

Kitab Al Mawaqif (detail) | 60 cm x 80 cm



جمال عبد الرحيـم Jamal Abdul Rahim

## Sign Orchestra

I kept reading EI-Neffari for a while, almost every day, since I first discovered him by coincidence in the mid 60s of the last century. While reading to him I used to feel a lantern for the Arabic script history besides me reading the set of letter written by EI-Neffari's dark nights to his invisible suns

Everything in El-Neffari's life proves that his first bosom descends from the progeny of discovery, while the second comes from the eternity progeny.

I used to feel that what I read is an ember coming from the innards of a volcano which glows in each phrase and transforms after a while into a flower painted with the dark red colour of a rose.

He portrayed death in his writings as a green bird bed, and life as a rose-like pillow taken by looking after its essence.

For sure El-Neffari, as evident from his writings, was spending his time unlike anyone of his predecessors: he was formulating lips for the day, creating arms for the night and portraying special planets evolving in the alphabet sphere. While he was grabbing words towards his conquers, he was lenient with the inkstand and caressing the ink. I still enjoy surfing through his writings and nomading within his language whenever I yearn to listen to the song of oictures or hus the sign orchestra.

I guess, if I asked EI-Neffari today: why do you write, or I mear why did you write? He will answer, I write to look for the truth and unveil it.

Truth is everywhere, inside man first, therefore it is the soul mate of writing that is why writing is an adventure. Adventure is the beginning of a path leading to knowledge and it is part of knowledge itself. With El-Neffari's writings we can feel the sense of adventure very high. From one side it violates the norm, while it opens new knowledge path from the other.

Gnosis (Knowledge) in which there is no ignorance is gnosis in which there is no gnosis, according to El-Neffari, knowledge infinite and incomplete. Truth is a continuous search and discovery which we aspire to, perceive and seek light from, but we cannot absolutely capture it.

Let's say then, that Él-Neffan's truth remains guide in front of our dark path, as if truth is getting close while it is moving away and is moving away while getting close. Accordingly, art does not present a poem or a portray of truth as if it is reap. but exposes it as a vast space where we can travel, wonder, imagine, explore and discover; and feel with all this as if we are living a dream guarded by the winds; or as if we are being compensated for the poverty of reality by the richness of fancy

El-Neffari sometimes is a poet-intellect, and other times an intellect-poet. The question posed to the world is a dual question: How would I know the world? And how to portray it? Indeed if he was an intellect, who debates the world, he is also a poet who dances with it. And indeed if he was residing the thoughts, he always roves in poetry. Whenever, thoughts become fatigue and lean towards methodology to identify and simplify, the poetry becomes an everlasting energy to extricate stars, especially when knowledge gates do not open except with the keys of poetry.

Jamal Abdul Rahim creates with his artistic works a dialogue with El-Neffari's obscurity and vividness, not a dialogue with the readable and visible only but also a dialogue with the imaginary invisible and the unreadable.

He knows how to portray clouds to improve mornings drawing, therefore he goes deep down into inners of the colour, lighten it, taking into consideration Giordano Bruno's sayings "the real portrayal is poetry, music and philosophy."

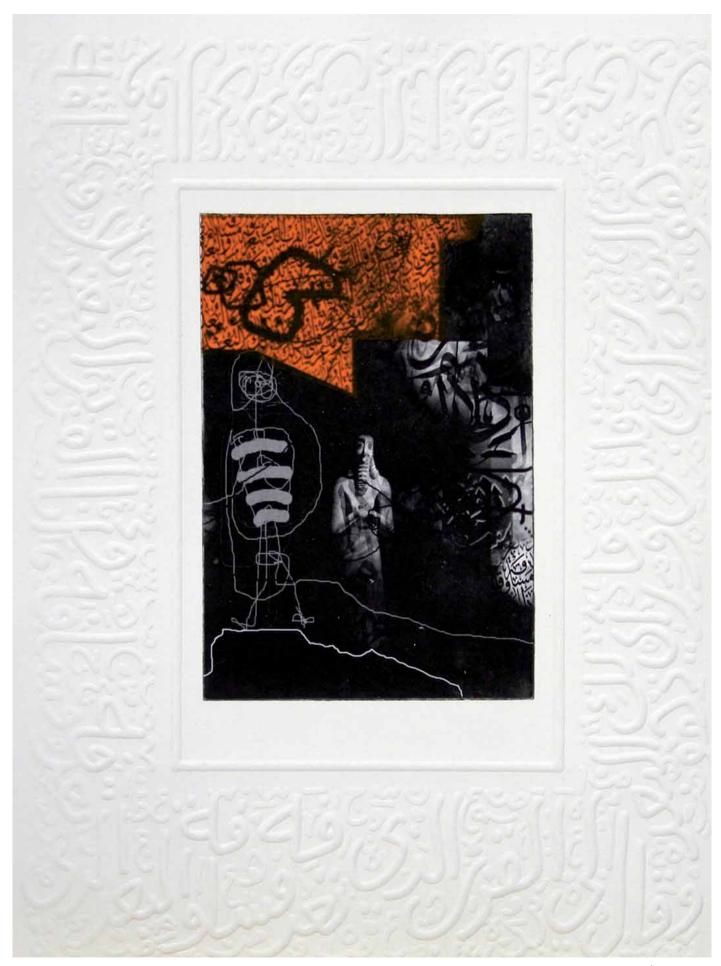
In this manner, whenever vision expands, colour contracts, this is congruent with El-Neffari's belief "The more the vision increases, the more the phrase (expression) decreases." In this spacious narrowness, El-Neffari's language appears as if it is shaking us like an earthquake, in way that can swing a mountain, and a make pond dance.

