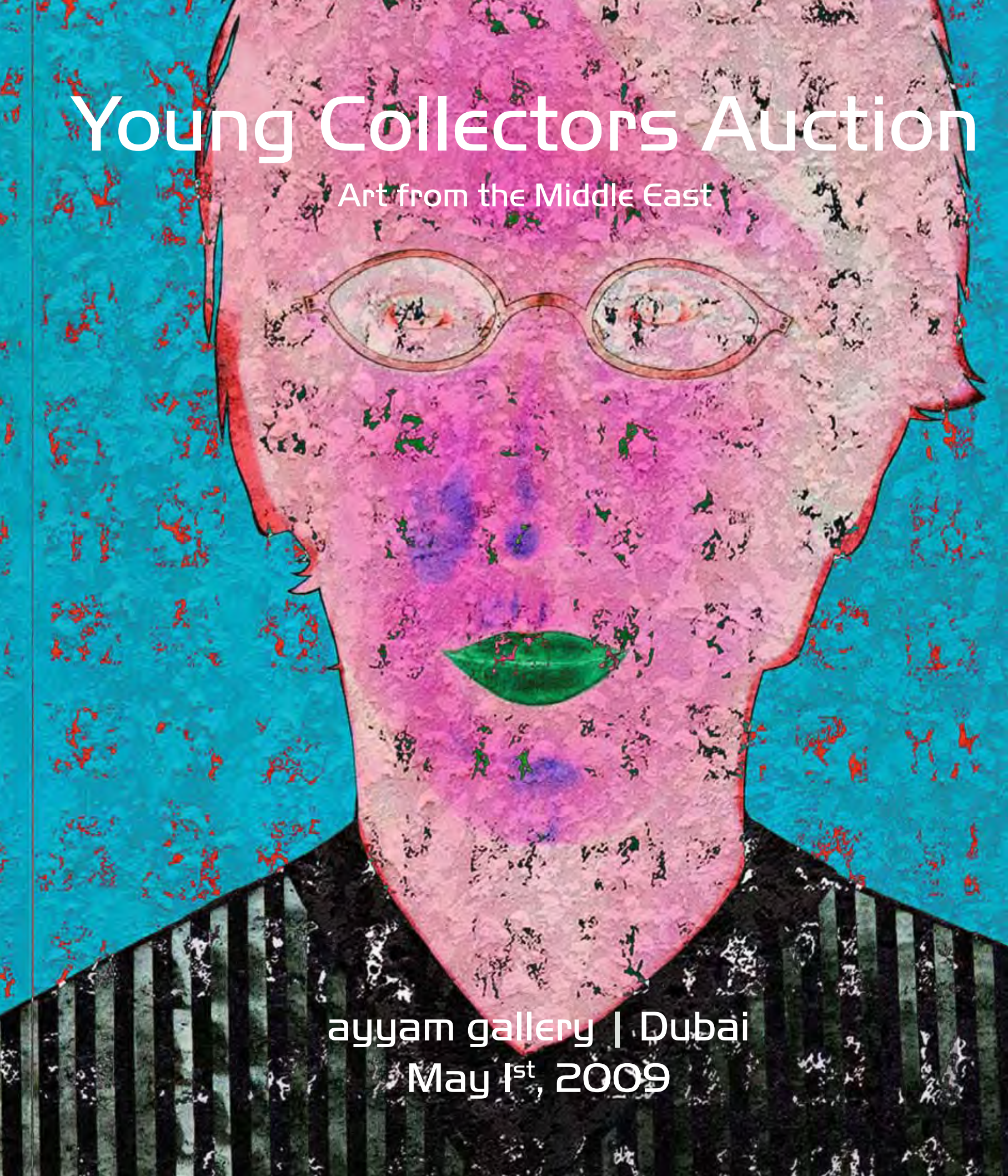


# Young Collectors Auction

Art from the Middle East



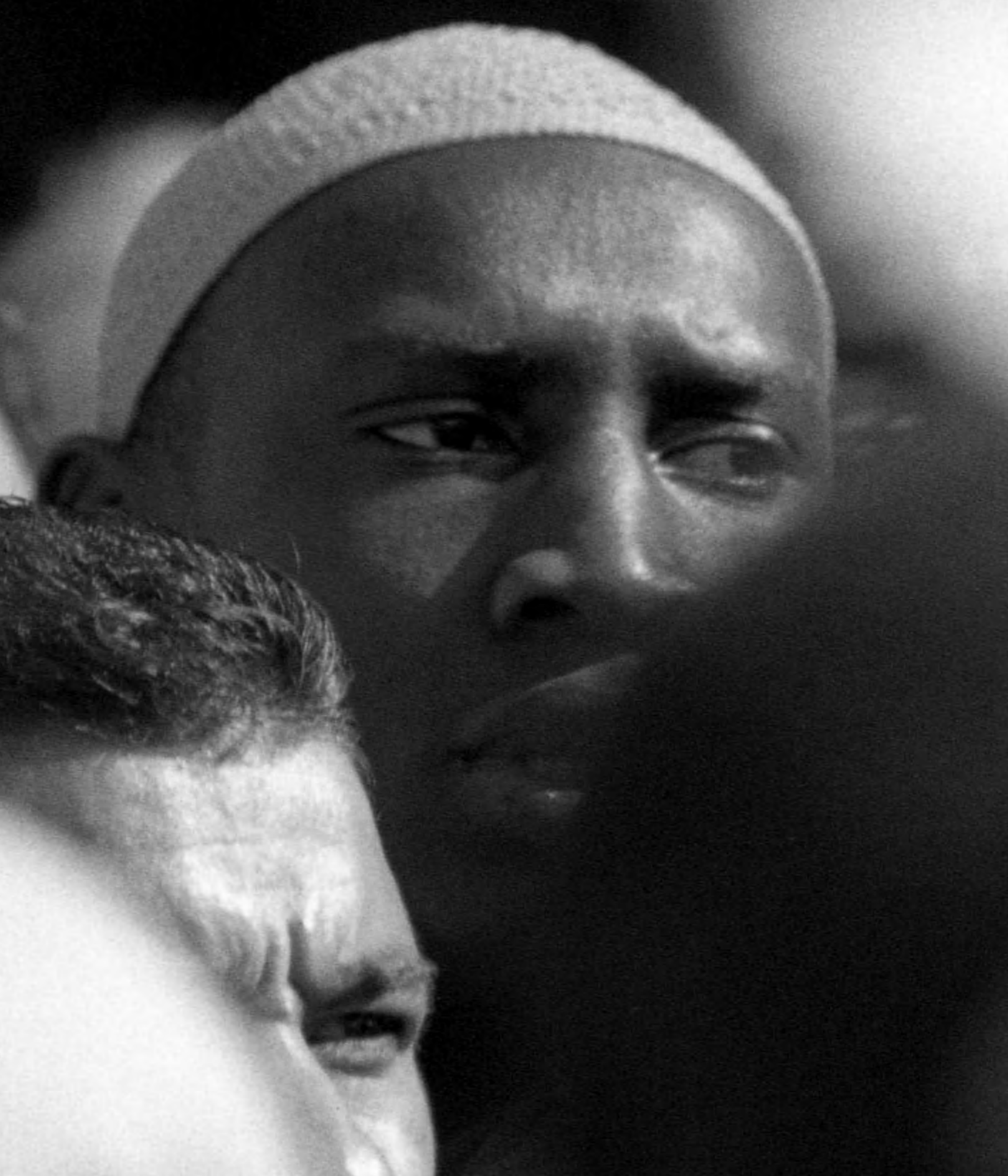
ayyam gallery | Dubai  
May 1<sup>st</sup>, 2009





ayyam gallery | Dubai  
Viewing: April 28 - 30 / 2009 10 AM to 8 PM

**Auction No. 01**  
**Friday, May 1<sup>st</sup>, 2009**  
**16:00 hrs.**



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**The Arab World's Premier Contemporary Art Gallery**

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**Beirut** Opening Fall 2009



Dear friends,

Less than three years ago, Ayyam Gallery opened its doors for the first time in Damascus, Syria. Since then, Ayyam Gallery has been credited with being at the forefront of promoting Syrian and Arab contemporary art internationally. At the same time, Ayyam Gallery has been partially blamed along with the major international auction houses of raising the prices of Arab art to unprecedented levels.

While we believe that masterpieces by top Arab artists should be priced similarly to masterpieces by any top international artist, we also believe that the young collector should not be ignored.

Over the last eight months we have been working hard to bring you this auction followed by an art fair, both dedicated to the young collector. During this auction and art fair Ayyam Gallery is also launching Ayyam Editions, a selection of museum grade original archival prints specially commissioned for Ayyam Gallery by some of the leading artists of the Arab World.

In this auction we have chosen quality original works by top established and promising younger artists that are both affordable and collectable.

We hope you appreciate this collection.

