

# Arts Rising

February 18 - March 1

Emergency Financial Aid Fund

in Collaboration with **ArtScoops.com**



# Overview

Lebanese American University, in collaboration with **ArtScoops**, is proud to present LAU's first online art auction, titled **LAU ArtsRising**. The auction features a wide range of artwork by several notable Lebanese and international artists. From thought-provoking portraits and abstracts, to sculptures, each of the pieces curated embraces Henri Matisse's mantra that "creativity takes courage."

Since the 1800s Beirut has been a center for art and culture and LAU has continued to reflect that artistic tradition. LAU's forerunner, the American School for Girls (1835) recognized the significance of fine arts and this continues to be the case today; LAU offers one of the few English language fine arts programs in the region.

Lebanon is facing one of the most challenging periods in its long history, but students, alumni, faculty, and staff at LAU are rising to the occasion. All the proceeds from **LAU ArtsRising** will help support the [Emergency Financial Aid Fund](#), an initiative to help bridge our students' and their families' financial gap during this national crisis in Lebanon.

This catalogue provides a preview of the pieces generously donated by friends of LAU such as former professor of art **Chaouki Chamoun**, Associate Professor of Practice and Department of Art & Design Chair **Hannibal Srouji**, alumna **Mona Hatoum** ('72), alumna **Rana Rouda** ('83) and our distinguished partner in the BFA in Fashion Design degree, **Elie Saab**, to name a few.

We want to express our gratitude to the artists, galleries, and donors for their support in putting this auction together.

**Support Beirut. Support Art. Support our Students.**

# Auction Details

Platform	<a href="http://www.artscoops.com">www.artscoops.com</a>
Date	18th of February to 1st of March
Prices	US Dollars
Profits	To benefit the Emergency Financial Aid Fund at Lebanese American University
Payment Options	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Payment can be made in USD and in local USD and LBP at the rate of 3,900 LBP to the dollar.</li><li>• No additional buyer's premium nor taxes are applied &amp; local Lebanese cheques are accepted.</li><li>• Payment also by overseas bank transfer, USD or Credit Card</li></ul>
Shipping	Each lot ships from a different location, as noted on the individual lot page. Please note that the winning bidder is responsible for all shipping costs.

# Chaouki Chamoun

[ FACULTY MEMBER ]

## *Land and Mountain of Peace*

Year	2019
Medium	Acrylic on canvas
Size	80cm x 80cm
Signature	Signed

### About the Artist and Artwork

Chaouki Chamoun received his Diploma of Higher Studies from the Fine Art Institute at the Lebanese University in 1972. The first in his class, he was awarded a six-year fellowship to pursue his graduate studies in the United States to rejoin its faculty upon his return. In 1975, he received his Master of Fine Arts from Syracuse University, N.Y. and from 1975 to 1979 he was a full-time fellow at the PhD program at New York University, NY concentrating on Aesthetics and Studio Art. Chamoun has had over forty one-man shows since 1975; exhibitions in New York, Beirut and other cities in the United States, Europe, Hong Kong and the Arab World; represented mainly by Epreuve d'Artiste Gallery in Beirut. He also has participated in over 60 group Art Shows and biennales since 1968 including Rochester Memorial museum 1974, Low Art Centre, Syracuse 1975, Sursouk Museum, Beirut, 1984-2008, Europ' Art, Geneva 1999, Sotheby's Exhibit and Auction London Oct. 2007, Christie's Exhibit and Auction Dubai Oct. 2007 and April 2008, Art-Paris at Abu Dhabi 2007-2008, Alexandria Biennale 2008, The Katzen Art Museum in Washington, DC. 2010 Abu Dhabi Art fair, MENASA art fair Beirut 2010-2012. Chamoun is delighted to gift his painting ***Land and Mountain of Peace*** to the auction: "Contributing to student financial aid," he said, "is a pleasure to the soul, especially when it comes from someone whose education and ultimately his success was mostly provided for by scholarships, love and the support of others."

About the artwork: "A quest for peace in the land of peace."





# Mona Hatoum

[ ALUMNA ]

## T42

Year	1993-1998
Medium	Fine stoneware in two pieces
Size	5.5cm x 24.5cm x 14cm
Signature	Accompanied by a signed certificate of authenticity

## About the Artist and Artwork

Mona Hatoum was born in Beirut, Lebanon in 1952 and has lived in London since 1975. Hatoum's visceral work is realised in a diverse range of media, including installation, sculpture, video, photography and works on paper.

Hatoum hopes the generated funds from this auction will offer critical support to students and help keep education accessible to more than the privileged few: "When I was a struggling student in the early '70s at Beirut University College (BUC), now LAU, I was fortunate to receive financial aid from the university, which allowed me to complete my studies. I am happy to now be in a position to donate artworks through the newly formed Mona Hatoum Foundation."

About the artwork: Mona Hatoum often uses everyday objects that are transformed into strange and surreal sculptures. In both **T42** and **T42 (gold)**, Hatoum has subverted the basic form of a white china teacup by doubling it. The resulting object suggests something highly intimate, which, like *The Kiss* of Brancusi, depicts two forms so close they have merged together.



# Hanibal Srouji

[ FACULTY MEMBER ]

## *Contemplation of a New Order*

Year	2020
Medium	Acrylic on canvas
Size	Diptych, each 73cm x 73cm
Signature	Signed



## About the Artist and Artwork

Hanibal Srouji's artistic trajectory addresses notions of memory, exile and above all: Healing. Srouji is known for his surface paintings. They stand apparently for abstractions; yet, they reveal physical scars of conflict, as they also address temporalities between: a past nostalgia, a precipitating present and a distant future and negotiate terms of engagement without pathos. The dispersion deployed onto the canvas is not only a material trace, but also the symbolic form of social phenomena that confirms the artist's notes that "painting is a necessity" and his work is "always linked to the history of Lebanon and to the Middle East in general." Born in Lebanon in 1957, Srouji lives and works between Beirut and Paris. He holds a master's degree in fine arts from Concordia University, Canada (1987). He had held different teaching positions at several universities before joining the Lebanese American University in 2010, where he serves as chairperson of the Art & Design Department and Associate Professor of Practice.

About the artwork: "***The Cage*** series started after the destruction of the World Trade Center in New York. I was associated with 'Triangle Workshop,' founded by the artist Sir Antony Caro, and the association occupied the 92nd floor of the left tower... Then again, I was, symbolically, affected and scarred by the event. Today, here in Beirut, we are still living the aftereffects of the traumatic explosion of the Port. Another blast, yet life and hope endure ...This series address notions of violence and exile, which is a central theme in my work. Yet, the expression of the paintings remains that of an attempt to sublimate these lived 'concepts,' by offering openings and spaces of contemplation. This work is dedicated to all those who have endured and continue..."



# Rana Raouda

[ ALUMNA ]

## *Love Nests*

Year	2018
Medium	Acrylic on canvas
Size	60cm x 130cm
Signature	Signed

## About the Artist and Artwork

Rana Raouda is a prominent Lebanese painter born in Beirut in 1961. She graduated in 1983 with a BFA from LAU and continued her studies at the Corcoran School of Art in Washington D.C. and The Monoprint Workshop in New Mexico. She has successfully showcased her work internationally at solo and group exhibitions. In 1997 she was awarded the young artist award for the XXI Salon d'Automne at the Sursock Museum. In 2007 she received the first prize in Ornans-France and in Montreux-Switzerland. Her work is displayed in public and private collections; St Elias Church Kantari - Beirut, An Nahar, and is part of the permanent collection of the Sursock Museum.

About the artwork: Raouda's bright and vivacious canvases radiate warmth and positivity as she expresses her love of nature through abstract forms. Marco Tonelli writes, "Rana Raouda's painting undoubtedly turns towards a subtle and tenuous line where the artist transforms her inner vision into an autonomous, hypersensitive substance, with implications and aspirations of an obvious spirituality. She thus places herself on the historical side of abstract expressionism, which has seen extreme and oscillating attitudes between the tragic and frantic gestures of a Pollock and the inaction painting of a Rothko or a Newman, where the iconoclastic apparition opened the doors wide to mystical and sacred settings and visions ...Raouda is still disposed to believe that one can reactivate the pure, beautiful and "untouchable" substance (this is the Latin meaning of the term "sacer") whose noise and chaos of the contemporary world (schizophrenic debtor of 'images) make a term incomprehensible and irrelevant."



# Zeina Barakeh

[ ALUMNA ]

## Homeland Insecurity Manual- Conditions for a Levée en Masse

Year	2019
Medium	Archival print on Hahnemühle etching paper
Size	68.58cm x 89cm
Signature	Signed

*Conditions for a Levée en Masse.* The following discussion elaborates upon some of the conditions for a *levée en masse*. *Spontaneous.* A *levée en masse* is a spontaneous uprising in which members have not had time to form into regular armed units. Thus, unlike other categories of lawful combatants, persons who join a *levée en masse* need not wear a distinctive sign nor be organized under a responsible command. The spontaneity of their response generally precludes their being able to take such measures. *Inhabitants.* A *levée en masse* is



understood to reflect the right of inhabitants to resist approaching enemy forces. Non-inhabitants who travel to a territory to resist invading forces would not be entitled to participate in a *levée en masse*. *Approach of the Enemy to Non-Occupied Territory.* A *levée en masse* may only be formed on the approach of the enemy to non-occupied territory. Once the belligerent has established an occupation, the local population should comply with the orders of the occupation force, and a *levée en masse* may not be formed.



## About the Artist and Artwork

Zeina Barakeh is a Palestinian-Lebanese artist based in the San Francisco Bay Area. Her work deconstructs war and is rooted in her experiences of growing up in Beirut during conflict. She has participated in numerous exhibitions and film festivals in the US and internationally. Barakeh obtained her BA from LAU (Beirut), and her MFA from the San Francisco Art Institute. She currently serves as Assistant Dean of Academic Affairs at San Francisco Art Institute.

