

# MODERN AND CONTEMPORARY ART OF THE MIDDLE EAST

Online Auction, 2 - 14 April 2020



 ArtScoops.







# MODERN AND CONTEMPORARY ART OF THE MIDDLE EAST

*ONLINE ONLY AUCTION*  
*2 - 14 APRIL 2020*

10% of the Buyer's Premium will be donated to the Lebanese Red Cross  
to help those affected by the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic.

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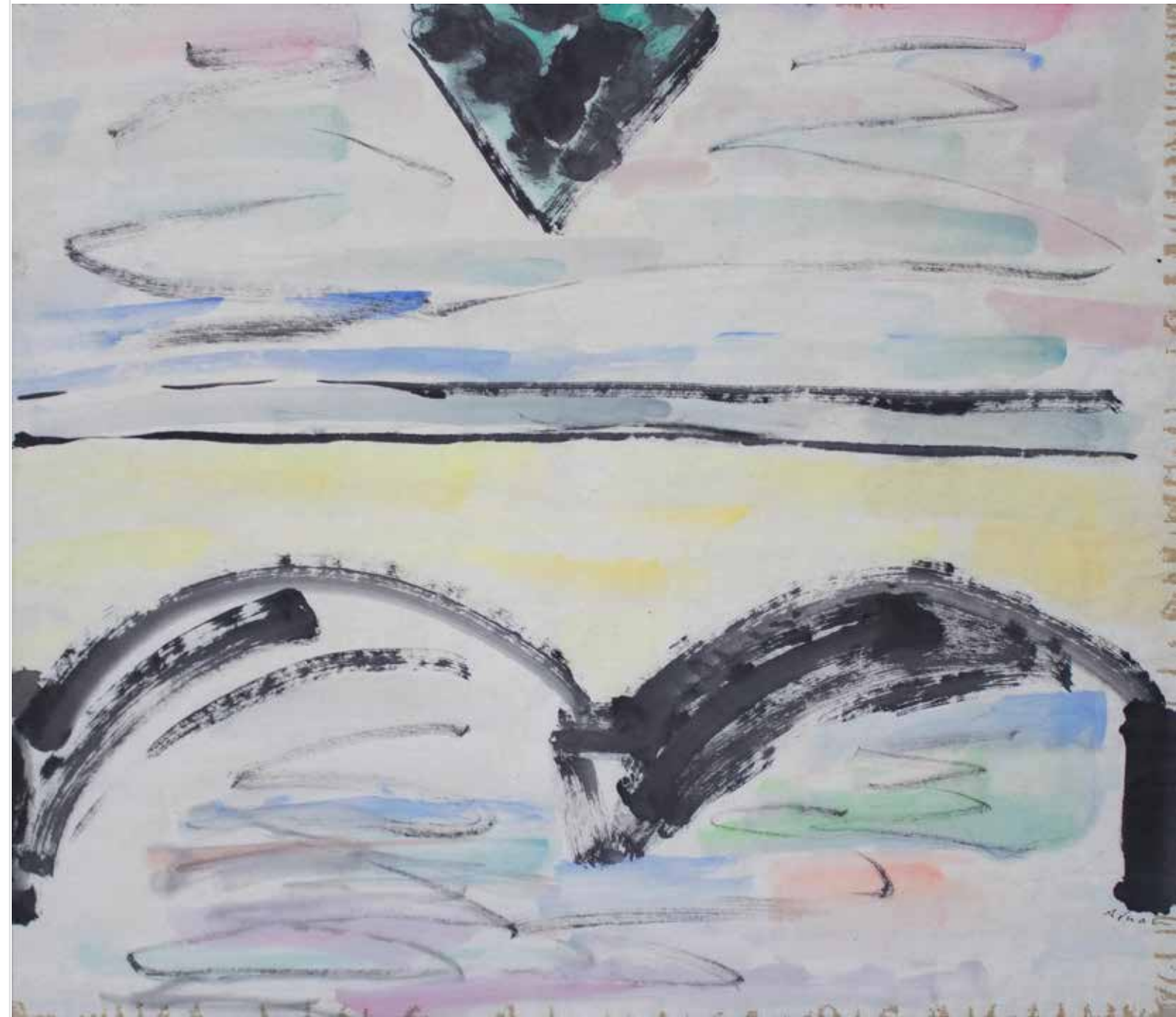
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Front cover lot 16  
Back cover lot 11  
Inside front cover lot 13  
Inside back cover lot 37  
Opposite page lot 10





1

**ASSADOUR**  
(LEBANESE-ARMENIAN, B. 1943)

*Personnage avec un Cerf Volant*

numbered «Ep. d'artiste» (lower left); titled «Personnage avec un Cerf Volant» (lower centre); dated and signed «1985/87 Assadour» (lower right)  
etching  
This is an Artist Proof.  
38.5 x 50 cm.  
Executed between 1985-87.

**US\$ 500-1,500**

PROVENANCE:  
Private Collection, Tokyo.



2

**ASSADOUR**  
(LEBANESE-ARMENIAN, B. 1943)

*10#12GMT*

numbered «28/30» (lower left), titled «10#12 GMT» (lower centre), dated; and signed «1995 Assadour» (lower right)  
«etching  
This work is edition twenty eight of thirty.  
33 x 49.5 cm.  
Executed in 1995.

**US\$ 500-1,500**

PROVENANCE:  
Private Collection, Tokyo.



3

**PAUL WAKIM**  
(LEBANESE, B. 1949)

*Abstract*

signed and dated «Paul Wakim  
12.1.1979» (lower right)  
watercolour on paper  
37 x 60.5 cm.  
Painted in 1979.

**US\$ 1,200-2,000**

PROVENANCE:  
Private Collection, Beirut.

