

Art Space Collective

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VERNISSAGE



EDITOR'S
CHOICE

Ghassan Kanafani Cultural Foundation
The Art of Childhood
45 Years for Palestine's Children
 Dar el Nimer for Arts & Culture
 April 2-13

This exhibition marks the 45th anniversary of the Ghassan Kanafani Cultural Foundation (GKCF). Kanafani, a renowned Palestinian journalist, novelist, short story writer and political activist, was a keystone figure in arts and culture in the Arab world. He was killed in a tragic car bomb explosion with his niece in Beirut in July 1972. The GKCF was founded in July 1974 to commemorate the second anniversary of his death. Over the course of his life, he published eighteen books and hundreds of articles on the struggles of the Palestinians and their cause. According to the exhibition statement, his works have been translated in twenty-six languages and published in twenty-four countries. The GKCF has opened six kindergartens and two habilitation centers, and libraries in Palestinian refugee camps in Lebanon. This exhibition features the artwork of the youth from GKCF centers, including installations of paintings, drawings, collages, photographs, and sculptures. All proceeds from purchased works go to supporting the foundation's art programs.

**Nabil Anani, Sliman Mansour,
 Tayseer Barakat, Vera Tamari**
Challenges of Identity
 Dar el Nimer
 April 30-May 11

Four of the most renowned Palestinian artists come together to present this group exhibition, in conjunction with a talk open to the public. All members of the League of Palestinian Artists and pioneers of the modern art movement in Palestine, these four figures have been leaders in advocating for political and cultural rights. The four came together in the 1990s to create 'New Visions' as a direct response to the First Intifada (1987-1991). While working collectively, they were able to also address their own individualized ventures, expressing unique visions by immersing themselves in their artistic practices. At the same time, they committed themselves to resisting Israel on a concrete level by boycotting their art supplies, using only materials found in Palestine. In 1989, they held their first group exhibition, and in 1994, they opened Al Wasiti Art Centre in a renovated traditional style house in Jerusalem. The collective is a key example of the potential of art to be a tool for political activism, resistance, and the propagation of public awareness about the occupation of Palestine. This exhibition was made possible in collaboration with the Institute for Palestine Studies.