About the artwork: ***Homeland Insecurity Manual*** is an artist manuscript associated with the animation *Homeland Insecurity* (2016) in which the main characters are the Centaur—a male human head and torso with a lower body of a horse—and the Horse, an avatar of the artist's own body with the head of a horse. The colonizing Centaurs are based on the mounted soldiers of the British Mandate of Palestine (1920–1948), while the Horses depict colonized subjects, embodying agency and resistance. ***Homeland Insecurity Manual*** uses passages from the United States' Department of Defense Law of War Manual to illuminate on American laws guiding its wars abroad. The selected passages point to contradictions in practice and theory given recent historical events relating to America's advances in the Middle East since the Cold War. Guidelines around *military necessity*, *legality of weapons*, *treatment of detainees*, and *proportionality in war*—to name a few—render these contradictions flagrant in cases of the invasion of Iraq as pretext response to the 9/11 attacks, Abu Ghraib, and interests of American proxies in the region, as example. Guidelines such as the *Conditions for a Levée en Masse*, on the other hand, reflect how American laws are created and used to enable and perpetuate military occupation for its own power or for its allies.



## Golden Spiral III

Year	2011
Medium	Mixed media on canvas
Size	180cm x 180cm
Signature	Signed

**Bassam  
Geitani**

[ FACULTY MEMBER ]

### About the Artist and Artwork

Bassam Geitani was born in Lebanon in 1962 where he lives and works after living in Paris for fourteen years. He holds a master's degree in art from the University of Paris I-Sorbonne and teaches fine art at the Lebanese American University. He has held various solo and group exhibitions in Washington, Beirut, Paris, and London. At Galerie Janine Rubeiz: "Psychologie de la matière" (1998), "Le dépli" (2001), "Sueurs d'acier" (2007), "Le pendule" (2011), "Clin D'œil" (2014). He participated in the exhibition "Pinceaux pour Plumes" (2006), for the benefit of the Lebanese Foundation of the National Library; and his work was acquired by the British Museum. His practice spans across painting, installation, film and performance. His works were auctioned at the Christie's Auction Sale in Dubai in 2006 and 2007; were acquired by private collections in Lebanon and France; and are permanently exhibited at Galerie Janine Rubeiz.

About the artwork: Profoundly inflected by specific theoretical endeavors, Bassam Geitani's work, spanning across different symbolic orders and layers of representation, is an ongoing investigation of materiality and surface. An oscillation, sometimes pictorial and sometimes sculptural, allows objects to retain their own material properties even as they are being transformed and synthesized on the canvas into different organic arrangements. A general idea of equilibrium, inherited here not from mysticism but from the skepticism of science, unleashes centrifugal and centripetal forces that through motion, speed and rest, at different intervals, allow the world to remain fluid but yet fully formed. Fascinated by the scientist Leon Foucault's 'pendulum' and his empirical demonstration of the earth's rotation, Geitani takes on the mechanism's internal dynamic as an observation point. In this open field he does not restrain his own material which is allowed to fluctuate in any direction.



# Mona Hatoum

[ ALUMNA ]

## *T42 (gold)*

Year	1999
Medium	Gold rimmed stoneware in two parts
Size	5.5cm x 24.5cm x 14cm
Signature	Accompanied by a signed certificate of authenticity



## About the Artist and Artwork

Mona Hatoum was born in Beirut, Lebanon in 1952 and has lived in London since 1975. Hatoum's visceral work is realised in a diverse range of media, including installation, sculpture, video, photography and works on paper.

Hatoum hopes the generated funds from this auction will offer critical support to students and help keep education accessible to more than the privileged few: "When I was a struggling student in the early '70s at Beirut University College (BUC), now LAU, I was fortunate to receive financial aid from the university, which allowed me to complete my studies. I am happy to now be in a position to donate artworks through the newly formed Mona Hatoum Foundation."

About the artwork: Mona Hatoum often uses everyday objects that are transformed into strange and surreal sculptures. In both *T42* and *T42 (gold)*, Hatoum has subverted the basic form of a white china teacup by doubling it. The resulting object suggests something highly intimate, which, like *The Kiss* of Brancusi, depicts two forms so close they have merged together.





## *Against All Odds*

Year	2019
Medium	Oil and mixed media on canvas
Size	70cm x 100cm x 2cm
Signature	Signed

Lydia  
Moawad

[ FRIEND OF LAU ]

### About the Artist and Artwork

Winner of the “Energy, Water and Fire” contest 2015 in Milano and honored with the “Award of Excellence 2018” in Hong Kong, Lydia Moawad (b.1965) is considered as one of the most renowned contemporary Lebanese painters. Her paintings were auctioned at the Modern Art Show in Jeddah, Saudi Arabia, 2014, alongside the works of Picasso, Van Gogh and Fateh El Mudaress.

Moawad’s works are held in private collections around the world and have been exhibited in different museums as well as in Hong Kong, Tokyo, New York, Berlin, Innsbruck, Rotterdam, Florence, Paris, Milan, Dubai, Qatar, KSA, Muséum of Agadir, Historical Museum of Niagara Falls and many more. She is an Art Ambassador of Women’s Art World, 2015 and the Vice President of Lebanese Association of Artists Painters and Sculptures, LAAPS, 2016.

About the artwork: Lydia Moawad’s painting ***Against All Odds*** acts as a kind of *moment* to celebrate life and also to recognize the inevitability of death. By creating a dialogue around the transient nature of life, this sense of impermanence heightens the appreciation of each moment lived in the now.

## Virtual Era

Year	2018
Medium	Digital photo, silver processing
Size	100cm x 100cm
Signature	Signed

**Bassam  
Lahoud**

[ FACULTY MEMBER ]

### About the Artist and Artwork

Bassam Lahoud, born in Lebanon, has a diploma in civil engineering (option architecture) from the *Ecole Supérieure d'Ingenieurs de Beyrouth*, USJ, Beirut, Lebanon and a master's in fashion photography from *La Scuola di Fotografia di Moda*, Florence, Italy. He followed many seminars and workshops in Berlin related to architecture. From 1983 to 1996, he taught architecture and photography at USEK, LAU (BUC), USJ, ALBA, and NDU, and has been teaching photography at the Lebanese American University in both Byblos and Beirut campuses since 1987. He is a member of the Order of Engineers and Architects of Beirut, the Press Photographer Syndicate and the *Union Catholique Internationale de Presse* of Lebanon. He is the chairman of ESCWA Arts Council at the United Nations, founding member of the magazine *Prestige*, and founder and president of The Lebanese House of Photography. He was a member and president of many national and international juries of photography and architecture between 1982 and 2019. He holds the Spanish "Order of Civil Merit, Grade Commander" from King Juan Carlos and the Spanish government, and the Bulgarian Golden Decoration from the Bulgarian Ministry of Culture.

About the artwork: "This photo was taken during a train trip where the lady seen in my window was sitting completely on the other side. This reminded me of the new virtual era that we are living especially now with the online life during COVID-19."





# Habib Fadel

[ ALUMNUS ]

## August 4

Year	2021
Medium	Oil on canvas
Size	165cm x 125cm
Signature	Not signed

### About the Artist and Artwork

Born in Lebanon in 1968, Habib Fadel spent most of his childhood and adolescence in boarding school in France and Switzerland to escape the war. Back to Lebanon in 1987, he graduated from Beirut University College (now LAU) with a BA in Business Management. After a few months working in the family business, he realized that his passion laid somewhere else. It was the vast world of art that captivated him. After working all over the world, Fadel started studying drawing and painting at UCLA.

In 2003 he returned to Lebanon to set up his workshop in Beirut and in 2012, Fadel held his first solo exhibition, *War, school and faces* at Alice Mogabgab Gallery in Beirut. The exhibition showcased 25 of his most recent paintings. In 2013 Fadel had another solo exhibition, *Visages et regards*, in Paris at Galerie Loegenhoek and participated in art fairs such as Art Paris. Fadel sold his first painting at Christie's Paris in November 2014.

About the artwork: Inspired by the revolution of October 17, the artist made a series of Lebanese flags in his painting studio in Achrafieh that was destroyed by the explosion of the port. This canvas was mended and completed specifically for *LAU ArtsRising*.

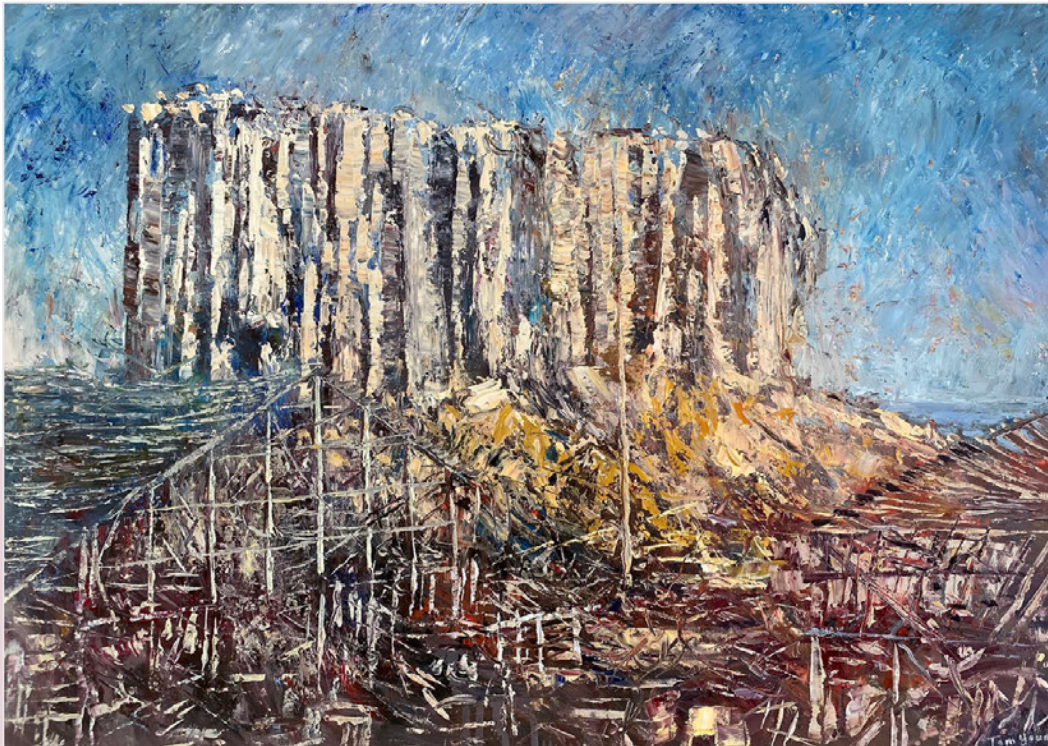


# Tom Young

[ FRIEND OF LAU ]

## *The Great Silo, Beirut (August 2020)*

Year	2020
Medium	Oil on canvas
Size	60cm x 80cm
Signature	Signed



## About the Artist and Artwork

Tom Young paints the changing nature of Beirut, the city which has been his home since 2009. Influenced by his architectural training, he depicts the city's chaotic architecture and public spaces, exploring how they embody emotion and political change.

