

HIDING MARWA ADEL



2012. MARWA ADEL "HIDING"

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MARWA ADEL

“BEHIND MASK”
Photography and Computer Graphic
105 x 105 cm, 2011

© Marwa Adel, Courtesy Art Sawa



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MARWA ADEL

“COCOON”
Photography and Computer Graphic
105 x 105 cm, 2011

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MARWA ADEL

“CONFLICT”
Photography and Computer Graphic
105 x 105 cm, 2011

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MARWA ADEL

"CRACK"
Photography and Computer Graphic
105 x 105 cm, 2011

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MARWA ADEL

"HIDING 1"
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105 x 105 cm, 2011

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MARWA ADEL

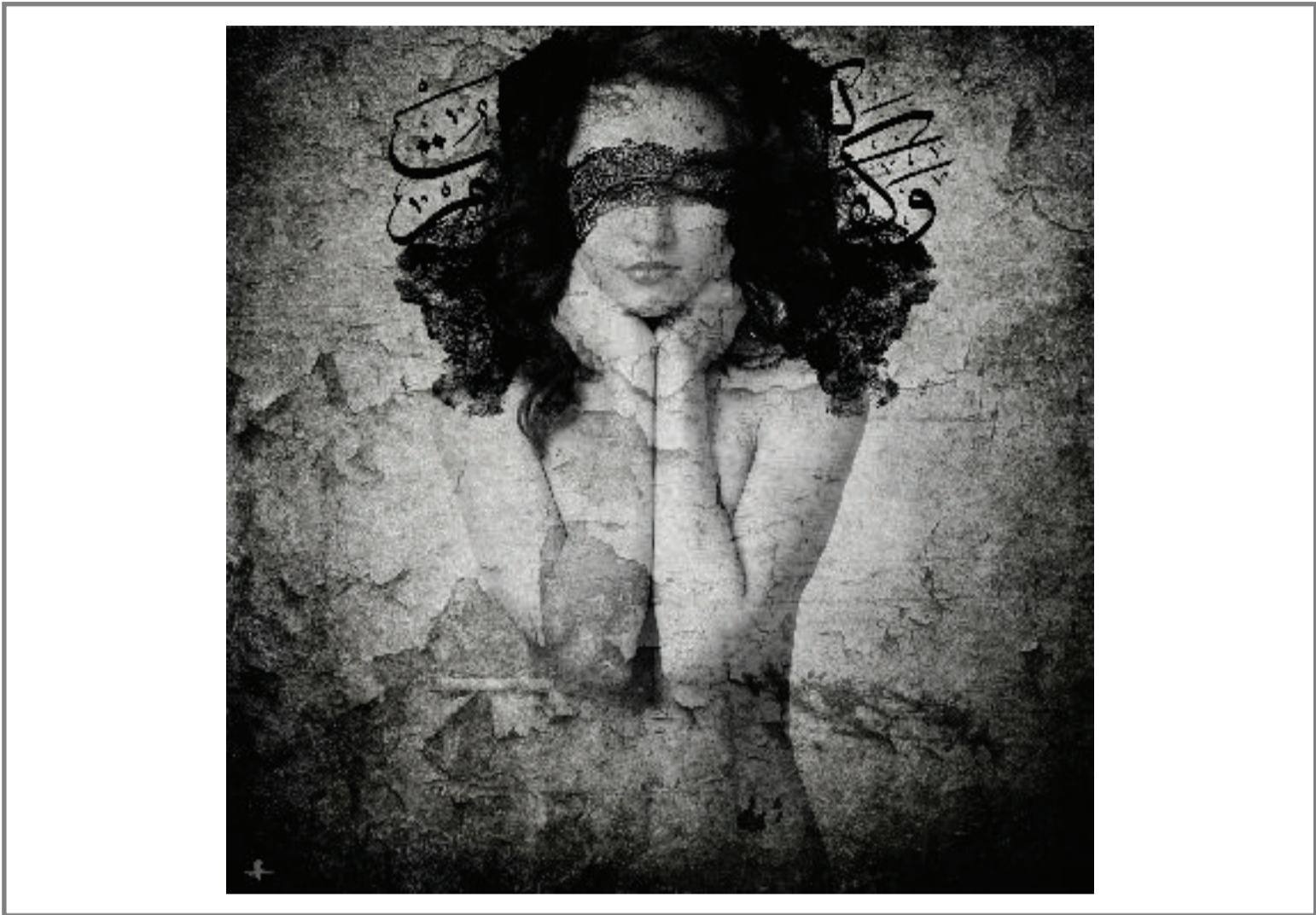
“HIDING 2”
Photography and Computer Graphic
105 x 105 cm, 2011

