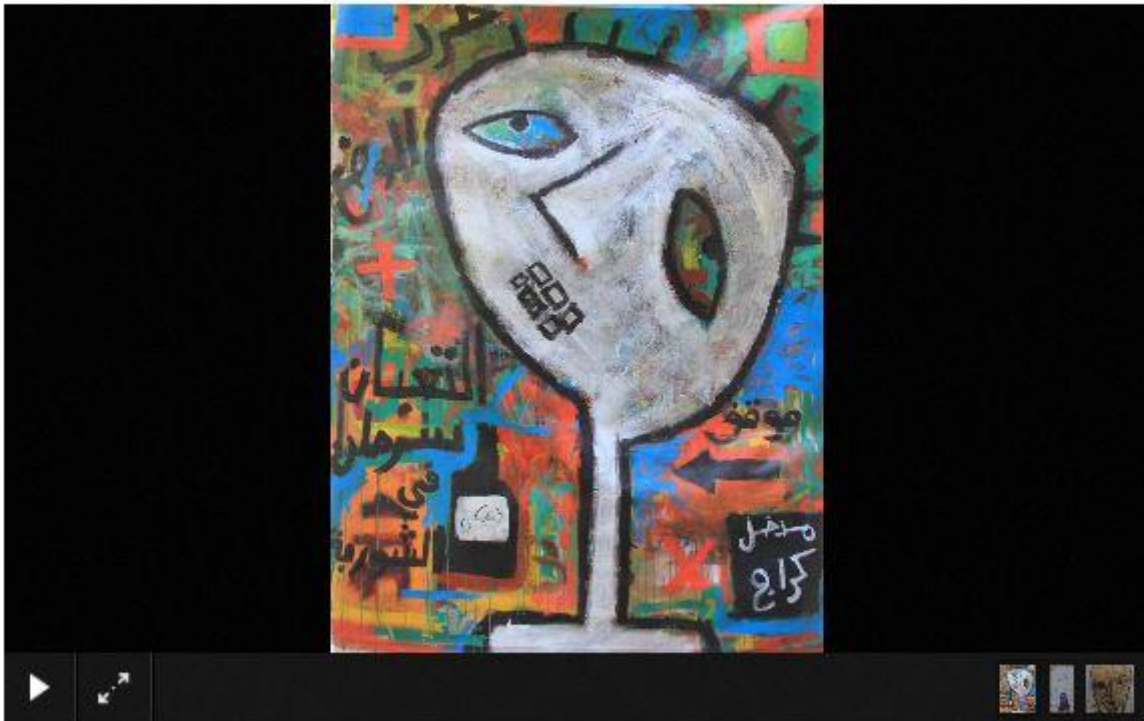


L'Orient LE JOUR

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CULTURE

Rafik Majzoub scrutinizes souls and skulls



EXPOSURE

Retrospective of the works of the Lebanese-Jordanian artist, "Chronic Blueprint 1995-2018", at Art on 56th.

Spending a moment with the works of Rafik Majzoub is enough to make the visitor schizophrenic. At first glance, he is caught in a kind of roughness, violence. Then, the eye hesitates, stops a time and changes its mind. An infinite sweetness slowly spreads in the small gallery Art on 56th where a retrospective is organized in honor of the artist.

Rafik Majzoub was born in Jordan in 1971 where, cherished by a multicultural family, he spent a happy childhood. Solitary on the school benches, he spends his time sketching in black ink what surrounds him. Arrived in Lebanon in 1991, he finds himself in a capital cut to the raw, where he decides to settle. He hangs out in underground circles, frequented by artists. He is encouraged to develop his art; he begins his artistic journey.

Self-portrait salvation

He begins with a naive, childish, almost joyful painting. Judging her too decorative, and feeling the need to express herself, it is ultimately the self-portrait that will allow her to explore her anxieties, her sorrows and her addiction to alcohol that he has been dragging for years. His first paintings are screaming, loaded. Gradually, it becomes more minimalist. Today, simple anguished traits as a face on canvases, that the artist did not want to framing, wanting them free, at the mercy of drafts. In the meantime, he made the rain take over his paintings in his Shower series.

Do the protagonists wonder about themselves when the paint flows on their cheeks? Introspection occupies a major place in his imagination. His stays in a drug rehabilitation center have unfortunately given him time, as evidenced by the Room 11 series, where the artist expresses his everyday life on large sheets of craft paper.

The passage of time has not changed the way the artist apprehends a face: eyes down, triangular face as crushed by the frame. The colors may have tempered and evoke a sense of calm. Schiele of our time, character difficult to grasp,

Rafic Majzoub obsesses. And flees.

Art on 56th Gallery

56, Youssef Hayek Street, Gemmayze. Until Saturday, October 20th.

Such. : 961/1/570 331.

For memory

Rafik Majzoub and his purifying rain