



Legacies
COSMOSCOW
6th-9th September

Cosmoscow
Booth E4
Gostiny Dvor, 4, Ilyinka St., Moscow
6th - 9th September 2018



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Kaneka Subberwal
Founder | Art Select

CURATORIAL NOTE

"The principles of true art is not to portray, but to evoke"

- Jerzy Kosinski -

Contemporary art may seem like a very recent framework from which to envision the history of a nation. Yet for a young nation like Bahrain with a 5,000 year old history and rich heritage, this is such an apt prism because Bahraini artists interpret their visions from this foundation of identity and self-belief.

This year's group show, "Legacies" features four established contemporary artists – the late master, Rashid Al Oraifi, Faika Al Hasan, Dawiya AlAlawiyat and Omar Al Rashid.

Through this Cosmoscow 2018 collection, the artists will present a new take on Middle Eastern art, polished by their perception of the unfolding of a new world where technology is pushing of the boundaries of expression and social mores. They have worked to showcase fascinating narratives of how their art and lives intersect with the ancient history of Bahrain and the modern story of a nation reaching into the future.

The artists are exploring their cultural identity with confidence and skill and have been increasingly welcomed in art capitals around the world.

What is unique to the collection is the physicality of the different media used, energized by the cerebral exploration of the creators, the strength and resilience portrayed in the imagery. These abstracts will allow the art-lover to reflect on the artist's imagination and enter into an intellectually satisfying discourse with Bahrain's contemporary persona as a nation.



ARTISTS

Late Rashid Oraifi

Dawiya Al Alawiyat

Faiqa Al Hasan

Omar Al Rashed

An abstract painting featuring a complex composition of thick, expressive brushstrokes. The color palette is dominated by earthy tones like ochre, beige, and brown, interspersed with vibrant accents of yellow, orange, red, green, and black. The texture is highly visible, with some areas showing more saturated color and others appearing more washed out or blended. The overall effect is one of dynamic energy and emotional intensity.

Late **RASHID AL ORAIFI**



Late **Rashid Al Oraifi**

The late Rashid Al Oraifi is a Grand Master of the contemporary Bahraini art movement. Growing up in Muharraq, the 19th century capital of Bahrain, he was deeply influenced by his surroundings and the seaside city's heritage and rich pearling traditions.

Al Oraifi built his oeuvre around Bahrain's Dilmunic civilization of 5,000 years ago. By adding his modern interpretation of traditional Bahraini oral narratives and his acute interest in the Kingdom's layered history, he fashioned a new style of artistic exploration. He was a prolific painter, collector, writer and speaker. He consciously steeped his canvases and sculptures in what he saw as a 'Bahraini' voice and set up the 'Dilmun School of Art' with its distinctive style. He was President of the Bahrain Society for Contemporary Arts and won several awards for his role in knitting Bahrain's ancient historical imagery with his modern canvases.

Today, Al Oraifi is perhaps best known for his private collections and his establishing of a movement to nurture private art museums and collections as repositories of contemporary Bahraini art.



A Colorful Dream in Darkness, 2015,
Acrylic on Canvas, 54x46cm,



Colors of Time Zones, 2015, Acrylic
on Canvas, 57x67cm



The Beauty Imagination with Colors,
2015, Acrylic on Canvas, 60x45cm



Abstract Variation, 2010 Acrylic On
Canvas, 54Cm X 49Cm,



DAWIYA AL ALAWIYAT

DAWIA
2018



Dawiya Al Alawiyat

Although Dawiya started her academic journey by graduating from the University of Alexandria's Faculty of Law, her instinct for colours and canvas won over and she migrated to art. She was deeply influenced by her childhood travels which took her to places of natural beauty. Her works are usually mixed media and minimalist but manage to create a resonance with the viewer through the sheer force of visual juxtaposition.

Dawiya's work shows her fascination for textures – of paper and textiles, of sand and string. They welcome viewers into her world with a tactile sensuality that is at once delicate and thought-provoking.

She has participated in several exhibitions on a regional and international level as a solo and group participant and says she finds preparing and working with fellow-artists a great learning curve.



Peaceful, 2018, collage mixed media on paper, 50x50cm



Peaceful 2, 2018, collage mixed media on paper, 50x50cm



Peaceful 3, 2018, collage mixed media on paper, 50x50cm



Peaceful 4, 2018, collage mixed media on paper, 50x50cm



FAIKA AL HASAN

Faika Al Hasan



Faika Al Hassan studied fine arts and painting in Bahrain and Lebanon. As an admired artist, her work is distinctive for its play on tens of small human figures inhabiting large and anonymous spaces. The overriding message is that of our own insignificance in the large scheme of things. The small human figures in her paintings travel the canvas in large numbers and at times in groups, yet are all isolated from one another.

