

DREAM FACTORY

RYM KAROUÏ



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ART SAWA | DIFC
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The important aspect of Rym's work resides in the perpetual questioning of the world that surrounds her. A borderline abstraction and faithful to the use of her favorite colors, Rym plays around surprising the other and questioning the spectator's temporality by painted surfaces that reflect her own reality.

It is in the characters dialog of the colored forms that Rym reveals the circus' stake and craziness.

It is like the excitement of a hazardous discovery, the liberation of a trapped intimacy, the expression of a semi-human, semi-animalistic farandole; Rym says "I always have fun, in the eternal dream factory, my life."

When Rym works, she tells stories using a vibrant palette of colors, creating sensations that draw the viewer into a different world; a world filled with movement, spontaneity, optimism and laughter.





TAPIRS, 2015
Resin and Metal
180 x 60 x 20 cm



TAPIRS, 2015
Resin and Metal
180 x 60 x 20 cm



SHE SMOKES & WAITS, 2016

1/2

Resin

117 X 50 X 45 cm



THE MAN WITH UMBRELLA, 2016
1/1
Resin
178 x 55 x 40 cm



ANGEL, 2017
1/2
Resin
50 x 60 x 50 cm



THE SPANISH, 2016

1/2

Resin

112 X 53 X 40 cm



ANGEL, 2017
2/2
Resin
50 x 60 x 50 cm



RABBIT, 2015
1/2
Resin
100 x 65 x 40 cm



DOG, 2009
1/2
Resin
50 x 50 x 20 cm



ELEPHANT, 2017
1/1
Resin
90 x 50 x 40 cm



RYM KAROUI

SOLO EXHIBITIONS

- 2017 “Dream Factory”, ARTSAWA, Dubai, UAE
- 2015 “Ecllosion”, ARTSAWA, Dubai, UAE
- 2015 “Invasion”, Galerie Agorgi, Sidi Bou Saïd, Tunisia
- 2013 Galerie Ammar Farhat, Sidi Bou Saïd, Tunisia
- 2007 “Universe: Life”, Green Art Gallery, Dubai, UAE.
- 2006 Paintings & sculptures - Galerie Ammar Farhat, Tunisia
- 2003 Galerie Arcima, Paris
- 2002 Galerie De Griffioen, Anvers, Belgium
- 2001 Galerie Ammar Farhat, Tunisia
- 1999 Galerie Ammar Farhat, Tunisia
- 1997 Galerie Ammar Farhat, Tunisia
- 1995 Galerie Ammar Farhat, Tunisia
- 1993 Sidi Bou Saïd Museum, Tunisia

