

# Gaza artist Tayseer Barakat to show in Ramallah gallery

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**A Ramallah gallery will be presenting a number of paintings from Gaza-born artist Tayseer Barakat beginning Saturday.**

**The Zawyeh Gallery said in a statement that "Distant Voices," an exhibit of 20 new works from the prestigious Palestinian creative, will tackle universal themes in the context of life in Palestine and across the region.**

**"Distant Voices is about our collective experiences as human beings. Many of the pieces are simple meditations on the human journey. Whether it is cavemen in the Pyrenees or young people in Gaza -- they are entwined by the commonalities of life and our struggles for survival and justice," Barakat was quoted as saying in the statement.**

**The exhibit is Barakat's first solo exhibit in Palestine since 2009, and comes on the heels of a summer assault on his native Gaza that left more than 2,000 dead and more than 110,000 homeless.**

**"Discord and conflict remain ever-present in our region; a region that is full of paradoxes and contradictions -- beset by enduring loss and pain," Barakat said.**

**At the same time time, the statement said Barakat was "hopeful"**

**and "full of love for the sublime beauty of Palestine and the energy and steadfastness of its people," despite his current exile from Gaza.**

**"I have lived at a distance from family and friends for nearly all my life. Indeed, it has been over 15 years since I visited or have been allowed to visit Gaza. I consider myself internally displaced -- removed from my loved ones. As I look around me, I hear the distant voices and cries of Gaza the loudest."**

Barakat's works will be on display at Zawyeh Gallery until Sept. 27.