On behalf of the Ayyam family,

Khaled Samawi  
Founder  
Ayyam Gallery



Khaled  
**TAKRETI**  
born 1964

Lot 001

**«The Kiss» Signed, Dated and Numerated  
110x110cm Archival Print on Cotton Paper Edition of 25 / 2009  
Estimate (\$US 600 - \$US 800)**

*Provenance - Directly from the artist*

Syrian artist, Khaled Takreti was born in Beirut in 1964. He studied architecture and painting and finally graduated in 1992. Takreti worked as an architect in the General Directorate of Antiquity and Museums in Syria.

Ever since a child, Takreti drew and painted using oil colors. He developed his skills in several art schools. In 1995, he moved to New York for two years through which he got acquainted with contemporary art. However, he chose to live in Paris as a full time artist since 2006.

Takreti's style is close to realism. His main subject and concern is the woman. According to him, a female's presence brings stability as well as strength, tranquility and balance. Great white spaces however, are still under research, discovery, adventure and experiment.

He had many exhibitions, with great frequency, in all the galleries in Damascus and also in Paris and Beirut.

Today, his paintings are part of numerous public and private collections such as the Syrian National Museum and the Royal Foundation in Jordan.

The first two lots of this sale are archival museum grade reproductions of two masterpieces he exhibited in his last solo show at Ayyam Gallery in January, 2009. The show was called «My Grandmother and I» and these two lots are portraits of Takreti and his grandmother.







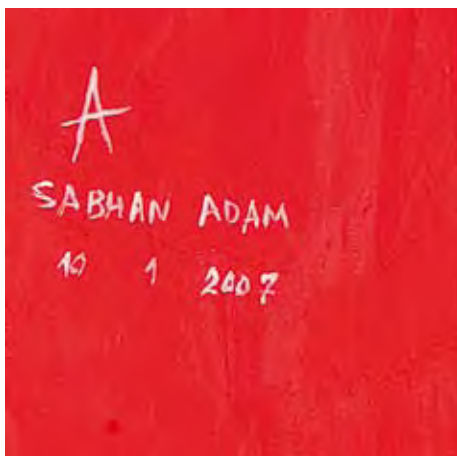
Khaled  
**TAKRETI**  
born 1964

**Lot 002**

**«Full Make Up» Signed, Dated and Numerated  
110x110cm Archival Print on Cotton Paper Edition of 25 / 2009  
Estimate (\$US 600 - \$US 800)**

*Provenance - Directly from the artist*





Sabhan  
ADAM  
born 1973

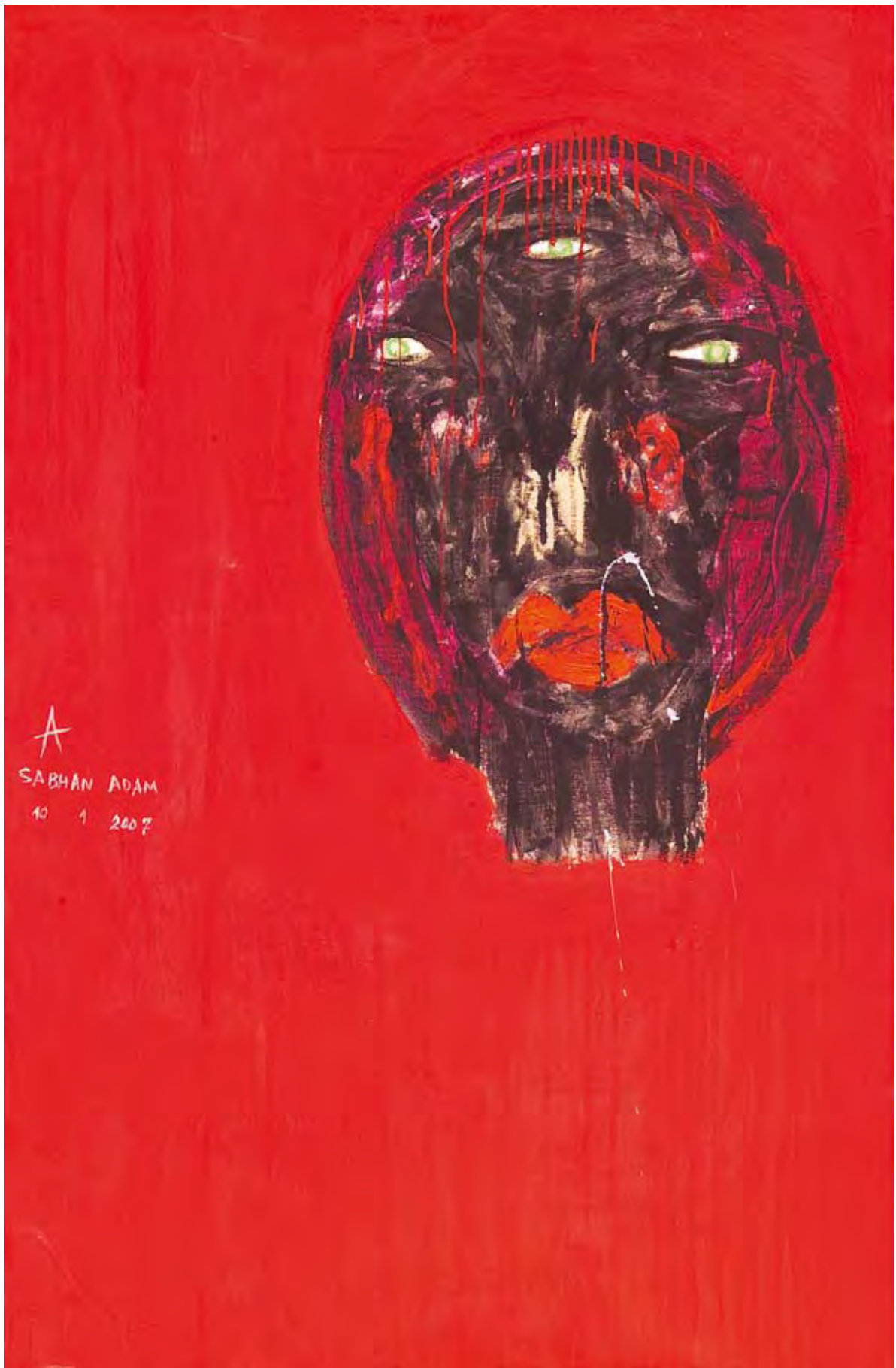
Lot 003

**«Untitled» Signed, Dated  
143X93cm Mixed Media on Canvas 2007  
Estimate (\$US 2,000 - \$US 2,200)**

*Provenance - Directly from the artist*

Sabhan Adam is one of the most well known and sought after artists in the Arab World. His belief that every household in the world should have a painting of his drives him to produce as many paintings and works as humanly possible. This strategy has helped him produce numerous solo shows in the all corners of the world along with numerous large publications on his work. He is represented and showcased in many galleries across the Middle East and Europe.





A  
SABHAN ADAM  
10 1 2007



Nassouh  
**ZAGHLOULEH**  
born 1958

**Lot 004**

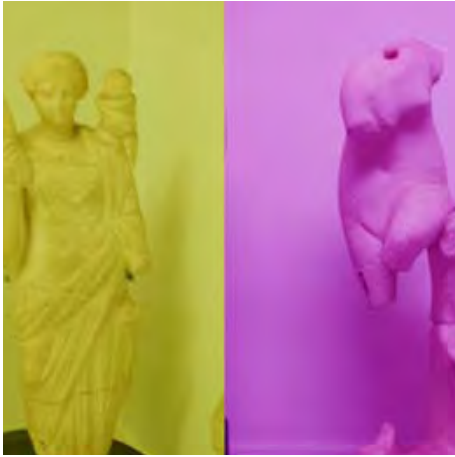
**«Non a La Guerre» Signed, Dated and Numerated  
61X91cm Archival Print on Cotton Paper Edition of 7 / 2002  
Estimate (\$US 1,500 - \$US 1,800)**

*Provenance - Directly from the artist*

Zaghlouleh has 25 years of professional photography experience in France behind him and more than 20 documentary films and 70,000 photos documented and attributed to him. He dealt with different human subjects, such as emotional and human breakdowns apparent in the faces of the unemployed, the edicts and the marginalized people. He also took photos of animals concentrating on their familiar movements and facial expressions and worked on portraits as well.

This shot is from the Paris collection and was taken during an anti war in Iraq demonstration.





Ammar  
AL-BEIK  
born 1972

Lot 005

**«Abu Ghreib» Signed, Dated and Numerated  
50X80cm Archival Print on Cotton Paper Edition of 25 / 2008  
Estimate (\$US 400 - \$US 600)**

*Provenance - Directly from the artist*

Born in Syria in 1972, Ammar Al-Beik developed an early passion for photography. He soon left his studies at the University of Damascus, Department of Business Administration, and became a full time photographer, participating in collective exhibitions inside and outside Syria.

In 1997, Al-Beik also got into cinematography. He produced and directed his first short 3-minutes film «Light Harvest», which awarded him the «Liege Mayor Reward» in Belgium in 2000.

