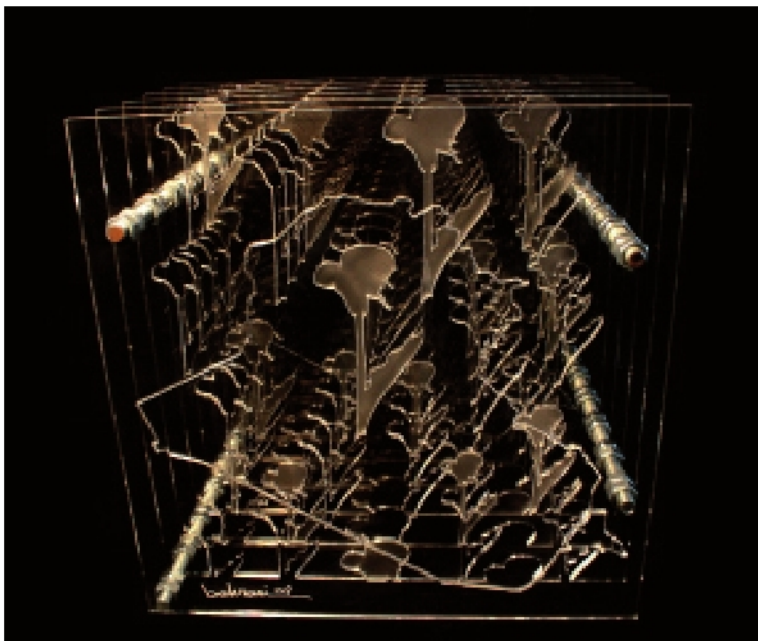


My Home Land

3rd March - 3rd April 2010

D. Azzawi, R.Nasiri, G.Gha'ab.
K. Risan, M. Al Obaidi, N.Yahya, A. Al-Bahrani



MY HOME LAND

Dia Azzawi, Rafa Nasiri
Ghasan Gha'ab, Kreem Risan
Mahmoud Obaidi, Nazar Yahya
Ahmed Al-Bahrani

ArtSawa, Dubai

MY HOME LAND

Dia Azzawi
Rafa Nasiri
Ghasan Gha'ab
Kreem Risan
Mahmoud Obaidi
Nazar Yahya
Ahmed Al-Bahrani

3rd March. 3rd April 2010

Artsawa Gallery, Dubai
U.A.E.

T: + 971 43408660

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P.O.Box 212592

Dubai, U.A.E.

It is the Return Without Reproach.

We, who left our homeland each carrying his reasons and dreams, were also tormented by the illusion of return. A year and it will pass? But the years passed and we have become comfortable with our new lives. The days were repeating often... Wars came and the graves and prisons expanded all over the homeland that we started searching for excuses to ward off the delusion of return. We often think of her when we remember what we carried with us of her youthful images, believing that what is in our memory is enough to return us to that beautiful time. And we wonder in amazement when we exchange our failure with delving deeper into mundane life.

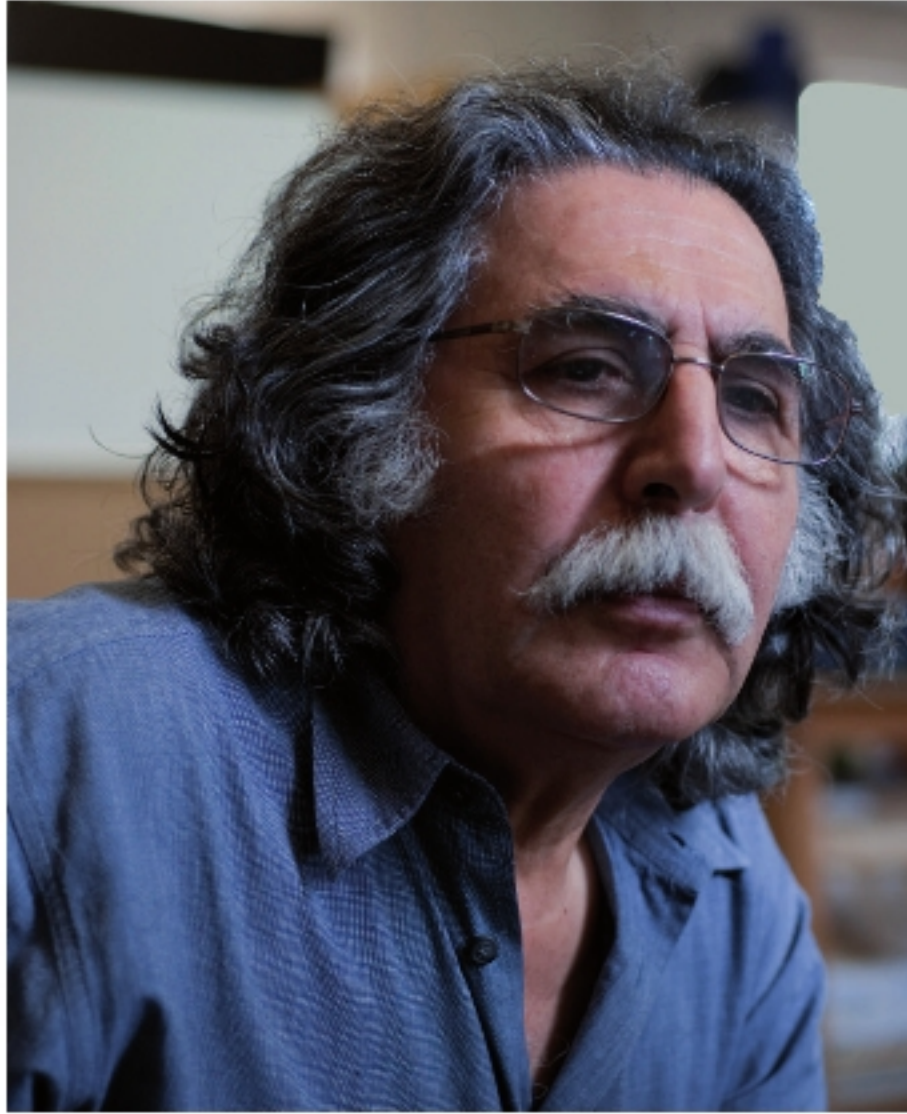
As the years passed the homeland became more distant and we started to hear much talk. They talk about her in the varying languages of the world, and we are baffled by that chatter to the point of doubt since words were manipulated and lies became so common that they developed in the crowds seeds of unrest.

Forgetting was our solace, be it about the homeland we left behind or the new place we now call home. And because we are foreigners, we forgive ourselves the confusion of places. When friends who have visited the homeland inform us that she is not what is in our dreams, we pretend not to listen to what they say.

We are painting her from our place of exile as if we live there. It is the return without reproach.

D. Azawi

London, 2nd Feb. 2010



Dia AZZAWI (1939) Born in Baghdad.

In 1962 he graduated with a degree in archaeology from Baghdad University followed by a degree in Fine Art in 1964. He has lived in London since 1976

Selected Solo Exhibitions

1965 Al-Wasiti Gallery, Baghdad. 1966 Gallery One, Beirut. 1969 Sultan Gallery, Kuwait. 1973 Gallery Raslan, Tripoli, Lebanon. 1975 The National Museum of Modern Art, Baghdad. 1976 Gallery Nadhar, Casablanca. 1977 Sultan Gallery, Kuwait. 1978 Patrick Scale Art Gallery, 1980 Gallery Fans, Paris. Gallery Central, Geneva. 1981 Gallery Paris (Basel-Art 12.81). Gallery Paris (Paris, Fiac) 1982 Intercontinental Hall, Abu Dhabi. 1983 The National Council for Art and Culture Gallery, Kuwait. 1984 Alif Gallery, Washington, DC. 1986 Royal Cultural Centre, Amman. 1988 Gallery Planque, Lausanne. 1990 Alif Gallery, Washington, DC. Nakita Gallery, Stockholm. Vanazff Gallery, Gothenburg. Galerie des Art, Tunis. Galerie Art 50 x 70, Beirut. 1993 Flandria Gallery, Tangier. 1994 Al-Manar Gallery, Casablanca. Al-Sayed Gallery, Damascuse. Abaad Gallery, Amman. 1995 Gallery Claude Lemand, Paris. 1996 Art Center, Bahrain. 2002 Retrospective exhibition, Institut du Monde Arabe, Paris. 2003 Palestine and Mahmoud Darwish : Large polyptychs. Drawings, Prints and Books. Cite du Livre, Aix-en-Provence, France. 2004 Recent Paintings. Claude Lemand Gallery, Paris. St-Art - Strasbourg's Art Fair : Recent Paintings, Claude Lemand Gallery. 2005 Recent Paintings, Claude Lemand Gallery. Paris. 2006 Kalemmat Gallery. Aleppo. 4 Walls gallery, Amman. Dar Al Fnoon Gallery, Kuwait. Claude Lemand Gallery, Paris. 2007 Retrospective exhibition, Abu Dhabi, Meem Gallery, Dubai.