A Certificate of Authenticity  
accompanies the work



4

**FATEH MOUDARESS**  
(SYRIAN, 1922-1999)

*The Face*

signed and dated «Moudarress 98»  
(lower left)  
ink on paper  
29.5 x 21 cm.  
Painted in 1998.

**US\$ 800-1,500**

PROVENANCE:  
Private Collection, Paris.  
Acquired directly from the artist.





5

**CHAFIC ABOUD**  
(LEBANESE, B. 1926)

*Untitled*

numbered «No 12/20» (lower left);  
signed «Abboud» (lower right)  
lithography  
This work is edition twelve  
of twenty  
43 x 31 cm.

**US\$ 800-1,500**

PROVENANCE:  
Private Collection, Beirut.



6

**SUMAYYAH SAMAHA**  
(LEBANESE, B. 1939)

*Lines and Forms*

numbered «OIL. C 2015-005», signed  
«S. Samaha», titled «Lines and  
Forms I», dated «2015»  
(on the reverse)  
mixed media on canvas  
90 x 120 cm.  
Painted in 2015.

**US\$ 4,000-8,000**

PROVENANCE:  
Private Collection, New York.

Painted in 2015, this piece is typical of the grant-winning artist's thought-provoking abstract work, which is characterised by interconnected organic shapes created in lively colours. Intriguing and unsettling, we are greeted by a combination of sweeping curved lines, peppered with a mix of shapes, some of which feature vivid block-filled colour of predominantly red and green. Samaha is Lebanese by birth and has been based in New York in recent decades. Much of her work, created in charcoal and oil with bold brushstrokes and a dense palette, serves as an expression of her feelings about the innocent casualties of conflict in war-torn countries. However, her recent work, indicating a new phase, also radiates hope and joy. Samaha's work is found in collections held by Prudential Insurance, Pfizer Pharmaceuticals and Banque Audi, among others. She has held several solo shows and participated in many collectives. Just recently, her work was featured at the 22nd edition of Salon Zürcher, New York, which was held, to great acclaim, on the theme 'The 11 Women of Spirit'.



7

**FATEH MOUDARESS**  
(SYRIAN, 1922-1999)

*Untitled*

signed in Arabic (lower left)  
ink on paper  
28 x 22 cm.

**US\$ 800-1,500**

PROVENANCE:  
Private Collection, Paris.  
Acquired directly from the artist.

8

**SHAKER HASSAN AL SAID**  
(IRAQI, 1925-2004)

*Untitled*

signed in Arabic and dated <1984>  
(lower left)  
watercolour and collage on paper  
37 x 49 cm.  
Painted in 1984.

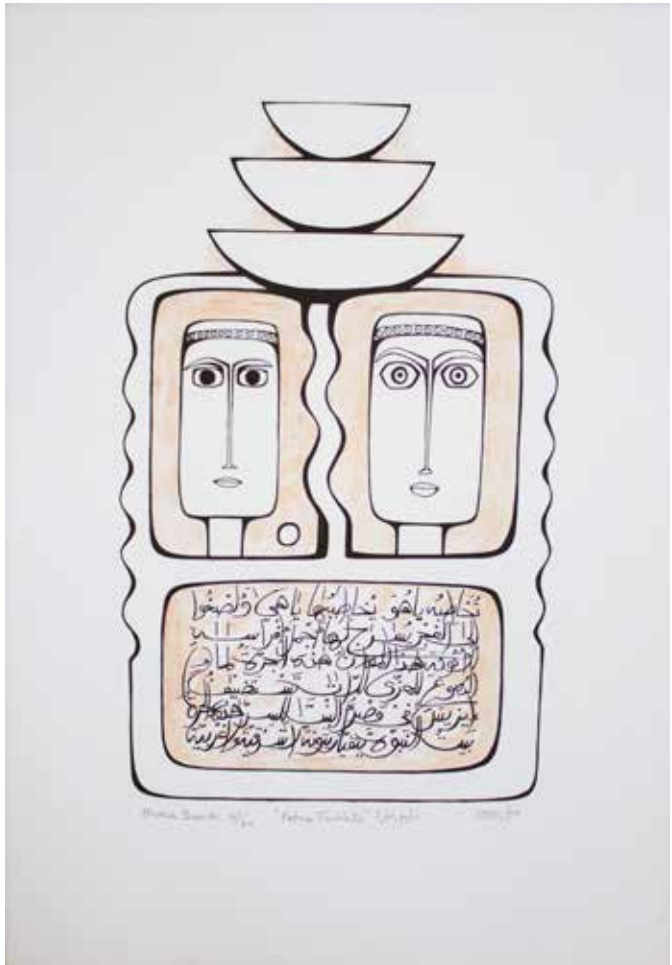
**US\$ 3,600-6,000**

PROVENANCE:  
Private Colletion, Beirut.  
Gifted by the artist to the  
present owner.

The artist's well-documented fascination with Sufi thought and penchant for exploring ways in which pictorial surfaces could be transcended or modified are both to the fore in this signed and dated artwork, which features motifs inspired by Arabic letters and calligraphy that encircle the main subject of the piece. Seemingly suspended, the focal point of the work has a figurative, yet mythical feel about it, arms or wings outstretched, the appearance of floating reinforced by a thin grey line above the subject. Yet the calmness of this captured moment in time is brusquely and cruelly disrupted, severed by a blood-red line that cuts, knife-like, vertically through the piece.

An Iraqi painter, sculptor, writer and historian, Al Said is considered one of his birthplace's most innovative and influential artists, playing a key part in its modern art movement. He is also known for developing the art philosophy 'One Dimension'. Spiritual reflection, along with structuralism and deconstruction, is often mentioned in reference to his works. Widely exhibited, Al Said studied at Baghdad's Institute of Fine Arts, later also teaching at the facility.





