

# CARAVAN 2012



## The Road Ahead

East & West

*building bridges of understanding and respect between East and West through the Arts*

## Art Exhibition

45 Artists

26 April - 5 May, 2012

Opening Night

26 April at 7pm (Thursday)

Opening remarks by Yousra, celebrated Egyptian actress,  
and by Christian and Muslim dignitaries,  
with a special performance by singer Rula Zaki

## Literature

2 May (Wednesday) at 7pm

A talk and book-signing

by Anglo-Egyptian novelist Ahdaf Soueif

Title: *Cairo: My City, Our Revolution*

## Film

Date TBA

A talk and interview with Khalid Abdalla  
Egyptian - British Actor  
(*The Kite Runner, Green Zone*)

## Music

5 May (Saturday) at 7.30pm

Ana Masry Band  
Closing Live Concert

**St. John's Church - Maadi, Cairo**

(corner Port Said Rd & Rd 17)

for more information: 2358 3085

[info@oncaravan.org](mailto:info@oncaravan.org) / [www.oncaravan.org](http://www.oncaravan.org)



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AHMED MAGDY

EGYPT



Ahmed studied fine arts in Assuit and has been working as an artist and sculptor.  
Exhibitions

- Exhibition Qomi for Youth and Sports - Cairo 2005 / 2006
- Festival of Fine Creation II (Youth Salon nineteenth-2008)
- Avant-garde Exhibition 49 (Association of Fine Arts Lovers) 2009.
- Bilateral exhibition under the title "silent conversations" - Saad Zaghloul Cultural Center, 2011.
- Youth Salon, the 22 - Palace of Arts, Cairo Opera House - 2011.



*"The Road to the Future"*

60 x 25 x 25 cm

Egyptian Marble

Silently, my sad bird is trying to express what I feel and what is storming in my head. Using marble, I tried to express my idea about a reality which I dreamed it will get better.

"The Road to Future"/"The Road Forward" is an attempt to understand future and to see what is happening around and how to use it in favor of tomorrow. I feel the bird - as an item - is my own world and it also represents a variety of human aspects (Goodness, Beauty, Pride, Peace, Power... etc) which humanity lacks nowadays under the pressure of civilization. I hope that what comes will be better and the road will be prettier and superior.

AHMED SELIM

EGYPT



Born in Aswan in 1968.

B.A. 1991 in mural paintings from Minia University, Faculty of Fine Arts

M.A. 1998 in mural paintings from Helwan University, Faculty of Fine Arts, Department of Painting.

Ph.D. 2005 in mural painting from Minia University, Faculty of Fine Arts, in cooperation with Department of Painting, Faculty of Fine Arts at Siegen University, Germany.

Dr. Selim has been an Assistant Professor of Mural Painting at the Faculty of Fine Arts in Minia, and a member of both the Syndicate of Fine Artists and the Cairo Atelier of Artists.

He has participated in many group exhibitions at public and private since 1991, throughout Egypt, and in England and Germany. His paintings, relief sculptures, architectural installations are in some museums and in private collections in Egypt and abroad. He also exhibits at the World of Art gallery in Maadi, Cairo.



*"Motherhood and the Future"*

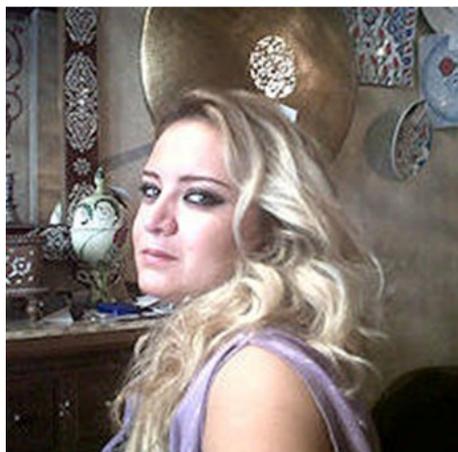
Mixed media (fresco)

80cm x 80 cm

The Square represents stability, stability of love and love for the future. The mother embraces her child, clutching it closely exuding overwhelming love for the child. Her thoughts are for the future and yet also for the past, co- existence and continuation of life, the search for a better future. The mother knows that education, an education that instills compassion, a consciousness and sympathy for those around them will determine the future.

## ASSMAA TAKIEDDINE

## SYRIA/ EGYPT



A Syrian artist from a Turkish mother born in Kuwait 1981, Assmaa graduated from the Faculty of Fine Arts (sculpture) at Helwan University, CAIRO/EGYPT in 2004. She was fortunate to be trained by leading Egyptian artists like ABED AL HADY EL WISHAHY , FAROUQ IBRAHIM, AHMED GAD AND MA'AMON AL SHIKH.

After graduation she started her career as an interior designer with her family's owned company (NOKOUSH), a leading company and design atelier specialized in Arabic and Islamic interior work and furnishing trying to revive the Islamic heritage.

She opened her eyes to see the beauty of our Islamic culture and started to translate that love in to her paintings, influenced by the Ottoman, Syrian and Egyptian cultures. She focuses to creating new techniques by using different kinds of traditional fabrics such as (brocade)--"Syrian silk on silk textiles loomed and dyed with all natural pigments hand made in Syria." Her works reflect the Arabic traditions with and oriental spirit using strong powerful colors and several effects such as hatching and embossing. Her love for Islamic motifs appears al most in all her work

Assmaa participated in many collective exhibitions like:

-The youth salon (opera house)

2001-2006

-The foreigner salon

2003,2006

-Participated with Dr. AHMED NOWAAR in (Palestine 50 years of occupation ) 2004

-Caravan Festival of the Arts (Harmony--East and West ) at St. John's Church in Maadi with leading Egyptian and non-Egyptian artists.

-solo (faces) at NOKOUSH gallery 2007

-solo(suffy)at NOKOUSH gallery 2009

- solo easel and camera art gallery 2010

-solo AL KAHILA art gallery 2010

ASSMAA was chosen by the Tribal Truth (UNICEF) organization to represent the Middle Eastern women artists. A lot of Assmaa's work is held by art lovers in many parts of the world: USA, FRANCE, CANADA, LONDON, SPAIN, SYRIA, LEBANON, SAUDI ARABIA, DUBAI, BAHRAIN and KUWAIT.



*"To Syria with Hope"*  
Oil on canvas

### **To Syria with Hope**

Freedom and the future  
Freedom called us and we obeyed.  
It is drawing our path towards future with dignity  
Where you can set free your mind without fear  
Where hope is your power  
Where the river of your knowledge and thoughts can reach the deepest oceans  
Where the words come only from the lips of truth not from the constitution  
of pain and death  
Where simply our life is empty from the darkness creators  
Where you can talk to God without a translator or secretary  
Where you can fly and reach the highest sky without broken wings  
Freedom is rising between our hands and non will be able to capture our  
souls again

## BISHOP MOUNEER H HANIS

EGYPT



Born in Menouf, Egypt

### Education (Medical)

1974, Bachelors of Medicine and Bachelors of Surgery, Cairo University, Egypt  
 1985, General Medicine Course, Hammersmith Hospital, London, UK  
 1986, Diploma of Tropical Medicine and Hygiene, London School of Tropical Medicine, UK  
 1993, Certificate in Hospital Management and Administrations, University of California, School of Public Health, USA

### Medical Positions Held

1975 – 1976, House Officer, Cairo University Hospital  
 1976 – 1979, Medical Officer, Military Medical Units and Hospital of Egyptian Army  
 1979—1989, Resident Doctor, Harpur Memorial Hospital, Menouf  
 1980—2000, Medical Director, Harpur Memorial Hospital, Menouf

### Education (Theological)

1999, Theological Studies by Correspondence, Moore College, Sydney, Australia  
 2000, Practical training in Diocese of Canterbury, Kent, UK  
 2000, Theological training at Nashotah House, Wisconsin, USA  
 2006, Theological training at Trinity Episcopal School for Ministry, Pennsylvania, USA  
 2006, Theological training at School of Theology, Cambridge, UK

### Ecclesiastical Position

2000—Present, Bishop of the Diocese of Egypt with North Africa and the Horn of Africa  
 2007—Present, President Bishop of the Province of Jerusalem and the Middle East

### Professional Memberships

Fellow of the Royal Society of Tropical Medicine and Hygiene  
 2007—Present, Member of the Anglican Primates  
 2007—Present, Member of the Anglican Consultative Council  
 2007—Present, Member of the Joint Standing Committee  
 2008—Present, International Advisor to Sharing of Ministries Abroad (SOMA)



*"All in the same boat"*  
Photograph

The "The Road Ahead" for us as Egyptian is to realize that we are all in one boat. As we try to move from the shore towards the deep water of democracy and freedom we need to do two things: to care for our boat, "Egypt," and to row in one direction.

## CARELLE HOMSY

## EGYPT



Carelle Homsy graduated from the Faculty of Arts Education in 1991. She is a member of the Plastic Art Syndicate and of the Atelier Group. Her first solo exhibition was in 1992 and she has since exhibited in Egypt and throughout Europe. She has also participated in many group exhibitions and her work can be found all over the world. In Egypt her art is held by the Cultural Development Fund, the General Organization for the Palace of Culture and the Museum of Modern Art, Egypt.

“Painting is my only way to express my thoughts, my dreams and my inner feelings.”

### Exhibitions

- Cairo Atelier on 1992.
- Youth Saloon 1992.
- Group Exhibition – French Cultural Center 1993.
- El-Sawy Culture wheel on 2007.
- Spring Exhibition El-Sawy Culture wheel on 2007.
- 31st Festival of Fine Arts 2008
- Greek Cultural Center on 2008.
- Workshop in Siwa 2009.
- Spring Exhibition El-Sawy Culture wheel on 2009.
- Exhibition of Woman Creativity – Portrait Atelier 2009.
- 32nd Festival of Fine Arts 2009.
- 2nd Luxor International Painting Symposium 2009.
- 33rd Festival of Fine Arts 2010.
- Egyptian Women artists Vienna - Austria 2010.



*My Egypt*  
"48.5 x 66.5 cm"

When I first thought about "The Road Ahead," I tried to imagine our future, but saw nothing. So my painting "My Egypt" is crying and her hands are stained with the martyrs' blood, and she still has the pharaoh snake crown.

As we know, the ancient Egyptians had a love/hate relationship with snakes, as well as their kings and presidents, and I believe that leaders are like snakes; they are our guardianship, our poison and medicine. Generations come and go, ideas change, but the only thing that remains the same is that Egypt was for thousands of years and will always be a homogeneous civilization with cultures and genes from everywhere.

