

PRESS RELEASE

Artbooth Gallery Presents “Beauty and Ruin”: A Solo Exhibition by David Najib Kasir at Future Fair New York

Artbooth Gallery is pleased to announce “Beauty and Ruin,” a poignant solo exhibition by Milwaukee based artist David Najib Kasir. The exhibition will be showcased at **Future Fair New York from May 13 to 16, 2026, located at Booth F13.**

In this evocative body of work, Kasir interrogates the role of Western media in shaping cultural narratives while turning a "caring and concerning lens" toward the systemic destruction of families across the Middle East. As an American artist born to a Syrian mother and Iraqi father, Kasir’s practice is an intimate reclamation of his heritage against a backdrop of geopolitical erasure.

The Intersection of Beauty and Ruin

Kasir’s signature aesthetic employs the use of Zellige, traditional Arab geometric mosaic tiles and floral designs to shroud his figures and environments. This juxtaposition serves a dual purpose: it honors the profound beauty of Middle Eastern culture while highlighting the tragedy of its collapse.

"I dress the environment and figures in beautiful traditional designs to show the beauty of a culture and the tragedy as families try to hold on to it and each other as everything around them collapses apart," says Kasir.

The works confront the viewer with the literal and metaphorical "rubble" left behind by occupational forces and civil unrest. By depicting neighborhoods and streets that have become unrecognizable from his childhood memories, Kasir transforms the canvas into a space of mourning, resilience, and urgent political inquiry.

A Call for Recognition

“My work starts from a personal place,” Kasir states. “I am not only expressing as an artist but as a human who has witnessed years of dehumanization and destruction of civilian life. These paintings ask how much devastation can be endured and remind viewers of the universal desire to protect family, culture, and memory.”

“Beauty and Ruin” is more than an aesthetic exploration; it is a visceral response to what the artist describes as years of media indifference toward civilian casualties and ongoing genocide. The exhibition asks a haunting question: How much devastation and terror can be endured?

Through his oil paintings, Kasir challenges the “Beauty and Ruin” that allows for the ignored destruction of homes and lives. He invites the audience to look past the headlines and recognize the universal desperation of families striving to remain intact amidst the ruins.

Exhibition Details

- Exhibition: Beauty and Ruin by David Najib Kasir
- Presented by: Artbooth Gallery
- Location: Future Fair, New York City | Booth F13
- Dates: May 13 - 16, 2026