

## Bettina Khoury Badr

Bettina Khoury Badr graduated from the Lebanese University with a Diplome d 'Etudes Superieures in Fine Arts in 2001, and a Master's Degree in Visual Arts in 2012. The intervening years were spent in teaching and developing her practice as a visual artist. During this time, she also attended several workshops in Lebanon and abroad. In 1994, she pursued various Fine Arts courses at Tulsa Junior College in Oklahoma in the USA. Since 2007 she has been teaching at LAU's School of Architecture and Design. She has held solo exhibitions from 2001 throughout 2012 and has also participated in several collective exhibitions between 2010 and 2016.

## Artist Statement

Plato asserts that physical realm is only a shadow or an image of the true reality of forms. Assembling these pieces reveals a different reality of the objects, it is an attempt to see the interplay between our experience and the world of shadows in which we exist. The tangible confronts the world of memories, phantoms, feelings, dreams and symbols. The exterior world resonates and awakes my interior world, stimulating and nourishing it. What is a chair? Why a blank canvas? Moments where chaos and randomness face moments of calm and emptiness...My work explores fragments of personal experiences, morning light, a chair, cement, rust, dice, the scent of a flower. These images detached from my culture; function as scraps of my interior world that I choose to carefully assemble. These objects are withdrawn from their functionality as they assume the role of "La Madeleine de Proust", stimulating the subconscious. My process incorporates my basic interests in materiality, color, contrast, surface, shallowness and depth. The challenge is to assemble these fragments to flatten them and confine them to one plane without favoring one experience over another. They have to coexist and communicate together to create content and to achieve a somewhat compromised balance. Each *still life* tells a story; viewers are invited to explore their own interpretations, even to vary the composition at times. These arrangements are part of an ongoing series balancing between abstract and figuration. They explore this attempt to find sense in this world. To fall... to fail and start again.

**Bettina Khoury Badr**

## Exhibitions

- 2018 'Still Life", Art on 56<sup>th</sup> gallery, Beirut, Lebanon
- 2016 Salon D'automne, Sursock Museum, Beirut, Lebanon.
- 2015 "Logius", LAU, Beirut Lebanon
- 2015 "Marks on the wall", Bloomsburg University, USA
- 2015 "Jabal" by Fransabank, Beirut, Lebanon
- 2014 "Proventus", LAU, Beirut, Lebanon
- 2012 "Primitia", LAU, Beirut, Lebanon
- 2012 Solo Exhibition, Kromatic art gallery, Beirut, Lebanon
- 2012 Salon d'automne, Sursock Museum, Beirut, Lebanon
- 2010 Le Metn Expose Les Jeunes Talents- Emile Lahoud Convention Center, Beirut, Lebanon
- 2001 Solo Exhibition, Gallery Entretemps, Beirut, Lebanon
- 2000 Exhibition of young artists, Forum de Beyrouth, Beirut, Lebanon

## Workshops

- 2005 International Baccalaureate Organization, Bratislava, Slovak Republic
- 2005 "The effective use of tools in the classroom), NDU, Beirut, Lebanon
- 2004 "Methods of alternative assessment", AUB, Beirut, Lebanon
- 2003 ""Inquiry in the elementary classroom" AUB, Beirut, Lebanon