## FARID FADEL

## EGYPT



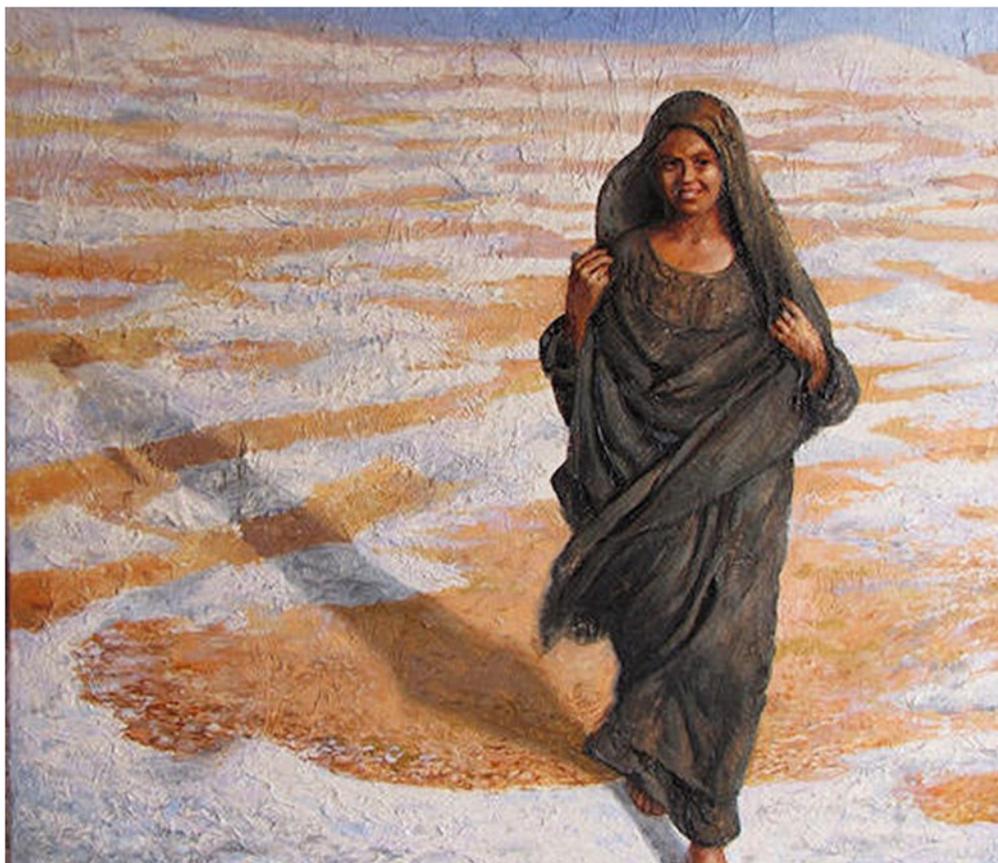
Described by some people as a true “Renaissance man,” Farid Fadel was born in 1958 in Assuit, Upper Egypt, into a family noted for both its musicians and its doctors. He has since excelled at medicine, art and music, taking all three gifts very seriously.

In art, he has held 34 solo exhibitions; in music, he has given several prominent recitals and concerts, and in medicine, he obtained his M.Sc. in Ophthalmology, and is presently working as a practicing eye doctor at the Memorial Institute of Ophthalmology, Giza.

In 1973, Dr. Fadel was awarded the Pope’s Medal and Vatican Award in an art contest with 50,000 participants worldwide. In 1975, on the inauguration of his fifth exhibition, the Egyptian Parliament granted him a trip to Italy to see Renaissance art, which had a strong influence on his style. He has taken part in several group shows, both in Egypt and abroad, such as the People’s Show in Portland, Maine, USA (1982), where he displayed fifteen portraits. His fourteenth solo Exhibition was held at the Egyptian Cultural Center, Mayfair, London, 1989 and his 16th show in the University of Toledo, Ohio, USA. In 2000, Dr. Fadel traveled with his exhibition “On Both Sides” to the USA where it was displayed in Ohio, Connecticut and Washington D.C.

Dr. Fadel participated in “the Call for Peace” group exhibition during the Gulf War in 1991. He has also participated in two benevolence exhibitions to support the earthquake victims in 1992.

For 3 successive years he has participated in the exhibition “Physician as Artist” at Riverside Hospital, Toledo, OH and won the Blue Ribbon Prize in 1997. His interest in art theory culminated in the establishment of his “AIN” theory (Aesthetic Integrated Naturalism), which explains his particular views on a naturalistic approach to fine art in a post-modern context.



*"He Holds the Future"*  
80 x 80cm  
Mixed media on canvas

"We don't own the future, the past is long gone, we don't have complete control over our present the road ahead therefore remains an unknown entity. Life however, is not judged by a time frame, but through the deep meaningful experiences and encounters of everyday. Brotherly love and compassion brighten our life and give us the courage and energy to go on. Moreover, when we patiently work on cultivating inner character traits like hope, perseverance, belief in the worth of every human being, we become better equipped to face the challenges on the future."

In my square painting a single woman appears to be walking towards us out of the desert. We see the road behind her consisting of alternating calcite rocks and quick sand alluding to life's fluctuating moods and experiences. She has already come a long way. the big smile on her face reflects not only her cheerful disposition but her deeply rooted faith. Her motto is the secret of her smile; "I don't know what the future holds, but I know Him who holds the future."

FARRES AHMED FARRES

EGYPT



*"The Road Ahead"*  
90 cm x 60 cm  
oil and wood relief

The new and the old, looking towards a new road ahead.

GALILA NAWAR

EGYPT



I was born in an unorthodox family of filmmakers. Raised in studios, film labs & editing suites; my world was stories told in images. My father also had a passion for painting. He provided space & materials for struggling artists in his downtown office. In return, they taught me how to paint. I was four at the time.

I took a degree in psychology, worked in film, theatre, and advertising before finally established a film production company. Fifteen years later I decided to paint full-time. For the following five years, I studied drawing in Siginis' studio & painting in CSM London where I rediscovered my passion for oil, portraiture and figurative work. My first solo exhibition "Photo Album" was in January 2010 at Karim Francis gallery in downtown Cairo.

### **Education**

1985 BA in psychology AUC , Cairo, Egypt.

2000-2004 Drawing and painting course at Magd El Sigini's studio

2004-2008 Oil Painting and Portraiture Central St. Martin's College of Art, London



*"Dreaming of the Road Ahead"*  
Acrylic on canvas

My interest in portraiture lies in the gap between the persona that is presented in a pose or captured in a snapshot, and the real person behind it... My portraits are inspired from photographs that allow me to see beyond the pose and create a narrative of my own.

Through an expression or a posture, I attempt to find a universal human emotion or a drama specific to a particular time or context. People are what the world is about. Painting them is my way of trying to understand the world we live in.

The road ahead, lies in our dreams... perchance in the dreams of those two intimate strangers sleeping side by side in the Cairo metro.

## HAKIM JAMAIN

## EGYPT



Hakim studied "Painting and Anatomy" at the Academy of Fine Arts, Perugia, Italy in 1990 and then continued "Sketching and Drawing" studies at the Nuova Art Academy under the supervision of Professor Titio Varesco. In 1995 he obtained a bachelor degree in Arts from Milan Fine Arts Academy in addition to a post diploma from Cova Art School in Milan. Jamain also studied "Architectural Design" at The Hague Royal Academy, Holland.

In 2002 Jamain obtained a degree in 2D printmaking from the same academy in Holland. Jamain taught printmaking at the University of Jordan and has supervised the graphic workshop at the Jordan National Gallery of Fine Arts in Amman. He has participated in several international group exhibitions and was awarded prizes in Jordan, Italy and China. His paintings and prints depict local landscapes, inspired by writing and reproduced narratives, and among the body of his work a series of art books that are inspired from his life journey of moving and creating. He currently lives and works in Cairo.



*"The Road Ahead"*  
print on hand made paper--40x50cm

From the beginning, using archaeological based forms, creating the starting point for human interaction (the handmade paper) and conflicts, leading to a new dawn for the road ahead.

## HISHAM EL ZEINY

## EGYPT



I was born to a German mother and an Egyptian-Sudanese father, and therefore grew up in a multi-cultural and religiously very tolerant environment. I attended the German school in Cairo, which provided me with a solid formation in languages formation, which assisted me as I took many trips in various places around the world in my youth.

Initially, I found myself studying architecture at the Fine Arts faculty of Cairo. While this study didn't stand in way of my great passion in arts, it did in fact lead me to my career as an artist for over 25 years.

1956 Born in Cairo, Egypt.

1975 Obtains German nationality.

1979 BA Architecture, Faculty of Fine Arts, Cairo.

1982 Post graduate studies in Vernacular Architecture with Prof. Hassan Fathy at the Faculty of Fine Arts.

1991 Computer courses in Auto CAD applications for architects at the IHK Frankfurt, Germany.

Since 1975 friend and member of the working team of sculptor-painter Salah Abdel Krim. Lived in Germany from 1987-1990, and from 1992 – 2000

### **Solo Exhibitions**

2008 Mashrabiya Gallery, Cairo

Capital Club, Dubai (artworks commissioned)

2007 Mashrabiya Gallery, Cairo

2006 La Bodega Gallery, Cairo

2005 Mashrabiya Gallery, Cairo

### **Group Exhibitions**

2007 "Occidentalism" contemporary artists from Egypt

2006 Summeracademy, Salzburg, Austria

2005 Mashrabiya Gallery, Cairo



*"Burning Ends"*  
Oil on canvas

Among the strongest symbols used during the Egyptian revolution, painted, sprayed, or as graffiti, are the cross and crescent, as a part of a huge patchwork of visuals representing political identity or aspirations for the future. Being inspired and influenced by the events on the square, in all its gatherings, diversity and fragmentation, I consider the tent as a very strong symbol, as the tool to occupy the square and as a carrier of information, slogans and agitation, also serving for shelter and mobile hospital in the worst cases.

In my work I imagine all these graphics, especially the cross and crescent being applied on the tents fabric and, as time goes by, them fading by the effect of climate and sun, blending them together into one pattern and so uniting them into one fabric. I call this work burning ends, as a warning due to the potential of conflict that still lurks at the periphery.

ISOLDE KADRY

GERMANY/EGYPT



Born in the early 1950's in a small village in Germany, Isolde studied from 1970-1975 Art, History and Pedagogy at the University of Leipzig. Her teachers of Art were Prof. Guenter Albert Schulz, who studied under Hans Soltmann and Bruno Heroux, and Prof. Gabriele Meyer-Dennewitz, who was a pupil of Hans Soltmann, Max Schwimmer and Max Lingner.

In 1977 she moved to Egypt and pursued for the next 20 years a career in education. In 1997 she started freelance work for several magazines and once again picked up painting. Since 1999 she has participated in many group exhibitions (Shadycor Gallery, Heliopolis, Heliopolis Club Exhibitions, Exhibitions at the German-Egyptian Center – Ard el Golf, First Mall Gallery – Giza, World of Art Gallery – Maadi, Exhibitions at the Egyptian Diplomatic Club, the El Hanager Opera Gallery, the Ahmed Shawky Gallery and the Center of International Co-operation in Zamalek). In 2002 she had a Solo Exhibition at the British Community Clubhouse in Heliopolis. She lives with her family in Heliopolis.

Her artwork has been sold to art lovers in the United States, Egypt, Great Britain, Holland, France, Switzerland, Germany, Italy, Canada, Ireland, Norway, Denmark and Brazil.



*"The Road Ahead"*  
collage

For the centre of my collage I chose a photograph of Al-Muizz el Din Street. The once bustle with life district of Al-Hussein is now a year after the revolution deserted and desolate. For the shopkeepers there is no light at the horizon. Earning a decent living became a dream and hardship prevails. The background of the art work depicts various stages of Egyptian history. Egypt was and will be always the battleground for the mighty powers. The characters spread all over the collage present these powers. They are actually chosen from the figures used in the traditional Egyptian Puppet Theatre.

One cannot understand the Egyptian January Revolution without looking back at the history of the country.

So, I tried to connect the past and the present – from Pharaonic times to Tahrir Square, from prosperous ages to the perilous state of the Egyptian economy nowadays. Despite of the situation I chose bright colours for my collage to keep a positive outlook.

