



Promoting  
Middle  
Eastern art  
to the world



# Albareh Art Gallery

Since it's inception 10 years ago, Albareh Art Gallery has consistently showcased art of the highest standard in a variety of media, encompassing painting, sculpture, calligraphy, photography and installation works.

Over the past four years, as interest in contemporary art has increased across the region, and the audience for Middle Eastern art grown globally, the gallery has become increasingly active, establishing relationships with a broad network of prominent artists in the region and beyond, emerging as one of the Gulf's foremost art centres. Instantly recognizable names with whom we've worked and maintain ties include Farhad Mashiri, Hakim Ghazali, Mouneer Alsharaani, Mohammed Ehsai, Khaled Al-Saai, Mohammed Omar Khalil, Dia Al Azawi and Mohammed Al Ameri. It's a very exciting time for contemporary Middle Eastern art; more and more artists from the region are finding their way to auction, and there's an enormous amount of new talent coming through. We actively seek out this new talent and, in addition to showcasing the work of established artists, provide a forum for up-and-coming artists, finding it enormously gratifying to see a number of those we've exhibited go on to find success on the international stage.

Apart from our programme of exhibitions throughout the year, we put our expertise at the disposal of clients by offering a personalized advisory service. This might involve guiding a client through the process of assembling a noteworthy collection of contemporary Middle Eastern art from start to finish, or simply enhancing an existing collection, taking into account buyer's personal tastes, while also steering them in the direction of what we see as excellent investment opportunities.

The artworks we have assembled for ArtParis demonstrate a diversity of styles and media, but are united in their technical brilliance, individuality and sheer beauty. Albareh is delighted to act as a bridge between buyers and these and other outstanding artists in this exciting emerging market.

Hayfa Al Jishi  
Gallery Owner and Principal Curator

# Featured artists at ArtParis

## Ahmed Al-Bahrani

Born in Babylon, Iraq, 1965

Ahmed Al Bahrani's modern sculptures are remarkable for their ability to make heavy iron appear light and fluid. Highly sought-after, his works have been acquired by individuals and museums in cities around the world, but he is perhaps most famous globally for his 17m-high iron sculpture to make the 2006 Asian Games in Doha, in which the Olympic rings of sculpted iron seem to float above the ground. This is one of a number of sculptures he has been commissioned to make for public spaces. He has also held several solo and group exhibitions in Iraq and elsewhere in the Arab world.



## Ali Hassan

Born in Doha, Qatar

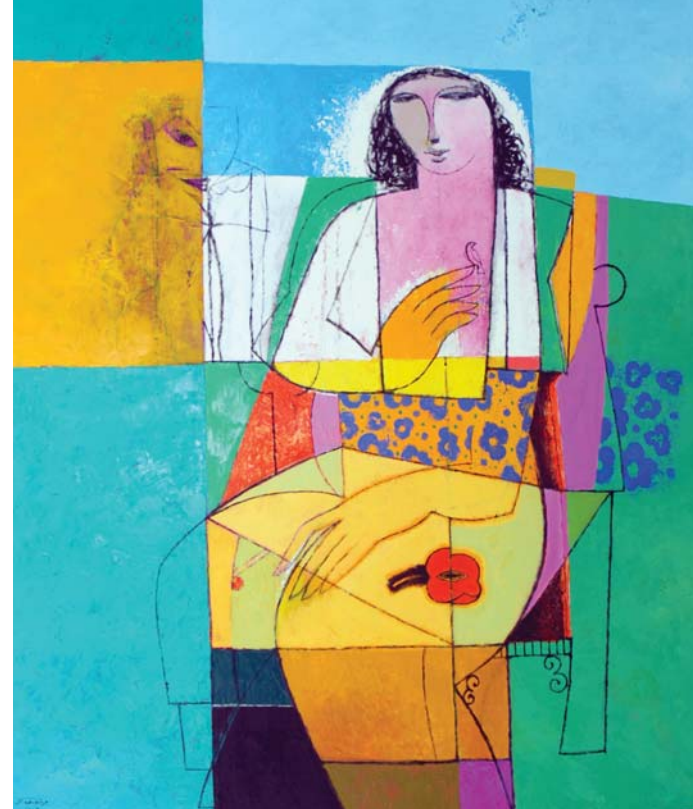
Often incorporating signs and symbols, Ali Hassan's intricate works are like puzzles that the viewer has to decipher, subject to a variety of interpretations depending on one's own cultural, ethnic or religious experiences. The Qatari artist has had solo exhibitions throughout the region and further afield in Japan and France, and has participated in group exhibitions in Italy, London, Beirut, New York and Tunisia, as well as in biennials in Dhaka, Sharjah and New Delhi. His work is included in the collections of Jordan's National Gallery of Fine Arts, the Modern Arabic Art Museum – Doha, and Sharjah Arts Museum, and has won him several awards, including an Appreciation Prize at the 3rd Egyptian International Print Triennial in 2000, the Al-Dana award from Kuwait, and the Golden Palm Award at the G.C.C. Art Exhibition in 1999.