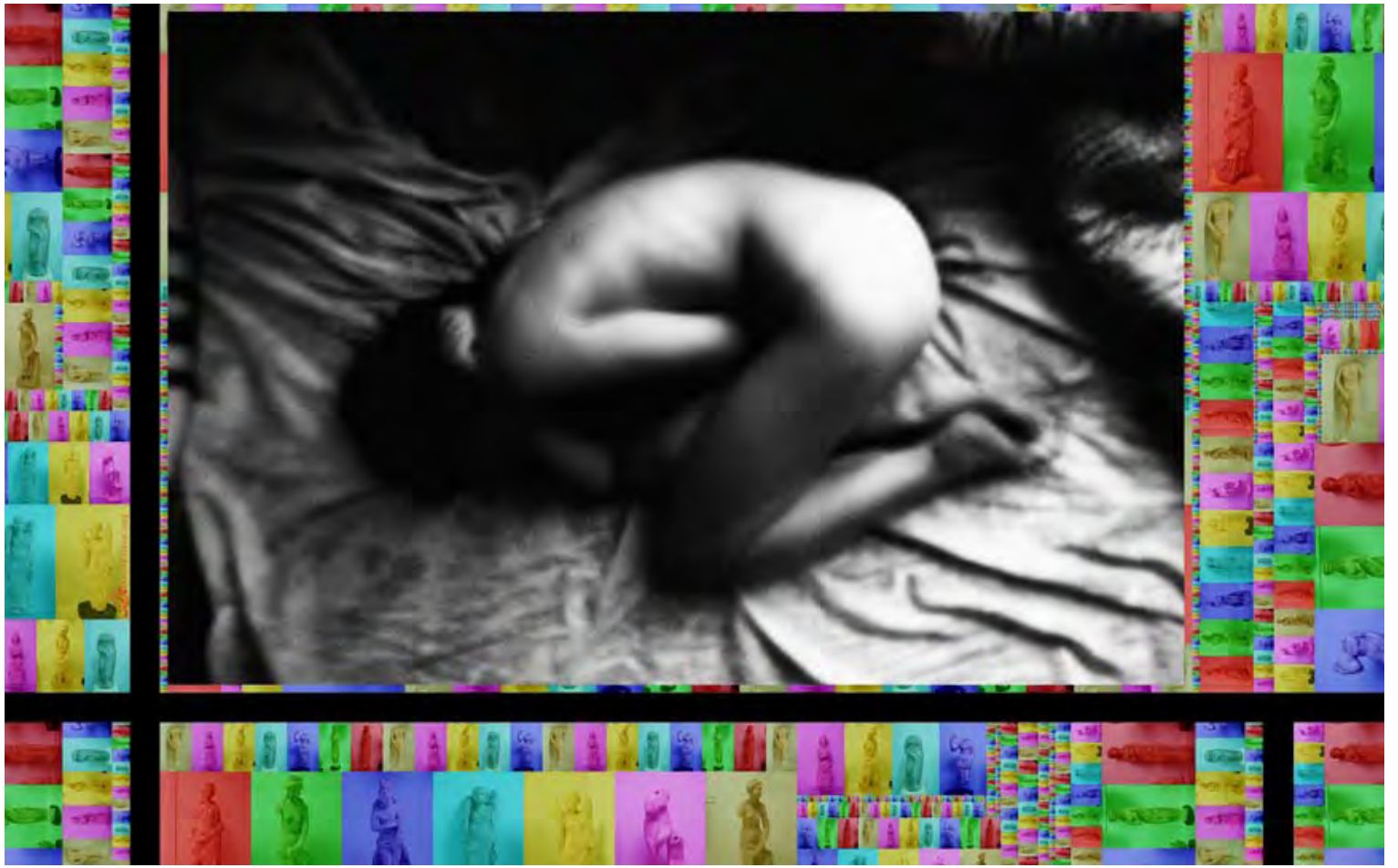
Since then, Al-Beik has produced and directed more 12 films and participated in more than 50 international film festivals.

Al-Beik also has been awarded a number of prizes, among them «The Venice 63rd International Film Festival's prize, -official selection, Orizzonti competition-, presented by The Documentary Film Association of Italy», for the film «I am the one who brings flowers to her grave», produced in cooperation with producer Hala AL-Abdulla, and screened for the first time during the festival in 2006.

His «Abu Ghreib» photograph with a series of 3, reached a price record of \$24,000, an unprecedented high record for an Arab photographer during the CMOOA auction in Casablanca in 2008.

People and their interaction with places are Al-Beik's main subjects. He is taken by the impact of silence on deserted places. Al-Beik is considered as one of the most cutting edge and innovative artists in the region.







Ammar  
AL-BEIK  
born 1972

Lot 006

**«Museum Warden» Signed, Dated and Numerated  
50X80cm Archival Print on Cotton Paper Edition of 25 / 2008  
Estimate (\$US 400 - \$US 600)**

*Provenance - Directly from the artist*





Moustafa  
FATHI  
1942 - 2009

Lot 007

**«Untitled» Signed, Dated and Numerated  
46X61cm Archival Print on Cotton Paper Edition of 20 / 2008  
Estimate (\$US 1,200 - \$US 1,500)**

*Provenance - Directly from the artist*

Moustafa Fathi was born in Deraa, Syria in 1942. He received a Diploma in Engraving from the Faculty of Fine Arts in Damascus in 1966, followed by a diploma in Engraving and Lithography from the Ecole Supérieure des Beaux Arts in Paris in 1978.

Between 1966 and 1987, he worked as a lecturer at the Faculty of Fine Arts in Damascus and took part in several exhibitions - at the International Painting Fair in Cannes-sur-Mer in 1975, and the Young Artists Fair (Salon de la Jeune Peinture) in Paris in 1985 and 1986.

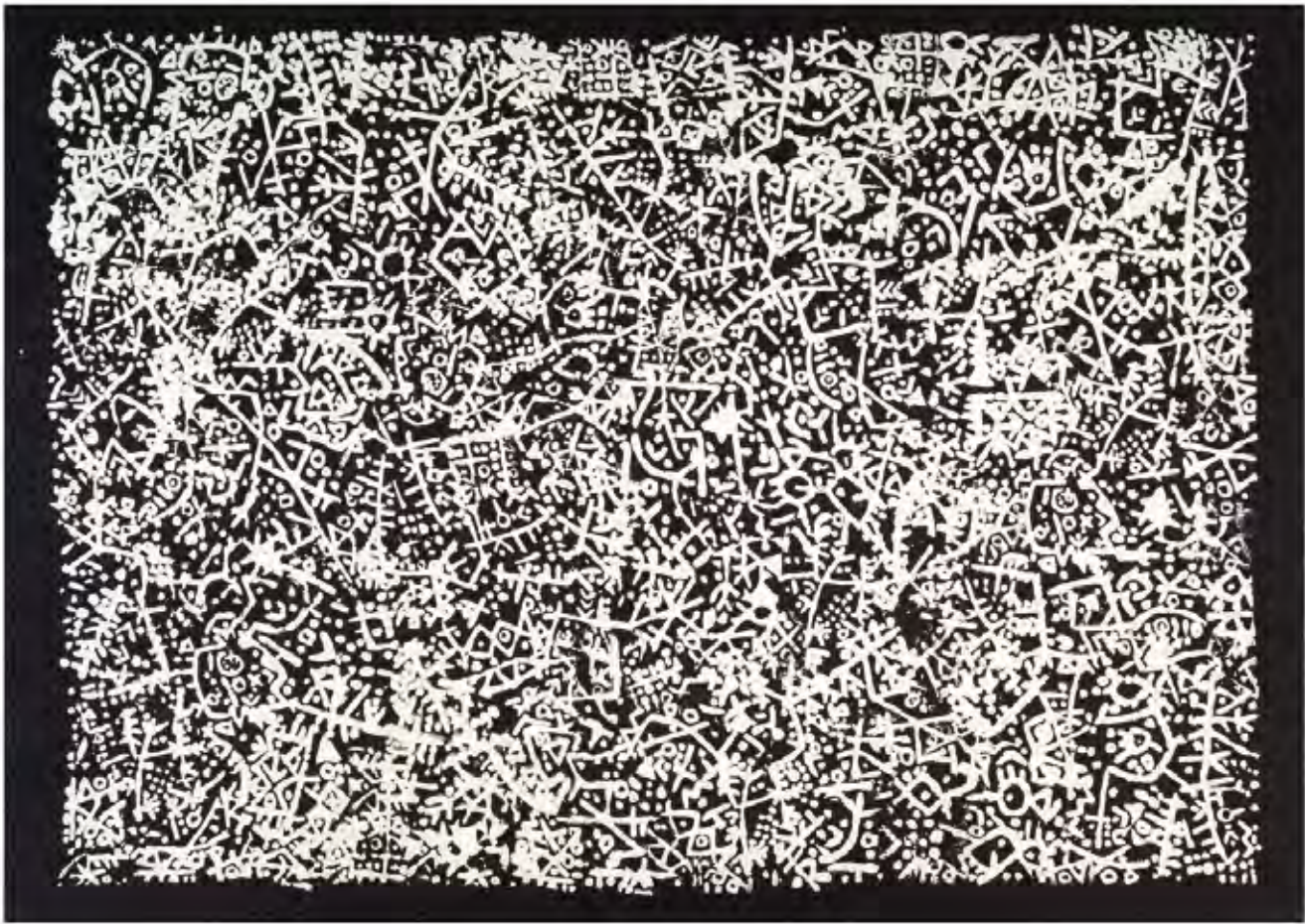
In (1987-1988), he conducted field research on Syrian traditional folk arts, which led him to produce works inspired by the woodblock printing technique. Having first designed and engraved the woodblocks, he then prints their patterns on white or dyed fabric. From wood and a simple cotton cloth, he thus creates delicate, original works, which combine his country's artistic traditions with a contemporary approach.