KHALIL EL HAKIM

LEBANON



Khalil studied architecture at the Versailles School of Architecture and the Lebanese University of Fine Arts.

**EXHIBITIONS**

2011 “The Story Of Giving Art” Talia Association exhibition, Juried Group exhibition UNESCO Beirut, Lebanon

2010 “Moukhtarat” Exhibition: Modern Directions of Lebanese Paintings, Juried Group exhibition, Doha, Qatar

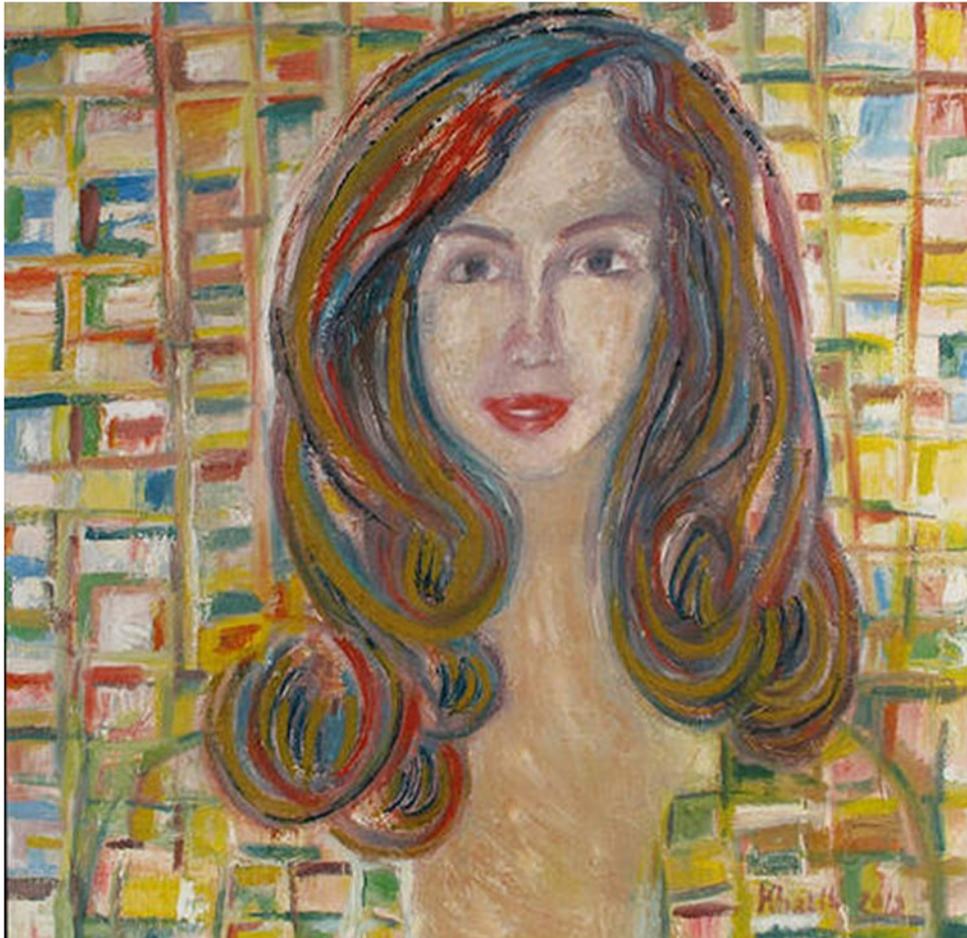
2003 Columbus Art Gallery, Individual exhibition, Columbus, Indiana

2001 Gallery Zaman, individual exhibition, Beirut, Lebanon

1997 Village Gate Art Center, Juried Group exhibition, Received the “Jury Award”, Rochester, New York

1997 Pyramid Art Center, Individual exhibition, Rochester, New York

1995 Clothesline Festival, Memorial Art Gallery, Juried Group exhibition, Rochester, New York



*"She is our Mirror"*

“Remember me. This is my face and this is my body,” she said to them.  
 This is the Egyptian Alia Al Mahdi who angered people by exposing her body through the internet.  
 She didn't care, and it made no difference to her what people said.  
 She spoke intuitively, “I am Eve who gave birth to Adam's children.”  
 Alia is truly an artist who is entirely free in all senses of the word.  
 I liked the way she expressed herself, and why shouldn't I?  
 She is not the first to speak out like this; it's been done before.  
 She said, “My body is mine, not other's.”

In my painting, the face she doesn't want anyone to forget takes over the canvas making it lively and bringing out the woman in her. Her piercing eyes look right into you, penetrate you. Her nose is like those of the Egyptian pharaohs. Her curly hair is painted with the colors of the rainbow. The background colors are bright, sharp and dazzling. Yellow livens up the red, and brown and green sing with the blue. In this perfect harmony of colors, even grey seems to glow with the others.

My idea is to show how different cultures are and yet how dependent they can be on each other. The product is an interesting mixture of intermingled ideas and techniques that reflects the beauty and richness of the communication between the East and West cultures.

I consider art a part of daily life and as dependent of all other intellectual disciplines like science, politics, medicine, business to name just a few. Art is a product of profound reflection, and the plastic arts constitute of the most direct and universal bridge between people and ideas. Antonio Tapiés, a post-modern artist said, “If painting today did not make us tremble or at least disturb some of us, it would mean we have failed.”

## MAHER ALI

## EGYPT



Maher Ali is an Egyptian artist. He was born in Alexandria but his family left there for Cairo when he was young and settled in Tura where he currently lives with my wife, Eman, and two children, Amr and Nour.

His father was a source of support and encouragement by taking Maher with him to look at the surrounding villages and downtown Cairo and Alexandria. It was at this time that he felt the beginnings of a desire to be an artist.

After leaving High School he studied privately. Firstly, with Mohammad Abbaza who showed me the techniques of pyrography (wood burn) painting, and then in Zamalek with artists, Fragali, Mustafa al Razzaz and Mohamad Allam where he learned about various styles of art.

Between 1991-93 he studied silk screen printing techniques in Syria. When he returned to Egypt he worked and studied in the studio of Kwame Brian in Maadi.

Since then he has worked as an independent artist and held a number of exhibitions in both Maadi and downtown Cairo. He have been commissioned to design book covers for a number of prominent Egyptian writers published by the American University in Cairo Press.

His works are in private collections in Egypt, England, France, Germany, China, Australia, USA, Italy, Chile, Venezuela, and the Netherlands



*"Amal"*  
oil on wood  
80 x 40 cm

Against a checkered background which symbolizes the game of life and its ups and downs, stands a figure clutching a doll. The figure symbolizes the people of Egypt while its head, a lotus flower, is the ancient Egyptian symbol of rebirth.

Around its neck are two necklaces—one of stones in the colors of the Egyptian flag and the other the pharaonic key of life which is surrounded by red and black commemorating those who died for their belief in freedom.

The doll (aroussa) is Egypt being embraced by the Egyptian people. It is colored green as a sign of purity of spirit and its clothes are those of a simple Egyptian woman. One of her earrings is a cross and the other a crescent.

The Halo that hovers over the figure represents hope for a bright future for the Egyptian people.

## MANSOUR AHMED

## EGYPT



One of Egypt's leading portrait and landscape painters in oil, pastels, and watercolor, Mansour has exhibited internationally in the Middle East, Europe, and the United States. Born in Cairo, Egypt, Mansour studied at the Egyptian Art College, Madrassa El Khoot El Arabia, and graduated with top honors from the American University of Cairo (AUC). He has participated in many solo and group exhibitions and maintains a permanent collection at his gallery: Mansour Gallery, 22 El Mansour St, El Lasilki, Maadi, Cairo.

In addition, Mansour is represented in many corporate, embassy, and private collections worldwide. Recently the Coca Cola Corporation commissioned 15 corporate paintings for their regional offices in Cairo, Egypt, and 5 were commissioned by the Oberoi Hotel chain. He is a member of the Egyptian Syndicate of Plastic Arts and the Cairo Art Guild. His work has been featured in The Egyptian Gazette, the Middle East Times, El Kwakeb, Ahram News, El Kzendreno (Italian Art Magazine), Nile TV, and Channel 1 TV, to name but a few.

His urge seems to be to express the essentials of human life and the world around him as it appears. The aim of Mansour's paintings is to help people understand and love the Egyptian way of life more deeply, and to enrich their sense of the humanity and spirit. Mansour's paintings of Egyptian scenes and character studies are like a passionate song of love for his beautiful land.

He is a virtuoso of color, spontaneous and elaborate, displaying sheer dexterity and manipulative skills. In every one of his paintings, be it oil, watercolor, or pastel, he shows his great sensitivity and sincerity towards life and nature. He is considered one of the most prominent painters in the Middle East and his work can be seen at [www.mansourart.com](http://www.mansourart.com).



*"The Journey Begins "*

oil on canvas  
80 cm x 80 cm

In the wake of the Arab Spring, Egyptian society begins the slow process of building a new life for themselves, the creation of a new "normal".

## MOHAMED ABLA

## EGYPT



Renowned Egyptian artist Mohamed Abla, winner of the prize at the 1998 Cairo Biennale and of many prestigious awards in Egypt and abroad, is a man of curious character and many faces. Born in Mansoura, Egypt, he graduated at the top of his class in 1977 from the Faculty of Fine Arts in Alexandria. Upon graduation he took part in Egypt's "Young Artists Exhibition," winning the grand prize. He then spent 7 years traveling around Europe, painting and studying. As a young artist he was almost detached from his indigenous ties, reluctant to settle in one place. Germany was definitely a turning point in his life. Finding one gallery owner, he showed his work and was transported to elation by the owner's enthusiastic response. "He saw my sketches, loved them, bought them and asked if I would put on an exhibition." Six more exhibitions followed in the next two years. His continuous traveling, has given him a broad exposure to the international art scene, and has resulted in him studying, teaching and exhibiting in galleries around the world. Abla says that he has an internal feeling that art is the key to bringing cultural and environmental awareness to people. He has an intense desire for expressing feeling through his paintings.

Abla's work focuses mainly on graphics and oil painting. His current working space is on an island in the Nile. It provides a quiet oasis and main source of inspiration. The Nile and the local Egyptian environment are prevailing themes in Abla's art, whether graphics, installation or oil paintings.

