

An abstract painting in a soft, painterly style. It features various human figures and limbs in a palette of muted pinks, purples, greens, and yellows. A single lightbulb hangs from above, casting a warm glow. The composition is layered and dreamlike, with hands and faces partially visible and intertwined.

ArtBooth

ABU DHABI

“REIMAGINED”

A SOLO EXHIBITION
BY OUSSAMA DIAB

Artbooth Gallery invites you to

“REIMAGINED”

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BY OUSSAMA DIAB

SEPTEMBER 17 - OCTOBER 31, 2026
ARTBOOTH GALLERY





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“REIMAGINED”

ABOUT THE EXHIBITION

Abu Dhabi, UAE: Artbooth Gallery is pleased to present Reimagined, a solo exhibition by Palestinian-Syrian-Dutch artist: Oussama Diab, on view at Artbooth Gallery, Abu Dhabi, from 17 September through 31 October 2026.

Reimagined marks a compelling new chapter in Diab's artistic practice, bringing together a remarkable series of reinterpretations of some of the most celebrated masterpieces in the history of Western art. Drawing inspiration from iconic works by artists including Pablo Picasso, Vincent van Gogh, Michelangelo, and Anthony van Dyck, Diab revisits these historic compositions through his own distinctive visual language, one shaped by displacement, resilience, and an unwavering belief in humanity.

Born in Damascus in 1977, Oussama Diab's artistic journey has been deeply intertwined with his personal experience

of conflict, migration, and renewal. After graduating from the Faculty of Fine Arts at Damascus University, he established his practice across Syria and Lebanon before seeking refuge in Europe in 2015, eventually settling in the Netherlands. Throughout his career, the artist has remained committed to exploring the human condition, reflecting on themes of suffering, loss, hope, and survival. Rather than documenting conflict directly, Diab seeks to reveal the enduring strength of the human spirit, emphasizing compassion and optimism amid adversity.

In Reimagined, Diab enters into an artistic dialogue with history. Rather than reproducing canonical masterpieces, he transforms them, allowing centuries old images to speak to contemporary realities. His expressive brushwork, dynamic compositions, and emotionally charged palette breathe new life into familiar subjects, creating works that are at once recognizable and profoundly original.

Among the highlights of the exhibition are two striking reinterpretations of Picasso's monumental *Guernica*, revisiting one of the twentieth century's most powerful anti-war paintings through Diab's own lived understanding of conflict and displacement. The exhibition also includes *La Coiffure* after Picasso, alongside reinterpretations of Anthony van Dyck's *Jupiter and Antiope* and *Moses and the Serpent*, as well as two evocative sunflower paintings inspired by Vincent van Gogh. Each work reflects Diab's ability to bridge historical narratives with contemporary experience, transforming celebrated masterpieces into deeply personal meditations on identity, memory, and resilience.

While rooted in art historical references, *Reimagined* is not an exercise in imitation. Instead, it invites viewers to reconsider the relevance of classical masterpieces in today's world. By filtering these iconic images through his own experiences and artistic vocabulary, Diab reveals how universal themes of love, suffering, migration, hope, and

human connection continue to resonate across cultures and generations. The exhibition demonstrates that great works of art are never static, they evolve through reinterpretation, acquiring new meanings as they encounter different histories, perspectives, and lived realities.

Through this body of work, Oussama Diab creates a conversation across time, between past and present, tradition and innovation, collective memory and personal narrative. His paintings challenge viewers to see familiar masterpieces anew, revealing that the emotional power of art lies not only in its history but also in its capacity to be continuously reimagined.

With *Reimagined*, Artbooth Gallery continues its commitment to presenting artists whose practices engage critically with history, identity, and contemporary culture, fostering meaningful dialogue between Middle Eastern artistic voices and global art historical narratives.

OUSSAMA DIAB

B. 1977



Oussama Diab (b. 1977, Damascus, Syria) is a Palestinian-Syrian-Dutch contemporary artist based in the Netherlands. A graduate of the Faculty of Fine Arts at Damascus University (2002), Diab established his artistic practice across Syria and Lebanon before relocating to the Netherlands in 2015. His work has since evolved into a deeply personal yet universally resonant exploration of humanity, shaped by lived experiences of displacement, memory, conflict, and resilience.

