



# ART LI BEIRUT ONLINE AUCTION

FROM **OCT 27** TILL **NOV 05**

IN COLLABORATION WITH  
**ARTSCOOPS.COM**

ALL PROCEEDS WILL GO TO REVIVE  
MAR MIKHAEL NON PROFIT INITIATIVE

**ART**  
بيروت

William Shakespeare once said:  
*“The object of Art is to give life a shape”*

Art Li Beirut aims at helping shape life back into the streets and souls of Beirut.

This auction aims at supporting “Revive Mar Mikhael”, a non-profit initiative started by a group of Lebanese entrepreneurs and expats after the 4<sup>th</sup> of August tragedy in Lebanon. Revive Mar Mikhael focuses on the most unprivileged micro-businesses and families affected by the explosion with a mission to revive souls and spread hope, along with rebuilding walls. Immediate action and tangible results, away from promises and bureaucracy are the key motto of this initiative.

Art goes hand in hand with life, beauty, complexity, elegance, mystery, vibrancy, energy, anger, intensity and many other mixed states and feelings. It goes hand in hand with our memories in Beirut streets; those beautiful streets vibrant and loud with people’s laughter and chitchats in different languages from around the world. We refuse the status-quo we have been destined to, and we are determined to revive our most beautiful neighborhoods.

We would like to thank the artists and galleries for helping us provide an opportunity for people to support rebuilding the Beirut we love, while acquiring beautiful and unique pieces of art.

We would also like to thank all volunteers, donors and supporters for all their contributions and help to rebuild people’s dreams and homes

# Auction overview

**Platform** <https://artscoops.com/auctions/art-li-beirut>

**Date:** 27<sup>th</sup> October 2020- 5<sup>th</sup> November 2020

**Prices:** All starting bids are 20-30% below average retail prices

**Profits:**

70% of profits will go directly to Revive Mar Mikhael, non profit initiative

30% of profits will go directly to artists (incl. artists and galleries directly impacted by the explosion)

Note that some pieces are fully donated by artists. This is specified below the relevant art piece

**Payments options**

Donations can be made by overseas bank transfer (USD), overseas credit/debit card (USD) and cash (USD)

For Lebanese bidders desiring to pay in local USD cheques, please contact us first, before bidding, for more details.

**Shipping**

Shipping costs shall be covered by the buyer (stretched items can be unstretched and rolled)

Shipping within Lebanon is offered for free by our team

## **Thank you**

*We would like to thank Michelle Al-Ferzly, art historian, for her support in developing this document and interpreting the artworks.*

*Michelle is now doing her PhD in Art History at University of Michigan. Michelle received a bachelor's in Art History and Economics from Wellesley College in 2014 and Master of Arts from Bryn Mawr College in 2016.*

*Her research interests include Islamic Art and Architecture, particularly the presence of Islamic art in Europe and North America.*

**Ahmed Farid**

**Untitled**

*Fully donated*



Year: 2019

Size: 85 x 125 cm

Medium: Acrylic on canvas

Location: Beirut, Lebanon

### **About the artist and artwork**

*Born in Cairo, Egypt Ahmed Farid is a self-trained artist. His large-scale paintings are largely abstract, inviting the viewer to enter into vibrant scenes of color and geometric shapes.*

*Painted in bright yellow and gold against swathes of grey and black, Farid's painting could be evocative of an urban landscape.*

# Anas Homsy

## Reflections

Year: 2020

Size: 100 cm x 100 cm

Medium: Mixed media on canvas

Location: Berlin

### About the artist and artwork

*Syrian artist Anas Homsy draws inspiration from people, nature, and city-bustle. His lively paintings, executed on large canvases, often feature human figures in the midst of dynamic paintstrokes in bright hues of pinks, greens, and blues.*

*Adding to the spirited figures arranged in a grid-like composition, "Reflections" also features a collage of Homsy's line drawings, adding further complexity to this rich and multi-layered work.*



# Anas Homsy

## Adventure

Year: 2020

Size: 100 cm x 100 cm

Medium: Mixed media on canvas

Location: Berlin

### About the artist and artwork

*Syrian artist Anas Homsy draws inspiration from people, nature, and city-bustle. His lively paintings, executed on large canvases, often feature human figures in the midst of dynamic painstrokes in bright hues of pinks, greens, and blues.*

*Adding to the spirited figures arranged in a grid-like composition, "Adventure" also features a collage of Homsy's line drawings, adding further complexity to this rich and multi-layered work.*



# Ayman Fidda

## Untitled

Year: 2012

Size: 100 x 80 cm

Medium: Oil on canvas

Location: Beirut, Lebanon

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### About the artist and artwork

*Ayman Fidda was born in 1963, in Suwaida, Syria, and is a graduate of Damascus University. Drawn largely to his environment, Fidda's paintings masterfully depict the female form. Reminiscent of great masters like Picasso, the women in Fidda's paintings feature gracefully elongated facial features and curved silhouettes.*

*Shown against a gold and black background, the figures in "Untitled" are rendered in Fidda's signature style. The semi-abstract composition provokes the viewer in its subtlety and elegant use of shadowing.*



# Chloe Sleilati

## Rebirth

Year: 2020

Size: 46.5 x 35 cm

Medium: Mixed media on paper

Location: Beirut, Lebanon

### About the artist and artwork

*Chloe Sleilati is a Beirut-based illustrator. Trained at Académie Libanaise des Beaux Arts (ALBA), her work is often inspired by the natural environment, including animals, flowers, and plants.*

*Drawn in Chinese ink, "Rebirth" depicts a slender lily flower, its petals softly opening to reveal the delicate stigmas at the center. Lilies represent rebirth and purity in Greek mythology-- a fitting symbol of the city of Beirut in the aftermath of a difficult year.*



*Chloe Sleilati*

# Chloe Sleilati

## Remembrance

Year: 2020

Size: 46.5 x 35 cm

Medium: Mixed media on paper

Location: Beirut, Lebanon

### About the artist and artwork

*Chloe Sleilati is a Beirut-based illustrator. Trained at Académie Libanaise des Beaux Arts (ALBA), her work is often inspired by the natural environment, including animals, flowers, and plants.*

*"Remembrance" was conceived as a tribute to victims of the Beirut explosion on August 4th, 2020. Completed using Chinese ink, the blooming flower at the center appears to be floating slowly in the wind, offering itself to the soft embrace of nature*



*Chloe*

# Claire Wiltsher

## Boundless

*Fully donated*

Year: 2019

Size: 40 x 40 cm

Medium: Box framed canvas

Location: United Kingdom

### **About the artist and artwork**

*As an avid painter and published poet, Claire Wiltsher is a multi-hyphenate British artist. Well-versed in the history of modern painting, Wiltsher's paintings evoke 19th century Romantic landscapes as well as Jackson Pollock's abstract compositions.*

*"Boundless" represents a waterfront landscape under a colorful blue sky. Over the canvas surface, executed in oil painting, Wiltshire creates textured layers using collage and drawing elements. The result is a stunning piece of landscape paintings that transports the viewer to a calm seafront scenery.*