From February to April 1989, the results of this research were presented in a solo exhibition at the Nesle Gallery in Paris. This was organized by the Maison des Cultures du Monde in Paris and the Museum of Printed Textiles in Mulhouse. This was followed by a series of exhibitions in France and abroad up till 1994.

From 1995 to 2007, he pursued his research and continued experimenting with new ideas and techniques, while traveling around the world. In 2008, Fathi has had two solo exhibitions, one at the Museum of Contemporary Art in Lattakia, Syria, and the second at the Ayyam Gallery in Dubai.

After long years of experience and research, Moustafa Fathi passed away in February 2009, after a courageous struggle with cancer, leaving behind him a remarkable print in the contemporary art scene.







Moustafa

FATHI

1942 - 2009

Lot 008

**«Untitled» Signed, Dated Dated and Numerated  
63X61cm Archival Print on Cotton Paper Edition of 20 / 2008  
Estimate (\$US 1,200 - \$US 1,500)**

*Provenance - Directly from the artist*







Tammam  
AZZAM  
born 1980

Lot 009

**«Tribute to Gaza» Signed, Dated on the back  
150x150cm Mixed Media and Cloth Pegs on Canvas 2009  
Estimate (\$US 3,500 - \$US 4,000)**

*Provenance - Directly from the artist*

Tammam Azzam's mixed media works offer an exciting look at an evolving generation of Syrian artists challenging the boundaries of contemporary Middle Eastern painting. Azzam is a rising star on the local scene and has become an instant favorite among regional collectors.

Born in Damascus in 1980, he is a graduate of the Faculty of Fine Arts and has participated in a number of noteworthy workshops, exhibitions, and art fairs including: Darat Al-Funun's Al Kharif Academy in Amman, Jordan where he worked under master Syrian expressionist painter Marwan. His latest exhibition was «Stories from the Levant» at Ayyam Dubai in January 2009 with internationally renowned artists Samia Halaby and Nadim Karam. Art fairs in the UAE, Jordan, Paris and the USA.

The artist's Laundry Series (2008), exemplifies a unique approach to painting that challenges conventional examples of the art form. Dominated by large mixed media canvases employing everyday objects such as clothespins, Azzam creates texture and dimension in palatial enigmatic compositions that speak of negative and positive space.

Initially in the series the viewer can identify Azzam's reference to the ordinary, as clothespins appear to dominate the painting's surface or to hold white sheets in one piece and also are used as templates in another. While these objects are used to generate a distinct abstract expressionist feel, in which the emphasis is on the tactical application of medium, Azzam's compositions simultaneously recall the sharp lines, dramatic peaks and vivid sensations of surfaces found in nature. The artist's bold canvases are inspired by the rugged volcanic terrain of his native Suwieda in Syria.









Houssam  
**BALLAN**  
born 1983

**Lot 010**

**«Trace» Signed, Dated  
140X140cm Oil on Canvas 2008  
Estimate (\$US 2,000 - \$US 2,200)**

*Provenance - Directly from the artist*

Born in Suwayda, Syria in 1983, Houssam Ballan can't stick to a single art school, he wanders freely between them to such an extent that he finds no difference between abstraction and reality, they are two faces of the same painting. He uses the collage in numerous ways, once pasted on the wall, another time to serve the surface of the picture and enrich its color, the third time he slashes it with a sharp tool to create an etched-like surface. In his latest works he takes the poor children of his neighborhood, the street and its neglected corners in it as his revered subjects.

Ballan graduated from the Faculty of Fine Arts in Damascus in 2005. Ballan participated in several collective exhibitions in Syria, such as the Youth's exhibition in 2005 and several workshops like the one organized by the Spanish Cultural Center in Damascus, in Khan Asaad Basha in 2007, and another one organized by the French Cultural Center. Ballan is the youngest amongst Ayyam artists and one of the best emerging Syrian realists. His latest exhibition was «Shabab Uprising» at Ayyam Damascus in December 2008.

Ballan says: This world with all what it has of thoughts and objects is the raw material for me. When I am working, I am inclined to research, experimentation, and sometimes distortion. Therefore, I am a constant observer. I have a strong affinity to place, its colors, its people, and innate things. Photography to me is not only the painting. It is a way to see things and recreate them.





Kais  
**SALMAN**  
born 1976

Lot 011

**«Fashion Series» Signed, Dated  
120X180cm Acrylic on Canvas 2008  
Estimate (\$US 4,500 - \$US 5,000)**

*Provenance - Directly from the artist*

After his graduation from the Faculty of Fine Art in Damascus, Kais Salman, born in Tartous, Syria 1976, was interested in drawing the human figure. However, it didn't take long before he broke the form and reached abstraction. Salman is a real experimenter, moving from abstraction to personification, then giving up colors and getting preoccupied with the black and white world, finally turning to experimentations with materials. He worked on iron, canvas and other materials, then soon left all that behind and worked on people, where they are in their own context, in a way intending simplification.

Salman participated in many collective exhibitions, in Al-Khandji Gallery, organized in the context of «Aleppo – Capital of the Islamic Culture», in the French Cultural Centre in Damascus and in Tunisia among others. He also won the first prize in the 4th Youth's Exhibition held in Damascus in 2003. His works are collected in Syria, Jordan, Kuwait, Bahrain, Tunisia and France.

His latest collection has a humorous touch and alludes to ancient civilisations - Egypt, Rome and Greece. These cultures also avoided representing the female form in a literal and exact manner, preferring instead universal archetypes true for all women. Salman's hieratic figures come close to sculpture at times and he favours graphic signs. Colours and rhythm are obtained by powerful, brightly coloured graphics.

Kais Salman is comfortable with large-scale canvases where he can indulge his taste for structure (figures) and colour (graphics). What is of particular interest is the contrast between the «finished» aspect of his figures and the lyrical freedom of the background stripes.

















Abdul-Karim  
**MAJDAL AL-BEIK**  
born 1973

**Lot 012**

**«Al-Jazri Wall» Signed, Dated  
120X120cm Mixed Media on Canvas 2008  
Estimate (\$US 2,500 - \$US 2,800)**

*Provenance - Directly from the artist*

Born in Al-Hasakah, Syria in 1973, Abdul-karim Majdal Al-Beik's first paintings were inspired by the memory of his birthplace. He painted from the memory of the villages in northern Syria, the colors of the northern women's figures. However a simple displacement drove him to the memory of the walls of these forgotten villages.

After his graduation from the Faculty of Fine Art in Damascus in 1999, Majdal Al-Beik got his master's diploma in oil painting, with honor degree in 2001.

According to the artist, walls speak of our times, our society and us. The walls of cities or villages constitute our collective memory, no matter where they are in the world. They are the blackboards on which our struggles, our dreams and our desires are written.

Careful to maintain an authenticity in his expression, basic wall-building materials are Majdal Al-Beik's tools. Colors are used, but minimally; rather, black, white, grey, a few earthy colors and a sky blue. To reconstruct the passage of time, he applies several layers to each canvas. His paintings are covered in impasto but also simultaneously dotted with letters, numbers, illegible symbols and light touches which evoke the lyricism inherent in life.

Majdal Al-Beik won the second prize in Ayyam gallery's competition for emerging Syrian artists in 2007. His works are present in many important collections through out the Middle East and Europe.

While his work is clearly that of a painter, it is also that of a philosopher and sociologist who is attentive to others and to his time.









Moutēea  
MURAD  
born 1977

Lot 013

**«Portrait» Signed, Dated  
100X100cm Oil on Canvas 2006  
Estimate (\$US 2,000 - \$US 2,200)**

*Provenance - Directly from the artist*

After his graduation from the Faculty of Fine Arts in Damascus, Moutēea Murad (born in Homs, Syria 1977) tried different artistic styles; the last one is his color experiment by mixing a great variety of colors within a blend, through which he tries to create an equation and a special magic.

Works such as «My Magical Shining Kites,» «The Magical Carpet,» and « To the Kingdom of Happiness» convey a message of love written in endless colors, reviving a joyful memory. These works are introspective and personalized: scenes from his life as a boy and later as a young man and father.