Through painting and installations in iconic places such as La Maison Rose (2014–15), the Grand Hotel Sofar (2018–19), and his current exhibition at Hammam Al Jadeed in Saida Old Souq (2020–21), he explores themes of memory, transformation and coexistence. Whilst expressing the vulnerability of urban heritage in the face of modern development and sudden trauma, he creates a transcendent feeling of light and space.

Young combines his painting practice with architectural activism and art therapy for children—transforming disused heritage buildings into living centers of culture and education. He feels that art should contribute positively to a wider society.

About the artwork: *The Great Silo* is now a monument to both the tragedy of the explosion on August 4, 2020, and also a heroic structure which protected much of central and Ras Beirut from the force of the blast. Tom Young's studio and home were both devastated that day. He presents the Silo as a modern-day temple, reminiscent of Baalbek—a giant symbol of protection and strength in a moment of terror.



## بالرغم من كل شيء *Against All Odds*

Year	2021
Medium	Acrylic, charcoal and marquetry inlaid on wood
Size	60cm diameter
Signature	Signed

**Rached  
Bohsali**

[ FACULTY MEMBER ]

### About the Artist and Artwork

Architect since 1981, associate professor of arts and design (5-year chairperson) at the Lebanese American University and mainly painter, Rached Bohsali has had five solo exhibitions in major galleries in Beirut. His work has been featured in collective exhibitions in Lebanon, the Arab world, Europe and the United States as well as appearances in international art publications.

Bohsali was awarded on the international scene by the Prince of Wales and Secretary General of the U.N. as one of 12 prizewinners of the World-Wide Millennium Painting Competition commemorating the new millennium. Local laureate twice with a special mention at the Sursock Museum along with the Shield of the Lebanese Ministry of Culture and Higher Education from the president of Lebanon. He has also received multiple other awards in other international art competitions.

About the artwork: "AGAINST ALL ODDS with the currents, mis happenings, virus pandemic yet we are ... ALIVE and WANT TO LIVE!!"





## *In Homage to the Guernica*

Year	2020
Medium	Mixed media, acrylic and fabric
Size	100cm x 120cm
Signature	Signed

**Nevine  
Mattar**

[ ALUMNA & FACULTY MEMBER ]

### About the Artist and Artwork

Nevine Mattar is a Lebanese artist who enjoys exploring different facets of artistic expression through different media. Having lived both in the Far East and the West, her artistic education included studying art in Japan, mainly Sumi-e, and in Beirut, London, Los Angeles and New York, where she studied painting and illustration. She is still involved in various civic activities exposing people to the arts of recycling and founded the first Paper-Mache Association in Lebanon. She was invited to chair many art juries who were responsible to host new talents. Since 1983, she's held yearly exhibits in various cities: Washington, Paris, London, Milan, Venice, Dubai, Amman and Beirut. Nevine worked on various murals, book and poster illustrations, set designs and fashion.

Alongside art, she has been teaching cultural studies at various Lebanese universities including the American University of Beirut, Balamand University, Haigazian and the Lebanese American University where she studied psychology, education and art history.

Much of Nevine's work involves creating three-dimensional space with the use of collage and mixed media. Several works were inspired from working on set designs for the theater, set designs for plays by Tawfiq al Hakim as well as plays by Ayckbourn and Ibsen.

About the artwork: The artwork was inspired by *Guernica* and in a similar manner inspired by the horrific event in Beirut on August 4, 2020.



# Haibat Balaa Bawab

[ ALUMNA ]

## LAU Campus

Year	2019
Medium	Mixed media collage
Size	70cm x 100cm
Signature	Signed



## About the Artist and Artwork

Haibat Balaa Bawab weaves narratives of Beirut and its people in her collages and in her oil paintings that are clones of collage. She assembles fragments gathered from popular sources, such as magazines, stamps and bills to chart the fabrics of the city. She composes figurative images using abstract media.

She participated in many collective exhibitions and held seven solo exhibitions. Haibat was invited to participate in the 8th Biennale in Beijing (2019). In 1982, she was awarded the first and unique prize by the Central Bank of Lebanon for designing a new Lebanese currency.

Her artworks were published in 2012, entitled *The Art of Collage*. Haibat composed AUST publications titled: *Beyond the Medium I* and *Beyond the Medium II*. Haibat is a member of the Lebanese Association of Painters and Sculptors and is a member in the Artists Syndicate.

About the artwork: "I used silk screen prints, etching prints, calligraphic artworks, different textured types of paper along with cut outs from my drafts and sketches in watercolor and gouache, and assembled them together.

My concept for this artwork was to show our future generation at LAU in a colorful state. I portrayed colorful university students in front of Sage Hall, as it represents one of the oldest buildings at LAU. Those colorful students are our dream for a better future. Hopefully, they will be our future leaders."

# Mohammad El Masry

[ FRIEND OF LAU ]

## *Untitled*

Year	2020
Medium	Oil on canvas
Size	130cm x 90cm
Signature	Signed

### About the Artist and Artwork

Mohamed El Masry, visual artist and photographer, was born in 1978 in Giza, Egypt. He earned a diploma in painting and photography (2006) and a Bachelor of Arts in Art Education (2003) from Helwan University; he works and lives in Cairo. For a long time, El Masry's works were based on oil painting as an "experiment" whose background is based on the intellectual and theoretical basis of ancient Egyptian art, and which works heavily on the philosophy of abstraction and element analysis, that experience which won many awards and performances, most notably the Olympic Gold Medal of Art at the Beijing Olympics, 2008, the Olympic Torch Olympics, 2006.

About the artwork: "I adopted in my works a style of reforming the reality and expressing it in different ways. I have produced many colored works away from the classic style. In a lot of my works I tried to rebuild the structure of the characters. I have taken many sketches from many people and places I have been. But I have tried to express my opinion about the outer world trying to create my own world so I could live in it according to my own rules. Mainly I am concerned with the shape, the color and the composition. But overall, I try to create objects and personages living in their own environment."





# Tom Young

[ FRIEND OF LAU ]

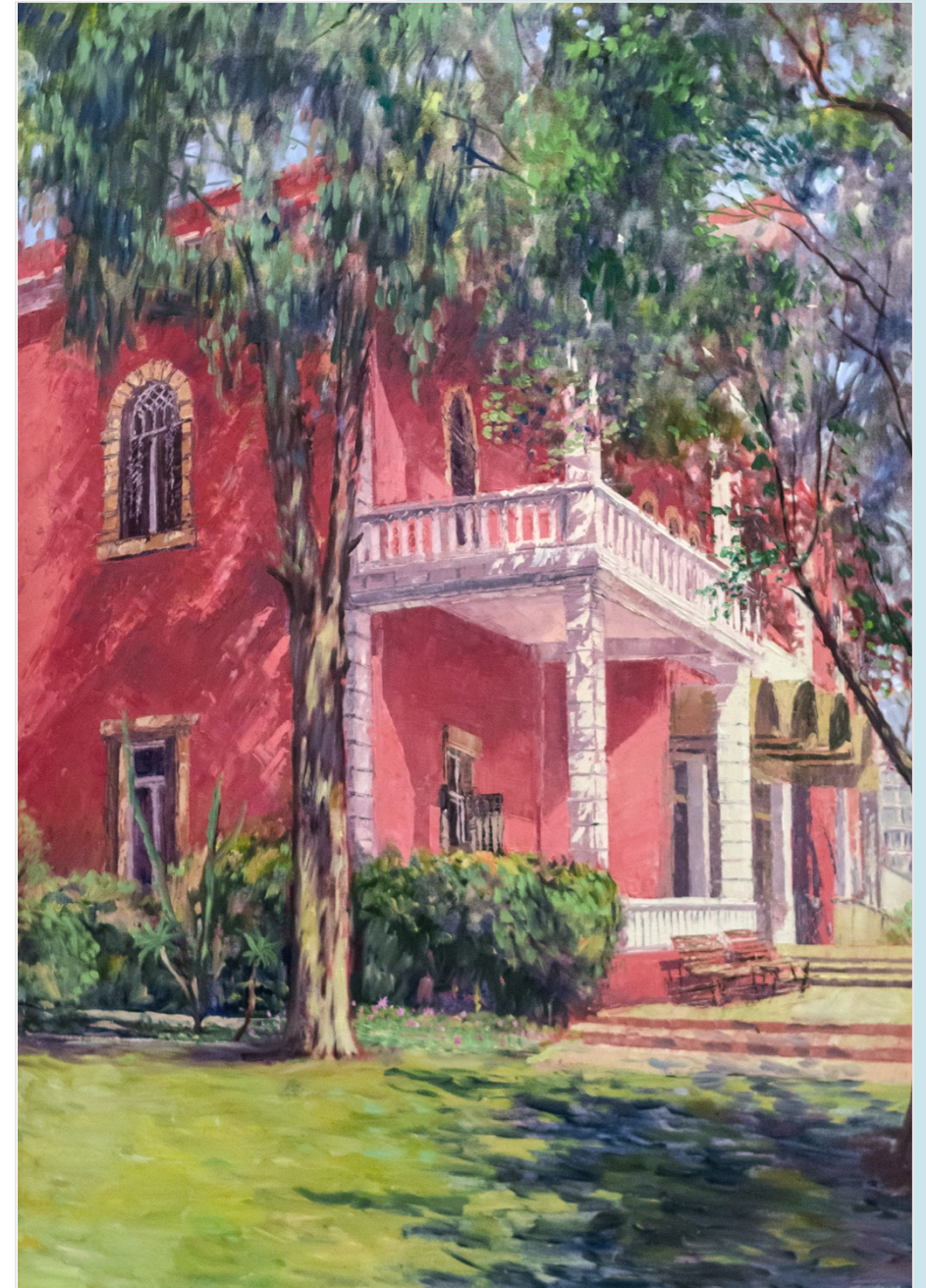
## *Beit El Zaher, Zarif (Spears House)*