# Daisy Abi Jaber

## Procession

Year: 2016

Size: 60 cm x 60 cm

Medium: Acrylic on canvas

Location: Beirut, Lebanon

### About the artist and artwork

*Born in Lebanon, painter Daisy Abi Jaber studied at Académie Libanaise des Beaux Arts (ALBA) before completing her training at l'École Nationale Supérieure des Beaux-Arts in Paris, France. Throughout her career, Abi Jaber has exhibited work in Lebanon and France, and has also worked in Italy.*

*Having lived through the Lebanese Civil War, Abi Jaber's colorful abstract creations allow the artist to work through a childhood marked by violence. Rendered in bright colors and geometric shapes, "Procession" is a hallmark of Abi Jaber's painting practice, where careful applications of pink squares and bold black lines mesh seamlessly with powerful spatters of pink paint.*



**Darin Ahmad**

## Nature (Thicket) 5

Year: 2020

Size: 50 x 40 cm

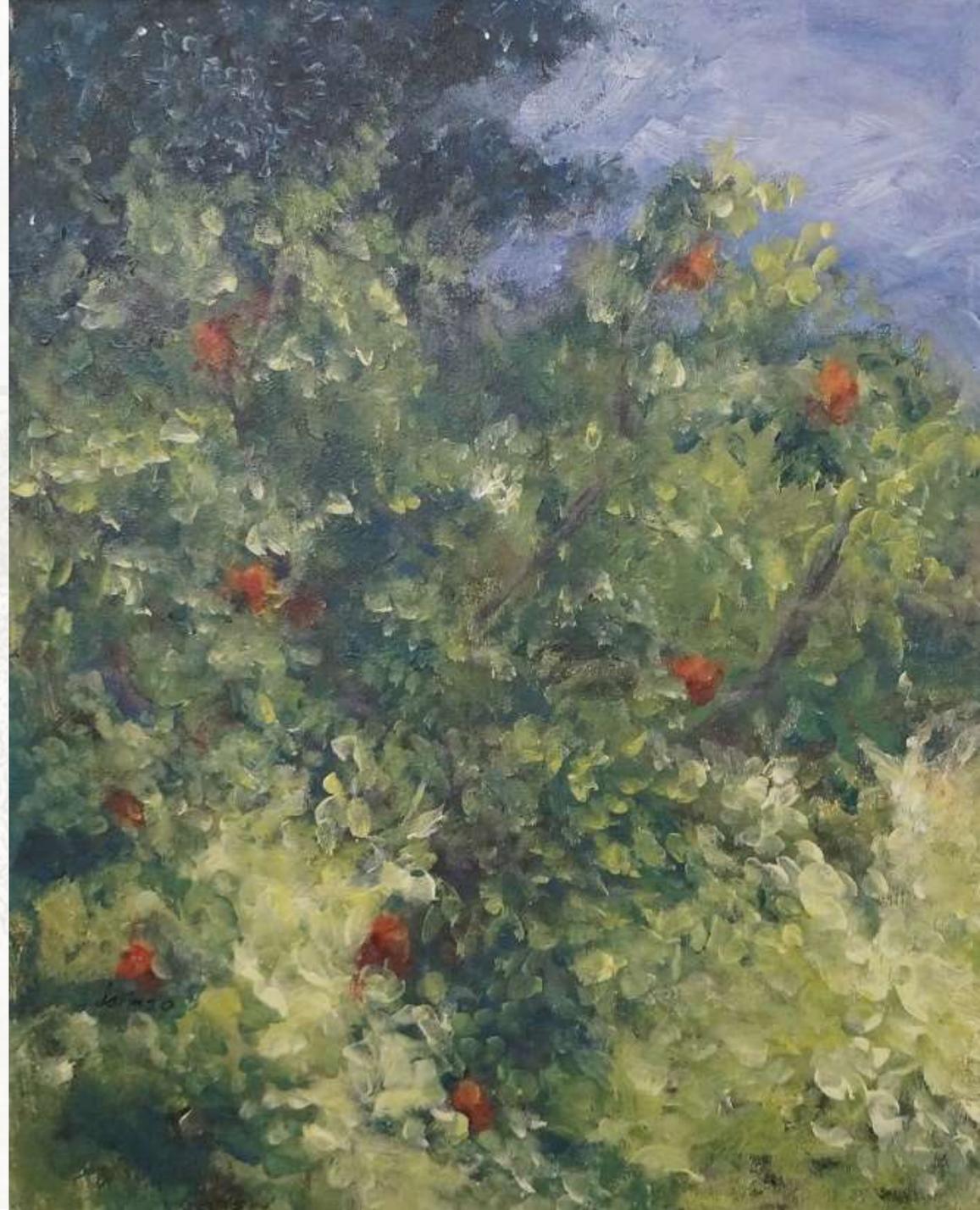
Medium: Acrylic on canvas

Location: Berlin, Germany

### **About the artist and artwork**

*Darin Ahmad is an active writer and poet in addition to her singular painting career. Originally from the region of Hama, Syria, Berlin-based Ahmad has developed a varied and profuse painting practice that includes portraits, landscapes, and still lifes.*

*In Nature (Thicket) 5, Ahmad's broad brushstrokes and use of warm color elicits the viewer to recognize nature's inviting wilderness. By encouraging her audience to witness a natural landscape untouched by human intervention, Ahmad reminds us to be conscious of our environment and its potent beauty.*



# Fadi El Chamaa

## Sentiment d'incomplétude (1,2,3)

Year: 2020

Medium: Acrylic on canvas

Size: 80 x 40 cm

Location: Beirut, Lebanon



1



2



3

### About the artist / artwork

Fadi El Chamaa is a self-taught visual artist based in Beirut, Lebanon. His long career has included accolades such as exhibitions at the Salon d'Automne in the Sursock Museum in 1995 and 1996, and most recently, a retrospective at ArtLab Gallery in 2019.

In his most recent body of work, El Chamaa turns away from realistic portraiture to embrace the abstract. *Sentiment d'incomplétude 1* (Feeling of incompleteness) features a figure in a seeming typical portrait stance: facing the viewer, while framed from the bust up. However, the figure's head is composed of swatches of yellow, grey, and black, leaving us to ponder: who is really on the canvas?