Murad's playful canvases delight in Abstract expression. Viewing a Murad painting is akin to listening to the sound of improvisational jazz or the sound of laughing children. Colors are intense and plentiful dancing amid spirals and swirls in a random patterning that celebrates line, movement and above all freedom.

Murad has had numerous exhibitions inside and outside Syria. Among the prizes Murad has won is the second prize in the third Youth's exhibition in Damascus in 2002, and a diploma of merit in the 5th Lattakia biennial in 2003. His latest exhibition was «Shabab Uprising» at Ayyam Dubai in March 2009, which included works of his 'Playful Coloring' collection.

This piece is from his previous white and black phase, which started out in 2001 and ended in 2006 with the Israeli July war against Lebanon. During this period, he drew «Qana II» after the second Israeli massacre in the southern Lebanese village of Qana, following the first incursion that inspired the painting of the «Grapes of Wrath.» What makes these paintings so successful, he feels, is the gloominess evoked by his use of only black and white.







Mohannad  
**ORABI**  
born 1977

**Lot 014**

**«Self Portrait» Signed, Dated  
100X100cm Mixed Media on Canvas 2007  
Estimate (\$US 2,000 - \$US 2,200)**

*Provenance - Directly from the artist*

Born in Damascus, Syria in 1977, Mohannad Orabi embraces strong interest in various creatures and human beings. The identity of the figures in his work, however, changes in the different stages in Orabi's art experience.

He started with the facial portrait, and then delved into paintings that depicted an entire person. However, what indeed mattered to Orabi was the composition of colors rather than the human form.

In retrospect, there was a turning point to his art exploration- figures in his work suddenly changed to children, after Orabi had closely examined babies in incubators in a hospital. In addition, Orabi enjoyed working with fluid lines, finding them visually entertaining.

After his graduation from the Faculty of Fine Arts in Damascus in 2000, Orabi participated in several collective exhibitions and workshops at home and abroad such as in the UAE, Paris, the USA and China. He also had solo exhibitions, one being in Zara Gallery in Amman, Jordan in 2007 and at Ayyam Gallery, Damascus in May 2008. His latest solo show was in April, 2009 at CIGE in Beijing.

Orabi won several prizes for his work; one of which was when he was 14 years old: the Shankar's International Children Competition - New Delhi, India in 1991. He also won the first prize in the Youth's exhibition in Damascus in 2006. His works have been presented in several important collections in Syria, Lebanon, Jordan, UAE, Saudi Arabia, France, Canada, the USA, France and Switzerland.





Leila  
NSEIR  
born 1941

Lot 015

**«Untitled» Signed, Dated  
92X45cm Ink on Paper  
Estimate (\$US 1,500 - \$US 1,800)**

*Provenance - Directly from the artist*

Born in Lattakia, Syria in 1941, Leila Nseir graduated from the Faculty of Fine Arts in Cairo in 1963.

Influenced by pharaohs and old civilizations such as the Phoenicians, her artistic career first moved from the realm of realism to expressionism and then to surrealism. She painted human figures and mixed reality with legends, in her own particular style, thus preserving for future generations the region's mythologies and culture.

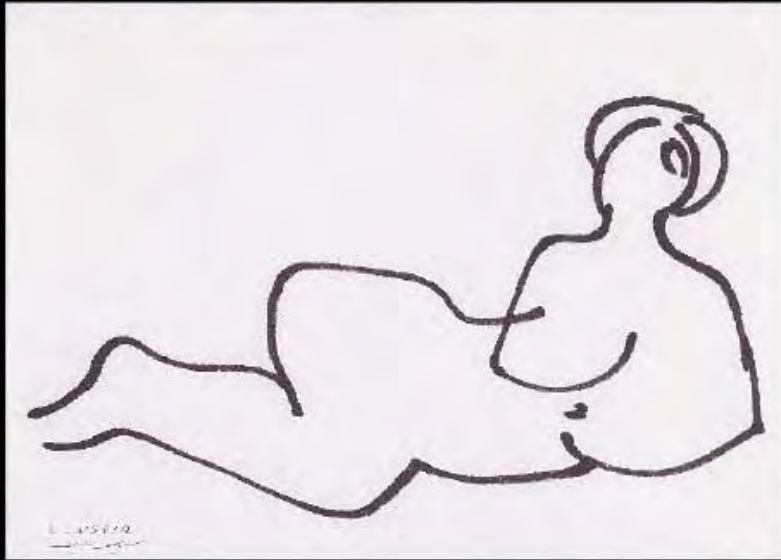
She moved on to printing techniques with an influence by frescos, she mixed different mediums in one painting (oil, wax crayons, pastel, etc...) on wood or canvas. Her sad, anguished characters have deep expressions and harmonious gestures and may be a reflection of her soul.

She has had a rich artistic career, and had close working relations with Kayyali and Moudarres. During her numerous solo and collective exhibitions, both inside Syria and abroad, she received many awards and recognitions, including two prizes from the Syrian Ministry of Culture in 1968 and 1999.

Her artworks can be found at the National Museum of Damascus and in private collections all around the world.

Leila has spent most her life in a quiet district of Lattakia, away from the limelight. She also writes poems and short stories. She is the first Syrian female artist to have been recognized both locally and internationally because she has left her own independent artistic imprint that has opened a path for the next generation.







Louay  
**KAYYALI**  
1934 - 1978

**Lot 016**

**«Untitled» Signed, Dated  
28X22.5cm Pencil on Paper 1976  
Estimate (\$US 3,500 - \$US 3,800)**

*Provenance - Private collection*

Born in Aleppo, Syria in 1934. Louay Kayyali studied decoration at the Academy of Fine Arts in Rome from 1956 – 1961.

He served as a teacher in Syrian High Schools before becoming a professor in the Faculty of Fine Arts at Damascus University, Syria.

The first exhibition of his paintings was held in his hometown of Aleppo in 1952.

In 1967, his controversial exhibition «Fi Sabil Al-Qadiyyah» (For the Sake of the Arab Cause), including thirty black and white works on charcoal, was criticized by many artists and journalists as being very pessimistic.

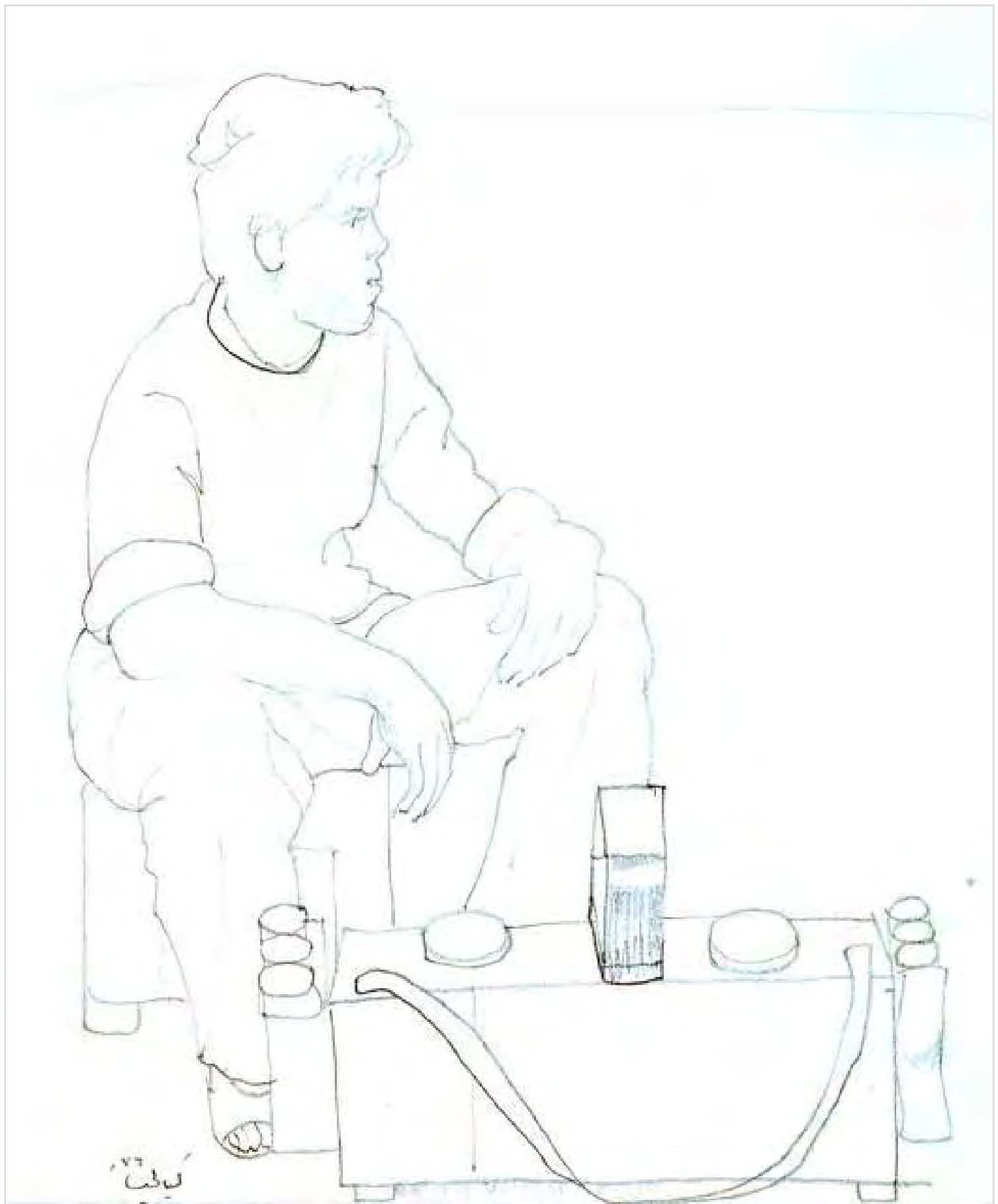
After Israel's victory in the Six-Day war and the occupation of Arab territories, Kayyali went into such a deep depression that he destroyed all the works from the show.

