

ARTIST OF THE MONTH

Mohamed Harb

Documenting Gaza's Isolation



Mohamed Harb was born in Gaza City and graduated in 2001 from Al Najah University, Nablus, with a BA in fine arts. He is a member of the Palestinian Association of Fine Artists and since 2003 has been working as a director at the Palestine satellite TV channel in Gaza. He has participated in many local, regional, and international exhibitions, festivals, and workshops in Europe and the Arab world. He lives and works in Gaza.

Mohamed has experienced the many difficult realities of Gaza – the uprising, the blockade, the war – and he continues to live there despite the tragic situation. His art is a color-filled response to the greyness of the Palestinian issue. A constant theme in all his various works is an investigation of the hidden human body.

Having worked predominantly in plastic and other fields of art since 1995, Mohamed has recently become interested in photography, video, and documentary film. He has a deep interest in art forms that use light, and in creating images through a combination of art and technology.

As one of the most important contemporary Palestinian artists, Mohamed is also very active in organizing exhibitions and workshops in Palestine and abroad. He has received numerous local and international awards and several grants for his innovative work, not only for implementing projects but also for his use of IT and video techniques. He has been working on several projects during the last three years, including his "Biography of Gaza," and he plans to exhibit his work both abroad and in Palestine.



Configurations, 150x120 cm, acrylic on canvas.



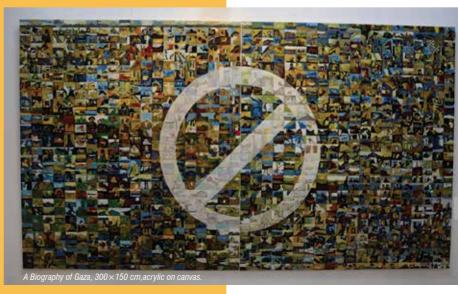
My City, 100x90 cm, acrylic on canvas.

Like many other artists, Mohamed looks forward to reflecting his dream to build a better reality in Gaza, far removed from the grey.

Gaza ... 10 Years of Isolation is a documentary art project, a biography of Gaza that features paintings and visual stories that take the human body as an important axis in visual creation and in the editing of the details of place. Through this work, Mohamed attempts to create stories from Gaza through the medium of visual art and to embody and reveal the surrealism of Gaza's world to those on the outside.



Blue from Gaza, 170x150 cm, acrylic on canvas.



79