ART SAWA

"12.11.08 - ESSAM MAROUF" "Same story... Different people"

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ART SAWA

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Art Sawa, promoting world-class contemporary art to a global and regional audience.

Amel B. Makkawi

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0102 Acrylic on linen, 2008 195 x 145 cm

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0202 Acrylic on linen, 2008 195 x 140 cm

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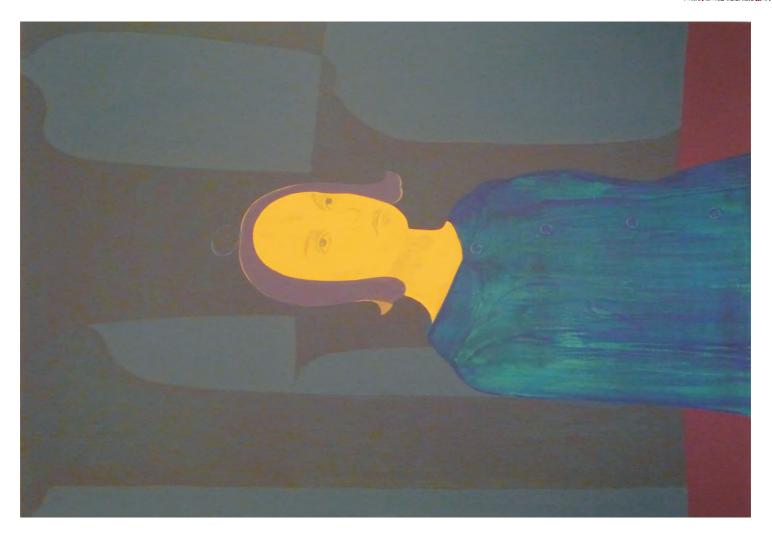
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0902 Acrylic on linen, 2008 195 x 150 cm

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01002 Acrylic on linen, 2008 125 x 155 cm

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01102 Acrylic on linen, 2008 125 x 155 cm

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01202 Acrylic on linen, 2008 124,5 x 150 cm

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01302 Acrylic on linen, 2008 125 x 155 cm

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01402 Acrylic on linen, 2008 125 x 155 cm

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01502 Acrylic on linen, 2008 120 x 155 cm

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01702 Acrylic on linen, 2008 124,5 x 155 cm

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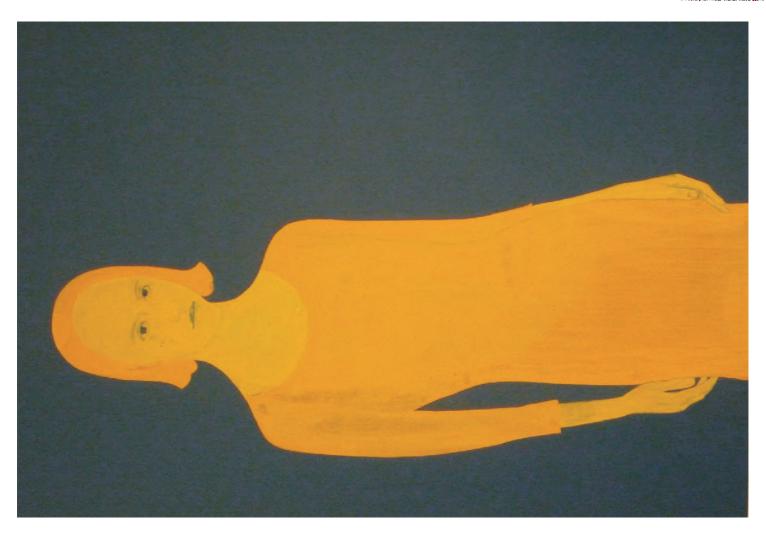
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01802 Acrylic on linen, 2008 90 x 130 cm © Essam Marouf, Courtesy Art Sawa

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02102 Acrylic on linen, 2008 90 x 130 cm © Essam Marouf, Courtesy Art Sawa

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02202 Acrylic on linen, 2008 100 x 120 cm © Essam Marouf, Courtesy Art Sawa

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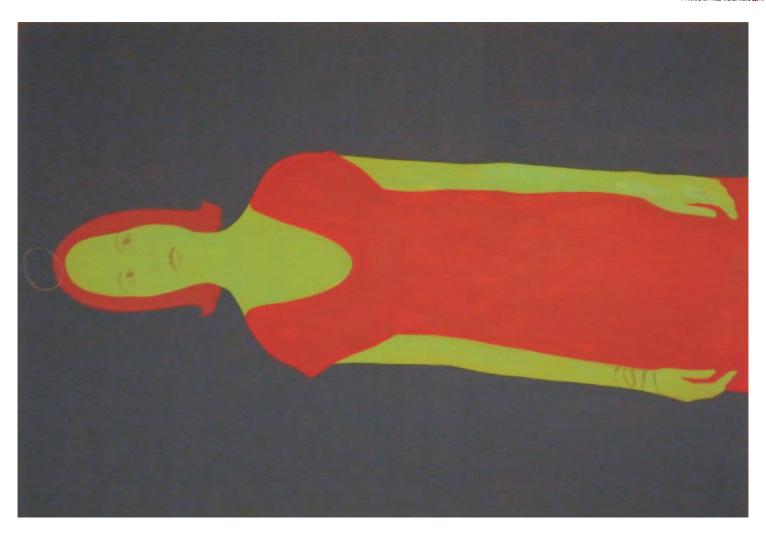
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02302 Acrylic on linen, 2008 101 x 119 cm © Essam Marouf, Courtesy Art Sawa

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Born in 1958, Cairo, Egypt. Lives and works between Egypt and the Netherlands.

THE VULNERABILITY OF THE MOMENT. THE TRANSITION OF TIME

The portrait remains the preferred subject for Essam Marouf. The works are characterised by clear precision of form and the absence of any visible references to paint texture. Yet, a degree of sensitivity is expressed in the face aided by the application of clear tones and the way in which the canvasses' structure is suggested. Marouf's works are solidly two-dimensional that maintain minimal anatomy and an essentially Byzantine frontality. This dramatic immediacy can be found in the works of Giotto and Warhol. Essam Marouf has succeeded in pushing the limits of portraiture resulting in what looks like a truly contemporary painting.

"Painting... a magnificent medium to express myself in... The magnificent way to build in all freedom of my own and the world around me. With minimalism in form and colour, I try to give my paintings an inner power and spiritual energy. The two factors that give, in my eyes, paintings their inconceivable power. This manner of seeing paintings began more than 25 years ago during my study in Italy after seeing and falling in love with the works of the great masters Giotto and Piero della Francesca."

Essam Marouf



SELECTED EXHIBITIONS:

2008 "10th International Cairo Biennale", Cairo, Egypt "Um Kalthoum", L'Institut du Monde Arabe, Paris, France "Gallery Salon", Art Palace, Cairo, Egypt "Art Amsterdam", Galerie Smarius, Sonnega, Netherlands
2007 "Essam Marouf: Solo Exhibition", Mashrabia Gallery, Cairo, Egypt "L'Uomo del Mediterraneo", Museo Complesso del Vittoriano, Rome, Italy

2002 "Op de Huid Gekeken", SBK - Kunsthal de Remise, Amsterdam

1998 "Eeuwig Kwetsbaar", Provinciaal Museum Begijnhofkerk St. Truiden,

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS:

Kramer, Arno, "Essam Marouf", Galerie Smarius, K van de Dag, exhibition brochure (August 2006) Leeuwarder Courant, exhibition brochure (January 2006) brochure (March 1993)

