

# The Young Collectors Auction

Art from the Middle East

Tuesday, April 30, 2013







Auction No. 15

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Viewing: April 21 - 29 April, 2013, 10:00 AM to 6:00 PM

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7:00 PM**





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**7:00 PM**

**Head of Session & Auctioneer**  
**Hisham Samawi**



**Khaled Samawi**

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# Abdalla Omari

(Syria, born 1986)

## Lot 001

*A Child from Za'atary Camp*  
2013  
Mixed Media on Canvas  
140 x 120 cm  
Signed and dated

Estimate: \$4,000 - \$6,000

Syrian painter and filmmaker Abdalla Omari was born in Damascus in 1986. In 2009, Omari simultaneously graduated from Damascus University with a degree in English Literature and the Adham Ismael Institute for Visual Arts. During his studies, Omari made and collaborated in many animation films, series and video arts including *The Eleventh Commandment*, a film directed by Syrian filmmaker Mwafaq Katt, and participated in the 2010 Damascus International Cinema Festival.

Since his graduation, Omari's work has been featured in many exhibitions and festivals in Syria and Lebanon, including three consecutive years in the annual Youth Salon, the 2011 International Animation Festival at the French Cultural Center in Damascus, and the 2011 Shaghaf Youth Artists Competition in Kamel Gallery, where he was awarded third prize.

Fraught with emotion, Omari's oil on canvas compositions tackle complex psychological states, yet retain a profound beauty through their painterly application and realistic portrayal. A full-time artist represented by Kamel Gallery in Damascus, Abdalla Omari is presently collaborating in a new workshop at the Gallery with Ghassan Sibai and Fouad Dahdouh.

Abdalla Omari's painting was first featured in early 2012 at The Young Collectors Auction 13 where his captivating portrait garnered much attention and sold over estimate.







# Mohannad Orabi

(Syria, born 1977)

## Lot 002

*Profile Portrait*  
2013

Mixed Media on Paper  
80 x 60 cm  
Signed and dated

Estimate: \$4,000 - \$6,000

Syrian painter Mohannad Orabi's embellished figures emanate a childlike innocence, reflecting his fascination with childhood experiences. In a response to the changing mood and turmoil in the region, the vibrant colouring and playfulness of his early work has gradually been replaced by an increasingly somber palette and expressive maturity. Where once his figures possessed otherworldly exaggerated features - bulky heads, expressionless and hollowed almond-shaped eyes, and full figures - they have become more clearly defined, with eyes that are noticeably marked with sadness. His characters are no longer able to remain divorced from events unfolding around them. Instead, they are now fully aware and firmly rooted in their tumultuous reality.

Born in Damascus in 1977, Mohannad Orabi currently lives and works Cairo. Orabi graduated from the Faculty of Fine Art in Damascus in 2000 and won the first prize in The Syrian National Young Artists Exhibition in 2006. Solo exhibitions include Ayyam Gallery Jeddah (2013); Ayyam Gallery DIFC, Dubai (2012); Ayyam Gallery Al Quoz, Dubai (2009); Ayyam Gallery Damascus (2008), Zara Gallery, Amman (2007); and Ishtar Gallery, Damascus (2006, 2004).







# Emma Harake

(Lebanon, born 1983)

## Lot 003

*Snapshot (Girl in Yellow Scarf)*  
2013

Acrylic, Oil Pastel and Thread on Canvas  
110 x 100 cm

Estimate: \$3,000 - \$5,000

*I seek to achieve visual impact by exploring different materials, techniques and approaches, inspired by my main interest, which is the human figure. I have made the decision to focus on a single figure for the simplicity of the visual effect, as well as for the complexity of the emotional compelling voyeuristic intimacy between the viewer and the figure. Whether fixing their penetrating gaze on the viewer, or closing their eyes as in sleep, open or blind; my isolated figures allow such a relationship to be experienced through all the senses of viewer thus allowing endless speculation about what is going on in their heads.*

Born in 1983, Emma Harake lives and works in Beirut. She holds a Bachelor of Fine Art from the Lebanese University and received further artistic training through workshops at various institutions in Lebanon. Harake held a solo exhibition in Lebanon in 2012, has been present at the Salon d'Automne of the Sursock Museum for three consecutive years, and participated in many collective exhibitions with the Lebanese Association of Artists and Sculptors, French Cultural Center, NDU, as well as in the United Arab Emirates, Cyprus and Turkey.







# Suhair Sibai

(Syria, born 1956)

## Lot 004

*Euphrates Warrior*  
2013  
Mixed Media on Canvas  
142 x 142 cm

Estimate: \$5,000 - \$8,000

Displacement, alienation and modification of the "self" and "identity" are the apogees to Suhair Sibai's work. According to Sibai, "Ideas and ideals are mixed and morphed; metaphors are understood and misunderstood according to context and audience; cultures cross and clash. All the while, the authentic Self – if there is one – is via distortion, alteration, and compromise, made and unmade, struggling to transcend limitations and cultural barriers."

Born in Aleppo-Syria in 1956, Suhair Sibai lives and works as a full-time artist in United States. Educated as an artist in the sprawling metropolis of Los Angeles, Sibai experienced here the uniqueness and discord of multiculturalism mingled with the Hollywood world imagined. Selected solo and collective exhibitions include Lahd Gallery, London, United Kingdom (2013); Medina Gallery, Tangier, Morocco (2013); Foundation De La Mosquee Hassa II, Casablanca, Morocco (2013); Qatara Gallery, Doha, Qatar (2012); Public Art Center, Damascus, Syria (2010); Syrian Cultural Center, Paris, France (2009, 2006); Khan As'ad Pasha Gallery, Damascus, Syria (2004); AISayyed Gallery, Damascus, Syria (2004); West Gallery, Los Angeles, California (2006, 2004, 2001); Lancaster Museum, Los Angeles, California (2000).







# Farzad Kohan

(Iran, born 1967)

## Lot 005

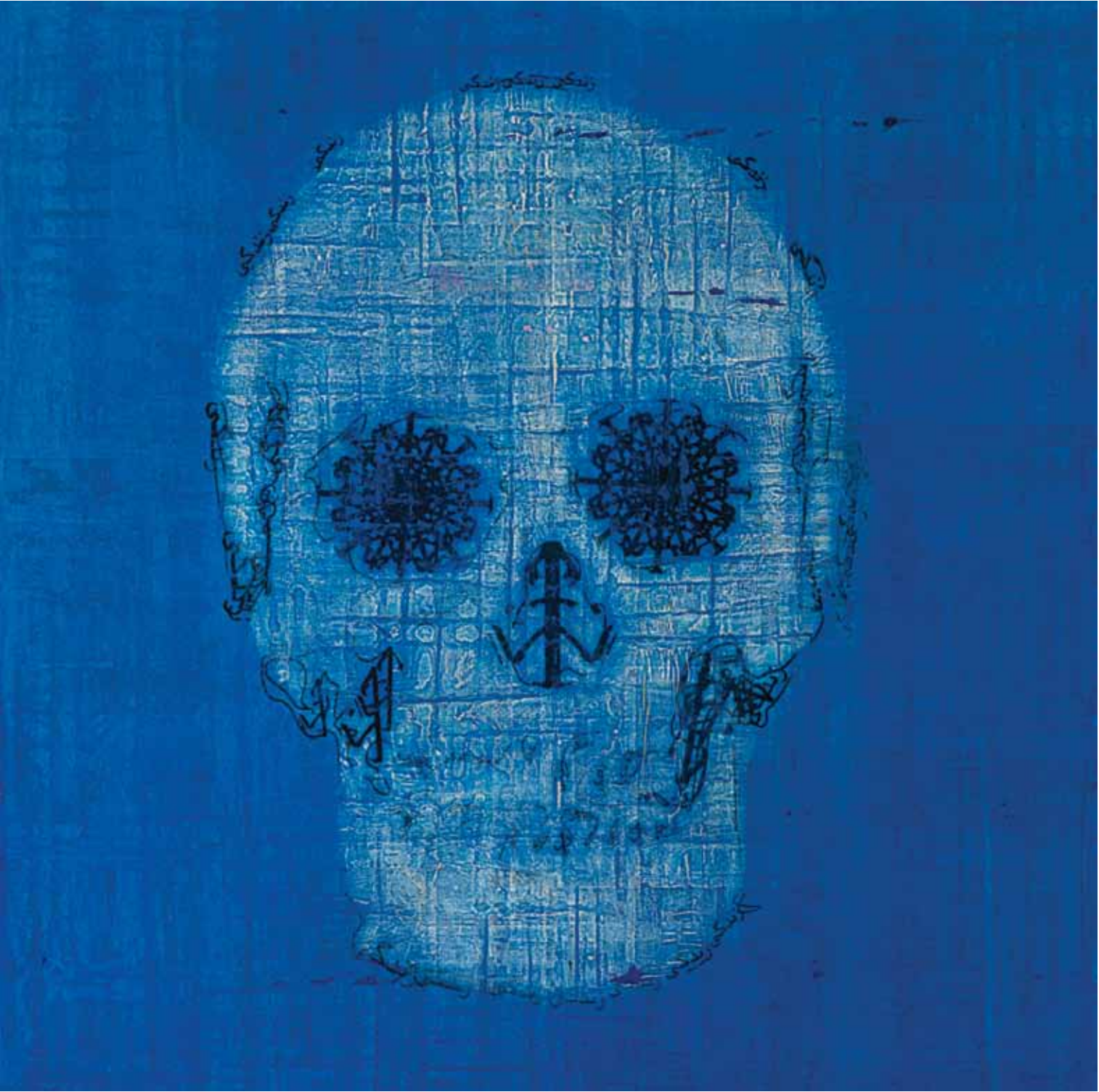
*Lost Promises*  
2012  
Mixed Media on Wood Panel  
100 x 100 cm  
Signed and dated

Estimate: \$5,000 - \$8,000

The sculptures, installations and photographs of Iranian artist Farzad Kohan seek to address issues of migration and identity, communicating across the divides of culture, language, religion and gender. As a manifestation of his desire to articulate his inner workings through the ordinary things that surround us, Kohan often makes use of found objects and materials as diverse as wood, coffee, milk, motor oil and sand. Recent collage works comprise of layered newspaper advertisements mounted on canvas and painted.

Kohan comments that his work is merely a reflection of how he sees the world around him. “Many find that life is a struggle of both the emotional and the physical...My art reflects what is often a simultaneous experience of both the struggle and beauty that comprises life. With my art, I communicate across cultural divides, language barriers, religion and gender. I’m a citizen of this world.”

Born in Tehran in 1967, Farzad Kohan lives and works in Los Angeles. Solo exhibitions include Ayyam Gallery DIFC, Dubai in 2013 and Seyhoun Gallery, Los Angeles in 2006. Selected group exhibitions include Human Rights Awareness Tour, USA (2008); JFerrari Gallery, Los Angeles (2008); Eagle Rock Cultural Center for Arts (2008); Phantom Galleries, Los Angeles (2007).







# Ghassan Ghazal

(Lebanon, born 1961)

## Lot 006

*Dialogue*  
2013

Mixed Media on Canvas  
100 x 100 cm  
Signed and dated

Estimate: \$4,000 - \$6,000

For Lebanese artist Ghassan Ghazal, “art is an experimental, universal, contingent and liberal language of communication.” A multi-disciplinary artist, he works in painting, installation, photography, and performance art. His mixed media canvases are melodic compositions that speak of the instinctive, and inspired, nature of art and seek to unlock the subconscious.

Born in Lebanon in 1961, Ghazzal immigrated to Canada in 1979 where he completed both his undergraduate and graduate education in visual arts at the University of Quebec, Montreal. Since 1989, he has participated in both solo and collective exhibitions in Lebanon and North and South America. In 2006, he returned to Lebanon where he presently resides and teaches at the Lebanese American University in Beirut. His work has been reviewed in such publications as L'Orient le Jour, Al Nahar and the Daily Star.







# Hamed Sahihi

(Iran, born 1980)

## Lot 007

*Icecream*  
From the series, 'Bulimia'  
2013  
Acrylic on Canvas  
120 x 150 cm

Estimate: \$4,000 - \$6,000

Born in Tehran in 1980, Hamed Sahihi received his Bachelor of Arts in Painting from the Faculty of Fine Arts at Tehran University and his Master of Fine Arts in Painting from the Art University in 2005. He has since exhibited in over twenty solo shows in Iran, including 'Bulimia' with Azad Art Gallery, from which *Icecream* was first exhibited, and has participated in group exhibitions in Iran, Italy, Turkey, the United Kingdom, Switzerland and the United States. Sahihi was featured in the Sixth and Fifth Editions of Tehran Contemporary Painting Biennale and the Second Edition of the Tehran Contemporary Drawing Biennale at the Tehran Museum of Contemporary Arts. Sahihi has also enjoyed success as a filmmaker, having created twenty short films and video animations and one feature film over the past decade.







# Hasan Nikbakht

(Iran, born 1982)

## Lot 008

From the 'Mushroom Series'  
2010  
Oil on Canvas  
150 x 150 cm  
Signed and dated

Estimate: \$4,000 - \$6,000

Born in Iran in 1982, Mohammad Hassan Nikbakht received his Bachelor of Arts in Painting from Elm o Farhang University, Tehran in 2009. A member of the Society of Iranian Painters (SIP) and the Institute for Promotion of Visual Arts in Iran, Nikbakht has held numerous group exhibitions within Iran since 2008 and his first solo exhibition of his 'Mushroom Series', was held in 2010 with Siin Gallery of Tehran. In 2013, Nikbakht was exhibited for the first time outside Iran with Magic of Persia's Contemporary Art Prize Shortlist Exhibition, held at the Emirates Financial Towers in Dubai.

Of his work Dr. Behnam Kamrani has stated, "Mohammad Hassan Nikbakht creates peculiar and ironic but at the same time simple elements, such as Mushrooms and brail writings... The brail scripts not only contain meanings but also create embosses and points resembling the ancient signs or computers punch lines. Mushrooms are dependent plants with shapes which remind of atomic explosions. The link between these two definitions may be interpreted either intellectually or simply, but the ease of meaning and the trance mood conveyed from works have a great impact on the audience's mind and lingers there."







# Behnam Kamrani

(Iran, born 1968)

Lot 009

*In Persepolis*  
2010  
Acrylic on Printed Canvas  
82 x 171 cm  
Signed and dated

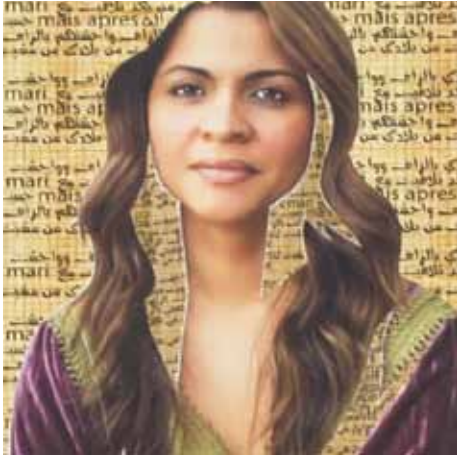
Estimate: \$4,000 - \$6,000

Born in Shiraz, Iran in 1968, Behnam Kamrani received his Doctorate in Art Research from the Art University of Tehran in 2008, as well as his Master of Arts in Painting in 1999, and his Bachelor of Arts in Painting from the Fine Arts University in 1995. In 1996, he received an encouraging letter from Tehran Museum of Contemporary Art's Third Biennale of Painting and in 1999, he participated in the First International Contemporary Drawing Biennale. He has held solo exhibitions in Iran since 1989 and his most recent exhibition, 'Edge' was held at Aun Gallery, Tehran in 2012. Kamrani has curated exhibitions at Shirin Gallery, Mohsen Gallery and the Niavaran Artist Creation Foundation.

Of his work, the artist has stated, "In different periods of my work, I have made use of both visual elements of Islamic Art and the understanding of a traditional artist, combined with a new visual conception. My reference to the past is for opening a horizon in the present. Symmetry and asymmetry, transparency and opacity and symbolism of forms and colours all create a spiritual atmosphere that my works try to capture."







# Camille Zakharia

(Lebanon, born 1962)

Lot 010

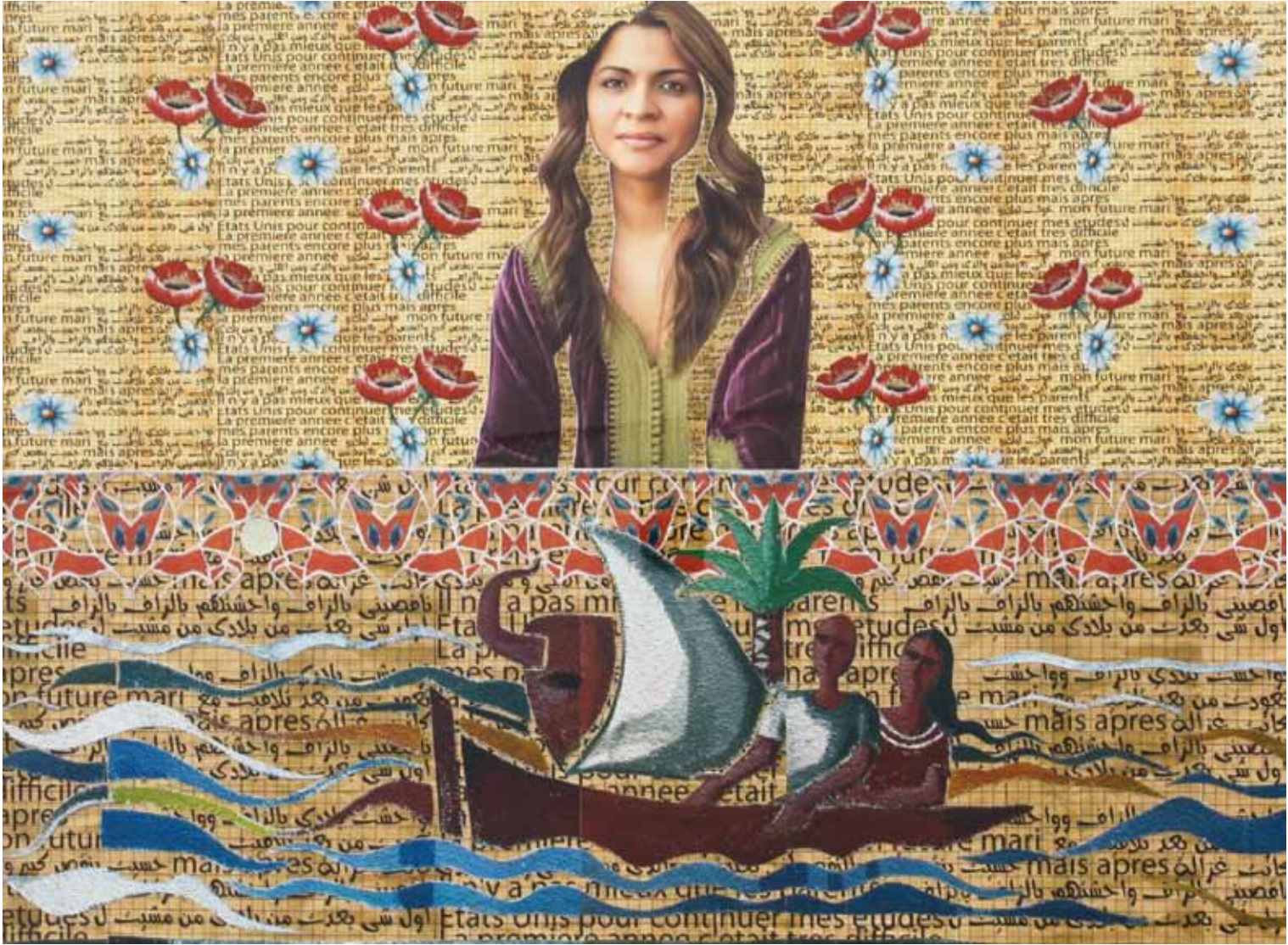
*Sophia*  
From the project 'Belonging'  
2010-2012  
Photocollage on Arches Paper  
76 x 101 cm

Estimate: \$10,000 - \$15,000

Camille Zakharia graduated with a Bachelor of Engineering from the American University of Beirut in 1985 before leaving Lebanon after the Civil War broke out, living in the United States, Greece, and Turkey before immigrating to Canada in 1995. He graduated with a Bachelor of Fine Arts from the Nova Scotia College of Art and Design (now NSCAD University), Halifax, in 1997, becoming a Canadian citizen in 1998. In 1999 he relocated to Bahrain, where he presently lives and works. Working in the medium of collage, Zakharia expresses a fragmentary notion of identity and attempts to reassemble memories.

'Belonging' examines the fundamental concept of place, identity and belonging as expressed by the participants, mostly expatriates living in Bahrain. The project started in 2010 when he photographed forty-two residents of Bahrain, and asked each one of them to define the word Belonging. Since his documentation of the participants, almost half of them are no longer based in Bahrain, reflecting the transient state we all exist in. Often talk is of the displaced Arabs, this project sheds light on people from different walks of life, rather from a single place, who are gathered at some point under the sky of Bahrain. It reflects on the suspended state most of us live in at this age of globalization.

Zakharia's work has been showcased extensively since 1985, with solo exhibitions at Katara Art Center, Doha (2012); Bin Matar House, Bahrain (2010); Virginia Commonwealth University School of the Arts, Doha (2006); Saint Mary's University Art Gallery, Halifax (2006) and Wichita Center for the Arts (1997). Zakharia was shortlisted for the 2009 V&A Jameel Prize for 'Markings' (2008) and the project's book Division Lines (2004-6). His Coastal Promenade was the photographic essay for the Reclaim project that earned Bahrain the Golden Lion Award for best national pavilion at the Venice Biennale of Architecture in 2010.







# Javad Modaressi

(Iran, born 1979)

## Lot 011

*Khovarnagh*  
2012  
Mixed Media  
146 x 200 cm  
Signed

Estimate: \$5,000 - \$8,000

Born in Mashhad, Iran in 1979, Javad Modaressi achieved both his Bachelor and Master of Arts in Painting from Shahed University. He has held solo exhibitions since 2001 in Iran, most recently in 2011 at Azad Art Gallery, and has participated in collective exhibitions in Morocco, England, and Iran. His paintings have been awarded first prize in Persian Painting in 2000, selected for the third international Biennale of Word of Islam in 2003, and in 2008, Modaressi received the 'Cite' scholarship from Tehran's Museum of Contemporary Art. A curator, writer, and critic of the visual arts as well as a painter, Modaressi has collaborated on Persian journals such as Tandis, Herfe Honarmand, Gplestan-e Honar and Ayn-e Khial.







