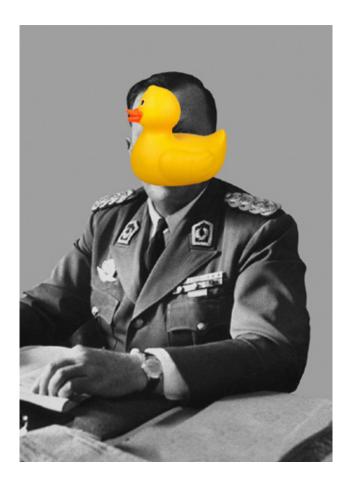
# Metaphor



A Solo Exhibit of Saher Nassar

Artist Catalogue, 'Metaphor' by Saher Nassar' Copyright © 2021, Zawyeh Gallery Photos courtesy of Zawyeh Gallery

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# Metaphor Saher Nassar

Cover: **Untitled 5** Collage print on paper 60x43 cm 2021

In his first exhibition, Saher Nassar reflects the spirit of a mutineer or a revolutionist. He rebels against dominant metaphors, established symbols and the power of authority. Through four series of artworks, he focuses on the theme of breaking metaphors and resisting all sort of rules, expectations or norms and questioning all sorts of representations of establishment and authority. He presents different body of works with a range of

materials and styles as he uses a mixture of abstract paintings, collage, drawings and photographs in addition to ready made objects. In one series, he places five packs of cigarettes in the middle of five different archival images of war that took place in five different countries around the world. The message on the five packs reads: Smoking Kills in five different languages connected to the five different geographies where the photos were taken. The series stresses

on two layers of dangerous threats to humanity: war and smoking.

Nevertheless, the third layer that he is trying to convey can be read between the lines; it's the lethal combination between capitalism and politics where the politics of war paves the way for western multi national conglomerates to dominate the economies of poorer countries selling products that also kill. In *Network* Nassar works take the form of abstract



# KILL THE METAPHOR

**The State** Installation (print and lightbox) 13x13x70 cm, 70x60 cm 2021

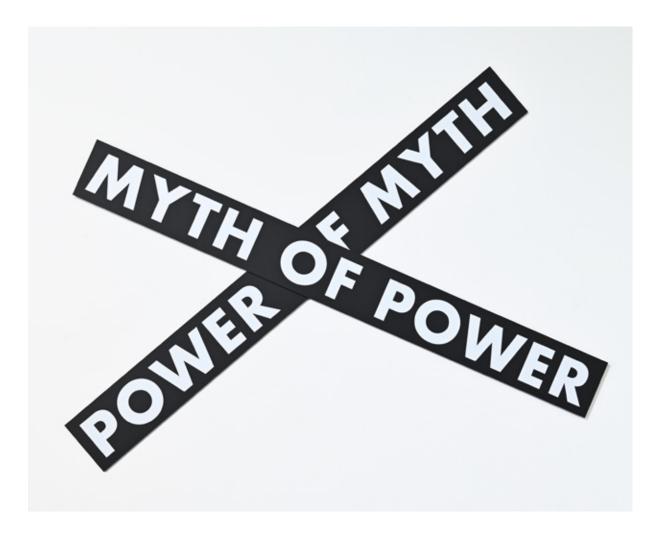
\$7,500



art through the geometric colorful strips that occupy the canvas. In the middle of each work, he adds an actual blood slide sample. The stripes are meant to reflect the variety of data that blood samples hold, representing "one's behavior and their likes and dislikes, and what makes them who they are". So even though "blood" can unite a group of people metaphorically, the details tell a different story. In this sense, Nassar calls against tribal partisanship

and ethnocentrism and looking at individuals for who they are.