9

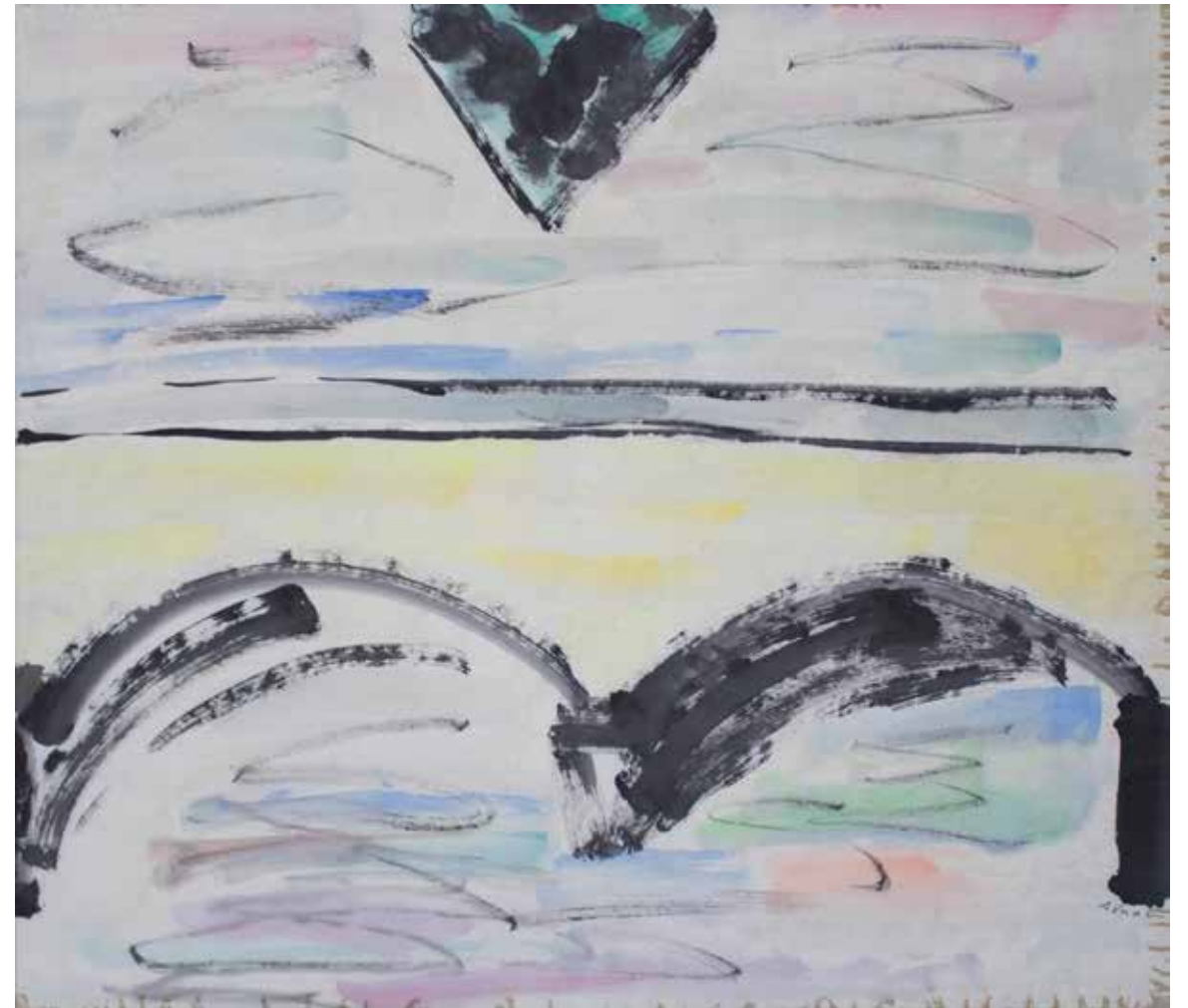
**MONA SAUDI**  
(JORDANIAN, B. 1945)

*The Petra Tablets*

signed and numbered «Mona Saudi 21/50» (lower left); titled in English and Arabic «Petra Tablets» (lower centre); signed in Arabic and dated 1995 (lower right)  
*From the Adonis Series*  
silkscreen and watercolour on paper.  
This work is edition twenty one of fifty  
74 x 52 cm.  
Executed in 1995.

**US\$ 2,200-2,800**

PROVENANCE:  
Private Collection, Beirut.



*“My painting is very much a reflection of my immense love for the world, the happiness to just be, for nature, and the forces that shape a landscape.”*

10

**ETEL ADNAN**  
(LEBANESE, B. 1925)

*Untitled*

signed «Adnan» (lower right)  
watercolour on paper  
44 x 51.5 cm.

**US\$ 7,000-12,000**

PROVENANCE:  
Private Collection, Beirut.



11

**ALFRED BASBOUS**  
(LEBANESE, 1924-2006)

*Father and Son*

signed «A. Basbous 1980»  
bronze (black and blue patina)  
This work is edition two of eight  
42 x 12 x 8.5 cm.  
Executed in 1980.

**US\$ 12,000-16,000**

PROVENANCE:  
Private Collection, Beirut.

A Certificate of Authenticity from  
the Alfred Basbous Foundation  
accompanies the work.

This sculpture by one of Lebanon's best-known artists is a charming piece of work, which displays the deep-rooted closeness and familial bonds that exist between father and son. The love between the two protagonists is clearly evident in the way that the artist has cleverly intertwined the figures, which encircle each other affectionately with their arms, while the boy's feet rest endearingly on his father's upper leg. There is a calmness about the pose, almost as if, in the way that art often reflects real life, no words are needed at this moment in time to express the bond that exists between the twosome.