# Nadim Karam

(Lebanon, born 1957)

## Lot 012

*Dream Girl & Dream Boy*

2013

Stainless Steel

Girl: 31 x 20 x 5 cm

Boy: 31 x 15 x 5 cm

Edition 2/25

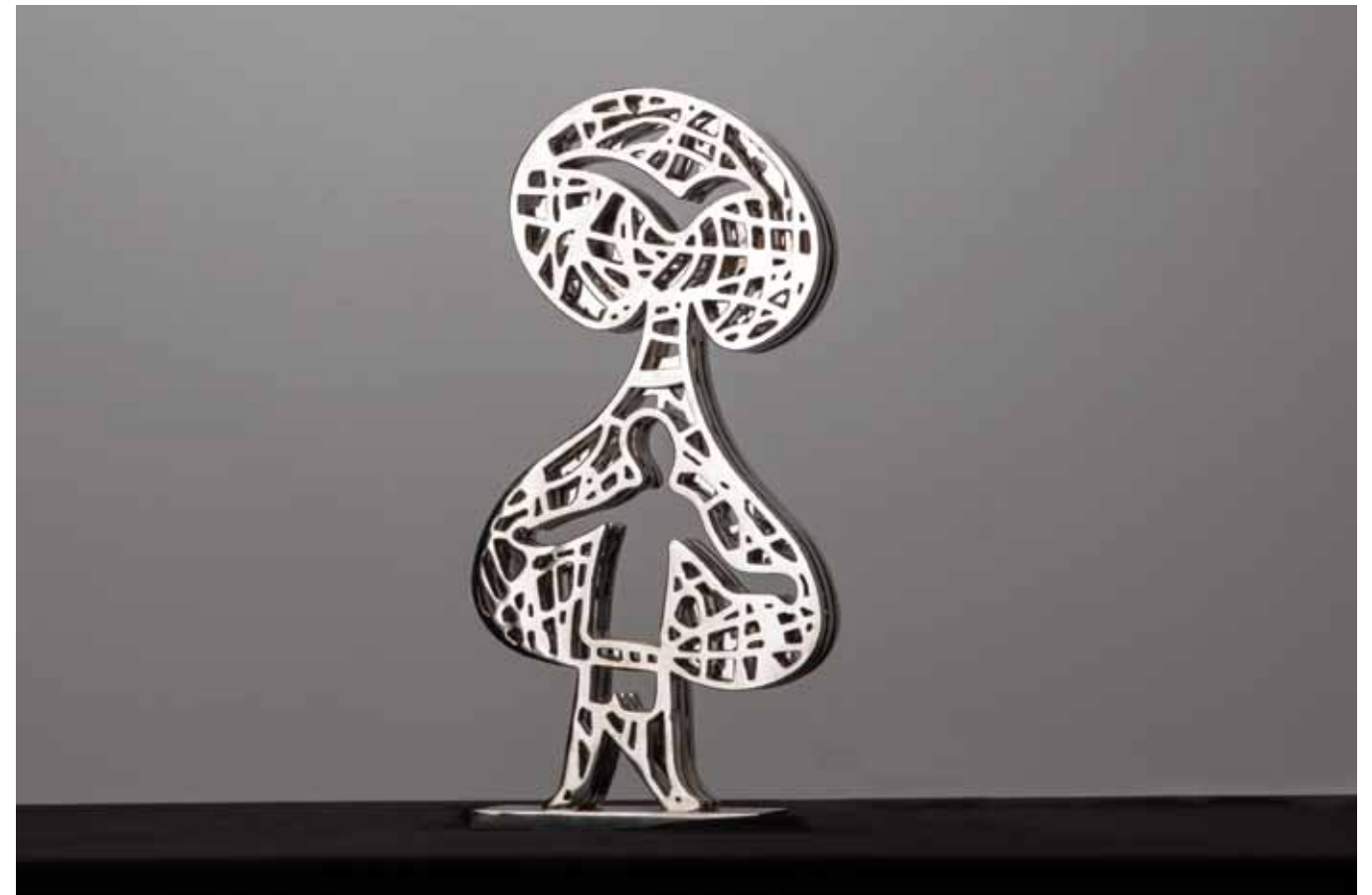
Signed, titled and numerated

Estimate: \$8,000 - \$12,000

Lebanese artist and architect Nadim Karam's multi-disciplinary approach incorporates painting, drawing, sculpture and writing. Fusing various cultural influences, Karam's works transcend social, political and national borders, forming a unique pictorial language, replete with recurring symbols, and with its own original characters and narratives. They form an alphabet of sorts, in what is an on-going, sometimes absurdist, exploration of the creative power of dreams.

Renowned for his public art and work in urban regeneration, Karam has most recently been lauded for his architectural plan The Cloud, which made international headlines for its revolutionary ideas on how to reconfigure public space amidst Dubai's growing cityscape. Karam's projects and installations are interventions that seek to animate cities as diverse as Melbourne, Prague, Dubai, Beirut, London and Nara, Japan. These interventions often take the form of large-scale steel sculptures, described as 'urban toys' by the artist. For Karam, it is not only we, as humans, who need to dream, but our cities too – his urban toys are acts of whimsy and a rebellion against the soulless nature of so many modern spaces, bringing to life the environments around him. Says Karam: "Each urban toy has a message. An open message ready to be inhabited by stories which become mingled with history."

Born in 1957 in Senegal, Nadim Karam now lives and works in Beirut. In 1996, he established Atelier Hapsitus, a satellite grouping of young Lebanese architects and designers, that seeks to create an original urban vocabulary through large-scale art installation and architectural works for various cities worldwide. Karam's work has appeared in numerous solo and group exhibitions worldwide, as well as biennales including Venice, Liverpool, and Gwangju. His sculptural series, 'Closets & Closets', is currently on display at the Institut du Monde Arabe, Paris. Past publications include The Cloud, The Desert and The Arabian Breeze (2007); Urban Toys, (2006) and Voyage (2000). A forthcoming monograph will be published by Skira in 2013.







# Nadim Karam

(Lebanon, born 1957)

## Lot 013

*Elephant*  
2013  
Stainless Steel  
31 x 43 x 5 cm  
Edition 4/25  
Signed, titled and numerated  
  
Estimate: \$7,000 - \$10,000







# Ghodratollah Agheli

(Iran, born 1968)

## Lot 014

*Brass & Patineh*  
2013

Silver Plated Brass and LED  
70 x 35 x 24 cm  
Edition 1/3

Signed, dated and numerated

Estimate: \$5,000 - \$8,000

Ghodratollah Agheli was born in 1968 in Jolfa, Iran. A prominent Iranian sculptor and painter, he is a member of the Iranian Society of Sculptors and the International Town of Paris. He began his artistic studies in Tabriz and followed with courses at the Center of Visual Arts of Hoze Honari, where he was instructed by master sculptors and painters of the Saghakhane school.

Agheli has exhibited in twenty fairs and over forty biennales as well as group exhibitions throughout Europe, Qatar and Morocco, and has twenty-three permanent public installations throughout Iran. A varied artist and scholar, Agheli also constructs technical devices for the cinema and theatre, collects and etymologizes rug designs and Islamic designs and scripts. He has been widely published in essays, participated in research for 'Fifty Years of Contemporary Art of Iran', has authored the book '100 Years of New Statuary' and others which involve the collection of statues and reliefs in the Islamic age.







# Mehdi Nabavi

(Iran, born 1978)

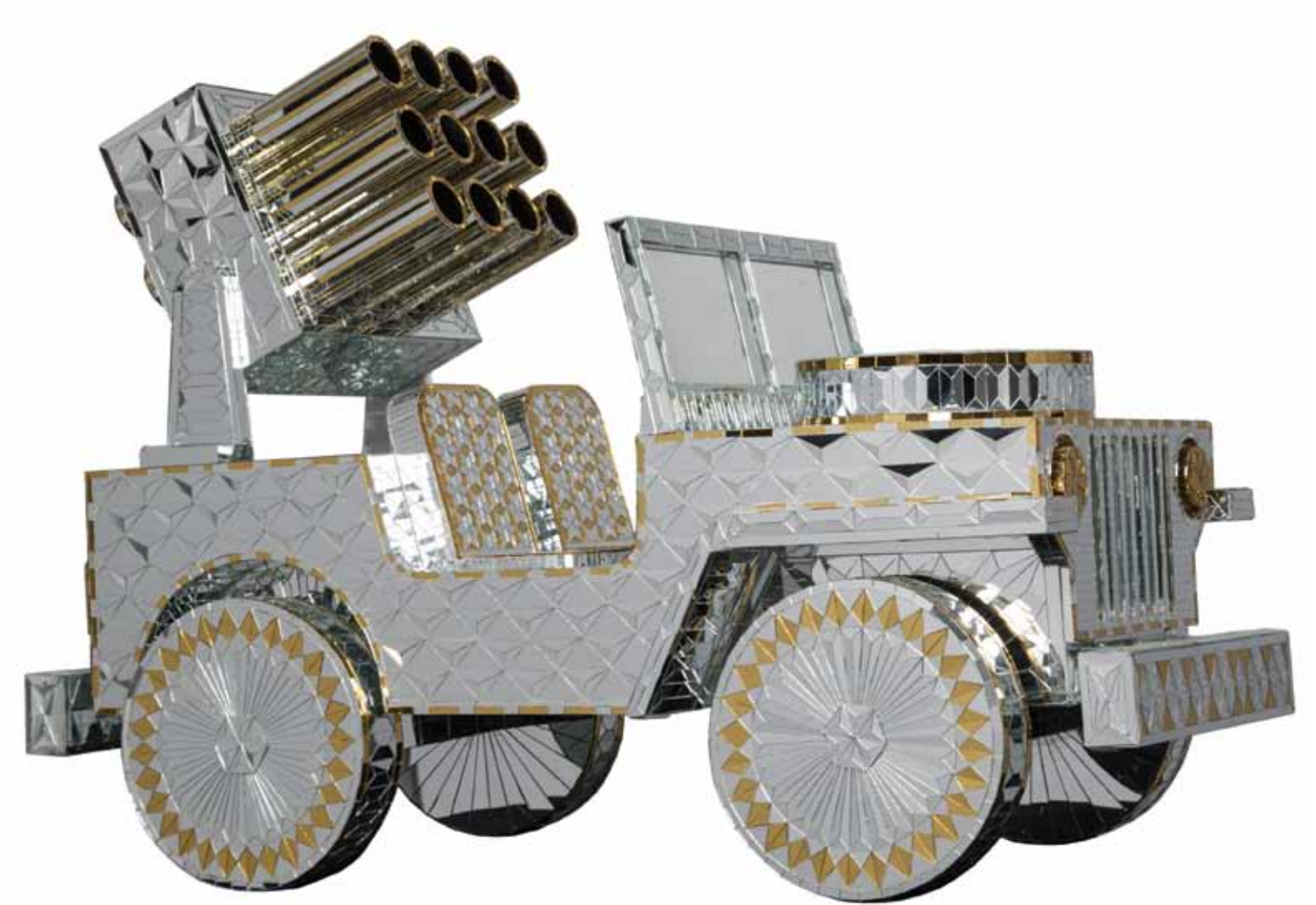
## Lot 015

*Untitled*  
2013  
Cut Mirrors on Wood  
76 x 107 x 52 cm  
Signed and dated

Estimate: \$10,000 - \$15,000

Iranian artist Mehdi Nabavi has had recent solo exhibitions in the Mah Art Gallery and Azad Art Gallery of Tehran and has been featured in collective exhibitions at the Azad Art Gallery and the 4th Biennale of Contemporary Painting in Iran in 1997.

Nabavi's large standing missile sculptures, 'Exquisite Pits', were the subject of his most recent solo exhibition. Each intricately mosaiced with mirrors and colored glass panels, these faceted projectiles reflect upon the walls a plethora of colours, causing the viewer to balance the delicately dancing reflections with the cruel intention of the object.







# Mehdi Nabavi

(Iran, born 1978)

## Lot 016

*Small Bomb*  
2012

MDF and Cut Mirrors  
64 x 19 x 19 cm

Estimate: \$3,000 - \$5,000







# Asaad Arabi

(Syria, born 1941)

## Lot 017

*Cello in Circles*  
1990  
Acrylic on Paper  
61 x 170 cm  
Signed and dated

Estimate: \$6,000 - \$9,000

One of the generation of Syrian artists who came of age during the Arab Renaissance - or *nadah* - of the 1960's, Asaad Arabi continues to explore the region's social taboos through his Expressionist works. Alive with colour and movement, Arabi's canvases are concerned with the hidden world and with contrasts and duality, such as those that exist between the veiled and unveiled, sometimes nude women, and the exterior and interior of Damascene houses.

Born in Damascus in 1941, Asaad Arabi lives and works in Paris. He holds a PhD in Aesthetics from the Sorbonne University and his work on aesthetic theory has been widely published in both French and Arabic. Selected solo exhibitions include Ayyam Gallery Jeddah (21013) DIFC, Dubai (2011); Ayyam Gallery Beirut (2010); Ayyam Gallery Damascus (2009); Cairo Biennial (2004); Sircov Gallery, Brest, France (2003); Kuwait Museum (2003). His works are housed in museum collections including Institut du Monde Arabe, Paris; Barcelona Contemporary Museum of Art, The National Museum, New Dehli; and South Korea's Museum in Seoul.







# Asma Fayoumi

(Syria, born 1943)

## Lot 018

*Untitled*  
2009  
Acrylic on Canvas  
182 x 182 cm  
Signed and dated

Estimate: \$8,000 - \$12,000

Born in Amman, Jordan in 1943, Asma Fayoumi's formative years as a painter occurred in the 1960s with the emergence of a particular school of Syrian abstraction that was lead by the Italian artist and instructor, Guido La Regina.

A graduate of the Faculty of Fine Arts in Damascus, she worked alongside fellow students Assad Arabi, Faek Dahdouh, and Sakher Farzat, who later became recognized as seminal artists. Her journey as a professional artist unfolded at one of the most critical periods of the regional art scene; when modernist schools first displayed evidence of a gradual transition into contemporary modes of representation and a charged political climate urged regional culture to take up the call for social change.

A well-received solo show in Damascus in 1966 solidified her arrival on the local art scene. Since then, Fayoumi has been featured in countless solo and group exhibitions both at home and abroad and is acknowledged as a seminal female painter, one whose career has paved the way for subsequent generations of women artists. Today, Fayoumi's paintings are admired for their unique approach to depicting a range of subjects. From mythological figures to the stark realities of war, she freely reflects "an explosion of internal struggle", giving her work a profound sensitivity and intuition.

From her early days of depicting Damascene scenes using colorist principles of abstraction to her recent writhing compositions of quickly hatched strokes of paint, which are applied vigorously create arcs of movement, violence, wind, chagrin, fear and horror, Fayoumi's signature style of layered and labored figurative compositions has remained committed to depicting the world around her with fervent imagination.







# Fateh Moudarres

(Syria, 1922-1999)

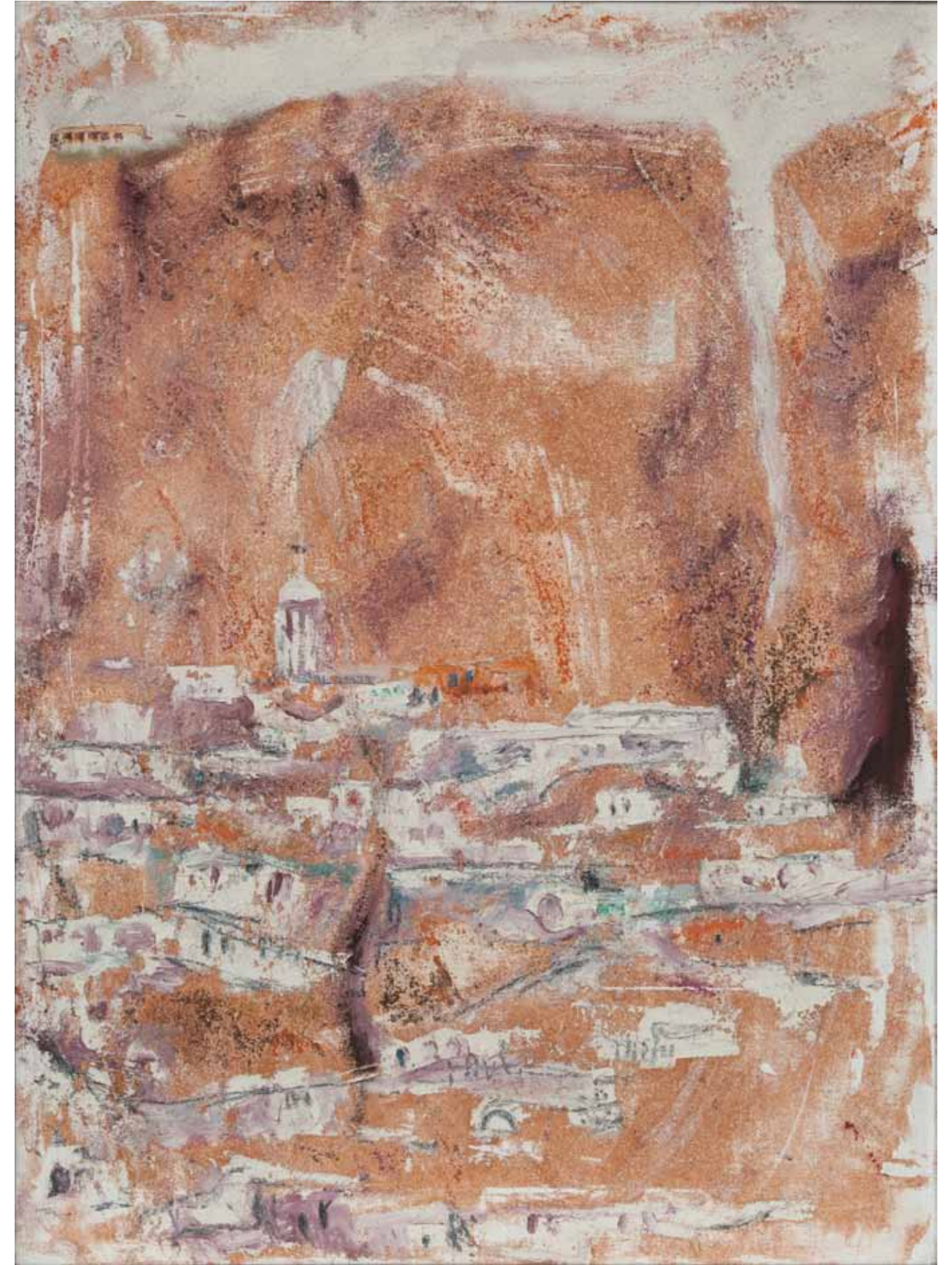
## Lot 019

*Maaloula*  
1974  
Mixed Media on Canvas  
75 x 55 cm  
Signed and dated

Estimate: \$12,000 - \$18,000

From The Aziz Collection, Switzerland  
Acquired by the above directly from the artist

Fateh Moudarres studied at the Academy of Fine Arts in Rome between 1954 and 1960. He continued his postgraduate studies at the Academy of Fine Arts in Paris between 1969 and 1972. Upon returning to Syria, he was lecturer and Dean of the Faculty of Fine Arts until 1993. He was internationally renowned as the pioneer of Modernism in Syria. He created a unique style influenced by primitive and ancient Syrian arts and Christian iconography. Moudarres has also written several collections of poetry and short stories. He participated in numerous shows including the Venice Biennial, 1961, the Sao Paulo Biennale, 1963 (Medal of Honour) and 1975, New York International Art Fair, 1964, Contemporary Arab Art Exhibition, Grand Palais, Paris, 1980, the Seoul Biennial, 1986, the Cairo Biennial, 1994 and a retrospective of his work was held at the L'Institut du Monde Arabe, Paris in 1995.







# Fateh Moudarres

(Syria, 1922-1999)

## Lot 020

*Smile so the Horse can Pass*  
1974

Mixed Media on Canvas  
75 x 55 cm  
Signed and dated

Estimate: \$12,000 - \$18,000

From The Aziz Collection, Switzerland  
Acquired by the above directly from the artist







# Fateh Moudarres

(Syria, 1922-1999)

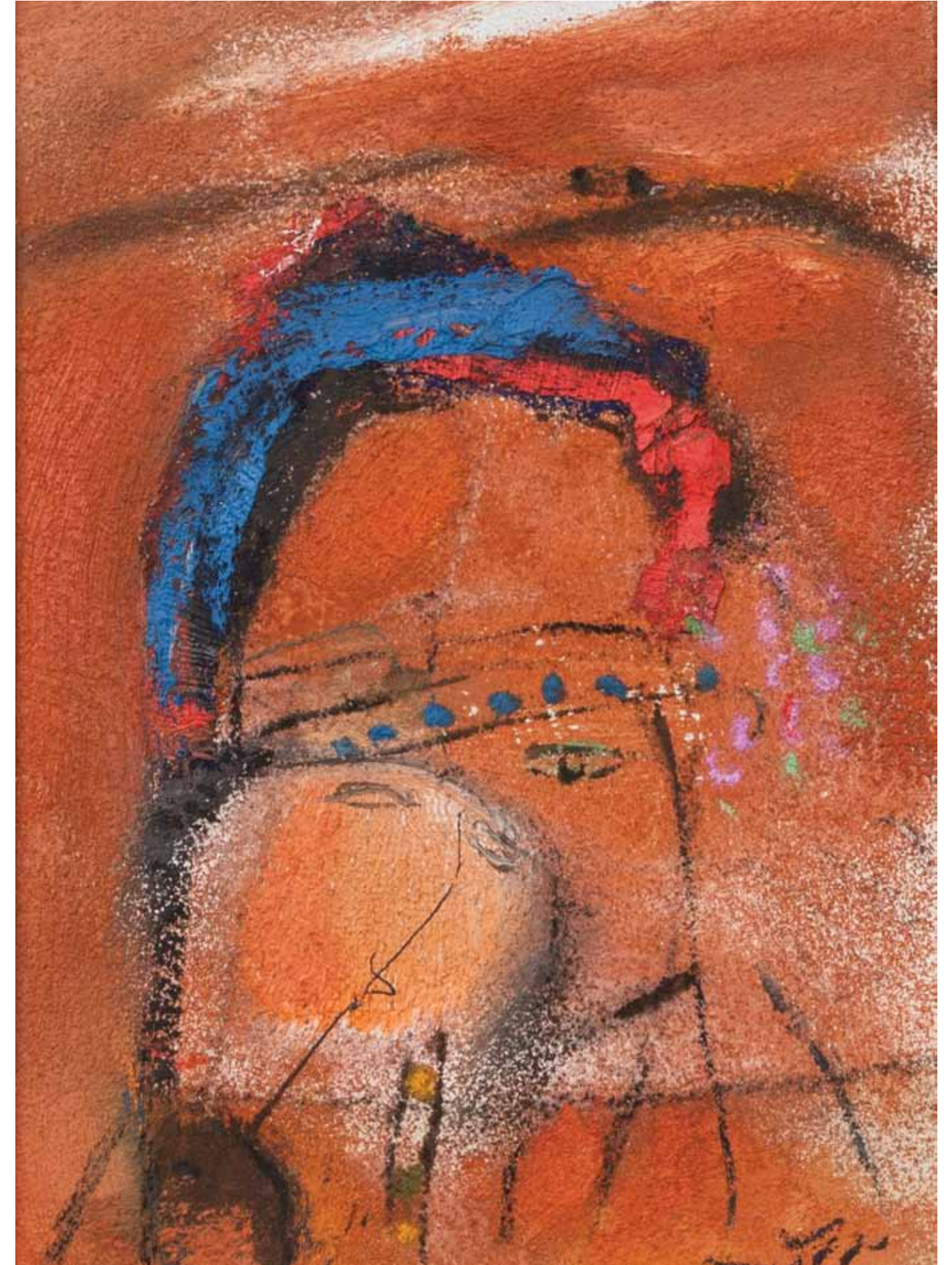
## Lot 021

*Untitled*  
1987

Mixed Media on Canvas  
33 x 23 cm  
Signed and dated

Estimate: \$6,000 - \$9,000

From The Aziz Collection, Switzerland  
Acquired by the above directly from the artist







# Fateh Moudarres

(Syria, 1922-1999)

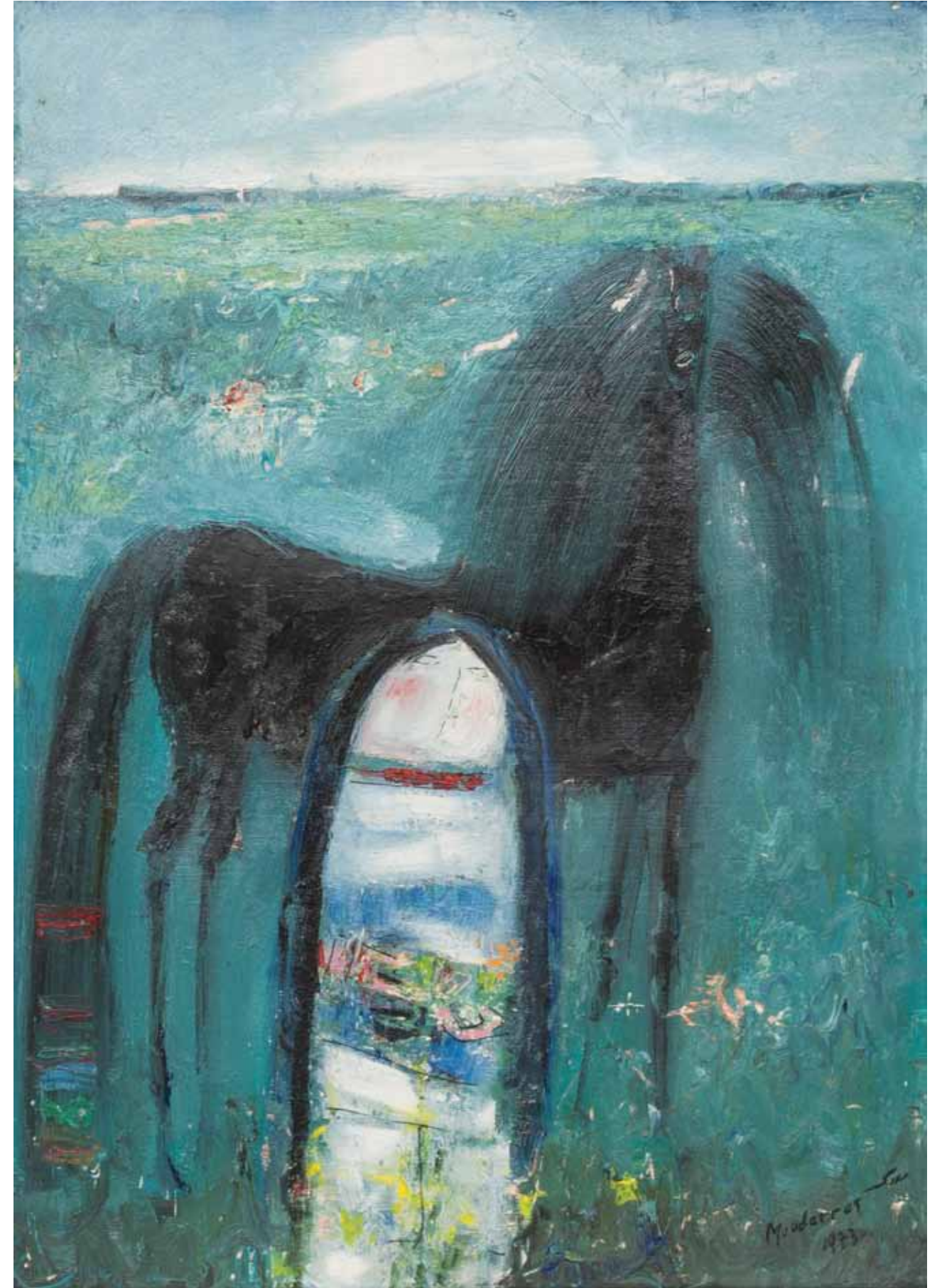
## Lot 022

*Untitled*  
1973

Mixed Media on Canvas  
70 x 50 cm  
Signed and dated

Estimate: \$12,000 - \$18,000

From The Aziz Collection, Switzerland  
Acquired by the above directly from the artist







## Ghassan Sebai

(Syria, born 1939)

### Lot 023

*Untitled*  
2010  
Oil on Canvas  
80 x 65 cm  
Signed and dated

Estimate: \$5,000 - \$8,000

Born in Homs, Syria in 1939, Ghassan Sebai studied oil painting at the University of Alexandria, Egypt and continued to train in the visual arts with a specialization in engraving at the Higher Institute of Fine Arts in Paris, from which he graduated in 1970. In 1974, Sebai returned to Syria where he taught engraving at the University of Damascus until 2002 and was an active member of the art scene.