Selected Group Exhibitions .



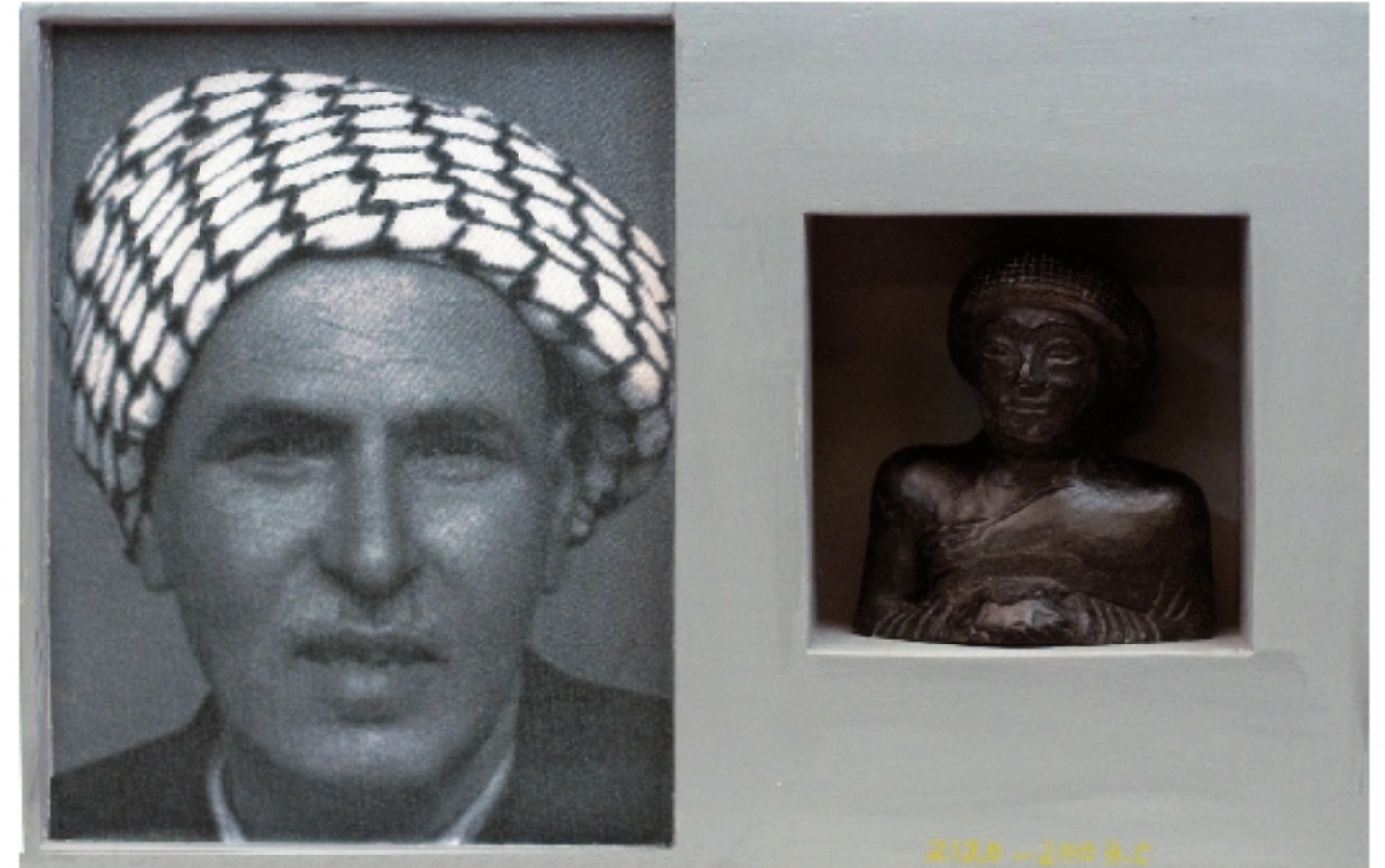
Dia Azzawi, The Wounded Iraq, 2009. wood, print & plaster relive. 51 X 58 x 5 cm.

1967 The First International Triennial, India. 1971 Contemporary Arab Art, Nicosia. 1975 The International Gagne-Sur-Mer Exhibition. The International Summer Academy, Slazburg, Austria. 1976 The Second Arab Art Biennial, Rabat. Venice biennial, Venice. The Fifth International Exhibition of Drawings, Rijka, Yugoslavia. 1979 Sao Paulo Biennale, Brazil. 1980 Salon de Mat, Pan. FIAC, Gallery Paris, Paris. Salon d'Automne, Espace Cardin Gallery, Paris. Salon de Mat, Paris. 1981 The Seventh International Grafik Triennale, Frechen. 1984 British International Print Biennale Bradford. First Arab Contemporary Exhibition, Tunis. 1985 Musée Hubert d'Uckerman. Grenoble, France. 1986 Salon Comparaisons, Grand Palais, Paris. Semitic Museum, Harvard University. Contemporary Arab Art, The Mall Gallery, London. 1987 3rd International Biennial Exhibit, Taiwan. 1988 Olympiad of Art. National Museum of Contemporary Art, Seoul, Korea. 1989 Contemporary Art from the Islamic World, Barbican Centre, London. Arab Graphic Art, NCCL, Kuwait. 1997 Five Visual Interpretations, Dubai. 2001 Machreq - Maghreb : Paintings and Books. Claude Lemand Gallery, Paris. 2002 Masters of Tondo, Claude Lemand Gallery, Paris. The Kinda Foundation Collection, Institut du Monde Arabe, Paris. 2003 Colas Foundation, Boulogne, France. Broken Letter, Contemporary art from Arab countries, Kunsthalle Darmstadt, Germany. 2004 Art Books and Paintings. Claude Lemand Gallery, Paris. 2005 Portraits of the Bird : Books and Drawings. Claude Lemand Gallery, Paris. Homage to Shafic Abboud, Claude Lemand Gallery, Paris. Contemporary Iraqi book art, The university of north Texas art gallery, USA. 2006 Portraits of the Bird, Bastia Festival of Arts, France. 2009 Group exhibition, Kareem gallery, Amman.

Selected Public Collections.



Dia Azzawi. The General's Diary, no.1 (Scorpion Force). Wood, print, and colored Plaster, 36 x 26 x 20 cm.



Dia Azzawi. My Father's Ancestor, 2009 Wood, Plaster sculpture and photograph. 38 X 59.5 x 12.5 cm.

Museum of Modern Art, Baghdad. Art, Baghdad. Museum of Modern Art, Damascus. Museum of Modern Art, Tunisia, Museum of Modern Art, Amman. Institut of Arab World, Paris. British Museum, V&A Museum, London. Jeddah International Airport. Gulbenkian Collection Barcelone. Arab Monetary Fund, Abu Dabi. Development Fund, Kuwait. The World Bank, Washington, DC. The Saudi Bank, London. The United Bank of Kuwait, London. Una Foundation, Casablanca. Harba Collection, Italy. Kinda Foundation, Riyadh. Museum of Arab Art, Doha. Colas Foundation, Paris. Library of Congress, Washington DC. Bibliotheque nationale de France, Paris.