Year	2016-18
Medium	Oil on canvas
Size	130cm x 110cm
Signature	Signed

### About the Artist and Artwork

Tom Young paints the changing nature of Beirut, the city which has been his home since 2009. Influenced by his architectural training, he depicts the city's chaotic architecture and public spaces, exploring how they embody emotion and political change. Through painting and installations in iconic places such as La Maison Rose (2014–15), the Grand Hotel Sofar (2018–19), and his current exhibition at Hammam Al Jadeed in Saida Old Souq (2020–21), he explores themes of memory, transformation and coexistence. Whilst expressing the vulnerability of urban heritage in the face of modern development and sudden trauma, he creates a transcendent feeling of light and space. Young combines his painting practice with architectural activism and art therapy for children—transforming disused heritage buildings into living centers of culture and education. He feels that art should contribute positively to a wider society.

About the artwork: A painting of Beit Al Zaher in Zarif, the former British ambassador's residence 1941–85, where General Spears lived when he played a pivotal role in enforcing Lebanese independence on November 22, 1943. The house is now an administration center for Dar Al Aytam Al Islamiyah. Tom Young worked from a studio in the house in 2016–17 (the room on the corner on the upper (first) floor on the corner with the balcony), and taught orphans cared for by Dar Al Aytam there. He held an exhibition in the house in spring 2017.



# Serge Najjar

[ FRIEND OF LAU ]

## *Through the Red Square*

Year	2015
Medium	Photograph, printed in Diasec
Size	30cm x 30cm
Signature	Signed

### About the Artist and Artwork

Serge Najjar is a self-taught Lebanese photographer born in Beirut, Lebanon in 1973. He is represented by Galerie Tanit (Munich - Beirut), Galerie Bessières (France) and Catherine Edelman Gallery (Chicago).

About the artwork: ***Through the Red Square*** is part of Najjar's series on geometry in Lebanon and its resonance with the works of prominent artists like Malevich and Albers.





# Tamara Haddad

[ ALUMNA ]

## *Lebanon, a stratovolcano*

Year	2019
Medium	Oil and sand on canvas
Size	75cm x 110cm x 2cm
Signature	Signed



## About the Artist and Artwork

Born in Beirut in a family dedicated to art and architecture, Tamara Haddad is heavily influenced by the spirit and lifestyle of her father Georges Haddad, a pioneer of modern architecture in Lebanon. Her recent work deals with physical transformations that earth is enduring nowadays either caused by natural phenomena or by mankind actions. With natural materials such as sand, bark, pebble and branches, she stays on the edge between abstract and realistic landscape. The aim is not to talk only about environmental issues, but also to show beauty in these wounded landscapes, as well as ordinary rocky scenery, with an infinite array of textures and colors that are most of the time taken for granted.

About the artwork: "Directly inspired by the October 2019 Lebanese revolution, where people exploded on the streets of Beirut and all the cities in Lebanon for their basic rights, I compared the underground lava to all cumulative problems that Lebanon is permanently living during the last 30 years. The painting shows what is inside a stratovolcano, it is a sort of section view of what happens inside a volcano. There are layers of rocks, with different colors, referring to the different Lebanese societies, the sectarian system, the many religions, living together since the creation of Lebanon. These layers form together our precious cedar. The magma, which has been confined in the layers, and starts from the bottom, ended up erupting in a violent, yet a beautiful and very strong way. This magma is our rebellious people, who can't bear anymore living in misery. There is a festive and winning spirit with this volcano, as all people from different environments created this spontaneous and unpredictable movement that has decidedly a very strong impact."



## *Tunnel*

Year	2020
Medium	Acrylic on canvas
Size	20cm x 26.5cm
Signature	Signed

**Tamara Al-Simarraei**

[ ALUMNA ]

### About the Artist and Artwork

Born in Kuwait in 1977, Tamara Al-Simarraei lives and works in Beirut. She received a BA in Fine Arts from the Lebanese American University in Beirut in 2002 and completed the inaugural year of the Home Workspace Program at Ashkal Alwan (2011–2012), Beirut. Trained as a painter, her art practice encompasses painting, illustration, photography, animation, video and installation, often mixing the conventions of each medium. Photographs resemble paintings and filmstrips, and paintings illustration. While she clearly mines records and photographs from her childhood, the character of the work feels more like literary fiction than documentary. Using processes and effects such as transferring, scanning, photographing photographs and pentimento, Al-Samerraei's images are sensual, layered and deliberately unpolished. They exude an ethereality that withholds as much as it reveals. The narrative is full of opaque holes, and the boundary between what is real, invented or imagined is never quite clear.

About the artwork: Glimpses, traces and shadows suggest the uneasy presence of an invisible observer lurking within as well as outside the frame. Toying between the perspective of the adolescent and the adult, struggling to reconstruct an elusive past and memory of the present. Her work speaks of family, friendship and loss, of primal fears and unspoken tragedies, and ultimately of a dark playfulness that diffuses melancholy.





## *Opening to Hope*

Year	2020
Medium	Marble
Size	33cm x 28cm x 10cm
Signature	Signed

**Nabil  
Basbous**

[ FACULTY MEMBER ]

### About the Artist and Artwork

Nabil Basbous holds a degree in archeology from Lebanese University and has completed studies in architecture. He is a sculptor by profession and he teaches courses in sculpture at LAU Byblos. He has had exhibitions in Lebanon, France, Italy, Germany, Czech Republic and Mexico and his private collections have been displayed internationally.

About the artwork: This marble sculpture represents the theme of opening to hope. Its abstract geometric shape combining straight lines and curves gives it a suggestive force.

# Mireille Merhej

[ ALUMNA ]

## *In Times of Corona*

Year	2020
Medium	Acrylic on canvas
Size	148cm x 118cm
Signature	Signed

### About the Artist and Artwork

After completing her AA in graphic design and BA in fine arts at LAU Beirut, Mireille Merhej headed to Paris where she obtained her master's in decorative painting. Since 2000, Merhej has been working with renowned Lebanese interior designers painting murals, ceilings and walls using different techniques and textures for both residential and commercial spaces. In 2009 she abandoned her decorative work to concentrate on her own creative art production, consisting mostly of painting on canvas where she deals with expressions of her nostalgia for the past using images from magazines and newspapers as well as photographs taken by the artist herself. "In my works, I try to transform scattered images floating in my mind into an interesting work of art," she said. It is her ability to convert imagination into something more real which lies at the basis of her art. It is her attempt of putting back together all those personal and nostalgic memories into an acceptable form like putting together a broken piece of pottery, knowing that however one tries there is no escape from the fact that traces of fractures will always remain. Merhej admires her past and cherishes what it contains and represents.

About the artwork: "This Coronavirus paralyzed the world and spread fear everywhere but at the same time it made us think about life and the future of humanity."





# Bassam Lahoud

[ FACULTY MEMBER ]

## *Leaving with nothing on*

Year	2020
Medium	Analog photo, silver processing
Size	70cm x 100cm
Signature	Signed



## About the Artist and Artwork

Bassam Lahoud, born in Lebanon, has a diploma in civil engineering (option architecture) from the *Ecole Supérieure d'Ingenieurs de Beyrouth*, USJ, Beirut, Lebanon and a master's in fashion photography from *La Scuola di Fotografia di Moda*, Florence, Italy. He followed many seminars and workshops in Berlin related to architecture. From 1983 to 1996, he taught architecture and photography at USEK, LAU (BUC), USJ, ALBA, and NDU, and has been teaching photography at the Lebanese American University in both Byblos and Beirut campuses since 1987. He is a member of the Order of Engineers and Architects of Beirut, the Press Photographer Syndicate and the *Union Catholique Internationale de Presse* of Lebanon. He is the chairman of ESCWA Arts Council at the United Nations, founding member of the magazine *Prestige*, and founder and president of The Lebanese House of Photography. He was a member and president of many national and international juries of photography and architecture between 1982 and 2019. He holds the Spanish "Order of Civil Merit, Grade Commander" from King Juan Carlos and the Spanish government, and the Bulgarian Golden Decoration from the Bulgarian Ministry of Culture.

About the artwork: "This photo is related to the economic and political situations in Lebanon where people have nothing left for them and would dream of emigrating."

# Mounir Lakkis

[ FRIEND OF LAU ]

## *Golfing*

Year	1996
Medium	Acrylic on canvas
Size	120cm x 90cm
Signature	Signed

### About the Artist and Artwork

Mounir Lakkis was born in Lebanon and has resided in the UAE since 1975. Lakkis is well-known for his modern and abstract art. Currently based in Dubai, he has been exhibiting his paintings all over the world for over 20 years.

About the artwork: In a departure from his more abstract work, Lakkis here expresses the joy of a day spent golfing.