A seminal Modernist, his early works depict nature and the Al-Assi River that lay near his childhood home in Homs. His artistic style was heavily influenced by metaphysical interpretations in art, which lead to further experiments and developed into an impressionist language that contained elements of symbolism. As such Sebai's paintings treated his frequently political and social subjects with a modern approach that was influenced by both local and international schools of art. Hints of Cubism grace his figures, as he belongs to a movement in Arab art that sought to depict the struggles of man in a universal language, one that was widely understood and admired thanks to the breakthroughs of Picasso and Braque and later the Mexican Muralists.

He participated in countless exhibitions inside and outside Syria, and his works are preserved in the National Museum of Damascus, the Beiteddine Museum in Lebanon, and The Royal Museum in Jordan, in addition to a number of other local and international private collections.







# Khaled Ben Slimane

(Tunisia, born 1951)

Lot 024

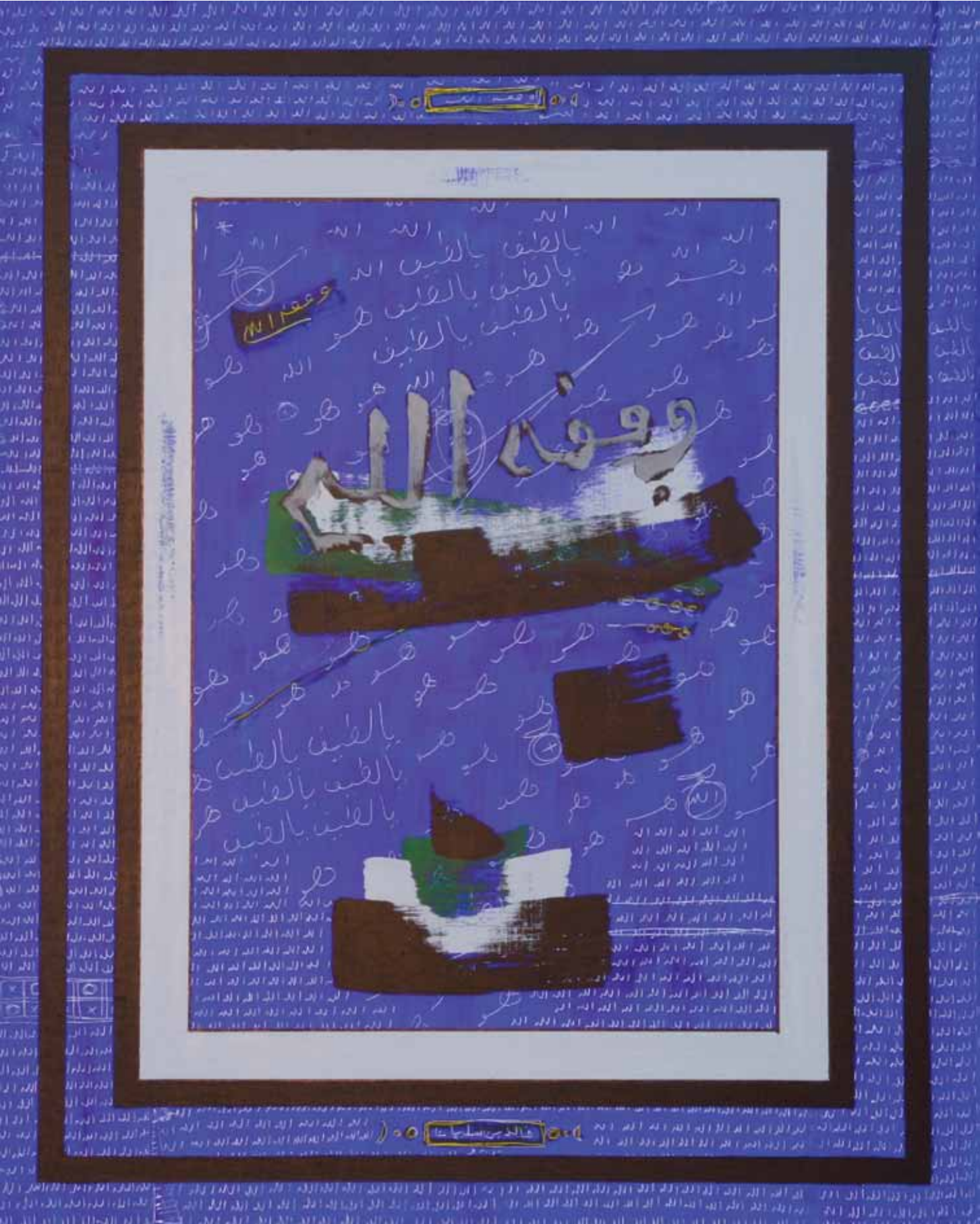
*Ascension I*  
2013  
Acrylic on Canvas  
100 x 80 cm

Estimate: \$7,000 - \$10,000

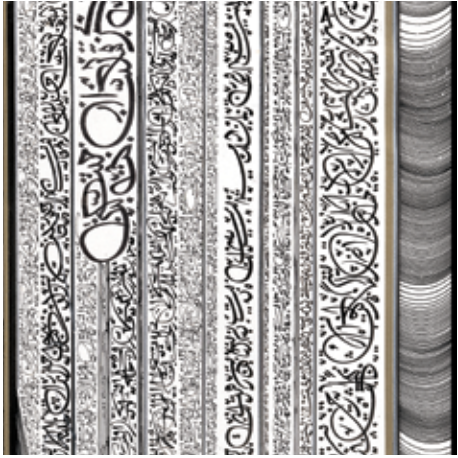
Internationally acclaimed as a painter, ceramist and sculptor, Khaled Ben Slimane was born in 1951 in Sousse, Tunisia. He graduated from the Escuela Massana of Barcelona and the Technological Institutue of Art in Tunis in 1982. His work is in the private and public collections such as the British Museum, museums in Rotterdam and Melbourn, the collections of ceramics of Barcelona, the Smithsonian Institute in Washington D.C., and the Idemitsu-Museum of Arts in Tokyo, among others.

One of the major contemporary artists in Tunisia and in the Arab world, throughout his thirty year career he has imparted on multiple discoveries, various trips, and exclusive encounters, in an incessant quest for spirituality. From all of his adventures, he says: “as a ceramist, I realized that seven places have brought me to this art and have initiated me. It's like being born seven times.”

In quest of the perfect and fragile balance, the gesture – intense, uncluttered and accurate - punctuates the artist's inner rhythm. Reaching for transcendence, the scripture including ascending signs, infinitely repeated invocations of Allah and Huwa, graffiti in various forms bring rhythm to the work of art in the manner of incantations and Sufi hymn. Combining materiality and spirituality in a very contemporary form, he transforms the physiognomy of traditional and plain objects into undetermined shapes







# Nja Mahdaoui

(Tunisia, born 1937)

## Lot 025

*Ghubar - Square No. 1*  
2009

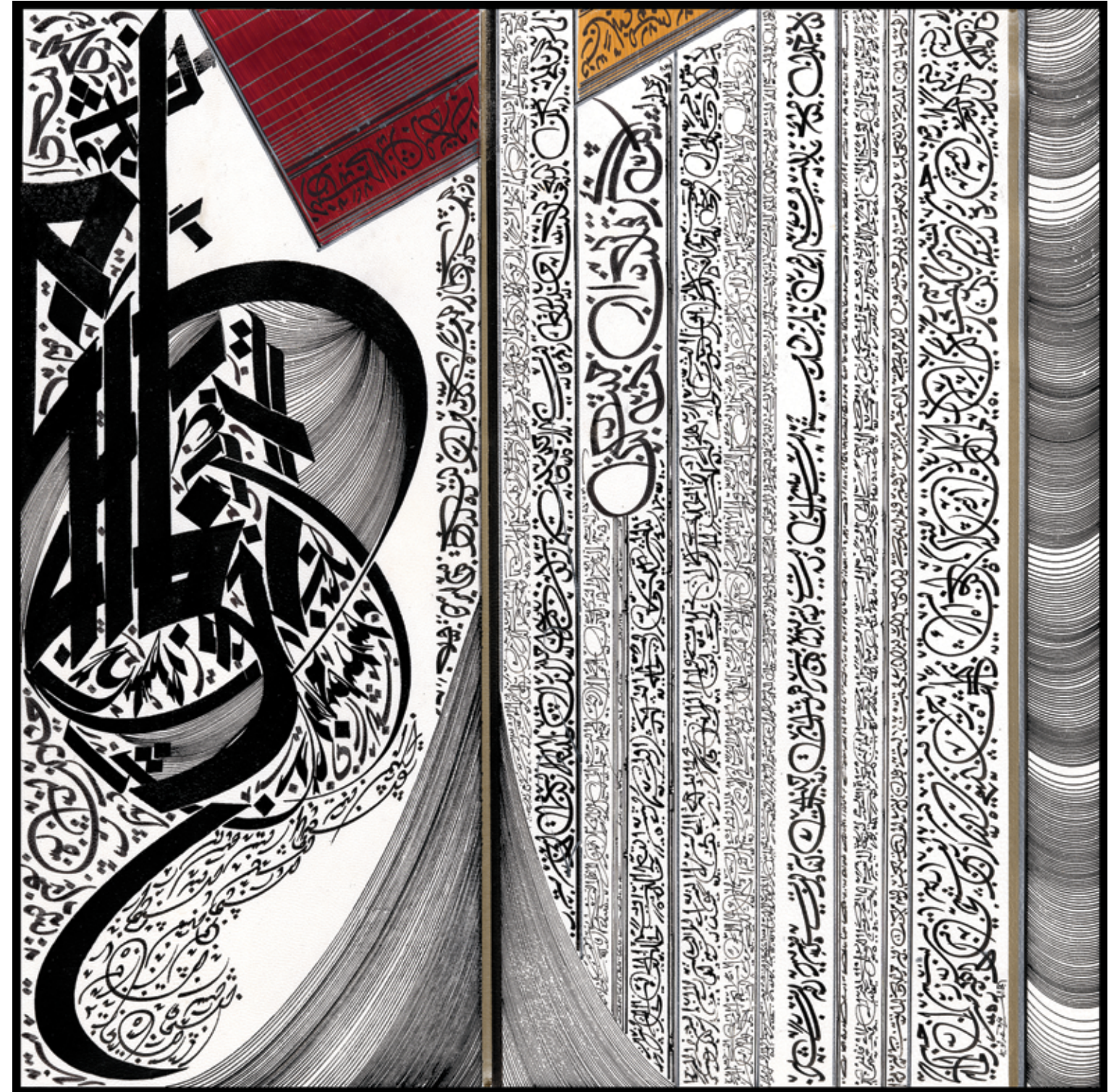
Indian Ink and Acrylic on Vellum  
40 x 40 cm

Estimate: \$7,000 - \$10,000

Born in 1937 in Tunisia, Nja Mahdaoui graduated from the Academia Santa Andrea in Rome and the École du Louvre in Paris in 1967. He pursued his academic training at the Cité Internationale des Arts in Paris with a scholarship from the Tunisian government. He has been a Jury member and Honor guest of many international events and biennales and he is a member of the International jury committee of the UNESCO Prize for the Promotion of the Arts.

Nja Mahdaoui is a visual artist, an explorer of signs. He has been portrayed as a “choreographer of letters”. His work, inspired by Arab calligraphy, is remarkably innovative as the aesthetic dimension of letters brings forth a sense of the poetic - highly rhythmic– arresting us with its rich abstract compositions. Thus, his creative approach is conveyed through the choice of material and medium.

Nja participated in numerous global exhibitions including at the Institut du Monde Arabe in Paris, the Hermitage Museum in St-Petersburg, the National Museum of Scotland and the Modern Art Museum in Baghdad, only to mention a few. He has been working with many private and public institutions worldwide and has done monumental works for the Museum of Kuala Lumpur in Malaysia, the International Airports of Jeddah and Riyadh in Saudi Arabia and the decoration of Gulf Air aircrafts in 2000. His work has been widely shown around the world, and can be found in many private and public collections including at the British Museum and the Smithsonian Museum in Washington DC. He is considered as one of the major contemporary Arab artists. He lives and works in Tunisia.







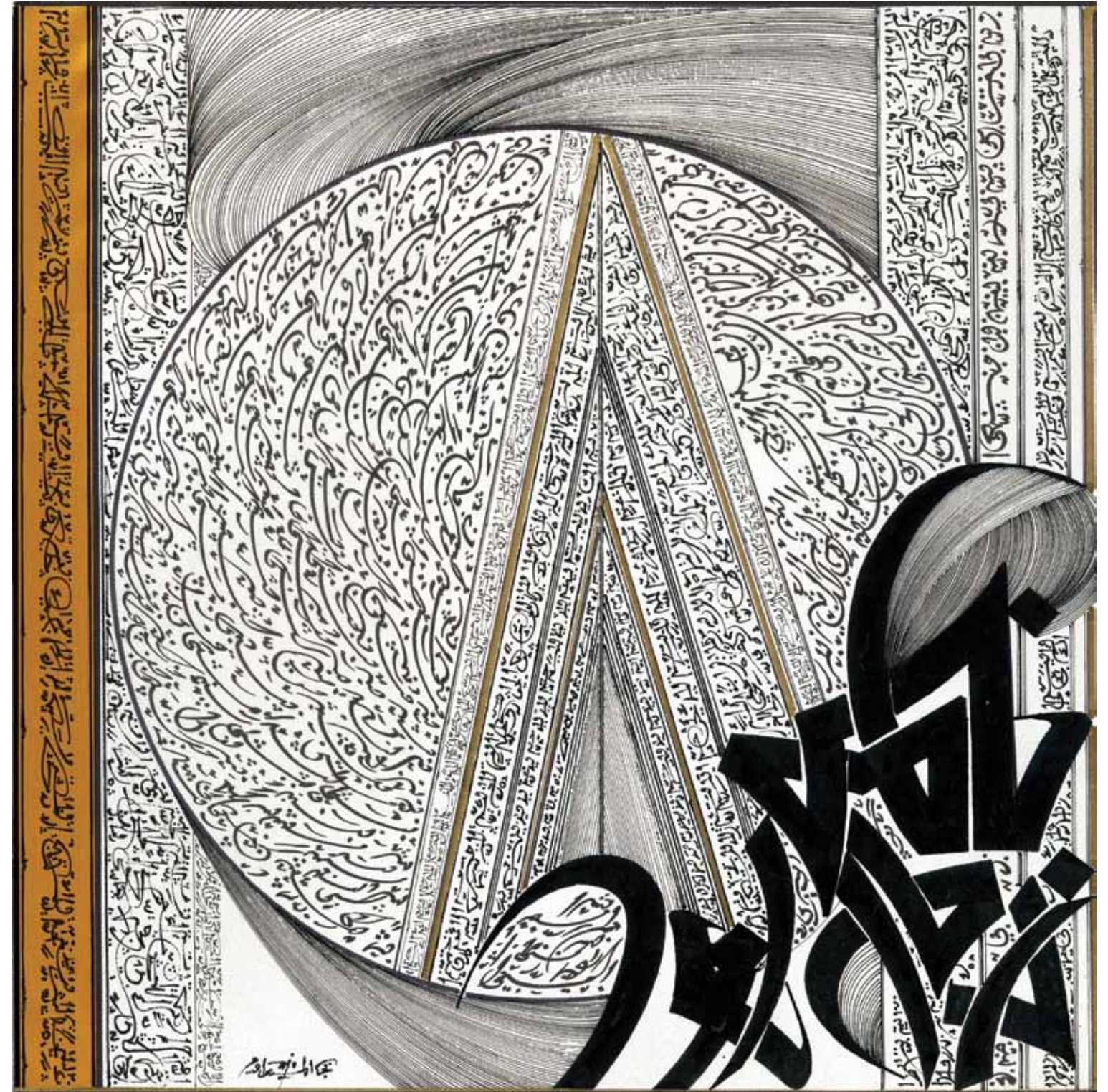
# Nja Mahdaoui

(Tunisia, born 1937)

Lot 026

*Ghubar - Square No. II*  
2009  
Indian Ink and Acrylic on Vellum  
40 x 40 cm

Estimate: \$7,000 - \$10,000







# Sadik Alfraji

(Iraq, born 1960)

## Lot 027

From the series 'Waiting for Godot'  
2011  
Lambda Print  
125 x 250 cm  
Edition 1/5

Estimate: \$10,000 - \$15,000

Born in Baghdad in 1960, Sadik Kwaish Alfraji studied at the Institute of Fine Arts and the Academy of Fine Arts in Iraq, from which he graduated with a diploma and degree in plastic arts, respectively. In 2000, he pursued a High Diploma in Graphic Design from the CHK Constantijn Huygens in the Netherlands, where he presently resides.

A visual artist, print maker and designer, Alfraji has often blended art and philosophy as a means of expanding the formal and conceptual boundaries of his aesthetic. His mixed media compositions explore a variety of themes, from the universal human condition to experiences of exile and fragmentation.

Having participated in exhibitions in the Middle East, Europe, Asia and the United States since the 1980s, his work is housed in the collections of the National Museum of Modern Art in Iraq, The National Gallery and the Khalid Shoman Foundation in Jordan, the Novosibirsk State Art Museum in Russia, and the Cluj-Napoca Art Museum in Romania. Alfraji was invited to produce new work for 'Told/ Untold/Retold', one of the inaugural exhibitions of Mathaf: Arab Museum of Modern Art in Doha, Qatar.







# Safwan Dahoul

(Syria, born 1961)

## Lot 028

*Rêve*  
2013  
Archival Print on Cotton Paper  
110 x 130 cm  
Edition 1/7  
Signed, dated and numerated  
  
Estimate: \$6,000 - \$9,000

Safwan Dahoul's evocative canvases, all of which share the title *Dream*, examine some of the most intimate moments of the human experience: slumber, companionship, solitude and death. The soulful, dreamy human figures that populate his work are 'substance matter' for the artist, a tool through which he depicts and preserves his own biography.

Dominated by black, white and muted tones, Dahoul's canvases explore the relationship between the figure and its background, between the human being and space. His minimalist use of colour references his surroundings and is a response to the absence of colour now seen on the streets of Syria and the rest of the Middle East.

Firmly rooted in the personal, Dahoul's work is also rich in art historical references; from the elaborately maquillaged eyes and cavalier perspective of Pharaonic Egypt, to gestural fingers that trace their lineage to Roman oration; to the checkerboard patterning common on Insular metalwork. The geometric shapes and curvature in the lines of Dahoul's figures allude to the elaborate patterns of Arabic calligraphy.

Born in 1961 in Hama, Syria, Safwan Dahoul live and works in the Dubai. Selected solo exhibitions include Ayyam Gallery Al Quoz, Dubai (2011, 2009); Ayyam Gallery DIFC, Dubai (2011); Ayyam Gallery Beirut (2009).







# Safwan Dahoul

(Syria, born 1961)

Lot 029

*Rêve*  
2013  
Archival Print on Cotton Paper  
110 x 130 cm  
Edition 1/7  
Signed, dated and numerated  
  
Estimate: \$6,000 - \$9,000







# Abdulnasser Gharem

(Saudi Arabia, born 1973)

## Lot 030

*Men at Work I-IV*  
2012

Handprinted Silkscreen Print on Somerset Tub Paper  
Set of Four 115 x 150 cm Each  
Edition 22/35

Estimate: \$10,000 - \$15,000

Abdulnasser Gharem was born in 1973 in the Saudi Arabian city of Khamis Mushait. In 1992 Gharem graduated from the King Abdulaziz Academy before attending The Leader Institute in Riyadh. In 2003 he studied at the influential Al- Meftaha Arts Village in Abha and in 2004 Gharem and the Al-Meftaha artists staged a group exhibition, Shattah, which challenged existing modes of art practice in Saudi Arabia. Abdulnasser Gharem co-founded the Edge of Arabia project (with Stephen Stapleton and Ahmed Mater) as a platform to support Saudi contemporary artist reach an international audience.

Gharem has exhibited in Europe, the Gulf and the USA, including at the Victoria & Albert and British Museums, Martin Gropius-Bau, Los Angeles County Museum of Art, Palazzo Grassi (Francois Pinault Foundation) and at the Venice, Sharjah& Berlin Biennales. He recently made history when his installation Message/Messenger sold for a world record price at auction in Dubai, establishing Gharem as the highest selling living Gulf artist. Gharem donated the proceeds of this sale to foster art education in his native country. His first monograph 'Abdulnasser Gharem: Art of Survival' was published in London in October 2011.

Abdulnasser currently lives and works in Riyadh.







Abdulnasser Ghareem  
(Saudi Arabia, born 1973)

Lot 031

*The Stamp (Inshallah)*  
2012

Handprinted Silkscreen Print on Somerset Tub Paper  
150 x 120 cm  
Edition 15/25

Estimate: \$4,000 - \$6,000







# Afshin Pirhashemi

(Iran, born 1974)

## Lot 032

*Join Now*  
2013  
Archival Print on Cotton Paper  
60 x 85 cm  
Edition 1/10  
Signed, dated and numerated

Estimate: \$3,000 - \$5,000

The work of Iranian painter Afshin Pirhashemi examines the complexities of life in modern day Iran. On sparse or empty backgrounds, his largely monochromatic, photo-realistic depictions of women nod to gothic fantasy in an exploration of issues of contemporary social and political identity.

Born in 1974 in Urmia, Afshin Pirhashemi now lives and works in Tehran. His works are housed in public and private collections throughout the Middle East and Europe and he is the recipient of awards from the 2003 Tehran 6th International Art Biennial, and the 2004 Beijing Art Biennial Award. Solo exhibitions include Ayyam Gallery DIFC, Dubai (2013); Homa Art Gallery, Tehran (2009); Seyhoun Art Gallery, Tehran (2005); and Barg Gallery, Tehran (2005). Group exhibitions include "In & Out", Milan (2009); Tehran Museum of Contemporary Art, Tehran (2006); Museum of Contemporary Art, Tehran (2004, 2003).