GROUP EXHIBITIONS

- 2017 « Révélation » Biennale et métiers d'art et création. Grand Palais Paris with Ghaya Gallery
- 2016 Ghaya Gallery, Sidi Bou Said, Tunis, Tunisie
- 2016 “Tunisia 2020”, BARDO Museum
- 2016 “the real time”, Fondation TALAN, Charguia, Tunis
- 2016 Group show sculpture, Ghaya Gallery, Sidi Bou Said, Tunis, Tunisie
- 2016 “le crédif, Tunisienne créatrice” National Museum of Bardo, Tunisia
- 2015 “Frayjeja” Agorgi Gallery, Sidi Bou Saïd, Tunis
- 2015 “le salon des Métiers d'art et de la création” Grand Palais, Paris
- 2015 “The Word is Mosque” Jaou, Kamel Lazaar foundation. Carthage, Tunisia
- 2015 “Le Banquet” Le Grand Palais, Paris.
- 2015 “The Word is Mosque” Jaou, Kamel Lazaar Foundation. Carthage, Tunisia
- 2015 “Reminiscences” Fondation TALAN, la charguia, Tunis
- 2013 “Sculpture du Sud” (Southern Sculpture), Villa Datriis, L'Isle sur La Sorgue, France
- 2012 “Dégagements... la Tunisie un an après” (Freeing... Tunisia one year later), IMA / Arab World Institute, Paris, France
- 2011 “Les insignes de la citoyenneté”, Galerie Ammar Farhat, Sidi Bou Saïd, Tunisia
- 2009 “Sur les traces de la peinture contemporaine” (Tunisian Contemporary Painting), Galerie El Marsa, Tunisia
- 2009 BIAT- Banque Internationale Arabe de Tunisie, Tunis
- 2008 “The Emirates through the Arab Contemporary Artists’ Insights”, organized by the Ministry of Culture of the United Arab Emirates, DIFC, Dubai
- 2008 “Art Connexions”, Galerie El Marsa, Tunisia
- 2008 Art Paris - Abu Dhabi, Emirates Palace, Abu Dhabi, UAE
- 2008 Art Dubai, Madinat Jumeirah, Dubai, UAE
- 2007 Creation of the trophy for the ‘Maghreb Star Academy’
- 2007 Galerie Ammar Farhat, Tunisia
- 2005 ‘Mémoire de Demain’, Galerie Elmarsa, Tunisia
- 2005 ‘ZI Expo 2005’, Furniture design within the space Emporio, Tunisia
- 2004 Urban composition on giant street poster (200m²) with artist Feriel Lakhdar

- 2003 “Tunisia 2002” Galerie Gorgi, Lithuania
- 2002 “Norway 2002” Galerie Mille Feuilles, La Marsa, Tunisia
- 2001 ‘Exposition Gorgi’, Tunisia
- 2000 ‘Exposition Universelle’ Hannover, Germany
- 2000 Production of friezes at ‘Hôtel Golden Tulip’, Gammarth, Tunisia
- 2000 ‘Kennedy Center’, Washington DC, USA
- 1999 ‘Artuel’ Art fair, Beyrouth, Lebanon
- 1999 Galerie Ammar Farhat, Tunisia
- 1999 ‘Atelier-Galerie In Den Gerbgruben’ Gerbgruben, Vienna, Austria
- 1999 ‘Atelier-Galerie In Den Gerbgruben’ Palais Wittgenstein, Vienna, Austria
- 1999 ‘Atelier-Galerie In Den Gerbgruben’ Alpha Club, Vienna, Austria
- 1999 ‘L’ecole de Tunis’ Galerie Gorgi, Tunisia
- 1998 ‘Contemporary Paintings’ Galerie Ammar Farhat, Tunisia
- 1998 ‘Cultural World-wide’, Montélimar, France
- 1997 ‘Chassé Croisé’, Palais Khéreddine, Tunisia
- 1997 ‘Ten years of Tunisian young painting’ Galerie de la Bibliothèque Charles de Gaulle, Tunisia
- 1995 ‘Salon d’automne de la Marsa’ Galerie Driba, Tunisia
- 1994 ‘Salon d’automne de la Marsa’ Galerie Driba, Tunisia
- 1993 ‘Contemporary Tunisian Paintings’, Washington DC, USA
- 1992 L’ecole d’Art gallery, Marseille, France

ART FAIRS

- 2017 Art Paris 2017, Agorgi galery
- 2011 Art Dubai 2011, Madinat Jumeirah, Dubai, UAE
- 2010 Marrakech Art Fair, Palace Es Saadi, Marrakech, Morocco
- 2009 Abu Dhabi Art 09, Emirates Palace, Abu Dhabi, UAE.
- 2008 Art Paris-Abu Dhabi 08, Emirates Palace, Abu Dhabi, UAE
- 2008 Art Paris 08, Grand Palais, Paris
- 2008 Art Dubai 08, Madinat Jumeirah, Dubai, UAE

ACQUISITIONS

- Ministry of Culture, Tunisia Private collections
- Museum of Contemporary Art, Jordan.
- Ministry of Culture UAE
- 2014 Fondation Villa Datriis pour la sculpture contemporaine, France.