## Ebrahim Bu-Saad

Born in Muharraq, Bahrain, 1954

A master of calligraphy, Ebrahim Bu-Saad often enriches his whimsical multi-media works with Arabic poetry, and constantly rings the changes in his style and approach. He has had several solo exhibitions and participated in numerous group exhibitions in Bahrain and internationally, including several biennials, and is included in permanent collections in the National Museum of Bahrain, the Modern Art Museum of Qatar, the National Council of Culture and Arts in Kuwait, the National Museum of Sharjah, the National Museum of Fine Arts in Jordan and the British Museum in London. He is the recipient of several awards, including first prize at the Emaar Art International Convention Dubai 2005 and the G.C.C. Golden Leaf Award Oman 2006.



## Jalil Rasouli

Born in Hamadan, 1947

This highly accomplished calligrapher has been exhibiting his work since 1973 when he had his first solo exhibition at the Seyhoon Gallery in Iran. Since then he has participated in more than 50 group exhibitions, including London's Islamic Art Exhibition, and held 20+ solo exhibitions, spanning Iran, Syria, Pakistan, Lebanon, Japan, China, Turkey and the Vatican in Rome. In 1989, he inscribed the late Imam Khomeini's divan and in 1990 published a collection of his works entitled 'Four Seasons', which was followed by three more books. His work has been recognized by several awards, including the Prize of Pure Wisdom in 2004.



## Khaled Al-Saai

Born in Homs, Syria, 1970

Khaled Al-Saai has won international renown for his mastery of the Diwany Jaly from the calligraphy. This ornate script was used by Ottoman emperors to write official decrees, but Al-Saai has made it his own in works inspired by nature, travel and the musical rhythms of poetry. He has won numerous awards, including the Classic Calligraphy Prize at the 2nd Biennial of Calligraphy in the Arab World in Sharjah 2006, first prize in the Modernity of Arabic Calligraphy at the 1st Biennial of Calligraphy in the Arab World in Sharjah, and first prize in Diwany Jaly script at the Master competition of Calligraphy in Istanbul, Turkey (the latter two both in 2004). He has had solo exhibitions in Bahrain, Paris, Syria and Dubai and participated in numerous group exhibitions. He was recently sold at auction at Christies' in Dubai.



## Mohammed Omar Khalil

Born in Burri, Sudan, 1936

The artworks of this accomplished Sudanese artist integrate form and pattern, etching and painting, symbols, stamps and a variety of found objects, often in dramatic collages.

Trained in the 50s at the Ecole des Beaux-Arts in the Sudan, Khalil lives and works in New York today, where he creates works that draw inspiration from his Sudanese heritage as well as from Pop culture in his new home. The result is vivid, highly original artworks that have sold at auction and earned him international acclaim. A master engraver, he teaches his art at Columbia University and conducts workshops at Morocco's famous cultural festival Asilah. He has exhibited in solo and group exhibitions in cities throughout the U.S.A., as well as in France, Italy and Morocco.



## Monir Islam

Born in Bangladesh, 1947

Although this artist lives and works in Spain, the beauty of his homeland Bangladesh lives in his colour-soaked works, which incorporate landscapes, flora and fauna in abstract form. Often rendered on handmade paper, his creations combine etching with watercolour and are filled with symbolism. He has exhibited widely in Bangladesh, as well as in his adoptive home Spain and further afield, achieving international acclaim and winning numerous awards along the way, including a number of gold medals at important artistic biennials.