# George Merheb

## Writings

Year: 2020

Size: 80 x 80 cm

Medium: Mixed media on canvas

Location: Beirut, Lebanon

### About the artist and artwork

*George Merheb is a Lebanese painter who is also specialized in the preservation of historic monuments. In addition, he is also trained in fresco painting and wall decorations. Merheb's affinity for large-scale, public art is visible through his canvases as well.*

*In "Writings" Merheb's bold black brushstrokes, dripping paint, and grey canvas background are reminiscent of graffiti on a city wall. The legibility of the letters however, escape the viewer. This intriguing-- yet provocative-- message hidden within the composition thus eludes us.*



# Ghada Abo Aoun

## Beirut/Mar Mikhael street wall

Year: 2020

Size: 118 x 143 cm

Medium: Acrylic on canvas

Location: Beirut, Lebanon

### About the artist and artwork

*Ghada Abou Aoun's colorful composition captures Mar Mikhael's quintessential charm. A vintage white car is parked against a vibrant mural, is reminiscent of the neighborhood's many public spaces: the St. Nicolas stairs, the hidden alleyways, and the inviting sidewalks. Abou Aoun's rendition of a Mar Mikhael reminds us why this section of the neighborhood is so treasured amongst locals and newcomers alike.*



# Ghada Jamal

## Red

Year: 2016

Size: 41 x 34 cm

Medium: Gouache on X-ray chest sheet

Location: Beirut, Lebanon

### About the artist and artwork

*Over the course of her forty-year career, Ghada Jamal has devoted her painting practice to abstract visual renditions of landscape. Trained in Lebanon and the United States, Jamal adeptly yields different media, including painting, and drawing, to arrive at her expressionist and forceful creations.*

*Created in 2016, "Red" is part of Jamal's Butterfly series. The painting's red tint is symbolic of freedom, spring, rebirth, and beauty. Beneath the butterfly, one notices a chest x-ray primed unto the canvas, denoting the universality of the human condition.*



# Ghazi Baker

## Dazed & Confused

Year: 2017

Size: 60 x 50 cm

Medium: Acrylic on canvas

Location: Beirut, Lebanon

### About the artist and artwork

*Originally trained as an architect, Ghazi Baker is currently a self-taught artist and painter. Baker's playful paintings evoke post-structuralist art, as well as comic books, music, movies, and motorcycle culture, amongst many other sources.*

*"Dazed and Confused" deliberately cites the mode of portraiture, while simultaneously subverting the genre. The arresting gaze of the figure at the center provokes the viewer to ponder the general state of befuddlement, expressed through graphic applications of reds, yellows, and blue.*



# Helen Zughaib

## Unfinished Journey

Year: 2015

Size: 76 x 50 cm

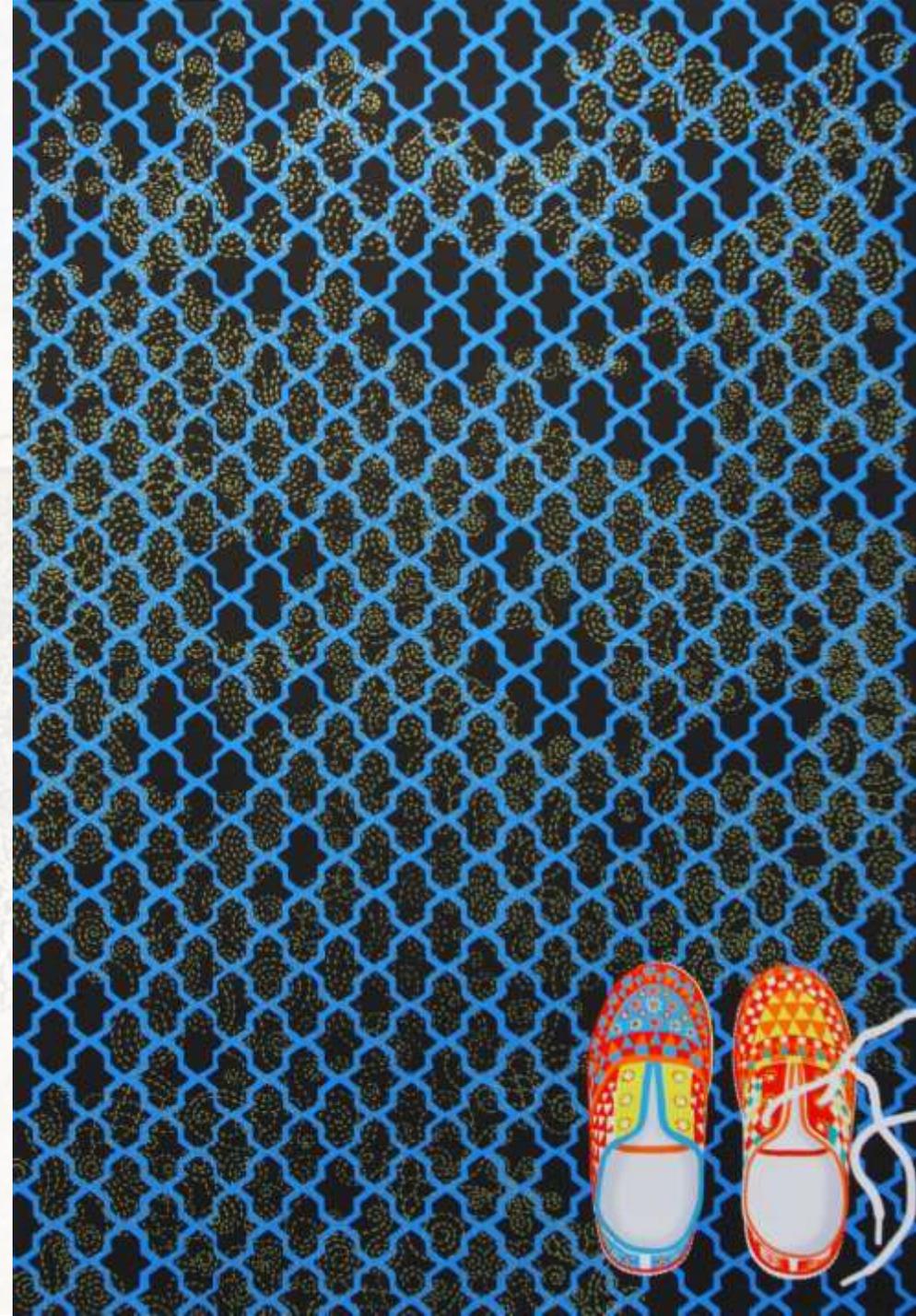
Medium: 11-color silkscreen made with Navigation Press Studio

Location: USA

### About the artist and artwork

*Over the course of her illustrious career, Helen Zughaib has established herself as one of the most prominent Arab-American visual artists. Working primarily in gouache on canvas, as well as-- most recently-- mixed media installations and prints, her work successfully bridges Arab with American visual cultures.*

*A vibrant pair of unlaced shoes lay at the corner of "Unfinished Journeys." The patterned background, rendered in different shadows of blue, resembles a carpet or tiled floor. By juxtaposing abandoned shoes with the richly textured path below, Zughaib's painting suggests not only the path ahead, but also the possibility of eventual rest.*



# Helen Zughaib

## Midnight prayers

Year: 2008

Size: 50 x 76 cm

Medium: Limited edition archival pigment print

Location: USA

### About the artist and artwork

Over the course of her illustrious career, Helen Zughaib has established herself as one of the most prominent Arab-American visual artists. Working primarily in gouache on canvas, as well as-- most recently-- mixed media installations and prints, her work successfully bridges Arab with American visual cultures. In "Midnight Prayers" a scintillating urban scenery jets out against a black background. Conical domes top colorful towers, complete with geometric patterning. As the title suggests, the architectural landscape evokes religious buildings, designed for prayer and contemplation.