PRIZES

- 2010 Mérite culturel National, palais présidentiel de Carthage.
- 1998 Créations dans le cadre des expositions de l’union des plasticiens Tunisiens
- 1995 Salon d’automne de la Marsa Galerie Driba, Tunisie
- 1994 Salon d’automne de la Marsa Galerie Driba, Tunisie

EDUCATION

- 1993 Advanced National Diploma in Plastic Expressionism at the School of Arts, Marseille
- 1992 Painting training at l’Ecole des Beaux Arts, Barcelona
- 1991 Sculpture training at l’Ecole des Beaux Arts, Paris
- 1991 National Diploma in Visual Arts, Marseille

Q&A

How were you first exposed to art and design? (Through family, school, etc.)

I was exposed to art for the first time at age seven at Dougga, not far from Tunis. I was visiting for the first time ancient Roman ruins covered by mosaics.

Tell us about your educational background as well as your personal background. (Where were you born, grew up, lived, etc.)

I am the youngest of the Karoui family. I grew up with my two brothers, under the benevolent eye of my parents who wanted me to succeed in life. I was born in Bizerte, a city by the sea, known for its fishes and azure-blue water. My life is in Tunis, the city where I lived my teenage years and my follies but also the place where I can easily modify my comfort zone to evolve in my art work.

What was your first exhibition and where?

I first exhibited at the museum of Sidi Bou Saïd in 1993.

What is the inspiration behind your work?

I draw my inspiration from different parts of the real and transform them to the wish of my imagination.

What are the messages you convey through your designs?

The message I would like to transmit through my work is self-deception, humor and the love of life even with everything that is happening in the world.

Tell us about this show, "Dream Factory".

It is the raving of form and color until the tip of your fingers. Everything is allowed in my dream factory, a procession of characters that I want extravagant, odd and fantastic, inspired by the world of comic books, games, tales and cinema, from the African princesses who are always fertile, rope walkers, worrying and hybrid animals with hybrid and always changing forms. The moon, the stars, clovers that swirl, colors, lights and energies, this is how I see my dream factory.

How do you select the works for an exhibition?

My work's selection for an exhibition starts with drawing; it's the most important step. Then, there is the birth of a 3D form and this is when I judge if the work should be made or is not mature enough, it can even finish in the studio's cemetery.

How do you envision your future artistic practice and influence?

My future, on the artistic level, is exhibiting in different countries like Iceland for example, where I was invited at the Icelandic Museum to exhibit in 2018. Otherwise, I have other projects that I wish to make. I am in admiration of Asian contemporary art like the one from Japan, China and Korea. Those countries intrigue me by their cultures. They have no limit on the creative and realization level.

How would your mother describe you in one word?

Fire.

How would you describe your mother in one word?

Generosity.

What is the most ridiculous question you've ever been asked?

Someone asks me to explain an artwork they haven't understood. For me, it's ridiculous. Either you like it or you don't. We don't need a manual because everyone is entitled to his personal interpretation.

What is the most spontaneous thing you've ever done?

Stick out my tongue.

What is your theme song?

Ali Jara of Oulaya.

What word in any language do you wish you had invented?

Jormana (canard en Arabe).

Where would you like to live? What is your dream retirement location?

Zanzibar, and definitely no retirement, this word scars me

What is the first famous quote that comes to your mind?

« If I could, I would like to die in my lifetime », Coluche.

What animal best describes the kind of partner you'd be interested in?

Seahorse.

What do you miss about your childhood?

My father.

If you could change your name, what would you change it to?

Nour (« light in arabic »).

How would you describe your handshake in one word?

Truth.

What is the toughest part of your character?

Anxiety.

What in the world do you least desire?

War.

What do you think is lacking in the world, which if there was more of would make the world a better place?

Justice..

What do you think people like most about you?

Spontaneity.

Finish this sentence: "Happiness is a thing called...delirium »



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