### **Chronological Overview**

**1953-** Born in Mansoura, Egypt **1977-** Graduated from the Faculty of Fine Arts in Alexandria (Painting Section) / he won the Grand Prize at the Alexandria Biennale / won First Prize in his first Solo Exhibition at the Spanish Cultural Center, Cairo. **1978-79-** Took an Art and Study trip throughout Europe, and had a Solo Exhibition at the "Hohmann Gallery" in Walsrode, Germany **1980-82-** Studied Graphics & Sculpture in Switzerland and Austria, and opened a studio in Zurich for painting therapy / held a series of exhibitions in Germany **1985-87-** Had various exhibitions in Germany / Won first prize in the competition entitled "Cairo from the Artist's Perspective." Awarded a scholarship to study in Basel, Switzerland. **1989-** Exhibition at "Gallery Ewat," Lewarden, The Netherlands

**1991-** Exhibition at Art Hall Orebro-Sweden, and at the Egyptian Academy, Rome. **1992-** Exhibition for the Opening of Gallery Cairo-Berlin, Germany. **1993-** Graphic Exhibition at A.U.C in Cairo / "Grenchan Graphic Triennials" Switzerland / Mashrabia Gallery, Cairo. **1994-** Erection of Sisyphus statue, at Walsrode, Germany / received Heitland Scholarship, Lamspring, Germany / exhibitions in Switzerland- **1995-** Video Exhibition at El Hanager Cairo / Mashrabia Gallery, Cairo. **1996-** Cairo Biennial – adjoined work / First Prize Biennial-Kuwait / Gallery Hahmann, Hamburg, Germany **1997-** Grand Prize, Biennial of Alexandria. **1998-** Exhibition "The Nile" at Goethe Institute, Cairo / Exhibited at Hart Gallery, Carmel, California **1998-** His 21st October "Musafirkhan" studio burned down and he lost most of his work **1999** Gallery Arabesque, Scenes from Vermont (scenes from a 1998 visit)

**2002** Zamalek Art Gallery, "Conviviality--The Nile & the Trees", Cairo **2003**---Havana Biennale, Cuba **2004** Zamalek Art Gallery, "Cairo...Portraits of a City", Cairo **2005** Zamalek Art Gallery, "Nostalgia", Cairo / Group Exhibition, The British Museum, London / Int'l Art Exhibition in Muscat, Oman **2006** Professor at International Art Academy, Salzburg, Austria / Exhibition of "30 Years of his Art," Gallery Hohman, Germany. **2007**--Exhibition "Contemporary Egyptian Art" at the National Museum of Modern Art, Bonn, Germany / Exhibited in Occidentalism: The West as Seen by Egyptian Artists, Espace Karim Francis, Cairo **2008**—Exhibited in Dhaka, Bangladesh, Marseilles, France / Zamalek Art Gallery, "Labyrinth," Cairo, Egypt **2009**—Egypt (Zamalek Art Gallery), India, **2010**—Bahrain, Egypt (Zamalek Art Gallery), etc.



*"On the Road"*  
Acrylic/sand on canvas  
50 cm x 45 cm

Three generations walking, the future is in the hands of the child. Walking towards a better future.

MOHAMED YOUSSEF

EGYPT



He studied at the Cairo Academy and gained a degree in fine arts in 1967.

He won the Master of Photography 1st Prize in 1968 and 1990 in Abu Dhabi-Emirates. His studio is based in Heliopolis Cairo. Has work in many private collections in Egypt and around the world; Canada, Middle East and America.

His inspiration comes from the orient: people, culture and nature. He paints, fish, horses, Bedouin, Nubians, women and portraits. All segmented and vividly coloured to make up a vibrant collage.

He was commissioned to paint a series of work for the Pyramisia chain of hotels, Egypt.

### **Exhibitions**

More than 60 exhibitions so far.

Work in many places including: German Embassy – Cairo, Petroleum Company – Abu Dhabi, Ministries of Education, Tourism and Foreign Affairs – Cairo, France – Private Collections



*Dreaming of a New Dawn"*  
mixed media and oil  
80 x 80cm

We live those days in dreaming of a new dawn, bright hope of a new era. For this nation that holds different classes showing the true fabric of Egypt.

In my paintings I rely on the symbolism of imagination. Imagining this wild horse running to the new light of a new dawn.

Whilst the young strong Egypt is being symbolized by the beautiful woman holding the key of life, a happy life. She embraces the old Egyptian civilization where the dove of peace lives waiting for the bright new era to begin.

In brief, this painting has turned out differently from the way I had envisaged it, but due to the inspiration of life the painting took its own course. Experience has taught us many things, we are living that experience.

## MUTAZ ELEMAN

## NORTH SUDAN



Mutaz Mohamed Eleman is a Sudanese painter, he was born in Kassala city in the eastern region of The Republic of Sudan, he studied in the college of Fine Arts, Sudan University of Science and Technology – Khartoum.

Mutaz is member of the General Union of Sudanese Plastic Artists and Cairo Atelier. Currently, he is a full time devoted artist living and working in Cairo. He has exhibited and participated in numerous art exhibitions and workshops in Sudan, Egypt and other countries, some of his solo exhibitions are:

2008 Cairo atelier, paintings - Cairo

2009 Kunest Art Gallery 'Colour in Symphony' - Cairo

2009 Al Blad Art Gallery, 'Black Touch' - Cairo

2010 Artewella art space, 'The River' -Cairo

2010 Al Mashrabia Art Gallery, 'Climates' -Cairo

2011 Al Mashrabia Art Gallery, 'Co2' -Cairo

In addition, he has participated in many collective exhibitions, among them:

2009 -2010 -2011 Bibliotheca Alexandaria, '**Agenda**' - Egypt

2009 Cam Casoria Art Museum, 'Africa Cam Art' - Italy

2010 Büdelsdorf, 'Nord Art 2010' - Germany

2010 Sant Lo, 'Taches – and taches' - France

2011 Fa Gallery, 'Shadows of Memory' - Kuwait

2011 Menas Art Fair -Lebanon

2011 The Gallery, 'Collage 100 Years on Exhibition'- Egypt

2011 RH+ Art Gallery, 'Sinirsiz/Boundless'- Turkey

Some of his works are part of private collections of many individuals and institutions around the world. A number of interviews and dialogues have been published and broadcast about Mutaz and his work. Mutaz was the editor of the Africa page of *Not apartheid Art*, Cam Casoria Art Museum Magazine, Naples-Italy.



*"The Road Ahead "*  
oil on canvas

Using words to describe an artwork is not possible from my point of view.

The picture stands independently in its own reality not related to a specific event or expressing a certain idea.

The picture for me has its own independent world, this "my road ahead."

NAGUIB MAHMOUD

EGYPT



Naguib Mahmoud was born in Cairo in 1961 and focused on the Spanish language in his studies. He however obtained his first lesson in the plastic arts at his father's studio. Today he is a member of the Syndicate of Plastic Arts, the GHOURY Artistic Association, among others.

He has participated in many public and private exhibitions, in diverse venues, such as the Cairo Atelier, Spanish Cultural Center, World Trade Center/Cairo, Mohktar Museum, and in many galleries.



*"The Gas Lamp"*  
oil on board  
80 x 40cm

Gas lamp was used in the past century in Egypt, although it's a simple way of lighting the students studied in its light. These students then became the thinkers and scholars of Egypt, having been bathed in its light. A simple light but a light that has great guidance in the development of Egypt.

The Mother holding the lamp to illuminate them as they study. The Mother will make her children the greatest in the world. They research science a search that hopefully will push humans forward.

## OMAR EL FAYOUMI

## EGYPT



Born in 1957, graduate of Faculty of Fine Art (Cairo)  
 1981 – mural painting.  
 1986-1991 – Academy of Fine Art (RIPEN) St Petersburg, Russia.

Resident and working in Cairo since 1993.

**Group Exhibitions:**

1982 (ILI Gallery) with ASSEM SHARAF  
 1984 (Atelier Le Caire) – five Artists – 1  
 1985 (El Mashrabia Gallery) – five Artists – 2  
 1989 (Abdul Moniem El Sawy Gallery) with ASSEM SHARAF  
 1990 (Academy of Fine Art Gallery) – Leningrad.  
 1994 (El Mashrabia Gallery) with ASSEM SHARAF  
 1995 (El Mashrabia Gallery) Chair Chair.  
 1996 (Ekhnatoun Gallery) Cairo  
 1997 (Atelier Le Caire) Gathering.  
 1998 (Espace Karim francis) Group Exhibition.  
 1998 (Atelier Le Caire) 3D and (Palace of arts) National Exhibition  
 1999 (Ekhnatoun Galler) miniatures.

**Individual Exhibitions:**

1995-1998 (Espace Karim francis)  
 2000 (Ekhnatoun Gallery)  
 2001 (Russian Consulate Gallery)  
 2002 (Atelier Le Caire)  
 2005 (Espace Karim francis) Zamalik



*"Waiting"*  
oil on canvas  
70 cm x 70 cm

A man waiting, so still, unable to make a decision, straight-jacketed, waiting for 'the Road ahead'

RANIA EL HAKIM

EGYPT



1983, BA in Business Administration with high honors - AUC (American University in Cairo).

-1984-1987, specialized studies in painting - AUC and UMBC (University of Maryland Baltimore County), USA.

-1984 -1985, tutored by artist Mahmud Abdalla.

-1989 -1999, fashion designer for Concrete Generation

.-2003, joined the studio of artist Mustafa Al Razzaz.