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MARWA ADEL

“HOPE”
Photography and Computer Graphic
105 x 105 cm, 2011

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MARWA ADEL

“PRETEND TO BE STRONG”
Photography and Computer Graphic
155 x 85 cm, 2011

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MARWA ADEL

“PRIDE”
Photography and Computer Graphic
105 x 105 cm, 2011

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MARWA ADEL

“THE PAST”
Photography and Computer Graphic
105 x 105 cm, 2011

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MARWA ADEL

Born in Cairo in 1984; lives and works in Cairo, Egypt.

Marwa Adel's photographs speak about the struggles she has faced in her life. They express her desire to break free from the restrictions imposed on women by society and to be the person that she is rather than what society forces her to be. Her work is deeply personal, but it tells a universal story.

The Egyptian artist has a Masters degree in advertising and is a lecturer at the Faculty of Applied Art at Helwan University, Cairo. Since the beginning of her career, Marwa has defied traditional norms by using pictures of the human body in her work. And she has won many awards for her bold and powerful creations. Marwa's artworks combine carefully posed photographs of models with symbols of fragility such as leaves, flowers and torn paper. Her wedding dress and veil also appear in the pictures as a reminder of bitter sweet memories. She also adds digital textures, light effects and pieces of her calligraphic paintings to create beautiful and eloquent compositions.

In 'Hiding', her latest series of photographic works, the artist explores the infinite conflict and the state of contradiction and antagonism that is part of our existence. Once again, she uses the bare human body as a metaphor for the thoughts and feelings hidden inside it. The anonymous women in Marwa's photographs appear fragile and lonely. Their eyes are covered, yet you can feel the sea of emotions surging within. Their bodies are exposed, yet they conceal their thoughts, desires and feelings. These women represent no one and everyone. They hide their identity and try to look like everyone else because they want to be accepted by society. But their tense bodies speak about how painful it is to hide the truth.

The black and white colours of the pictures highlight the conflict between the real self of these women and the person they pretend to be. The recurring appearance of her wedding dress symbolize her marriage which was the turning point in her life, and the impulse to rethink deeply her intimate herself, her feelings and objectives of her life .

"Hiding is a universal human phenomenon. We try to hide from fear, pain, darkness or cruelty. And we also hide our feelings, our memories, our happiness and all the precious moments that we are afraid of losing. Sometimes we hide behind masks or walls because we are afraid to confront others or to say or do what we want. But the truth in our soul cannot be hidden," says Marwa.

By JYOTI KALSI

SOLO EXHIBITION

2011 Safarkhan Art Gallery, Cairo.
2010 Memory, Art Sawa, Dubai, UAE



PRIZES

2011 Best Arab Photographer - Emirates Photography Competition-FIAB Medal - Abu Dhabi - UAE.
2011 Golden Prize-8th European - Arab Festival of Photography.
2011 Lovers Society of Fine Arts - Exhibition Num.51 - photography.
2010 Silver Prize-7th European - Arab Festival of Photography.
2010 Lovers Society of Fine Arts - Exhibition Num.50 - photography.
2010 Youth Salon of Cairo Num 21.
2010 First Prize for the best solo exhibition -Ministry of culture - Gezira Center of Art.
2009 Golden Eye Award - Emirates Photography Competition - Abu Dhabi - UAE.
2008 First Prize at the Oriental Weavers Design Contest.
2008 Lovers Society of Fine Arts - Exhibition Num.48 - photography.
2007 Lovers Society of Fine Arts - Exhibition Num.47- photography.

