

Press Release

***A Passage to Palestine* in MENART Fair Brussels**

The Art Fair will take place between 3-5 February, with the participation of Zawyeh Gallery, with the works of Khaled Hourani, Nabil Anani, and Yazan Abu Salameh.

Ramallah/Dubai- 22 January 2023: Zawyeh Gallery is pleased to announce its participation in the first edition of MENART Fair Brussels (Stand B16) with works of three Palestinian artists: Khaled Hourani, Nabil Anani, and Yazan Abu Salameh. The Art Fair will take place from the 3rd until the 5th of February 2023 and will be held in Boghossian Foundation, Villa Empain, in Brussels. Zawyeh Gallery's exhibition titled "*A Passage to Palestine*" will bring together a common theme in the art practices of these three Palestinian artists, each portraying Palestine from their unique perspective. The yearning for freedom and critiquing the oppression of the military occupation can be seen throughout the works.

Khaled Hourani bases his works around the theme of the separation wall in a series titled *Leaping Over the Barrier*. He suggests ways to circumvent the barrier, even if they were fictional. He relies on media images in getting his inspiration.

On the other hand, Nabil Anani presents a picturesque Palestinian landscape without the disruptions of ever-increasing Israeli settlements, bypass roads, roadblocks, walls, and watch towers normally visible on every corner. He creates a utopia of his own, inspired by his memories as a child growing up on the hills of Halhoul, a town near Hebron decades ago.

Yazan Abu Salameh's work is a portrayal of confinement in Palestinian towns as a result of restrictions on Palestinian natural expansion. He presents towns in boxes as a representation of the densely built-up environment. Those boxes are left partly open as if the towns desire to escape confinement.

MENART FAIR is the international modern and contemporary art fair dedicated to artists from the Middle East & North Africa. The Fair opens daily from 3 -5 February 2023 (11 am – 7 pm) at Boghossian Foundation, Villa Empain, Avenue Franklin Roosevelt 67, 1050, Brussels.

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