### GROUP EXHIBITIONS

2010

-The Contemporary Egyptian Art Exhibition, Azerbaijan 2010

-Time Conception, Al Ayyam, Ramatan Cultural Center

-On a Caravan: Harmony East and West, St. John's Church, Maadi

2009

-Duroub Art Gallery-8th Biennale of Port Said-Hanager Art Gallery, Opera Grounds

2008

-1st Private Exhibition, 2nd Contest, Gezira Art Center

Duroub Art Gallery

-2nd Festival of Fine Art, General Exhibition

-Ayn Helwan Culture Center

-Rod el Farag Culture Center

### SOLO EXHIBITION

2008 Sawi Culture Wheel

2010 Mahmoud Mokhtar Cultural Center

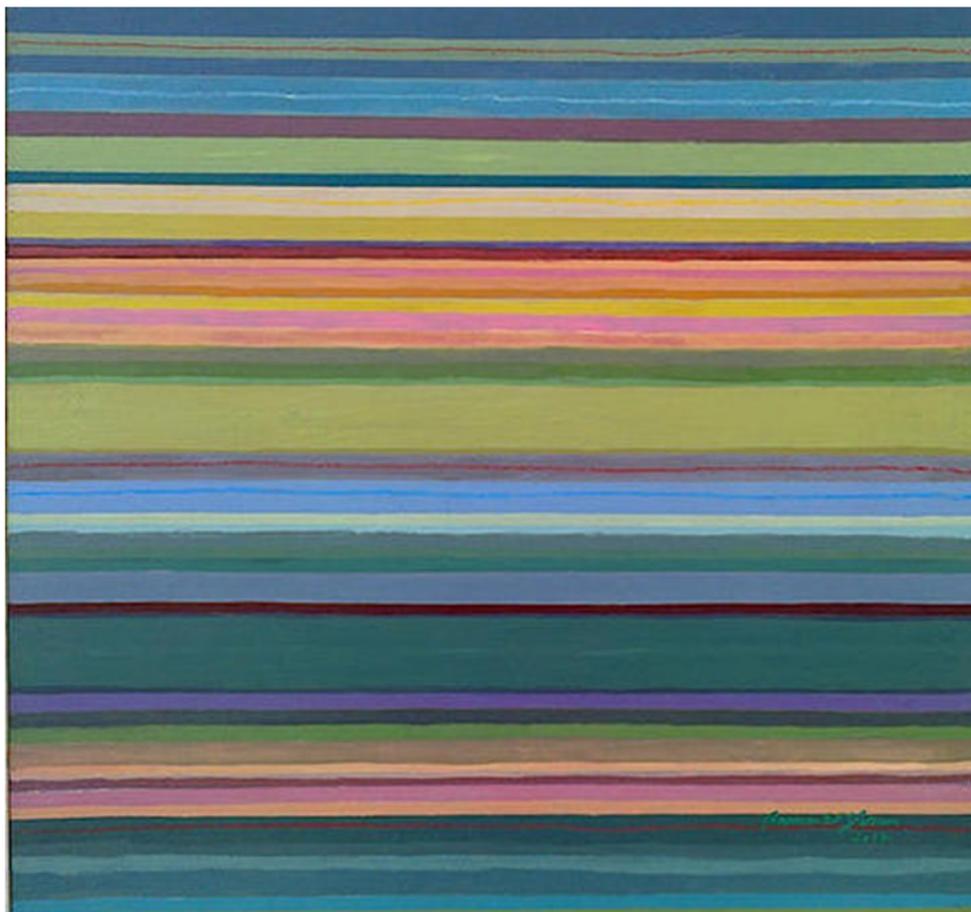
### WORK SHOPS

2010

-SAWA WORKSHOP: 'Printmaking Without a Press', by Dominique Ellis, Cairo, Egypt

-MAHMUD MUKHTAR CULTURAL CENTER: 'Editing and Subtitling',

by Anne Cremieux, Cairo, Egypt



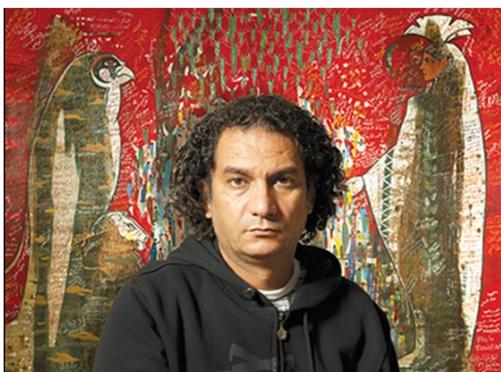
*"The Road Ahead"*  
80x80 cm

### **The Road Ahead**

"We are walking on parallel roads."  
She thought.  
"How will we ever meet?"  
She was a lost soul,  
seeking shelter far and near.  
He became her shelter.  
In his world,  
two voices met,  
two hands touched,  
two hearts embraced..  
Still, part of her lingered in the shadow,  
her illusionary kingdom,  
where no eyes could ever see,  
nor ears could ever hear.  
The roads meet, somewhere,  
though only in a truthful world.  
His world.

## REDA ABDEL RAHMAN

## EGYPT



Born in Ismalia, Egypt and having studied at the University of Minya at the College of Fine Arts, being surrounded by outstanding Pharonic monuments and Coptic monasteries left a lasting impression on Reda Abdel Rahman, one of Egypt's leading contemporary artists. It has resulted in his artistic expression focusing on the relationship between what he regards as his ancient Egyptian heritage and the demands of contemporary life.

One of the key focal points in his work is that happiness, indeed "a good life," are intricately related to what is grown and gleaned from the fields of Egypt and the Nile valley, and hence serves as a reoccurring theme in his art. Reda's work draws strength from the nurturing Nile which serves as a source for his creativity.

Also, unlike much of contemporary Arab art, Reda has been seen as ground-breaking in that he draws and presents to us the naked or semi-naked female figure in his pictures, believing profoundly that women are central to the well-being of the family which is a commonly held value in Egyptian society.

Through Reda's work we see the combination of Pharaonic and decorative motifs. He draws a direct relationship to the hieroglyphs that the ancients left behind. Taking this further and incorporating the ancient traditions, he has designed many mosaics that decorate many cities throughout Egypt. Indeed, his work can take on monumental proportions, whether it is large canvases or murals, depicting scenes that are of old yet at the same time new. More recently he has powerfully focused on the Egyptian revolutionary events of January 2011.

Not only has Reda enjoyed a prolific and international career in the Arts but he has also encouraged others by participating in a number of varied initiatives designed to promote artists and the Egyptian art scene. In this regard, he has been integral to the formation of internationally recognized events such as the Luxor Painting Symposium and the formation of the annual Aswan Sculpture Symposium. He has also led the Fustat workshops in Old Cairo that brings together a range of artists from around the Middle East. Reda also established an art magazine and curates a gallery in downtown Cairo, both of which are titled Portrait. His artistic career has taken him around the world, from Latin America to Europe.



*"The Road Ahead"*  
acrylic/inks on canvas  
80 cm x 80 cm



*"The Road Ahead"* **Additional entry - not shown at exhibition**  
acrylic/inks on canvas  
80 cm x 80 cm

## SOHA SABBAGH

## LEBANON



Soha has studied and taught Fine Arts and Art in Lebanon.

#### Personal Exhibitions

1993 - Dar Al-Nadwa

1997 - Dar Al-Nadwa

2001 - Ministry of Tourism

2003 – Jordan ( Lebanese representative in Al Fouhaiss Cultural Exhibition)

2004 - Dar Al-Nadwa

2008 - Dar Al-Mada

2011 – Dar Al-Nadwa

#### Group Exhibitions

1994 - Sursok Museum

1999 - Syria - Monte Rosa

2000 - Lebanese association of painting and Sculpture artists' exhibition (Lebanese Parliament House)

2001 - Coordinator of Arabic giant mural paint supporting Intifada

2002 - The southern Lebanon's Exhibition council (UNESCO Palace)

She has made many contributions to collective exhibitions . She also did the preparation and supervision of a documentary film concerning the artist Rafic Sharaf. She is working on a new film.

She writing articles about art and culture in many Lebanese and Arab magazines and newspapers such as *-Annahar Newspaper, Assafir Newspaper.*

She also has a cultural program on the Lebanese Radio on culture and the arts.



*"Screaming"*  
oil on canvas

The Future is to scream after living in suffering  
Your screams start to change the world around you.  
The "Cause" made you scream.

## WILSON ABRAMA ADLURU NTANA

## SOUTH SUDAN



Wilson Abrama Adluru Ntana was born in the Sudan in 1966. He obtained a Technical Certificate from Port Sudan in 1987, and then worked with the Sudan Council of Churches as their designer from 1989-94.

In 1994 he was sent by the Sudan Council of Churches to Cairo, Egypt to pursue his studies in design and printing.

Due to the civil war in Sudan, he was not able to return and since 1996 he has been working with Tukul Crafts in Cairo as the creative designer.

In regard to his painting, he has participated in numerous exhibitions and bazaars. His design work has led him to create the logo for UNHCR's annual report in 1999.



*"The Road Ahead"*

acrylic

70 x 50 cm

All my paintings are about African culture (material and non-material). This of course emanates from my own African background which I am very proud to share with the world.

ANNE DE BOISTESSELIN

FRANCE



D.S.A P (diplôme supérieur d'art plastique) de l'Ecole Nationale Supérieure des Beaux-Arts de Paris. Ateliers de Cesar, Debré, Segui

mars 2007

•POP-UP LOVE

peinture en installation, et pop-up book série limitée

mars 2007 (expos solo)

septembre 2006

• COMBINAISON 2

peinture sur installations métalliques ( centre Suisse, villa Pax, Imbaba)

septembre 2006 (expos solo)

avril 2006 -- NYLON

50% anne du boistesselin 50% Bérengère Dastarac-Waked 100% NYLON made in Egypte

• COMBINAISON

peinture en installations à SEMAT (Dokki)

mars 2006

• (INSTALLATION POUR 10 MOTS)

pour la francophonie, installation en plastique au centre français de Culture et de coopération de Mounira-Le caire.

Expos solo 2005

• ( BAB W BAWWAB) ( porte et gardien de porte), galerie Khan al Maghraby

• ( DE DOS DESSUS DESSOUS) xiaonanzhuang, Pékin

Expos collective 2005

• ( LE CAIRE IMAGINAIRE)) Palais de la Culture, el Fayoum

Expos solo, Egypte 2002-2004

• ( DANS LA VILLE ), Centre culturel d'Alexandrie,

• ( POP-UP EN PIÈCES ), Noubar 6

• (SILHOUETTE DANS LA VILLE ) Alliance française de Port-Saïd

• Mur peint sur une maison de pêcheurs au lac Timsah d'Ismaïlia (Alliance Française)

• ( SILHOUETTE DANS LA VILLE), Centre culturel français - Mounira

• ( SILHOUETTE SUR CRAFT), Palais de la culture – Ismaïlia

Expos collectives, Egypte 2002-2004

• (INSTALLATION POUR UN POP-UP) biennale du Caire 2003-2004

• (A FRENCH LOOK OF CAIRO)), galerie khan el maghraby

Expos et concours en France

- MUSÉE DE LA POSTE, Paris

- JEUNE PEINTURE, Paris

- PRIX TENDANCE 90, Paris

- AFFICHES FESTIVALES d'Avignon

- GRAND PALAIS, ( SALON D'AUTOMNE, SALON DES INDÉPENDANTS), Paris

- SALON D'ARTS PLASTIQUES, Marne la Vallée

- PRIX DE LA VILLE d'Elne

- ESPACE PUY PAULIN, Bordeaux

- squatt d'atelier la Grange aux belles, expos collective "7 EXTRA", Paris

- squatt d'atelier un Chardon Dans la Savane, expos solo avec musiciens de la rue, PARIS



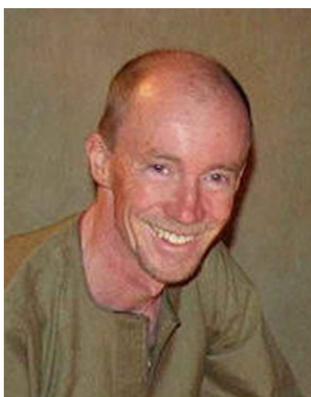
*"Emshi"*  
 diptych  
 30cm x 30 cm / 30cm x 30 cm

The title is "Emshi," an Arabic word that means "march" in English. The two paintings are meant to be viewed from right to left as Arabic is written and read. Along the theme of "The Road Ahead," a woman is seated, looks in front of her, stands up, and walks forward.

[En Francais: Le titre est "emshi", en français: "marche". La lecture des deux tableaux est dans le sens de la lecture arabe, de gauche à droite, En rapport avec le titre "The Road Ahead," une femme est assise, regarde l'avenir, elle se lève et marche.]

BRIAN FLYNN

UK



One day, after visiting the inner chamber of the great pyramid then entering the courtyard of Sultan Hassan's Mosque I realized it was all there.

The Sacred Architecture held all the inner secrets completely intact, just as the day they were built. Then I knew I had to move to Egypt to allow myself enough time to absorb as much as I could – and still seven years later I continue. Alhamdulillah!

Before Egypt there was serious preparation, of course, but now a flowering, an eternal spring. As an artist, to inhale the fragrance of the old masters is the greatest privilege.

*Exhibitions:*

- 1988 Noemi Ramer Gallery, Viareggio, Italy
- 1988 Ca Bianca, Milan, Italy.
- 1989 Galleria Pace, Milan, Italy.
- 1989 More Nuci, Milan, Italy.
- 1989 Castel del'Ovo, Naples, Italy.
- 1993 Gallery Taksu, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.
- 1994 Horizons, San Francisco, California
- 1994 Arts Council Gallery, Marysville, California
- 1995 Sacramento Arts Council, California
- 2010 Utopia 44 Gallery, Naples, Italy



*"Navigating the Waters of Chaos"*  
 Acrylic, 24 carat gold leaf  
 80 x 80cm

The mystical road ahead is like diving for pearls; when our sacred bark (body) plunges into the depths of the unknown we enter a vast ocean of uncharted waters filled with magnificent treasures yet also fraught with dangers.

The ancients called these waters the Duat, a mysterious invisible realm somewhere between heaven and earth where the spirit (RA) navigates on his night bark towards his rebirth in the east at sunrise. The road to rebirth involves traversing the Duat, searching for that pearl of great price – the treasure to keep throughout eternity.