COLLECTIVE EXHIBITION

2011 9th Bamako Encounters: Biennale of African Photography, National Museum of Mali.
2011 Marrakech Art Fair.
2011 Christie's Dubai Auction Sale, April, Dubai.
2011 Christie's Dubai Auction Sale, October, Dubai.
2011 "Familiar Features between reality and myth", FA Gallery, Kuwait.
2011 Beirut Art Fair, Lebanon.
2011 Youth Salon of Cairo Num 21
2011 "From the Nile to the Merrimack - A Selection of Contemporary Art from Egypt" - UMASS university.
2011 Lovers Society of Fine Arts - Exhibition Num.51.
2011 Still Valid " a selection of contemporary Egyptian art"- AUC-Egypt.
2011 "Parallel to Cairo Biennale" Exhibition.
2011 "Art and Music" - Gezira Center of Art.
2011 Emirates Photography Competition - Abu Dhabi - UAE.
2011 Date Palm through the eyes of the world- Khalifa International Date Palm Award.
2011 Ninth session of the meetings Bamako Biennale African and photography under the slogan "Arab spring ", French Institute in Cairo.
2011 "8th European - Arab Festival of Photography- Hamburg - Germany.
2011 Safarkhan Art Gallery "Multiple Vision" , Cairo.
2010 Sotheby's Doha, December - Hurouf: The Art of the Word.
2010 Photography Exhibition - Elsayy Cultural Wheel.
2010 "Why Not "Exhibition - Palace of Arts - Opera House Ground.
2010 Lovers Society of Fine Arts - Exhibition Num.50.
2010 Safarkhan Art Gallery "The Collection" Modern and Contemporary art Egyptian Art.
2010 the 5th Spring Arts Salon - Elsayy Cultural Wheel.
2010 Miniature Artwork Salon - Elsayy Cultural Wheel.
2010 5th Youth Salon L'Atelier D'Alexandrie.
2010 Youth Salon of Cairo Num 21 .
2010 The Art Fund Collection - Forty West.
2010 Icon prize award.
2010 Miniature Artwork Salon - Opera House.
2010 "Pathways" Changing Focus Photography Competition - "AUC".
2010 Biennale of Amsterdam.
2010 First Time Exhibition- young plastic artist's Fifth Meeting- Bibliotheca Alexandria.
2010 Emirates Photography Competition - Abu Dhabi - UAE.
2010 Al Thani award for photography.
2010 selection of Egyptian photography-Cairo Biennale.
2010 Date Palm through the eyes of the world, Abu Dhabi- UAE.
2010 "7th European - Arab Festival of Photography / 1st International Photo Conference" - Hamburg - Germany.
2010 world photography organization competition.
2010 Date Palm through the eyes of the world- Khalifa International Date Palm Award.
2009 4th Youth Salon L'Atelier D'Alexandrie (AAW-2009).
2009 Photography Exhibition - Elsayy Cultural Wheel. •2009 the 4th Spring Arts Salon - Elsayy Cultural Wheel.
2009 Miniature Artwork Salon - Elsayy Cultural Wheel.
2009 Lovers Society of Fine Arts - Exhibition Num.49.
2009 Biennale of Port said.
2009 Emirates Photography Competition - Abu Dhabi - UAE.
2009 SIM "Signage, Imaging and Media Exhibition & Conference "Abu Dhabi National Exhibition Center - UAE.
2009 UAE IMAGES Exhibition - Abu Dhabi Authority for Culture and Heritage.
2009 UNDERCURRENT - Contemporary Egyptian Art- Dubai.
2009 Bonjour la France Art Fair - Abu Dhabi - UAE.
2009 Abu Dhabi Art Fair.
2009 Invisible Presence: Looking at the body in contemporary Egyptian art.
2009 Date Palm through the eyes of the world - Abu Dhabi - UAE.
2008 3rd Youth Salon L'Atelier D'Alexandrie.
2008 Youth Salon of Cairo Num18.
2008 1st International Media Art Forum for Youth (IMAFY) exhibition.
2008 Lovers Society of Fine Arts - Exhibition Num.48.
2008 3rd Spring Arts Salon - Elsayy Cultural Wheel.
2007 Youth Salon L'Atelier D'Alexandrie.
2007 Exhibition "west and east "German Cultural Center.
2007 Youth Salon of Cairo Num18.
2007 Lovers Society of Fine Arts - Exhibition Num.47.