

QATAR NARRATIVES: A Country Expressed by its Own Voices
ECHOING: Angelbert Metoyer

Curated by Mafalda Budib

October 23rd through December 13th, 2008

With a Private reception: Thursday, October 23rd, 6:00 to 8:00 PM

Ali Hassan | Khalifa Al Obaidly | Manar Al Muftah
Roqaya Hamad Al Thani | Salman Almalik | Souad Al Salem
Wadha Al Sulaity | Hessa Al Obaid
Anthony Terrot | Angelbert Metoyer

Deborah Colton Gallery is pleased to present QATAR NARRATIVES: A Country Expressed by its own Voices, Contemporary art featuring prominent artists from the Arab Gulf Region, and ECHOING with Angelbert Metoyer, curated by Mafalda Budib. The exhibition takes place at the gallery's 2500 Summer Street, Third Floor location.

The Arab world has been known for centuries for its oral tradition and classic calligraphy. Presently, many things are changing and others emerging from different directions all converging in the contemporary manifestations of art. The sacred texts remain like fingerprints that belong to them, but with their own hands the artists are translating and reciting them in their own sentimental ways: Ali Hassan and Manar Al Muftah know it, and together, they merge in a flowing energy where fragments of the verbiage of their world and this world are expressed.

How many women's voices are lifted and woven through Mohanalakshmi Phongsavan's Qatar Narratives that arrive to us now in the 21st. century? How many are not quieted and longed for? Interlaced echoes in search of themselves like Roqaya Hamad Al Thani, Souad Al Salem and Wadha Al Sulaity; feminine souls that are committed to preserving the voice of their own existence; because it seems that deconstructing and reconstructing themselves is the possible way to speak in one tongue that resonates at this precise moment as an expression of the genealogy of their own history.

Voices that come out of the sand, of the desert stars, dialogues stunted so many times and born again through the lens of Khalifa Al Obaidly, Hessa Al Obaid, and Anthony Terrot. They (re)encounter the memories of this land with the same dynamic force of its own echoes in the history of the Qatari man in this world. Salman Almalik and Angelbert Metoyer know the power of a silent universe, they have created a new language of the unknown, a way to communicate messages of their own identity and mystic journey.

These artists' voices are the storytellers of a woven language. Let us read, let us see and let us think what the contemporary world and human condition is all about...

Deborah Colton Gallery is founded on being an innovative showcase for ongoing presentation and promotion of strong historical and visionary contemporary artists worldwide, whose diverse practices include painting, video, photography, sculpture, and conceptual media installations. The gallery aspires to provide a forum through connecting Texas, national and international artists to make positive change.