

## Powerful Palestinian artist Hazem Harb exhibits in Dubai



*What's On has information about a powerful new art exhibition in Dubai. Hazem Harb exhibits at Alserkal Avenue, at Salsali Prive Museum.*

Despite being born in Palestine and using photographs in his latest exhibition from 1948, the year of the Palestine War, artist Hazem Harb insists he is not making a political point with his work. Instead, he is attempting to trigger a discussion about the oppressive influence of landscape and architecture over people.

The show is titled *The Invisible Landscape And Concrete Futures*, and is split into three parts: *Archaeology Of The Occupation*, *Tag Series*, and *This Is Not A Museum*. This is Harb's first solo exhibition – little wonder, then, that he says creating the work was both tiring and emotional.



**I started thinking about this project in 2008 and began researching it.** I started collecting archived photographs, which made me feel nostalgic. Some of the photos are from my own collection, and some are from online photography archives. I like to collect photos because they are connected to my history, to my past, to my identity.

**In *Tag Series* I've tagged the faces in the photos.** This is a reference to Facebook and social media. I decided to use contemporary tools from today to link to the past.

**Looking at these photos, I can't help but think, 'Where are these people now?'** Who are these people? I was looking into my heart, and it was emotional for me. Now I have finished the project I feel very tired.

## HAZEM HARB SOLO SHOW SALSALI PRIVATE MUSEUM MARCH 2015



**I always refuse to link my art with political issues.** I try to stay far away from this issue because I think we have enough to think about that. I try to see my country from another point of view.

**I'm lucky because I can use different tools: drawing, painting, graphic design, video, and sculpture.** I'm at full capacity in this show. Everything I can do is in this show, every experience I have had is in this show. The suffering produced this work.

**This is my first solo exhibition.** I was very nervous. It made me mentally tired, and also angry. I work intensely and sometimes I force myself to work very hard. This show is very important to me. I think it will change many things, such as my personality and my art. I'm very excited for those changes.

### **Until June 1**

*Salsali Prive Museum, Alserkal Avenue, Al Quoz 1, Dubai, Sun to Thur 11am to 6pm, Sat 1pm to 5pm, free. Tel: (04) 3809600. Taxi: Alserkal Avenue. salsalipm.com*