

Dara Art Gallery presents

Season's greetings

CONTEMPORARY SUDANESE ART

Vol. 1



23

02 18

23 03

23

Mohamed
Otaybi

Amna
Elhassan

Abdelkareem
Eisa

Khalid
Abdelrahman



Foreword

As of 2021 we have been working to reach this point where we can confidently exhibit multiple artists as well as add some to the gallery permanently. The aim behind this exhibition is to start the year with a selection of some of our favorite artists from Sudan. A special collective with painters from the giant metropolitan area we inhabit. From Khartoum itself to Omdurman and Bahri. All with different styles and at different points in their careers. This year we have many things in store; retrospectives, artists coming in from the diaspora and more! I would like to thank Mohammed Otaybi, Khalid Abdelrahman, Abdelkareem Eisa and Amna ElHassan.

Welcome to a new season of Contemporary Sudanese Art at Dara Art Gallery!

Yafil Mubarak
Director of Dara Art Gallery

Mohamed Otaybi

 /otaybimohamed/

Otaybi is an influential figure in the Sudanese artistic movement. Otaybi graduated from the Khartoum College of Fine and Applied Arts, having begun working as an artist during a dynamic period of the 1970s. He was immersed in debates about cultural heritage and visual identity, which have stayed important topics for him and has fed the amalgamation of Africanism, Islam, Arabism and Sudanese themes of identity seen throughout his paintings. His painterly language uses architectural structures, decorative motifs and calligraphic forms to echo the questions around cultural heritage he finds so important.



His work has a romantic hue of Sudanese life, nature, music and heritage and his use of color and layering creates a mystic sensation with mythological motifs he often refers to, adding depth and vibration to his paintings. Otaybi has held many solo exhibitions in Khartoum, from 1970 to the present and has participated in international group exhibitions including the Sharjah Biennial, UAE, 1993; Modernism in Sudanese Art, British Museum, London, 2004; Sudan: Emergence of Singularities, P21 Gallery, London, 2017 and recently at Narty Gallery in 2022. His work features in private and public collections including the National Museum in Sharjah, UAE. In December 2018 Otaybi was the focus of the article 'Masters we Need to Master' in Collector Magazine published by Art Africa. In 2022 he had a very powerful exhibition at Circle Art Gallery in Nairobi.



OT7. **'The dervish'** 2022
Acrylic on canvas
104X100cm



OT8. **'The king and the queen'** 2022

Acrylic on canvas

100x104cm



OT5. **'He and the stars'** 2022
Acrylic on canvas
75X50cm



OT6. **'Sad woman'** 2022
Acrylic on canvas
70x100cm



OT3. **'Portrait I'** 2022
Acrylic on canvas
40x40cm



OT4. **'Five masks'** 2022
Acrylic on canvas
62x47cm



OT1. **'Portrait II'** 2021
Acrylic on canvas
20x20cm



OT10. **'Conversation'** 2023
Ink and watercolor on paper
42x29cm



OT2. **'Mother and kids'**
2020
Acrylic on canvas
20x20cm




OT9. **'The outsider'** 1989

Marker / feltip

30x25cm

Amna Elhassan

www.amnaelhassan.com  /amnaelhassan/



Amna Elhassan born in 1988. Just returning from Germany where in 2022 she was invited for her first solo exhibition at the Institute for Contemporary Art & Transfer (ICAT) at Hochschule für bildende Künste Hamburg (HFBK) and right after a site-specific installation and exhibition at the SCHIRN Kunst-halle in Frankfurt. Furthermore she participated in multiple workshops and held talks at SCHIRN and HFBK as well an online talk held in Boston U.S.A 2021. She has also participated in many group exhibitions and art fairs in Sudan and abroad at the Rashid Diab Art Centre, in Egypt Int'l Art Fair 2021, Afriart in Uganda 2020, FNB Joburg Art Fair in South Africa 2020 and also at the Journées d'Art Contemporain de Carthage JACC with Dara Art Gallery in Tunis 2019.

Her art focuses Sudan's yearning for emancipation and cultural awareness. She does this with the use of women in daily scenes adorned with traditional elements such as henna, jewelry and more. The development of her technique, with original colors, multiple layers and unique mangled perspective plus her reflection of the mental and physical realities of women make her one of the biggest upcoming promises in the Contemporary Sudanese Art scene.



AH1. **'Nile cruise'** 2023.
Acrylic on canvas
100X90cm

Abdelkareem Eisa

Abdelkareem Eisa, born in 1975, is a graduate of Illustration Design from Sudan University of Science and Technology, College of Fine and Applied Arts. Today professionally an illustrator and graphic designer with an extensive career for over two decades in the field and a painter during his time of leisure. He uses a wide variety of techniques and mediums, different styles of work that he creates meticulously and patiently over extended time.



He dominates drawing which allows him to express the things that happen within his imagination. Different forms, animals, figures and people that give access to his mythology. The narrative of his work is visual rather than literary, a very personal world creating realities and even calling us to see that parallel worlds are possible. He has participated in several collective and solo exhibitions in Sudan and abroad in Libya and Ethiopia.