# Elite Armchair

Year	2021
Medium	Upholstered in cotton micro bouclé
Size	76cm x 105cm x 90 cm
Signature	ELIE SAAB Maison logo plate

Elie Saab

[ FRIEND OF LAU ]

## About the Artist and Artwork

One of the world’s leading names in haute couture and a red carpet favorite, ELIE SAAB’s refined silhouettes and sumptuous detailing take inspiration from both Paris and Beirut, where his ateliers of craftsmen are based.

The ELIE SAAB Maison collection perfectly blends together all essential elements of the project: the uniqueness of the ELIE SAAB Brand signature, the research in design, and the artisan excellence of Made in Italy. Carlo Colombo, a remarkable Italian architect and designer, has translated the vision of Mr. Saab into the first furniture collection. A collection that has been designed to convey the strength of the artistry it embodies, the attention to detail, the richness of the materials, in pure ELIE SAAB style. Coherent and inextricably linked to the Brand’s DNA, implying historical moments close to the sources of inspiration dear to the designer, from the scents of the Middle East to the Art Déco touch from his home in Paris, and his flair for the 1960s and 70s, an extraordinary track for design and architecture, enriched through years of timeless and eternal icons.

About the artwork: Rich and powerful, Elite is timeless, able to distinguish itself through exclusive details and exquisite craftsmanship of its futuristic lines. Accentuated by its semicircular and sinuous shapes, the armchair enhances its ergonomics with contemporary lines.

# Fadi Saredidine

[ FRIEND OF LAU ]

## *The Fold*

Year	2018
Medium	Oak veneered MDF, plexiglass, brass
Size	80cm x 45cm x 45cm
Signature	Not signed

### About the Artist and Artwork

Fadi Saredidine Design Studio is a multidisciplinary atelier that was officially founded in 2013 by Lebanese architect Fadi Saredidine and his wife Lilas Bitar. The studio's work ranges in scale from architectural projects, to interior design for offices, retail, restaurants and residential as well as furniture design. Whether it is a building or a table, the design tends to retell the story behind by providing a further philosophical dimension to the object.

The studio takes from their broad architectural experience to enrich their furniture by coupling form and function, giving life to practical yet charming objects. Saredidine's experimental design approach challenges the fundamentals of traditional design; on the one hand he examines the use of unconventional materials by taking them out of their natural setting and applying them as a new medium thus giving them a new identity. On the other, the designs allow the user to interfere with the object transforming it to his/her needs. His pieces come with a sense of discovery, like books whose stories are yet to be told...

About the artwork: When one unfolds into two; the piece plays with intricate geometry where the wooden surface of a table peels and folds into an abstraction of a lamp shade. One smaller table and a box nest into the top table.







## *Brouillard bleu*

Year	2018
Medium	Porcelain
Size	28cm x 22cm
Signature	Not signed

**Tania Nasr**

[ FACULTY MEMBER ]

### About the Artist and Artwork

Tania Nasr is a ceramist who came back to live and work in Lebanon in 2017. She was formed in Singapore, under Chinese masters in traditional form conception and techniques. Along with her established ceramics activity, Tania has been exploring varied contemporary approaches to art making using ceramics as a medium. She collaborates with a number of art galleries and has participated in several exhibitions.

About the artwork: For this particular piece, Nasr was inspired by a traditional Korean technique (Onggi). Although “Onggi” are usually rough and are conventionally used to keep food, she chose to use porcelain to transform the aspect of the piece into a more refined artwork.

The color blue is a Cobalt oxide which is the traditional Chinese blue used in ceramics. The abstract traits on the outer surfaces are meant to evoke distant landscapes.

## Eden

Year	2011
Medium	Silkscreen on cotton paper
Size	50cm x 30cm
Signature	Signed

**Randa  
Abdel Baki**

[ ALUMNA & FACULTY MEMBER ]

### About the Artist and Artwork

Randa Abdel Baki is a scholar, design educator, and artist residing in Beirut, Lebanon. She is currently an associate professor at the Lebanese American University (LAU) at the Department of Art and Design. In 2009, she served as the chairperson of the Graphic Design Department for five consecutive years. Later on, from 2018 to 2020, she chaired the Department of Art & Design. Abdel Baki completed her graduate studies at Pratt Institute in New York City where she also worked extensively as a designer and art director for clients such as Procter & Gamble, GM, Citibank, Sotheby's, Estée Lauder, and the United Nations. Abdel Baki's artwork and designs have been exhibited and published internationally.

About the artwork: "Somewhere in the Garden of Eden lies this perpetual tree-flower that proliferates stems of never-ending blossoms..."



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"EDEN"

Randa Baki 2011

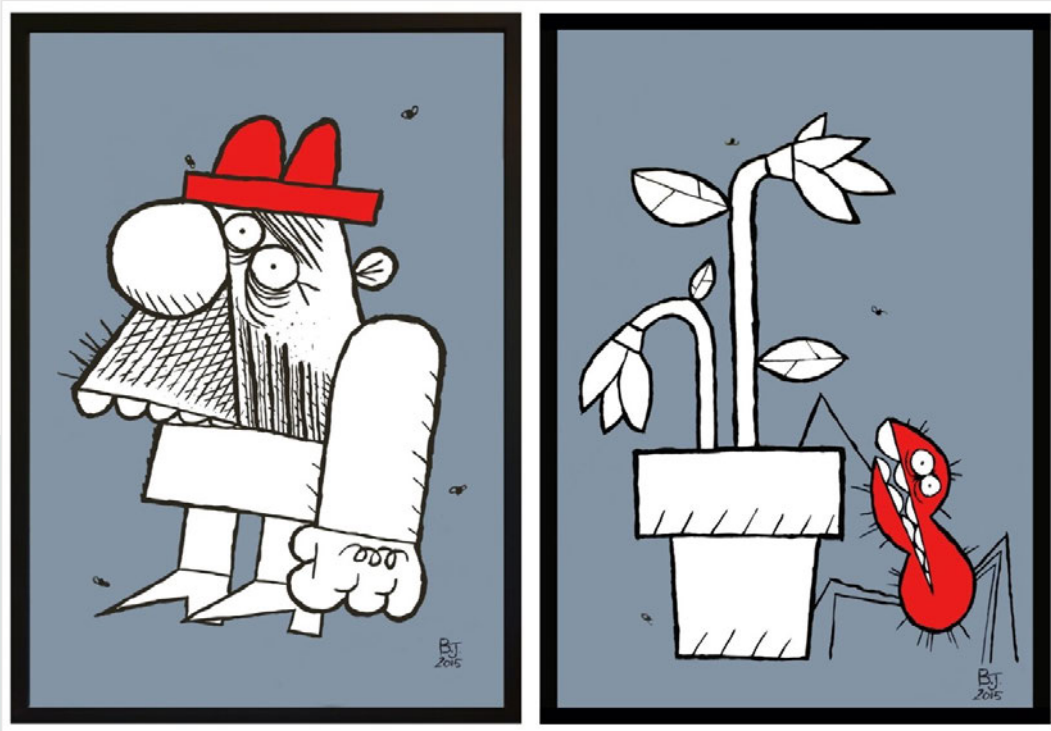


# Bahij Jaroudi

[ ALUMNUS & FACULTY MEMBER ]

## *Nervous Breakdown #1 and #2*

Year	2015
Medium	Acrylic and spray paint on paper
Size	Two pieces, each 70cm x 50cm
Signature	Signed



## About the Artist and Artwork

Bahij Jaroudi was born in 1981 in Beirut, Lebanon.

He started drawing at an early age, maybe even earlier.

After years of drawing on school books, he studied graphic design at the Lebanese American University, but maintained a zeal for cartooning and animation.

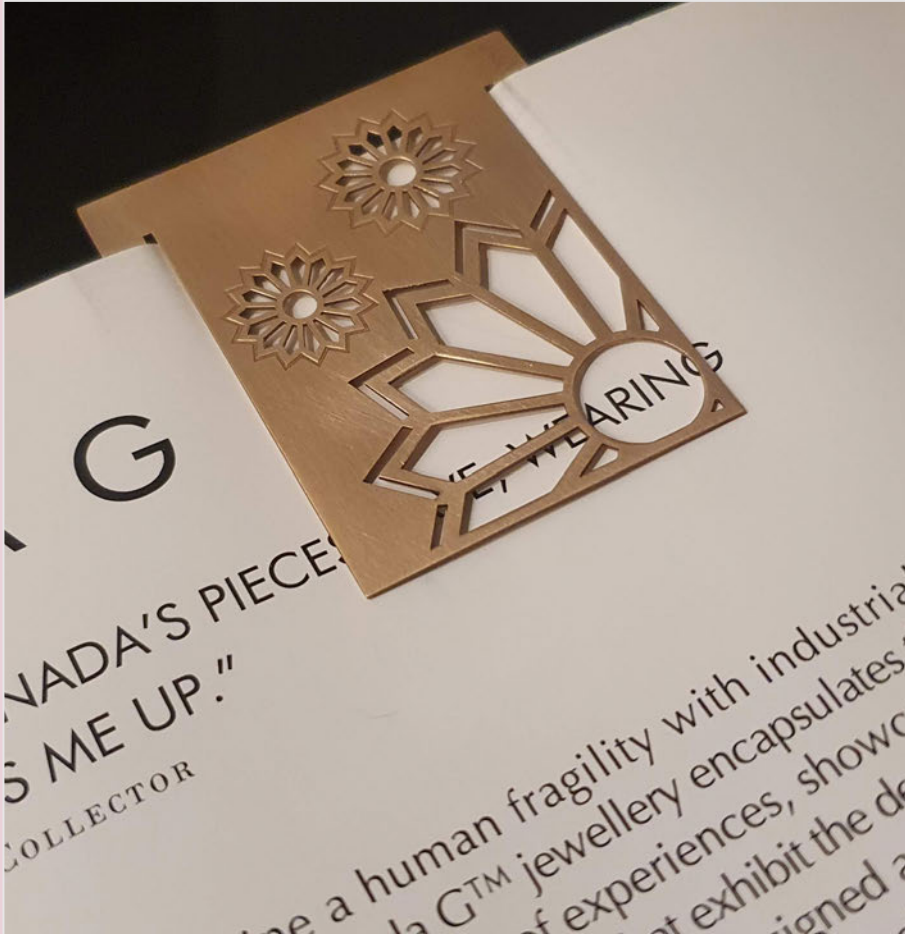
Since then he has worked in the animation department of Future Television, Beirut, while doing freelance illustration and children's books.

