



ARTIST OF THE MONTH

Ibrahim Jawabrah: Searching through Childhood

By Mohammad Al Amiri

Born in 1985, Ibrahim Jawabrah is still searching for the child in himself. As he was following his passion for art, he explored the depth of his inner self and found himself in the area of his childhood, which gave his art a special trait and flavor. He discovered a new language with which to argue with himself and clarify many issues about art that would fulfill his vision and respond to his passion and emotions.

Jawabrah chose the path to heal his pain. His mission in art is purely humanitarian. His art reflects the oppression and atrocious acts of the Israeli occupation and its inhuman practices against the Palestinian people, attempting to eliminate their history and existence. His works are based on the endless horizon of childhood, where the bodylines become the main tool to express thought, with carefully curated patterns and colors.

What makes his art exceptional is that he successfully engages the audience with his works, thoughts, and obsession from a human perspective, as his works bring to mind the memories of childhood: children playing with dolls as they were growing up, the simplicity of the colorful toys that lack sophistication, the tiny wooden or metal cars made of wires and wheels, the patterns of the traditional Palestinian dress and the fabrics used in Palestinian villages. These are the main components of Jawabrah's artistic works.



Reproducing these memories expressively through molding the various components of the tiny bodies with exaggeration, such as the extremely wide faces that mirror the happiness only found in a puppet theatre – this is how Jawabrah narrates the story of his childhood and shares his memories.

On the other hand, we can also see how he invested in other components of the childhood sphere via a reflection of the bond between people and pets. The configuration of his works reflects his own print in blending together the components to present a universal masterpiece. He also relies on graphics, especially colors and lines as they flow through his art. This brilliant combination can only be complete and perfected when the colors marry the patterns in the space.

Jawabrah has gone beyond his expressive artistic values to reach new depths of his passion for a free country by using other tools such as performance and installation. Notably his most important work is "The Briefcase," which represents the proofs of Palestinian rights to the land – the briefcase contains documents and should never be lost. Other works include "Transit" and "Anxiety."

Jawabrah is an artist who thinks about making a contribution through his art, innovating with his tools, and reinventing the memories and the present to draw a brighter future.

