# **ArtBooth**



**BOOTHA28** 

نــن أبوظبي abudhabi art

ABU DHABI ART FAIR 2023

22 - 26 NOVEMBER

Artbooth Gallery is pleased to participate in the

featuring works by Soraya Abu Naba'a, Gilbert Halaby, Hussein Baalbaki and Afra Al-Suwaidi.



22 - 26 NOVEMBER 2023 ARTBOOTH GALLERY

Cover

Soraya Abu Naba'a

Winter, 2023 Acrylic on Canvas 226 X 139 cm



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#### **ABOUTTHE SHOW**

Artbooth Gallery is pleased to participate in the Abu Dhabi Art Fair 2023 for the first time, featuring works by Soraya Abu Naba'a, Afra Al-Suwaidi, Gilbert Halaby, and Hussein Baalbaki. The gallery's art fair selection captures diverse works by emerging and established artists from the Middle East who employ a wealth of materials and represent a variety of styles, examining an array of different subjects. Artbooth Gallery will be presented in the 'Special Projects' segment under booth A28.

Soraya Abu Naba'a participates with three pieces from her renowned floral series, Dreamlike Figuration, meticulously crafted with fascinating floral compositions. Through this series, Soraya examines how secret messages were conveyed through flowers, making references to the Victorian era.

Afra Al-Suwaidi presents five multimedia installations which are created with environmentally friendly materials and recycled materials. Through her works Al Suwaidi explores the relationship between technology and humanity, seamlessly blending virtual and physical worlds to create thought-provoking and visually stunning works of art.

Gilbert Halaby's works are a manifestation of his artistic evolution. The artist presents four artworks inspired by his adopted city, Rome, where he has lived and worked for many years. Through his paintings, Gilbert creates a dialogue that bridges poetry and art, the past and present, and his former and present selves.

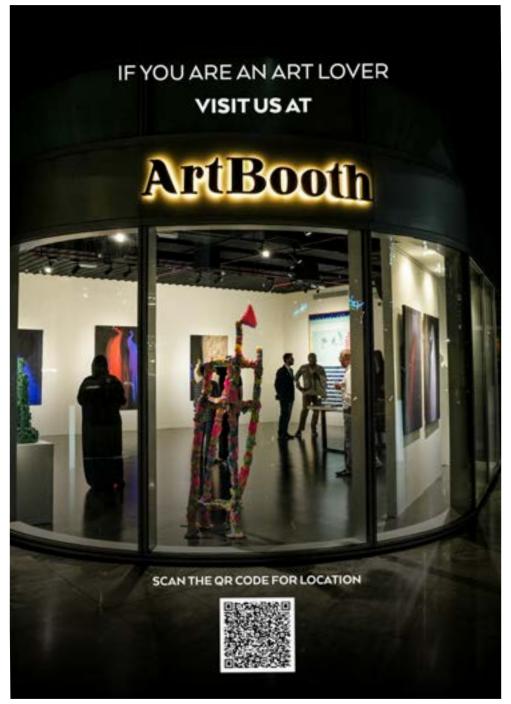
Hussein Baalbaki presents five of his works inspired by Notre Dame Cathedral and five abstract work. Baalbaki's paintings have a textured surface that offsets the subtlety of a soft palette. This "illustration" invokes a particular state or human experience that possesses its own distinct philosophy. The implication of light that is seen with the manipulation of color is essential to his paintings, as it indicates variation and movement and suggests infinite space and time.

### **ABOUTARTBOOTH GALLERY**

Founded by Roger El-Khoury in 2019, after 11 years of experience in the art field between Beirut and the United Arab Emirates, Artbooth aims to create a cross-cultural bridge between artists, audiences, and collectors from across the world.

The gallery is dedicated to promoting a wide selection of artworks and exploring new connections and partnerships. From emerging to established artists both at the regional and international level, it aspires to provide artworks best suited for any collector's satisfaction.

Services include fine art sales consultancy, second market art sales, archiving collections and curating exhibitions.



#### **ARTISTS**

## SORAYA ABU NABA'A (B.1985)

Soraya was born in 1985, in Melbourne, Florida in the United States. Her father was a Palestinian, and her mother was a Lebanese woman born in the Dominican Republic. Although Soraya was born in the US, she spent her childhood living in Santo Domingo, the capital city of the Dominican Republic.

Soraya moved to Paris at the age of 18, studied the French language and French Civilization for one year at La Sorbonne University, enrolled for three years at Paris American University, and graduated with a Bachelor of Fine Arts degree in 2007. She participated in two summer internships, first for Enrico Navarro Gallery in Paris, and then for Gary Nader Art Gallery in Miami. The following year, she attended a sculpture course at the Accademia di Arti, in Florence, Italy. In 2014, she attended an Intensive Painting Course at Columbia University in New York City. In 2016 she earned her Master's degree in Painting from Royal College of Arts, London.