It occurs as if alphabet likes always to become visible within the body of this language.

Thank you, Jamal Abdul Rahim. Through your work you enable us to discover a different horizon in an unusual context, El-Neffari's world: from the threshold of your art, we dig into its deep wells. Amble with the waves mixed with dazzling black night, and the red colour of the sunset as if we are on the banks of the words of colours and colours of the words which in themselves they are ponds, boats and sails.

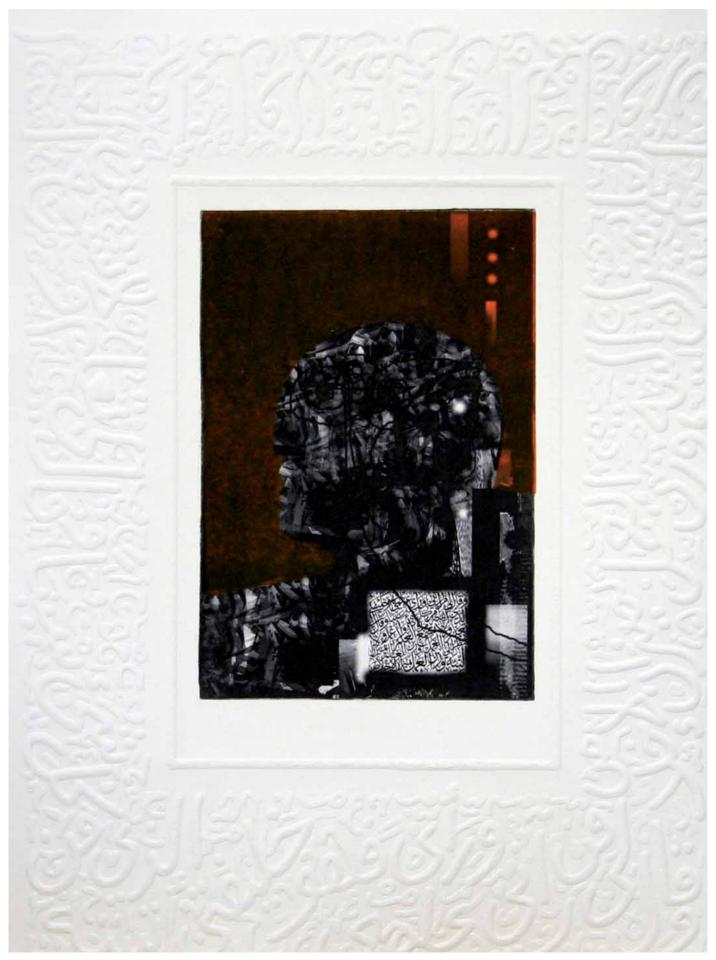
(Adonis)