Born in Rachana, Basbous enjoyed a long and successful career, with his first exhibition at the Alecco Saab Gallery, Beirut, in 1958 thrusting him firmly into the spotlight. In 1960, he received a scholarship from the French government, which enabled him to study under the sculptor René Collamarini at the National Fine Arts School in Paris (L'Ecole Nationale des Beaux-Arts de Paris). The following year, his works featured at the International Sculpture Exhibition at the Musée Rodin, Paris.

Working in the tradition of sculptors such as Auguste Rodin, Jean Arp and Henry Moore, Basbous explored the potential of fine materials, such as bronze, wood and marble, to express the sensuality and purity of the human form. An evident aversion to frivolous and meaningless embellishments in his pieces echoes his own philosophy of simplicity and earnestness. Focused on the aesthetic principles of shape, movement, line and material, his sculptures display a deeply ingrained sincerity and a search for the essence of beauty.





12

**SAMIA OSSEIRAN JUMBLAT**  
(LEBANESE, B. 1927)

*Purple Day*

signed 'S.Osseiran' (lower right)  
oil on canvas  
100 x 100 cm.

**US\$ 3,000-6,000**

PROVENANCE:  
Private Collection, Beirut.



13

**SOPHIE YERAMIAN**  
(LEBANESE, 1915-1984)

*Le Picnic*

signed 'Sophie Yeramian'  
(lower left)  
oil on board  
55 x 79 cm.

**US\$ 3,000-7,000**

PROVENANCE:  
Private Collection, Beirut.





14

**SILWAN IBRAHIM**  
(LEBANESE B. 1964)

*Abstract*

signed in Arabic and dated  
«2000»; signed in English  
«Mallah» (centre left)  
acrylic on canvas  
120 x 120 cm.  
Painted in 2000.

**US\$ 3,000-6,000**

PROVENANCE:  
Private Collection, Beirut.



15

**ABDULLAH MURAD**  
(SYRIAN, B. 1944)

*The Animals*

signed in English and Arabic,  
and dated «Murad '19» (lower left)  
oil on canvas  
97 x 115 cm.  
Painted in 2019.

**US\$ 5,500-9,000**

PROVENANCE:  
Private Collection, Beirut.

The scorching heat and arid terrain are palpable in this signed and dated desert scene, which bears all the hallmarks of Aractingi's style, from his love of bold colour to the influence of the primitive artists he so admired. Deserts are often sparsely populated places, marked by a lack of contrasts in terms of colour and landmarks, yet Aractingi provides us with plenty of both, drawing on his love for fantasy and folklore, with three red cacti taking pride of place in the sunburst-yellow sand, while other varieties edge them in the foreground; a reminder, perhaps, that variety exists everywhere, even in vast expanses of desert, if we look hard enough.

A renowned artist, Aractingi took up painting aged just 12 years, honing his skills in Egypt, where he was raised. He moved to Beirut when he got married, working there and later focusing more on his painting, which he continued to practise until his death. His work has been featured in over 100 exhibitions in Lebanon, France, the UK and the US. A retrospective show at the Sursock Museum in 2017, spanning 1973 to 2003 and titled 'Les Mondes de Willy Aractingi' (The Worlds of Willy Aractingi), reaffirmed his status as one of Lebanon's most talented modernists.

16

**WILLY ARACTINGI**  
(LEBANESE, 1930-2003)

*Les Cactus*

signed and dated «75»  
(lower right), titled «Les Cactus»;  
signed and dated «Janvier 1975»  
(on the reverse)  
oil on canvas  
70 x 80 cm.  
Painted in 1975.

**US\$ 7,000-12,000**

PROVENANCE:  
Private Collection, Beirut.







17

**YOUSSEF AOUN**  
(LEBANESE, B. 1965)

*Métamorphose II*

signed and dated 'Aoun 18'  
(lower left); signed 'Youssef Aoun',  
titled 'Métamorphose II', with  
medium, dimensions and dated  
'2018' (on the reverse)  
mixed media on canvas  
65 x 65 cm.  
Painted in 2018.

**US\$ 3,000-6,000**

PROVENANCE:  
Private Collection, Beirut.



18

**ZEINA ASSI**  
(LEBANESE, B. 1974)

*Pink Leaves*

signed 'ZENA ASSI' (lower right);  
signed 'ZENA ASSI', titled 'Pink  
Leaves' and dated 2012 (on the  
reverse)  
mixed media on canvas  
160 x 60 cm.  
Painted in 2012.

**US\$ 3,000-6,000**

PROVENANCE:  
Private Collection, Beirut.





19

**CHARLES KHOURY**  
(LEBANESE, B. 1966)

*Untitled*

signed 'Charles' (front of the base)  
wood sculpture  
50 x 18 x 12.5 cm.  
Executed in 2018.

**US\$ 1,500-3,000**

PROVENANCE:  
Private Collection, Beirut.

20

**OUSSAMA BAALBAKI**  
(LEBANESE, B. 1978)

*Untitled*

signed in Arabic and dated '19'  
(lower left)  
oil on canvas  
50 x 70 cm.  
Painted in 2019.

**US\$ 2,800-4,000**

PROVENANCE:  
Private Collection, Beirut.







21

**JAMIL MOLAEB**  
(LEBANESE, B. 1948)

**Birds**

signed and dated 'JAMIL MOLAEB  
2015' (lower right)  
oil on canvas  
60 x 50 cm.  
Painted in 2015.

**US\$ 2,000-4,000**

PROVENANCE:  
Private Collection, Beirut.