# Afshin Pirhashemi

(Iran, born 1974)

## Lot 033

*Real Drink Electronic Music*  
2013  
Archival Print on Cotton Paper  
81 x 114 cm  
Edition 1/10  
Signed, dated and numerated  
  
Estimate: \$4,000 - \$6,000







# Shurooq Amin

(Kuwait, born 1967)

## Lot 034

*Natural Born Censors*  
2012

Archival Print on Cotton Paper  
110 x 124 cm  
Edition 1/5  
Signed, dated and numerated

Estimate: \$3,000 - \$5,000

Renowned for her brave subject matter and use of taboo images, Kuwaiti artist Shurooq Amin explores the double standards, hypocrisy, and secret lives that exist beneath the surface of a conservative state. Her work illustrates the hidden, hedonistic world and dichotomy of the Arab man: religious preacher, weekend alcoholic; political activist, well-known party-animal; conservative father, secret playboy.

Born in Kuwait in 1967, Shurooq Amin lives and works in the country. Selected solo and group exhibitions include Ayyam Gallery Al Quoz, Dubai (2013); Lahd Gallery, London (2011); CAN, New York (2010); Tilal Gallery, Kuwait (2010); 11th International Cairo Art Biennale (2008). A retrospective of her work was recently featured in the biannual art journal, Contemporary Practices: Visual Arts from the Middle East.







# Parastou Forouhar

(Iran, born 1962)

## Lot 035

*Ashoura Day*  
From the Papillon Collection  
2010

Archival Print on Premium Glossy Paper  
100 x 100 cm  
Edition 2/7  
Signed, dated and numerated

Estimate: \$6,000 - \$9,000

Referring to her native Iran, Parastou Forouhar's work examines subjects including Islamic fundamentalism, women's rights and the structure of democracy. Works such as *Tausenundein Tag* depict violent scenes of torture and human rights abuses and have been described as simultaneously poignant and powerful. Though thematically broad, Forouhar's autobiographical method nevertheless results in works which are highly personal. 'The Documentation' (2013) records the artist's futile search for those behind the murder of her parents- the well-known political dissidents Parvareh and Dariush Forouhar.

Born in Iran in 1962, Parastou Forouhar currently lives and works in Germany. She completed an undergraduate degree at the University of Tehran, and was awarded grants to continue her studies at Künstlerhaus Schloss, Balmoral and Villa Massimo, Rome. In 2005 she received a Master's degree from Hochschule für Gestaltung in Offenbach, Germany. Previous solo exhibitions include Law Warschau Gallery, Macalester College, Minnesota (2013); Fürth Art Gallery, Fürth (2012); Karin Sachs Gallery, Munich (2011); Fondazione Merz, Turin (2011); RH Gallery, New York (2010); Leighton House Museum, London (2010); Azad Gallery, Tehran (2009); and Fondazione Pastificio Cerere, Rome (2007). Recent group exhibitions include *The Mattress Factory*, Pittsburg (2012); Azad Art Gallery, Tehran (2012); Frankfurt Museum of Modern Art (2011); IFA Gallery, Berlin/ Stuttgart (2011); Beirut Exhibition Centre (2011); and Brisbane Gallery of Modern Art (2010). Forouhar is also co-curator for *Treibsand*, a magazine for contemporary art in Tehran.







# Ammar Al Beik

(Syria, born 1972)

## Lot 036

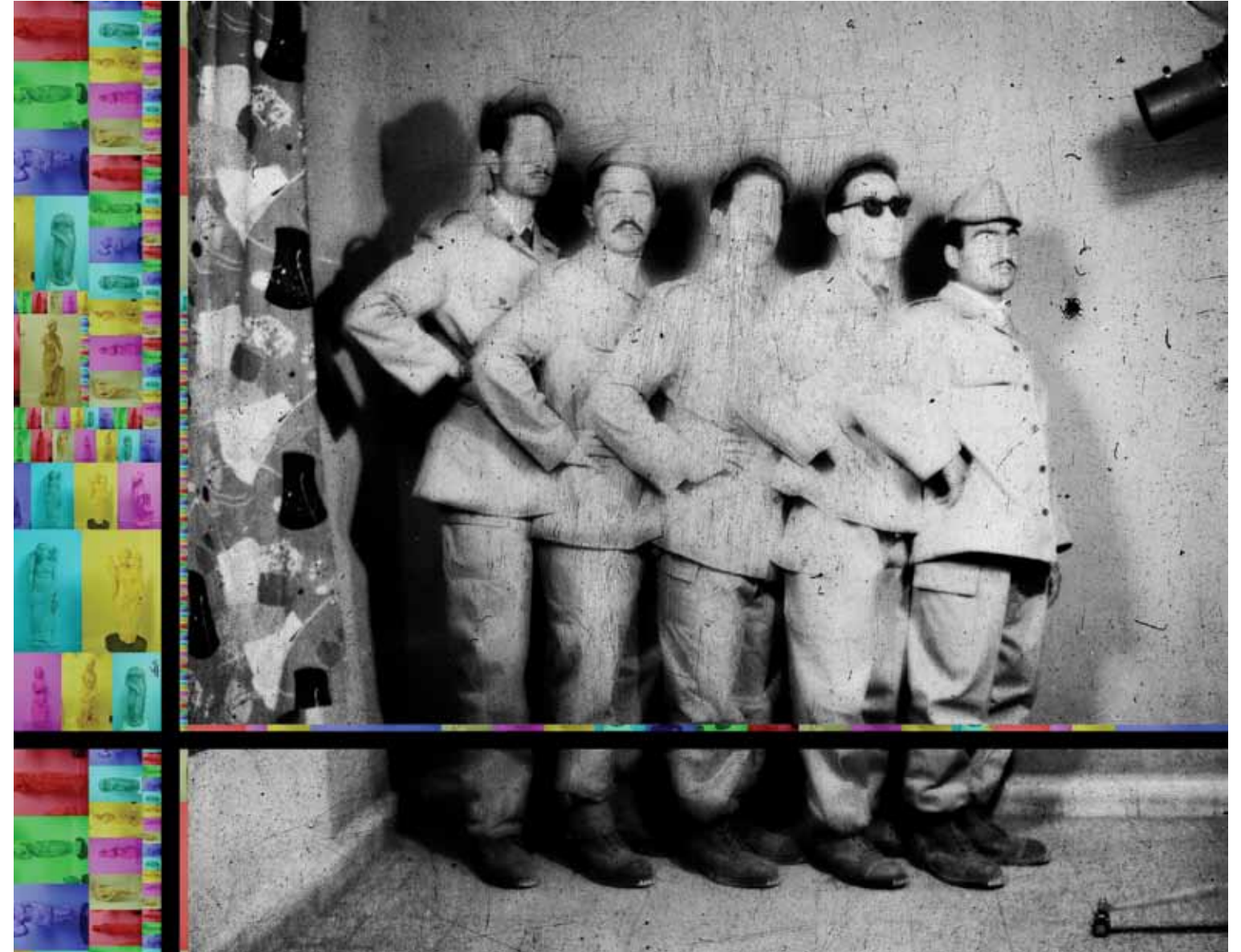
*Maximum Alert*  
2008

Archival Print on Cotton Paper  
110 x 140 cm  
Edition 2/7  
Signed, dated and numerated

Estimate: \$7,000 - \$10,000

The unconventional photographs of Syrian artist and film-maker Ammar Al Beik possess a highly developed cinematic quality. Often taking the form of large ultra-chrome prints on canvas, he has recently begun producing overtly political works that incorporate elements of video, sculpture and animation. His photographs toy with the manipulation of light and contrast and delve into the art of visual storytelling. Believing that art must not only imitate, but capture life, he upholds the narrative of his subjects with unflinching scrutiny and heightened sensitivity.

Born in 1972 in Damascus, Ammar Al Beik lives and works in Dubai. Internationally renowned for his work in film and documentary, he has shown at numerous international festivals including the Sao Paulo International Film Festival; Edinburgh Documentary Film Festival; Berlin International Film Festival; and Locarno International Film Festival. He is also the recipient of numerous awards including the Jury Prize Winner at the Busan International Short Film Festival, Korea (2012); Golden Award at the Rotterdam 7th Arab Film Festival, Holland (2007); the Golden Award at the Tetouan 13th Film Festival, Morocco (2007); and the Jury Award at the Brisbane International Film Festival, Australia (2002). In 2006 he was the first Syrian filmmaker to receive the award for best documentary at the Venice International Film Festival. In 2011, he presented *The Sun's Incubator*, a work exploring the domestic affects of the Arab Spring, at the 68th Venice International Film Festival. Solo exhibitions include Ayyam Gallery Al Quoz, Dubai (2013); Ayyam Gallery Damascus (2011, 2010, 2008); Ayyam Gallery Beirut (2010). An edition of *Maximum Alert* has recently been acquired by the LACMA's Department of Middle Eastern Art.







# Nassouh Zaghlouleh

(Syria, born 1958)

## Lot 037

From the 'Striptease Series'  
2008  
C-Print Plexi Frame  
110 x 110 cm  
Edition 2/7

Estimate: \$6,000 - \$9,000

Born in Damascus, Syria in 1958, Nassouh Zaghlouleh's expansive body of work has been compiled over several decades. Developing a love for the medium at an early age, he went on to refine his craft in France and received a graduate degree in Photographic Communication from L'école Nationale Supérieure des Arts Décoratifs in Paris in 1987. In 2003, he began teaching at the city's International Institute for Image and Sound.

Since launching his professional career, Zaghlouleh has taken over 80,000 photographs and has assisted with the filming of 20 documentaries, yet his images were only just debuted to the public for the first time in 2007 when he held a solo exhibition at Ayyam Gallery, Damascus. Featuring over two-dozen works, the exhibition 'From Paris to Damascus', marked an important milestone in his career. Since then he has received significant exposure through a number of events including the Contemporary Istanbul Art Fair, the exhibition 'Dialogues with the East', which was featured in several venues in Spain, and solo and group shows with Ayyam Gallery throughout the Arab world.

Nassouh Zaghlouleh's striking images of Damascus, in which he exhibits seasoned variations on light and composition, capture the essence of the city, one defined in the artist's eyes by its old alleyways. The barren structures, dark passages and looming shadows cast the perfect light for his explorations. His images are of a solitary existence, of the quiet that falls over the arteries of the city as its inhabitants go about their daily lives, merely passing between these walls as they make their way to their destinations. For Zaghlouleh, it is this often overlooked side of Damascus and its complex system of channels that give life to the metropolis.







# Bahman Jalili

(Iran, 1944-2010)

## Lot 038

*Image of Imagination*  
2003  
Colour Photographic Print  
68 X 67 cm  
Edition 6/10  
Signed and numerated

Estimate: \$3,000 - \$5,000

Bahman Jalali was an Iranian photographer who taught photography at different universities in Iran for 20 years. He graduated in Economics from Melli University in Tehran, then started his career as a photographer with Tamasha Magazine in 1972.

He is best known for his documentary photographs of the Iranian Revolution in 1979 and from the Iran-Iraq War, but after the Revolution he focused more on teaching Photography at Iranian Universities than practicing it. He was the curator of Iran's first museum of Photography and inspired a generation of emerging Iranian photographers.

His latest work was a photo series called 'Image of Imaginations', which took three years (2003–2006) to complete. A mixture of flowers or Farsi calligraphy with old photographs from Iranian photographic history. He explained later: "I have been exposed to many images by little known photographers around the country. Those that I could keep, I have held as mementos, and others have left their marks on my imagination.". The Museum of Fine Arts in Nantes has bought this photo series for their collection.

He was given a very special homage for his forty year career in Photography by the Fundacio Antoni Tapies in Barcelona with a special solo exhibition and publication curated by Catherine David from September to December 2007. He also contributed to the prestigious exhibition in the British Museum, "Word into Art : Artists of the Modern Middle East in 2006".

Until the end of his life, Bahman Jalali was a member of the editorial board for Aksnameh, a bi-monthly journal of Photography in Tehran. The veteran photographer was being treated for pancreatic cancer in Germany. He returned to his home in Tehran on 14 January 2010 and died the following morning at the age of 65.







# Hassan Hajjaj

(Morocco, born 1961)

## Lot 039

*Akira Posse*  
2000

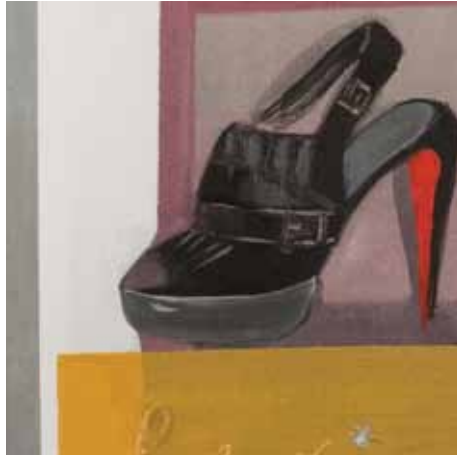
C-Print, Walnut Frame and Found Objects  
66 x 86.5 cm  
Edition 3/10  
Signed, dated and numerated

Estimate: \$5,000 - \$8,000

Designer, photographer and Pop Artist, Hassan Hajjaj was born in 1961 in Larache, Morocco. Deriving his inspiration from the every day in Marrakech, his diverse work ranges from the design and production of furniture including lamps, stools, and poufs to custom-made clothing and photography, all created from recycled materials and items found in Moroccan markets. He employs new technology in the vernacular of every day from matchboxes, recycled bicycle tires, paint and soda cans and creatively shapes these pieces into a frame encasing his photographs. Since 2000, Hajjaj has had solo exhibitions in France, England, Morocco, Wales, Mali, and Qatar. His works have been shown in numerous public collections including Le Salon at L'Institut Des Cultures d'Islam in Paris, the Nido Bouchra Wedge collection in Toronto, the Jama Fna Angels and Saida Green collection at the Victoria and Albert Museum in London, and the Kamel Lazaar Foundation in Tunisia. The British Museum, the Virginia Museum of Fine Art, and The Farjam Foundation in Dubai have acquired his works. Ever the versatile artist, he is best known for designing the 'Andy Wahloo' bar-restaurant in Paris. The artist presently lives and works between London, England and Marrakech, Morocco.







# Kais Salman

(Syria, born 1976)

## Lot 040

*Untitled*  
2010

Mixed Media on Canvas  
120 x 120 cm  
Signed and dated

Estimate: \$5,000 - \$8,000

The work of Syrian artist Kais Salman seeks to challenge prevalent ideas of beauty and materialism in Middle Eastern art and society. Distorted, almost grotesque, naked forms - their large, tapered faces carried atop undersized voluptuous bodies - underscore the artificiality of the female body image and rage against the increasing commodification of women in Syrian society. Nearly monochromatic with crimson accents, his subjects are dangerous creatures, their rotund fecundity and corporeal vulnerability is countered by items such as a holstered dagger or gun in a lace garter.

Born in Tartous, Syria in 1976, Kais Salman lives and works in Damascus. In May 2010, a work from his Fashion Series appeared on the cover of the Wall Street Journal's Weekend Edition magazine, a first for an Arab artist. His paintings are currently housed in private collections throughout the Middle East, North Africa and Europe. Selected solo exhibitions include Ayyam Gallery Beirut (2012); Ayyam Gallery DIFC, Dubai (2010); Ayyam Gallery Damascus (2010). Selected Group exhibitions include Ayyam Gallery Al Quoz, Dubai (2011; 2010); The Park Avenue Armory, New York (2008); Carthage Festival for Coast Mediterranean Sea Artists, Tunisia (2005); Damascus Museum of Modern Art.







# Amin Bagheri

(Iran, born 1981)

Lot 041

*Bitterfly*  
2013  
Oil on Canvas  
150 x 190 cm  
Signed and dated

Estimate: \$3,000 - \$5,000

Iranian artist Amin Bagheri was born in 1981 and received his Bachelor of Arts in Painting from Shoureh Univeristy, Shiraz in 2005 and his Master of Arts in Painting from the Faculty of Fine Art and Architecture at Azad University, Tehran, in 2010. Bagheri has held several solo exhibitions with Homa Gallery and Mirmiran Gallery in Tehran, and has participated in group exhibitions across Iran, Kuwait, and England. In 2010, he was commended by the Iran Contemporary Perspective Drawing Festival and in 2007, placed first in Graphic Design at the Iran Contemporary Visual Art Festival, third in the Painting division, and had superior mention in the Drawing division.







# Khosrow Hassanzadeh

(Iran, born 1963)

## Lot 042

*Pahlavan*  
2003

Silkscreen and Mixed Media on Paper  
88 x 106 cm  
Signed and dated

Estimate: \$3,000 - \$5,000

Born in Iran in 1963, Khosrow Hassanzadeh lives and works in Tehran as a full-time visual artist and actor. In 1991, he completed his academic training in painting at Mojtama-e-Honar University and later studied Persian Literature at Azad University from 1995 to 1999. First gaining international stardom in 1998 with his War series of acrylic on paper, which documented his experiences as a volunteer soldier during the Iran-Iraq war (1980-1988), he has exhibited in the Middle East, Europe, Asia and the United States. Hassanzadeh's paintings and mixed media works are held in the collections of the British Museum, the Tehran Museum of Contemporary Art, the World Bank and the Tropenmuseum. In 2007, Saqi Books (London, Beirut) published, Tehran Studio Works: the Art of Khosrow Hassanzadeh, one of its few monographs on an Iranian artist.

In addition to well-known silk screens that often explore the dynamism of Iranian visual culture as it relates to the country's complex history and heightened political arena, he has gained critical acclaim for his 'Ready to Order' series of mixed media light boxes. Exploring the concept of martyrdom, popular culture and the mass production of religious imagery, these three-dimensional works are layered with objects and photographs, portraying Middle Eastern divas like Oum Kalthoum, Fairuz and Googoosh, while also paying homage to everyday superstars such as the artist's mother.







# Nadim Karam

(Lebanon, born 1957)

## Lot 043

*Couple*  
2008  
Mixed Media on Canvas  
100 x 100 cm  
Signed and dated

Estimate: \$5,000 - \$8,000







# Mahmoud Sabzi

(Iran, born 1955)

## Lot 044

*Fusion*  
2012  
Mixed Media on Canvas  
122 x 153 cm  
Signed and dated

Estimate: \$8,000 - \$12,000

Mahmoud Sabzi has been painting for over four decades and his stylistic progression has been influenced by his experiences of his Iranian homeland, his departure during the Khomeini regime to Germany and later to the United States. While his style has evolved from pastoral, realistic imagery to expressionistic portraiture very reminiscent of Matisse, his latest evolution has taken his paintings to a more contemporary framework. His subjects remain the same, notably melancholic, languid anonymous women who reference love and solitude and transcend reality. Equally informed by Western influences of Modernism and his Persian heritage, his new works repeatedly layer images to create a new world, reflected upon itself with the addition of faceted mirrors to create multiple dimensions.

Mahmoud Sabzi has held solo and collective exhibitions since 1987 throughout the United States, the United Kingdom, Germany and Japan and his works are permanently housed in the collections of the Los Angeles County Museum of Art (LACMA) and the Tehran Museum of Contemporary Art, Iran.







# Manuella Guiragossian

(Lebanon, born 1972)

## Lot 045

*Boy Meets Girl*  
2012  
Acrylic on Canvas  
120 x 120 cm

Estimate: \$5,000 - \$8,000

Born in Beirut in 1972, Manuella is the youngest daughter of the late Paul Guiragossian, a Jerusalem-born painter who was a celebrated modernist in the Lebanese art scene for decades. Surrounded by her father's work and his artistic circle, she spent much time in his studio as a child, developing a love for animation that was nurtured by the elaborate stories that her father would illustrate for her. In 1989, while traveling to Paris with her father for his exhibition at UNESCO, the Civil War in Lebanon took an even graver turn, forcing them to stay in France. Making the most of their situation, the young Guiragossian began drafting characters for a children's play, a small collection that would eventually lead to her first exhibition in "La Defense" in Paris and a subsequent showing in the Festival de Bandes Dessinées at the French Cultural Center of Beirut, which they returned to in 1991. After her father's death in 1993, she continued to work at the family-run gallery that represented his work, which is still located just outside Beirut. In 1997 she relocated to the US to study at the renowned California Institute of the Arts, where she pursued a Bachelor of Fine Arts degree in Film and Video, with an emphasis in Character Animation.

Currently living between Dubai and Beirut (where she has her studio) she has exhibited extensively throughout the region, most recently at Oman's Bait Muzna Gallery, Art Paris Abu Dhabi and the Guiragossian-family Emmagoss Art Gallery in Lebanon. Her vibrant and whimsical expressionist paintings reflect the exact painterliness that characterized her father's work and for which he was so widely admired—an indication that she has inherited his enormous talent.







# Mansour Vakili

(Iran, born 1946)

## Lot 046

*Cris et Chuchotement*  
2012

Oil on Canvas  
120 x 120 cm  
Signed and dated

Estimate: \$5,000 - \$8,000

Iranian architect and painter Mansour Vakili recieved his Master of Architecture from the University of Tehran in 1972, his D.P.L.G. from the Ecole Nationale Supérieure des Beaux-arts, Paris, France in 1976, and his Master of Urban Design from the University of Paris VIII in 1982. He has held various solo exhibitions in Iran and France since 1998, with his most recent in 2008 at Homa Gallery and Baran Gallery in Tehran. He has also participated in collective exhibitions between Paris and Tehran, most notably at Galerie Nicolas Flamel in 2010, and his works have made various appearances on auction with Drouot's. He presently lives and works in France.

For the artist, painting is a means to enter unknown spaces, those which are empty and endless, albeit familiar. Through this inner journey, this dream, he is able to reconnect with memories. Of his work, Vakili has stated, "Extending beyond my own capabilities, I try to detach myself completely. My paintings are the imagined landscapes I visit throughout this journey. Memories are expressed in new colors and forms, in the deep strokes and in the sense of perspective. The whirling lines and dancing brushstrokes tell the viewer of the passing of time. I carry with me the weight of history, culture, childhood and selected experience of youth. Like a lull in the turmoil of everyday life, my paintings draw on mysticism, art, technique and self-consciousness; they are an interpretation of the poetical message to be found in each."







# Abdul Karim Majdal Al-Beik

(Syria, born 1973)

## Lot 047

*Death and Life*  
2012

Mixed Media on Canvas  
100 x 100 cm  
Signed and dated

Estimate: \$4,000 - \$6,000

Syrian artist Abdul Karim Majdal Al-Beik places the city of Damascus and the Syrian political situation at the center of his work. His painterly compositions seek hidden stories amongst the multitude of graffiti, etchings, marks and cracks of the walls of Damascus's Old City. Recognising this patina as means of examining local history, Majdal Al-Beik carefully replicates its textures, colors, and shapes, employing the exact materials that are used in the construction of these ancient Damascene facades. With a limited palette of white, black and grey, he reconfigures these two dimensional surfaces with charcoal, plaster, starch and ash, creating fissures where these materials collide. In recent years, Majdal Al-Beik's practice has evolved to incorporate a wider palette with the inclusion of additional elements such as small scarecrows, fabric strips, string, guns and knives; a response to the on-going turmoil afflicting Syria.

Born in a small village on the outskirts of Al-Hasakah, Syria in 1973, Abdul Karim Majdal Al-Beik trained at the Faculty of Fine Arts Damascus. His works are housed in public and private collections throughout the Middle East and Europe and he has been the recipient of several awards, including those from the Lattakia Biennale and the Shabab Ayyam competition for emerging artists. Solo exhibitions include Ayyam Gallery Beirut (2012) and Ayyam Gsllery Damascus (2008). Group exhibitions include Ayyam Gallery Al Quoz, Dubai (2009); Tehran Biennale for Art in the Islamic World (2005); Unesco Palace, Beirut (2001).







# Ahmad Morshedloo

(Iran, born 1973)

## Lot 048

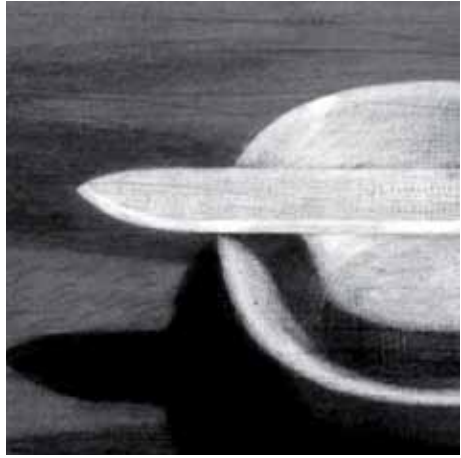
*Untitled*  
2010  
Ballpoint Pen on Paper  
270 x 120 cm  
Signed and dated

Estimate: \$12,000 - \$18,000

Born in Mashhad in 1973, Ahmad Morshedloo lives and works in Tehran. His work is housed in several significant private and public collections including at the Tehran Museum of Contemporary Art, the Imam Ali Museum and the Saatchi Collection. Solo exhibitions include Assar Art Gallery, Tehran (2007, 2002); Iranian Artists' Forum, Tehran (2006, 2004); Tarahan-e Azad Gallery, Tehran (2005, 2001); and Aria Gallery, Tehran (2004, 2003). Selected group exhibitions include The Saatchi Gallery Collection, Lille (2010); Mah Art Gallery, Tehran (2010, 2009, 2008 and 2007); Project B Contemporary Art, Milan (2010); Chelsea Art Museum, New York (2009); F2 Gallery, Beijing (2009); The Saatchi gallery, London (2006); and Pergamon Museum, Berlin (2008).