## Nazar Yahya

Born in Baghdad, Iraq, 1963

Highly regarded contemporary Iraqi artist Nazar Yahya used geometrical forms to build mixed-media artworks that are not confined by traditional borders. Through consecutive layers, he builds colours so that one can trace the time and distance traveled between the beginning and the end of each piece. His work has been exhibited in galleries around the world and he was invited to participate in the Frederikstaad Biennial Norway in 1985 and Triennial in 2000, as well as in the Asian Artists Biennial in Bangladesh in 2002. His work is included in the British Museum's collection of contemporary Middle Eastern art.



## Talal Moualla

Born in Syria, 1952

As well as being an accomplished artist who has exhibited widely, Talal Moualla is an art critic, a poet and an academic with several books to his name. His questioning, exploratory nature colours his bold artworks, which are abstract and cerebral with universal appeal. This has seen them acquired by collectors across the globe: Syria, Japan, France, Italy, Cuba, Belgium, the U.S.A., Egypt, Libya, Romania, Denmark, UK, Holland, Germany, U.A.E., Austria, Jordan, Lebanon, Bahrain and Singapore.



# Calendar of forthcoming events – 2007/8

## DECEMBER '07

Nazir Naba'a

A retrospective of paintings by this internationally esteemed Syrian artist (born 1938), featuring several works from each decade starting from the 80s.

## JANUARY '08

Mohammed Omar Khalil  
A collection of modern multi-media artworks integrating elements of Pop culture with motifs from the Sudan by this internationally acclaimed New York based Sudanese artist.

## FEBRUARY '08

Abdullah Murad

In collaboration with the respected Ayyam gallery, Albareh presents a collection of large-scale abstract paintings by this celebrated Syrian artists who's regularly sold at auction.

## MARCH '08

Hamza Bounoa

A collection of bold, colourful works that play with scale and are at once ethnic and very modern by one of Algeria's hottest talents.

## MARCH '08

Ahmed Al Bahrani

New works by this exciting Iraqi sculptor, who has performed artistic alchemy on iron to create fluid chairs and bicycles.

## APRIL '08

Morocco at Albareh

A focus on Moroccan art in all its facets, featuring the work of six of the country's most esteemed artists, encompassing painting, photography, printmaking, wood, handmade paper, sculpture and glass, enhanced by traditional music and cuisine.

## APRIL '08

Calligraphy

On the way to becoming one of the region's foremost calligraphy events, Albareh's third annual exhibition devoted to the art assembles the work of seven internationally acclaimed calligraphers.

## MAY '08

Nabeela Alkhayer

A collection of bold, figurative paintings by this emerging Bahraini artist.

## JUNE '08

Hala Al Khalifa

A strong, fresh new body of work in vivid colours by an up-and-coming Bahraini artist. The Best of Bahrain  
An exhibition by seven exciting new Bahraini artists, whom we believe are among those to watch.

## OCTOBER '08

Ali Hassan

A new body of work incorporating meaningful signs and symbols from this accomplished Qatari artist.

## NOVEMBER '08

Hakim Ghazali

Acclaimed for his large-scale textured paintings on canvas, this white-hot Moroccan artist experiments with an exciting new medium in this exhibition.

## DECEMBER '08

Talal Moualla

The accomplished Syrian artist presents a collection of his signature abstract faces. Largely rendered in oil and canvas.

A light, white contemporary space, Albareh is spread over two exhibition halls that spill into a sculpture courtyard, offering a beautiful backdrop for an ever-changing display of paintings, sculpture, calligraphy, photography and installation work. A cultural hub in Bahrain, the gallery also features two studios where regular workshops are held and the Albareh Arts Café, which provides a platform for talented new local artists to exhibit their work, as well as hosting book launches, lectures, and displays of more pragmatic art forms such as jewellery and furniture.

The gallery offers delivery and installation within Bahrain and will arrange for packing and shipping for out-of-town customers.

If you would like to be included on Albareh's mailing list, please send your details to [art@albareh.com](mailto:art@albareh.com).



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