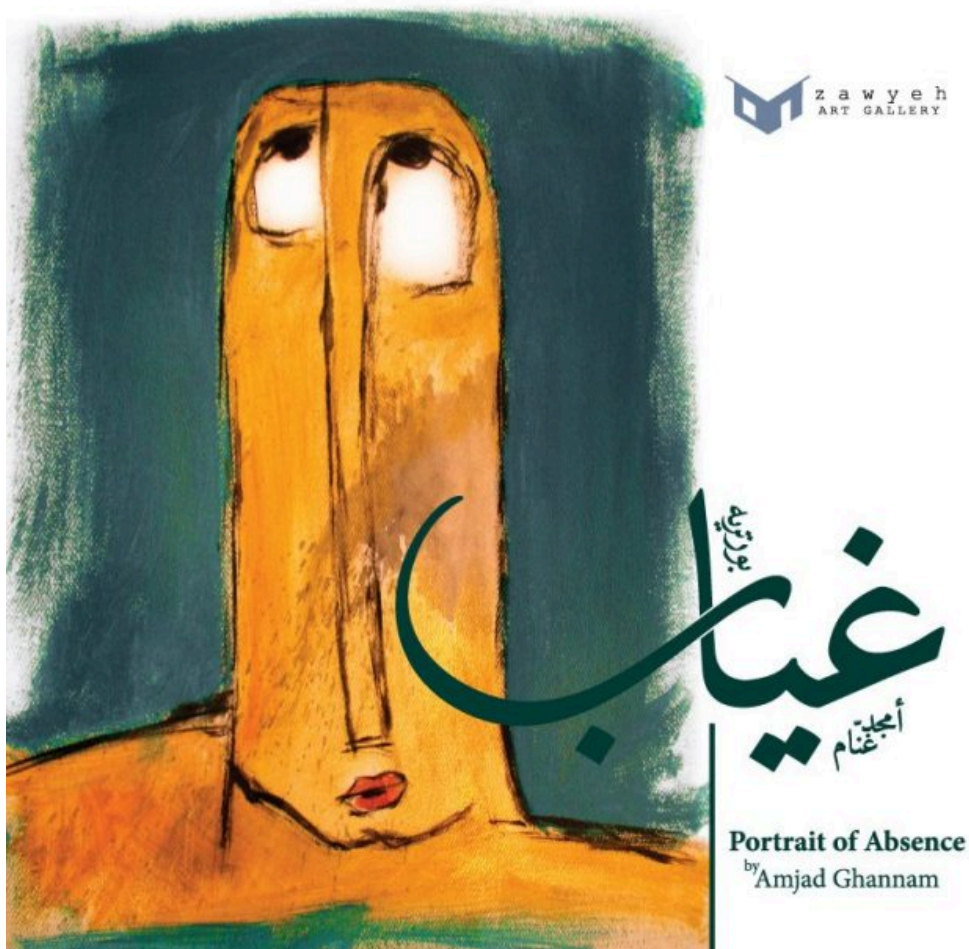


**Samartravels***Experiences.Stories.People***Amjad Ghannam – Artist from Palestine**Posted on [March 18, 2015](#)

“I want to go to Bilin,” I told my cousin during my visit to Ramallah in 2010. “why would anyone want to go to Bilin? You know they shoot people there and its dangerous” she yelled. “I want to go. Please help me find someone who can take me there.” I replied. She was puzzled and afraid. I understood why. The Israeli occupation forces arrested her husband, the Palestinian artist Amjad Ghannam, few weeks before my arrival for political activities.

Amjad is an artist. When in prison the occupation forces told him “what you paint shows who you are and how you think.” Of course what Amjad drew was a threat, a reality check, and a reminder that Palestinians exist and will continue to resist. He drew about Palestine, the land, people aspirations, the right of return, and self-determination.





Art is seen as a form of resistance, it is remembrance, it is existence, and it is a commemoration. This is why many artists are being threatened and silenced. Not only in Palestine, but across the world. Their art make us think, question, and challenge hegemonic narratives. It makes us imagine a different world, that is much more just and much more bearable. It keeps our imagination alive.

Amjad was born in Jerusalem in 1981. He is a self-taught artist. He started his art journey from a young age and used to draw during his college days in Cyprus to raise awareness about Palestinian struggle. His work is inspired by his daily life in Palestine, the political, economic, and social transformations taking place, and his interactions with people.



He loves the legendary poet Mahmoud Darwish and is deeply influenced by his words. If you follow Amjad on Instagram (Amjad\_Ghannam) you will see that most of his captions are Dariwshe's words of wisdom, longing, imagination, love, homeland, resistance, and passion.

---

Palestinians have been struggling for decades against ethnic cleansing, illegal military occupation, and apartheid system inflicted on them. Their cultural and historical narratives are constantly threatened and appropriated by the colonial structure. Therefore, Palestinian writers, scholars, and artists have resorted to various ways to grieve their loss, represent their cause, commemorate their memory, resist and mediate the traumas experienced throughout their struggle. We should continue to explore their work and understand the messages they are communicating to us!

**Share this:**



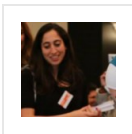
3 bloggers like this.

**Related**

[Are you inspired yet? Well...Hello TEDxRamallah...](#)  
In "Reflection"

[The Way to the Spring; Life and Death in Palestine](#)  
In "#Palestineislove"

[Eradicating the Gaza Strip](#)  
In "Reflection"



**About samartravels**

Traveler|Palestine|Family |Friends |Stories|Food | Dance|Books |Photography |Politics|

[View all posts by samartravels →](#)

This entry was posted in [Reflection](#) and tagged [#Justice](#), [Amjad Ghannam](#), [Art](#), [Artist](#), [Creative](#), [Homeland](#), [Love](#), [Palestine](#), [Reflection](#), [Resistance](#). Bookmark the [permalink](#).

---

**Samartravels**

*Blog at WordPress.com.*