

# Ismail Fattah

Born in Basra, 1934; died in Baghdad 2004

Ismail Fattah studied painting and sculpture, under the instruction of Jewad Selim, at the Institute of Fine Arts, Baghdad, from 1952–1958. He received his diploma in painting in 1956, and in sculpture in 1958. He went on to train in Rome, studying sculpture at the Accademia di Belle Arti and ceramics at the Accademia San Giacomo, in 1964. Returning to Baghdad in 1965, Fattah taught ceramics, and later sculpture (from 1969), at the Academy of Fine Arts until the late-1990s. He was president of the Society of Iraqi Artists for Abstract Art, from 1971–78. He was also a member of the Baghdad Modern Art Group, joined Al-Zawya in 1967, and was a founding member of the New Vision Group (he exhibited his work at their first group show in 1969). Along with Selim, Fattah is regarded as one of Iraq's preeminent modern sculptors (though both artists were also painters). Other than the *Monument of the Martyr*, his public commissions include the *Monuments of Iraqi poets: al-Wasiti, al-Farabi*, 1970–75; *Lawyer's Union Façade*, Ministry of Industry, 1967; and the *Conference Palace*, Baghdad, 1983. Fattah held solo and group exhibitions, displaying both

sculpture and painting, in Rome, Baghdad, London and Beirut. His work is held in Mathaf: Arab Museum of Modern Art, Doha; Kinda Foundation, Saudi Arabia; Darat Al-Funun and Jordan National Gallery of Fine Arts, Amman; and Museum of Modern Art, Baghdad.

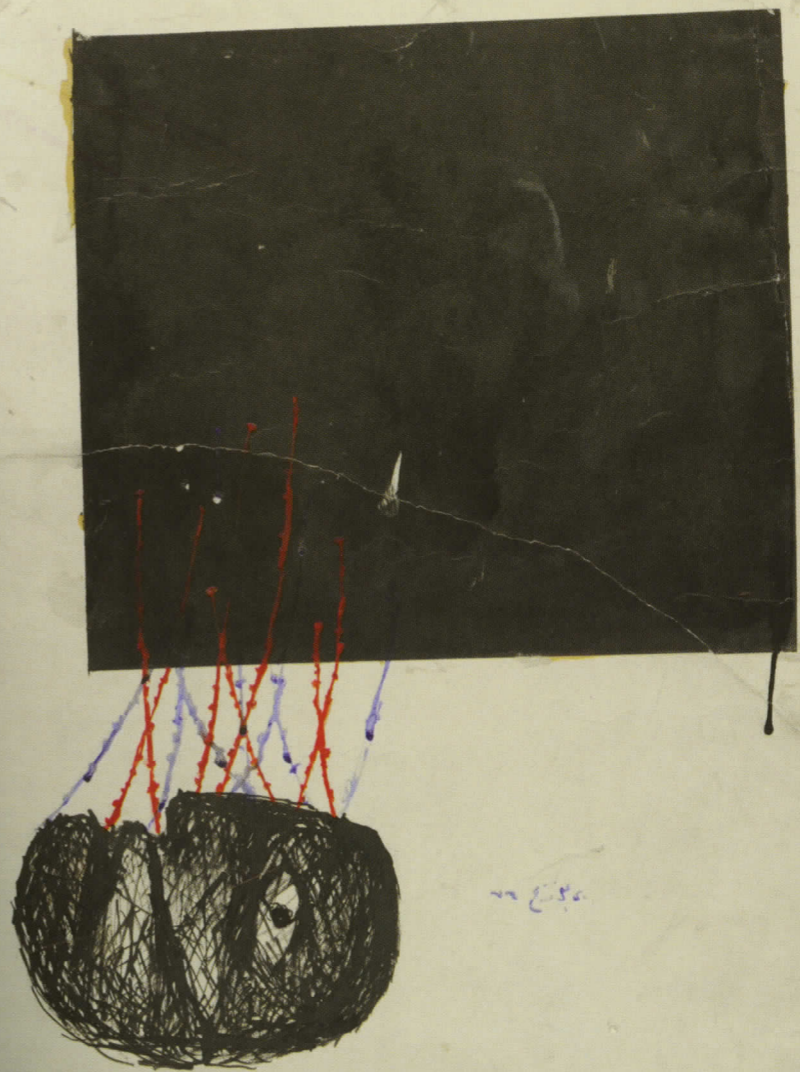
**Untitled** (1961)  
Oil on canvas  
85 \* 70 cm





**Untitled (1973)**  
Gouache on paper  
75 \* 51 cm

**Untitled** (1976)  
China ink on paper  
75 \* 51 cm



**Untitled** (1964)  
Oil on canvas  
76 \* 96 cm



**Faces (1997)**  
Acrylic on paper  
77 \* 57 cm



**Face (1988)**  
Acrylic on paper  
158 \* 120 cm