# Hind El Soufi

## Scenes from Old Tripoli 3 framed paintings

Year: 2000

Size: A set of 3: 45 x 32 cm, 22 x 32 cm, 22 x 30 cm

Medium: Aquarelle, mixed media + layers on cotton paper

Location: Beirut, Lebanon

### About the artist and artwork

*In her work, artist and academic Hind Al Soufi investigates themes including mid 20th- century Arab art, modernity, and feminism. In addition to her research, Al Soufi's visual art practice has earned her several awards and accolades, supplementing her multinational exhibitions and art activism.*

*"Scenes from Old Tripoli" depicts the ancient northern Lebanese metropolis in abstract, geometric shapes that invoke the city's human, natural, and architectural riches. In Al Soufi's canvases, human activity swirls against the layered urban landscape, a poignant reminder of Tripoli's deep historic roots.*



# Irene Ghanem

## Dream in blue



Year: 2020

Size: 24 x 32 cm

Medium: Oil pastel on canson

Location: Beirut, Lebanon

## Balade



Year: 2020

Size: 24 x 32 cm

Medium: Oil pastel on canson

Location: Beirut, Lebanon

## Midnight crush



Year: 2020

Size: 23 x 30.5 cm

Medium: Oil pastel on canson

Location: Beirut, Lebanon

## About the artist and artwork

*Irene Ghanem is a Lebanese abstract expressionist. Irene graduated in Fine Arts from the Académie Libanaise des Beaux-Arts (ALBA) in Beirut. Since then Irene has exhibited her work nationally and internationally in solo and collective exhibitions. Her paintings are the reflection of her emotions felt at a specific time and place: when in nature, on her travels and more recently the events in Lebanon, the "thawra". Here, Irene used oil pastels to express colourful nights, her joy for life despite her torments and the aggressivity in the world represented by the dark lines..*

# Jacques Vartabedian

## Candidate 5

Year: 2018

Size: 100 x 80 cm

Medium: Acrylic on canvas

Location: Beirut, Lebanon

### About the artist and artwork

*Jacques Vartabedian's art career has led him to participate in exhibitions and residencies across the globe, including Hong Kong, Milan, Belgium, and Lebanon. His iconoclastic paintings gesture toward figural representation as a way to challenge traditional modes of portraiture and image production.*



# Jacques Vartabedian

## Candidate 7

Year: 2018

Size: 98 x 80 cm

Medium: Acrylic on canvas

Location: Beirut, Lebanon

### **About the artist and artwork**

*Candidate 5 and Candidate 7 strongly evoke the conspicuous presence of politician posters throughout the Lebanese landscape. In contrast to these posters' elegiac and celebratory modes of representation, Vartabedian's paintings efface these men's facial features to the point of abstraction, gesturing towards the cyclical nature of local political representation, and our contradictory perceptions of freedom.*



# Jessy Tabet

## The Wall

Year: 2020

Size: 60 x 60 cm

Medium: Acrylic on canvas

Location: Beirut, Lebanon

### About the artist and artwork

*Jessy comes from a family with a passion for artistic creation and got a taste for drawing at a young age. Her passion and talent in plastic arts naturally led her to the National Institute for Fine Arts in Beirut. The Artist wields her brushes and knives to delve into lights and transparencies to showcase her subjects in an intense array of colors. Influenced by avant-garde pieces by Andy Warhol (1928-1987) and Gustav Klimt (1862-1918), Jessy creates sensitive yet expressive paintings that bring out the beauties of nature.*



# Joëlle A Kurdy

## The Mind



Year: 2016

Size: 25.5 x 35.5 cm

Medium: Mixed Media/Acrylic on Canvas

Location: Abu Dhabi, UAE

### About the artist and artwork

*Currently living in Abu Dhabi, Lebanese-French Joëlle Acoury Kurdy studied make up and body artistry in Paris and Beirut. She is a self-taught artist. Her inclination towards the arts started from a very young age and throughout the years she experimented with various techniques from silk painting, to charcoal drawing, acrylic to ceramics, water and oil painting. Joëlle has a profound interest in spirituality, healing and the esoteric. Most of her works revolve around life's experiences, the subtle range of human emotions and the return to the self. She now transcends makeup artistry and expands her creativity from 'The Face Canvas' to 'The Cotton Canvas'.*

# Kiki Bokassa

## Alzheimer's

Size: 42 x 56 cm

Medium: Ink and oil on canvas

Location: Beirut, Lebanon

### About the artist and artwork

*Kiki Bokassa is a self-trained artist based in Dublin, Ireland. Raised in Lebanon, Bokassa's work is based in the various genres of figuration, conceptualism and expressionism.*

*The blank white canvas in "Alzheimer's" is superimposed by splashes of white and red paint. The dynamism of the paint's bursts of color challenges the one's outlook on the disease evoked in the painting's title, hinting at a vitality that nevertheless remains.*

artcircle



# Laudi Abillama

## Freedom fighters

Year: 2010

Size: 100 x 100 cm

Medium: Screen print on canvas ed. 2/3

Location: Beirut, Lebanon

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### About the artist and artwork

Laudi Abillama is an artist and printmaker based between England and Lebanon. In 2012 she completed an Artist residency at The Mosaic Rooms in London.

Abillama's series 'The Great Depression' was featured as part of the American University of Beirut (AUB) Bodies in Public conference. In 2015 she was interviewed by Euronews for a report about her solo exhibition entitled 'Lee Kuan Yew' that took place around the time of his death. Abillama's work has been exhibited in London, Beirut and Singapore. Her paintings can be found in important institutions and private collections around the world including the Middle East Institute at the NUS.



# Lena Kiame

## Tutsi for Little Alexandra

Year: 2020

Size: 101.6 x 76.2 cm

Medium: Acrylic on canvas

Location: USA

### About the artist and artwork

*Lena Kiame is a Lebanese artist currently based in Southern California. As a prolific painter, her work is reminiscent of many genres of painting, including surrealism, cubism, and impressionism.*

*"Little Alexandra from Beirut" depicts a candle lit for one of the youngest victims of the August 4th Beirut blast.*



**Lena Kiame**

## Little Alexandra from Beirut

Year: 2020

Size: 101.6 x 76.2 cm

Medium: Unframed stretched canvas

Location: USA

### **About the artist and artwork**

*"Tutsi for Little Alexandra" depicts the overwhelming grief triggered by Alexandra's death due to the August 4th Beirut blast*



# Louma Rabah

## Our Heritage



Year: 2015

Size: 90 x 60 cm

Medium: Oil on canvas

Location: Beirut, Lebanon

### About the artist and artwork

*Born in 1980, Louma Rabah lives and works in Beirut. Through her work, Rabah carefully depicts Lebanese natural landscapes, cityscapes, and towns. Rabah's drive to document Lebanon's built and natural environment is born out of the active desire to preserve, and celebrate, the country's national and cultural heritage.*