For Soraya Abu Naba'a, the outer and inner worlds are a single reality, as are the mysteries of the universe and references to nature. She displays a multidimensional "Outburst" that both surprises and confirms to the viewer an outstanding expression of ingenuity, patience, and imagination. Soraya's floral series consists of fantastic landscaping of almost dreamlike figuration meticulously done, which goes as far as a fascinating floral composition.

She has participated in over 40 group exhibitions, 4 biennials, and 20 solo exhibitions in international art galleries such as Gary Nader Art Centre Miami, La Galleria London, and Royal Houses Museum Dominican Republic. Her works are found in private collections around the world in cities ranging from Miami, New York, Santo Domingo, Istanbul, Amman, Geneva, and Toronto among others. Since 2009, she has been working between Santo Domingo and Miami.

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**Soraya Abu Naba'a** Fall, 2023 Acrylic on Canvas 226 X 139 cm





Soraya Abu Naba'a Winter, 2023 Acrylic on Canvas 226 X 139 cm

Soraya Abu Naba'a Paraiso, 2022 Acrylic on Canvas 127 X 152 cm



## GILBERT HALABY (B.1979)

Lebanese artist Gilbert Halaby was born in 1979 in a village in Mount Lebanon. For as long as he can remember, he loved to paint. Halaby was captivated by the beauty of the natural landscape in Mount Lebanon as a young boy. To this day, it continues to influence his art. Growing up, Halaby was also lured by the beauty of the fabrics his mother sewed; his artistic eye also fell in love with fashion, and he began designing clothes and accessories from an early age.

After studying Archaeology at the Lebanese University in Beirut, he went to Rome in 2003, where he became captivated by the Eternal City, and soon opened a jewelry and handbag store near the Pantheon. In 2010, the Maison Halaby brand launched its first women's collection, and in 2016 he opened his muchloved accessories boutique of specially made leather handbags on Via di Monserrato 21 (Rome), akin to a cultural salon where the artist also houses many books by contemporary and historical authors and philosophers - the latter being one of his favourite subjects.

His works are created with care to every detail, using the finest of raw materials. Maison Halaby has become a top destination in Rome, attracting a loyal following of collectors spanning around the elite world and including Queen Rania of Jordan.

In 2011, Halaby was chosen as 'Designer of the Year' at Paris Capitale de la Création. In 2012, after his exhibition of the sculpted jewels at the Fondazione Volume! in Rome, he was nominated as one of the Vogue Talents for Vogue Italia, which resulted in his collections of accessories being exhibited at the Palazzo Morando in Milan, Italy.

Yet now Halaby's desire has turned to his art-his first love, as he calls it, and most of his time is now spent painting at his studio a few steps away also on Via di Monserrato 123. For both his fashion and art, he shares one vision. As he says: "If one of a hundred passes by my 'bottega' and gets inspired by beauty, then my job is done."

Gilbert Halaby debuted in 2023 with his solo exhibition titled "Domus Berytus", which took place at Beit Beirut Museum in the Lebanese capital.



Gilbert Halaby Dhour, Rome-2023, Oil on Linen 90 X 90 cm





**Gilbert Halaby**Animo, Rome-2022,
Oil on Linen
50 X 50 cm





**Gilbert Halaby**Rupes, Rome-2022,
Oil on Linen
100 X 150 cm

Gilbert Halaby Soror, Rome-2023 Oil on Linen 130 X 200 cm



# **HUSSEIN BAALBAKI (B.1974)**

Born in 1974 in Beirut, Lebanon, Hussein Baalbaki is a contemporary artist whose work explores of reinterpretations abstract Expressionism. His paintings are characterized by their thick textures and subtle soft colors. Baalbaki is a graduate of the Lebanese university's institute of Fine Arts in 2002. He was a participant of the 2003 and 2005 Tehran Biennials, and was honored with a special prize. In 2008 he made his first solo debut at Agial art gallery in Beirut with the exhibition "Accumulation of time" a body of small and large-scaled abstractions that garnered critical attention. In 2012 he had second solo exhibition entitled "Four season's songs". In 2013 he exhibited his third solo exhibition "Garden of the soul" at Dar Al Funoon Gallery -Kuwait. He participated in many collective exhibition since 1999. Hussein's works have been offered at auctions multiple times, "Hidden Inside" was sold at Christie's in 2011 and "The Red Orchard" was sold at Christies in 2012.

