea of using textile materials in dividing the internal space plays an integral role in achieving comfort beside the innovation in dividing the internal space with more flexibility than that offered by traditional building materials, and thus utilizing the contemporary and modern textile trends in architecture such as “Architextiles” that combines the art of textiles and architecture.

### Key words

Textile – Design- installation- Creative- Architecture.

### Introduction

A successful structure is the one that abide by the situation, atmosphere and the setting that it was derived from, as well as the prevalent traditions. At the same time, it should provide the comfort of people inhabiting that area. Figure (1)a&b shows a group of Saudi women eating in restaurant and it is observed that they are not having a good time while eating.



Figure (1) a



Figure (1) b a group of Saudi women apparently not enjoying their stay where they are

There are many artists that have used textiles in architecture such as Mark Garcia, Ronan and Erwan Bouroulles, Helen Frances Gregor, Gisela Stromeyer, Sylvie Kruger, Ferrari, and John Wiley. The following pictures depict a few of their work in the field of Architextiles.

Work of Ronan and Erwan Bouroulles:  
The two brothers have used textiles in dividing the internal space of a room as shown in Figure (2).

Work of Gisela Stromeyer:

Gisela has used textiles extensively in forming the internal space of exhibitions as well as meeting rooms as shown in Figures (3,4)



Figure (2) Textiles in dividing internal space



Figure (3) Textiles in dividing internal space of exhibition halls



Figure (4) Textiles in dividing internal space of exhibition halls

#### Experimental works

Textile materials are considered as flexible materials which can be formed by a multitude of methods. One of those methods is through the altering of designs by incorporating different ornamental and Islamic motifs. This aids in increasing artistic and cultural awareness of the

viewer. The following shapes demonstrates ideas for prepping public areas as restaurants, airports, exhibition halls, and hotels in Jeddah located in Saudia Arabia, whereas the kingdom has its long set traditions in public places. This is achieved by using textile designs based on Arabic calligraphy with the following

specifications: fabric structure plain weave 1/1, warp density 24 ends/cm, weft density 16 picks/cm, warp count 20/2 cotton, weft count 20/2 cotton, fabric weight 260 gm/m<sup>2</sup>. Other samples were executed by the double cloth structure, warp density 48 ends/cm, weft density 32 picks/cm, warp count 20/2 cotton, weft count 20/2 cotton, fabric weight 450 gm/m<sup>2</sup>. Those specifications were chosen based on studies that showed that those specifications yielded the best tensile strength and elasticity and low water permeability.



Figure (5)

1- The first design

Figure (5) shows the motif that was used "wordings of Mohamed".

Figure (6) shows the resulting design from distributing the motif.

Figure (7) shows the mirrored design repeat.

Figure (8) shows the utilization of resulting textiles in prepping and dividing the internal space of exhibition halls.



Figure (6)



Figure (7)



Figure (8) utilization of resulting textiles in prepping and dividing the internal space of exhibition halls

2- The second design

Figure (9) shows the motif that was used "wordings of Mohamed".

Figure (10) shows the resulting design from distributing the motif.

Figure (11) shows the mirrored design repeat.



Figure (12) shows the utilization of resulting textiles in prepping and dividing the internal space of restaurants.

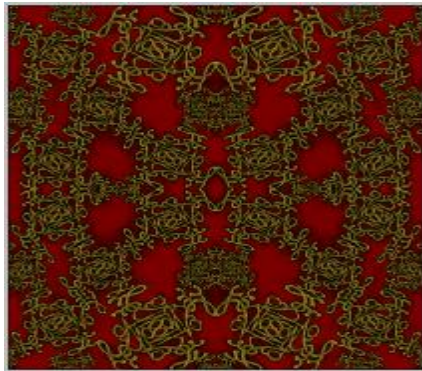


Figure (9)

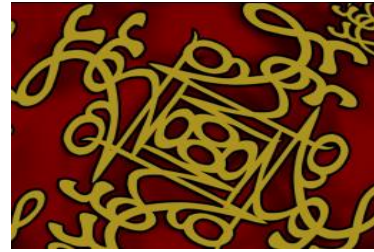


Figure (10)



Figure (11)

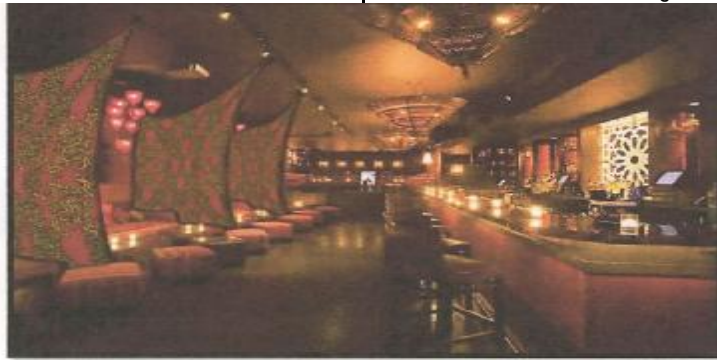


Figure (12) utilization of resulting textiles in prepping and dividing the internal space of restaurants

### 3- The third design

Figure (13) shows the motif that was.