In Kill The Metaphor he presents a series of mixed media artworks exploring "the myth of power and the power of myth" in different ways. He explains the metaphor as "a tool that's meant to help us understand phenomena and make sense of the world around us, however, it could be deceitful and could prevent us from seeing the truth." Nassar's watchfully chosen words and images are an attempt to expose objects or actions that we think means something while in actual fact they reinforce the authority of power over people and encourage narrow mindedness. Killing the metaphor is ridiculing and exposing what lies beyond the surface and encourages accepting other opinions, beliefs, behaviors, different from one's own and the rejection of the domination of the power of authority.



Untitled 1 Installation (Acylic boards) 90x118 cm 2021

\$5,500



**The Spokesman** Collage on paper 50x50 cm 2021



Network #1 Collage on board 20x20x5 cm 2021

\$1,250



Network #2 Collage on board 20x20x5 cm 2021

\$1,250



Network #3 Collage on board 20x20x5 cm 2021

\$1,250



Network #4 Collage on board 20x20x5 cm 2021

\$1,250



Smoking Kills 1 Collage on paper 66x56 cm 2021

\$2,500



Smoking Kills 2 Collage on paper 66x56 cm 2021



Smoking Kills 3 Collage on paper 66x56 cm 2021



#### Smoking Kills 4 Collage on paper 66x56 cm 2021



#### **Smoking Kills 4** Collage on paper 66x56 cm 2021



**Untitled 2,** Diptych Ink on paper 30x22 cm 2021

\$1,800

SINCE HE WAS NOT ASKED WHETHER HE WANTED TO COME TO THIS LIFE MY FRIEND THINKS THAT ATLEASTHE DESERVES TO DECIDE WHETHER HE WANTS TO LEAVE IT

MY FRIEND IS A RETARD.



Untitled 3 Mixed media on paper 80x65 cm 2021



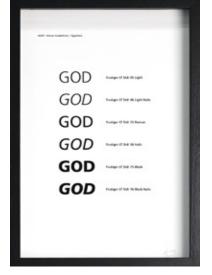
#### Untitled 4

Ink on paper 39x29 cm 2021

\$1,500



Untitled 6. Quadriptych Print on paper 31x21 cm 2021



\$3,300







**Duality 1** Ink and acrylic on paper 39x29 cm 2021

\$900



**Duality 2** Ink and acrylic on paper 39x29 cm 2021

\$900



**Duality 3** Ink and acrylic on paper 39x29 cm 2021

\$900

### ABOUT SAHER NASSAR

Saher Nassar was born in Palestine in 1986. Following his graduation from the University of Hertfordshire, England, he started a career in illustration and graphic design working with various renowned media institutions. It didn't take long before he discovered himself as an artist and embarked on his journey in art. He uses different methods and materials and his artistic approach varies between conceptual, abstract and pop art.

He participated in several group exhibitions and was commissioned by Alserkal Avenue (Dubai) and Manarat Al-Saadiyat (Abu Dhabi) amongst others in the UAE. His current practice is centered around contemporary art, and his artworks tend to discuss various subjects and present social critique in correlation with individual's conformity and the status quo.

Nassar participated in several art projects and exhibitions, including, a group show at Satellite Gallery, Dubai, UAE (2017), a group show, Tashkeel Hub Gallery, Dubai, UAE (2018) in addition to commissions by DIFC, Dubai (2019), Emaar Foundry, Dubai (2019), and BMW, Dubai (2019).



## ABOUT ZAWYEH GALLERY

Zawyeh Gallery is an independent Visual Art Gallery founded by Ziad Anani in Ramallah, Palestine, in 2013. Since September 2020, the gallery has expanded by opening in a second location at Alserkal Avenue in Dubai, UAE.

Zawyeh's mission is to promote emerging and established Palestinian artists – from Palestine and the Diaspora – through various thematic exhibitions at home and aboard. In the past few years, the gallery organized several solo and collective exhibitions, showcasing artworks based on a variety of mediums including painting, sculpture, installation, video, and photography.

Zawyeh believes in investing in creativity and artistic talents in Palestine, as a way of resilience in the face of adversaries.

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