Dia Azzawi. Dream of Corrupt Politician, Wood & Plaster, 2009. 46 x 28.5 x 16 cm.

Dia Azzawi. The Ugly Face of Occupation, 2009. Polyester risen, Photograph collage & Toy Tank. 30 X 27.5 x 31 cm.



Rafa NASIRI (1940), Born in Tikret, Iraq

After Rafa Al-Nasiri completed his studies in painting at the Institute of Fine Arts in Baghdad in 1959, he travelled to China to study printmaking at the Central Academy of Fine Arts in Beijing. In 1967, he was awarded a scholarship from the Gulbenkian Foundation after which he began working in various printmaking studios in Europe and the Middle East. A winner of several international prizes, Rafa was also a jury member for international exhibitions in Europe and Cairo. Like his Iraqi contemporaries, he was also a member of the "New Vision" Group and his work was included in international touring exhibitions including the "Dafatir: Contemporary Iraqi Book Art" exhibition hosted and organized by the University of North Texas, USA, in 2005. In 2006, his work was included in the "Word into Art" exhibition at the British Museum, which recently travelled to Dubai and showed at the Dubai International Financial Center (DIFC) in March 2008. He also recently participated in the "Iraqi Artists in Exile" exhibition at Houston Museum For Contemporary Art (USA), November 2008.

Selected Solo Exhibitions

2007 Sultan Gallery, Kuwait
 2006 Al Riwaq Art Gallery, Bahrain
 2005 Green Art Gallery, Dubai, United Arab Emirates
 2004 Atassi Gallery, Damascus, Syria
 2004 4Walls Gallery, Amman, Jordan
 2001 Rochan Gallery, Jeddah, Saudi Arabia
 1999 Eglau Gallery, Kampen, Germany
 1999 Bahrain National Museum, Bahrain
 1997 Sharjah Art Museum, Sharjah, United Arab Emirates
 1996 Arts Center, Bahrain.



Rafa Al-NASIRI. Dyari No.1 2009 Digital print on canvas & Silscreen print on Perspex, 50 x 50 x 10 cm.

Selected Group Exhibitions

2008 "Word into Art", DIFC & British Museum, Dubai, United Arab Emirates
 2006 "Word into Art", British Museum, London, UK
 2005 "Improvisation", Al Riwaq Art Gallery, Bahrain
 2005 "Dafatir: Contemporary Iraqi Book Art", University of North Texas, USA
 2000 "Strokes of Genius: Contemporary Iraqi Art", Brunei Gallery/SOAS, London, UK
 1999 "Iraqi Graphic Art", Darat Al Funun, Amman, Jordan
 1997 "Four Iraqi Artists", Green Art Gallery, Dubai, United Arab Emirates
 1994 "Four Iraqi Artists", Alif Gallery, Washington DC, USA
 1992 "Two Iraqi Artists", Shoman Gallery, Amman, Jordan
 1989 "Between Tigris and Euphrates", Arab World Institute, Paris, France
 1989 "Contemporary Arts from the Islamic World", The Barbican, London, UK
 Currently lives and works in Amman, Jordan.



Rafa Al-NASIRI. Dyari No.3 2009 Digital print on canvas & Silkscreen print on Perspex, 50 x 50 x 10 cm.



Rafa Al-NASIRI. Dyari No.2 2009 Digital print on canvas & Silkscreen print on Perspex, 50 x 50 x 10 cm.





Ghassan GHA'AB (1964) Born in Baghdad, Iraq.

1964 Born in Baghdad, 1986 Diploma, Fine Arts Institute, Baghdad, 1997 BA in Fine Arts, Academy of Fine Arts, Baghdad.

Solo Exhibitions

2001 Orfali Gallery, Amman.
2005 Alwasham, Dar Alanda Art Gallery, Amman.

Selected Group Exhibitions:

1986 The First International Iraqi Art Festival, Baghdad. 1988 The Second International Iraqi Art Festival, Baghdad. 1991 Contemporary Iraqi Art Exhibition, Amman. 1992 Three Iraqi Artists Exhibition, Baghdad. 1992 Three Iraqi Artists Exhibition, Baladna Gallery, Amman. 1995 A group exhibition, Hiwar Gallery, Baghdad. 1996 A group exhibition, Ab'ad Gallery, Amman. 1997 Environment and Surroundings in Iraqi Art Exhibition, National Art Museum, Amman. 1998 A group exhibition, Hiwar Gallery, Baghdad. 1999 Three Iraqi Artists Exhibition, Agyal Gallery, Beirut. 2000 Group exhibition, Athar Gallery, Baghdad. 2000 Iraqi Art Exhibition, Institute of Arab World, Paris. 2001 Six Iraqi Artists Exhibition, Dar Al Bareh, Bahrain. 2002 Asian Art Biennale, Bangladesh. 2002 Two Artists Exhibition, Four Walls Gallery, Amman. 2003 Before, After, Now Exhibition, Deluxe Gallery, London. 2003 Contemporary artists from Iraq, Green-art Gallery Dubai. 2004 Artists Books Exhibition, Ten Iraqi Artists, Frankfurt Exhibition International. 2004 Omage to Shakir Hssan Al Said Exhibition, Al orfaly art gallery. 2005 Homage to Shakir Hassan Al Said & Ismail Fattah Exhibition, Athar art gallery, Baghdad. 2005 Iraqi Art, East West Foundation, Holland. 2005 Three Iraqi Artists Exhibition, Athar art Gallery, Baghdad. 2005 Seven Iraqi Artists Exhibition, Besan gallery, Qatar, Alrwaq gallery, Bahrain, 4 Walls gallery, Amman. 2006 word into art artists of modern middle east, British museum, london. 2006 Mondial de l'estampe et de la Gravure Originale, France. 2006 3rd internatinal collage exhibition vilnius, lithuania. 2009 Beyond boundaries Interpretation of 9 artists, Karim Gallery, Amman



Ghasan Gha'ab. Game, 2010 Mixed media. 60 x 60 x 43 cm.

Awards:

1987 The 6th Al Wasiti Award. 1996 3rd Award, Contemporary Iraqi Art Festival, Baghdad. 2000 Creativity Award, Baghdad.

Acquisitions

Art Center for Fine Arts, Baghdad. Jordanian National Museum, Amman. Arab Art Museum, Doha. The British Museum, London. Kinda Foundation, Riyadh.
Currently lives and works in Amman, Jordan.



Ghassan Gha'ab. Challenge, 2010 mixed media, 38 x 20 x 54 cm.



Ghassan Gha'ab. Lamentation Women, 2010 Mixed Media. 37 x 30 x 30 cm.



Ghassan Gha'ab. Hope, 2010 Mixed Media, 50 x 37 x 30 cm.



Ghassan Gha'ab. Nooh, 2010 mixed media. 55 x 50 x 20 cm.