22

**HASSAN JOUNI**  
(LEBANESE, B. 1942)

**Beirut**

signed 'H. Jouni' and dated '2013'  
(lower right); signed 'H. Jouni',  
titled in Arabic 'Beirut', with  
dimensions '150 x 100', dated  
'Beirut 2013 13-2-2015'  
(on the reverse)  
oil on canvas  
100 x 150 cm.  
Painted between 2013 - 2015.

**US\$ 8,000-12,000**

PROVENANCE:  
Private Collection, Beirut.

A Certificate of Authenticity  
accompanies the work.

*"Lebanon is bathed in light.  
I always feel that this light makes  
the reds very red, the yellows super  
yellow and the blue a true blue.  
This is the light and colour of the  
east, which has a pallet heavily  
influenced by yellow, so these  
are the hues that you find in my  
paintings."*

- Lebanontraveler.com





23

**HUSSEIN MADI**  
(LEBANESE, B. 1938)

*Untitled*

signed and dated «MADI 73»  
(upper right)  
ink on paper  
50 x 69 cm.  
Painted in 1973.

**US\$ 3,000-6,000**

PROVENANCE:  
Private Collection, Beirut.



24

**HUSSEIN MADI**  
(LEBANESE, B. 1938)

*The Woman*

dated «12.1.78» (lower right)  
ink on paper  
70 x 103 cm.  
Painted in 1978.

**US\$ 10,000-15,000**

PROVENANCE:  
Private Collection, Beirut.





25

**OMAR ONSI**  
(LEBANESE, 1901-1969)

*Paysage*

signed «O. Onsi» (lower right)  
watercolour on paper  
38 x 57 cm.

**US\$ 1,500-3,000**

PROVENANCE:  
Private Collection, Beirut.



(reverse)



26

**OMAR ONSI**  
(LEBANESE, 1901-1969)

*Untitled*

signed «O. Onsi» (lower right)  
pencil on paper (one side);  
watercolour (on the reverse)  
32 x 46 cm.

**US\$ 2,400-4,000**

PROVENANCE:  
Private Collection, Beirut.  
Acquired directly from the present  
owner from the Onsi Family.



27

**ASSADOUR**  
(LEBANESE-ARMENIAN, B. 1943)

*Untitled*

signed and dated 'ASSADOUR  
2000' (lower right)  
watercolour on paper  
25.2 x 35 cm.  
Painted in 2000.

**US\$ 1,500-3,000**

PROVENANCE:  
Private Collection, Tokyo.

This signed portrait of a mother nursing her infant is typical of the French-born artist's figurative work, undertaken when he made the shift away from Lebanese landscapes in watercolours to the richer, boldly coloured and more sensuous figurative pieces he created, featuring characters reminiscent of Bohemian and Parisian society and Beirut life. The work has an air of serenity about it, with the mother seated, both hands gently supporting the infant, a wistful expression on her face. She is seemingly absorbed in tending to her baby's primal need for food - a time when bonding often takes place - or is her mind elsewhere? The scene is depicted against an almost incongruous background which reminds us of the transformation in style that the artist underwent, moving from realistic landscapes to his complicated relationship with cubism. Cyr lived in Paris and, later, Beirut, exhibiting extensively in both cities. During his time in Lebanon, he became part of a circle of high-profile artists, while also working in an official advisory capacity and was an influential force amongst the younger generations of artists.



28

**GEORGES CYR**  
(FRENCH, 1880-1964)

*La Maternité*

signed 'G.Cyr' (lower left)  
oil on board  
57.5 x 43 cm.

**US\$ 5,500-8,000**

PROVENANCE:  
Private Collection, Beirut.  
Acquired directly from  
Elie Kanaan, friend of  
the artist.



Deftly and delicately created in the celebrated artist's sweeping, signature strokes, this signed work features several of Guiragossian's hallmark elongated figures, reminding us of his obsession with the human form. In this work, his subjects are in traditional dress, arms wrapped around each other, heads to the side, in a show of intimacy and affection. While the coupling of the protagonists is evident, the viewer is left in no doubt that this is a joyous occasion which is being universally shared and celebrated through music. We know that guitars or ouds – their unmistakable shape beautifully crafted by the artist – are providing some of the entertainment, both from the title of this piece and the prominence they have in the work. Angled lines, created in the lower part of his subjects' dress, also add rhythm and movement, indicative of dance. The work comes from a series completed by the painter in the mid-1980s focusing on the renaissance of the Armenian people after the genocide. Many, like this piece, had rebirth and reintegration as their theme, depicted through music and musicians.

A prolific and renowned painter, Guiragossian's paintings are marked by force, beauty and sentience. He studied at the Academy of Fine Arts in Florence, after obtaining a scholarship, and also spent time in Paris, before returning to Beirut. His work has been exhibited extensively and is featured in several highly prestigious public and private collections. Aside from illustrating books, he also made frescos, mosaics, stained glass windows and sculptures.

29

**PAUL GUIRAGOSSIAN**  
(LEBANESE, 1926-1993)

*Les Musiciennes*

signed «Paul G» (lower left)  
watercolour on paper  
70 x 50 cm.  
Painted circa 1985.

**US\$ 8,000-15,000**

PROVENANCE:  
Private Collection, Beirut.

The authenticity of this work  
has been confirmed by the Paul  
Guiragossian Foundation, Beirut.  
We thank the Foundation for their  
assistance.

A Certificate of Authenticity  
accompanies the work.





30

**ANAS AL BRAEHE**  
(SYRIAN, B. 1991)

*Untitled*

signed and dated «anas...2016»  
(centre lower left)  
oil on canvas  
80 x 80 cm.  
Painted in 2016.