AK2. **'Untitled'** 2022
Ink on canvas
20x20cm



AK3. **'Untitled'** 2021
Ink on canvas
20x20cm



AK5. **'Untitled'** 2019
Ink on canvas
20x20cm



AK7. **'Naughty cat'** 2022.
Ink on canvas
50x50cm



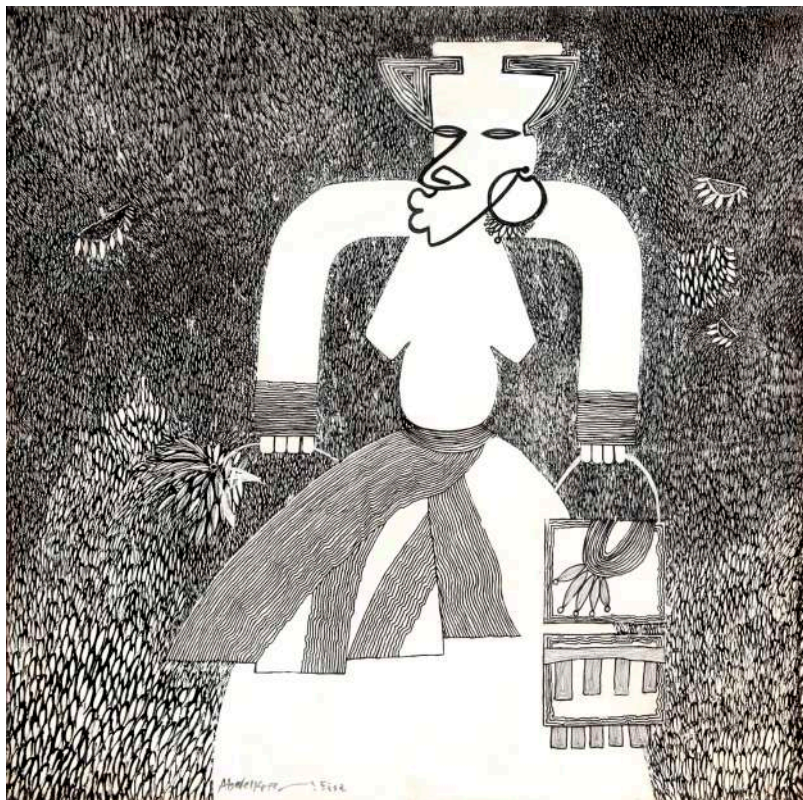
AK8. **'Bird seller'** 2022
Ink on canvas
50x50cm



AK9. **'Garden on a stormy night'** 2017.

Ink on canvas

80x90cm



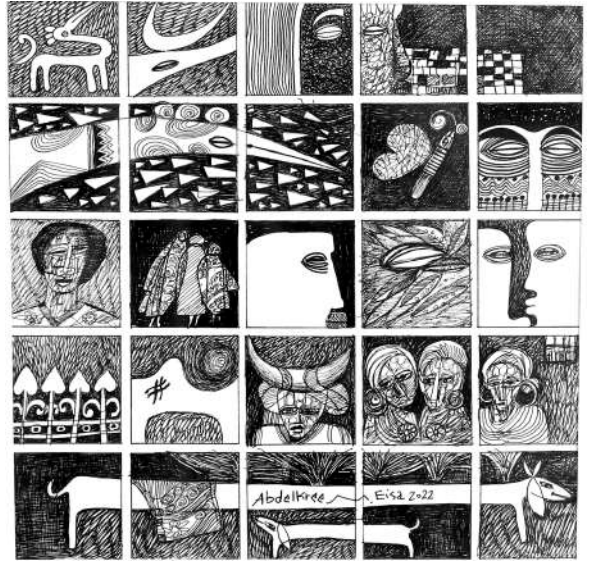
AK10. **'African woman'** 2010.
Ink on canvas
90x90cm



AK13. **'Untitled'** 2019.
Ink on canvas
27x18cm



AK11. **'Untitled'** 2020.
Ink on canvas
27x18cm



AK14. **'Untitled'** 2022.
Ink on canvas
21x21cm

Khalid Abdelrahman

📷 /khalid_rahman_art/

Khalid Abdelrahman was born in 1978. Growing up in Khartoum he was well acquainted with art as a child and practiced it recreationally. Soon a fascination grew from the artistic process, intrigued he was by how the world is represented through art. The majority of his life he lived in Sudan except for short intervals. His art feeds of this in depth-experience of the great Sudanese metropolis, composed of Khartoum, Omdurman and Bahri. It is clear how the conglomerated scenery and different architectural styles and urban symbols inspire him to produce a large part of his work. It wasn't until 2011 that he started to actively pursue a career as a full time artist and since then he has held solo exhibitions at The French Cultural Centre 2011 and Al-Junaid Cultural Centre, in Sudan 2016 and Art Council New Orleans, USA in 2017 with his latest being at Downtown Gallery in 2022. Furthermore he also participated in several group exhibitions in South Africa, Kenya, Uganda, and a recent exhibition in New Orleans African American Art Museum 2021.





KA29. **'Distant houses'** 2022.
Dyes and acrylic on canvas
40x40cm



KA30. **'Distant house'** 2022.
Dyes and acrylic on canvas
40x40cm



KA34. **'Significant hut'** 2022.
Dyes and acrylic on canvas
80x60cm



KA33. **'Small significant house 2'** 2022
Dyes and acrylic on canvas
70x50cm



KA32. **'Houses and trees'** 2022.
Dyes and acrylic on canvas
50x50cm



KA31. **'A small significant house'** 2022.
Dyes and acrylic on canvas
50x50cm



KA27. **Nocturne.** 2022.
Dyes and acrylic on canvas
40x30cm



KA28. **Landscape.** 2022.
Acrylic on canvas
40x30cm



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