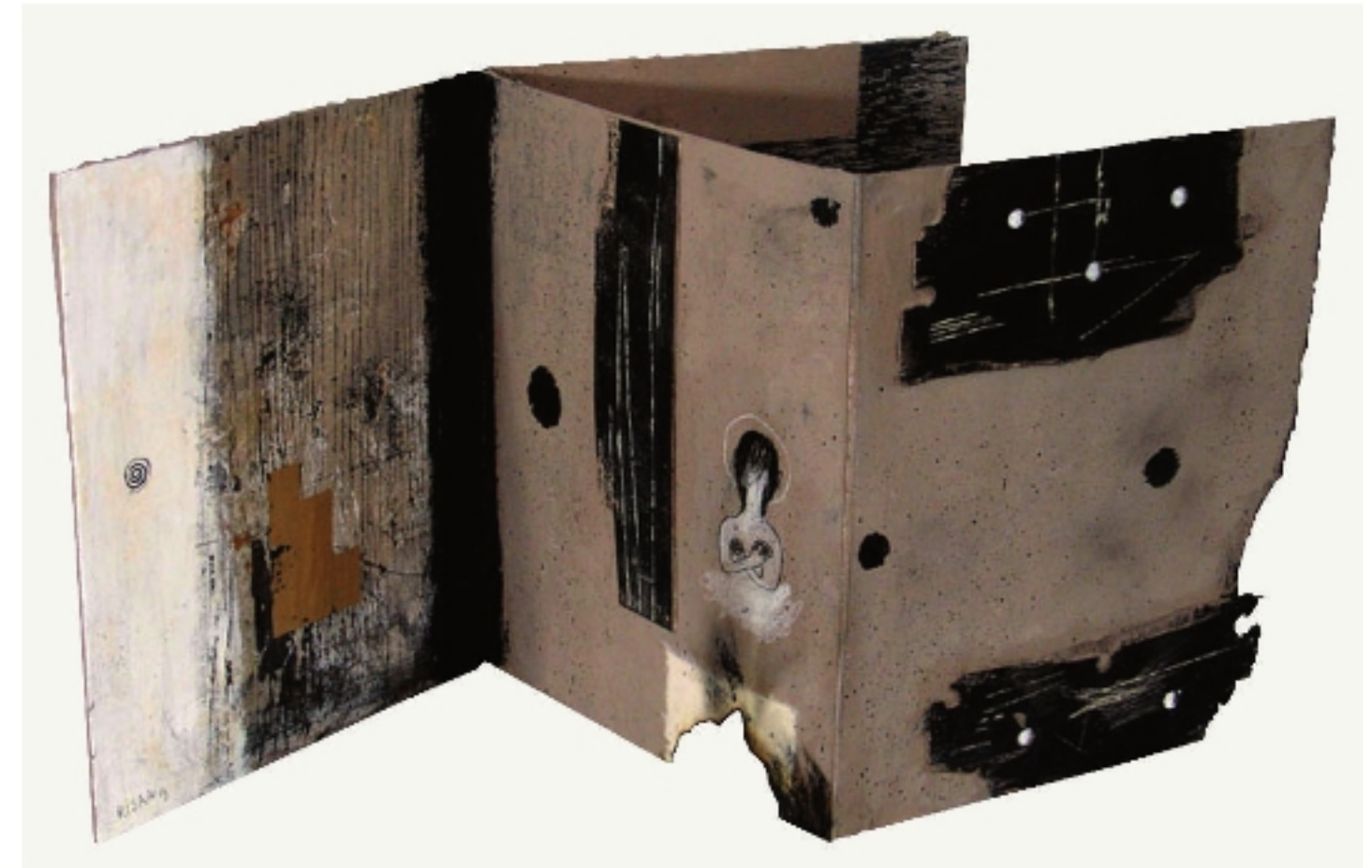
Kareem RISAN Born in Baghdad 1960.
Graduated from fine arts college 1988 – department of painting – Baghdad.

Solo Exhibitions

- 1992 The National Museum of Modern Art, Baghdad.
- 1994 Nadar Gallery, Baghdad.
- 1994 Hewar gallery, Baghdad.
- 1997 Al-Mashriq gallery, Amman.
- 1998 Franch cultural center, Baghdad.
- 2000 Hewar gallery, Baghdad.
- 2003 Dar al-Anda gallery, Amman.
- 2005 Al-Rewaeq gallery, Manama.

Selected Group Exhibitions:

- 1986 Fredrekshtad Graphic Bienale, Norway.
Baghdad 1st International Festival of plastic art.
- 1988 Baghdad 2nd International festival of plastic art 1988.
Cairo 3rd Bienale for Plastic Art, Egypt.
Between Tigris and Euphrates exhibition / institute Arab world, France.
- 1990 Kan surmer Exhibition, France .
- 1992 Muhres International Exhibition,Tunis.
- 1993 Joint Exhibition, Nevada university,U.S.A.
Three Iraqi Artists Exhibition – Showman Foundation, Amman.
- 1994 Chair Exhibition, Arabic contemporary artists, Darat al funun, Amman.
- 1997 Four Iraqi artists Exhibition, Cultural house of foreigners, Denmark, shambela art Gallery.
- 1998 Muhres International Exhibition,Tunis 1998.
- 1999 3rd Egyptian international print triennale.
Iraqi Graphic Exhibition, Darat al funun, Amman.
- 2000 Mesopotamia Exhibition, Darat al funun, Amman.
Iraqi Contemporary Art Exhibition, Bronai gallery, London.



Kareem Risan. Clay Walls,2009 39 x 32 cm . Open 45 x 45cm. Mixed media.

- Seven Iraqi Artists Exhibition, Institute Arabic world, Paris.
- Iraqi Contemporary Art Exhibition, Modern art museum, Caracas ,Venezuela.
- Iraqi Contemporary Art Exhibition, Tunis.
- Three Iraqi Artists Exhibition, Athar Gallery, Baghdad, Iraq.
- 2001 Iraqi Contemporary Art Exhibition, China 2001.
Iraqi Contemporary Art Exhibition, Beirut, Plastic art society gallery.
- 2002 Iraqi Contemporary Art Exhibition for small size art works, Hewar Gallery, Baghdad.
Perspective Contemporary Arab art, Institute of Arab world, Paris.
Baghdad 3rd International Festival of plastic Arts.
Seven Iraqi artists exhibition, AL- Barih Gallery, Manama.
- 2003 The Broken Letter Exhibition, Kunst Halle Darmstadt, Germany.
Five Iraqi Contemporary Artist, Green art Gallery, Dubai.
Iraq exhibition (now, before, after) Delux Gallery, London .
- 2004 Artists Books Exhibition,Ten Iraqi Artists, Frankfort Exhibition international.
Homage to Shakir Hassan exhibition, Al Orfaly arts gallery, Amman.
Homage to Shakir Hassan & Ismaail Fattah exhibition, Athar art gallery, Baghdad.
- 2005 Iraqi art, East West foundation, Holland.
- 2006 Book art exhibition,University of North Texas Art Gallery fall.
Book art exhibition, University of Minnesota Art Gallery fall.
- 2007 Book art exhibition ,Book Center New York, U.S.A .

Art Work Collections at:

Modern Arab Art Museum, Doha. Dart al – Funun, Amman. kinda Founation, Riyadh.Contemporary Art Museum, Baghdad.He had six artistic prizes.
Currently lives and works in Toronto, Canada.



Kareem Risan. What was left of war to Me.2009 (4 Pieces), each one size 23 x 15 x 5 cm. Mixed media.



Kareem Risan. Cement Gate, 2009 45 x31cm. Open 40 x 40 cm. Mixed media.



Kareem Risan. New Democracy, 2009 37 x 22 x 9 cm. Mixed media.



Kareem Risan. Good by electricity, 2009 35 x 12 x12 cm . Mixed media..



Mahmoud OBAIDI (1966) Born in Baghdad, Iraq

In 1990 he graduated with a degree in fine art from Academy of Fine Arts, Baghdad. In 1991 He moved to Jordan, Amman. He immigrated to Canada. Diploma in film Producing, from HIF Institute, Los Angeles, USA 1995-96. Certificate in New Media, Ryerson University, Toronto, Canada 1996. Diploma in film directing from HIF institute, Los Angeles, 1998 USA. He director a documentary film title Constanteen. Followed by MFA in fine art from Guelph University, Canada.1999. He worked as assistant lecturer in the Guelph University.

Solo exhibitions

1989 Rabita Art gallery, Tunisia.
 1990 Art Centre gallery, Baghdad.
 1991 Alya Art gallery, Amman.
 1992 Alya Art gallery, Amman.
 1994 Aba'ad Art gallery, Amman.
 1999 He exhibit Dome project in New Delhi, New York & Toronto.
 2002 4 Walls Art gallery, Amman.