**US\$ 1,500-3,000**

PROVENANCE:  
Private Collection, Beirut.



31

**HUSSEIN MADI**  
(LEBANESE, B. 1938)

*Woman*

labelled in English and  
Arabic «MADI» (upper left of  
of base)  
metal sculpture  
52 x 20 x 12 cm.  
Executed circa 1990s.

**US\$ 2,600-5,000**

PROVENANCE:  
Private Collection, Beirut.





32

**AMIN SFEIR**  
(LEBANESE, 1932-2002)

*The Child*

signed «A. SFEIR» (upper right)  
oil on canvas  
52 x 43 cm.  
Painted circa late 1960s.

**US\$ 1,500-2,000**

PROVENANCE:  
Private Collection, Beirut.



33

**AMIN SFEIR**  
(LEBANESE, 1932-2002)

*Mother and Child*

signed and dated «A. SFEIR 64»  
(lower left)  
oil on canvas  
60 x 39 cm.  
Painted in 1964.

**US\$ 1,500-2,000**

PROVENANCE:  
Private Collection, Damascus.





34

**FATEH MOUDARESS**  
(SYRIAN, 1922-1999)

*Untitled*

signed in Arabic (lower right)  
gouache on board  
25 x 35 cm.  
Painted in 1954.

**US\$ 3,000-6,000**

PROVENANCE:  
Private Collection, Beirut.



35

**ELIE KANAAN**  
(LEBANESE, 1926-2009)

*The House*

signed «E.S.Kanaan», dedicated  
«amicalement à Aimée» (lower left)  
oil on board  
60 x 50 cm.  
Painted in 1958.

**US\$ 6,000-9,000**

PROVENANCE:  
Private Collection, Beirut.

The authenticity of this work has been  
confirmed by Mrs Kanaan, Beirut.  
We thank the Family for their assistance.





36

**ISMAIL HELOU**  
(SYRIAN, B. 1955)

*The Violinist*

signed in Arabic, signed and dated  
«I-HELOU 2016» (lower right)  
oil on canvas  
70 x 70 cm.  
Painted in 2016.

**US\$ 900-1,500**

PROVENANCE:  
Private Collection, Beirut.



37

**HELEN ZUGHAIB**  
(LEBANESE-AMERICAN, B. 1959)

*Hommage à mes Amis*

signed and dated «H. ZUGHAIB 18»  
(lower right)  
gouache on paper  
50.8 x 76.2 cm.  
Painted in 2018.

**US\$ 3,000-6,000**

PROVENANCE:  
Private Collection, Washington DC.



38

**MUSTAFA ALI**  
(SYRIAN, B. 1956)

*Untitled*

incised with signature and dated  
«M. Ali 5/8 2008» (lower right)  
wood and bronze sculpture  
52.5 x 16 x 16 cm.  
Executed in 2008.

**US\$ 2,400-5,000**

PROVENANCE:  
Private Collection, Beirut.



*“You can see the people who become tangled up — figures, bodies and parts of arms — but I always try, especially when using colours, to represent the darker side with more brightness so that it is easier to look at. Even where I have blood cells, I often disguise them with colour. But when you step into the work you realise there is a lot more entrapped inside it.”*

- gulfnews.com

**\*39**

**ATHIER MOUSAWI**  
(IRAQI-BRITISH, B. 1982)

*Prelude To All Things Come Apart 3*

acrylic on raw linen  
200 x 110 cm.  
Painted in 2017.

**US\$ 8,000-12,000**

PROVENANCE:  
Acquired directly from the artist.

*\* Payment transfer abroad only or in cash USD*







40

**MARWAN SAHMARANI**  
(LEBANESE, B. 1970)

*Untitled*

signed «SAHMARANI» (lower right)  
charcoal and acrylic on paper  
62 x 44 cm.

**US\$ 1,800-2,800**

PROVENANCE:  
Private Collection, Beirut.