BRITT BOUTROS GHALI

NORWAY



Britt was born in the north of Norway has now lived in Egypt for the past 35 years.

She has exhibited in Europe, the United States of America and the Middle East. Britt's works are found in private collections and museums around the world.

In 1996 Britt was awarded the Order of St. Olaf by H.M. King Harraald of Norway. This award is the highest honor given to a living artist for promoting Norwegian art around the world.

Britt lives and works in Cairo, Egypt.



*"The Path of Love and Forgiveness is the Only Way"*

Oil on canvas

80 x 80 cm

CAROLYN SEATON

USA



Carolyn's international experiences include living and working for thirty-five years in multi-cultural settings such as a Peace Corps volunteer in Togo, and as a drawing and painting teacher first at the International School of Brussels, and now at Cairo American College. As a teacher, she finds great personal satisfaction working with students who are forever exploring new images and approaches in their artwork.



*"The Road Ahead"*

I interpreted the theme "The Road Ahead" in an abstract style using the symbolic colors of the Egyptian flag as the visual thread. The colors along with shapes and lines are used to create the visual reality and take the viewer on a journey across the canvases. Flecks of blue imply the Nile. Accents of gold represent hope and light on Egypt's road ahead.

## CECILIA SMITH



Cecilia is a printmaker living and working in Glen Ellyn, Illinois, a suburb of Chicago. She has been creating intaglio prints and lithographs for the last six years, after a 20 year hiatus from making serious art.

Her prints deal primarily with portraiture through stories and allegories. Her husband is the rector at St. Mark's Episcopal Church in Glen Ellyn and they have three teenage children.



*"One Path"*

My piece is a hand-colored, hand-printed lithograph in an edition of six. It is called "One Path," though it really describes one kind of path among many that can be taken. In the idealized portrayal of struggle and progress, it shows each of our necessities being achieved along the way: water, food, clothing, literature, and music. Though my print shows a straight and logical progression, in reality we fall and stand, fall and stand again; and our hope is that all of our necessities are met in some way all along the way.

COSIMA LUKSHEVICH

USA



"My name, Cosima (besides being derived from the names of Saints' Cosmos and Damian, early Christian Church representatives of altruistic healing and holiness) comes from the word Cosmos, meaning the universe, the root of the word, Cosmopolitan; someone at home in the universe, universally at home wherever they may be. It suits me being a German born American living in Egypt for quite a while. I AM home...In all these places."

Cosima has lived the union of cultural roots on three continents including German parents that immigrated to America in her early childhood, incorporating modern Egyptian life through marriage and motherhood that led her to live in Egypt for the past 15 years. During most of that she has been on her own studying, absorbing and reintegrating her ancient European family roots that are rich in the creative arts to her present home soil of Egypt.

She has exhibited and attended workshops in the Middle East and in Europe (Egypt, Jordan, Palestine, Germany, France, Switzerland, Lithuania, and Ireland) and offers private and group classes while she continues to develop pieces large and small by commission as well as her numerous series of works on paper and also paintings on canvas.



*"The Road Ahead"*  
80 x 60cm

We are part of the process, we ARE the procession to the future; we are the road ahead. Each of us have the power to create and contribute, it is our decision as to what that is. We send our feelings and thoughts out across the dimensions of time and space contributing peace, love and unity or fear and separation? A new world is awakening. It is in our hands to envision a preferred future; it begins inside each individual broadcast into the world.

## DAMON KOWARSKY

## AUSTRALIA



Damon Kowarsky studied printmaking at VCA and Glasgow School of Art and Advanced Figure Drawing with Godwin Bradbeer at RMIT.

Since graduating he has exhibited regularly in Australia and abroad and worked as a scientific, courtroom, and archaeological illustrator. In 2002 he assisted on a dig for the Dakleh Oasis Project Egypt.

In 2007 he taught drawing at Beaconhouse National University Lahore and studied miniature painting under Murad Mumtaz and Mahreen Zuberi. In 2010 he taught printmaking at Indus Valley School of Art and Architecture Karachi and held a very successful solo exhibition at Alhamra Art Gallery Lahore.

The recipient of numerous prizes and awards including a Toyota Community Spirit Artist Travel Award and Collie Trust Scholarship, Kowarsky has travelled extensively in South Asia, Europe and the Middle East. Architecture and the colours of earth and sky inspire much of his work.

Kowarsky exhibits regularly in Australia and abroad. He is currently working on a series of prints inspired by his recent travels along the Silk Road, as well as time in Japan, Korea, and the USA.



*Moiz Street*  
Charcoal on paper

Moiz Street was recently restored as part of a program to preserve the monuments and buildings of Islamic Cairo. While not as well known as some of the other treasures of Egypt the area between Bab al Nasr and Bab Zuweila is truly one of the wonders of the world.

I have spent many happy days wandering its streets, drawing, drinking tea, and talking with the always friendly and hospitable Egyptians.

This kind of restoration project represents for me 'The Road Ahead' – conserving the past, looking to the future, celebrating the present in a city full of life and culture.

## DORIAN HAQMOUN

## SWITZERLAND



Dorian grew up in Switzerland where he obtained his teaching and art degrees. Since Switzerland was not his country of choice he moved to England. The decades he lived there proved to be his most formative years in terms of identity and artistic expression. After a first attempt at living in Egypt followed by his return to England he settled in Cairo in 2007. Dorian has been painting and had several solo and group shows here. Having completed a series with arches and passages he has embarked on a new series with vases, captured in the play between light and shadow.

### *Shows:*

- 1989 Lauderdale House Gallery, London
- 1989 Hoathly Hill Gallery, Sussex
- 1989 Dunvegan Castle, Isle of Skye
- 1990 The Actors Institute, London
- 1990 Wigmore Hall, London
- 1991 October Gallery, London (Group Show), Swiss Artists in GB
- 1991 The Economist, London (Group Show), Swiss Artists in GB
- 1992 Leighton House, London (Group Show) Artists in Chelsea
- 1993 Leighton House, London (Group Show) Artists in Chelsea
- 1994 Lewisham, London (Group Show) Artists in Lewisham
- 1995 Lewisham, London (Group Show) Artists in Lewisham
- 1995-99 Shows at Steiner House, London
- 2000-04 Delrow House, Watford
- 2005-07 Camphill Village Trust, Stourbridge
- 2008 Gallery Misr (part of And Company) Zamalek, Cairo
- 2008 Portrait Gallery, Cairo (Group Show as part of International Symposium)
- 2008 Gauguin Hall, Zamalek, Cairo (Islamiat Group Show)

### *Publications:*

- M. R. Beaumont. Swiss Artists in Britain. London, 1991
- Portrait Gallery Magazine,, Cairo April 2008
- Zed Magazine, Cairo July 2008

### *Work in collections:*

- Sekem Administration Building, Heliopolis, Cairo
- Portrait Gallery Cairo
- Delrow House, Watford
- Dunvegan Castle, Scotland
- Camphill Village Trust, Stourbridge



*The Road Ahead*  
Acrylic on wood  
80 x 80 cm

The world is in turmoil, the road ahead hidden in the fog of unknowing, my own future painfully uncertain. The martyrs' blood has saturated the earth. The colours of the Egyptian flag express eloquently what I want to convey.

ERIK BLOME

USA



Erik Blome is an accomplished sculptor with works that dot the nation. His work encompasses everything from small-scale sculpture and drawings created for display in galleries to publicly commissioned monumental size bronzes for cities, sports stadiums, museums, universities and public spaces. Large-scale commissioned sculpture works have been permanently installed in the downtown areas of major cities like Chicago, Los Angeles, Washington DC, Dallas TX, Milwaukee WI, Alexandria VA, Montgomery AL, and Dayton OH.

Erik was born and raised in the Chicago area where he currently resides. Erik attended the University of Michigan where he earned a B.F.A. in Fine Art with a heavy concentration in figurative sculpture. He received his M.F.A. in sculpture from Boston University. Subsequently, he received a Rotary Scholarship and did postgraduate work at the Royal College of Art in London, England, where he received a postgraduate diploma in sculpture and drawing.

Erik has taught sculpture, bronze casting, public art and drawing at several colleges and art schools, including at the School of the Art Institute of Chicago, The Academy of Art in San Francisco, and the Royal College of Art in London.

He was a visiting artist at the American University in Cairo in 2009, and artist-in-residence at Addis Ababa University in Ethiopia in December 2010 through January 2011 where he built a fine art bronze foundry. In the summer of 2011 he was artist-in-residence at the City of Oak Lawn, Illinois where he had a temporary studio set-up to create a 9/11 first responders monument using large steel beams from the wreckage of the World Trade Center in New York City.

Erik is currently a U.S. Fulbright Teaching Award Recipient for 2011-12 with affiliation at the sculpture department of Helwan University in Cairo, Egypt.



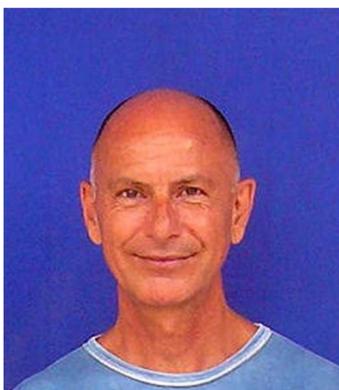
*Myshrabiya*  
Resin casting with gold-leaf and oil paint sculpture  
(20" X 20" X 3")

I call this piece "Mashrabiya". The road ahead is always a mystery and somewhat hidden from us, so I've used the mashrabiya idea and surrounded it with a composition of movement, time, and space.

Objects and people are moving or about to move, the past and present are one continuum and one process moving in space towards a hidden dreamlike destination. The cat in the mosque is like the bread man delivering the bread with his protest, it has a mind of its own!

FRANCOIS PEREZ

FRANCE



French nationality, born in Germany, University of Toulouse, majoring in French, English and German Literature, lived extensively in Algeria, France, England, Australia, Japan.

Spent 2 years in a Tibetan monastery in north India, studying Buddhism, then worked with natural Indigo in Australia and Chiang Mai Thailand. Now residing in Cairo, Egypt. And autodidact, working with a variety of media, in relation to the place and resources.

Exhibitions

- 2008 "Buddhas and Indigos" 70 Queen St Woollahra, Sydney.
- 2006 "Indigos " Le Lotus Bleu , Lesbos, Greece
- 2001 "Prayerflags" Internet and multi-media inter-active installation, Araluen Centre for the Arts, Alice Springs, N.T. Australia
- 1999 "Indigo Veils" Indigo dyed silk installation, Watch This Space, A.S.
- 1998 "Labyrinth and Virtues" Installation and inter-active event, 24HR Space, Darwin, N.T.
- 1998 "Labyrinth and Virtues" Installation and inter-active event, Araluen Centre for the Arts, Alice Springs, N.T.
- 1997 "Celebration for the Year of the Ox" Installation, and inter-active event, Watch This Space, Alice Springs N.T.
- 1992 " Shrines " Exhibition of Boxes as Shrines, Alessandra Negrini's Space, Tokyo
- 1988 " Photo Installation" A.D.2000 Gallery, Harajuku, Tokyo
- 1987 "Light" Photos, Transform Gallery, Ginza, Tokyo
- 1986 "Mishima" Photos and Mixed media, Idole Gallery, Shibuya, Tokyo
- 1985 "Tokyo Light" Photos and Sculpture Installation, Palais France, Harajuku, Tokyo
- 1984 "Luxe, Calme et Volupté" Photos, Hogarth Gallery, Sydney

Group Exhibitions

- 2012 Feb, "Le Caire mon amour #3" "Thut Ahn Thok, King of Attaba" Sculpture
- 2011 Nov, "Le Caire mon amour #2 "Sounds of Cairo" Drawings and collages
- 2011 May, "Le Caire, mon amour #1" "Le Caire devoile" 7 Champollion St , Downtown Cairo, interactive installation.
- 2009 Bondi Road Art School, Pastel Portrait.
- 2009 Selected for the Art prize for the Waverley Art school annual show
- 2008 "Members show" Gallery A4 Sydney
- 2007 "Portraits", pastel portraits Patricia Cheesman Studio. Chiang Mai.
- 2005 " (he)art of the street " , Indigo hand dyed and hand painted large wall hangings and Multi Media Installation « The Path », Chiang Mai Museum of Modern Art



*"The Way"*

There is only one way, to the light, the Golden Sun. Surrounded by red passions and distractions, the way, like the map of the Nile with the Delta in the ancient lotus shape, symbol of self regeneration.