International exhibitions

1999 The Museum of Modern art Baie-Saint- Pual, Canada
 2004 Improvisation, Doha, Manama and Amman.
 Frankfort Book Fair. Gallery Jouy, Switzerland & Cazacrou Founstion.
 2005 Dafter Exhibition, North Texas University, USA.

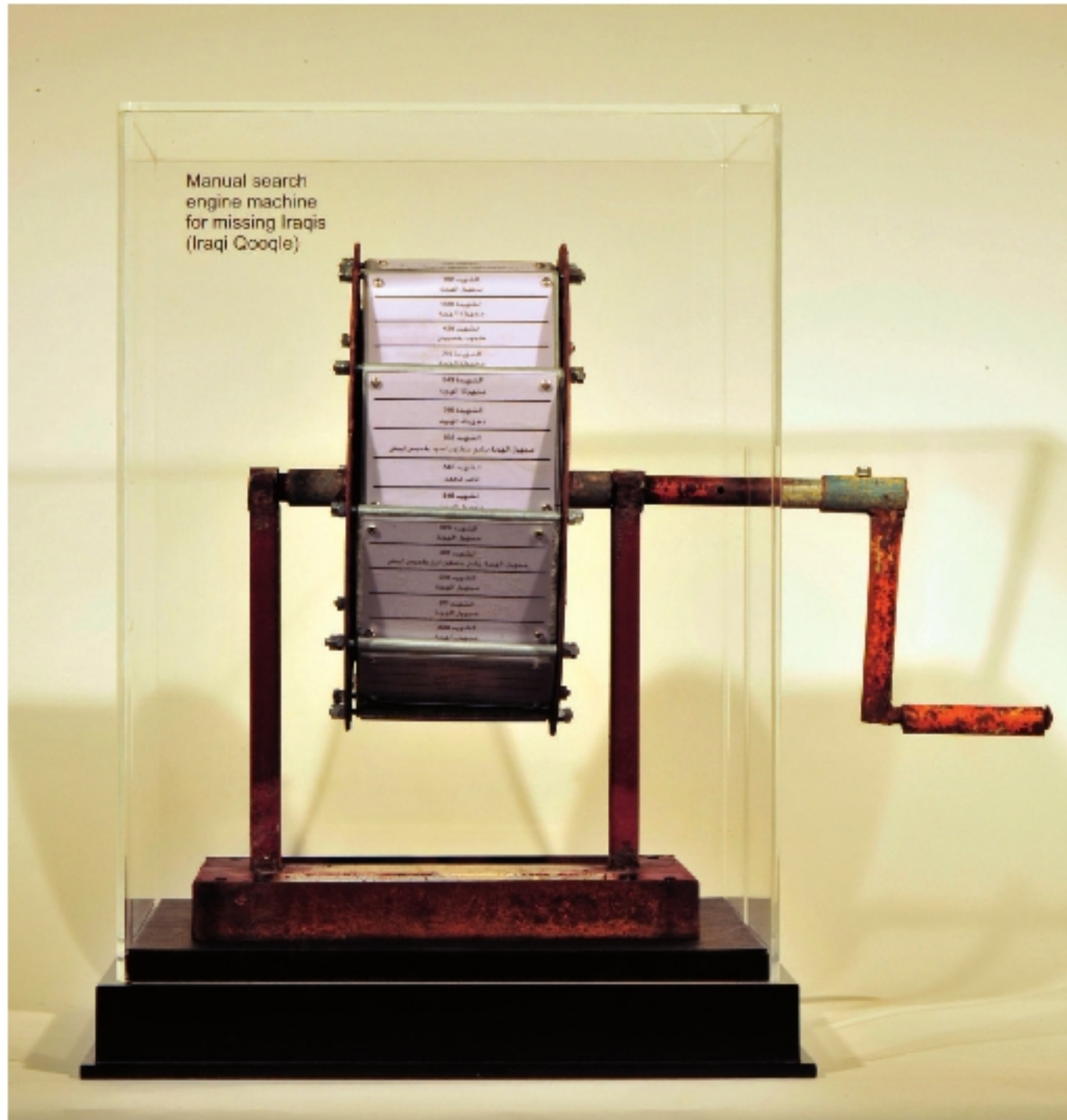


Mahmoud Obaidi. Sample of Iraqi soil excavation = 5 layers of death 2010 , Mixed Media, 45 X 35 X 54 cm.

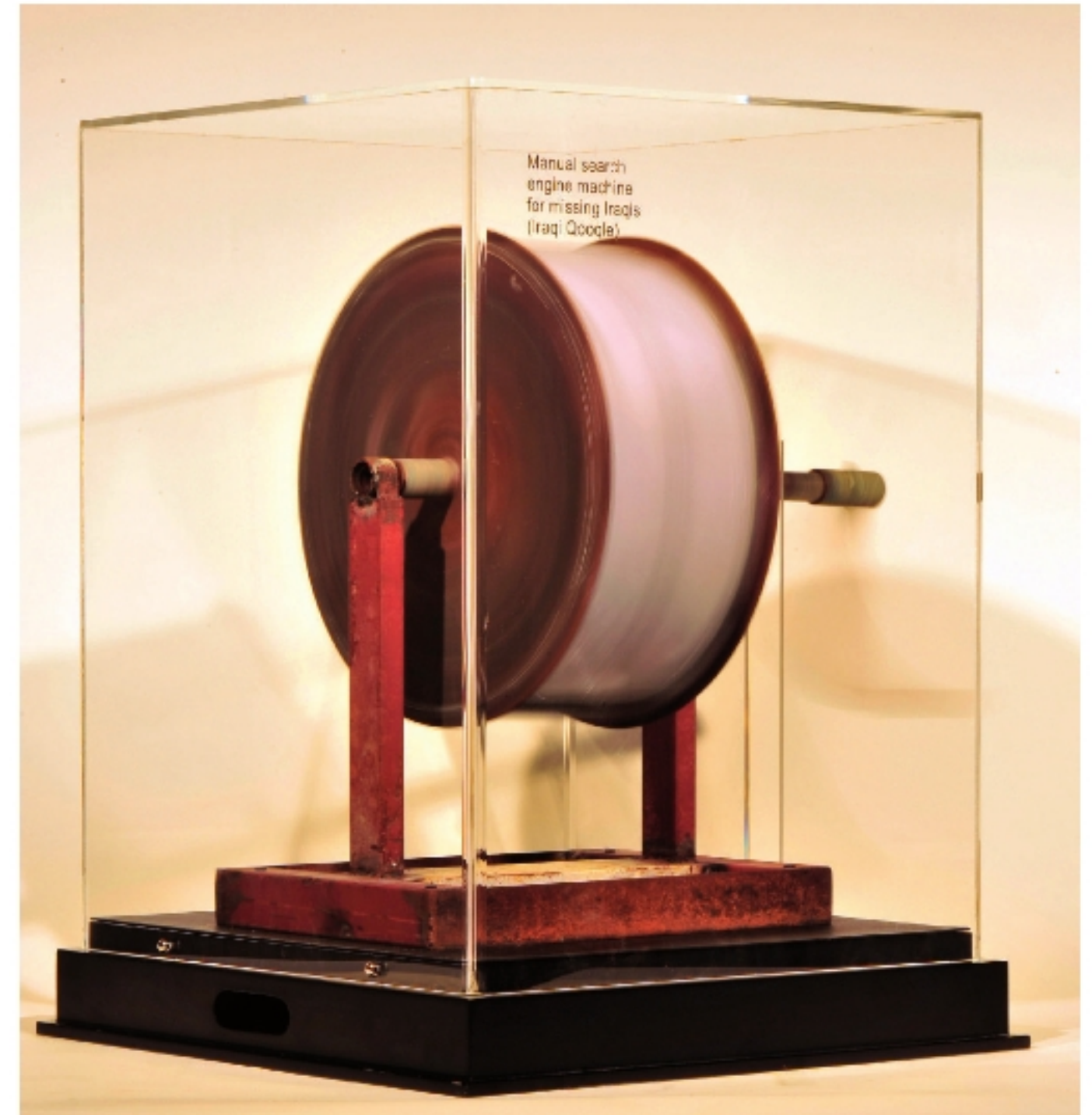
2007 Artistes d'Irak, Montparnas Museum, Paris.
 2009 Station Museum of Contemporary Art, Houston, USA.
 2009 Modernism and Iraq, Wallach Art Gallery, USA
 Currently lives and works in Qatar.