## أوركسترا الاشارات







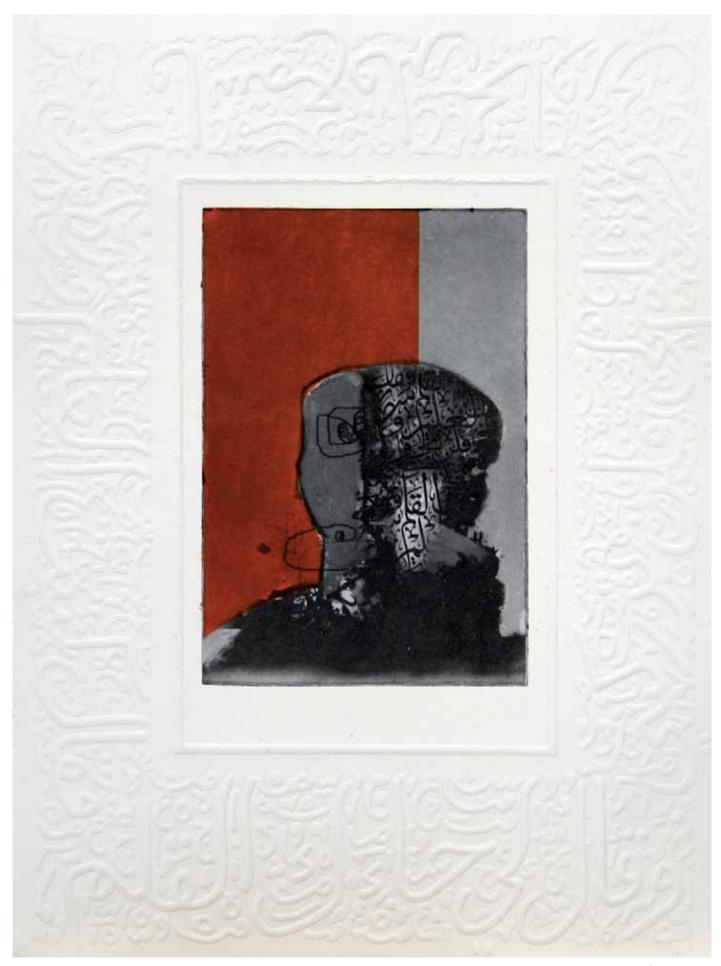












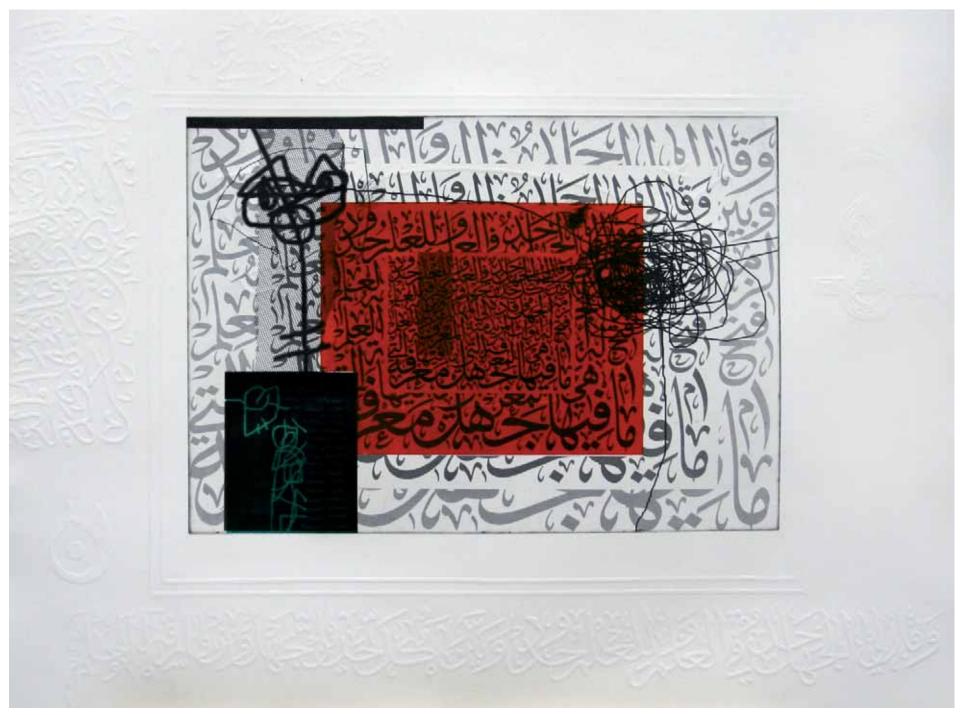














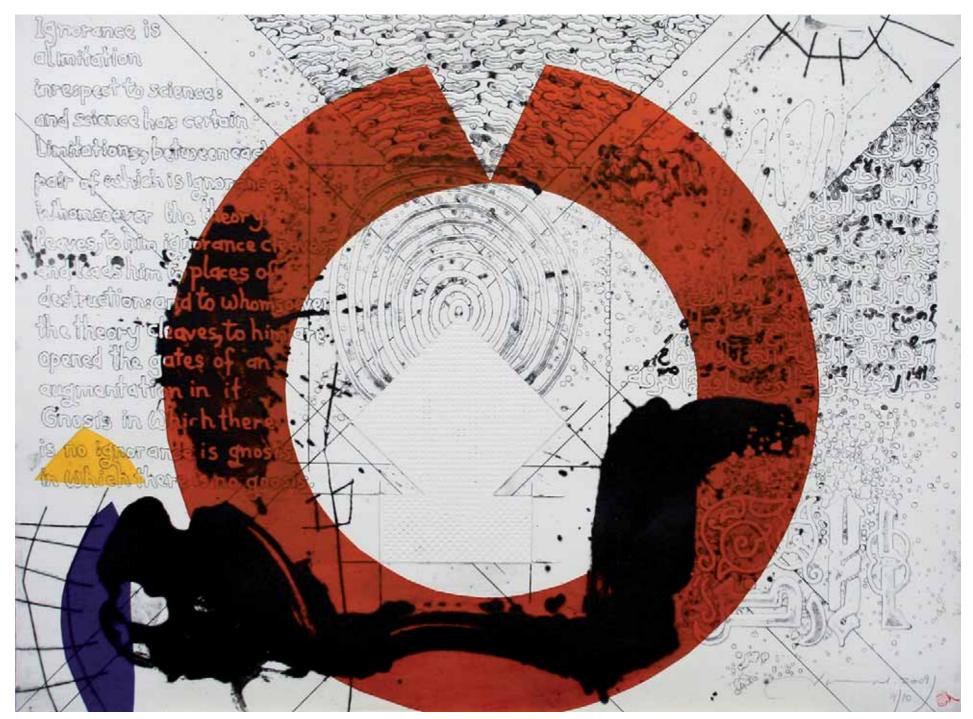












