

### AIN'T NOWHERE TO HIDE

Tagreed Darghouth's First Exhibition In Kuwait: AIN'T NOWHERE TO HIDE In 2011, Tagreed Darghouth Presented Canticle (Death. This Solo Exhibition At Agial Art Gallery In Beirut, Consisted Of Two Series Of Paintings, Apparently Independent And Ultimately Linked By The Idea Of Death: Nuclear Weapons And Skulls. Skulls Are Not Something Especially New In Art History. [...]

**EVENTS** 

## Tagreed Darghouth's first exhibition in Kuwait: AIN'T NOWHERE TO HIDE

In 2011, Tagreed Darghouth presented Canticle of Death. This solo exhibition at Agial Art Gallery in Beirut, consisted of two series paintings, apparently independent and ultimately linked by the idea of death: nuclear weapons and skulls. Skulls are not somethir especially new in art history. In the 17th century, French, Spanish, Flemish and Dutch still life masters applied their virtuosity to depict thes anatomical shapes inside compositions that included a multiplicity of objects related to arts, science and wealth. These were the vanitie symbolic artworks taking their name from a verse in the Ecclesiastes:

Vanitas vanitatum dixit Ecclesiastes vanitas vanitatum omnia vanitas.

The Vanitas allege that everything, except the love of God, is futile. In opposition with these sophisticated accumulations, Darghouth's skul do not cohabit with anything. They float over an abstract pattern composed of flowers, stars, leaves or dots. Their sinister and frightenir presences convey a fundamental menace towards humanity and should be seen in accordance with what (or who) the young arti previously painted. In 2010, Darghouth showed Fair and Lovely, a series of portraits of domestic maids. Fair and Lovely also include pictures of women having been subject to plastic surgery. These were already the main topic of Mirror, Mirror! in 2008. From Mirror! to Fair and Lovely, Darghouth was revealing the Lebanese society through its extremes: foreign workers – let's not say slaves – whonly exist to serve their masters, and plastic surgery, very popular among the same masters of these workers. We have a confrontatic between the inexistent body and the transformed body that attempted to defy time and death. In this perspective, the Vanitasis an absolu and definitive response.

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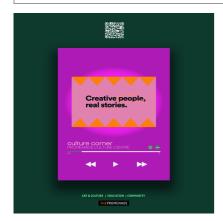
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