41

**CHARLES KHOURY**  
(LEBANESE, B. 1966)

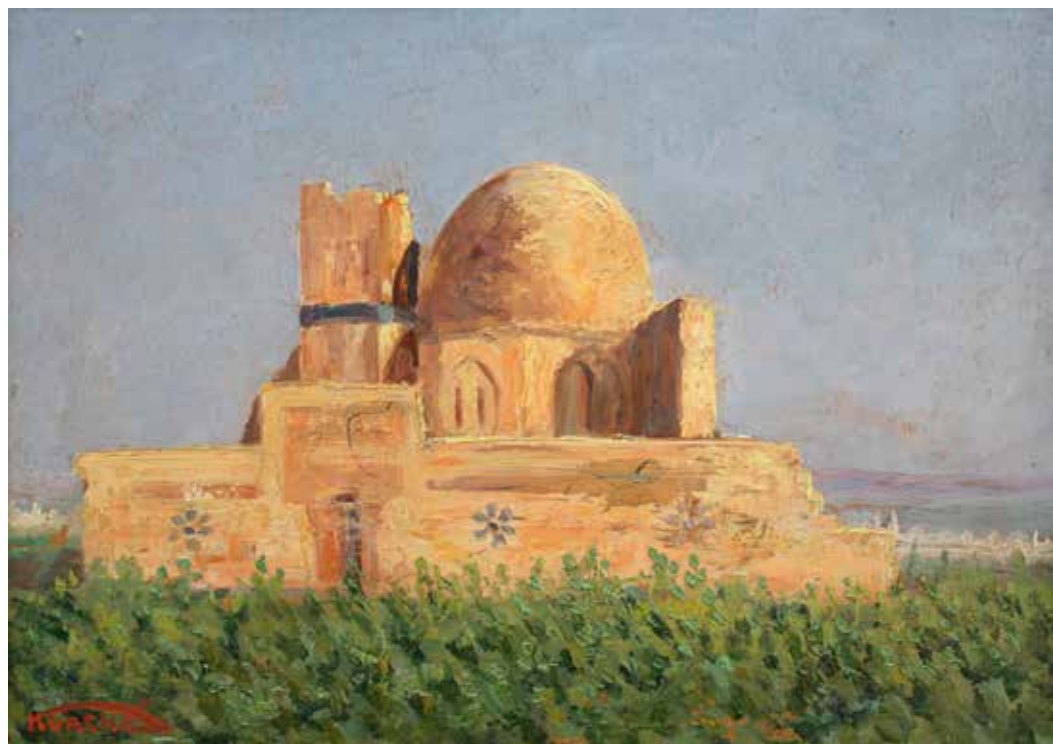
*Portrait*

signed «Charles» (lower left)  
oil on canvas  
98 x 80 cm.  
Painted in 2016.

**US\$ 2,200-5,000**

PROVENANCE:  
Private Collection, Beirut.





42

**MICHEL KURCHE**  
(LEBANESE, 1900-1973)

*Untitled*

signed 'KURCHE' (lower left); with  
location; dated 'Damas 1933' (on  
the reverse)  
oil on wood  
32.5 x 45 cm.  
Painted in 1933.

**US\$ 2,600-5,000**

PROVENANCE:  
Private Collection, Paris.



43

**HASSAN JOUNI**  
(LEBANESE, B. 1942)

*Kahwet El Kezaz*

signed and dated 'H.Jouni 2015'  
(lower right)  
oil on canvas  
90 x 120 cm.  
Painted in 2015.

**US\$ 5,000-9,000**

PROVENANCE:  
Private Collection, Beirut.





44

**AREF EL RAYESS**  
(LEBANESE, 1928-2005)

*Untitled*

signed (lower right)  
mixed media on cardboard  
22 x 33 cm.

**US\$ 2,600-5,000**

PROVENANCE:  
Private Collection, Beirut.

45

**HODA BAALBAKI**  
(LEBANESE, B. 1968)

*Traces of Happiness*

signed «Hoda Baalbaki»  
(lower left), dated «2012»  
(on the side of the frame);  
signed «Hoda Baalbaki»,  
titled, dated with location  
«Lebanon» (on the reverse)  
acrylic on canvas  
160 x 110 cm.  
Painted in 2012.

**US\$ 5,000-10,000**

PROVENANCE:  
Private Collection, Beirut.

With its combination of delicate, slender-trunked trees and pretty pathway leading the viewer towards a rich depth of woodland, edged by an abundance of subtle green and pink foliage, this signed work bears all the hallmarks of the artist's fascination with the best of what Mother Nature has to offer in her beloved homeland. The scene is both peaceful and uplifting, with the glorious hues of the flora, the shadow of the trees and bushes, and the shafts of light indicating a perfect spring-summer day, typical of the natural landscapes that Baalbaki describes as her refuge.

Born in Odaisse and a graduate of the Fine Arts Institute of the Lebanese University, Baalbaki has participated in collectives and also held solo shows. Aside from her realistic works, she has also explored abstraction, while still adapting themes from nature into her work. Other favoured subjects are the Mediterranean coastline, complete with townscapes which, along with her seemingly picturesque landscapes and other works, often relay a more poignant or frantic, underlying message about the world.







46

**CICI SURSOCK**  
(LEBANESE, 1923-2015)

*Untitled*

signed (lower right)  
oil on board  
58 x 48 cm.

**US\$ 2,000-4,000**

PROVENANCE:  
Private Collection, Beirut.

ArtScoops is delighted to present this rare, early Abstract work by an artist whose name is much more often associated with portraits. In this calming, yet uplifting, signed artwork, the artist presents us with what appears to be an enchanting sky scene, with azure blue dominating the composition, interrupted only at the top to allow the sun to break through. A shaft of white light takes the viewer's eye downwards and off to the right, illuminating the blue above and giving it an iridescent sheen. Silhouetted birds, recognisable only by their wings, edge both top corners of this important work, adding just a hint of movement to a serene scene. Sursock's talent for painting was evident when she was just a child and even then, she was gravitating towards portraits, painting faces in her notebook. As the daughter of a diplomat, she was born in Croatia and travelled extensively. Sursock was tutored in Turkey and began working as an illustrator in Cairo when her parents moved to Egypt. She gave up art when she married her husband, Habib Sursock, but took up painting again when they came to Lebanon, becoming the go-to portrait artist in society circles. Instantly recognisable, her faces typically focus on the eyes, which she often makes almond-shaped or doe-like, complete with strong lines and an almost monochrome palette. Famous personalities painted include Fairouz, Hrair and Assadour Bezdikian.



47

**RIMA AMYUNI**  
(LEBANESE B. 1954)

*House*

signed and dated  
«Rima Amyuni 3.05» (upper right)  
oil on canvas  
100 x 120 cm.  
Painted in 2005.

**US\$ 3,000-6,000**

PROVENANCE:  
Private collection, Beirut.  
Acquired directly from the artist by  
the present owner.

Instantly recognizable for its powerful use of colour and subject matter, which includes a typical residence built in idyllic surroundings and shrouded by trees, this signed and dated work relays both the artist's affection for her homeland and her unerring ability to capture it on canvas. The brushstrokes and angles give the work an intensity, liveliness and dynamism, reminding us of the complex and inter-dependent relationship that exists between nature and man on this earth that we share.