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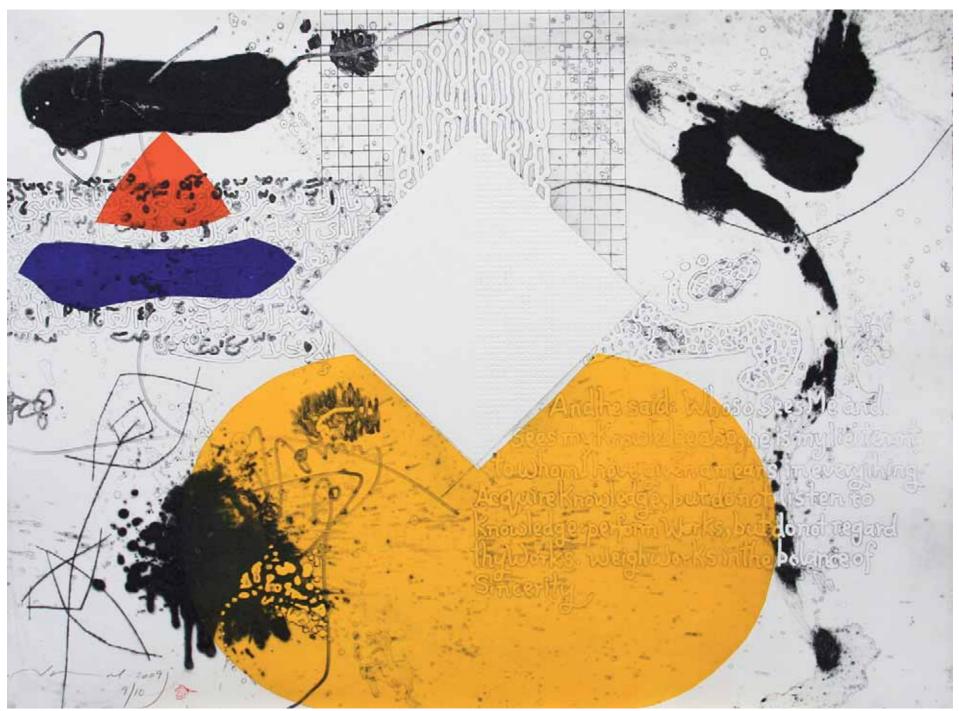
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