

Albareh Art Gallery is pleased to present for the first time in Bahrain the latest works of Egyptian artist, Hazem Taha, as well as a retrospective on his paintings and photography that will be held in Albareh Café.

Hazem Taha is notorious for his unique composition technique. He builds his work by overlaying Islamic patterns or motifs in the background in an effort to obscure or hide his abstract figures. Starting with the painting or drawing of figures, faces, or angels, he then covers them with paint, followed by plain areas. He finishes the work by superimposing over the entire surface, repeated and interlacing Islamic patterns or ornaments that he is fond of. The result is an optical illusion similar to a photograph. It shows a profile that is never motionless before the eyes, but constantly appears and disappears. The patterns superimposed on the figures create a sense of fluidity, movement and change. The last layer with its repeated patterns is the most interesting. It resembles to the repeated patterns typically found in Mosques forcing the spectator to stare at one point in a time. This view is fluid and will change at different times and at different states of emotions, leaving the viewer to endless interpretations and different perceptions, each time uncovering something new.

Therefore Hazem Taha, a neo-expressionist painter, has succeeded in combining western and eastern elements in his paintings to produce forms for the spectator to interact with and to relate to, thus evoking some visual dialogue. The works involve the spectator in a dialogue questioning the meaning about rather than the perennial appeal.

About the artist

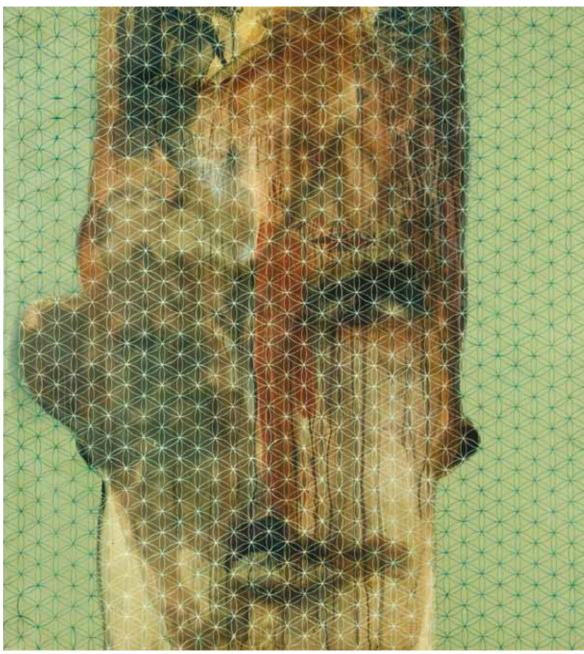
Since the early 80's Hazem Taha has been working as an artist, designer and teacher of visual communications design in Germany, Egypt and now in Bahrain. After developing the series of "Stick figures" in 1987, Hazem moved to Basel in 1988. This was the beginning of a series of new works whereby the paintings started to be superimposed with repetitive patterns. In 2000, Hazem continued to compose his works by the Juxtaposition of patterns leading to his own series of Omar El- Khayyam (A one man exhibition showcased at Space Art Gallery). As he said, Hazem was inspired by his parents who are both artists. He learned from his father the importance of building layers while constructing a painting and he learned from his mother the technique of painting abstract figures in a dynamic or three dimensional perspectives. He has more than 80 products and public art projects in Africa, India and many other European and Arab Countries. He has been involved in Photomontage exhibitions in Cairo, Marseilles and Bonn, as well as painting exhibitions in Sweden and Spain.



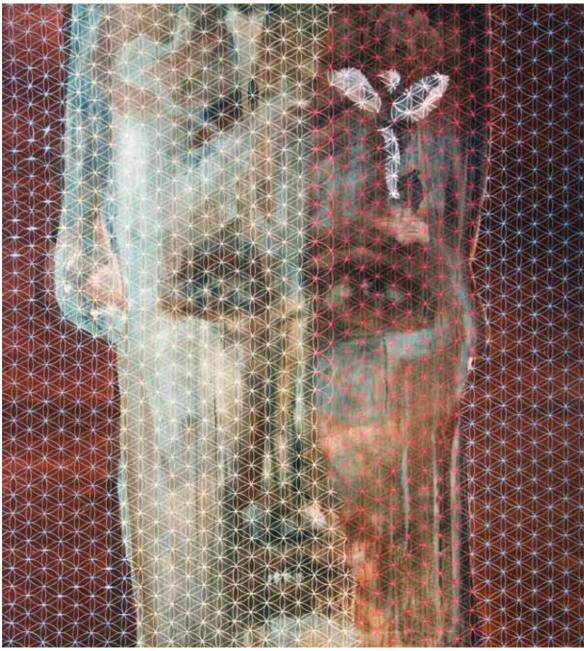
Child002 | 160cm x 145 cm | Mixed media on canvas | 2010