Permanent Collections

The Museum of modern art of Quebec, Arab Museum of modern art, Qatar.The Museum of modern art, Tunisia. Mahras museum, Tunisia. The Museum of modern art, Baghdad. The Museum of modern art, Sharqa. The Museum of modern art, Balc-Saint-Paul, Quebec. Kinda Foundation. The Museum of modern art,Amman.



Mahmoud Obaidi. Manual search engine machine for missing Iraqis, 2010. Mixed Media, (Iraqi Qooqle). 47 X 49 X 65 cm.





Mahmoud Obaidi. Ending as a Number, 2010. mixed media. 43 X 54 X 32 cm.



Mahmoud Obaidi. ID in a Frig, 2010. Mixed Media. 48 X 53 X 57 cm.



Nazar YAHYA (1963) Born in Baghdad.
1986- BA in Fine Arts, Academy of Fine Arts, Baghdad.

Solo Exhibitions

- 1994 Graphic Exhibition, Rawak Gallery, Baghdad.
- 2000 French Cultural Center, Amman.
- 2002 French Cultural Center, Doha, Qatar.
- 2004 Orfali Gallery, Amman, Jordan.

Selected Group Exhibitions:

- 1985 Frederikstaad Biennale / Norway
- 1996 Environment and Surroundings in Iraqi Art Exhibition, Jordanian National Museum / Amman
- 1999 Fifty years of Iraqi Graphic Art Exhibition, Dara Al Funun, Amman.
- 1999 Three Iraqi Artists Exhibition, Agyal gallery, Beirut.
- 2000 Frederikstaad Triennial , Norway.
- 2001 Six Iraqi Artist Exhibition, Dar Al- Bareh, Manama.
- 2002 Asian Artist Biennale / Bangladesh.
- 2003 Before, After, Now Exhibition, Deluxe gallery, London.
- 2003 Contemporary Artists from Iraq, Greenart Gallery, Dubai.
- 2005 Dafatir, contemporary iraqi book art, university of north texas art gallery, USA.
- 2005 Improvisation exhibition of seven Iraqi artists
- 2006 Word into art artists of modern middle east, British museum, London.
- 2007 Negative positive exhibition tow artist, Manama.



Nazar Yahya, Unknown Stuff, 2009, Clay paper mache, nails, canvas, toilet paper, and gauze on wood. 10 x 50 x 50 cm.



Nazar Yahya. The New Recipe, 2009, Clay paper mache and nails on wood. 18 x 50 x 50 cm.



Nazar Yahya. Yossef, 2010. Cotton fabric, window screen on wood, 135 x 29.5 x 33.5 cm.



Nazar Yahya. Raha, 2009 Clay paper mache and nails on wood. 33.5 x 50 x 50 cm.

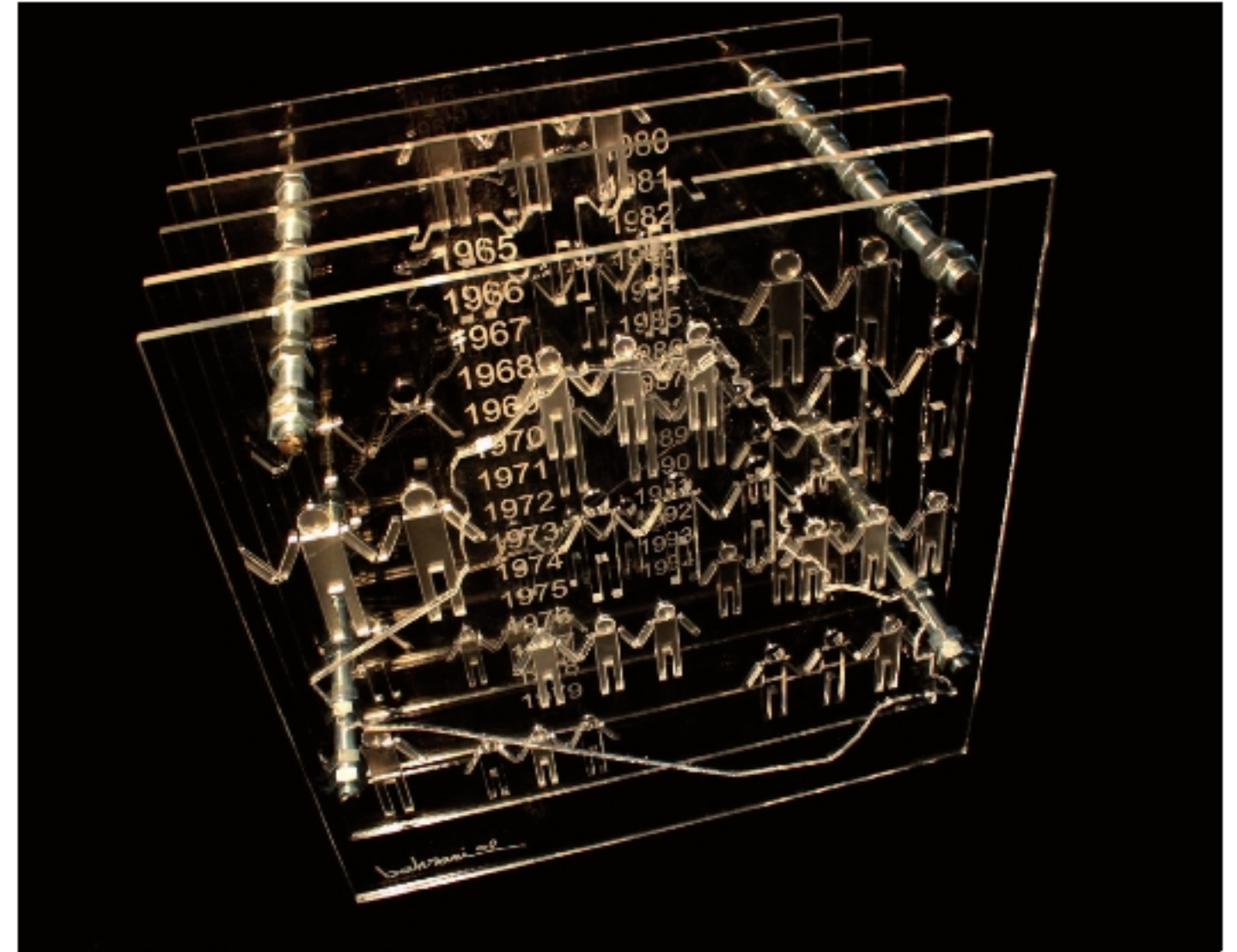


Ahmad AL BAHRANI Born in 1965 Babylon, Iraq.