Kayyali's canvases depict popular subjects in a style that is a mixture of both Realism and Expressionism.

He died in 1978, alleged to have committed suicide.

Many of his works are now kept at the National Museum of Damascus, others achieved high price records while auctioned in famous international auction houses. Also his works are in private collections across the world.







Louay  
KAYYALI  
1934 - 1978

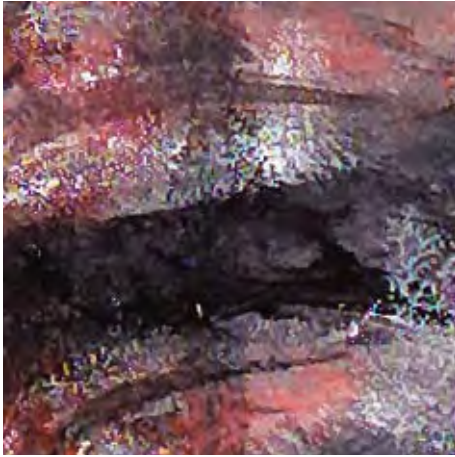
Lot 017

**«Untitled» Signed, Dated  
28X22.5cm Pencil on Paper 1976  
Estimate (\$US 3,500 - \$US 3,800)**

*Provenance - Private collection*







Asma  
FAYOUMI  
born 1943

Lot 018

**«Untitled» Signed, Dated  
100X100cm Oil on Canvas 2008  
Estimate (\$US 2,500 - \$US 2,800)**

*Provenance - Directly from the artist*

Asma Fayoumi sees beauty in everything. It is dominating her soul. Suddenly her women started dancing, her children started smiling, her colors healed despite the difficulty of penetration. Yet, speaking with the painting and receiving its concepts and symbols have become more delighting for us.

Asma began her artistic career by painting portraits, and has since moved into expressionism and abstraction. She may have also traveled from a blue color period to black and white, but color remains central in her works.

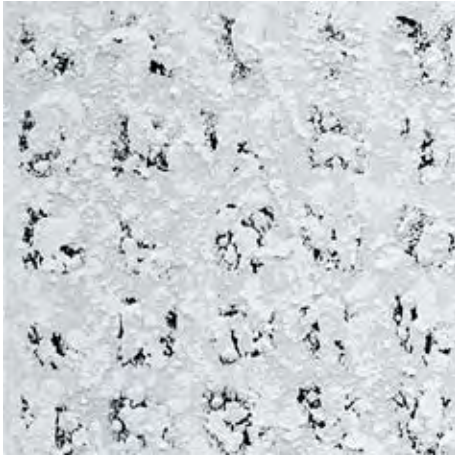
Born in Amman, Jordan in 1943, the artist worked alongside Master Syrian artists such as Mahmoud Hammad and Nassir Chaura in the 1960s, when abstract art was not yet fully established in Syrian art.

Her works both start and end with characters, allowing one to realize the spirit of the object, and not the object itself. Using her childhood memories, her works are influenced by childhood trips to the cinema, her home, and the groves and old streets of Damascus.

Her latest solo exhibition was at Ayyam Damascus in February 2008. Her collector base is international and collectors appreciate the sensitivity and innocence of her works.







Thajer  
**HELAL**  
born 1967

**Lot 019**

**«Snow and Trees» Signed, Dated  
90X180cm. Mixed Media on Canvas 2008  
Estimate (\$US 5,000 - \$US 6000)**

*Provenance - Directly from the artist*

Born in Syria in 1967, Thajer Helal graduated from the Faculty of Fine Arts in Damascus, Syria, in 1991. He has been a member of the UNESCO International Association of Art for the last 11 years.

His highly distinctive style combines both talent and technique, and presents a new concept of Contemporary art. In his paintings, one finds a universe of repetition fused with contraction then distension, attraction then rejection.

Sufi philosophy is at the core of Helal's work. The contemplative repetition found in Sufism drives Helal's artistic practice, as he attempts to infuse each work with multiple meanings. He takes indirect, vague symbols which are more oriented toward spiritual Sufism. They're far from reality and yet realistic at the same time.

A keen advocate of arts education, Helal has lectured in fine art since 1997, when he joined the teaching faculty of the Sharjah Arts Institute in the UAE, where he continues to live. A participant of three consecutive Sharjah biennials, Helal has also exhibited at galleries and cultural events across the Gulf, as well as in Italy, Belgium, Egypt and Iran. In 2006, he took part in the eighth DFEWA International Symposium of Modern Art in Carei, Romania. Helal has also received numerous commendations and awards for his work from the international arts community including the prestigious 'The Grand Golden Award' during the 2005 Tehran International Biennial.

Over the years, Helal's collector base has grown in line with his reputation, in many museums and art institutions, as well as private collections.

















Nadim  
**KARAM**  
born 1957

**Lot 020**

**«Wild Cat» Signed, Dated  
100X100cm Mixed Media on Canvas 2008  
Estimate (\$US 2,500 - \$US 2,800)**

*Provenance - Directly from the artist*

Born in Kaolack, Senegal in 1957. An urban Lebanese artist, painter, and sculptor, Nadim Karam is characterized by his spatial concepts, influenced by his decade of architectural studies in Japan, and his innate tragi-comic sense of story-telling.

Karam got a bachelor degree of Architecture at the American University in Beirut in 1982, a Master of Architecture at the University of Tokyo, then a Ph.D. from the Faculty of Architecture & Engineering, University of Tokyo in 1989.

Whether an urban artwork, sculpture, painting or story, his work is a whimsical wonderland of absurdity that makes even its most serious, darkest messages palatable.

Nadim Karam's most recent project is 'The Cloud', inspired by the city of Dubai.

Standing at a height of approximately 300 metres, it is a huge floating garden in the sky resembling a cloud. Conceived as an ethereal horizontal antithesis to the rocketing of skyscrapers into Gulf skylines, it evokes the nomads, whose travels followed the borderless movement of clouds, and offers a dream-like public space to counteract the exclusivity of Dubai's plethora of private leisure areas.

Nadim Karam has exhibited his paintings and sculptures in galleries, institutions and the Liverpool Biennale, Kwangju Biennale and Venice Biennale. His works are among the private collections of corporations, banks and cultural institutions in Japan, Lebanon, the UK and the Arab world.







Nadim  
**KARAM**  
born 1957

**Lot 021**

**«Wild Cat» Signed, Dated  
H28XW39XD3cm Wood Treated Lead Parchment Sculpture 2008  
Estimate (\$US 3,500 - \$US 4,000)**

*Provenance - Directly from the artist*







Fadi  
YAZIGI  
born 1966

Lot 022

**«Abou Al Nour» Signed, Dated and Numerated  
H28XW22XD18cm Bronze Sculpture edition of 8 / 2007  
Estimate (\$US 3,500 - \$US 4,000)**

*Provenance - Directly from the artist*

Born in Lattakia, Syria in 1966, Fadi Yazigi studied sculpture in the Faculty of Fine Arts in Damascus. Since his graduation in 1988, Yazigi has been working with amazing discipline as a full time artist. He enters his studio at 9am and doesn't leave it before 5pm for seven days a week.

Yazigi uses different techniques in his works; he paints on canvas or newspapers, makes large bronze sculptures, creates reliefs, etc... and he developed a very personal style in each of them. His talent is evidently present in all his works.

Bronze sculptures are Yazigi's favorite form of expression. These three-dimensional creations are the only works he names; born embodiments of the concepts he explores. Their smooth bronze surfaces are a crucial part of his attempt to capture immediacy and give an unhindered first impression of serenity. It is here that we acquire a deeper view of what might lie behind the childlike smiles of his figures. Half-man, half animal and dwarfish, the pieces carefully avoid adhering to the classical Golden Mean of balance and harmony. Yazigi had numerous exhibitions in the Middle East, Europe and the USA, and his works were showcased in many art fairs all around the world; Art and Design in New York, Palmbeach3 in Florida, Art Dubai in Dubai, Artparis in Paris and Art HK in Hong Kong.