Working primarily in painting, Diab develops an expressive visual language in which fragmented figures, symbolic imagery, and layered compositions become metaphors for the emotional complexities of exile and belonging. His paintings navigate the fragile relationship between suffering and hope, transforming personal narratives into reflections on the shared human condition. Through bold gestural brushwork, vibrant colour, and psychologically charged imagery, Diab invites viewers to consider both the vulnerability and endurance that define contemporary existence.

Over the past two decades, Diab has exhibited extensively throughout the Middle East, Europe, Asia, and North America. His solo exhibitions include presentations at Ayyam

Gallery in Damascus, Beirut, and Dubai, Pedrami Gallery in Antwerp, Sanaa Gallery in Utrecht, and Radboud University in Nijmegen. His work has also been featured in significant international exhibitions and institutions including Museum Arnhem, Stedelijk Museum Amsterdam, Fondazione Giorgio Cini, Busan Museum of Art, Samsung Blue Square in Seoul, Nest Gallery in Geneva, and numerous exhibitions across the UAE, Saudi Arabia, Egypt, Belgium, Italy, Switzerland, Canada, and the Netherlands. His recent museum exhibitions at Museum Arnhem further reflect his growing institutional recognition in Europe.

Diab's paintings are held in major public and institutional collections, including the Museum Arnhem, the Valkhof Museum Nijmegen, the Art Collection of the Province of Gelderland, Foundation for Art & Historical Artefacts a.s.r. & Aegon, and the Dubai Collection, alongside numerous distinguished private collections across Europe, the Middle East, and North America. He received two major grants from Mondriaan Fonds, the public cultural fund of the Netherlands.

Oussama Diab

Moses and the Serpent

— after Anthony van Dyck, 2024

Mixed Media on Canvas

157 X 206 cm





Oussama Diab
Samson and Delilah - After
Anthony van Dyck 2026
Mixed Media on Canvas
154 X 220 cm



Oussama Diab

*Jupiter and Antiope - After
Anthony van Dyck 2024*
Mixed Media on Canvas
157 X 206 cm



Oussama Diab

Middle Eastern Guernica,
2026 Mixed Media on Canvas
150 X 292 cm





Oussama Diab
Yearning, 2025
Mixed Media on Canvas
155 X 200 cm





Oussama Diab

La Coiffure – After Picasso, 2026

Mixed Media on Canvas

100 X 100 cm





Oussama Diab
Sunflowers, 2023
Mixed Media on Canvas
130 X 130 cm

Oussama Diab

sunflowers, after Van Gogh, 2026

Mixed Media on Canvas

100 X 100 cm



Oussama Diab

Saint George and the dragon, 2026

Mixed Media on Canvas

40 X 50 cm



Oussama Diab

In the woods, 2026

Mixed Media on Canvas

40 X 40 cm



Oussama Diab

Remains of an image 2026

Mixed Media on Canvas

155 X 220 cm



Oussama Diab

New Guernica (After Picasso), 2026

Mixed Media on Canvas

250 X 570 cm (3 Panels)

Private collection



"I started working on the Reimagined series in 2013 with the first work, *New Guernica*, a mural that marked the beginning of the series. It took me 13 years to complete this body of work, and I'm very happy to finally present it in Abu Dhabi."

Oussama Diab -

ARTBOOTH

ABOUT THE GALLERY

Emerging from over a decade of experience in the art field, Roger El Khoury founded Artbooth Gallery in 2019 with the aim of creating a cross-cultural bridge between artists, audiences, and collectors globally. We consider ourselves to be beyond borders since it is the original concept of Artbooth Gallery where we used to host pop-up exhibitions across the world.

Artbooth opened its first physical gallery space in Abu Dhabi, known as the cultural hub of UAE and pursues its mission through a diverse range of thematic exhibitions. Over the years the gallery has curated numerous solo and collective shows, showcasing artworks spanning various mediums and the gallery actively participates in Art Fairs in order to support both young and well established artists.

Embracing the power of creativity and artistic talent, Artbooth launches its presence in the bustling heart of Seoul, South Korea acclaimed as the rising art hub of Asia. Pioneering as the inaugural Middle Eastern Art Gallery in Asia, Artbooth aspires not only to cultivate a vibrant artistic community but also to spearhead global cultural exchange, aiming to establish itself as a cornerstone in the realm of arts and culture.

ArtBooth

"Found in Translation"

A solo exhibition by Steven Nafieh
November 8 - December 8

WELCOME TO
ArtBooth



ноябрь 8 - декабрь 8

CONTACT US

Services include fine art sales consultancy,
second market art sales, archiving collections
and curating exhibitions.



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