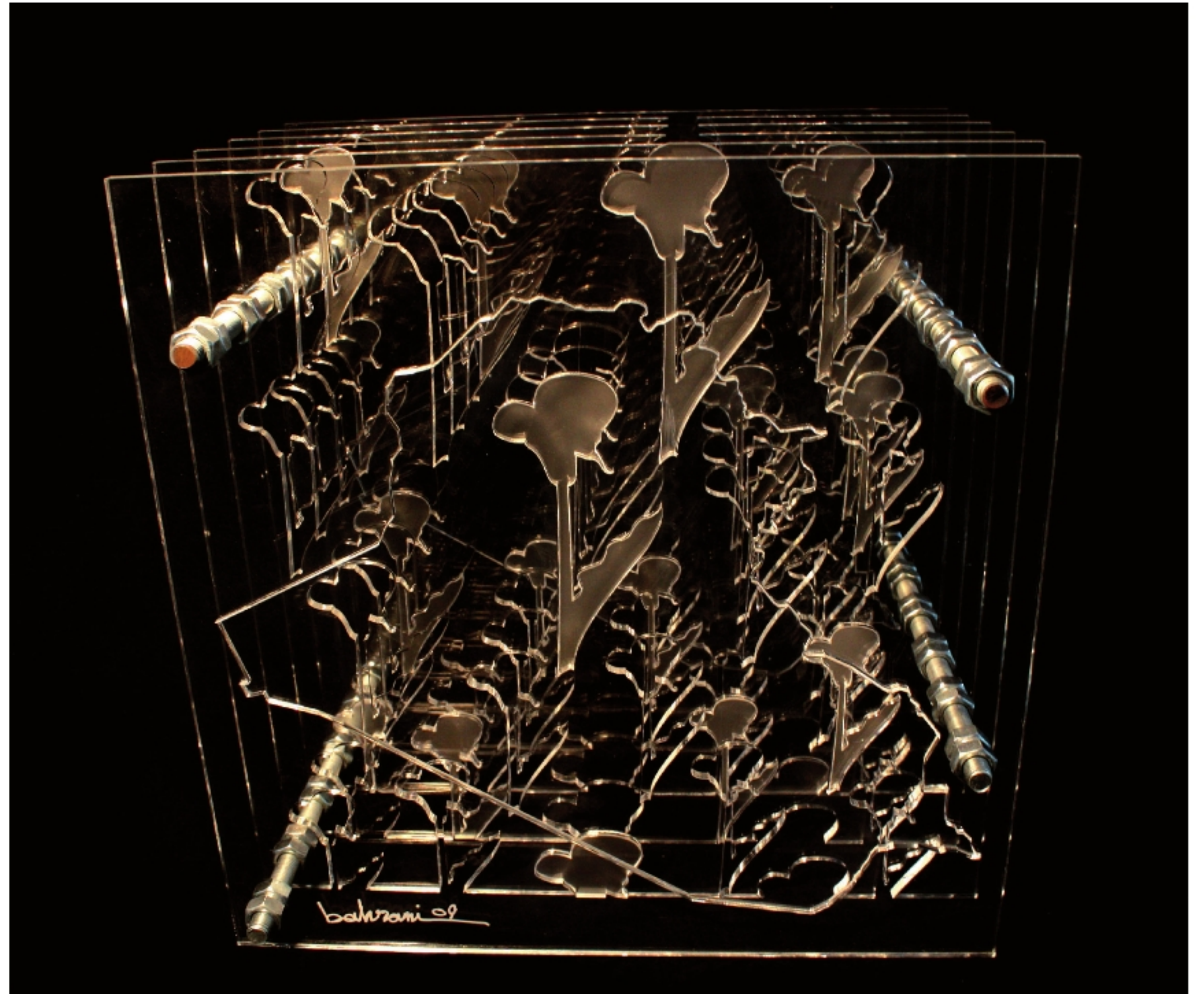
In 1988 Graduated from the Academy of Fine Arts, Baghdad(1992-94)Iraq.
He taught Sculpture at the Institute of Fine Arts in Baghdad.
Founder of Mimar Gallery with Architect Hazem Abu Naba'a, Qatar

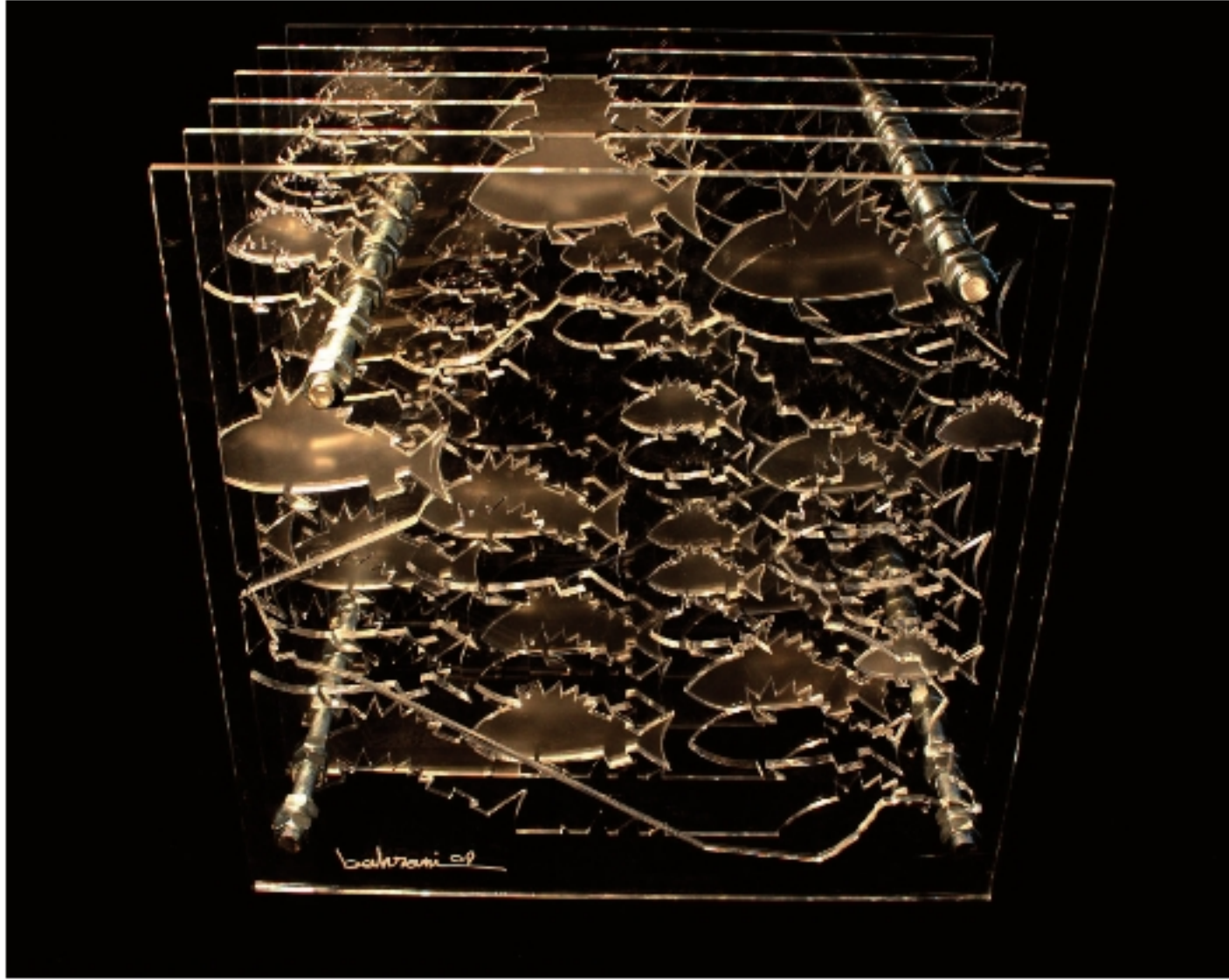
Solo exhibitions

2008 Qatar Fine Art Society, Doha.
Albareh Art Gallery, Manama.
2006 Dar Al Fanoun, Kuwait.
Albareh Art Gallery, Manama.
4 Walls Gallery, Amman.
2004 Green Art, Dubai, UAE.
2002 Bissan Gallery, in association with the French Cultural Centre, Doha.
2002 Al-Bida Gallery, in association with the National Council for Culture, Art and Heritage, Doha.
2001 Al Fardan Gardens, Doha.
2000 French Ambassador's Residence, Doha.
1999 French Cultural Centre, San'a, Yamen.
1998 Al-Afif Gallery, San'a, Yamen.