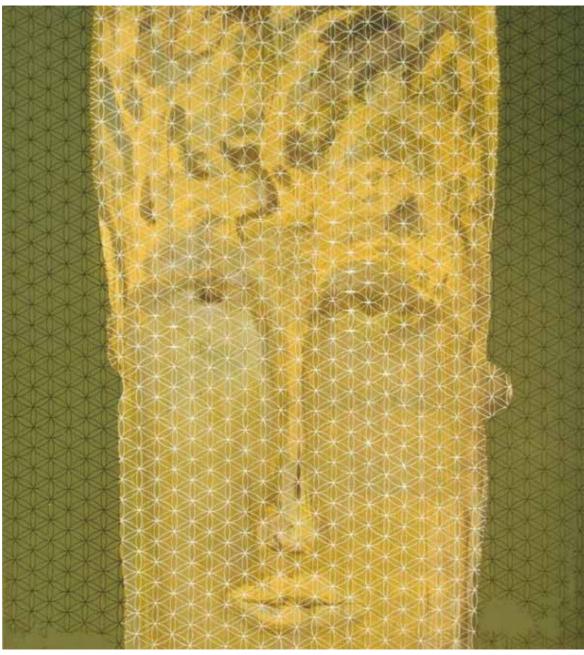
Face022 \mid 160cm x 145 cm \mid Mixed media on canvas \mid 2010



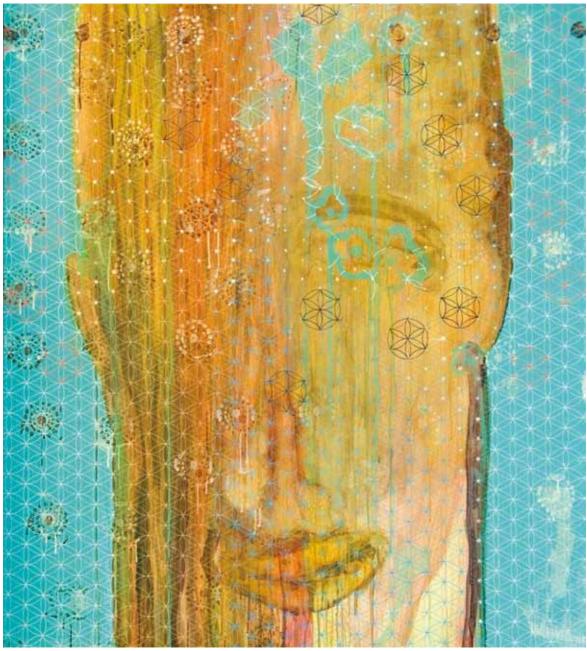
Face023 | 160cm x 145 cm | Mixed media on canvas | 2010



Face024 \mid 160cm x 145 cm \mid Mixed media on canvas \mid 2010



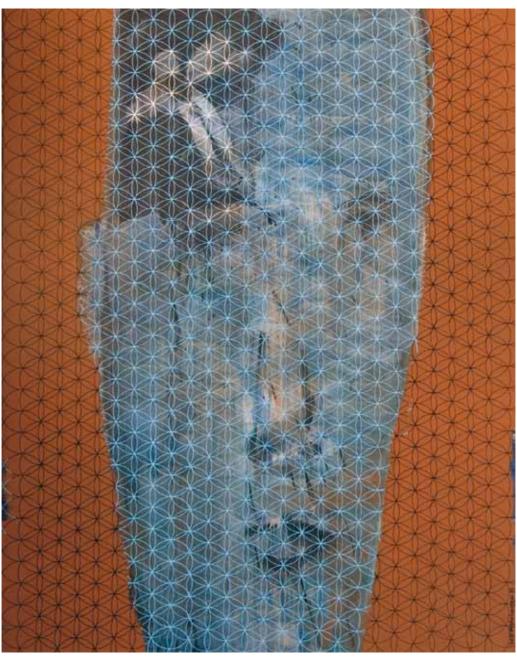
Face025 | 160cm x 145 cm | Mixed media on canvas | 2010



Face026 | 160cm x 145 cm | Mixed media on canvas | 2010



People002 \mid 160cm x 145 cm \mid Mixed media on canvas \mid 2010



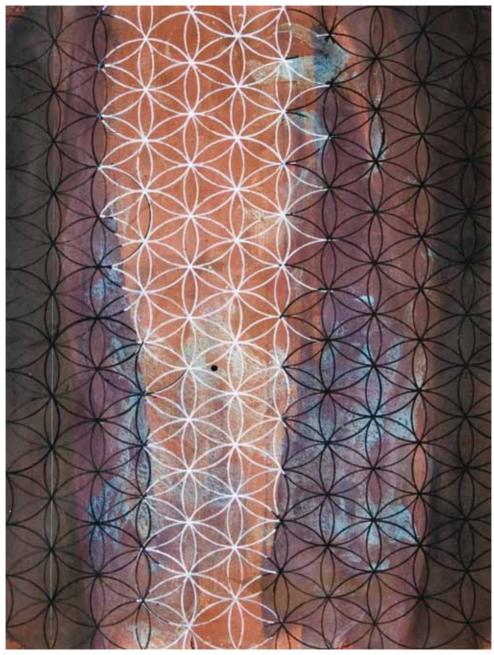
Face028 | 122cm x 155cm | Mixed media on canvas | 2010