In 2009 he completed an MA in animation at Kingston University, London.

In 2012 he received the "Kitabi" prize for Arab children's literature and in 2016 he received the Mahmoud Kahil award for best illustrator in the Arab world.

He is currently teaching animation and illustration at the Lebanese American University.

About the artwork: "Two paintings that try to depict the artist's anxiety issues, and dare I say it, succeed in doing so."



## *The Mystery of the 16 Petal Flower*

Year	2015
Medium	Bookmark in 9K brushed gold
Size	5cm x 4.5cm
Signature	Signed

Nada  
Ghazal

[ ALUMNA ]

### About the Artist and Artwork

International award winner Nada Ghazal creates timeless fine jewelry pieces with an edge, handcrafted in gold and adorned with precious and semi-precious gems. Ghazal's designs are imbued with feelings, memories and experiences. Moments, thoughts and sensations are captured in undulating waves of gold that are contrasted with precisely set diamonds and precious gems, celebrating our unique complexities. While her jewels are in essence deeply personal, they convey universal emotions, allowing the wearer to embrace them as part of their own story. Ghazal's clients often layer her bold feminine designs together, building their own powerful narrative, collecting her pieces over time.

About the artwork: ***The Mystery of the 16 Petal Flower*** bookmark is created for book lovers and inspired by the Sursock museum's architectural window designs and based on the lotus flower, a symbol for rebirth and purity. This bookmark was created in five limited edition pieces out of which four were sold exclusively at Sursock Museum. One remained in the possession of the artist and is auctioned here today.





## AQUA

Year	2019
Medium	Digital print on cotton paper
Size	112cm x 150cm
Signature	Signed

Albert  
Saikaly

[ FACULTY MEMBER ]

### About the Artist and Artwork

Albert Saikaly is a photographer and educator residing in Beirut, Lebanon. He teaches photography at the Lebanese American University and has published many art books among them: *Beirut Hidden Treasures*, *Palaces of Lebanon*, *Eventful*, *Beirut Interiors*, *Inside Faqra*...

He earned his MFA at Falmouth University in Cornwall, UK, where he completed the “Blue Harmony” photo series. His recent work has been exhibited in China, USA, Lebanon and England.

His interest lies in comparing and displaying in his large format photographs the splendor of nature and space in contrast with the modest human scale.

About the artwork: **AQUA** is part of a series captured in Musandam Peninsula (Sultanate of Oman). Glimpsing at the beauty beyond the desert...



## Coffee + (Coffee positive)

Year	2016
Medium	Digital photography, canvas print
Size	70cm x 50cm
Signature	Signed

**Bassam  
Lahoud**

[ FACULTY MEMBER ]

### About the Artist and Artwork

Bassam Lahoud, born in Lebanon, has a diploma in civil engineering (option architecture) from the *Ecole Supérieure d'Ingenieurs de Beyrouth*, USJ, Beirut, Lebanon and a master's in fashion photography from *La Scuola di Fotografia di Moda*, Florence, Italy. He followed many seminars and workshops in Berlin related to architecture. From 1983 to 1996, he taught architecture and photography at USEK, LAU (BUC), USJ, ALBA, and NDU, and has been teaching photography at the Lebanese American University in both Byblos and Beirut campuses since 1987. He is a member of the Order of Engineers and Architects of Beirut, the Press Photographer Syndicate and the *Union Catholique Internationale de Presse* of Lebanon. He is the chairman of ESCWA Arts Council at the United Nations, founding member of the magazine *Prestige*, and founder and president of The Lebanese House of Photography. He was a member and president of many national and international juries of photography and architecture between 1982 and 2019. He holds the Spanish "Order of Civil Merit, Grade Commander" from King Juan Carlos and the Spanish government, and the Bulgarian Golden Decoration from the Bulgarian Ministry of Culture.

About the artwork: "This photo was the first tryout of a series related to my daily coffee consumption, where I saw my self-portrait in it, which inspired me to develop this topic for a future exhibition."



## Cherry Blossoms

Year	2018
Medium	Oil on canvas
Size	65cm x 75cm
Signature	Signed



Ghady  
Helou

[ ALUMNUS ]

### About the Artist and Artwork

“My name is Ghady Helou, I am a Lebanese-American artist. In 2006 I moved to the United States of America to escape the war in Lebanon and since then, the USA has become my permanent home and sanctuary. I carry a BA in film/TV/Theater from the Lebanese American University. My intentions were to pursue a career in film in the states but my passion for both, fine arts and film lead me to animation. In Las Vegas, I started an animation degree at the Art Institute of Las Vegas but halfway through, I realized that I wanted to create with my hands, I wanted to touch the surfaces, feel the textures and catch the light with real paint. Therefore, In 2014 I dropped my animation degree and started a master’s degree in fine arts at the Academy of Art University San Francisco, and this is where I found my true calling. I graduated at the end of 2018. I go back and forth between portrait painting and landscape painting. Recently, I find myself immersed in American impressionism, doing my best at catching the spontaneity in nature, the gesture of the human figure and the freshness in creation. My only fear as an artist is to stop evolving. I discover new realms every time I venture outside my comfort zone. From realism, to abstract, to Russian expressionism ... as an artist, I still have an infinite universe to discover.”

About the artwork: “This is a plain air painting, painted in the middle of a cherry tree orchard in Berkasha, Bcharre, Lebanon, in the summer of 2018.”



## *Almost an egg*

Year	1979
Medium	Handmade coil pot
Size	27cm x 27cm 27cm
Signature	Signed

May  
Abboud

[ ALUMNA & FACULTY MEMBER ]

### About the Artist and Artwork

"After I graduated in the field of fine arts in 1967 from Beirut College for Women (now Lebanese American University), I began working with ceramics, and as soon as my hands touched the clay, I felt that I would achieve my dreams with it. I loved drawing and sculpting together. However, I felt that they were not meeting my need. Colors did not suffice for me in drawing nor shapes in sculpture. So I wanted to merge the two together. I made the shapes with clay and made them in the colors that I liked. When the Italian Cultural Institute offered me a grant to Florence, it was the perfect opportunity to delve deeper into the technical aspects of ceramics. So I enrolled in a specialized institute where I spent two years studying the different types of clay and glass composition. Since I had carried twenty kilograms of Lebanese clay with me, I was able to apply my experiments to them immediately. I do not claim to have reinvented the wheel. What ancient people discovered is carried on through this day. From the primitive method to casting with a mold, through the method of coils, then the wheel, sculpture, and ceramic tiles. By making my pottery, I tried to revive this ancient, authentic art through it, so I made cups, sculptures and murals. I glazed them in earthy, desert, dark colors that matched their shapes. I feel that this work brings me closer to the ground and reminds me of what the ancients made."

About the artwork: "The birth of an artist, not completed yet."



# Liane Mathes Rabbath

[ ALUMNA ]

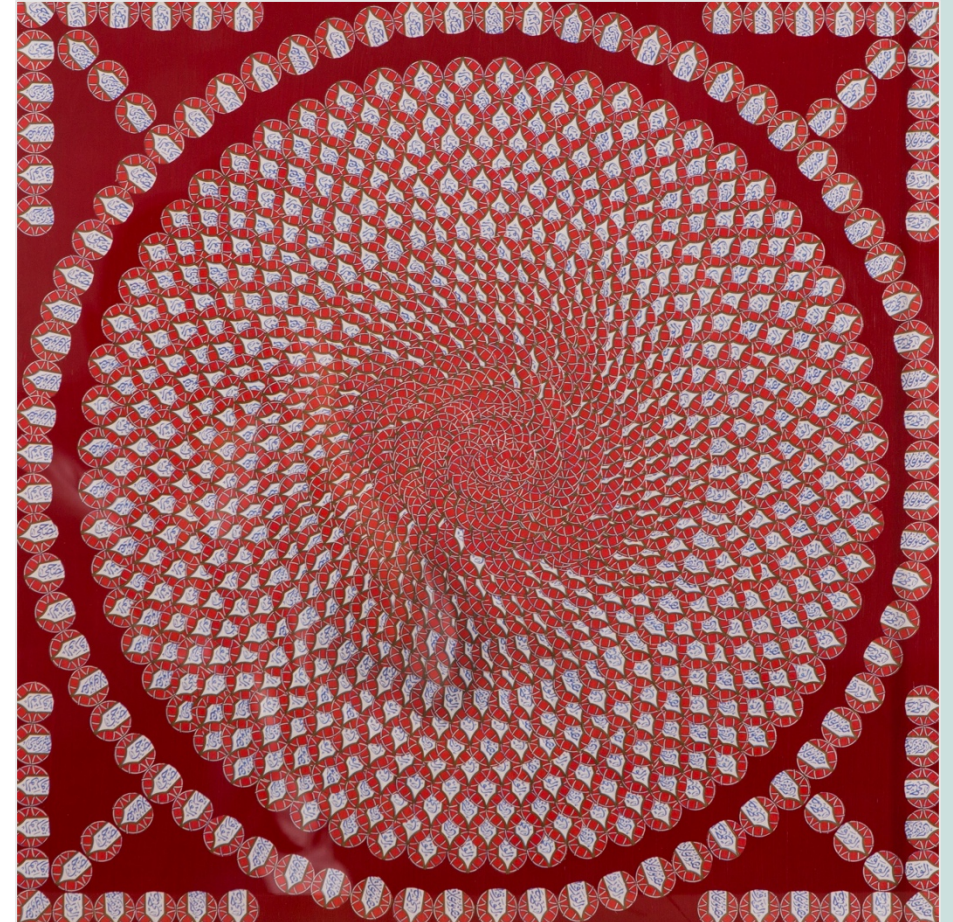
## *Arabesque*

Year	2018
Medium	Acrylic, wood, paper, UV glass
Size	58cm x 58cm x 5.5cm (framed)
Signature	Signed

### About the Artist and Artwork

Starting as a self-taught artist, Liane Mathes Rabbath later developed her technique as well as her creative vision in the workshops of great painters such as Paul Guiragossian and Tania Bakalian Saffieddine (Tanbak). She received a degree in fine arts from LAU. She then ventured into her newly discovered passion and incorporated Damas paper (“papier de Damas”) into her work. Now rolled, then glued, Mathes Rabbath shapes these papers according to her inspiration. “When you are creating, freedom of expression knows no boundaries. It is the only place in which you can express yourself and let go, without fear or barriers.”