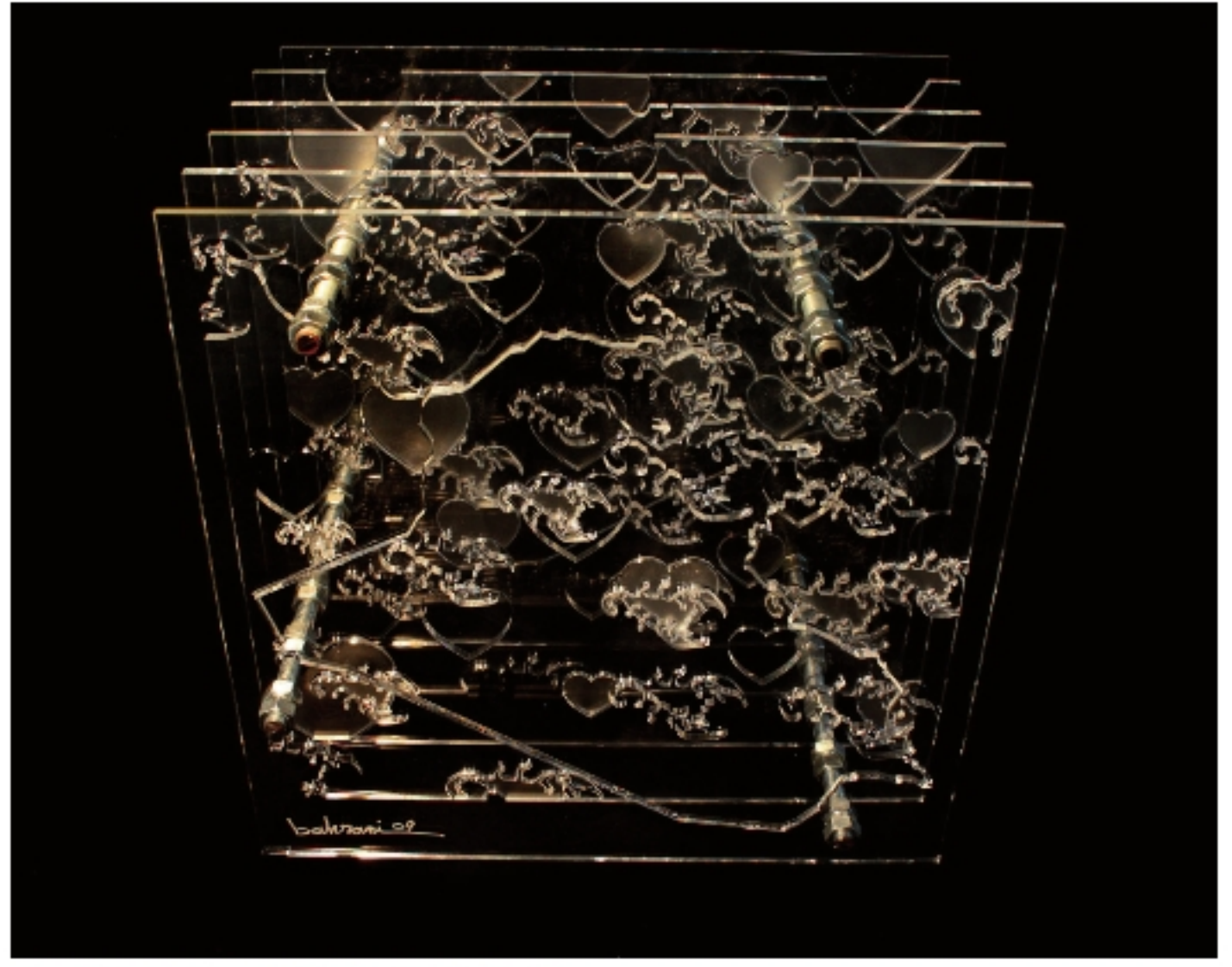


Ahmed Al-Bahrani. Iraq, No.2 2009 Perspex, 50 x 50 x 40 cm.

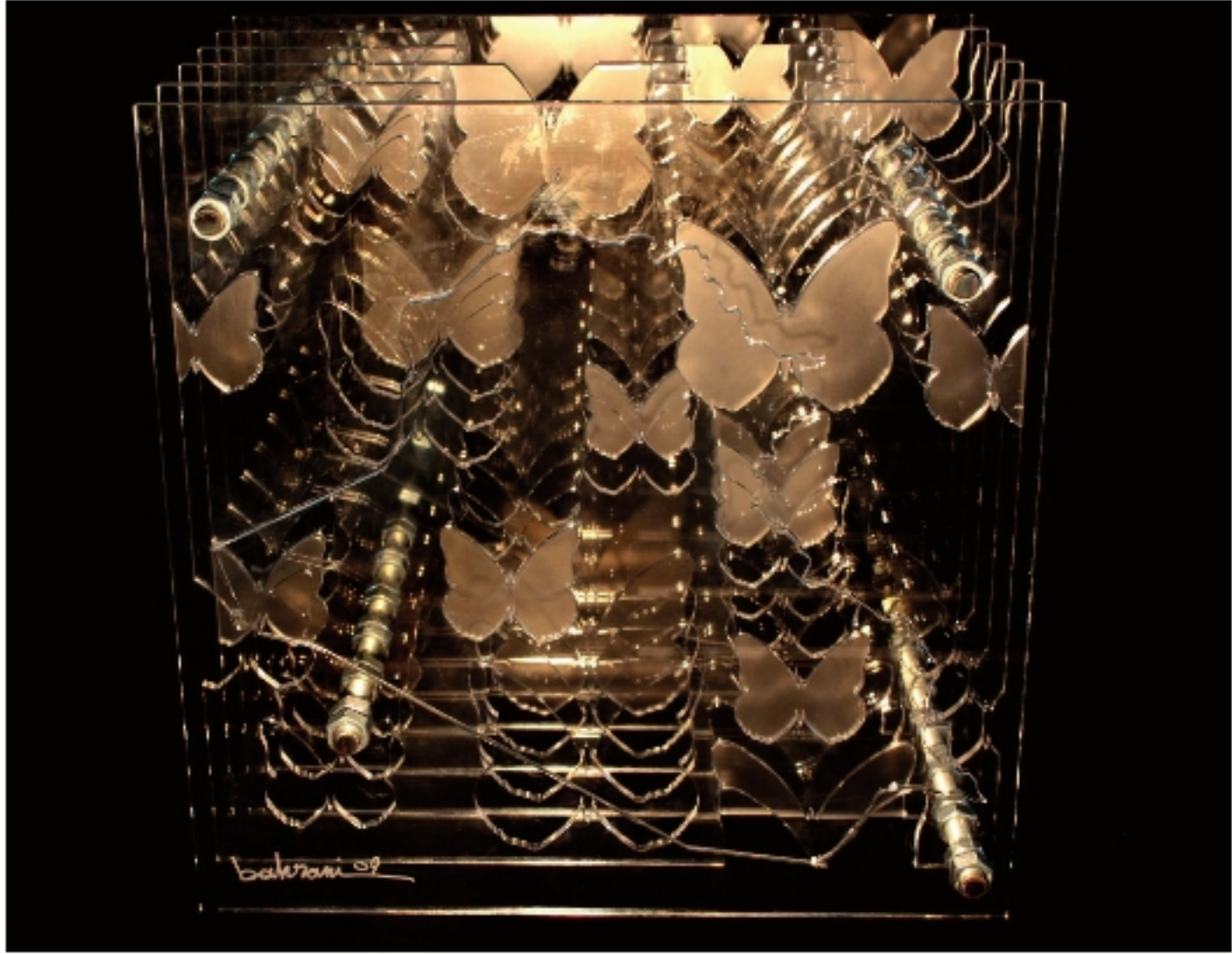




Ahmed Al-Bahrani. Iraq, No.4 2009 Perspex, 50 x 50 x 40 cm.



Ahmed Al-Bahrani. Iraq, No.3 Perspex, 50 x 50 x 40 cm.



Ahmed Al-Bahrani. Iraq, No.5 2009 Perspex, 50 x 50 x 40 cm.

