

Samia Osseiran Junblatt, painter whose work looked East and West, 1944–2024

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Samia Osseiran Junblatt, *Sunset*, 1968, oil on canvas, 110 x 69 cm. Courtesy Dalloul Art Foundation, Beirut

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Samia Osseiran Junblatt, the Lebanese modernist painter whose influences were omnivorously international, has died. Initially working in dialogue with Western abstraction, a trip to Japan precipitated her dive into figuration and an interest into the forms of Ukiyo-e art history.

Line-drawn figures, typically presented in states of agitation or restful repose, began to fill her canvases; compositions influenced by death in her own family and the turbulence of Lebanese history. ‘Words are not sufficient,’ she said, ‘and one picture can convey all that has to be said. I once believed in the classical concept of time and space and the idea of permanency; but because of events in my life, this has changed and has been replaced now by the idea of change and impermanency, all this is reflected in my work.’

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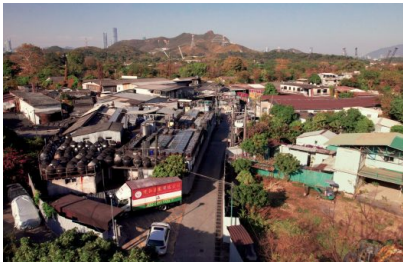


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