About the artwork: In the 2000s, Mathes Rabbath fell under the spell of Damas paper—a thin and satin-like cigarette paper, rich in patterns and highly geometric arabesque calligraphies. She tames this material which figures as the essence of her work. Under her artist’s touch, the paper is transformed and shaped according to her wishes and imagination. In line with the precision of the arabesque, Mathes Rabbath deliberately adds a touch of bright oil or acrylic paint, giving her paintings vibrant reflections, thus creating a magnificent chromatic explosion. And when she does not roll her paper, she cuts it into straps, molds it into rings, folds it into fans, shapes it into grids or mashrabiya—into impressions of the full and the empty, frames within the frame, occidental rose windows or oriental shamseh.





# Sarah Makki

[ ALUMNA ]

## *Dissolved*

Year	2021
Medium	Digital print
Size	15cm x 15cm
Signature	Signed, with poem on back

### About the Artist and Artwork

Sarah Makki is an artist and a visual communicator. Graduated from LAU with a BS in Graphic Design, emphasis in Digital Media in 2008. Obtained a master's degree in visual design from SPD (Scuola Politecnica di Design) 2011. Makki is involved in the fields of visual communication, product design, editorial design, architecture and interior design, signage and way-finding, Branding and the branded environment, with a killer passion for graphic art. Has taught art to children ages 5–12. Currently Working at Dar Al Handasah Shair & Partners Beirut in the Interior Design Department as a graphic designer and conceptualizer.

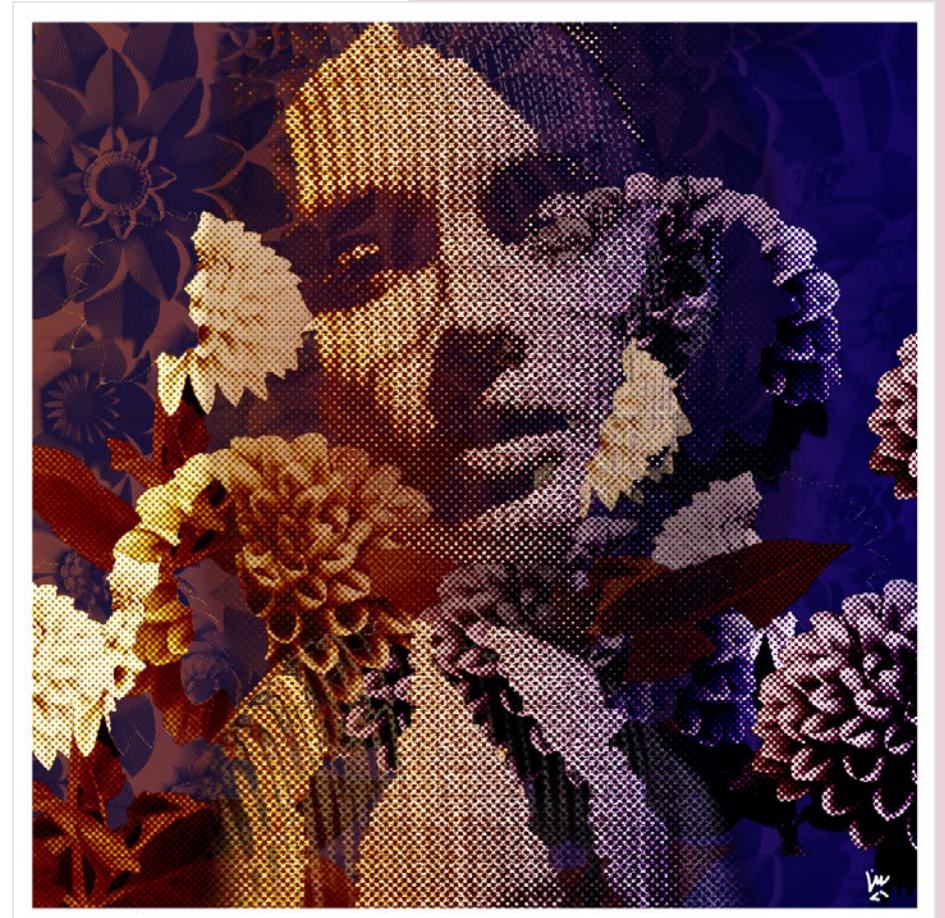
About the artwork: The following poem is handwritten on the back:

She looked at the sky, turned her back and threw herself in the flowers.

She wanted to disappear, just for a second, she wanted to become like those flowers she embraced with every gaze.

She simply wanted to feel like she belonged, suddenly humans weren't so awesome anymore...

And so, dissolved she became in a sea of broken petals as the sinking summer sun slowly colored her disappearing face.





# Dalia Baassiri

[ ALUMNA & FACULTY MEMBER ]

## Mount Neverest

Year	2021
Medium	Graphite on paper
Size	35cm x 50cm
Signature	Signed



## About the Artist and Artwork

Dalia Baassiri is a multidisciplinary artist born in Sidon, Lebanon in 1981. She graduated in 2003 from the Lebanese American University with a BS in Graphic Design and went on to pursue her MFA in 2012 at Chelsea College of Arts in London. Growing up during the civil war, she spent most of her childhood indoors and found refuge in drawing at an early age. In her work, Baassiri is highly concerned with exploring materiality and surface, often focusing on volume, thickness, and weight. Her current investigations deal with the immediacy of the everyday, dust or traces left behind by human actions, and cleaning routines. Baassiri's work has been showcased at Galerie Janine Rubeiz, Beirut Art Fair, Abu Dhabi Art Fair, the Ayyam Young Collectors' Auction in Dubai, Celeste Prize 9th ed. in London and Arte Laguna Prize 13th ed. in Venice and many more. Her main first solo Exhibition in Lebanon, *Wiped off*, took place in 2017 at Galerie Janine Rubeiz where her work is permanently exhibited.

About the artwork: "Is cleansing Beirut possible? This city has continuously been engulfed in smoke since the outbreak of the civil war in 1975. Can we really get rid of this accumulated dust over the years? Should we wipe away the residues of the past when they are so deeply rooted in our memories? I am in a constant search to find a relationship between art and daily life. For instance, while washing the dishes, I try to find answers by observing the soapsuds; I am captivated by their delicacy and softness. They quietly dematerialize into the void, never resting, while emitting a tender subtle sound. My work starts in the kitchen, specifically at the sink. I create forms with soap foam, take pictures of them and then watch them dissipate and disappear peacefully. This daily dialogue with soap has become an urge; a serene ritual which allows me to confront my fragility and soothe the wounds of my city."



## *Drawings by Moustafa Farroukh*

Year	1930-40
Medium	Drawings on cardboard
Size	63cm x 47cm
Signature	Signed

**Moustafa  
Farroukh**

[ FRIEND OF LAU ]

### About the Artist and Artwork

Moustafa Farroukh (1901–1957) was one of Lebanon’s most prominent painters of the 20th century. He was brought up in a humble Beirut household in Hai Al-Basta. He received encouragement and technical instruction from the Lebanese modernist Habib Serour in the artist’s studio before pursuing a formal training at the Regia Accademia di Belle Arti Denominati di San Luca. He graduated in 1927 and went to Paris to continue his studies and further immerse himself in the artistic trends of the era, which he did under Paul Emile Chabas and Jean Louis Forain. During his time in Europe, Farroukh displayed his works in the Parisian Salons and traveled to Spain to explore his interest in Andalusian architecture. During his long career he exhibited in venues from Paris, Venice, New York City and Beirut.

Upon his return to Beirut in 1932, Farroukh established a permanent exhibition of his work in his studio, becoming a fixture in the Beirut art scene. His work was applauded for its representation of real life in Lebanon in pictures of the country, its people and its customs. Farroukh is regarded as a pioneer, having laid the foundations for a modern arts movement in Lebanon.

About the artwork: These drawings were kindly donated to *LAU ArtsRising* by Moustafa Farroukh's son, Hani Farroukh. We are so grateful for his generosity.



# Raouf Rifai

[ FRIEND OF LAU ]

## *Darwich Ice Cream*

Year	2020
Medium	Acrylic on canvas
Size	100cm x 100cm
Signature	Signed

### About the Artist and Artwork

Lebanese-born Raouf Rifai is one of the most important figurative/abstract painters in the Middle East today. Over the course of more than 30 years, he has produced a vibrant, compelling and expressive body of work in the range of media that is widely collected and internationally exhibited.

“My Art’s main subject is Humanity; it is nourished by the history of our civilization and our heritage. My work is a mirror reflecting the reality of our Middle Eastern society’s transitions and evolution.”

About the artwork: “Lebanese Darwich after the Beirut Blast on Aug 4, 2020, is thinking about ice cream, a souvenir of happiness and the symbol of a good life.”