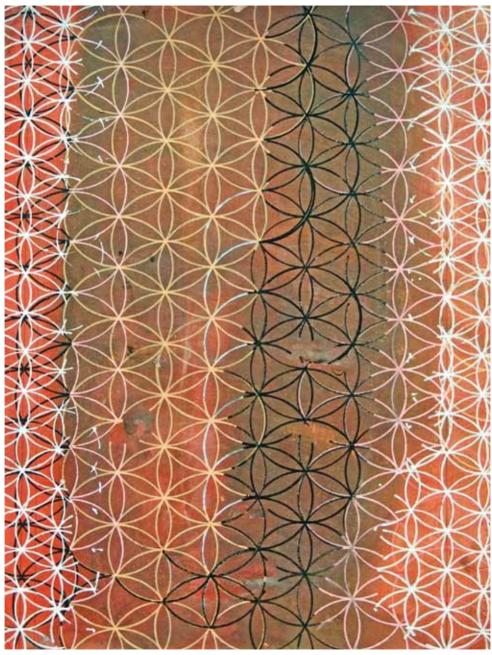
Face029 \mid 51cm x 37.5cm \mid Mixed media on paper \mid 2010



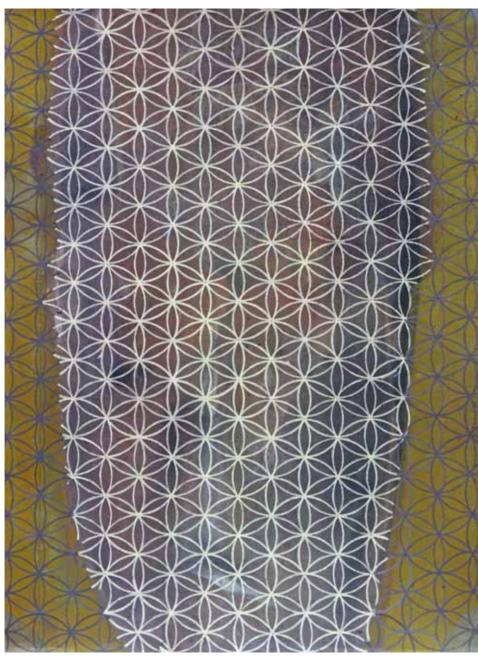
Face030 \mid 51cm x 37.5cm \mid Mixed media on paper \mid 2010



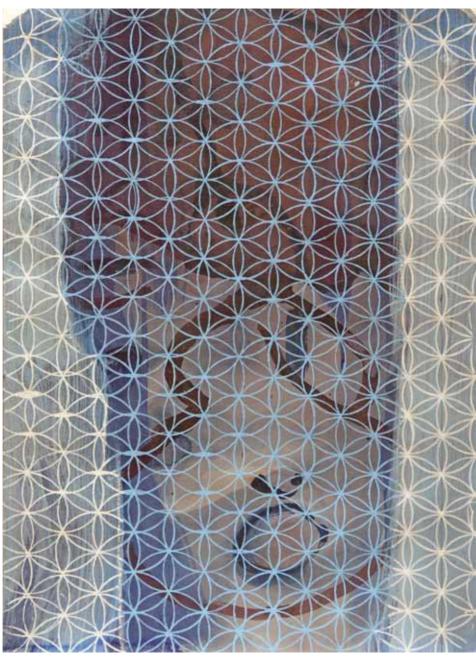
Face031 \mid 51cm x 37.5cm \mid Mixed media on paper \mid 2010



Face032 \mid 51cm x 37.5cm \mid Mixed media on paper \mid 2010



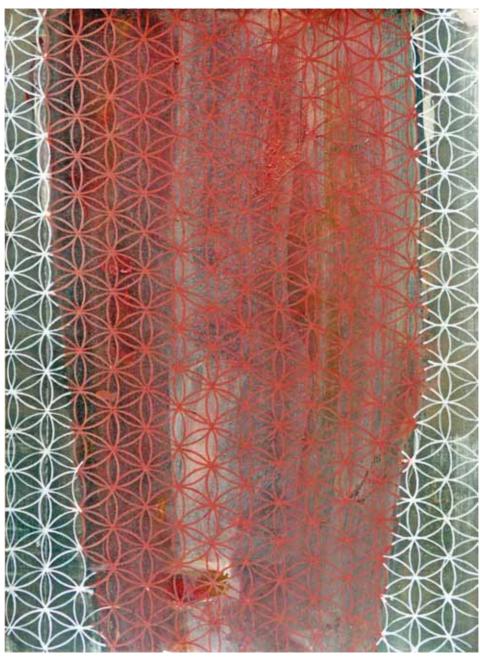
Face033 \mid 51cm x 37.5cm \mid Mixed media on paper \mid 2010



Face035 \mid 51cm x 37.5cm \mid Mixed media on paper \mid 2010



Face036 \mid 51cm x 37.5cm \mid Mixed media on paper \mid 2010



Face037 \mid 51cm x 37.5cm \mid Mixed media on paper \mid 2010