JULIA MORGAN-LEAMON

USA



Julia Morgan-Leamon is a painter and video installation artist from the USA. Her work examines gestures of figures as they move through time and space.

She asks what happens when one moves from a safe and familiar place into the strange and unfamiliar?

Is there a conceptual boundary that is crossed, or a chasm that is bridged?

To practice respect and tolerance for difference in peoples, religions, neighborhoods, and countries is to cross boundaries. Learning another's language and practicing writing the strange letters of another's alphabet over and over is a gesture of reaching beyond the familiar.



*"Unraveling"*  
Watercolor

In *Unraveling*, the traditional Egyptian design of a shirt is loosening and forming the Arabic word *huraya* or freedom. I thought of this piece as I was in a plane looking down at the Nile as it wove its way through Luxor. The coolness of the sky draped the ground and intensified the linear quality of the Nile. From above the great river appeared like a strong and meandering thread.

Freedom! Huraya!

## JULIE KLIMENTOS

GREECE



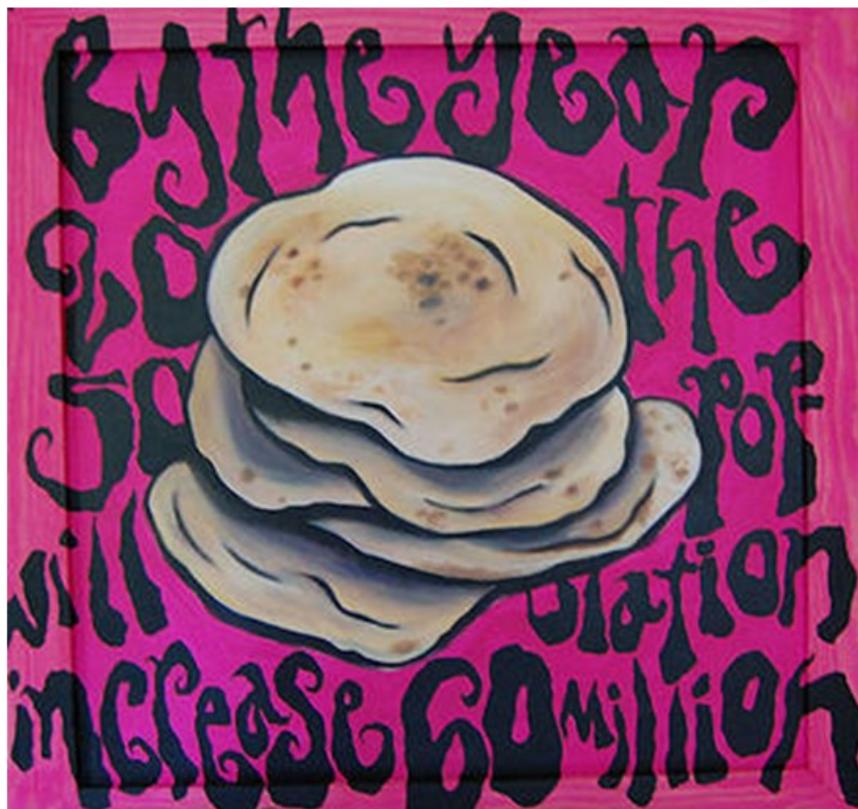
Julie Klimentos is a graduate of Goldsmith's College, London, where she studied Fine Art/Textiles. Her passion for cutting edge commercial design led her to work in retail/interior design in London for a number of years. Moving overseas her career changed to Art Education, and she has been teaching Middle School Art for the past 12 years at Cairo American College.

Julie Klimentos is an internationally recognized artist, and her work is held in private collections in Australia, Canada, China, Dubai, Egypt, India, Indonesia, Singapore, South Africa, UK, USA, Vietnam and more.

About her work...

Julie states, "There is intrigue and curiosity sparked by things culturally and socially unfamiliar. My paintings attempt to draw attention to the spirit within, beyond the boundaries of outward graphic beauty, aesthetic comfort."

Her modern interpretations of traditional themes are much sought after, and she is renowned for the unique way she brings traditional and cultural symbolism into her work. Her paintings capture the essence of the vitality of life so evident here in Egypt.



*"Bread"*

I wanted to make a statement that goes beyond the questions of political direction. Egypt's population is growing rapidly and the basic necessity to be able to produce its own food, releasing it from foreign aid and increasing debt, is essential.

Egyptians are the world's largest consumers of bread and Egypt is the largest wheat importer. I chose to use the simple symbolism of the 5 pieces of bread, which appears fun and graphic.

But the statement posed on the painting "By the year 2050 the population will increase 60 million" is an abrupt and startling reality of the road ahead.

## JULIE OXENFORTH

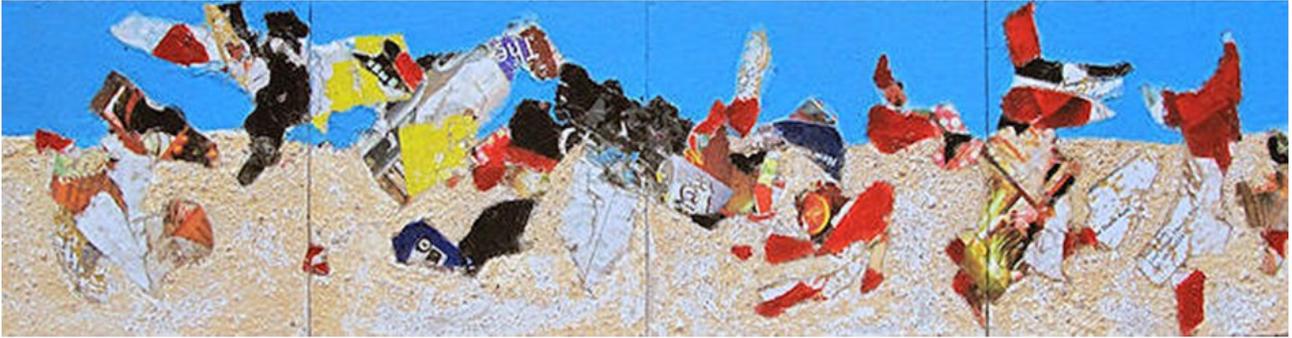
UK



A British artist born in 1966, Julie has lived in Egypt since 2007. She is a yoga teacher and Reiki Master in Dahab on the Red Sea.

Julie attended art school in the UK: Grimsby School of Art 1984 -1986, Canterbury College of Art 1986 – 1988 and graduated with an MA in Fine Art from the University of Sunderland in 2005.

With a solid background of life drawing and figurative sculpture, Julie now works in mixed media including video, photography, collage and installation to express her concerns. The overall theme of her work plays with boundaries; blurring and redefining them, and is ultimately an invitation for the viewer to step into Being



*“Joy to the World”*

Polytch--Acrylic, collage, sand

80 x 20 cm

This work uses an extended landscape format divided into 4 sections (traditionally known as a polyptych) to suggest a road, travel and lateral movement.

The lateral signifies the feminine way forward. Although abstract, the ground is reminiscent of a desert skyline which is the imprint of context on consciousness and the form is randomly placed to convey the nature of the road ahead as movement, change and an unknown continuum.

## KATRINA VREBALOVICH

USA



Katrina went to Parson's School of Design in New York City. She has had a long experience with various forms of art: painting, murals in mixed media, jewelry, wearable art, and public art.

She exhibits internationally. Recent exhibitions include;

- . Caravan—Harmony: East & West, Cairo 2010
- . Picasso Gallery, Cairo 2009
- . Rana Museum 2008
- . Galleri Dina, Svolvær, Norway 2008.
- . Bratislava Parliament exhibition for Alexander Dubc'ek 2008
- . Tjømes kunst handel, Oslo, Norway 2007
- . Gallery Artem, Bratislava, Slovakia 2007



*"Tahrir in my Heart"*

I started painting on the 24th of January 2011 and completed on the new moon in February. It is a vision of the many beings on different levels of consciousness looking upon the transformation of Tahrir or our planet and the opening of the heart connecting all of us. "Tahrir in my Heart."

KIMBERLY ODEKIRK

USA



Kimberly is a well-known American artist bridging Eastern beauty with a Western flare. Exploring a new arena of artistic expression you'll find the multimedia paintings of Kimberly Odekirk cross established boundaries of tool and medium to celebrate the rich cultural context of human life. American born, Kimberly is a resident of Egypt and a member of the faculty of art at Cairo American College.

She holds graduate art degrees from California and Washington, with specialization in textiles and design.

Ms. Odekirk participates annually in both solo and group exhibitions. With close to 600 paintings around the world, she's been featured on CNN, Channel One TV, Nile TV, and in numerous magazines and newspapers. Corporate collections include the regional offices of Coca Cola, Oberoi headquarters, Queen of Angeles Hospital, Cairo American College, various hotels and private collectors, and can be seen at [www.odekirk.com](http://www.odekirk.com)



*"Back to the Future"*  
oil on canvas  
80 x 110 cm

There's a moment of truth in each visual encounter that passes quickly... sometimes unnoticed. I wish to capture the essence of that moment and preserve it, share it with others. This allows the subjects to tell their story through my interpretation, my perspective of the ordinary, but often beautiful moments of life that can slip away unless captured and preserved in art.

Keeping the images simple, the messages are easy to translate: love between friends and families, the beauty and joy of life, quiet times. Basic shapes, local color, light and shade give life to the paintings. The blurred, softened edges allow the viewer to step into the work, find a personal dialogue, and emerge with a connection true to their interpretation guided by a new insight.

LUCY WESTWOOD

UK



Lucy Westwood graduated from Duncan of Jordanstone College of Art in Dundee, Scotland with an honours degree in Illustration and Printmaking in 1996. She worked from her studio in Cambridge, England until coming to Cairo in 2004. In England she showed work in joint, two person and solo exhibitions and undertook a number of commissions including a large church wall hanging.

In Egypt Lucy participated in the first Winter Academy at the International Art Center, Fayoum and 2007 International Art Symposium at Fustat, Cairo. Current artwork is exhibited in Maadi at the World of Art Gallery and in Catacombs.

She is currently the Head of the Art Department at the Modern English School Cairo.