*"Our Heritage" seemingly depicts a traditional Lebanese town or village: houses clustered together on a green mountaintop slope, each building surmounted by a colorful roof over three arch windows. The emphasis on warm, natural tones of color beautifully renders Lebanon's rich greenery.*

# Maral Maniss

## Powerful Forces



Year: 2019

Size: 100 x 150 cm

Medium: Acrylic and oil on canvas

Location: Beirut, Lebanon

### About the artist and artwork

*Maral Maniss is a multimedia artist who works in painting and in sculpture. Trained in Plastic Arts at the Lebanese University of Fine Arts, she has participated in exhibitions in India, France, and Monaco, as well as many galleries and museums in Lebanon-- including the American University of Beirut's Art Gallery and the Museum of Modern and Contemporary Art (MACAM).*

*"Powerful Forces" cites a common motif in the history of art: the female figure. Here, eight female nudes are outlined in black, against neutral square swatches of beige. The abstract background of brown, blue, and black contrasts with the clear lines of the female bodies, creating a dynamic and forceful tension between figural and abstract, light and dark.*

# Maria Bou Habib

## No title 1

Year: 2008

Size: 80 x 80 cm

Medium: Acrylic on canvas

Location: Paris, France

### About the artist and artwork

*Maria Bou Habib's prolific body of work ranges from jewelry, decorative frescoes, ceramics, and paintings. "No Title 1" is suggestive of Bou Habib's intimate knowledge of structural form, as the geometric lines that divide the purple and yellow canvas imitate sculpture immersed in landscape.*



# Maroun Chaccour

## The Concert



Year: 2015

Size: 75 x 150 cm

Medium: Acrylic on canvas

Location: Beirut, Lebanon

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### About the artist and artwork

*Born in Lebanon, Maroun Chaccour holds a degree in Entertainment, Media, and Technology from Oxford University. His art practice spans diverse media, such as photography and painting.*

*Although seemingly abstract, "The Concert" nevertheless appears to cite the technique of pointillism, in which the artist uses small dabs of paint to create an image. The multicolored dots that punctuate the large canvas are not unlike a large crowd seen from above, as its members swell and sway to the rhythm of a common musical refrain.*

# Maroun Makhoul

سميتها بيروت

Fully donated

Year: 2020

Size: 70 x 100 cm

Medium: Acrylic on canvas

Location: Zahle, Lebanon

## About the artist and artwork

*In addition to his artistic career in painting and in music, Maroun Makhoul also enjoys a career in finance.*

*"I called her Beirut" portrays a woman rapturously playing the violin. As the title suggests, this figure is likely composing a musical piece in honor, or in mourning, of Beirut's difficult travails in 2020.*



# Mazen Rifai

## Paysage

Year: 2020

Size: 60 x 60 cm

Medium: Acrylic on canvas

Location: Beirut, Lebanon

### About the artist and artwork

*Mazen Rifai is Lebanese painter and architect trained in Italy and in Lebanon. His colorfield landscapes, painted on small, square canvases, render natural landscapes in soft, abstract form.*

*“Paysage” (Landscape) is executed in Rifai's signature style. A green hilltop appears to crest into a sand-colored dune, or mountain, as the dark sky looms overhead. The muted colors invite the viewer into the canvas for deep and calming contemplation.*



# MOHANNAD ORABI

## Waiting

Year: 2016

Size: 135 x 95 cm

Medium: Acrylic on red canvas on cutout wood

Location: Beirut, Lebanon

### About the artist and artwork

*Originally from Syria, Mohannad Orabi's work now reflects an adult life spent in exile. His work is concerned with the effects of social media on our visual culture: the ways in which thumbnail profile photographs, cropped to only show our faces, now appear to represent our entire lived existence. Orabi's work thus wrestles with the way in which the intangible has come to represent the tangible.*

*In "Waiting" the female figure is sharply outlined in acrylic red paint over a canvas and wood background, almost resembling a collage technique. Although her face is rendered in beautiful detail, her body is almost forgotten. She sits languidly near a tabletop, her expression wistful and full of longing.*



# MOHANNAD ORABI

## Peace on the box

Year: 2015

Size: 120 x 120 cm

Medium: Acrylic on wood

Location: Beirut, Lebanon

### About the artist and artwork

*Originally from Syria, Mohannad Orabi's work now reflects an adult life spent in exile. His work is concerned with the effects of social media on our visual culture: the ways in which thumbnail profile photographs, cropped to only show our faces, now appear to represent our entire lived existence. Orabi's work thus wrestles with the way in which the intangible has come to represent the tangible.*

*"Peace on the Box" features a female portrait painted on a piece of what appears to be reclaimed wood. Cradled lovingly in the figure's hands is a dove, the universal symbol of peace. However, the motif of two footprints disrupts this harmonious depiction, teetering into the humorous and the playful*



# Mouna Bassili Sehnaoui

## Twin birds

Year: 2002

Size: 47.8 x 47.8 cm

Medium: Oil on canvas

Location: Beirut, Lebanon

### About the artist and artwork

*Mouna Bassili Sehnaoui completed her training in Egypt, Lebanon, and the United States, and has been working since the 1960s. While her work has been exhibited across the world, Sehnaoui is also known for her local creations: most prominently, Sehnaoui designed the logo of the Lebanese Ministry of Tourism, which is ubiquitous in museums, archaeological sites, and various cultural heritage locales.*

*The graphic, clearly outlined, renderings in "Two Birds" may speak to Sehnaoui's training as a graphic designer adept in lithography and typography. The two birds appear to face each other, framing a jug seemingly full of wine or another red liquid. Geometric shapes dot the canvas background, in a seeming gesture towards a celestial or natural landscape.*



# Nada Rizk

## Dove

Year: 2019

Bird: 22 x13 x 10 cm / Base 11x 8 cm

Medium: Bronze

Location: Beirut, Lebanon

### About the artist

*Nada Rizk is Lebanese Finnish artist working mainly with ceramics and bronze. She is a graduate of the Academie Libanaise Des Beaux Arts (ALBA) in visual arts and she also holds a masters degree in Political Sciences and International Relations from the London School Of Economics (LSE) .*

*Her hand built ceramic sculptures grow from a multitude of images in the natural and imaginary worlds while being simple, organic and contemporary in shape bearing also the influence of her Finnish connection .*



# Nathalie S Atamian

## And Then Came Hope

*Fully donated*

Year: 2020

Size: 120 x 180 cm

Medium: Acrylic on canvas

Location: Beirut, Lebanon



### **About the artist and artwork**

*Nathalie is known in contemporary artistic circles as a talented abstract expressionist. Her paintings reveal unique sensibilities and high emotions. She uses various art genres, concepts and techniques to create an art form that is uniquely her own.*

*Her body of work is mainly in acrylics exploding off the canvas, as well as a wide variety of other mixed media.*



