

MAJD KURDIEH #StealingSadness

مجد كردية #*سرقـــةالأحـــزان* 

### **About The Exhibition**

The exhibition presents a new body of works on canvas featuring *Fasaeen & The Very Scary Butterfly Gang*, Kurdieh's whimsical cartoon-like characters that speak for the artist, and might be speaking for many others. These characters complete the path of hope, and are on a quest to steal sadness wherever it is.

Kurdieh created the small characters that he calls *Fasaeen*, with their 'gang': a group of other animal characters, he makes them talk so that he would speak his mind and send out his thoughts and feelings to us through them. *Fasaeen* is a combination of art, literature, and the spirit of ancient poetry.

The current political situation in the Arab world has produced new and different type of daily life and social patterns, different surroundings and atmospheres; a situation that is constantly and rapidly changing as we speak, therefore different types of expression and response are being represented in a new type of literature and art. The artwork of Majd Kurdieh is an important example of the outcome.

## نبذة عن المعرض

يقدم المعرض أعمالا جديدة على القماش لِ "الفصاعين وعصابة الفراشة المخيفة جدن"، شخصيات مجد الخيالية تتلكم عنا بقدر ما تتكلم عنه، وهي تكمل طريقها على أمل أن تنجح بمسعاها ومهمتها في سرقة الأحزان

ابتكر مجد شخصياته الصغيرة وأسماها "فصاعين" مع عصابتهم المكونة من مجموعة حيوانات، واختار أن يجعل الحيوانات ناطقة ليعبر على ألسنتهم عن أفكاره ومشاعره، "الفصاعين" مزيج من الأدب والفن وروح الشعر القديم الذي يسكن هواجس الفنان

الوضع السياسي الراهن للعالم العربي أنتج أنواعاً جديدة من طرق العيش والأنماط الإجتماعية وبيئات وفضاءات مختلفة وكل ذلك في عاصفة قوية من التغيير الذي يحدث بينما نحن نتحدث، ولذلك ظهرت أصداء هذه التغيرات في الفن والأدب بطرق جديدة، وأعمال مجد هي مثال هام على هذه التغير



[The moon cannot be hidden . Poetry of Omar Ibn Rabeea]











[You smile for the absent and the universe washes all its stars with a teardrop]

Untitled, #StealingSadness series, oil on canvas, 99 x 95.6 cm





[You smile for the absent and he doses on the claws of a monster]



[Our love is as big as an elephant]













# Majd Kurdieh (b. 1985, Syria)

The artist has a whimsical and fantastical style for which he has created an entire cast of characters to tell the compelling and sometimes tragic story of his life and homeland. The protagonists in this story are Fasaeen (Arabic for 'tiny ones') and they are always smiling despite their world being filled with hardships. They are usually accompanied by other characters and poetic phrases written in Arabic. At first glance, the works seem cartoonlike and simple, however, upon further investigation, it is clear that the artist is using this device to unpack the complex experience of living through civil unrest and also to convey strong messages of hope and action.

He continues to develop his characters that gain depth as he progresses in his own practice. At the centre of his practice is a sense of duty to make the world a better place, whether through art, discourse, or creating moments where the viewer forms a connection with his Fasaeen.

His artworks are widely collected throughout the Middle East and Europe. He has exhibited in Syria and Dubai, including Fann A Porter, Dubai (2016, 2018), Art Bahrain (2018), and Sikka Art Fair, Dubai (2018).

Born in Aleppo, Syria in 1985, Kurdieh lives and works in Amsheet, Lebanon.



### **Fann A Porter**

Founded in 2006, Fann A Porter is a contemporary art gallery at The Workshop Dubai that represents a diverse selection of emerging international and regional artists.

Fann A Porter is a contemporary art gallery that represents a diverse selection of emerging international and regional artists. The gallery aims to nurture the burgeoning and dynamic contemporary art scene through quality exhibitions, non-profit events, auctions, and an active community programme. Fann A Porter has locations in Dubai, UAE and Amman, Jordan.

The Dubai gallery is based at The Workshop, a unique inter-disciplinary community space consisting of a cafe, art gallery, sustainable store and design space, providing visitors with a diversified artistic and cultural experience. Bathed in natural sunlight with its garden, The Workshop is located in the heart of Jumeirah in Dubai.

Fann A Porter Amman is located at Manara Arts & Culture, a creative hub and social space in the heart of Jabal Al Lweibdeh.

# فن آ بورتیه

هو جاليري فني معاصر يمثل مجموعة متنوعة من الفنانين العالميين والإقليميين الناشئين. يهدف الجاليري إلى رعاية المشهد الفني المعاصر المزدهر والديناميكي من خلال إقامة المعارض ذات الجودة العالية، والفعاليات غير الربحية، والمزادات، والبرامج المجتمعية الفاعلة بفرعيه في دبي - الامارات العربية المتحدة و عمّان الاردن.

يقع الجاليري في دبي ضمن "ذا ورك شوب"، وهي فضاء مجتمعي متعدد التخصصات فريد من نوعه، يتألف من مقهى ومعرض فني ومساحة مستدامة للتصميم، وحديقة ممتدة تحت أشعة الشمس الطبيعية في قلب منطقة جميرا في دبي. ليوفر للزوار تجربة فنية وثقافية متنوعة.

أما فن–آ–بورتيه عمّان فيقع ضمن "منارة - فنّ وثقافة"، وهو مركز إبداعي وفضاء اجتماعي في قلب جبل اللويبدة.



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