

# DIALOGUE DEGREE ZERO | PART II | SADDAM JUMAILY

---



**DIALOGUE DEGREE ZERO | PART II |  
SADDAM JUMAILY**

**ART SAWA**

**2015**

## DIALOGUE DEGREE ZERO | PART II

Saddam Jumaily is a contemporary painter living and working in Amman, Jordan. Jumaily graduated from Al Qassim University but was born in Basrah, Iraq. Jumaily's paintings draw its essence straight out from his hometown, as in arabic Basrah means "the seeing of everything" while in Persian (Bas-r?h or Bassor?h) means "where many ways come together".

To the classical notion of painting Jumaily's works reveal themselves as traumatic entities as they reject their introduction to a conjunction of ordinary objects. On Jumaily's work there is no narration. Instead, we become witnesses of scenes we don't fully understand.

According to the Quran the Djinn are the human's nemesis. The female and sometimes plural (ex. Moroccan Mythology) word form of the race is Jnun, a word that also means delirium. For the human eye the Djinn are invisible unless they wish to reveal themselves. We can infer then that Arabia is traversed by an invisible version of itself, which Jumaily manages to reveal using his canvases as lenses that show us the uncertainty of the unseen opening a peephole through the Arabian beauty of the invisible.

Jumaily's paintings manage to transmit their rejection of an ordinary existence into their public by going beyond the academic notion of beauty and exposing themselves as real beings. Through them we can see on our image our own essence, which is more than what we were searching for in the beginning. They are what Lacan defines as "lamelle" in his four fundamental concepts, which is the mythical pre-subjective substance of the not-dead; or in other words the libido as an alien organ. Because of this, people that keep their distance from Jumaily's works often do not realize that the paintings are all ready dominating them on their inside.

Jumaily's work uses fantasy as its subject matter. Speaking on terms of ideology, a fantastic scenery behaves as an opacity of the true horror on a situation. Hence his art manipulates the subjacent censorship in its watchers' subconscious to turn visible the radical, academic, and false fantasy of painting in contemporary art. Fantasy lays too on the images portrayed by Jumaily, which contain unstable scenarios and characters. They highlight the real horror and delirium of painting which exists outside of them and which is, that even on the contemporary age, the art world usually defines painting using realism (and even hyperrealism) as its main basis or parameter. Hence and sadly, art set painting free from realism through photography only to go back to it through photorealism.

The problem is of course the human need (in Kant's terms) for a synthetic imagination that can allow its watchers to recreate a form. Jumaily's paintings disintegrate this notion and trigger a loss in the traditional notions of painting by showing a fictitious and nightmarish universe that lacks of an ontological sense, which is in fact not only the reality of his paintings, but the reality of painting itself. On a similar way in which the Lamassus at Dur-Sharrukin or Nineveh on his country do, Jumaily's paintings collide different spaces. And just as these creatures are capable of crossing through different planes, Jumaily's works seem to stand still and move at the same time while we're observing them. It all becomes clear then, leaving no doubt on how just as his hometown, the works of Saddam Jumaily are the space where many paths collide.

by "Alonso Cedillo Mata



PRETENSION |  
2013  
Acrylic on canvas  
150 x 150 cm



SPLIT-UP  
2013  
Acrylic on canvas  
150 x 150 cm



WARNED  
2012  
Acrylic on canvas  
120 x 120 cm



KINDNESS  
2013  
Acrylic on canvas  
120 x 120 cm



PREOCCUPATION  
2013  
Acrylic on canvas  
120 x 120 cm





SEARCH FOR NOTHING  
2013  
Acrylic on canvas  
120 x 120 cm



REST  
2012  
Acrylic on Canvas  
70 x 70 cm



DISAPPEARANCE |  
2013  
Acrylic on canvas  
95 x 84 cm

MATERNITY  
2013  
Acrylic in canvas  
92 x 68 cm





SOLITUDE |  
2012  
Mixed Media on Canvas  
80 x 80 cm



## SADDAM JUMAILY

Born in Basra, 1974 lives & work in Jordan

- 1999-2000 Bachelor in Plastic Arts - Painting department Basra University College of Fine Arts , Iraq
- MA in Fine Arts, Painting department,Basra University College of Fine Arts, Iraq
- Lecturer at Fine Arts College – Basra University, Iraq
- Member of Iraqi Plastic Artists.
- Member of Jordanian Plastic Artists
- 2006 Painter of Dubai Cultural Magazine, UAE
- 2012 Member of selection committee Fall Gallery of masters artists -Amman,Jordan.
- 2003 - 2008 Editor in Manara magazine, Arts section, Iraq
- Writer of several essays and studies in Iraqi and Arabian newspapers and magazines
- Graphic designer for a number of publishing houses like Dhifaf House- Qatar and Moment House- London,UK

#### SOLO EXHIBITIONS

- 2013 Dialogue Degree Zero, Art Sawa, Dubai, UAE
- 2013 DAILY LIFE, Orfali Gallery, Amman, Jordan
- 2011 HOUSEHOLD TUNES, Dar Al-Anda Gallery, Amman, Jordan

#### GROUP EXHIBITIONS

- 2013 “Abu Dhabi Art Fair”, Saadiyat Cultural District Abu, Dhabi, UAE
- 2013 Painting Symposium , Orient Hall, Ministry of Culture, Amman, Jordan
- 2013 Iraqi Art -Qatara center, Al Ain, UAE
- 2012 Contemporary Iraqi Art, Sultan Bin Ali Owais Establishment, Dubai, UAE
- 2012 Dar Al-Anda Gallery Amman, Jordan
- 2011 Fourteen Gallery, Amman, Jordan
- 2011 Foresight Gallery, Amman, Jordan
- 2011 Painting Symposium , Orient Hall, Ministry of Culture, Amman, Jordan

#### AWARD

- 2008 Expert young artists’ awards, Iraqi Plastic Artists society-Baghdad, Iraq .
- 2008 The annual contest of Ishtar -Young Artists ,Plastic Art Iraqi Association– Baghdad, Iraq .
- 2001 State Incentive Award, Ministry of culture.Baghdad, Iraq

#### BOOKS

- 2012 The Effectiveness of the aesthetic discourse: Applications in the Iraqi Plastic Art. Al Adeeb House - Amman
- 2012 The Disclosure of the optical text, A study in the overlap of the Plastic Arts. A draf



PO Box 212592  
Dubai, UAE  
T +971 4 3408660  
F +971 4 3408661  
E [info@artsawa.com](mailto:info@artsawa.com)  
W [www.artsawa.com](http://www.artsawa.com)

**artsawa**