Figure (14) shows the resulting design from distributing the motif.

Figure (15) shows the mirrored design repeat.

Figure (16) shows the utilization of those textiles in prepping and dividing the internal space of airports.



Figure (14)

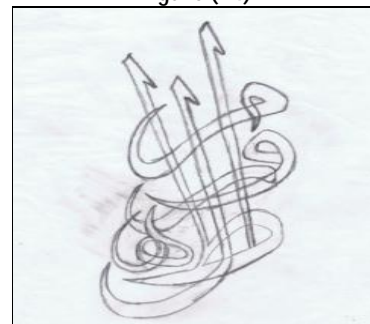


Figure (15)



Figure (13)

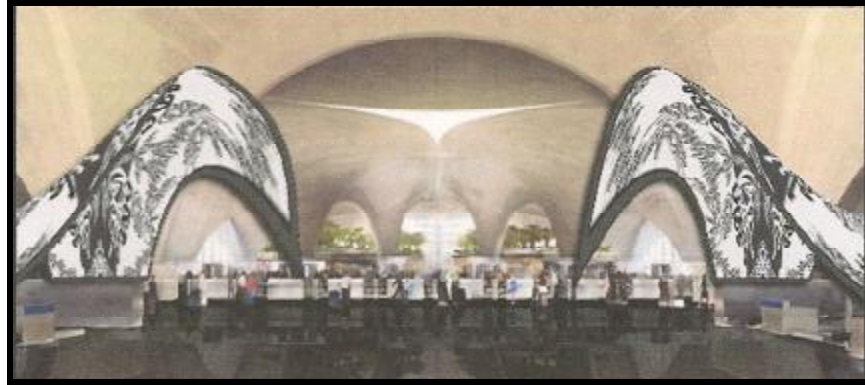


Figure (16) utilization of resulting textiles in prepping and dividing the internal space of airports

After analyzing the questionnaires of a number of hotel and restaurants owners in the Kingdom of Saudia Arabia regarding the flexibility of resulting textiles in prepping and forming of the internal space of public spaces, especially in an environment where mingling of males and females is not allowed, 89% of respondents embraced the idea. This stresses the role of modern and contemporary artistic trends in public

finding new solutions in prepping and forming internal space of public areas so as to suit the surrounding environment and customs.

Figure (17) illustrates the percentage of respondents who embraced the research project, which is the utilization of textiles in prepping and forming of internal space of public areas

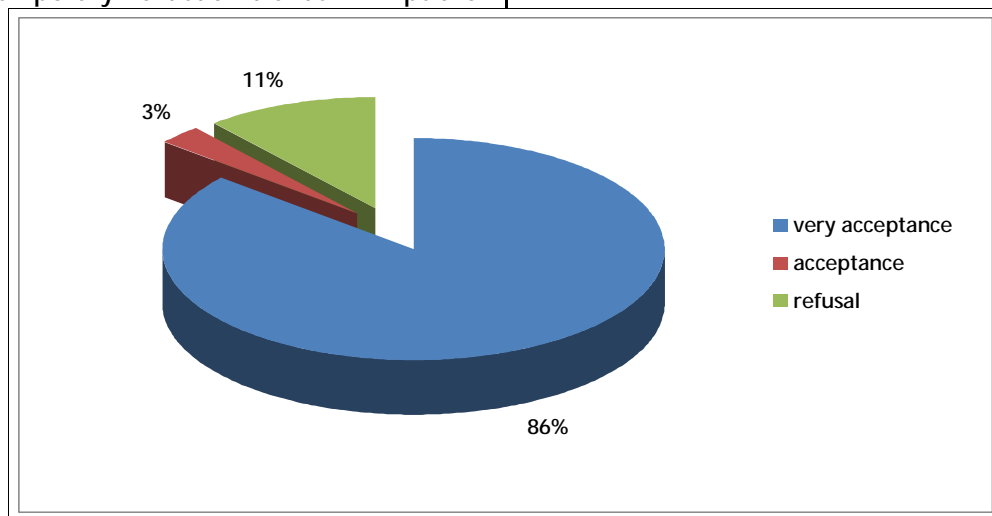


Figure (17) percentage of respondents who embraced the research project, which is the utilization of textiles in prepping and forming of internal space of public areas in Jeddah

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