

ArtBooth



A REAL BAD DREAM

AN EXHIBITION BY OUSSAMA DIAB
AND WADEEI KHALED

Artbooth Gallery is pleased to announce the exhibition

A REAL BAD DREAM
BY OUSSAMA DIAB AND WADEEI KHALED



25 APRIL - 27 MAY 2024
ARTBOOTH GALLERY



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ABOUT THE SHOW

Artbooth Gallery Unveils 'A Real Bad Dream' Exhibition in Abu Dhabi: The Theatrical Surrealism of Oussama Diab and Wadei Khaled's Homage to Homeland

Opening on April 25, 2024, in Abu Dhabi, this group exhibition, featuring stirring works of Oussama Diab and Wadei Khaled, merges surrealism with themes of displacement, resilience, and the enduring spirit of homeland. A must-visit for art enthusiasts and collectors keen on witnessing the power of art in capturing historical and emotional realities.

Abu Dhabi, UAE – In a celebration of art that rises above boundaries, Artbooth Gallery is delighted to present "A Real Bad Dream," an evocative exhibition that weaves the poignant tales of displacement and resilience through the eyes of artists Oussama Diab and Wadei Khaled. The exhibition runs from April 25 to May 27, 2024, at the Artbooth gallery's space, located on the ground floor of Centro Capital Centre by Rotana, ADNEC area, Abu Dhabi.

Oussama Diab, a Palestinian-Syrian Dutch artist, alongside Wadei Khaled, a visionary hailing from Palestine, delves into a narrative journey that marries their personal experiences with the tumultuous history of their homelands. Through "A Real Bad Dream," viewers are invited to explore the delicate terrain of individual and collective memories, manifested in the rich variety of Diab and Khaled's artworks.

The Theatrical and Surreal World of Oussama Diab: Diab's art reflects his strong spirit and the resilience of people. Born in Syria and later living in Lebanon before seeking refuge to Holland, his art

is full of rich, colourful stories. Each painting shows a surreal scene about life's challenges and beauty. His artistry is a reflection of a world where surrealism blends with the harsh realities of life.

From Clear Figures to Abstract Realities: Diab's evolution as an artist is marked by a shift from the clarity of human figures to the abstraction of human existence. The transition signals a deeper contemplation on the state of humanity amidst global turmoil. His earlier works, defined by the clarity of human forms, symbolised his belief in the triumph of humanity. However, as the world's tumultuous events unfolded, particularly in Gaza, Diab's art reflected a more complex reality – one where the outlines of humanity are blurred, and its victories are uncertain. His latest works delve into abstraction, capturing the essence of human beings in nature and life, striving to move forward amidst chaos.

Merging Art Schools in a Single Canvas: In his exploration of the human condition, Diab skillfully blends various art schools – from figurative cubism to abstraction – into a cohesive narrative. Each painting is a world unto itself, where different schools of art come together to depict the resilience of the human spirit. Diab's unique blend of acrylic and charcoal adds depth and vibrancy to his works, making each canvas a profound reflection on the global stage.

All the paintings are a theatre for Diab, where in he archives everything that's happening in the world through his paintings.

A Homage to Homeland and Endurance: Khaled's artworks stand as a tribute to the resilience of those who stay connected to their

roots despite facing adversity. Inspired by the resilient landscapes of Palestine, the writings of Ghassan Kanafani, and other Arab Resistance literature, Khaled's paintings are profound meditations on belonging, identity, and the indomitable spirit to endure. His connection to his homeland permeates through his art, offering a poignant exploration of the persistence and resilience inherent in the human spirit.

"A Real Bad Dream" is envisaged as a dialogue – not only between the artists and the audience but also between the dreams of individuals and the stark realities of conflict zones. This exhibition, curated by Artbooth Gallery, seeks to forge connections, evoke empathy, and foster a deeper understanding of the human condition through the universal language of art.