*Together We Build (Ma'an Nabny)*

Linocut with watercolour

85 x 45cm

Deep mounted in frame

Hands clasped together form the keystone of a bridge made of patterns from Egypt's rich cultural heritage. Pharaonic motifs merge with Islamic, Coptic, Bedouin and Berber designs. Further organic patterns represent growth. Strength is emphasized through the rich colours. Hands of all ages are reading and writing. Access to education will empower all to step out on the road ahead.

"Give thy heart to learning, and love her like a mother, for there is nothing so precious as learning."

From a papyrus found in the ruins of a school in the Ramesseum, written by a High Priest who called himself the Chief of the Royal Stable of Instruction.

MAAIKE DRAPER-ALBERS

NETHERLANDS



### Tensions of Opposites

Maaïke Draper-Albers began painting over twenty years ago. On seeing paintings of others she thought, "what would it be nice if I was also able to paint too. She started painting and has not stopped. In those twenty years she has gone through all the technics of painting. According to Maaïke "Painting is an addiction. Also my old work is still precious to me. Paintings are my babies, it's hard to let them go." She paints flowers. Likes the shadows and rooftops.

At the moment she has turned into a more abstract way of painting. Four years ago she made an important discovery. People showed her the contents of her own paintings. Each painting tells us something about her own life. From that moment the paintings had an even greater significance for her.

In her paintings we find faces. After looking for a while some people appear. In unexpected places and at unexpected moments. Maaïke herself calls this the "Game of the tension of opposites."

Many of the faces have a spiritual aura. Other faces are clearly representing ego. Also the 'Holy Spirit' appears in her work. The fight between those two leading to enlightenment.

Painting for Maaïke is a way to find answers to life's questions: "how do I get out of this turmoil?" Her answer: "Trust in God and life will turn out miraculously!" The inspiration comes just as the Spirit: what you need comes at unexpected moments. She wants to catch those gifts in her paintings. Creativity is not only up to her any more.

To be able to paint something valuable it must be the right time. The time must be ripe in order to listen to what creating can be. And look: "It is not what it seems to be!"



*"The Tree of Life"*  
Acrylic

The tree of life, symbolizes the pathway to God. On the left angel and Indian man, unity, love meets wisdom. Top hole in tree Islam meets Christianity. On the right white, symbolized by the demon reflects conflict.

Far right the laughter as it is so funny. Biggest hole in the tree is the entrance to illusion. The two top small white holes are our understanding, they are out of balance, and thinking is paramount to feeling.

The M is the heart, the center of feelings. Both top white holes are eyes. Smaller hole below is power and choice, also the navel of a pregnant woman, stands for creation. Only one pathway leads us above, the rest don't.

But there is also a barrier we have to take, which is the black eye, the eye that looks with judgment.

MARIANN VILLADSEN

DENMARK



Mariann was born in Denmark in 1967. She has been living in Europe, Asia and Africa.

Educated as Montessori Director, the work with children inspired her to start painting.

She is painting modern abstract expressionists painting. She is using remnants of Egyptian culture and her own Scandinavian heritage. She expresses herself through vibrant colours. Her art has been displayed in galleries, art shows and the royal embassy of Denmark. Her paintings have been displayed in solo and group exhibitions. Her paintings have been sold to private collectors and companies worldwide.

**Artist comment:**

I believe art is a risky undertaking which finds the artist seeking answers to elusive question of creativity. I personally come out from such undertakings with questions rather than answers.



*"The Road Ahead"*  
80x80

It is spring in Egypt.

The water is running in the Nile bringing life to Egypt as it always has.

The children are playing in the water; laughing and playing as if nothing has happened.

We need to give them peace, care, education and love, wherever they are boys, girls, rich or poor it does not matter, because they are...the road ahead.

## RENATA DYK

## POLAND



She was born in Poland. In 1996, she graduated from the Academy of Fine Arts in Warsaw, and received her MA degree in Conservation of Painting. For many years, Renata worked as an art restorer in churches, palaces, and auction houses in Poland. She also painted numerous copies of masterpieces from famous artists which are now in private collections in France, the UK, Germany, the USA, and Poland.

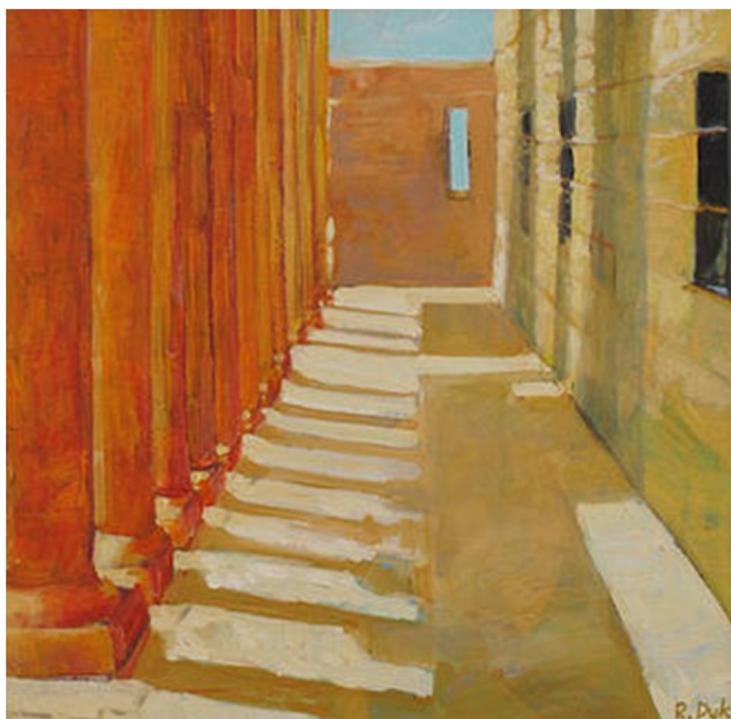
For several years, she also worked as an interior designer. She is a professional cartoon animator as well. For a period of time, she worked at "The Film Studio" in Warsaw.

She became a member of The Association of Polish Artists (ZPAP). In 2006, she moved to Cairo, Egypt where she lives until this day.

For the last few years, she has been focusing on creating her own personal style of painting. Her inspiration has been drawn from nature, and the local architecture. Recently, she has taken up teaching painting to groups of students, with considerable success.



*"No Fears"*  
Oil on Canvas  
60x80cm



*"Looking for the Light"*  
Oil on Canvas  
50x50cm  
**Additional entry—not shown at exhibition**

RENEE VAN LILLE DEMETROUDES

SOUTH AFRICA



1988 – 1991 : National Diploma in Textile Design Pretoria Technikon – South Africa.

1992 – 1994 : Textile Designer at David Whiteheads Textiles  
Kwazulu Natal – South Africa.

1995 : Established own business as commercial artist in Pretoria (Administrative Capital of South Africa);

- Clientele consisted of: Businesses, Hotels, Schools, Government Departments and private commissions.

In addition to the commissions from within South Africa, she has works on display in Washington D.C. (World Bank), London and Mauritius (British American Insurance Company).

2004 - 2008: Relocated to Mauritius.

2009: Relocated to Egypt



*Colours of Hope*

With an explosion of gold, colour, designs and textures so typical of Egypt's past and present, I tried to depict an Egypt of faith and hope.

## ROLAND PRIME

UK



Roland an artist living and creating works of art in Cairo, Egypt for eight years now has mainly been concentrating on painting. His work focuses on the landscape both urban and suburban, more recently the urban landscape. Just recently he completed a series of work in watercolours that reflect march of development that surrounds his Maadi home. He has created many portable sculptures that have derived from the theme of recycling. An old organ dismantled and turned into a variety of sculptures, one large one in front of the

Church of St John's, Maadi. Many other pieces turned into illuminated sculptures and useful items such as tables. His work has travelled the World and is in many countries around the World.

### **Education:**

Canterbury Christ Church College, Kent, England – 1992 – 1995

### **Profession:**

Adult Education, Sculpture and Photography Tutor

Long Road Sixth Form College, Cambridge, England – 2000 - 2004

### **Exhibitions since being in Egypt:**

Mon Amour, Downtown Cairo – Nov 2011

2nd Luxor International Exhibition, Amir Taz Palace, Cairo – Nov 2010

Pattern, World of Art, Maadi – May 2010

2nd Luxor International Symposium, Luxor Temple – Nov 2009

Between light and noise, Catacomb, Digla, Maadi – May 2009

On a Caravan, St John's Church, Maadi – Jan 2009

Summer Exhibition, World of Art, Maadi – June 2008

Solo Show, Portrait Gallery, Falaki Square, Downtown– April 2008

2nd Painting Symposium, Fustat – Mar 2008

Two, World of Art, Maadi – April 2008

1st Painting Symposium Fustat – Mar 2007

Group Exhibition, Portrait Gallery – April 2007

Fayoum Inspirations 1st International Symposium – Feb 2007

CSA, Community Art Show – Mar 2005

Five, World of Art, Maadi – Nov 2005

### **Continuing Commercial Outlets:**

Theodor's, Maadi 2010 – Current

World of Art, Maadi – Current

Catacomb, Digla, Maadi – Current

### **Commissions:**

Sculptures sold privately and Internationally – Current

Paintings, Private.– Current

Commercial drawing, Private.– Current

St John's Church, Maadi, Sculpture – 2005



*"The Road Ahead"*  
oil on canvas  
80 x 80 cm

A road ahead, could be anywhere, a roundabout (interchange), choices, which direction do you go?

Using the road and the interchange as a metaphor we are presented with a choice as to which direction you should go, that choice is yours, you have the freedom to choose.

## SONJA MOSER

## AUSTRIA



Sonja Moser, born in Austria, is primarily a figurative painter who began her painting journey in New Orleans while studying Jazz piano. She moved to New York after the floods of Katrina, where she became involved in artist collectives, and gained an extensive collector base.

Her work is inspired by her immediate vicinity and the various characters moving within it. In magnifying the human spirit with emotional expressiveness, her aim is to let individuality shine through. She finds it effortless to uncover beauty in the peripheral, in the stranger contemplating his existence, or a stray dog roaming about.

Tracing everyday existence, she treats painting as a narrative, unearthing and illuminating that which lies beyond the surface. Sonja had two solo exhibits in her native Austria, before moving to Cairo in 2009, where she has exhibited work that is strongly influenced by Egyptian culture.

**EXHIBITIONS**

2012--Solo Exhibit in Austria, Kirnberg, Galerie Penzenauer-Griessler; Group Exhibits in Cairo - Zamalek,

The Gallery, Galerie Urban Nomads, Caravan Festival

2011--Solo Exhibit in Cairo, Galerie Verlenden

2010--Solo Exhibit in Cairo, Galerie Verlenden

2009--Solo Exhibit in Austria, Teichfest, Reidling

2008--Solo Exhibit in Austria, Hofstetten

2006/07--Group Exhibits in New York

2005--Solo and Group Exhibits in New Orleans



*"The Making of a New Earth"*

The road ahead is one of forging ourselves from our dreams, with heart in hand, walking through an invisible wall into a new world independent of all creed and cultural boundaries, where long cherished hierarchies are dislodged and dualistic thought is replaced with spiritual philosophy, engaged in a continual dance of ebb and flow, of dark and light, as parts of an undivided whole.

The road ahead invites us on a luminous journey where the doors open inward and outward, where friendship and belonging transcend boundaries, where the cultivating of stillness and knowing of the self is paramount in challenging conventional wisdom and conformity, where faith has no need of information, and no need of donning of robes. the road ahead requires an eruption of the new to make room for a deeper truth, and this requires a rare abandon.