His collector base is international selling to collectors all over the world. His artworks are also sold in Christie's and Sotheby's auction houses between London and Dubai.

Fadi Yazigi is considered as one of the most contemporary and talented artists in the Arab world.







Asaad  
**ARABI**  
born 1941

**Lot 023**

**«Motherhood» Signed, Dated  
65X80cm Acrylic on Canvas 2007  
Estimate (\$US 2,500 - \$US 2,800)**

*Provenance - Directly from the artist*

Born in Damascus in 1941, Asaad Arabi started his artistic carrier from the popular alleys of old Damascus, painting them from his own perspective. Then his style changed into geometrical abstraction.

After his graduation from the Faculty of Fine Arts in Damascus, Arabi moved to France in 1975 and got a Ph.D. in Contemporary Aesthetics and the Science of Art from the Sorbonne University in Paris. After his long expatriation, Arabi returned to his homeland Damascus in 2005. Now that his paintings have been enchanting Europe and the Arab world for half a century, Arabi, the painter, the writer and the researcher in the Islamic and Arab art aesthetics, was led by his last inspiration back to his roots. Arabi is painting and exhibiting in his beloved Damascus again, however, with a new vision, feeling and colors. In accordance with his latest exhibition, entitled «Shamiat» at Ayyam Gallery, Arabi released his book «A painting's testimony through half a century» of 400 pages illustrating his works and artistic experience.

Arabi's paintings are showcased in several museums such as Barcelona Museum and South Korea's Museum in Seoul.





MOUNZER  
KAMNAKACHE  
born 1935

Lot 024

**«Family» Signed, Dated and Numerated  
4 pieces Bronze Sculpture No.1 H25XW12XD24cm No.2 H20XW12XD16cm  
No.3 H15XW10XD13cm No.4 H10XW6XD9cm / 2008  
Estimate (\$US 5,000 - \$US 6,000)**

*Provenance - Directly from the artist*

After his graduation from the Faculty of Fine Arts in Damascus in 1968, Kamnakache (born in 1935) moved to France where he got a master's degree in 1976 from the Faculty of Fine Arts in Paris.

Kamnakache returned to Damascus in 1990, and started teaching at the Faculty of Fine Arts there.

Kamnakache's pastel paintings are very special. The red haired woman, present in all his works, with her rosy cheeks gives the paintings a unique surrealistic touch.

His bronze sculptures are about woman, (the connector), she is the human being who gives us the pulse of life and its tenderness at the same time, and like all other creatures, places us before the big question.

Kamnakache is a full time artist and has exhibited his paintings and sculptures in prominent European and Middle Eastern galleries. Kamnakache is now living between Syria and Switzerland.

Describing his own experience, Kamnakache says: «I try to go back to the self and find the pure and bright things in it. The cycle of life in nature arouses me; from a small bud to a tree that drops its last leave in autumn.»

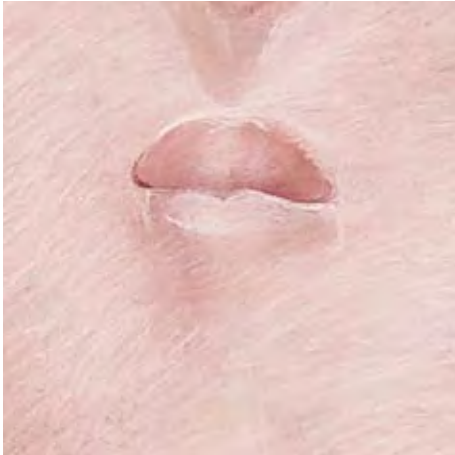












MOUNZER  
KAMNAKACHE  
born 1935

Lot 025

**«Untitled» Signed, Dated  
75X110cm Acrylic on Canvas 2006  
Estimate (\$US 2,000 - \$US 2,200)**

*Provenance - Directly from the artist*





Othman  
**MOUSSA**  
born 1974

**Lot 026**

**«Untitled» Signed, Dated  
130X120cm Oil on Canvas 2007  
Estimate (\$US 2,500 - \$US 2,800)**

*Provenance - Directly from the artist*

Born in Zabadani in Damascus Countryside, Syria in 1974. Graduated from Adham Ismail Center for Plastic Arts and from Walid Izzat Sculpture Institute in Damascus, Syria in 2000.

Othman Moussa's work can be classified as poetic realism, and is based on the meticulous observation of nature and everyday objects. His paintings follow the European tradition of still lifes, which originated in the 17th century in Italy, France, and especially the Netherlands as a very distinct genre, which we could more accurately call «silent lives».

Moussa participated in many collective exhibitions in Syria including «Young Artists» exhibition at Al-Shaab Hall in 2001, 2002 and 2003, and «Free Art» exhibition at the Russian Cultural Center in Damascus in 2000.

His inaugural exhibition at Ayyam Damascus was in March 2009 alongside master Syrian artist Asaad Arabi.

Othman Moussa is arguably the most impressive Hyperrealistic young artist in Syria.







Samia  
**HALABY**  
born 1936

**Lot 027**

**«Child, Women of Palastine Series» Signed, Dated  
107X56 cm Acrylic on Canvas Collage 2007  
Estimate (\$US 2,000 - \$US 2,200)**

*Provenance - Directly from the artist*

Samia Halaby's paintings span several decades, shedding light on the extensive career of one of Palestine's most accomplished painters and art historians.

There's an important link between her first geometric abstractions to more recent work, which uses distinct brushwork and the arrangement of endless colorist fields to suggest movement and light.

Born in Jerusalem in 1936, Halaby attended the University of Cincinnati and Indiana University in the USA and taught at leading American institutions for nearly 20 years, most notably the prestigious Yale School of Art.

Establishing herself in the American art scene early on, Halaby's work is housed in principle collections such as the Guggenheim Museum of Art, New York, the National Museum of Women in the Arts, Washington D.C. and The Art Institute of Chicago, Illinois. Internationally her work can be found in The British Museum, London, L'Institut du Monde Arabe, Paris and the Jordan National Gallery of Arts, Amman.

Her latest exhibitions are a solo show at Ayyam Damascus in May 2008, and a retrospective show at Ayyam Dubai in January 2009.







Safwan  
**DAHOUL**  
born 1961

**Lot 028**

«**Reve** » Signed, Dated and Numerated  
110x110cm Archival Print on Cotton Paper Edition of 7 / 2009  
**Estimate (\$US 2,500 - \$US 2,800)**

*Provenance - Directly from the artist*

After his graduation from the Faculty of Fine Arts in Damascus, Dahoul (born in Hama in 1961) moved to Belgium where he got a Ph.D. in plastic arts in 1997 from the Higher Institute of Plastic Arts in Mon; this might be the reason behind his deep attachment to the Belgian and Dutch art. Dahoul is taken by Bruegel, Bosch and Knouf and by religious art. Dahoul had numerous exhibitions in Europe and the Middle East, gaining several national as well as international prizes, such as first prize for painting in Emaar International Art Symposium in Dubai 2007.

Dahoul enjoys great popularity among international art collectors. Today, the most important museums and art collectors collect his paintings; he is considered one of the most successful and expensive artists in the Arab world. He had solo exhibitions in Europe and the Middle East where all his paintings were sold during the exhibition. Dahoul finally had a very important solo exhibition in Ayyam Gallery that was sold opening day in March 2008.

Dahoul is considered one of the distinctive characters in the international art scene. His elegant portraits with its clear lines and smooth characters convey a tendency towards cubism; while reflecting life and authenticity that springs from itself.





Safwan  
**DAHOUL**  
born 1961

**Lot 029**

«**Reve**» Signed, Dated and Numerated  
110x110cm Archival Print on Cotton Paper Edition of 7 / 2009  
**Estimate (\$US 2,500 - \$US 2,800)**

*Provenance - Directly from the artist*







Ali  
TAPTIK  
born 1983

Lot 030

«Accident and Fate Series» Signed, Dated and Numerated  
60x60cm Photographic Print Edition of 7 / 2006  
Estimate (\$US 1,500 - \$US 1,800)

*Provenance - Directly from the artist*

Ali Taptık was born 1983, Istanbul. Studied in Istanbul Technical University, Faculty of Architecture and finished a master class on documentary photography in Nordens Fotoskola, Sweden.

His first project combining diary pictures with Istanbul's urban landscapes to recreate a personal history «remembering me» was shown in many cities around Europe, Asia and Turkey. His second series «Kaza ve Kader» (Accident and Fate) is about interconnected frames of the experience of accumulated urban realities. It is about the relationships, places, people, emotions and coincidences. «Kaza ve Kader» was shown in Istanbul, Ghent, Ljubljana, Malmö and Marseille. His latest project «Familiar Stranger» is about the urban structure and the relationship of the subjects of the city with this environment. Ali Taptık lives and works in Istanbul and is represented by x-ist, Istanbul and Atelier de Visu, Marseille.