Roger Khoury, the founder of Artbooth Gallery expresses the gallery's enthusiasm for the exhibition: "The works of Diab and Khaled are not merely artistic expressions but are narratives that bridge the gap between viewers and the complex emotions of those experiencing displacement and resilience. 'A Real Bad Dream' invites you to witness the power of art in conveying the profound stories of struggle and hope."

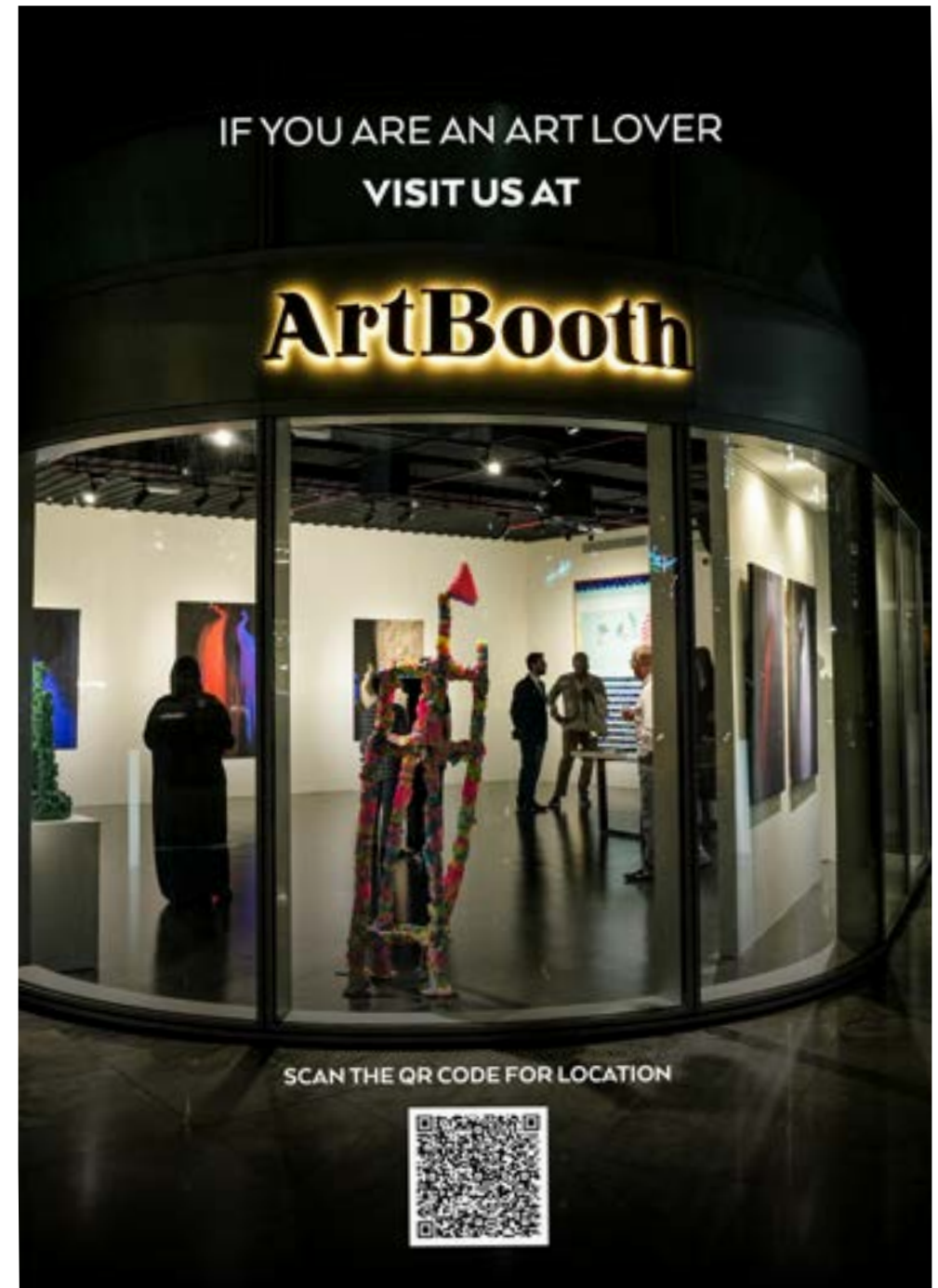
Join Artbooth Gallery for an immersive journey into the surreal and theatrical world of Oussama Diab and Wadei Khaled, experiencing firsthand the transformative power of art that delves into the heart of artistic struggle and the indomitable spirit of the human will.