# Youssef Abdelke

(Syria, born 1951)

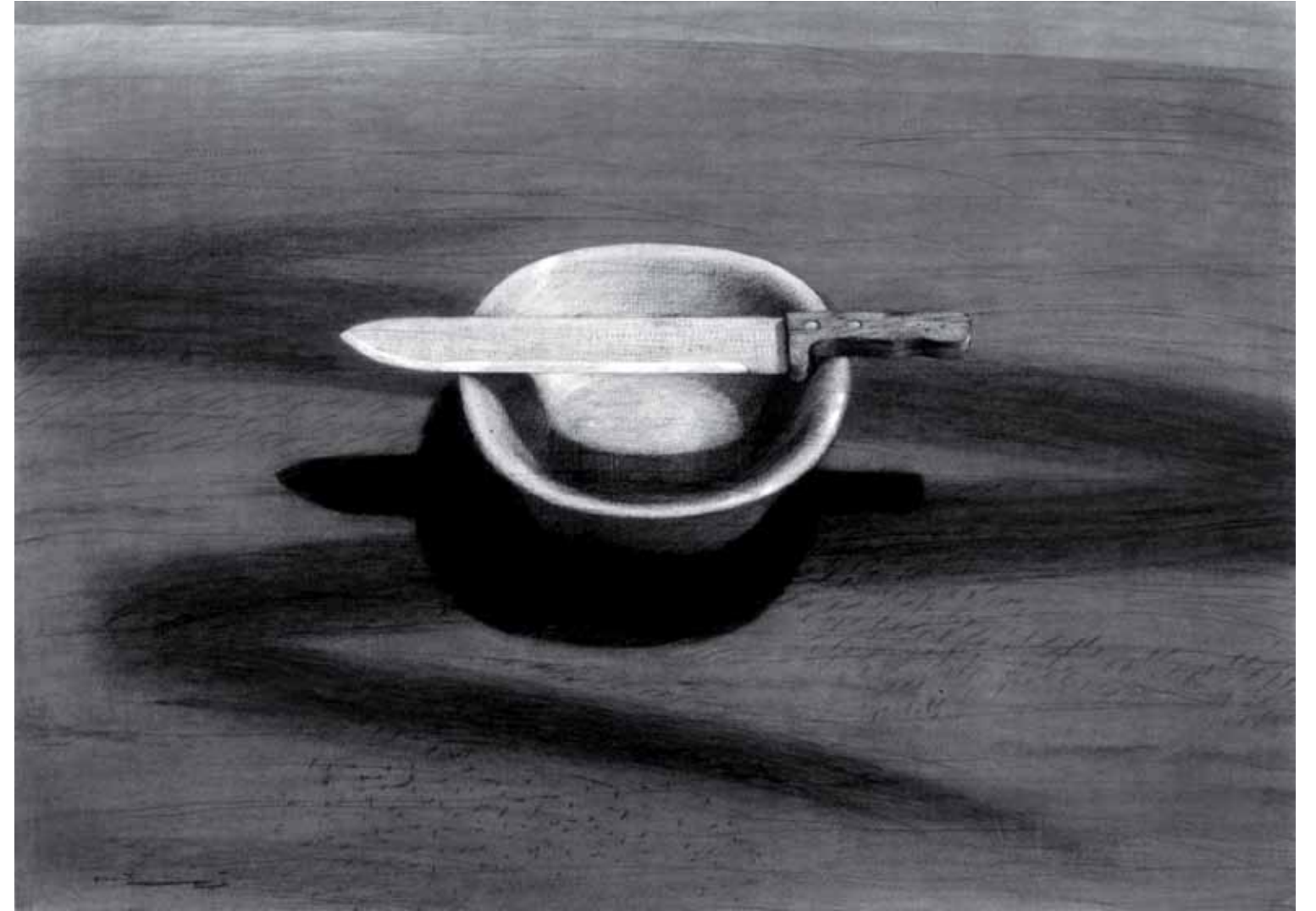
## Lot 049

*Knife*  
2006  
Charcoal on Paper  
115 x 151 cm  
Signed and dated

Estimate: \$10,000 - \$15,000

Born in Kamishli, Syria in 1951, Youssef Abdelke graduated from Damascus University's Faculty of Fine Arts in the late 1970s. Immigrating to France shortly after, he received a diploma in etching from the Ecole Nationale Supérieure des Beaux Arts and later went on to complete a PhD in Plastic Arts from University VIII of Paris in 1989.

In addition to his etchings, drawings and collages, Abdelke has worked in various areas of graphic art and is well known for his posters, logos and book covers. He has authored over 30 children's books and has published several texts on the history of caricature in Syria and the Arab world. Having exhibited throughout the Middle East, North Africa, and Europe, his artworks can be found in the National Museum of Damascus, the National Museum of Kuwait, the British Museum, and many other public institutions. With an extensive oeuvre that has been decades in the making, Abdelke's subject matter has ranged from highly political social satire to meditative still lifes.







# Nazar Moosavinia

(Iran, born 1979)

Lot 050

*Recollection of a Hen*  
2011  
Acrylic on Canvas  
150 x 200 cm  
Signed and dated

Estimate: \$5,000 - \$8,000

Born in Abadan, Iran in 1979, Nazar Moosavinia received his Bachelor of Arts in Painting from Jahad University, his Master of Arts in Painting from Azad Art and Architecture University, also in Tehran, and is a dedicated member of the Iranian Painters Society (SIP). Exhibiting solo and collectively since 2006 in Tehran, London and Dubai, Moosavinia's works have auctioned in Sotheby's 2008 and 2010 Modern and Calligraphic Arab and Iranian Art sales in London.

One of the most imaginative artists to date, Moosavinia's canvases erupt in beautifully and skillfully surreal worlds. Reminiscent of the creativity of Hieronymous Bosch, Moosavinia creates a fantastical and nightmarish context in 'Recollection of a Hen', in which the progression of captive hen becomes captive human. Of the series Ali Etehad stated, "the characters represented in these paintings are a collection of animal-like humans and human-like animals; created years ago, they went through hardships of all kinds, time after time. Wounded, sometimes even dead, they were abandoned to their fate: standing naked and truthful in front of the viewers."







Mohammad Tabatabaei  
(Iran, born 1966)

Lot 051

*Inconveniences*  
2008  
Oil on Canvas  
120 x 220 cm (Triptych)  
Signed and dated

Estimate: \$7,000 - \$10,000

Born in Tehran in 1966, Iranian artist Mohammad Mehdi Tabatabaei graduated from the Tehran Art University in 1991 with a Bachelor of Arts in Painting. A member of the Society of Iranian Painters and the Association for Illustrators of Children's books, Tabatabaei has participated in collective exhibitions and biennales in Germany, France, the United Kingdom, Iran, Switzerland, Bratislava, Serbia and Japan since 1993 and has held solo exhibitions in Tehran since 2002. In 2007 and 2008 he participated in Illustration workshops at the British Council and Italian Embassy in Tehran.







# Majid Koorang Beheshti

(Iran, born 1967)

## Lot 052

*The Cubic Paths*  
2005

Giclée Canvas Print  
100 x 150 cm  
Edition 2/3

Signed, dated and numerated with Farsi stamp

Estimate: \$3,000 - \$5,000

Born in 1967 in Isfahan, Iran, Majid Koorang Beheshti received his Bachelor of Arts in Painting from Tehran's Azad University. He has exhibited individually throughout Iran since 1998 and in collective exhibitions in Iran, the United States, Italy, France, the United Kingdom and Germany since 2004, most notably with the exhibition 'Persian Visions, Contemporary Photography from Iran' which toured the United States. In 1999, he was chosen the Selected Painter in the 'Dialogue Among Civilizations International Contest', won Best Photo Exhibition of the Year in 2000, and his series 'Cubic Pathways' was selected as the Best Collection in Creative Photography of the 10th Biennale of Iranian Photography in 2006.

In Beheshti's 2007 series, 'Cubic Pathways', the stark crispness of monochrome constructions, angular or often curved and offset with bold ebony-shadowed areas and clean lines in repeated sequences, create foreign landscapes reminiscent of Bauhaus and, at times, Surrealist sensibilities. The structures are devoid of their original purpose, allowing the form and line of each segment to stand out and create a new meaning for the viewer.







Ali Cherri  
(Lebanon, born 1976)

Lot 053

*Le Pyromane*  
2011  
Burnt Matchsticks  
40 x 188 x 7 cm  
Edition 2/3

Estimate: \$6,000 - \$9,000

Born in Beirut in 1976, Ali Cherri is a visual artist and designer working with video, installation, performance, multimedia and print. His recent exhibition includes *Bad Bad Images*, solo show at Galerie Imane Farès (2012), *Dégagements*, Institut du Monde Arabe (2012), *Exposure*, Beirut Art Center (2011), *Southern Panorama*, VideoBrasil (2011), Beirut, Kunsthalle Vienna (2011) and *A Fleur de Peau*, solo show at Gallery Regard Sud (2011). Ali is a graduate in Graphic Design from the American University in Beirut. In parallel to his design work, he finished his Master's degree in Performing Arts at DasArts, Amsterdam in 2005.

*Le Pyromane* was made in response to the act of self-immolation as political protest. The artwork, which was presented at the solo show 'A fleur de peau' in 2012, spells out 'I am not a pyromaniac' using hundreds of matchsticks.

*"On December 17, 2011, Mohamed Bouazizi, a Tunisian street vendor, doused himself with paint thinner and lit a match. His desperate act sparked uprisings across the Arab world, and inspired a large number of other men to set themselves on fire. Those serial self-immolations provoked me with horror and wonder, I began questioning how could someone reach this extreme political statement? The installation 'le pyromane' (the arsonist) states what this act is not the result of: an obsessive desire to set fire to things."*







# Ghazaleh Hedayat

(Iran, born 1979)

## Lot 054

*Untitled*  
2013

Mixed Media on Canvas  
30 x 30 cm Each

Estimate: \$6,000 - \$9,000

Born in Tehran, Iran in 1979, Ghazaleh Hedayat received her Bachelor of Fine Arts in Photography at Islamic Azad Univeristy, Tehran, and her Master of Fine Arts from the San Francisco Art Institute. Hedayat has held solo exhibitions since 2004 in Tehran with Khak Gallery, Silk Road Gallery, and Azad Art Gallery. In 2011, she participated in the Magic of Persia Contemporary Art Prize in the United Arab Emirates, as well as collective exhibitions in Kuwait, the United States, Switzerland, Germany, Iran, England, and Australia. Hedayat was awarded the Murphy Fellowship in 2004, and co-curated 'After the Revolution: Contemporary Iranian Photography from California and Tehran' at SFAC and 'One Day: Narratives from Tehran' at Intersections for the Arts in San Francisco, California. She presently teaches Photography at Alzahra University's Fine Arts Department in Tehran, Iran.







# Katayoun Karami

(Iran, born 1967)

## Lot 055

*Have a Break*  
2012

Digital Print on Glass  
206 x 164 cm  
Edition 4/5

Signed dated and numerated

Estimate: \$8,000 - \$12,000

Katayoun Karami was born in Tehran in 1967 and relocated to Turkey in 1986 where she began studies towards a Bachelor of Arts in Architecture at the Middle East Technical University of Ankara. Exhibiting collectively since 2002, Karami's artworks have been shown in Kuwait, France, Germany, Turkey, India, Iran, Romania, Switzerland and Greece. Her large scale mixed media portait *Have a Break* recently sold at Christie's Dubai Modern and Contemporary Arab, Iranian and Turkish Art Part II, and her works are found in prestigious collections such as the Salsali Private Museum, Dubai.







# Katayoun Karami

(Iran, born 1967)

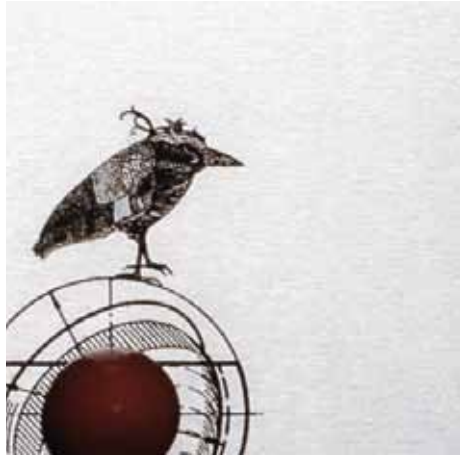
**Lot 056**

*Resurrection*  
2009  
Digital Print on Glass Framed  
41 x 35 cm Each  
Edition 3/10

Estimate: \$3,000 - \$5,000







# Amir-Nasr Kamgouyan

(Iran, born 1981)

## Lot 057

*Capturing Friction*  
2012

Engraving on Stainless Steel  
64 x 64 cm  
Signed and dated

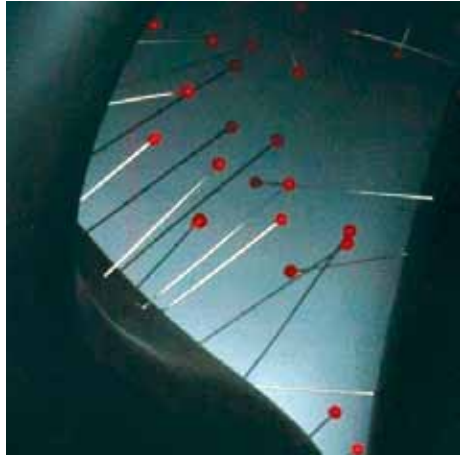
Estimate: \$1,000 - \$2,000

Born in Tehran in 1981, Iranian artist Amir-Nasr Kamgouyan received his Bachelor of Arts in Graphic Design from Shoureh University, Shiraz. In 2012, he held his first solo exhibition with Shirin Art Gallery in Tehran, and his works have been featured in collective exhibitions throughout Tehran and notably, in Sacramento, California's 'Iranian Artists' exhibition in June 2012.

Utilizing gravure, Kamgouyan creates a dialogue between nature and technology through his subject matter. As Mahsa Farhadi-kia stated of this series in her article *Right Next Door to Nuts and Bolts*, "the artist attempts to symbolize this dichotomy in form of birds as 'the organic' and complex industrial machinery as 'the technologic'....His complex machines, being symbolic, non-functional and semi-Dadaistic in nature, endeavor to represent an absurd narration of the ever-increasing industrial technology: these machines, like gears of Francis Picabia, are not actually doing anything, but are merely telling ironic and hyperbolic stories about our industrial and technological world."







# Mahsa Karimizadeh

(Iran, born 1980)

Lot 058

*Untitled*  
2012  
Fiberglass  
74 x 66 x 48 cm

Estimate: \$3,000 - \$5,000

Born in Shiraz, Iran in 1980, Mahsa Karimizadeh received her Bachelor of Arts in Sculpture from the Faculty of Fine Art of Tehran University. From 1996–2001, Karimizadeh participated in many group painting exhibitions in Shiraz and Tehran and from 2005, she has held solo exhibitions of both her paintings and sculptures in Iran, the United Arab Emirates, and Mexico. At Tehran Museum of Contemporary Art's Fifth Iranian Sculptural Biennale of 2008 and 2007 Visual Arts Festival, Karimizadeh was awarded Second Prize.







# Saif B. Chilmiran

(Iraq, born 1990)

## Lot 059

*Garbage*  
2013

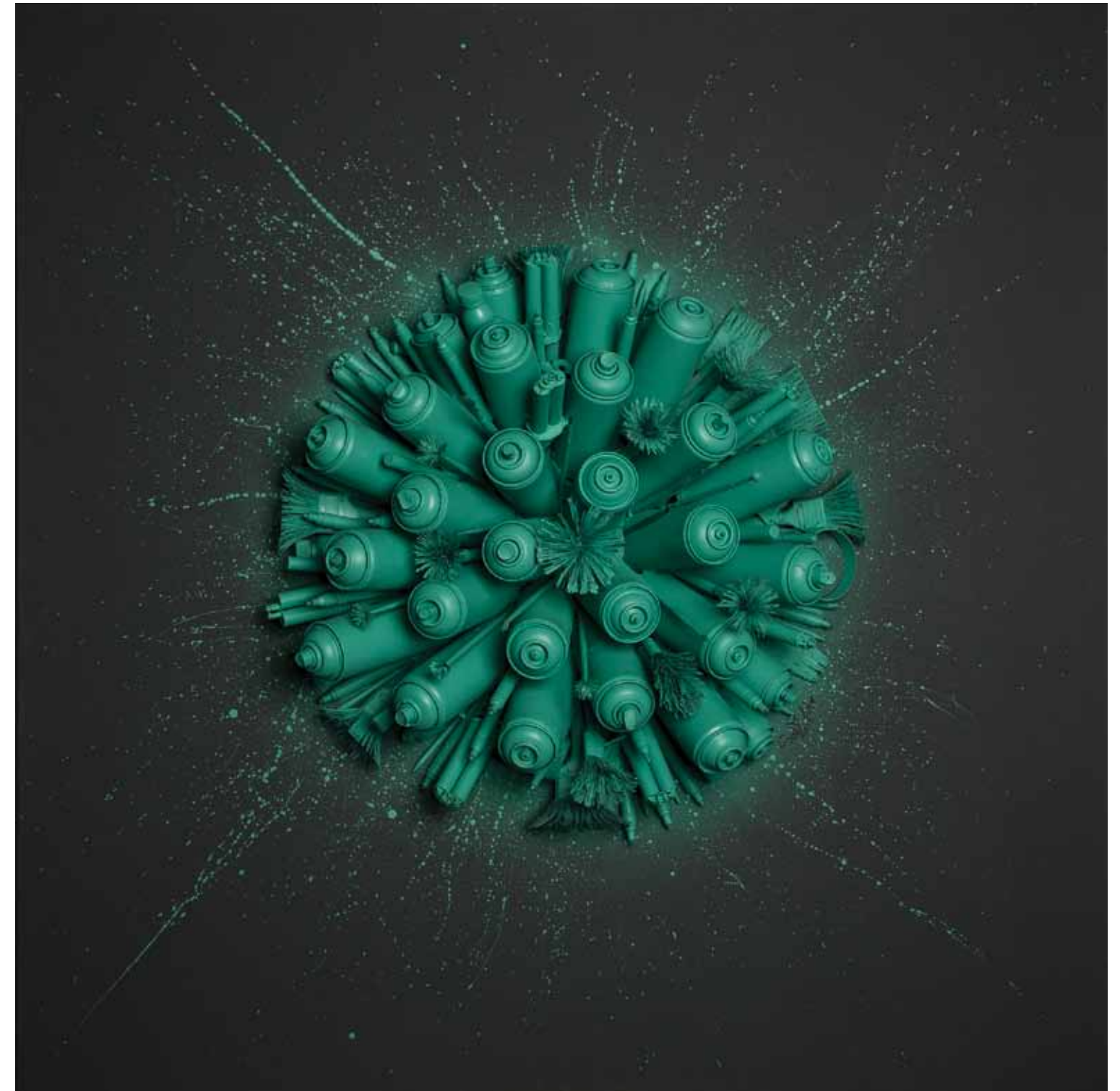
Mixed Media on Canvas  
122 x 122 x 27 cm  
Signed and dated

Estimate: \$3,000 - \$5,000

Born in Abu Dhabi in 1990, Saif B. Chilmiran is a Canadian-Iraqi artist who began working with graffiti in his early teens as a form of an artistic insurrection to express his views in a conservative culture. He sprayed his way into commissioned events hosted by Red bull, Chevrolet and Mini Cooper amongst others, yet that did not suppress his appetite for creativity, and by 2008, Chilmiran began experimenting with canvas and installations.

In 2010, Pro Art Gallery, Dubai incorporated Chilmiran's artwork into their first Street Art exhibition alongside works by street art pioneers such as Banksy, Shepard Fairey, Blek Le Rat and Seen. In the two years since his first exhibition with Pro Art Gallery, Chilmiran has featured amongst renowned artists in numerous exhibitions and his work was first auctioned by Opera Gallery, Dubai and Millon's Auction House in 2012.

Chilmiran derives his inspiration from modern day conflicts, philanthropy, irony and honesty. In recent work such as *Garbage*, the artist discovered that the instruments of his craft were destroyed in the creative process, and in an effort to elevate the tools to the level of the art they produce, he created works by recycling these very materials. True to the irony found in all his works, the media used in *Garbage*, though was once destined for the dust bin, have burst forth in this cosmic form to comment not only on the art industry and practice, but also on larger issues of human consumption and waste.







## Omid Hallaj

(Iran, born 1980)

### Lot 060

*Untitled*  
2011  
Fiberglass  
62 x 43 x 34 cm  
Artist Proof from an Edition of 3 + 1 AP

Estimate: \$5,000 - \$8,000

Omid Hallaj was born in Tehran, Iran in 1980. In 2009, he graduated with a Bachelor of Arts in Painting from Tehran's Elm o Farhang University. Since 1996, his work has been exhibited in six solo shows and ten group shows. Taking inspiration from visions he sees in dreams, Hallaj paints a lost paradise of marshes and swamps where human forms in their most primeval state emerge in the midst of luxuriant vegetation and unidentifiable animals. Hallaj's works address both the beauty of Creation and a process inherent within it: man's alienation from nature, and from himself. He currently works and teaches in Tehran.







# Salman Matinfar

(Iran, born 1978)

## Lot 061

*Untitled*  
2012

Video Installation  
60 x 49 x 14 cm Each

Estimate: \$3,000 - \$5,000

*O sancta simplicitas! In what strange simplification and falsification man lives! One can never cease wondering when once one has got eyes for beholding this marvel! How we have made everything around us clear and free and easy and simple! How we have been able to give our senses a passport to everything superficial, our thoughts a godlike desire for wanton pranks and wrong inferences! How from the beginning, we have contrived to retain our ignorance in order to enjoy an almost inconceivable freedom, thoughtlessness, imprudence, heartiness, and gaiety—in order to enjoy life! And only on this solidified, granite like foundation of ignorance could knowledge rear itself hitherto, the will to knowledge on the foundation of a far more powerful will, the will to ignorance, to the uncertain, to the untrue! Not as its opposite, but—as its refinement!*  
– Friedrich Nietzsche, *Beyond Good and Evil*

Salman Matinfar was born in Tehran, Iran in 1978. In 1994, he received his Bachelor of Arts from the Art and Architecture University in Tehran. In 2012, his first solo exhibition 'Com/Passion' was held at Azad Art Gallery in Tehran.







# Atefeh Majidi-Nezhad

(Iran, born 1983)

## Lot 062

*Desire I*  
2012

Acrylic on Canvas and Wood  
104 x 149 cm  
Signed and dated

Estimate: \$3,000 - \$5,000

Born in Isfahan, Iran in 1983, Atefeh Majidi-Nezhad received her Bachelor of Arts from the Art University of Isfahan and her Master of Fine Arts from the University of Tehran. She has exhibited in numerous collective exhibitions throughout Iran since 1999, most recently with Aria Gallery and Azad Art Gallery in Tehran.

For Majidi-Nezhad, art is more about the struggles with everyday life and challenges around the world. Her painting`s subjects originate from the challenges she faces in everyday life with her society; the conflicts between personal aspirations and social conventions, and religious beliefs and traditions juxtaposed against human desire.

In *Desire I*, the young boy sleeping depicts raw, innocent human desire through the placement of his hands. Surrounding the main subject are pictures of children from past generations, people who now dictate appropriate behavior based on old traditions. This frame represents the constraints, which withhold human aspirations.







# Mouteea Murad

(Syria, born 1977)

## Lot 063

*Trial No. 78*  
2012  
Acrylic on Canvas  
230 x 80 cm  
Signed and dated

Estimate: \$6,000 - \$9,000

Syrian artist Mouteea Murad's vivid, spiritual canvases are geometric mosaics in which squares, triangles and circles intersect, overlap and collapse upon each other. Arabesques with constructivist visions and minimalist divisions, juxtapose order and chaos, while illuminated shapes and bold lines define multidimensional space.