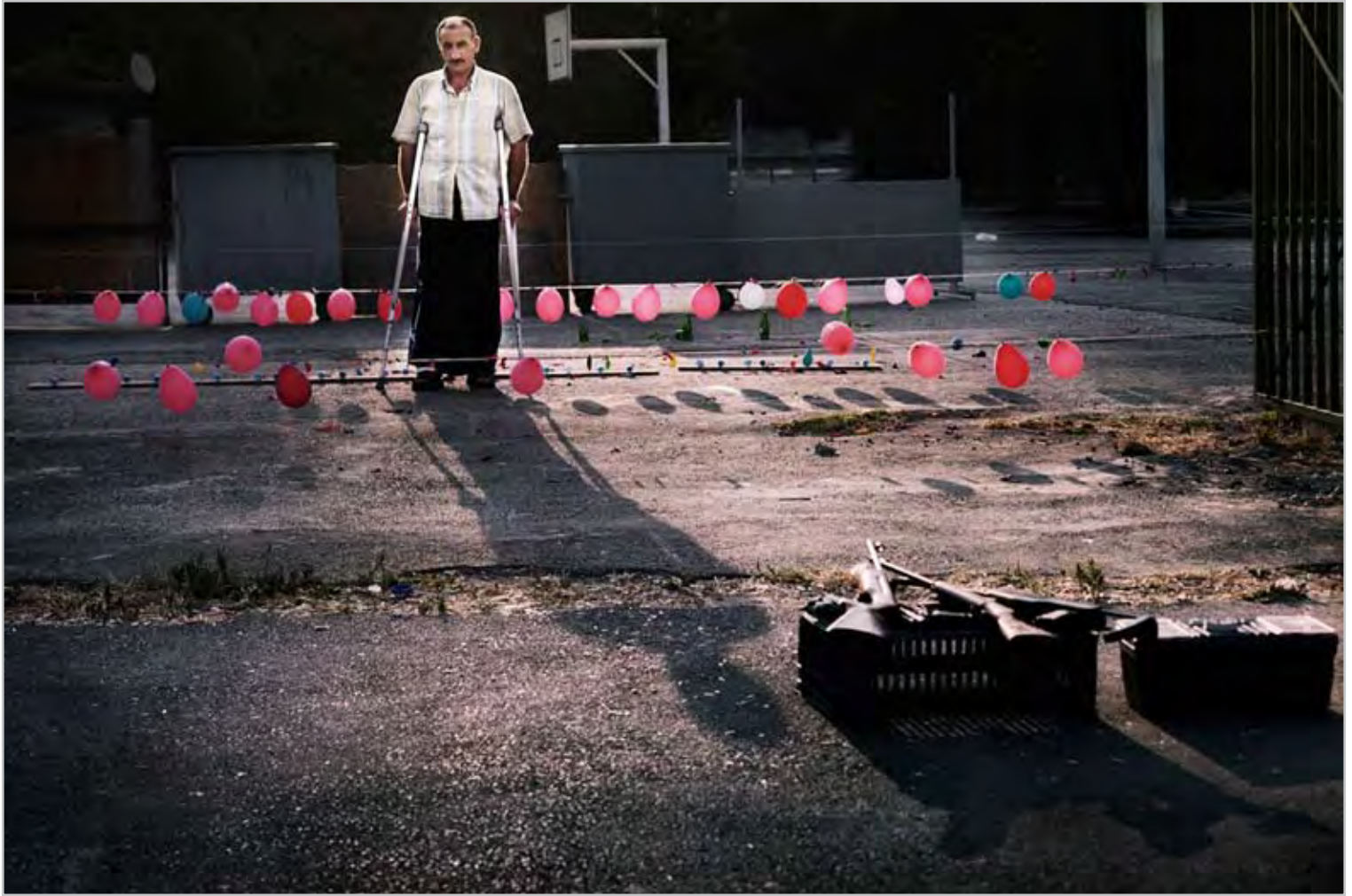


Ali  
TAPTIK  
born 1983

**Lot 031**

«Familiar Strangers Series» Signed, Dated and Numerated  
60x90cm Photographic Print Edition of 7 / 2007  
Estimate (\$US 1,500 - \$US 1,800)

*Provenance - Directly from the artist*





Lale  
TARA  
born 1957

Lot 032

«Hello Earth Goodbye» Signed, Dated and Numerated  
127x190cm Photographic Print Edition of 3 / 2006  
Estimate (\$US 2,000 - \$US 2,200)

*Provenance - Directly from the artist*

Lale Tara was born in Istanbul. She expanded her knowledge of photography by attending courses at The New School and the School of Visual Arts.

Through her photographic works, Lale Tara is an artist who projects on the face of the world «the reality of the image», rather than «the image of the reality».

Lale Tara still lives in Istanbul and continues to work on new photography projects.

Her visual diary, «seven months seven days», was published at the end of 2005 by Robinson Crusoe Kitabevi.

Her solo exhibition «Canlı/Live» in summer 2006, draws attention to the expressiveness of the frozen expressions of mannequins imprisoned in the shape their creators have given them, underlining the solace, which has gradually become almost a necessity in the solitary world of the city dweller, of establishing communication with lifeless objects.

Her solo exhibition «Hello Earth Goodbye» in fall 2007, highlights the subject that we should not forget that every baby born can constitute a hope for the beginning of a new era on this sorrowfull planet facing an infinite number of disasters from endless war to global warming.





# Auction Sales Conditions

## 1. Auction Sales Conditions

We recommend you to read very carefully all the conditions set in the present catalogue with regard to all the art work put on sale.

## 2. Estimated Price

The catalogue includes the estimated sales price determined by our advisors for each work to be sold at auction. The estimated price is determined by considering factors such as the condition, the rarity, the quality, the origin (the history of the previous owner, the person for whom it was made, and the person(s) who used it) of the art work. The estimated price does not include Ayyam Gallery's commission, V.A.T., and other taxes and fees payable by the purchaser were applicable. In the event whereby the work «OFFER» appears instead of the estimated price, please submit your offer directly to Ayyam Gallery.

## 3. Reserve Value

Unless otherwise specified, a «Reserve value» is determined for every work included in the present catalogue. This confidential value is the value for which the owner accepts to sell, and the relevant work cannot be sold for any price below this value. The reserve value cannot be above the estimate price indicated in the catalogue. Works with no Reserve value are indicated with an asterix «\*».

## 4. Registration of the Purchasers

Purchasers must register for a paddle at least thirty (30) minutes before the auction.

## 5. Raising Paddles & Bidding

The auctioneer shall attend and conduct the session so that participants may bid by telephone or by person. Silent bids may also be given to Ayyam Gallery at least thirty minutes before the lot is auctioned off.

Until a work reaches its reserve value the auctioneer may conclude the sale either through his/her own initiative or according to those who participate by telephone, in person, or silent bids.

6. Potential buyers not attending the session shall be entitled to apply to Ayyam Gallery and request the paddle to be raised on their behalf for a given work up to a maximum price they will indicate. This is called a silent bid.

The attendants of Ayyam Gallery shall raise paddles considering the Reserve value in a way to enable to purchase of the work for the lowest possible price. In the event whereby two or more silent bids are for the same value,

priority will be given to the one having submitted the silent bid first.

In the event whereby the price offered in the auction room is below the one specified in a silent bid, the work will be remitted to the bidder having offered in his/her/its silent bid above the one offered in the room, whatever such a value may be.

To create a silent bid please contact Ayyam Gallery at [info@ayyamgallery.com](mailto:info@ayyamgallery.com)

Those wishing to purchase from the auction may participate during the session by calling the telephone numbers provided in the catalogue. Such participants must call Ayyam Gallery at least twenty four (24) hours in advance and inform that they intend to participate in the auction by telephone.

7. 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.

<u>Between</u>	<u>100</u>	<u>500 USD</u>	<u>50 USD</u>
<u>Between</u>	<u>500</u>	<u>1,000 USD</u>	<u>100 USD</u>
<u>Between</u>	<u>1,000</u>	<u>5,000 USD</u>	<u>250 USD</u>
<u>Between</u>	<u>5,000</u>	<u>10,000 USD</u>	<u>500 USD</u>
<u>Between</u>	<u>10,000</u>	<u>20,000 USD</u>	<u>1,000 USD</u>
<u>Between</u>	<u>20,000</u>	<u>50,000 USD</u>	<u>2,000 USD</u>
<u>Between</u>	<u>50,000</u>	<u>100,000 USD</u>	<u>5,000 USD</u>
<u>Above</u>	<u>100,000</u>		<u>10,000 USD</u>

#### 8. The Hammer Price

The hammer price becomes definitive by the word «SOLD» pronounced by the auctioneer. Purchasers shall be responsible for their bids made by raising their paddle. The results related to the silent bids shall be notified after the session by telephone, e-mail, or fax.

The purchaser shall pay Ayyam Gallery an extra 20% commission calculated on the basis of the hammer price that will be added to the hammer price as the final cost price of the buyer. Payment to Ayyam Gallery shall be within 5 working days of the auction.







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**16:00 hrs.**