**Nissa Raad**

**We Shall Overcome**

*Fully donated*



Year: 2020

Size: 77 x 75 cm

Medium: Mixed media on paper

Location: Jordan

### **About the artist and artwork**

*Nissa Raad's background in urban design informs her art practice, which creatively prods and reimagines urban landscapes. Raad's mixed Jordanian and Swedish heritage inspires her to blend Nordic minimalism with the colorful, geometric lines of Islamic, Turkish, and Arab art. The granddaughter of noted Turkish artist Farah el Nissa Zeid-- the first woman to attend art school in Turkey-- Raad has long been immersed and fascinated by art.*

*"We Shall Overcome" depicts a cityscape of square stout houses and buildings against a deep blue background. On the top right, a full moon looms, casting a golden sheen over the urban frame. The line details in Raad's canvas gesture towards the little noticed hallmarks of city life: a clothesline extending between two buildings; balcony railways; an empty chair, watching over the street.*

**Raouf Rifai**

**Darwich**



Year: 2020

Size: 60 x 80 cm

Medium: Acrylic on canvas

Location: Beirut, Lebanon

### **About the artist and artwork**

*Raouf Rifai combines both an academic career with an illustrious art practice. Largely inspired by the figure of the Dervish, or a Muslim ascetic living in both real, and virtual spaces. Rifai's colorful and dynamic paintings, which blend figuration and abstraction, as well as his photography and drawings, have led him to participate in exhibitions around the world. In 2010, he received the prestigious first prize at the Sursock Museum's Salon d'Automne.*

*"Darwich" is a large-scale portrait. The man at the center, appears to have closed his eyes-- he refuses to see the outside world, focusing inwards instead. His large mustache, extending beyond his facial features, represent his masculinity, while his red tarbouche, of which we can see the bottom rim, symbolizes his cultural identity. Despite his voluntary blindness, Darwich is hopeful, as the deep yellow background of the painting suggests.*

# Rima Merheb

## EDEN

Fully donated

Year: 2020

Size: 60 x 50 cm

Medium: Acrylic on canvas

Location: Beirut, Lebanon

### About the artist and artwork

*Rima Merheb is a specialist in French literature. She is also a self-taught artist. Her work bridges the textual and visual divide by depicting literary genre in graphic form.*

#### **“Eden inspired by Le Bonheur de Vivre of Henri Matisse”**

*deliberately quotes Henri Matisse's modernist landscapes and languid depictions of the female nudes. In Merheb's work, four female figures appear to lounge in an abstracted, yellow-tinted natural landscape.*



# Rita Massoyan

## Affection

Year: 2019

Size: 120 x 90 cm

Medium: Acrylic on canvas

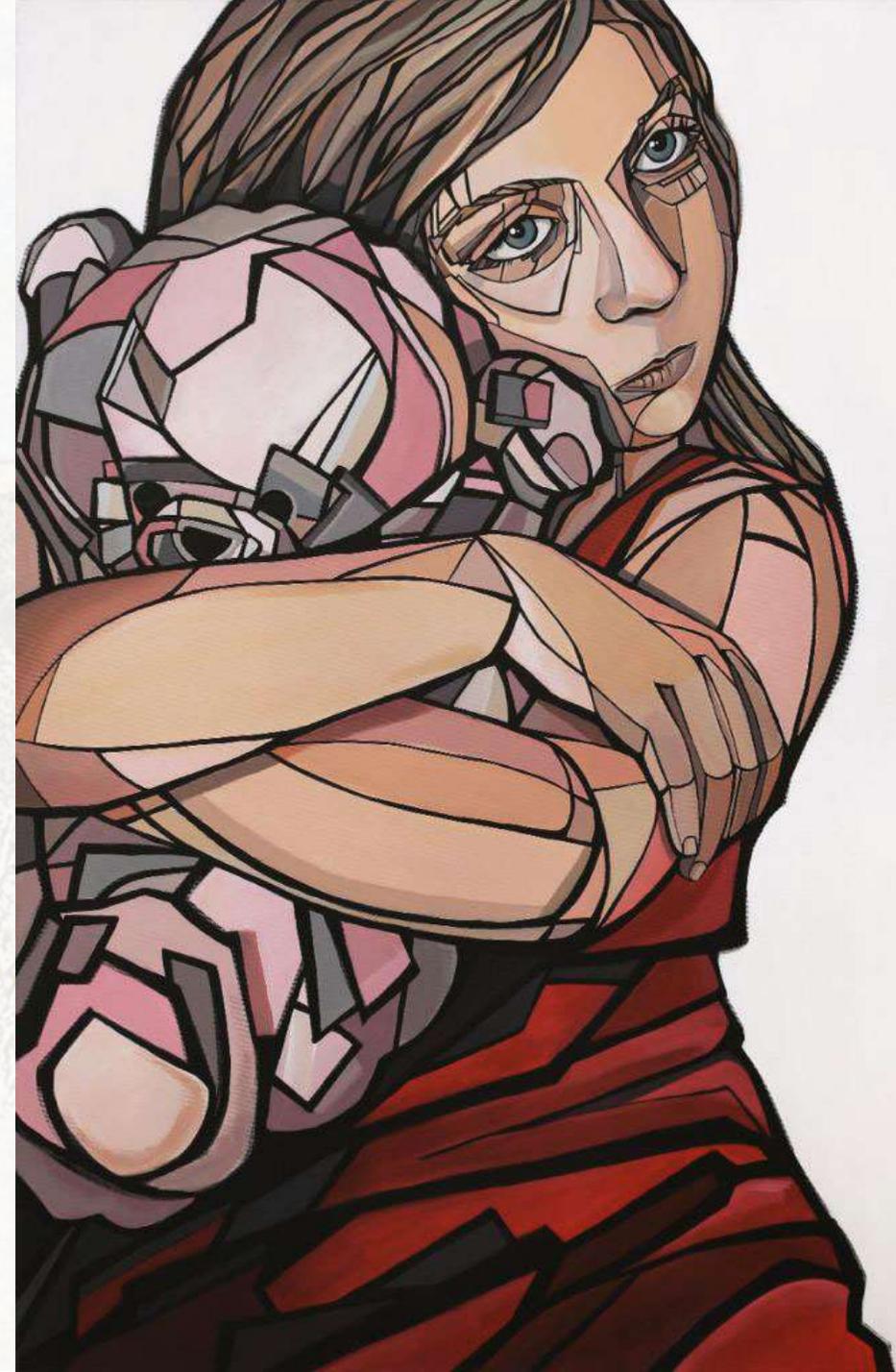
Location: Beirut, Lebanon

Art  
on  
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### About the artist and artwork

*Born in 1978 in Beirut, Massoyan is graduated in Fine Arts from ALBA. After obtaining her Masters degree, she continued her studies in France, at the Beaux-Arts Paris and Cergy-Pontoise. The artist has numerous solo and group exhibitions. For Massoyan art is the only consolation in life and the canvas her only space of freedom.*

*Massoyan's paintings bring together different images from every individual's childhood, which do not fade. It captures precious moments, which time has transformed into beautiful and vital memories*