Influenced by his belief that contemporary abstraction is rooted in the logic and science of Islamic thought, Murad's most recent series, Trials, seeks to extract the beautiful and sacred by reconfiguring abstraction through reference to the multifarious traditions of Islamic art. Striving for completeness and harmony, his compositions suggest a divine presence in the world.

Born in 1977 in Homs, Syria, Mouteea Murad lives and works in Cairo. His work is housed in private and public collections internationally, including the Jordan National Gallery of Fine Arts. Selected solo exhibitions include Ayyam Gallery Beirut (2011); Ayyam Gallery DIFC, Dubai (2011); Ayyam Gallery Damascus (2010).







# Nihad Al Turk

(Syria, born 1972)

## Lot 064

*The Revolution's Bird*  
2012

Acrylic on Canvas  
120 x 120 cm  
Signed and dated

Estimate: \$4,000 - \$7,000

Born in Aleppo, Syria in 1972 amidst abject poverty, Nihad Al Turk has developed a mature painting style against all odds. Without formal training, yet through several years of practice and experimentation, he has established himself within the contemporary Middle Eastern art scene, holding solo exhibitions in leading art spaces in Syria and Turkey in addition to being included in a number of collective exhibitions in the United States.

Al Turk's haunting mixed media canvases are largely influenced by his outlook on life and personal political convictions. Believing that man is innately flawed and that only through an existence filled with love can there be human progress, he drafts compositions that hint at the injustices of the surrounding world. He does so with a sophisticated technique of flattening space and utilizing color fields and patterns to give illusions of depth and dimension. Creating an aesthetic that is based on the tradition of still life painting, yet is dominated by symbolic representation, his works employ a detailed system of signs that allude to philosophical conclusions.







Omid Hallaj  
(Iran, born 1980)

Lot 065

*Untitled*  
2008  
Oil on Canvas  
100 x 150 cm  
Signed and dated

Estimate: \$4,000 - \$7,000







## Omran Younes

(Syria, born 1971)

### Lot 066

*The Picture's Friend*  
2008

Acrylic on Canvas  
160 x 160 cm  
Signed and dated

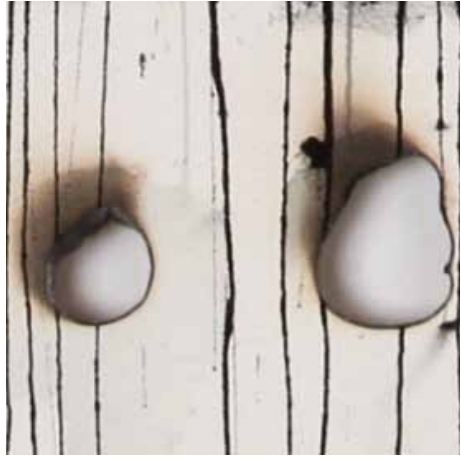
Estimate: \$5,000 - \$8,000

Born in Al-Hasakah in 1971, Omran Younes has been active in the Arab art scene since the late 1990s. After graduating from the Faculty of Fine Arts Damascus in 1998, he went on to obtain a Master's degree in Fine Arts in 2000. Having been featured in exhibitions throughout the Middle East and in the US, he has received critical acclaim at home and abroad, most notably as the first prize recipient of the Third Annual Youth Competition in Damascus. Prior to joining Ayyam's lineup of artists, Younes held solo exhibitions at such prominent regional art spaces as Atassi Gallery in Damascus and Zara Gallery in Amman. Recently, Younes was a standout participant of Ayyam's "Shabab Uprising", a solo show at Ayyam Gallery Beirut, and was highlighted at the Virginia Common Wealth University Gallery in Doha alongside such prominent Arab artists as Dia Azzawi, Mona Hatoum and Youssef Nabil. Today his work is housed in collections across the Arab world.

Younes' large canvases are distinguished by detailed investigations into human subjects. His continual explorations of various styles of Expressionist painting have culminated in a noticeable pursuit of elevating his art to its highest form. He has demonstrated this versatility throughout his career and frequently works within a specific theme, with each series dedicated to particular experiments and breakthroughs in art. Belonging to a group of artists that emerged amidst the legacy of Syrian Modernism, Younes has sought to further the accomplishments of his predecessors while fashioning his own path. The result has been a brand of painting that mixes bold social commentary with an acute sense of observation and a confident command of medium and technique.







# Tammam Azzam

(Syria, born 1980)

## Lot 067

*Storeys*  
2013

Mixed Media on Canvas  
150 x 150 cm  
Signed and dated

Estimate: \$8,000 - \$12,000

Born in the Syrian capital in 1980, Tammam Azzam graduated from the Faculty of Fine Arts in Damascus with a concentration in Oil Painting and subsequently obtained a Fine Arts Certificate in 2001 from Darat al Funun's Al Kharif Academy, an esteemed artist workshop series led by Syrian master, Marwan Kassab Bashi. Since joining the Shabab Ayyam Young Artists Programme in 2008, he has been featured in several significant events including the group show, 'Stories from the Levant', Scope Art Fair, Basel, in 2009, and Art Miami 2010, and has held solo exhibitions at Ayyam Gallery, Damascus in 2010 and Dubai in 2011.

Azzam's approach to painting focuses on the tactical application of media; how a variety of components can be employed to create depth, texture and space, achieving a striking balance between the ordinary objects that he portrays and the grand terrain that he evokes. Azzam's latest works utilize digital art to extend a political commentary on the upheavals in his homeland as a result of the Syrian Uprising. Many of these new works depict the country of Syria riddled with bullet holes and bloodshed, reflecting the horrific violence faced by his countrymen. First exhibited and auctioned with The Young Collectors Auction No. 13 in early 2012, his prints are highly coveted for their originality and poignancy.







# Thaier Helal

(Syria, born 1967)

## Lot 068

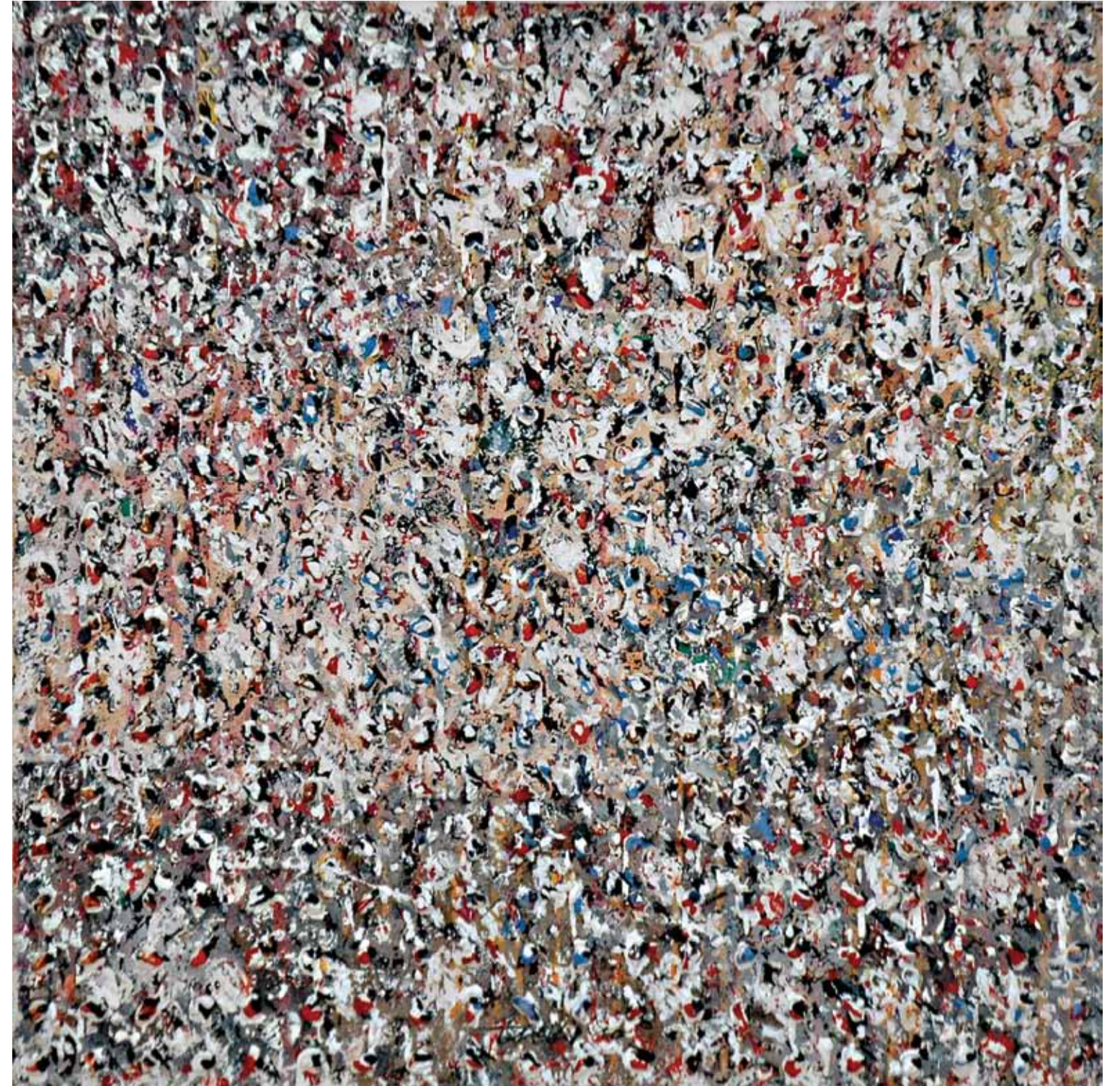
*Untitled*  
2010  
Mixed Media on Canvas  
100 x 100 cm  
Signed and dated

Estimate: \$6,000 - \$9,000

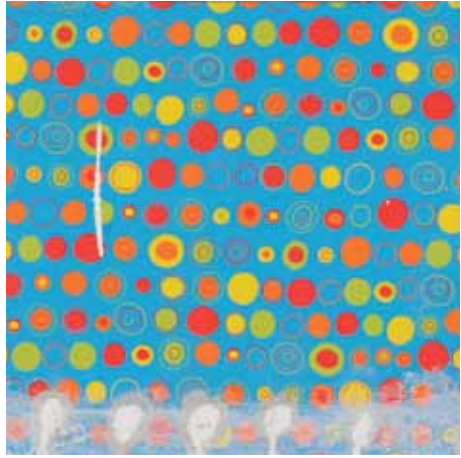
A leading figure in contemporary Syrian art, Thaier Helal's large mixed media works are at the forefront of contemporary Arab abstraction. Drawing inspiration from his immediate environment and the physical and psychic aspects of society and culture, Helal's canvases communicate movement and energy through explosions of colour, the meticulous division of space and the repetitive layering of the surface.

Born in Syria in 1967, Thaier Helal lives and works in the UAE. He is the recipient of numerous awards including the Al Burda International Award from the Emirati Ministry of Culture, Youth and Community Development (2008); the Grand Gold Award at the Iran Contemporary Painting Biennial, Tehran (2005); the Award for Painting at the Sharjah International Biennial (1997) and the Distinguished Works Award at the 15th General Exhibition of the UAE Fine Arts Association (1996).

Selected solo exhibitions include Ayyam Gallery Cairo (2011); Ayyam Gallery Beirut (2010) Ayyam Gallery Damascus (2010); Green Art Gallery, Dubai (2006, 2003); Cultural Foundation, Abu Dhabi (2002); Sharjah Art Museum (2000). Selected group exhibitions include Art Paris Abu Dhabi (2008); Iran Contemporary Painting Biennial, Tehran (2005); Imagining the Book International Biennale, Alexandria (2005).







# Walid El Masri

(Lebanon, born 1979)

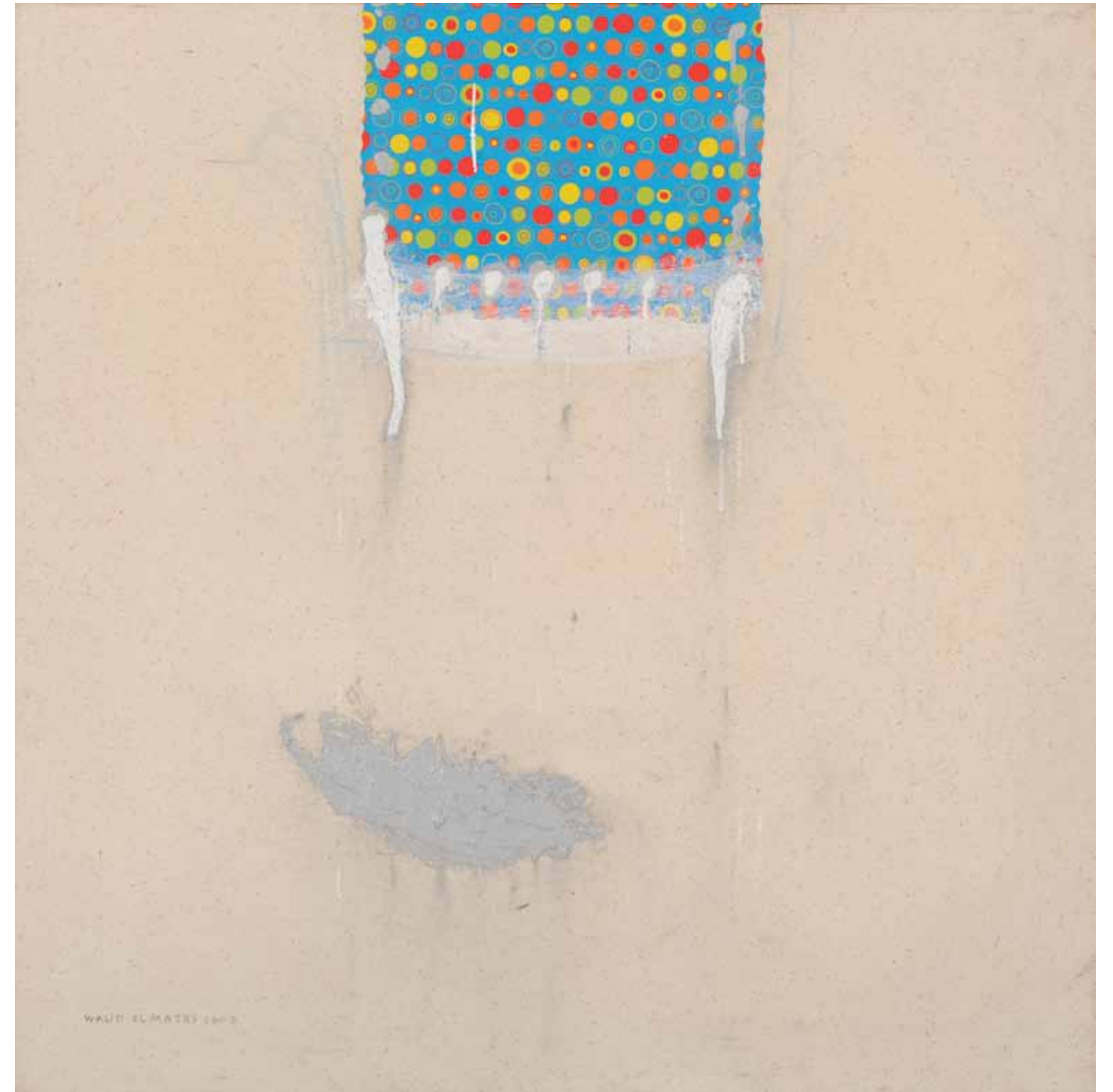
## Lot 069

*Chairs*  
2009  
Mixed Media on Canvas  
100 x 100 cm  
Signed and dated

Estimate: \$4,000 - \$7,000

The paintings of Lebanese artist Walid El Masri relentlessly examine a single material subject matter – a chair – treating it as a point of departure for greater investigations into the fundamental components of painting and as a vehicle for experiments in palette and composition. Toying with depth and space, El Masri's work seeks to reconfigure compositional properties in order to explore the myriad variations that result from a repeated action.

Born in 1979 in Beirut, Walid El Masri lives and works in Paris. Considered a rising young talent of his generation, he has held solo shows in Damascus, Dubai and Paris and has been featured in a number of Ayyam Gallery's high profile events such as its competition for emerging artists in 2007, in addition to several public sales. The recipient of numerous awards, he has won prizes at various workshops and contests in Syria.







# Oussama Diab

(Palestine, born 1977)

## Lot 070

*Untitled*  
2009

Mixed Media on Canvas  
150 x 130 cm  
Signed and dated

Estimate: \$5,000 - \$8,000

Born in 1977, Palestinian artist Oussama Diab has quickly gained rank within the Middle Eastern art scene. A graduate of the Faculty of Fine Arts, Damascus in 2002, he has been featured in solo and group exhibitions throughout the region and has been honored for his work with several awards from the distinguished Young Artists exhibition in Syria. Since his debut show with Ayyam Gallery Damascus in 2009, his work has continued to impress critics, while several successful sales at The Young Collectors Auction have garnered the artist great recognition among regional art lovers.

The large, colourful canvases of Palestinian artist Oussama Diab employ pop-art and childlike imagery as a means of exploring global political concerns. Balloons, bananas and water guns function as symbolist interpretations of current events - in contrast to the universality of their nondescript background. Both figurative and abstract, Diab's compositions relay stories of love and hate within a conflicted society.







# Rezvan Sadeghzadeh

(Iran, born 1964)

## Lot 071

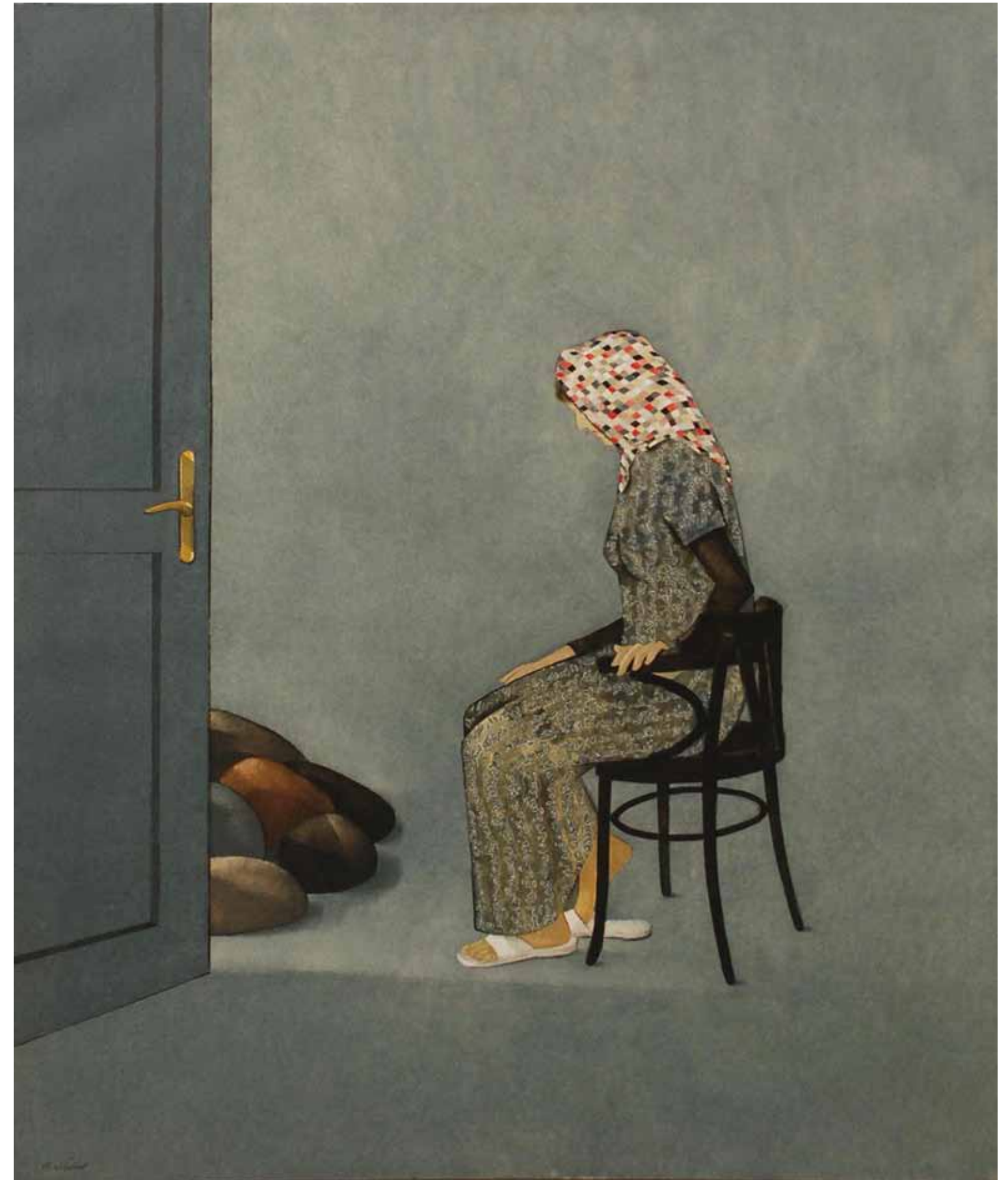
*Untitled*  
2010

Acrylic on Canvas  
120 x 100 cm  
Signed and dated

Estimate: \$3,000 - \$5,000

Born in Ardebil, Iran in 1964, Rezvan Sadeghzadeh has participated in over one hundred group exhibitions in Iran, Japan, China, France, England, Korea and Kuwait and has held numerous solo exhibitions since 1983. Not only a talented painter, Sadeghzadeh is also the Director of the Painting Department at the University of Arts in Tehran. He was the winner of the Fourth Tehran Biennale of 1996 and the recipient of the Worldwide Competition for Iran in London, 2000. He has also been awarded in the Second Biennale of Contemporary Painting of the Islamic World in 2004 and the Seventh Tehran Biennale of 2002.

Sadeghzadeh's abstract painterly style reflect various subject matters ranging from Persian history to everyday culture. Often depicting women facing obstacles in a male-dominated society, this series presents traditionally dressed women in seemingly calm, domestic scenes. Yet, confronted by piles of rocks and the lack of windows, the obstacle is clearly their inability to leave this social construct of the domesticated female behind. Even with the door left ajar, the persistent hand on the arm of the chair denotes their own resistance to letting go of this seclusion of which they have become accustomed.







# Samia Halaby

(Palestine, born 1936)

## Lot 072

*Pink Flying over Pink*  
2008

Acrylic on Canvas  
45.7 x 45.7 cm  
Signed and dated

Estimate: \$3,000 - \$5,000

Born in Jerusalem in 1936, Samia Halaby is a leading Palestinian painter and scholar. After immigrating to the United States via Lebanon in 1951, she obtained a BS in Design from the University of Cincinnati in 1959 and a Master of Fine Arts from Indiana University in 1963. Shortly after, she began an extensive career teaching art at the university level, which culminated in a decade long position as the first full-time female associate professor at the world-renowned Yale School of Art in New Haven, Connecticut. Although based in New York, Halaby has also worked in the Arab world, teaching at institutions such as Birzeit University in the West Bank and Darat al- Funun in Amman, Jordan.

Since 1970, she has held countless solo exhibitions, both in the US and abroad and has been featured in a number of groundbreaking group exhibitions of Arab art throughout the US and Europe. With recent blockbuster sales of her paintings at auction, her works have become increasingly sought-after by collectors.

Although her exceptional painting style has changed dramatically over the years—from large canvases exploring the color planes of geometric and helix formations to colorist assemblages that speak of movement and nature—she has continued to push the boundaries of art for over fifty years. As such, she is recognized as a major innovator of the school of abstraction in contemporary Arab art. Halaby's vivid canvases have been hailed by a number of international publications including The New York Times and Art in America. Forever on the cutting edge of art, in 1983 she created a computer program for kinetic paintings, resulting in several audio-visual presentations including a tour of Syria, Palestine, and Jordan and a performance accompanied by live musicians at New York's Lincoln Center in 1998.

Halaby's work is housed in several museum collections worldwide, most notably the Jordan National Gallery of Fine Arts, The British Museum, the Guggenheim Museum, The Art Institute of Chicago, and The Detroit Institute of Art. As an art historian, she has been instrumental in curating several exhibitions in the US. In 2002, her many years of scholarship led to the publishing of 'Liberation Art of Palestine', one of the few English language books on contemporary Palestinian art available today.