ABOUT ARTBOOTH 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



ABOUT OUSSAMA DIAB

Born in 1977 in Damascus, Oussama Diab is a Palestinian - Syrian contemporary artist who lives and works in Netherlands. He graduated from the Faculty of Fine Arts in Damascus in 2002. Diab has worked through various painting styles, often combining different forms and techniques in a single composition.

Diab addresses the contradictions and obstacles of political conflict, globalisation, and exile through playful symbolism, references to popular culture, iconic imagery, and narrative structures. With each new series he adopts a different painting style, reflecting the impermanent nature of art as it becomes increasingly conceptual and further dematerialized.

He describes his work often as autobiographical. Signs of dislocation, confusion, are woven among historical citations, icons and references to popular culture. Traces of war, revolution and migration are represented in his canvases. The artist sets his characters against decorative and ornamental backgrounds that seem to extend out of his canvas with no beginning and no end. Although Diab's figurations attain a level of elegance and grace, they possess intense melancholy.

Diab has featured in group exhibitions throughout the region and is the recipient of numerous awards including the Shabbab Young Artists exhibition in Syria. Solo shows include Ayyam Gallery DIFC, Dubai (2012); Ayyam Gallery Beirut (2010-11); Ayyam Gallery Dubai (2010); Ayyam Gallery Damascus (2009).

Oussama Diab
Theatre, 2024
Mix media on canvas
204 X 152 cm



Oussama Diab

Theatre. Untitled, 2024

Mix media on canvas

140 X 120 cm



Oussama Diab

Theatre. Gaza, 2024

Mix media on canvas

130 X 100 cm



Oussama Diab
Theatre. Boat trip II, 2023
Mix media on canvas
130 X 130 cm

Oussama Diab
Theatre. Carnival, 2024
Mix media on canvas
150 X 120 cm





Oussama Diab
Theatre. Hidden, 2023
Mix media on canvas
100 X 60 cm



Oussama Diab
Theatre. The hero, 2023
Mix media on canvas
120 X 80 cm

ARTISTS



ABOUT WADEI KHALID

Wadei Khalid, a Palestinian artist based in Ramallah, was born in Al-Aroub camp in January 1986. His pursuit of artistic expression led him to attain a bachelor's degree in fine arts from Al-Quds University. Khalid's oeuvre primarily comprises oil and watercolor paintings of varying sizes, characterized by meticulous attention to detail and a vibrant color palette. In his artistic endeavors, Khalid adeptly captures the essence of his cultural heritage, inviting viewers to engage with the beauty and complexity of his identity.

Central to Khalid's artistic discourse are themes of homeland and identity, which serve as enduring motifs in his body of work. Drawing inspiration from his profound connection to the land, cultural heritage, and personal experiences, particularly his upbringing in a refugee camp, Khalid intricately weaves together narratives of identity, belonging, and resilience. Through his artistry, Khalid transcends the confines of his individual narrative, offering poignant reflections on broader political and cultural contexts.

Khalid's artworks resonate with a palpable sense of nostalgia and yearning for the homeland. Through evocative depictions of landscapes and symbolic representations of nature, he evokes the sensory tapestry of his childhood memories. Each brushstroke bears witness to the enduring bond between the artist and his homeland, transcending physical and temporal boundaries. Khalid's artistic contributions have been recognized both locally and internationally, as he participated in numerous collective exhibitions and the acquisition of his works by esteemed art collectors and institutions alike.



