

غ<mark>ــالــيــري</mark> زاويــــة ZAWYEH <mark>GALLERY</mark>

15 January - 26 February 2022



## Through The Color Terrain

In his solo exhibition Through The Color Terrain, Osama Said presents a series of abstract works where he mixes reality with illusion depicting fleeting images and emotional memories. He explores with colors, textures, and light using predominantly tones of blue, red, purple, and yellow.

Influenced by German expressionists, Said's style has been a mixture between expressionism and abstraction. In this exhibition, he follows a terrain of colors, presenting abstract works that could be viewed as mere experimentations, although a closer look shows more details. Said's works are stemmed from memory; they are a recollection of reminiscence from the past. Throughout his career as an artist, he explored themes of memory and forgetfulness, identity and alienation, illusion and reality, especially when he lived in Germany for sixteen years. He imagined home and family and did not stop producing artworks inspired by his homeland.

In his works, one can see or imagine skies, seas or pouring rain, hidden faces, and shadows of people here and there. The details in the artworks are hidden and can be spotted sometimes between bold colors and lines or in the far background; a wall or a fence descending downhill and what might be houses or fields or a neighborhood under the scorching sun.

With wide brush strokes, Said embarks on a journey of exploration of color. Matisse once said, "The chief function of color should be to serve expression as well as possible. I put down my tones without a preconceived plan. If at first, and perhaps without my having been conscious of it, one tone has particularly seduced or caught me." Along with this concept, Said deals with colors. He departs from reality using unique visual language. Blues dominate his paintings while yellows, fiery reds, and purples manifest on his canvases, yet not in the same manner. The color leads him through the canvas to serve expression. In his mind, colors have an abstract aesthetic function; therefore, he executes his works using unrestrained high intense colors, painting broad areas with free, spontaneous brushwork and generous paint application, capturing the essence of memory rather than its details.

His bold strokes and unique composition of light create a special ambiance, a kind of passage that can be spotted between the colors and the bold brushstrokes. It is a parallel universe that appears between his fleeting images. Through the striking colors, he creates a sort of cavity or a secret passage that leads to a third concealed dimension or a hidden illusionary world. Perhaps a world from memory that he presents in a blurred manner

His artworks are enveloped with an intimate atmosphere reflecting light at times, beauty and harmony at others, capturing the movement of faded subjects that appear elusively in the background. He connects with the unnatural nature of his subjects, coming very close to pure abstraction. Said's journey through the color terrain is an aesthetic party and an enjoyable visual experience.



Through The Color Terrain #1 Oil on canvas

145 x 120 cm 2020 USD 9,000



Through The Color Terrain #2 Oil on canvas

155 x 145 cm 2020 USD 12,000



Through The Color Terrain #3 Oil on canvas

195 x 155 cm 2020 USD 18,000



Through The Color Terrain #4 Oil on canvas

100 x 120 cm 2020 USD 7,500



Through The Color Terrain #5 Oil on canvas

145 x 155 cm 2020 USD 12,000



Through The Color Terrain #6 Oil on canvas

155 x 145 cm 2020 USD 12,000



Through The Color Terrain #7 Oil on canvas

180 x 155 cm 2020 USD 15,000



Through The Color Terrain #8 Oil on canvas

180 x 155 cm 2020 USD 15,000



Through The Color Terrain #9 Oil on canvas

50 x 40 cm 2020 USD 1,500



Through The Color Terrain #10 Oil on canvas

150 x 200 cm 2021 USD 18,000



Through The Color Terrain #11 Oil on canvas

155 x 125 cm 2021 USD 10,000



Through The Color Terrain #12 Oil on canvas

155 x 125 cm 2021 USD 10,000



Through The Color Terrain #13 Oil on canvas

120 x 90 cm 2021 USD 7,000



Through The Color Terrain #14 Oil on canvas

155 x 125 cm 2021 USD 10,000



Through The Color Terrain #15 Oil on canvas

155 x 135 cm 2021 USD 11,000



Through The Color Terrain #16 Oil on canvas

120 x 90 cm 2021 USD 7,000



Through The Color Terrain #17 Oil on canvas

120 x 100 cm 2021 USD 7,000



Untitled
Oil on canvas

100 x 100 cm 2013 USD 6,000

## **About The Artist**

Osama Said was born in 1957 in the small town of Nahef, located between the lower and upper Galilee. In 1981 he attended art courses at the Bezalel Art Academy in Jerusalem. Said was influenced by German Expressionists and decided to move to Germany where he acquired his BA and MA degrees at the Hochschule der Künste Berlin (HdK), now the Universität der Künste Berlin (UdK).

After graduating with honors, he was granted several scholarships, awards, and residencies that encouraged and expanded his artistry whilst allowing his stay in Germany to last 16 years. Having painted for years while abroad with memories of Palestine only, Said was struck by the painful reality of Palestinian life upon his return.

Following his discoveries, Said's work portrayed the different faces of nature. The several layers of color in his works represent themes of memory and forgetfulness; identity and alienation; illusion and reality. In addition to large-scale oil paints, Said particularly enjoys working with a variety of materials such as wood, stone, clay, plaster, bronze, concrete, and metal. Said taught visual art for several years and participated in several international exhibitions locally and abroad. He currently lives and works in Berlin.

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