Born in Beirut, Rima Amyuni graduated with a degree in Fine Arts from the Byam Shaw School of Art in London, which is today part of Central Saint Martins College of Arts and Design, before continuing her studies at Columbia University in New York City. She moved back to Lebanon during the war. In 1995, Amyuni was awarded the first prize in painting by Sursock Museum in Lebanon and has held several solo exhibitions. Her art often depicts her beloved Yarzé, where she lives and works, with the tranquillity relayed belying the village's proximity to the city.



48

**BASSAM KYRILLOS**  
(LEBANESE, B. 1971)

*Couple*

signed «120 120 183»  
aluminium and synthetic  
colors sculpture  
52 x 24 x 19.5 cm.  
Executed in 2018.

**US\$ 3,000-6,000**

PROVENANCE:  
Private Collection, Beirut.



*“My art is about my own perception  
of what is occurring around me and  
my Middle Eastern community. The  
Middle East in its reality resembles a  
circus, or a theatrical play. You have  
your heroes and villains, monsters  
and angels as well as the brave and  
the cowardly.”*

- arabnews.com

49

**RAOUF RIFAI**  
(LEBANESE, B. 1954)

*Darwich*

signed and dated «R. RIFAI 14»  
(lower right); signed, dated  
and titled «DARWICH» with  
dimensions and medium (on  
the reverse)  
acrylic on canvas  
100 x 100 cm.  
Painted in 2014.

**US\$ 9,000-12,000**

PROVENANCE:  
Private Collection, Beirut.

Joseph Tarrab, *Raouf Rifai*,  
*Saving the Beauty*, p. 31,  
illustrated/ in colour







50

**SAMIR TABET**  
(LEBANESE, B. 1923)

*Le Temps des Cerises*

signed «S.Tabet» (lower right)  
oil on board  
25.5 x 33.5 cm.

**US\$ 800-1,500**

PROVENANCE:  
Private Collection, Beirut.

Certificate by Galerie Épreuve  
d'Artiste on the reverse.



51

**MANSOUR AL HABRE**  
(LEBANESE, B. 1970)

*Untitled*

signed and dated «2018» (centre left);  
signed «MANSOUR EL-HABRE», dated  
«2018», with dimensions  
(on the reverse)  
acrylic and decollage on canvas  
126 x 102 cm.  
Painted in 2018.

**US\$ 3,000-6,000**

PROVENANCE:  
Private Collection, Beirut.  
Galerie Janine Rubeiz





52

**JAMIL MOLAEB**  
(LEBANESE, B. 1948)

*Blue Birds*

signed and dated «2020 MOLAEB»  
(lower right)  
oil on canvas  
60 x 43 cm.  
Painted in 2020.

**US\$ 1,800-2,500**

PROVENANCE:  
Private Collection, Beirut.



53

**ARAM JUGHIAN**  
(LEBANESE, B. 1959)

*Camelia*

signed «Aram J.»; signed, titled and  
dated «Camelia 2019» with medium (on  
the reverse)  
mixed media on canvas  
88 x 100 cm.  
Painted in 2019.

**US\$ 2,000-5,000**

PROVENANCE:  
Private Collection, Beirut.



54

**MAMDOUH KASHLAN**  
(SYRIAN, B. 1929)

*The Last Supper*

signed in Arabic (lower left);  
signed, titled, dated, dimensions  
and location in Arabic (on the reverse)  
oil on canvas  
103 x 200 cm.  
Painted in 2020.

**US\$ 9,000-15,000**

PROVENANCE:  
Private Collection, Damascus.  
Acquired directly from the artist.





## CONDITIONS OF SALE

### Buyer's Premium and Taxes

A buyers premium of 15% will be added to the hammer price online and is payable by the successful bidder as part of the total price. The bidder is also responsible for any applicable tax including municipality, VAT, sales and service taxes. It is the buyer's responsibility to pay all taxes that may arise on the hammer price and the buyer's premium.

### Successful Bids

Invoices are sent out by email after the auction. Buyers are requested to contact us to obtain the outcome of their bids and to avoid unnecessary storage charges. Successful bidders will pay the hammer price including the buyer's premium and any applicable taxes.

### Claims to Artwork Description

The sizes of the artworks are quoted without the frame in the catalogue. Relining, stretching and mounting are considered measures of preservation and not a default.

### Payment

For convenience, the sale will be conducted in US dollars.

Please note we will only accept payment from the registered bidder. Lots may be paid for in the following ways: wire transfer, cash and cheque.

### Removal of Purchases

The removal of the purchases will be held exclusively in the week following the auction from 10 a.m to 5 p.m from ArtScoops' offices. Removal of purchases will be at the buyer's expense.

Payment should be made in cash, wire transfer or by cheque. If by transfer or by cheque, lots may not be withdrawn until the funds have been cleared.

If the lot is not removed after 15 days from the sale, ArtScoops may send the artwork to a warehouse or charge a storage fee at the expense and risk of the purchaser.

We regret that ArtScoops' staff cannot accommodate requests to roll canvases sold on stretchers.

### Shipping

It is the buyer's responsibility to make all shipping arrangements. ArtScoops can arrange packing and shipping at the buyer's request and expense.

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We have no obligation to enforce the payment from the buyer. If we do not receive payment from the buyer within thirty (30) days of the close of the auction, we shall have the right to exercise a number of legal rights, these include, but are not limited to, the following:

- a) to hold the defaulting buyer liable for the total amount due and to commence legal proceedings;
- b) to cancel the sale;
- c) to offer the Property for private or public sale.

**Note:** A fee of 5% of the purchase price will apply if the work is not paid for in full after 30 days.

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ArtScoops retains the exclusive copyright to all illustrations, photographs, videography, and descriptions of the artwork created by us.

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This auction is governed by Lebanese law. Beirut courts are the sole competent jurisdictions to hear any dispute arising or related to the present Conditions of Sale.

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