At Cosmoscw, Faika has explored her fascination for raw unbleached cotton used for the bedding of her childhood. She sees it as the fabric of life which sustains us from beginning to end. In her paintings, the fabric is used as a visual trope: as clothing offering modesty and protection, as a container holding one's possessions as one flees hardship to make a new life elsewhere, where once unpacked, the fabrics come out to make a new home. And everywhere, her humans crowd around, travelling along paths, often not understanding where they are heading. At times it seems that the figures are trapped by the rectangular canvases they inhabit as if in a maze



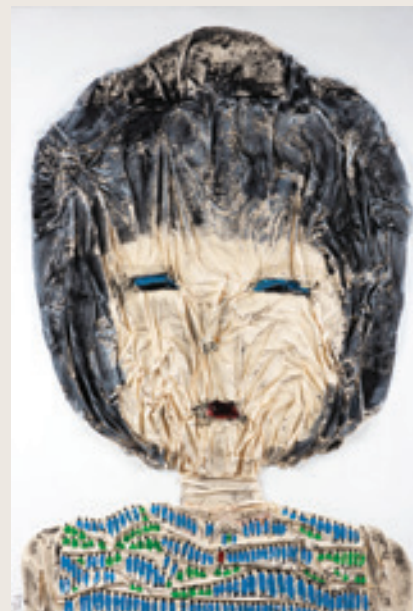
Untitled, 2018, Fabric, Acrylic and Charcoal on Canvas, 70x100cm



Untitled, 2018, Fabric, Acrylic and Charcoal on Canvas, 70x100cm



Untitled, 2018, Fabric, Acrylic and
Charcoal on Canvas, 70x100cm



Untitled, 2018, Fabric, Acrylic and
Charcoal on Canvas, 70x100cm

An abstract painting featuring several organic, rounded shapes in various colors and patterns. The shapes are set against a light, textured background. The colors include deep reds, oranges, yellows, greens, blues, and blacks. Some shapes have intricate patterns, such as a red and white geometric design and a blue and white floral motif. The brushwork is visible, giving the painting a textured, expressive feel.

OMAR AL RASHID



Omar Al Rashid

From the start of his career, Omar Al Rashid juxtaposed his emotional attachment to his heritage, customs and tradition with a conscious experimentation. He also distanced himself from the trend for 'plastic arts' and worked hard to create a genre of painting that was immediately seen as deriving from Bahraini and Islamic culture. He has achieved a balance between form and content as well as originality and modernity.

Born in Muharraq in 1966, Al-Rashid was inspired by the bright, vibrant colours of the seascape. Muharraq was the first place where his passion for Bahrain customs and folklore developed. His second artistic inspiration was his mother. As a child, he monitored her movement, traditional dress and endless folk tales. It is because of this intimate association with his mother that he holds women in high respect in his work. His choice of a woman as the subject of much of his work also allows for his portrayal of intricate and detailed fabric. His female figures echo a balance between femininity and strength; strength reflected by the dominating colours and vivacious fabric. He positions his women so that they are not portraits but instead are portrayals of symbolic women; Middle Eastern women; women of the past, present and future.

Omar Al-Rashid continues to participate in group and solo exhibition in Bahrain and internationally.



The place 1, 2017,
Oil on canvas, 121x91cm



The place 2, 2017,
Oil on canvas, 121x91cm



ARTBAB

Under the patronage of
Her Royal Highness Princess Sabeeka Bint Ibrahim Al Khalifa,
Wife of His Majesty the King of Bahrain and
President of the Supreme Council for Women, ArtBAB 2018,
Art Bahrain Across Borders, is Bahrain's foremost international art fair
with the mission to attract leading international galleries to the Kingdom, so
powering the expansion of the art market whilst facilitating the development
of local Bahraini artists.

The ambitious project, now in its third edition, aims to solidify Bahrain's
position as a regional arts and education hub whilst stimulating
investment and economic activity in the arts and cultural sector.

REPRESENTED ARTISTS

Ahmed Al Asad
Ahmed Anan
Amani Al Hajeri
Amina Al Abbasi
Ayman Jaffar
Balqees Fakhro
Dawiya Al Awiat
Faika Al Hasan
Hamed Al Bosta
Jamal Abdulrahim
Karina El Zu'bi
Lulwa Al Khalifa
Mariam Fakhro
Mayasa Al Sowaidi
Mohammed Al Mahdi
Nabeela Al Khayer
Omar Al Rashid
Othman Khunji
Rawan Al Hosani
Salman AlNajem
Sarah Aradi
Sayed Hasan Al Sari
Seema Baqi
Somaya Abdulghani
Zain Al Kooheji
Zakeya Zada



Art Select was founded in 2008 as an art advisory, consulting and creating artist platforms, art events and investor art portfolios.

Art Select was founded on collector and consultant Kaneka Subberwal's passion for contemporary art, her knowledge of modern art and her unerring instinct for picking trends. Today it is a respected organisation with a global presence and a fine team of art managers, art event co-ordinators and logistics managers who run prestigious exhibitions and fairs around the world.

Art Select's flagship enterprise is ArtBAB the annual art fair of Bahrain held annually Under the patronage of Her Royal Highness Princess Sabeeka bint Ibrahim Al Khalifa, Wife of His Majesty the King and President of the Supreme Council for Women.

STRATEGIC PARTNER





Arcapita, Manama Seafront,
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