# Louma Rabah

[ ALUMNA ]

## *Marguerites of Lebanon*

Year	2020
Medium	Oil on canvas
Size	90cm x 70cm
Signature	Signed front and back

### About the Artist and Artwork

Louma Rabah (b. 1980, Lebanon) graduated with a bachelor's in fine arts and graphic design from the Lebanese American University in 2004. Known for her strong combination of colors in her landscape and still life works, Rabah depicts nature in all its glory. Her canvases exude vibrancy with every expressive brush stroke.

About the artwork: White marguerites that grow in Lebanon fields and mountains in spring, a reminder of our childhood: "He loves me, he loves me not ..."





# Dalia Baassiri

[ ALUMNA & FACULTY MEMBER ]

## *Stamina II*

Year	2012
Medium	Graphite and acrylic on canvas
Size	70cm x 100cm x 5cm
Signature	Signed



## About the Artist and Artwork

Dalia Baassiri is a multidisciplinary artist born in Sidon, Lebanon in 1981. She graduated in 2003 from the Lebanese American University with a BS in Graphic Design and went on to pursue her MFA in 2012 at Chelsea College of Arts in London. Growing up during the civil war, she spent most of her childhood indoors and found refuge in drawing at an early age. In her work, Baassiri is highly concerned with exploring materiality and surface, often focusing on volume, thickness, and weight. Her current investigations deal with the immediacy of the everyday, dust or traces left behind by human actions, and cleaning routines. Baassiri's work has been showcased at Galerie Janine Rubeiz, Beirut Art Fair, Abu Dhabi Art Fair, the Ayyam Young Collectors' Auction in Dubai, Celeste Prize 9<sup>th</sup> ed. in London and Arte Laguna Prize 13<sup>th</sup> ed. in Venice and many more. Her main first solo Exhibition in Lebanon *Wiped off* took place in 2017 at Galerie Janine Rubeiz where her work is permanently exhibited. She has also been granted art residencies, among them; a fellowship at Siena Art Institute in Italy in 2015 by Kempinski Young Artist Program, a dual residency at RU in Brooklyn and Sculpture Space in Utica NY in 2016 sponsored by ArteEast, and the latest one in 2018 was awarded by Arte Laguna Prize 12<sup>th</sup> ed. at Espronceda Center of Art and Culture in Barcelona where she held her solo exhibition *Vesuvius*.

About the artwork: "This artwork is part of a seminal body of work which elicits resilience particularly in Lebanon. Each fingerprint on the canvas affirms my presence in the midst of the prevailing chaos. Subsequently, the perpetual tapping of graphite on the canvas transforms the painting into an instrument. It emits a persistent melody of interrelated thought, touch and sound."



## *Cedar Diptych*

Year	2020
Medium	Embroidery on white linen
Size	Two cushions, 50cm x 70cm x 10cm
Signature	Signed

**Bokja**

[ FRIEND OF LAU ]

### About the Artist and Artwork

Bokja, founded by Huda Baroudi and Maria Hibri, has consistently been a pioneer in reviving regional textile practices, redefining them in a contemporary voice. Bokja's existing body of work is entirely produced in the company's atelier with meticulous attention to detail by exceptionally talented craftsmen and women from the region. Combining artisans, carpenters and designers behind every Bokja design is a team of 35 people from 10 countries such as Iraq, Syria, Kurdistan, Egypt and Lebanon. Bokja's textile laboratory is a representation of a diverse cluster of textile practices. With a solid network of specialized artisans, Bokja serves as a curator of textile techniques and a gatherer of personal stories.

About the artwork: A diptych honoring the cedar tree, a universal "super tree" with cultural roots in Lebanon, and a majestic, god-like presence that crosses all cultures. The mighty cedars stand high but grow horizontally — and so as a diptych, with embroidered layers of loose hanging threads, these cushions seek to capture up close the grand tiered silhouette of a cedar.



# Samar Mogharbel

[ ALUMNA & FACULTY MEMBER ]

## *Art de Triomphe*

Year	2020
Medium	Handbuilt stoneware
Size	22cm x 22cm x 7cm
Signature	Not signed

### About the Artist and Artwork

"I am an artist who works primarily in clay. I was born in Beirut, Lebanon in 1958. Most of my youth and adulthood were under the bombs due to the consecutive wars from civil to external invasions. I earned a BS in business and computers where I met Dorothy Salhab Kazemi, the pioneer ceramist in the Middle East. She was trained under Gutte Eriksen, the well-known Danish ceramist. I opened my studio in 1983 and started producing functional earthenware pots with a variety of glazes fired at cone 5 temperatures. Then I went to Godsmith's College in London where I completed my postgraduate degree in ceramics. I had five personal exhibitions in Beirut, and many abroad, with five international symposia and workshops. With a friend, Greta Naufal, I exhibited at the Millesgargen museum in Stockholm, Sweden. I am an adjunct professor of ceramics at Lebanese American University."

**About the artwork:** "This whole body of work was made this year! After the October 17<sup>th</sup> Revolution, amidst the economic crisis and the Coronavirus pandemic, and more tragically after the August 4<sup>th</sup> explosion.

It is the gravity, the distortion and the guts... the first time I feel the work extruding from me, and not wanting to stop flowing... It is the flow — clay deciding to go its own way.

Am I, again, a witness?"



## *Anatomy of time*

Year	2015
Medium	Digital photography
Size	110cm x 143cm
Signature	Signed

**Jean-Pierre  
Tarabay**

[ FACULTY MEMBER ]



### About the Artist and Artwork

Jean-Pierre Tarabay, born in Lebanon in 1976, graduated with honors in photography from Université Saint-Esprit Kaslik in 1999. Since then, he has held numerous personal and group exhibitions, locally and abroad. He taught for 15 years in several universities before joining LAU Byblos. His 20 years of experience go into numerous photography approaches such as fashion, advertising, documentary, portrait, nature, architecture, jewelry, industrial and more. Tarabay combines technical and artistic photography skills with his knowledge of business. His commercial work is based on private clients, top agencies and magazines. He is easygoing and comfortable to work with yet a true professional in his approach to delivering the project on time and with outstanding results. In his free time, he manages to pursue his love of photography by developing new artistic photography concepts.

About the artwork: Anatomy of time (series of 13 photographs). When it comes to time, movement is of the essence. Time “runs” with no respite. It may run a day, a week, a month, a year or a century — time will leave its mark on the land and on the picture. The sun sets and rises, fog appears, and later vanishes; a haze dwells in the air, then is blown away by wind. Sometimes a warning, often none at all. The rain, softly at first, then vigorous. A pond is born, mirroring a band of clouds passing by. A month ago a snow hill was here, and other clouds painted stark thick bands of deep blue on a pristine white page. Shadows and light are here, nothing less than animated figures, filling the screen with their constant interplay, sometimes musing, sometimes hurling. And at the end of the day the awe of nature, printed in the eyes and their memory, is all that remains.





## Portrait of Chet Baker

Year	2009
Medium	Screenprint on cotton paper
Size	70cm x 45cm
Signature	Signed

Greta  
Naufal

[ FACULTY MEMBER ]

### About the Artist and Artwork

Greta Naufal is a Beirut-born artist. Since 1982 she has exhibited in various countries (Lebanon, Egypt, the United Arab Emirates, China, France, Ireland, Norway, Sweden, and the United Kingdom). She received the Jury's Prize for painting from the Salon d'Automne at the Sursock Museum in 1995, the Jury's Prize at the Biennale of Alexandria in 1998 and the Jouhaina Baddoura award of recognition for Lebanese artists in 2016. Her work has been featured in numerous books including *The Collection of the Sursock Museum*; *Beirut, Beirut*; and *It's Always Been: Contemporary Art from Lebanon*. In 2018, she published two books: *Jazz Pulse* (Preface by Etel Adnan and essay by William Wareing), a monograph of her work on Jazz music, and *Greta Naufal: A celebration of three decades of art education*. She is a member of the artists' collective KKV in Stockholm as well as the Association of Lebanese Artists. Her work is part of the private collection of the Royal Museum of Stockholm, the Millesgarden Museum, Sweden, the Sursock Museum, Lebanon, the Lebanese Parliament and the National Library of Beirut. She has taught fine art and art history in various academic institutions since 1983 and is currently a member of the faculty at Lebanese American University.

About the artwork: This artwork is part of the "Jazz Portraits" series done between 2009 and 2012 and features in the book *Jazz Pulse* published in 2018. As one of the artists from the "war generation" with a distinctive expressionist style, Greta Naufal produces work in direct relation with the city she lives in, often reflecting on conflict and media, human resilience, body and identity. She also finds inspiration in jazz as a movement against oppression, and its legendary musicians who have strived for change. Whether through interrogating her fluctuating relationship with Beirut, or through exploring the human condition, or through denouncing violence under all its forms, Greta Naufal's artworks remain strongly rooted in the contemporary space and time which we live in and never fail to surprise with their poetry and power of intuition.

# Bettina Badr

[ FACULTY MEMBER ]

## *Still life / ...*

Year	2018
Medium	Mixed Media
Size	40cm x 60cm
Signature	Signed



## About the Artist and Artwork

Bettina Khoury Badr graduated from the Lebanese University with a *diplôme d'études supérieures* in fine arts in 2001 and a master's degree in fine arts in 2012. The intervening years were spent in teaching and developing her artistic vision. During this time, she also attended several workshops in Lebanon and abroad. In 1994, she completed several fine arts courses at Tulsa Junior College in Oklahoma, USA. Her work draws inspiration from Lebanon, her place of birth, and the events that are part of the recent fragmented past.

About the artwork: "In my personal work, ideas form a sequence of thoughts whether representational or purely abstract. They create shadowed realities and fractured compositions.

The tangible confronts the world of memories, feelings, dreams and symbols. The exterior world resonates and awakes my interior world. Fragments of personal experiences function as scraps that I carefully assemble. The different facets of life take different connotations or representations as if rolling the die; nothing is certain but we keep going..."



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