Wadei Khaled
untitled, 2023
Colors and Ink on Paper
53 X 72.5 cm

Wadeei Khaled

untitled, 2023

Colors and Ink on Paper

45 X 45 cm



Wadeei Khaled

untitled, 2023

Colors and Ink on Paper

35 X 52.5 cm

Wadeei Khaled
untitled, 2023
Colors and Ink on Paper
52.5 X 52.5 cm



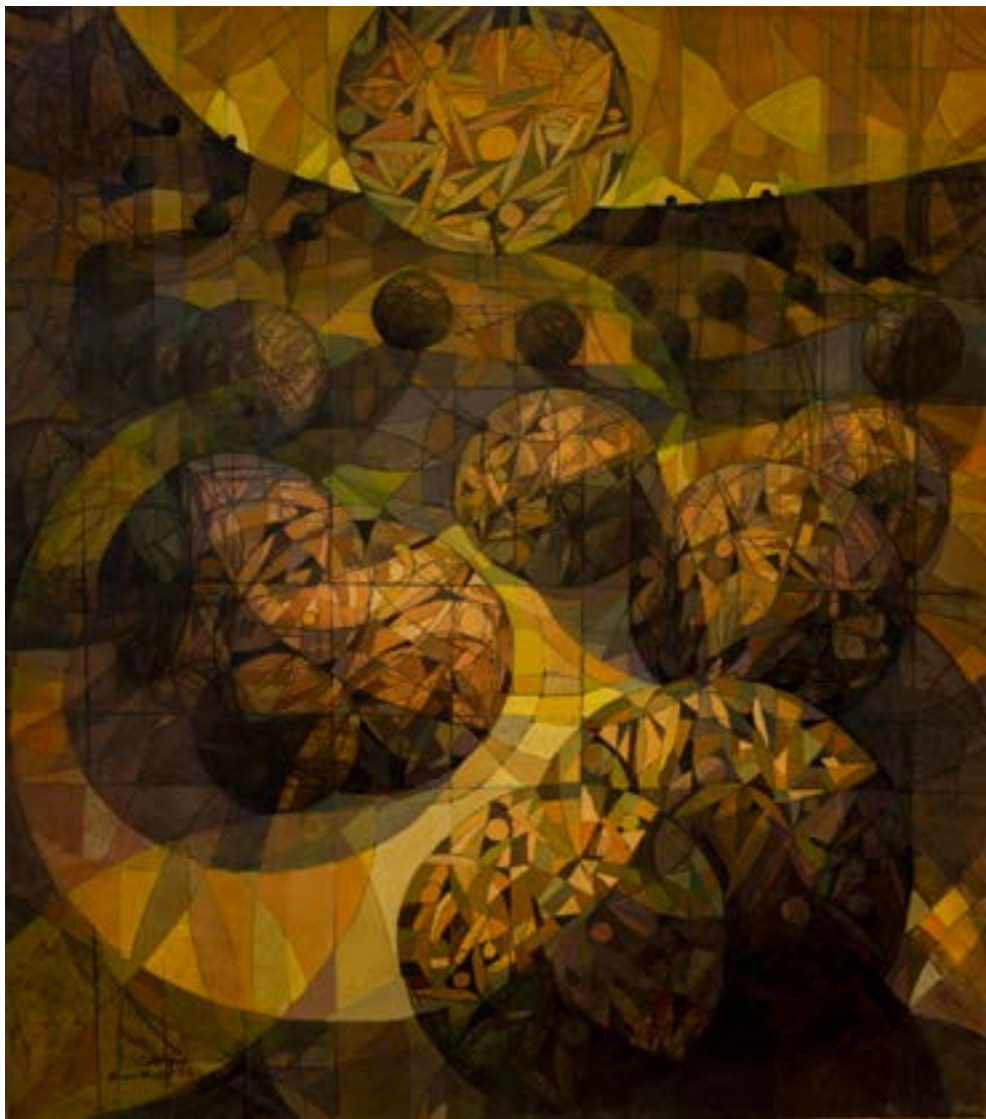
Wadeei Khaled
untitled, 2023
Colors and Ink on Paper
35 X 52 cm

Wadei Khaled

untitled, 2023

Oil on Canvas

84 X 100 cm



CONTACT US

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

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enable us to promote the culture of
art which we all cherish.**

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