

Onloaded: Najelaa Alramahi
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The artist Najelaa Alramahi was born in the Iraqi province of Maysan. After a few years, her family moved to Basrah in southern Iraq where Najelaa grew up following her passion for art. She finished high school in Basrah and decided to move to Baghdad, the capital of Iraq, in order to study art at the Institute of Fine Arts. She graduated from the Institute with a degree in Fine Arts in 1999 and joined the Iraqi Artist Union as well as the Association of Iraqi Plastic Artists. Alramahi participated in several art exhibitions such as: the Babylon International Festival Exhibition in Babylon Province (2002), the Association of Iraqi Plastic Artists Exhibition in Baghdad (2007), a group exhibition in Amman, Jordan (2008), and other exhibitions in Qatar and the Middle East. She has an established art market with strong demand throughout the Middle Eastern region, particularly in Jordan, Iraq, and Qatar. She is working to establish herself in other global markets especially in the United States. She has created new work for phICA's solo exhibition which is her first in the U.S.

Alramahi is one of the Iraqi artists whose artistic style is considered unique and different than her generation of artists. She is interested in abstract spaces in which she finds the aesthetic values to express her subjects and ideas that she likes to present as a human being and as a visual artist. Because of living in three different cities and experiencing the environments of them in the time of peace and war, she was able to expertly use many symbols and themes in her paintings that are portraying those life moments and experiences. During the last ten years of her professional practice as a visual artist, Alramahi successfully has used her abstract energy with a high artistic sense which is manifested in her way of composing the paintings. Through the work in this exhibition, she amazingly presents those colored compositions that make her abstract paintings visual texts that address the human senses in an intriguing and wonderful abstract way.

Text by Salman Alwastey

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