# Salimeh Mouawad

Beirut

Fully donated

Year: 2020

Size: 50 x 70 cm

Medium: Mixed media on canvas

Location: Beirut, Lebanon

## About the artist and artwork

*Salimeh Mouawad was born in 1964 in Zgharta, Lebanon. Her elegant visual compositions also reference textile art, including knitting and embroidery, adding texture and layer to her canvases.*

*"Beirut" depicts a tall tree, rising as if from red, bloody roots. The trunk is fashioned out of brown, knit thread, emphasizing strength and connectivity. Its branches end in deep purple flower blossoms, reminding us that a better future is indeed possible*



**Sally K**

**Beirut**

*Fully donated*

Year: 2020

Size: 150 x 100 cm

Medium: Acrylic and gold leaf on canvas

Location: Doha, Qatar

### **About the artist and artwork**

*Composed in 2020, "Beirut" features a female figure from the bust up. Her eyes and head are veiled with white cloth, revealing only her mouth and nose. The figure's deliberate blindness evokes our inability to comprehend reality. However, the flowers pouring from the ashes accumulating at the crown of the figure's head nevertheless symbolize strength and the ability to create new beginnings.*



# Sami AlKour

## Stay Tuned

Year: 2019

Size: 100 x 100 cm

Medium: Oil on canvas

Location: Beirut, Lebanon

### About the artist and artwork

*Born in Damascus in 1991, Sami AlKour has established himself firmly within the Lebanese art scene, having most recently had a solo exhibition at 392RMEIL393-Beirut. His expressive paintings alternate between still-life, portraiture, and abstraction, highlighting his technical and creative virtuosity.*

*In "Stay Tuned," a figure glances into the distance, only showing a quarter of his face. Eyebrow slightly raised, eyes narrowed, the figure seems to question "where are we going"?*



# Sandra Detourbet

Elle était partie chercher des cigarettes



Year: 2015

Size: 80.6 x 99.4 cm

Medium: Gouache on paper mounted on canvas

Location: Paris, France

## About the artist and artwork

*Sandra Detourbet is a multidisciplinary artist who works in painting, audio-visual production, and live performance. Born in France, Detourbet was trained at l'École Nationale Supérieure des Arts Décoratifs (ENSAD), and is currently based in Paris.*

*“Elle était partie chercher des cigarettes” (She had left to buy cigarettes) arrestingly depicts a female figure, outlined in brown, against a blue and yellow natural landscape. The expressive, thick lines that dominate the canvas evokes a dynamic scene, in which the figure determinedly presses forward.*

# Sara Chaar

## From the series (tnt and other molecules)

Year: 2020

Size: 100 x 120 cm

Medium: Mixed media on canvas

Location: Beirut, Lebanon

### About the artist and artwork

*Born in Miami, Florida, Sara Chaar is a self-taught artist based in Beirut. To create her abstract, monochromatic canvases, Chaar utilized her fingers as paintbrushes, directly imbuing her bodily imprint on the painting's surface. Although her spare canvases often appear unfinished, this deliberate rendering provokes the viewer to complete the narrative, generating a tension and ongoing discussion between image and beholder.*

*"From the series (TNT and other molecules)" features Chaar's signature style, complete with delicate lines of blacks and yellows against a primed grey surface. The linear composition creates a delicate, visual language, in which one is compelled to excavate the canvas' meaning.*



**Sara Chaar**

**From the series of disappearing things**



Year: 2020

Size: 28.3 x 35.6 cm

Medium: Mixed media on cotton paper

Location: Beirut, Lebanon

### **About the artist and artwork**

*Born in Miami, Florida, Sara Chaar is a self-taught artist based in Beirut. To create her abstract, monochromatic canvases, Chaar utilized her fingers as paintbrushes, directly imbuing her bodily imprint on the painting's surface. Although her spare canvases often appear unfinished, this deliberate rendering provokes the viewer to complete the narrative, generating a tension and ongoing discussion between image and beholder.*

# Sarine Samerjian

## Gaia

Year: 2020

Size: 70 x 70 cm

Medium: Acrylic on Canvas

Location: Beirut, Lebanon

### About the artist and artwork

*Sarine was born in 1997 in Toronto, Canada and currently splits her time between Damascus and Beirut. Trained in landscape architecture and agricultural engineering, she now devotes herself full-time to her art practice.*

*Samerjian's interest in live performance and dance is evident in "Gaia," in which a long-haired female figure delicately oscillates her body towards the viewer, one shoulder raised. The figure's provocative gaze is echoed through the floral motifs that punctuate the canvas, where eyes replace the flowers' central node.*



# Semaan Khawam

## Bird patterns

Year: 2019

Size: 77 x 55 cm

Medium: Cotton paper

Location: Beirut



### About the artist and artwork

*Semaan Khawam is a self-taught multidisciplinary artist born in Syria. His artworks range from figural paintings, portraiture, graffiti, and theatre, amongst many other modes. Inspired by daily life in Beirut, Khawam's art grapples with the uncomfortable realities that come from living in Lebanese metropolis.*

*Khawam has recently acquired the nickname "birdman" in recognition of the frequent appearance of birds in his canvases. This can be seen in "Bird Patterns" in which Khawam depicts a repeated bird motif along a vertical axis, in recognition of the bird's personal importance to Khawam as alter-ego and favorite companion.*



# Semaan Khawam

## Flowers 3

Year: 2019

Size: 55 x 37.5 cm

Medium: Cotton paper

Location: Beirut



### About the artist and artwork

*"Flowers 3" and "Flowers" seemingly portray tall stems of red and blue poppies, respectively against the soft texture of cotton paper. The minimalist, geometric composition is reminiscent of modernist painting and silkscreen print.*



# Semaan Khawam

## Flowers

Year: 2019

Size: 55 x 37.5 cm

Medium: Cotton paper

Location: Beirut



### About the artist and artwork

*"Flowers 3" and "Flowers" seemingly portray tall stems of red and blue poppies, respectively against the soft texture of cotton paper. The minimalist, geometric composition is reminiscent of modernist painting and silkscreen print*



# Severine DesLions

## Untitled

Year: 2014

Size: 90 x 80 cm

Medium: Mixed media on canvas mounted on cardboard

Location: Beirut, Lebanon



### About the artist and artwork

*Séverine DesLions is based in Tours, France, where she was born. Inspired by comic book art, and Jean-Michel Basquiat's neo-expressionist street art, DesLions' playful style utilizes color and bold graphic lines to achieve her spontaneous creations.*

*A wide-eyed, rosy-cheeked figure emerges from the murky grey background in "Untitled." Large almond-shaped eyes lock the viewer's gaze, as if defying the unexpected.*



# Shawki Youssef

## Untitled



Year: 2020

Size: 60 x 75 cm

Medium: Cotton paper

Location: Beirut, Lebanon



### About the artist and artwork

Although most recently focused on painting, Lebanese artist Shawki Youssef experiments with the texture of the canvas, using a cutter to create deep incisions on the painting's surface. In doing so, Youssef argues that art should not be sacred, but rather, easily apprehendable, which he emphasizes by using tones and colors inspired by nature.