Samia Halaby  
(Palestine, born 1936)

Lot 073

*Seasons Turning*  
1992

Silkscreen Print  
51 x 76 cm  
Edition 10/15

Signed, dated and numerated

Estimate: \$3,000 - \$5,000







# Youssef Dweik

(Palestine, born 1963)

## Lot 074

*Untitled*  
2008

Mixed Media on Canvas  
150 x 160 cm  
Signed and dated

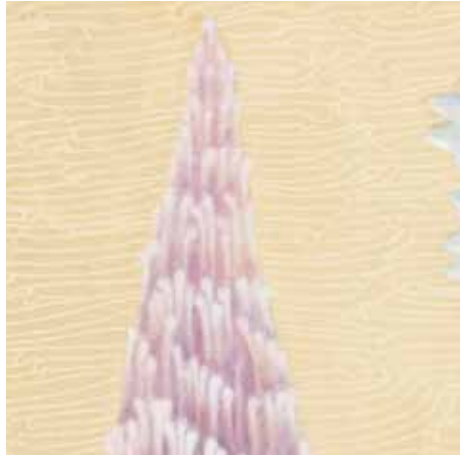
Estimate: \$6,000 - \$9,000

Youssef Dweik was born in Jerusalem in 1963 and presently resides in the UAE. Since his graduation from Jordan's Al-Yarmouk University in 1985, he has been passionately portraying the progression of his country's forefathers and his personal feelings of the world around him in his paintings. Utilizing symbols that represent the spirit of ancient Arabic history to tell his story, his paintings possess hidden depths to be unveiled by the viewer.

To achieve a balance between his commitment to telling his country's story and his desire to create beautiful artworks, Dweik uses delicate combinations of soft, textural colors to create a quiet harmony within his works, a technique he developed as a result of years of experimentation with different methods and raw materials.







# Reza Lavasani

(Iran, born 1962)

## Lot 075

*Untitled*  
2008  
Oil on Canvas  
140 x 300 cm (Diptych)  
Signed

Estimate: \$12,000 - \$18,000

Born in 1962, Reza Lavasani received his Bachelor of Arts in Painting from University of Tehran's Faculty of Fine Arts. Lavasani's interest in mythology, religion and history led to his study of philosophy and mysticism and this study has directly influenced his works. Characteristic of the motifs in Persian miniature paintings and manuscript illumination, yet with a modernly abstract and fable-like rendering of wind, waves, and animals, Lavasani's paintings are strongly recognizable. His oil on canvas works present visual interpretations of Persian literature and poetry, notably Ghazal, a poetic form consisting of rhyming couplets and a refrain of equally metered lines, which present the simultaneous expressions of pain and loss and the beauty of love in spite of that pain.

Lavasani has exhibited widely inside Iran and has participated in many international and domestic collective exhibitions and art fairs. His work has been included in number of important publications in and out of Iran and his diptych *Horse* featured at Christie's Dubai 2009 International Modern and Contemporary Art auction realized over \$18,000.







# Mustafa Ali

(Syria, born 1956)

## Lot 076

*Untitled*  
2008

Wood and Bronze  
193 x 47 x 47 cm  
Signed and dated

Estimate: \$8,000 - \$12,000

Renowned Syrian artist Mustafa Ali creates evocative, monumental sculptures, forged from metal, marble, and wood. Often alluding to stories from ancient Syrian mythology, his work is primarily figurative, capturing the natural beauty of the human form.

Employing a labored process in which the rawness of wood is treated with a bronze-like finish, Ali accentuates the natural contours of his medium while creating a dramatic patina-like surface that lends a timeless appearance to his work.

Born in Latakia, Syria in 1956, Mustafa Ali lives and works in Damascus . He is the founder Director of the non-profit Mustafa Ali Art Foundation, which presents exhibitions, workshops, lectures and cultural events throughout the year to local Damascus artists and the public.

His work is housed in private and public collections throughout the world, including the National Museum and the Museum of Contemporary Art in Damascus, the Jordan National Gallery in Amman, the Sharjah Museum of Art, and the Institut du Monde Arabe in Paris. Public art commissions include The Gate of Syria at the Mediterranean Olympiad in Pari, Italy, and The Tower of Memory at the Damascus International Fairground. He has participated in international biennales including the International Symposium for Sculptors in Valencia, Spain (2001); the Latakia Sculpture Biennial (1997); the Sharjah Biennial (1995); and the Biennial of Alexandria, Egypt (1994).







## Anas Al-Alousi

(Iraq, born 1971)

### Lot 077

*Chair*  
2010  
Bronze  
112 x 61 x 78 cm  
Edition 3/8  
Signed, dated and numerated

Estimate: \$8,000 - \$12,000

Born in Baghdad, Iraq in 1971, Anas Al-Alousi received his Bachelors of Fine Arts from the University of Baghdad. A member of the Iraqi Artist Association and the Iraqi Plastic Arts Association, he has nearly two decades of experience in bronze sculpture and has exhibited throughout the Middle East in numerous festivals and such revered art spaces Quibab Art Gallery in Abu Dhabi, 4Walls Gallery in Dubai and Al Orfali Gallery in Baghdad. Interested in public works for some time, he has completed several significant monuments in Iraq and was recently commissioned by Ajban Farms in Abu Dhabi to produce one of the largest outdoor sculptures in the Arab world. Al-Alousi presently works and resides in Egypt.

Although a student of Italian sculptural techniques and the utilization of traditional material such as bronze, Al-Alousi's expressionist forms speak of an unconventional approach to sculpture, one that draws from nature with playful figurative forms that ignite the imagination. *Chair* playfully personifies a mundane object with the substitution of human legs for the legs of the chair.







# Lutfi Romhein

(Syria, born 1954)

## Lot 078

*Untitled*  
1993  
Italian Marble  
44 x 48 x 20 cm  
Signed and dated

Estimate: \$5,000 - \$8,000

Born in Syria in 1954, sculptor Lutfi Romhein is known for his extensive meditations on female and male forms through a range of mediums. After completing his studies in Syria, he opened an atelier in Damascus, sculpting in stone and wood while regularly exhibiting at home and abroad. In 1981, he traveled to Carrara, Italy where he took courses at the Academy of Fine Arts. Years later he would continue to return to Carrara, where he worked alongside fellow sculptor Boutros Romhein in providing professional training for new and established sculptors. While he continues to work in wood and marble, he has also taken up sculpting in metal and is interested in all formats, both large and small. Never one to be limited in his scope, he is simultaneously a respected furniture maker, creating his own designs of olive wood chairs and tables as he investigates the figurative and abstract components of creating sculptural beauty and strength.

Recently, Romhein was highly praised by critics and the public alike for a new set of monumental sculptures that were installed in Downtown Dubai. Created in Italy in 2011, *Together* features a man and women in black granite and white marble that evokes the ying and yang relationship of balance that is found in Chinese philosophy. Placed strategically within a busy thoroughfare facing The Dubai Mall, these 4.25-meter high works reflect the traditional dress of the Gulf, emphasizing the silhouettes of customary dress and how its muted palette stands in relation to the urban landscape.







# Jaber Al Azmeh

(Syria, born 1973)

## Lot 079

*Rapture*  
2012  
Archival Print on Cotton Rag  
70 x 105 cm  
Edition 2/5

Estimate: \$3,000 - \$5,000

Born in Damascus, Syria in 1973, Jaber Al Azmeh received his Bachelor of Fine Arts in Visual Communications at Damascus University. He had his first solo exhibition, 'Metaphors', in 2009 at Atassi Gallery, Damascus, followed by Green Art Gallery, Dubai, where he also exhibited 'Traces' in 2011. He has participated in various group shows, including 'KunstStoff Syrien - Insights into a Torn Country' at Forum Factory, Berlin, Germany; Journées de la Photographie 2011, organized by CCF Damascus; The Retrospective of Fine Arts in Syria (IV), 'New Generation of Syrian Artists', organized by the Damascus Arab Capital of Culture in 2008 and Biennale Dei Giovani Artisti Del Mediterraneo, Rome, Italy, 1999. He lives and work in Doha, Qatar.







# Lara Atallah

(Lebanon, born 1989)

## Lot 080

From the 'Abandoned School' series  
2011  
Archival Print on Cotton Paper  
112 x 75 cm  
Edition 3/5  
Signed, dated and numerated

Estimate: \$2,000 - \$3,000

The photographs of Lebanese artist Lara Atallah explore urban environments and the impact of gentrification upon their inhabitants. Focused primarily on her home city of Beirut, her work nevertheless speaks to the universal nature of the hazards of rapid metropolitan expansion and change: the loss of architectural heritage and basic necessities for the area and the forcing of families from their homes. It is an examination of the process of negotiating parameters and boundaries and of the ways in which cities are constantly transforming, both in terms of spaces and people.

Atallah's work aims to capture the fleeting present as it waits to become an integral part of the past. The photograph serves as a living archive to what is bound to vanish. Here gentrification is an insidious and unstoppable force which quietly and powerfully alters a landscape and its social history, excising forever the physical manifestations of local memory. Cities stand as silent witnesses to the disappearance of layers of sometimes centuries old community life. The inhabitants who remain now find themselves disoriented in a place they used to know so well.

Born in 1989 in Beirut, Lara Atallah lives and works in New York. The first recipient of the Khaled Ead Samawi Scholarship, she was also a winner at the 2011 Shabab Ayyam Photography Competition. Solo exhibitions include Ayyam Gallery Beirut (2012); Ayyam Gallery Al Quoz, Dubai (2012). Group exhibitions include Beijing Design Week (2012); Pingyao International Photography Exhibition (2012).





# Lara Zankoul

(Lebanon, born 1987)

## Lot 081

*Birds*  
2011  
Archival Print on Cotton Paper  
85 x 85 cm  
Edition 1/5  
Signed, dated and numerated

Estimate: \$2,000 - \$3,000

The dreamlike compositions of Lebanese photographer Lara Zankoul, are contemporary fairy tales, which explore the charm and mystery of the human psyche. Whimsical and playful, they represent an attempt to invent new worlds, to push against the boundaries of our reality and escape the monotony of everyday life. The characters inhabiting Zankoul's work are anonymous and timeless, universal symbols existing within a fantastical and surreal landscape.

Born in Lebanon in 1987, Lara Zankoul lives and works in Beirut. She has participated in group exhibitions within the Middle East and France. Part of the Shabab Ayyam incubator programme, she was an award recipient at the 2011 Shabab Ayyam Photography Competition and in 2013, she held her first solo exhibition at Ayyam Gallery Beirut.







# Mira Debaja

(Iraq, born 1983)

Lot 082

*My Humanity*  
2012  
Archival Print on Cotton Paper  
69 x 89 cm  
Edition 1/3  
Signed

Estimate: \$1,000 - \$2,000

Born 1983 in Baghdad, Iraq, Mira Dibaja is a self-taught digital painter who expressed an early interest in the arts being a child of two painters. The diversity of nationalities in her family and nomadic life she has led is reflected in her works. Having a father from Bent Jbeil, a mother from Baghdad, and spending her childhood in Jordan and studying at university in Damascus, Mira depicts human emotions by focusing on the faces of her characters, adding symbols and texture in an embodiment of their feelings, and objecting to the boundaries that separate us by birth.





# Mohamad Badr

(Lebanon, born 1981)

## Lot 083

From the series 'Filled with Light'  
2013  
Archival Print on Cotton Paper  
130 x 90 cm  
Edition 1/3  
Signed, dated and numerated

Estimate: \$2,000 - \$3,000

*"In your light I learn how to love. In your beauty, how to make poems. You dance inside my chest where no one sees you, but sometimes I do, and that sight becomes this art."*  
- Rumi

In the series, 'Filled with Light', a dervish performs the Sema dance. While the dervish is part of the environment, through his dance he becomes an extension of it, a soul filled with light, spreading into the rustic surroundings to form one fluid set of photos. The double exposure experiment is a way to explore the surreal state of mind that the dervish reaches while whirling to connect with the divine. It's a representation of the lightness he emerges himself in, where two parallel universes are joined in one body.

Born in 1981 in Lebanon, Mohamad Badr lives and works in Dubai. He is the recipient of numerous awards including the 2011 Shabbab Ayyam Photography competition, and the Live Achrafieh Honorary Award for his contribution to the community (2011). He was also nominated for the fourth cycle of the Prix Pictet, the world's leading photographic award in sustainability (2012). He is the founder of the Lakum Hamra2akoum wa Li Hamra2, photography project in Lebanon, and Mosaic: Achrafieh International Photography Contest, Lebanon's first international photography competition. Selected solo shows include Ayyam Gallery Beirut (2012).







# Nairy Shahinian

(Armenia/Syria, born 1984)

## Lot 084

*The Storm Before the Calm*  
From the series, 'Weather Systems', The Burj Project  
2012  
Archival Print on Cotton Paper  
51.5 x 147 cm  
Edition 1/3  
Signed, dated and numerated

Estimate: \$2,000 - \$3,000

From an Armenian background, Nairy Shahinian was born in Damascus, Syria in 1984. Her passion for art was fostered while working in her father's photography studio throughout high school, attending painting classes at the Russian Cultural Center, and learning from artist Adnan Abdulrahman. This led her to study photography by correspondence with the New York Institute of Photography and in 2008, Shahinian received her professional photography diploma. Shortly after, Shahinian worked as an assistant photographer in Dubai for well known photographers Phil Baber and Tommy Morris. She has participated in several collective exhibitions and competitions in Syria, notably, the 2007 Li-Lak Photography Competition held at the Goethe Institute, Damascus, a 2009 photography competition held by the British Council in celebration of its 75th anniversary in Aleppo, as well as the 2010 'Journée de la Photographie' exhibition held by the French Cultural Center (CCF) in Damascus. Shahinian presently works and resides in the United Arab Emirates.

The title of this series 'Weather Systems' is derived from an album name by the band Anathema. While photographing the change in the weather and scenery around the Burj Khalifa, this album was playing and a song *The Storm Before the Calm*, captured Shahinian's imagination with its lyrics, "It's getting colder, I'm getting colder, colder/It's getting colder until I can't feel anything at all/This beautiful feeling soars over the skies, moving through my body out my mind, it rises up and floods my brain."





# Saeed Salem

(Yemen, born 1984)

## Lot 085

*Neonland III*  
2012

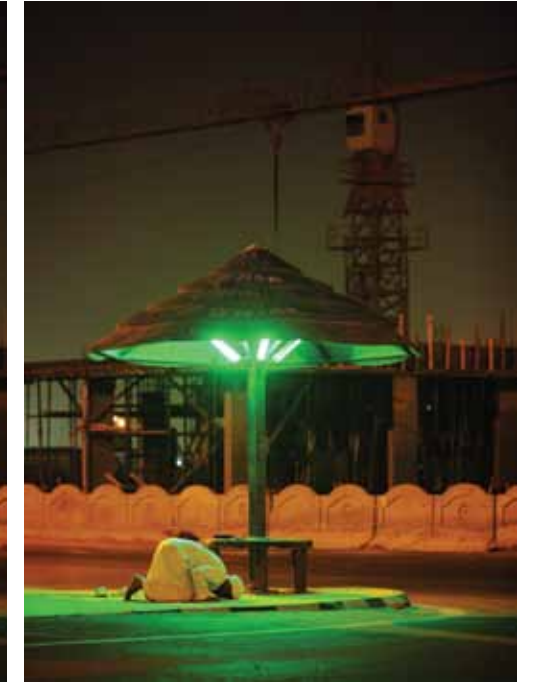
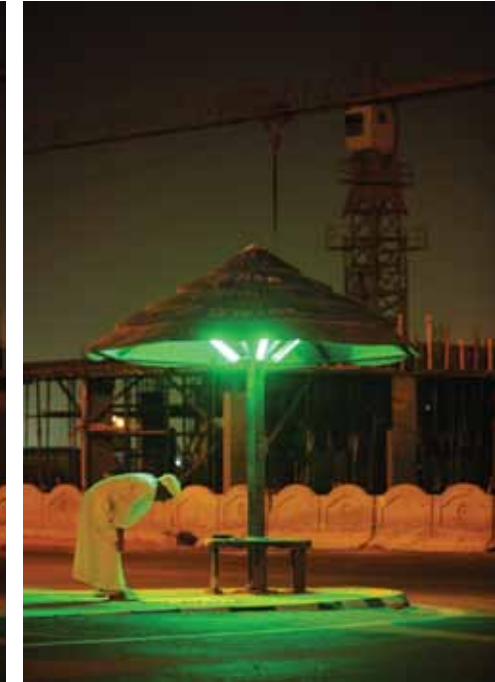
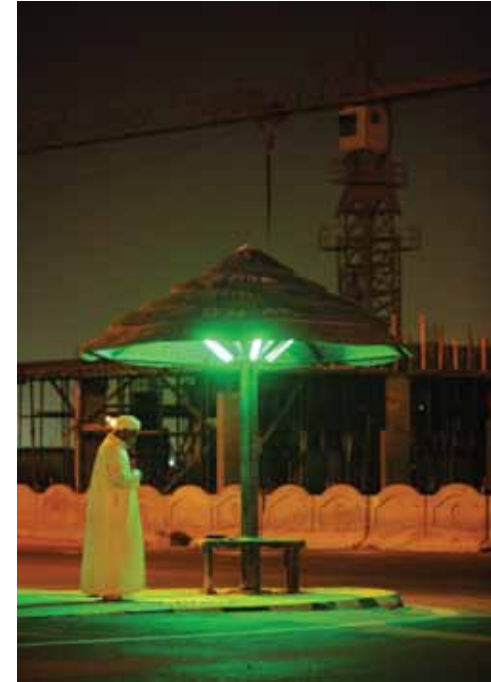
Archival Digital Print with Silkscreen Glaze on Somerset Tub Paper  
70 x 150 cm (Triptych)  
Edition 4/8

Signed, dated and numerated on front

Estimate: \$4,000 - \$6,000

Born 1984 in Jeddah, Saeed Salem is of Yemeni decent. Having travelled to Malaysia for further education, he received a Diploma in Advertising from Limkokwing University in 2006. In 2007, he completed his Bachelor degree in Advertising from Curtin University, Perth, Australia. Photography was a module taught in his course, however Salem paid little attention at the time. Having worked in several established photography and design studios, Salem established a photography studio called 181 Degrees in 2009. His first major stint in the contemporary art world was through Edge of Arabia's Jeddah exhibition, 'We Need to Talk'. Here, Salem began the project 'Neonland', comprised of a series of iconic photographs capturing the essence of the cosmopolitan city of Jeddah.

Of 'Neonland' Salem stated, "These neon kiosks are a symbol of Jeddah ... they are iconic and you only find them in this city. They are the only places open really late...2am...4am...selling Madinah mint tea and everything else: cigarettes, noodles, swimming goggles, popcorn, prayer mats ... Everything you want. Its like a mini hypermarket. To me, they symbolize both the old Arabic culture: a place to meet and talk; as well as something very futuristic. An intense ball of consumer energy."







# Rima Maroun

(Lebanon, born 1983)

## Lot 086

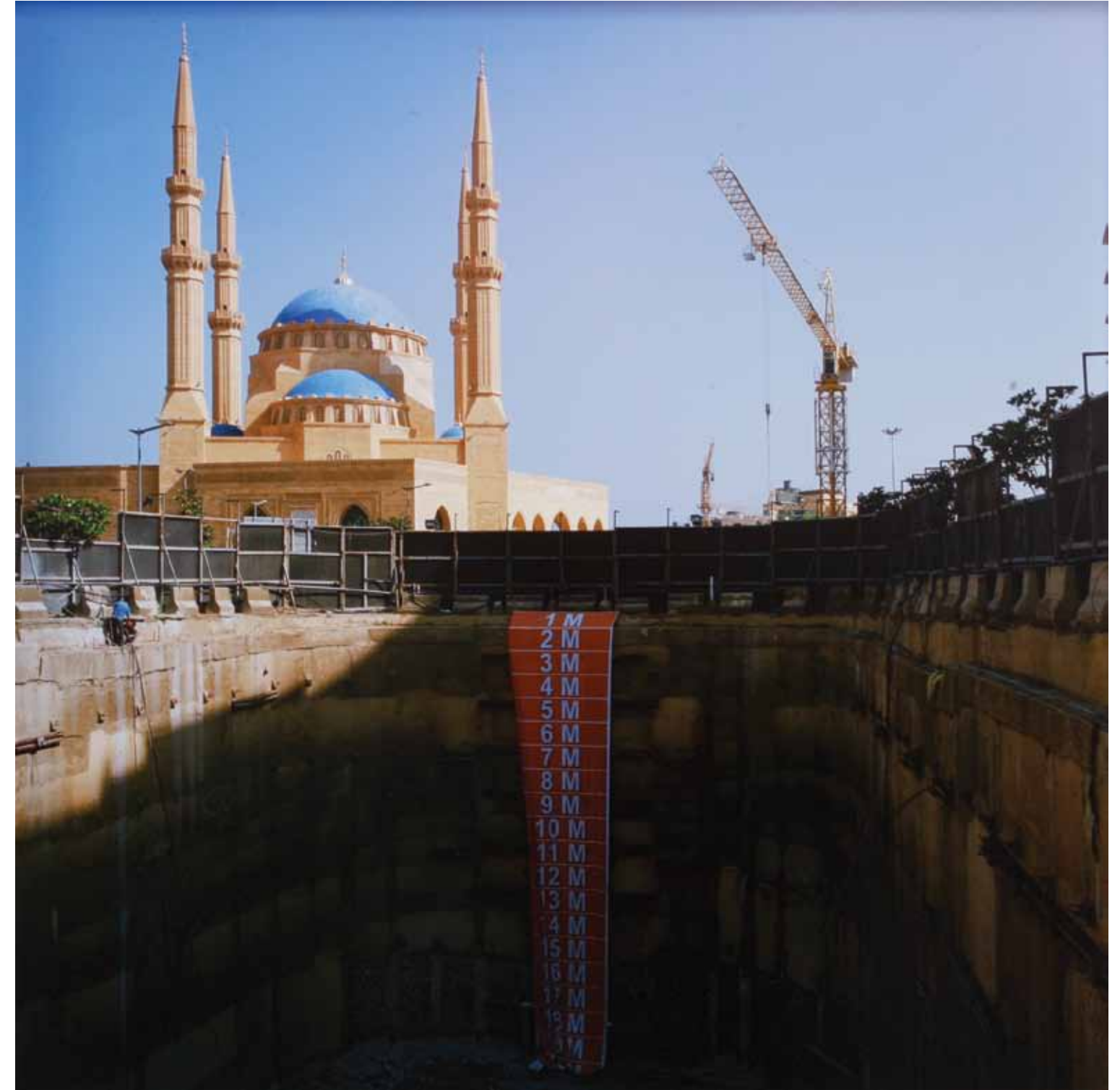
*A Ciel Ouvert I*  
2010-2011

Print on Barite Paper Mounted on Aluminium  
110 x 110 cm  
Edition 1/5

Estimate: \$3,000 - \$5,000

Born in 1983, Rima Maroun is a Lebanese photographer and performer based in Beirut. She achieved her Master of Arts in Photography at USEK University in 2006. The same year, she co- founded Collectif Kahraba, a group of artists using visual and performing arts as a means of expression and has performed with the group since then. She received the Anna Lindh Foundation Mediterranean Award for Dialogue through Art and Culture in 2008 and has been since exhibiting her work throughout Europe and the Middle East countries including Italy, Hungary, Syria, France, Greece, Croatia, Bulgaria, Cyprus, Montenegro and Lebanon.

Of her recent project, Maroun has stated, “The concept of land strongly appeals to me. Within my land are many layers of various civilization’s history, and different wars as well, past and recent ones. Today a fast construction movement is invading Beirut. Streets are changing, open spaces are closing, and I have no time to assimilate so much change. Earth is ripped out, dug and reshaped. Fascinated by the underground, I understand the ephemeral side of those open sites and I am seized by an urgent need to shoot these instants when earth indecently exposes its open belly. Looking at what happens in these shoals, I understand that I want to show this fault line between the above and the below: Above is the city, below is the past it is resting on.”



BUYING AT AUCTION & GENERAL AUCTION INFORMATION

Before the Auction

**The Catalogue** A catalogue prepared by The Young Collectors Auction is published for every schedule live auction and is available prior to the sale date. The catalogue will help familiarize you with property being offered at the designated auction. For more information, please visit [www.ayyamgallery.com/auctions](http://www.ayyamgallery.com/auctions). Prospective bidders should also consult [www.ayyamgallery.com/auctions](http://www.ayyamgallery.com/auctions) for the most up to date cataloguing of the property in this catalogue.

**Reserve** All lots in this catalogue are offered subject to a reserve, which is the confidential minimum hammer price at which a lot will be sold. All reserves are equal or lower than the low estimate.