The thick application of medium in his paintings makes for a textured surface that offsets the subtleness of a soft palette. The artist describes this striking presence as "a kind of isolation in the composition of the work (that serves) to introduce a sensitive illustration of the entity of the work, [which is] derived from internal nature, such as cave walls."

This "illustration" invokes a particular state or human experience that possesses its own distinct philosophy. The implication of light that is seen with the manipulation of color is essential to his paintings as it indicates variation and movement and suggests infinite space and time.

## Hussein Baalbaki

Notre - Dame de Paris, Lebanon-2023, Mixed Media - Oil on Canvas 180 X 150 cm





Hussein Baalbaki London at Night, Lebanon-2020, Mixed Media - Oil on Canvas 35 X 50 cm



Hussein Baalbaki
London at Dawn, Lebanon-2020,
Mixed Media - Oil on Canvas
35 X 50 cm



Hussein Baalbaki No One Arrived, Lebanon-2020, Mixed Media - Oil on Canvas 35 X 50 cm



Hussein Baalbaki Gloomy Day, Lebanon-2020, Mixed Media - Oil on Canvas 35 X 50 cm



Hussein Baalbaki Cathedral, Lebanon-2023, Mixed Media - Oil on Canvas 37.5 X 27.5 cm



Hussein Baalbaki Cathedral, Lebanon-2023, Mixed Media - Oil on Canvas 37.5 X 27.5 cm



Hussein Baalbaki Cathedral, Lebanon-2023, Mixed Media - Oil on Canvas 60 X 43 cm



**Hussein Baalbaki**Cathedral, Lebanon-2023,
Mixed Media - Oil on Canvas
60 X 43 cm

Hussein Baalbaki Stormy Day - Diptych, Lebanon-2018, Mixed Media - Oil on Canvas 130 X 300 cm



## AFRA AL-SUWAIDI (B.1992)

Afra Al-Suwaidi creates multimedia installations that explore the relationship between technology and humanity, seamlessly blending virtual and physical worlds to create thought-provoking and visually stunning works of art. Her work is influenced by the conversation of giving and taking and adding and subtracting, which is expressed through plaster. Her research essentially challenges the human condition in terms of its behavior and responses. She seeks out, unravels, and sometimes buries and conceals these thought.

Al-Suwaidi specialized in fine arts and received a BA Degree from Zayed University in 2016. Al Suwaidi participated in a number of shows locally and internationally. In 2015 she participated in Rochester Contemporary Art Center New York and Lessedra World Art Print Annual Exhibition in Sofia, Bulgaria. In 2017 she participated in Imago Mundi in Treviso, Italy. And in most recently she participated in Abu Dhabi art's first exhibition abroad Beyond:

emerging artists program In London in Cromwell place.

Locally Afra presented her work in the Art Exhibition in Alliance Française Abu Dhabi and in Guggenheim Abu Dhabi: Do Art Do It Now, Manarat Al Saadiyat in 2017. In 2018, she participated in the 35th Annual Exhibition of the Emirates Fine Arts Society in Sharjah, UAE. In 2020, she participated in the Cultural Foundation Art Residency. Al Suwaidi participated in engage 101 "Outside in, Inside out" in Bait15 Abu Dhabi and Abu Dhabi art "Beyond: Emerging Artists" in Manarat Al Saadiyat. Work in progress show by Bleep in Aisha Alabbar Art Gallery, Dubai. In 2021, she exhibited in Art Space, a collaboration between The Department of Culture and Tourism - Abu Dhabi and ALDAR properties. Most recently she participated in the 37th Annual Exhibition of the Emirates Fine Arts Society in Sharjah, UAE. Afra Al Suwaidi is a recipient of the Cultural Foundation Art Residency 2020



Afra Alsuwaidi Hit it 02, 2021, Plaster, Fiber Glass on Canvas 60 X 60 cm



Afra Alsuwaidi Hit it 03, 2021, Plaster, Fiber Glass on Canvas 60 X 60 cm

Afra Alsuwaidi
The last state of humanity, 2023,
Silver ABS Cubes
176 X 60 cm



Afra Alsuwaidi
The last state of humanity, 2023,
Pearl white ABS Cubes
138 X 87 cm



Afra Alsuwaidi Untitled, 2023, ABS Cubes 80 X 43 X 19 cm



### **CONTACT US**

Services include fine art sales consultancy, second market art sales, archiving collections and curating exhibitions.

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and don't hesitate to message us for any enquiries. Check what we have and buy what you like, your support lies behind our continuity...

With this in mind, moving forward thanks to our strong reputation will enable us to promote the culture of art which we all cherish.

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