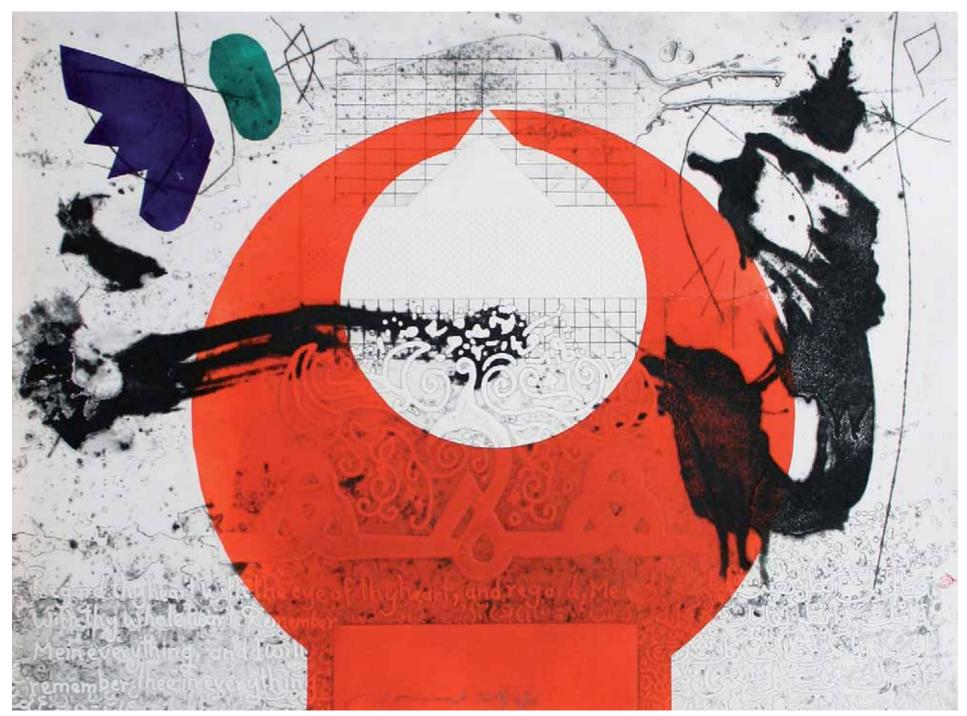
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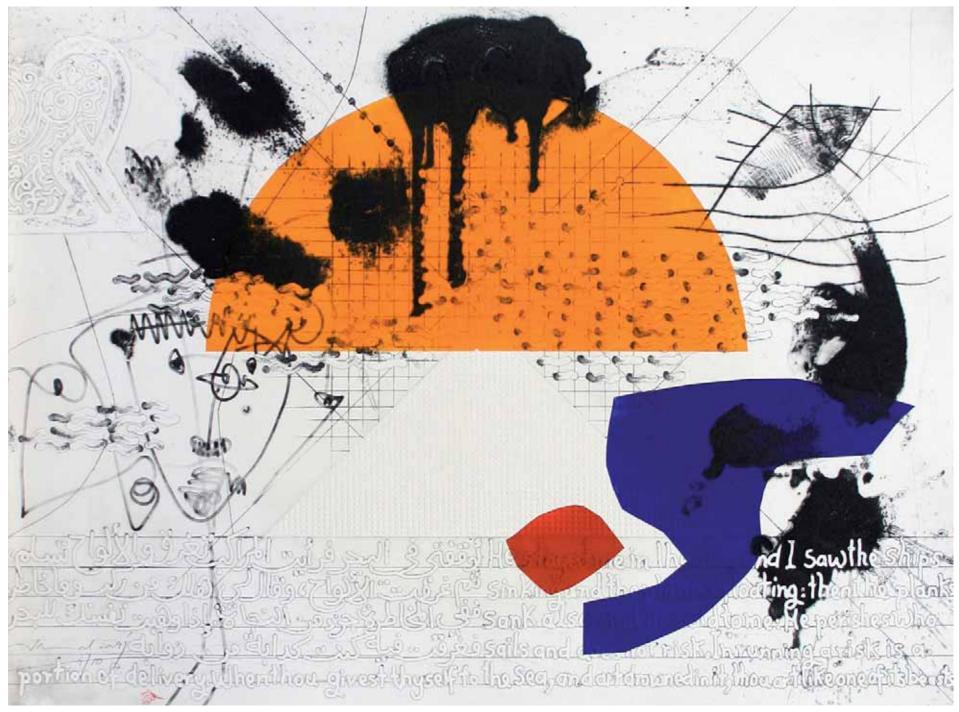
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