**Estimates** Each lot in the catalogue is given a low and high estimate, indicating to a prospective buyer a range in which the lot might sell at auction. When possible, the estimate is based on previous auction records of comparable pieces. The estimates are determined several months before a sale and are therefore subject to change upon further research of the property, or to reflect market conditions or currency fluctuations. Estimates should not be relied upon as a representation or prediction of actual selling prices.

**Provenance** In certain circumstances, The Young Collectors Auction may print in the catalogue the history of ownership of a work of art if such information contributes to scholarship or is otherwise well known and assists in distinguishing the work of art. However, the identity of the seller or previous owners may not be disclosed for a variety of reasons. For example, such information may be excluded to accommodate a seller’s request for confidentiality or because the identity of prior owners is unknown given the age of the work of art.

**Specialist Advice** Prospective bidders may be interested in specific information not included in the catalogue description of a lot. For additional information, please contact one of The Young Collectors Auction’s Specialists (all of whom are listed in the front of the catalogue). You may also request a condition report from the specialist in charge.

**The Exhibition** An exhibition of the auction property will be held the week prior to the auction on the days listed in the front of the catalogue. There you will have the opportunity to view, inspect and evaluate the artwork yourself, or with the help of one of The Young Collectors Auction’s Specialists (all of whom are listed in the front of the catalogue).

**Salesroom Notices** Salesroom notices amend the catalogue description of a lot after the catalogue has gone to press. They are posted in the viewing galleries and salesroom or are announced by the auctioneer.

During the Auction

**The Auction** Auctions are open to the public without any admission fee or obligation to bid. The auctioneer introduces the objects for sale- known as “lots” – in numerical order as listed in the catalogue. Unless otherwise noted in the catalogue or by an announcement at the auction, The Young Collectors Auction acts like agent on behalf of the seller and does not permit the seller to bid on his or her own property. It is important for all bidders to know that the auctioneer may open the bidding on any lot by placing a bid on behalf of the seller. The auctioneer may further bid on behalf of the seller, up to the amount of the reserve, by placing responsive or consecutive bids for a lot. The auctioneer will not place consecutive bids on behalf of the seller above the reserve.

**Bidding in Person** If you would like to bid, you must register for a paddle upon entering the salesroom. The paddle is numbered so as to identify you to the auctioneer.

To register, you will need a form of identification such as a driver’s license, a passport or some other type of government issued identification. If you are a first time bidder, you will also be asked for your address, phone number and signature in order to create your account. If you are bidding for someone else, you will need to provide a letter from that person authorizing you to bid on that person’s behalf. Issuance of a bidding paddle is in at our discretion.

Once the first bid has been placed, the auctioneer asks for higher bids, in increments determined by the auctioneer. To place your bid, simply raise your paddle until the auctioneer acknowledges you. You will know when your bid has been acknowledged; the auctioneer will not mistake a random gesture for a bid.

Bidding Increments

The bids generally start below the minimum appraised value. Paddles shall be raised in accordance with the following chart. The auctioneer shall be entitled to change the bidding intervals.

Between	100	2,000 USD	100 USD
Between	2,000	5,000 USD	200 500 800 USD
Between	5,000	10,000 USD	500 USD
Between	10,000	20,000 USD	1,000 USD
Between	20,000	50,000 USD	2000 5000 8000 USD
Between	50,000	100,000 USD	5000 USD
Above	100,000		10,000 USD

Absentee Bidding

If it is not possible for you to attend the auction in person, you may place your bid ahead of time. In the back of every catalogue there is an absentee bid form, which you can use to indicate the item you wish to bid on and the maximum bid you are willing to make. Return the completed absentee bid form to The Young Collectors Auction either by mail or fax. When the lot that you are interested in comes up for sale, an auction specialist will execute the bid on your behalf, making every effort to purchase the item for as little as possible and never exceeding your limit. This service is free and confidential. For detailed instructions and information, please see the Absentee Bid Form and Guide for Absentee Bidders instructions at the back of this catalogue.

**Results** Successful absentee bidders will be notified after the sale. Printed lists of auction prices are available at our galleries approximately one week following each auction and are sent on request to catalogue subscribers. Results may also be obtained online at [www.ayyamgallery.com/auctions](http://www.ayyamgallery.com/auctions).

**Telephone Bidding** In some circumstances, we offer the ability to place bids by telephone live to one of our representatives on the auction floor. Please contact the Bid Department prior to the sale to make arrangements or to answer any questions you may have. Telephone bids are accepted only at The Young Collectors Auction’s discretion and at the caller’s risk. Calls may also be recorded at The Young Collectors Auction’s discretion. By bidding on the telephone, prospective buyers consent thereto.

**Hammer Price and the Buyer’s Premium** For lots which are sold, the last price for a lot as announced by the auctioneer is the hammer price. A buyer’s premium will be added to the hammer price and is payable by the purchaser as part of the total purchase price. The buyer’s premium will be the amount stated in the Conditions of Sale.

After the Auction

**Payment** If your bid is successful, you can go directly to Client Accounting to make payment arrangements. Otherwise, your invoice will be mailed to you. The final price is determined by adding the buyer’s premium to the hammer price on a per-lot basis. Sales tax, where applicable, will be charged on the entire amount. Payment is due in full immediately after the sale. However, under certain circumstances, The Young Collectors Auction may, in its sole discretion, offer bidders an extended payment plan. Such a payment plan may provide an economic benefit to the bidder. Credit terms should be requested at least one business day before the sale. However, there is no assurance that an extended payment plan will be offered. Please contact Client Accounting or the specialist in charge of the sale for information on credit arrangements for a particular lot. You may pay by cash, wire transfer, check, or credit card.



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The following Conditions of Sale and Terms of Guarantee are The Young Collectors Auction, Inc. and the Consignor's entire agreement with the purchaser relative to the property listed in this catalogue.

The Conditions of Sale, Terms of Guarantee, the glossary, if any, and all other contents of this catalogue are subject to amendment by us by the posting of notices or by oral announcements made during the sale. The property will be offered by us as agent for the Consignor, unless the catalogue indicates otherwise.

By participating in any sale, you acknowledge that you are bound by these terms and conditions.

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**2. Inspection** Prospective bidders should inspect the property before bidding to determine its condition, size, and whether or not it has been repaired or restored.

**3. Buyer's Premium** A buyer's premium will be added to the hammer price and is payable by the purchaser as part of the total purchase price. The buyer's premium is 20%.

**4. Withdrawal** We reserve the right to withdraw any property before the sale and shall have no liability whatsoever for such withdrawal.

**5. Per Lot** Unless otherwise announced by the auctioneer, all bids are per lot as numbered in the catalog.

**6. Bidding** We reserve the right to reject any bid. The highest bidder acknowledged by the auctioneer will be the purchaser. In the event of any dispute between bidders, or in the event of doubt on our part as to the validity of any bid, the auctioneer will have the final discretion to determine the successful bidder, cancel the sale, or to reoffer and resell the article in dispute. If any dispute arises after the sale, our sale record is conclusive. Although in our discretion we will execute order or absentee bids or accept telephone bids as a convenience to clients who are not present at auctions, we are not responsible for any errors or omissions in connection therewith.

**7. Purchaser's Responsibility** On the fall of the auctioneer's hammer, title to the offered lot will pass to the highest bidder acknowledged by the auctioneer, and such bidder thereupon (a) assumes full risk and responsibility therefore (including, without limitation, liability for or damage to frames or glass covering prints, paintings or other works), and (b) will immediately pay the full purchase price or such part as we may require. All property must be removed from our premises by the purchaser at his expense not later than 7 business days following its sale and, if it is not so removed, (i) a handling charge of 1% of the total purchase price per month from the tenth day after the sale until its removal will be payable to us by the purchaser, with a minimum of 5% of the total purchase price for any property not so removed within 60 days after the sale, and (ii) we may send the purchased property to a public warehouse for the account, at the risk and expense of the purchaser.

**8. Reserve** All lots in this catalogue are offered subject to a reserve, which is the confidential minimum hammer price at which a lot will be sold. All reserves are equal or lower than the low estimate.

**9. Tax** Unless exempted by law, the purchaser will be required to pay any applicable taxes or customs.

Auction No. 15

# The Young Collectors Auction

Art from the Middle East

Viewing: April 21 - 29 April, 2013, 10:00 AM to 6:00 PM

## Auction: Tuesday, April 30, 2013 7:00 PM

Head of Session & Auctioneer  
Hisham Samawi



Khaled Samawi

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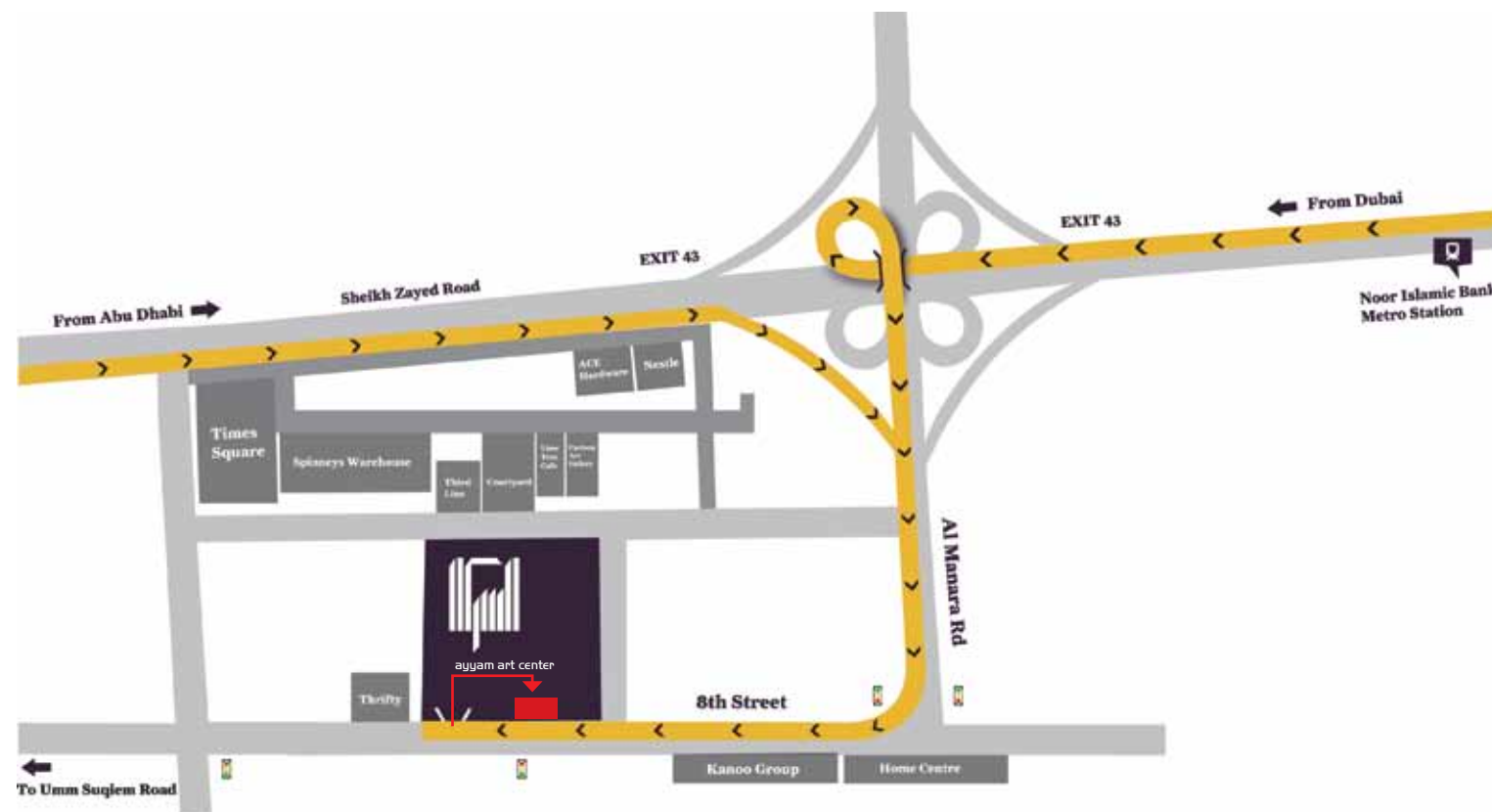
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ayyam gallery | al quoz

Alserkal Avenue, B-11, Street 8, Al Quoz I PO Box 283174 Dubai, UAE  
Phone + 971 4 323 6242, Fax + 971 4 323 6243 [dubai@ayyamgallery.com](mailto:dubai@ayyamgallery.com), [www.ayyamgallery.com](http://www.ayyamgallery.com)

## GUIDE FOR ABSENTEE & TELEPHONE BIDDERS

If you are unable to attend an auction in person, you may give one of the auction specialists (all of whom are listed in the front of the catalog) instructions to bid on your behalf by completing the form overleaf. This service is free and confidential.

Please record accurately the lot numbers, descriptions and top hammer price you are willing to pay for each lot.

We will try to purchase the lot(s) of your choice for the lowest price possible and will never exceed the maximum bid amount indicated on the reverse of this form.

Alternative bids can be placed by using the word "OR" between lot numbers. If your bid on an early lot is successful, we will not continue to bid on other lots for you. If your early bids are unsuccessful, we will continue to execute bids for alternative lots until a bid is successful, maintaining your maximum bid amounts.

Bids must be placed in the chronological order as in the catalog.

The form can be used for one sale only – please clearly indicate the sale number and date.

Please place your bids as early as possible, as in the event of identical bids the earliest received will take precedence. Wherever possible, bids should be submitted at least twenty- four hours before the auction.

Where appropriate, your bids will be rounded down to the nearest amount consistent with the auctioneer's bidding increments. See the 'Conditions of Sale' in the back of the catalogue for more information on increments.

### Important

Please note that the execution of written and telephone bids is offered as a gratuitous service and is undertaken at the bidder's risk. It is undertaken subject to The Young Collectors Auction's other commitments at the time of the auction. The Young Collectors Auction therefore cannot accept liability for failure to place bids, whether through negligence or otherwise. All bids will be executed and are accepted subject to the "Conditions of Sale" printed in the auction catalogue. Please note that a buyer's premium in the amount stated in paragraph 3 of the "Conditions of Sale" in the back of the auction catalogue will be added to the hammer price as part of the total purchase price, plus any applicable sales tax if relevant. Successful bidders will receive an invoice detailing their purchases and giving instructions for payment and clearance of goods. Unsuccessful bidders will also be notified.

All purchases must be paid for and artworks collected within seven days of the auction date or the works may be subject to forfeiture or if it is not removed, (i) a handling charge of 1% of the total purchase price per month from the tenth day after the sale until its removal will be payable by the purchaser, with a minimum of 5% of the total purchase price for any property not so removed within 60 days after the sale, and (ii) we may send the purchased property to a public warehouse for the account, at the risk and expense of the purchaser.

### New Clients

Please note that we may contact you to request a bank reference. In addition, The Young Collectors Auction requires a copy of government issued photo ID in order to generate a new account.

### For Written/Fixed Bids

Bids will be executed for the lowest price as is permitted by other bids or reserves. Stating "Buy" or unlimited bids are not be accepted, nor are "plus one" bids.

### For Telephone Bids

Please clearly specify the telephone number on which you may be reached at the time of the sale, including the country code. We will call you from the salesroom shortly before your lot is offered.



# The Young Collectors Auction

## ABSENTEE / TELEPHONE BIDDING FORM

Sale No \_\_\_\_\_

Sale Date \_\_\_\_\_

Please see important notice and information regarding absentee bidding on the reserve of this form.

TITLE OR COMPANY NAME (IF APPLICABLE)

FIRST NAME \_\_\_\_\_ LAST NAME \_\_\_\_\_

CLIENT ACCOUNT NO. \_\_\_\_\_ EMAIL\* \_\_\_\_\_

TELEPHONE (HOME) \_\_\_\_\_ (TELEPHONE BUSINESS) \_\_\_\_\_

FAX \_\_\_\_\_ CELLULAR \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

Please write clearly and place your bids as early as possible, as in the event of identical bids, the earliest bid received will take precedence. Bids should be submitted at least 24 hours before the auction. The telephone bid service is offered for lots with a minimum low estimate of \$5,000. Bids must be placed in the chronological order as in the catalog. All purchases must be paid for and artworks collected within seven days of the auction date or the works may be subject to forfeiture.

TELEPHONE NUMBER DURING THE SALE (TEL. BIDS ONLY)

LOT NO.	LOT DESCRIPTION	MAXIMUM DOLLAR AMOUNT OR √ FOR PHONE BID (EXCLUDING PREMIUM AND TAX)
		\$
		\$
		\$
		\$
		\$
		\$
		\$

## AUCTION SALES CONDITIONS

### CONDITIONS OF SALE

The following Conditions of Sale and Terms of Guarantee are The Young Collectors Auction and the Consignor’s entire agreement with the purchaser relative to the property listed in this catalogue.

The Conditions of Sale, Terms of Guarantee, the glossary, if any, and all other contents of this catalogue are subject to amendment by the posting of notices or by oral announcements made during the sale. The property will be offered by us as agent for the Consignor, unless the catalogue indicates otherwise.

By participating in the sale, you acknowledge that you are bound by these terms and conditions.

**1. As Is** Goods auctioned are often of some age. The authenticity of the Authorship of property listed in the catalogue is guaranteed as stated in the Terms of Guarantee and except for the Limited Warranty contained therein, all property is sold “AS IS” without any representations or warranties by us or the Consignor as to merchantability, fitness for a particular purpose, the correctness of the catalogue or other description of the physical condition, size, quality, rarity, importance, medium, provenance, exhibitions, literature or historical relevance of any property and no statement anywhere, whether oral or written, whether made in the catalogue, an advertisement, a bill of sale, a salesroom posting or announcement, or elsewhere, shall be deemed such a warranty, representation or assumption of liability. We and the Consignor make no representations and warranties, express or implied, as to whether the purchaser acquires any copyrights, including but not limited to, any reproduction rights in any property. We and the Consignor are not responsible for errors and omissions in the catalogue, glossary, or any supplemental material.

**2. Inspection** While The Young Collectors Auction makes every attempt to disclose pertinent information regarding the condition of each lot, prospective bidders should inspect the property before bidding to determine its condition, size, and whether or not it has been repaired or restored.

**3. Buyer’s Premium** A 20% buyer’s premium will be added to the hammer price and is payable by the purchaser as part of the total purchase price.

**4. Withdrawal** We reserve the right to withdraw any property before the sale and shall have no liability whatsoever for such withdrawal.

**5. Per Lot** Unless otherwise announced by the auctioneer, all bids are per lot as numbered in the catalogue.

**6. Bidding** We reserve the right to reject any bid. The highest bidder acknowledged by the auctioneer will be the purchaser. In the event of any dispute between bidders, or in the event of doubt on our part as to the validity of any bid, the auctioneer will have the final discretion to determine the successful bidder, cancel the sale, or to reoffer and resell the article in dispute. If any dispute arises after the sale, our sale record is conclusive. Although in our discretion we will execute order or absentee bids or accept telephone bids as a convenience to clients who are not present at auctions, we are not responsible for any errors or omissions in connection therewith.

**7. Purchaser’s Responsibility** On the fall of the auctioneer’s hammer, title to the offered lot will pass to the highest bidder acknowledged by the auctioneer, and such bidder thereupon (a) assumes full risk and responsibility therefore (including, without limitation, liability for or damage to frames or glass covering prints, paintings or other works), and (b) will immediately pay the full purchase price or such part as we may require. All property must be removed from our premises by the purchaser at his expense no later than 7 business days following its sale and, if it is not so removed, (i) a handling charge of 1% of the total purchase price per month from the tenth day after the sale until its removal will be payable by the purchaser, with a minimum of 5% of the total purchase price for any property not so removed within 60 days after the sale, and (ii) we may send the purchased property to a public warehouse for the account, at the risk and expense of the purchaser.

**8. Reserve** All lots in this catalogue are offered subject to a reserve, which is the confidential minimum hammer price at which a lot will be sold. All reserves are equal or lower than the low estimate.

**9. Tax** Unless exempted by law, the purchaser will be required to pay any applicable taxes or customs duties.

# The Young Collectors Auction

## PADDLE FORM

Sale No .....

Sale Date .....

NAME .....

ADDRESS .....

EMAIL .....

MOBILE NUMBER .....

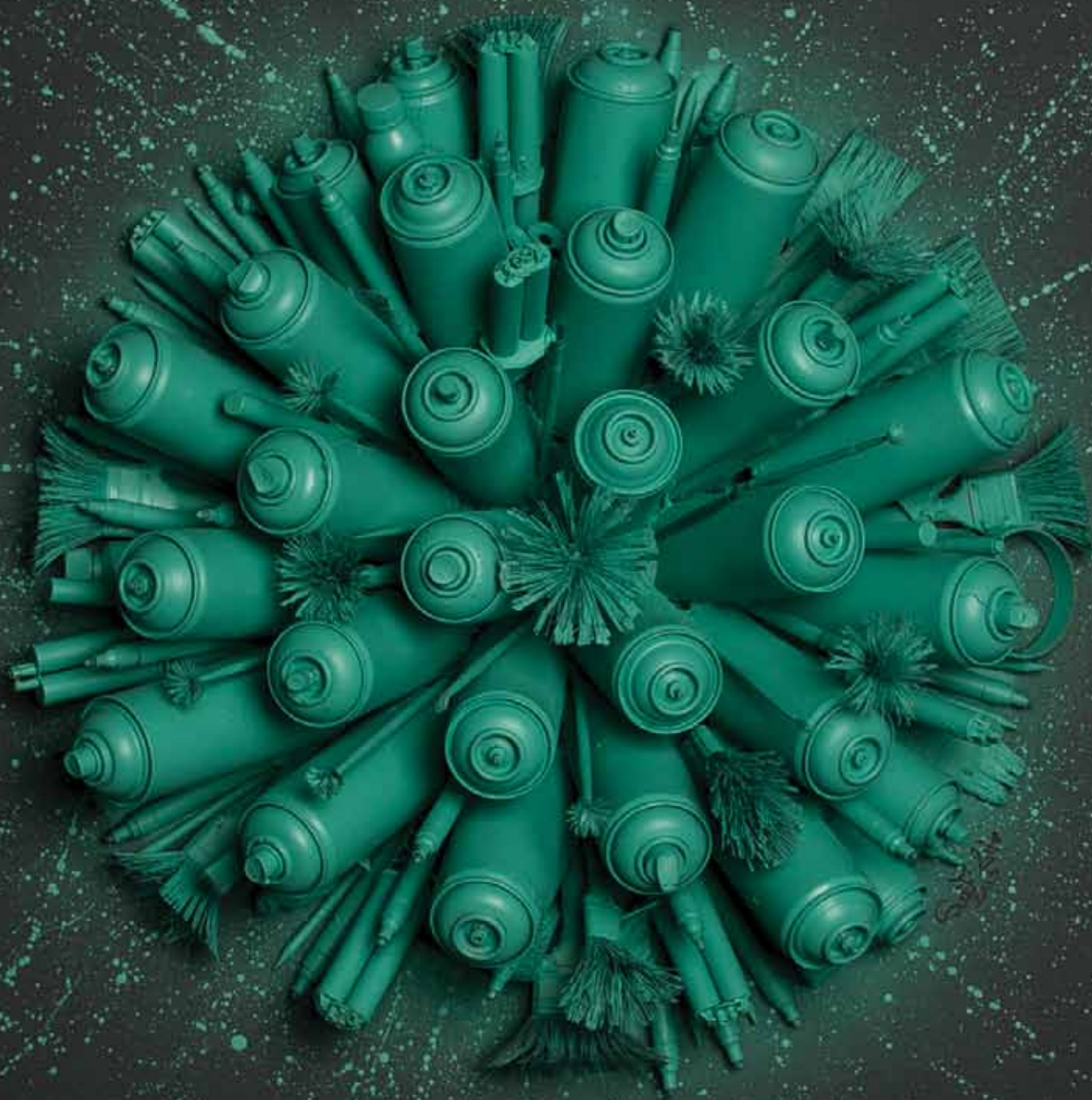
OFFICIAL ID NUMBER .....

I ..... hereby guarantee that I will fulfill all my responsibilities and obligations as per the Auction Sales Conditions mentioned on the reverse of this form for the above mentioned sale. All purchases must be paid for and artworks collected within seven days of the auction date or the works may be subject to forfeiture. Please see the reverse for further information.

Signature : .....

Please fax to +971 4 3236243 or e-mail to [dubai@ayyamgallery.com](mailto:dubai@ayyamgallery.com)





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