In "Untitled" line-drawn portraits seemingly emerge from a grey and yellow mist that occupies most of the canvas. The subtle crowd appears to be led by a female figure in the foreground, whose careful gaze captures the beholder in quiet contemplation.

# Shawki Youssef

## Untitled



Year: 2020

Size: 60 x 75 cm

Medium: Cotton paper

Location: Beirut, Lebanon



### About the artist and artwork

*“Untitled” features a grey swatches of paint, divided into vertical lines. Although abstract, this composition is reminiscent of a cloud-filled sky, or alternatively, an urban landscape.*

# Suzanne Alaywan

Beirut

Fully donated

Year: 2020

Size: 21 x 15 cm

Medium: Coloring pens

Location: Beirut, Lebanon

## About the artist and artwork

*Suzanne Alaywan is a poet and painter who draws inspiration from Miró's abstract paintings and Japanese graphic arts. Her paintings often appear to feature child-like figures who confront the viewer in their seeming innocence and soft, rounded features.*

*"Beirut" is made using coloring pens and pencils. Perhaps in a gesture to the city's difficult year, a concerned figure looms over the cityscape, gathering the tall apartment buildings in what appears to be a warm embrace.*



# Suzanne Alaywan

غروب الغيمة العملاقة

Fully donated

Year: 2020

Size: 21 x 15 cm

Medium: Coloring pens

Location: Beirut, Lebanon

## About the artist and artwork

*"The Setting of the Giant Cloud,"* drawn using colored crayons, features an angelic figure hovering in a protective stance over a city cluster. The city itself sits on the water, perhaps as a way to reference Beirut. The cherub, or angel, stands between the city and a giant red cloud that floats above it, seemingly protecting the city from imminent danger.



# Talia Semaan

## An Impressionist's Island Life

*Fully donated*



Year: 2020

Size: 60 x 48 cm

Medium: Acrylic on canvas

Location: Florida, USA

### **About the artist and artwork**

*Although still a college student, Talia Semaan's natural landscapes evoke a maturity in style and subject matter.*

*The small dabs of paint, landscape motif, and play on color in "An Impressionist's Island Life" appears to reference impressionist painting. The soothing blue of the ocean transports the viewer to a calming landscape*

**Thaer Maarouf**

**Untitled**



Year: 2012

Size: 100 x 70 cm

Medium: Acrylic on cardboard

Location: Beirut, Lebanon



### **About the artist and artwork**

*Born in Syria, Thaer Maarouf's almost surrealist paintings grapple with the difficulties of displacement, human rights, and regional upheaval in the Levant. His work has been exhibited in Lebanon, Damascus, and Singapore, amongst many other places.*

*Two unshorn sheep turn their heads to stare at an unseen figure in "Untitled." The midnight blue background evokes a nighttime sky, while the sheep's glinting white eyes suggest the reflection of a car's beam lights. The sheep appear to be stuck in stasis, caught between two undisclosed locales.*

# Wissam Melhem

## Utopian Orgasm

Year: 2020

Size: 200 x 100 cm

Medium: Acrylic & Mixed media on canvas

Location: Beirut, Beirut

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### About the artist and artwork

*Wissam Melhem is an architect, landscape designer, and an emerging artist currently exploring different contemporary themes through the processes of sketching and painting. Wissam holds a Bachelor of Arts in Architecture and a Master of Arts in Landscape Urbanism from Notre Dame University in Beirut. He is an experienced architect and educator, working for over 10 years as Senior Architect at Nadim Karam and Hapsitus Architects in Beirut.*



# Zeina Kamareddine Badran

## Thawra Thawra

Fully donated

Year: 2019

Size: 20 x 20 cm

Medium: Etching and monotype print on paper

Location: Beirut, Lebanon

### About the artist and artwork

*Zeine Kamareddine Badran is an expert in lithography, etching and silkscreen printing. Born in Tripoli, Lebanon, her work engages with the power or memory and its effects on personal identity.*

*Kamareddine Badran's "Thawra", employs colors of black, and white to portray standing figures brandishing Lebanese flags. They appear to be situated on a raised platform, perhaps a building rooftop, or the curved summit of "The Egg," in downtown Beirut. On the lower half of the image is a white net, as if to symbolize a bound web of people, motivations, and ideals that emerged during the 2019 October Revolution.*



# Zeina Kamareddine Badran

Thawra

Fully donated



Year: 2019

Size: 20 x 27 cm

Medium: Etching print on paper

Location: Beirut, Lebanon

## About the artist and artwork

*"Thawra...Thawra" depicts the brief, ebulliscent scenes of the 2019 October Revolution in Lebanon. Cedar flags aloft, members of a crowd lift their arms in union. This powerful scene is a poignant reminder of the unity and solidarity that emerged from Lebanon's powerful revolutionary movement.*

# Zeina Kamareddine Badran

## Beirutscape V

Fully donated



Year: 2017

Size: 20 x 27 cm

Medium: Photoetching print on paper

Location: Beirut, Lebanon

### About the artist and artwork

*Chandeliers dominate the urban scene in "Beirutscape V", where they hang, almost inexplicably from an invisible ceiling in the middle of a Beirut street, combining interior with exterior. Haphazardly parked cars, a common scene in Beirut, appear to sit in the shade of a low building, whose open shutters, and air conditioning units will be a familiar sight to the capital's many residents.*

# Zeina Kamareddine Badran

## Beirutscape III

Fully donated



Year: 2018

Size: 20 x 27 cm

Medium: Photoetching print on paper

Location: Beirut, Lebanon

### About the artist and artwork

*In "Beirutscape III" a row of patient fishermen stand on a water's edge, their fishing lines cast into the vast expanse of the sea. The row of diamond shape motifs on the painting's upper edge appears to depict the crystalline nature of the water, or, perhaps, crystal chandeliers that hang, hovering above the exterior landscape.*

# Zena Assi

## Put it in a liberty plant pot

Year: 2020

Size: 90 x 70 cm

Medium: Mixed media and collage on canvas

Location: London

### About the artist and artwork

*Born in Lebanon, in 1974, Zena Assi lives and works between Beirut and London. In her work, she explores the cultural and social changes of her surroundings through various media, including painting. She has exhibited in solo as well as collective shows across Europe, the Middle East and the United States of America including the IWM Imperial War Museum (London UK), the IMA Institut du Monde Arabe (Paris France) and the 57th Venice Art Biennale (Venice Italy).*

*In "Put it in a Liberty Plant Pot" flowers and leaves featured layered images of coated memories, planted in various tins or boxes taken from childhood references. These works deal with migration and the struggle of questioning one's culture. From the typical British Liberty pattern to the Lebanese Nido milk Tin, visual motifs and suggestions are spread upon the works, like pages of an open diary. They tackle issues of identity and evolve around collective and individual stories, mutating with the passing of time and displacement.*





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From Oct 27 till Nov 05

**Contact Information**

**Lisa Bitar**

+44 7733302295

lisabitar@live.com

**Joanne Habchi**

+961 70686961

joannehabchi@gmail.com