

UNIVERSAL

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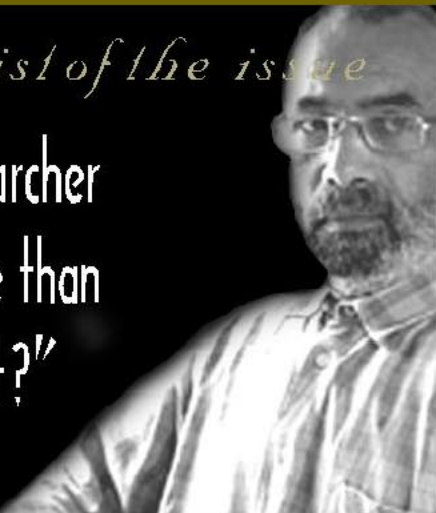
# COLOURS

PRICE: 5€

## ALI ABOUT

*Artist of the issue*

"Researcher  
more than  
artist?"



[www.eu-man.org](http://www.eu-man.org)

# UNIVERSAL COLOURS

European Union Migrants Artists Network Magazine

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I do not want to exaggerate by showing others the ever-smiling face of mine; I do not want to appear in the formal dress, putting perfumes, catching my SEMSONITE full of official papers, full of catalogues that we have done during the last eight years of our existence.

Showing others our achievements, articles written in the papers about us, discussion that we raise in the cultural life. I do not want to show the relevant and irrelevant people our products; briefly I do not want to market myself as other managers do, because as I mentioned many times that our message is different.

As preferred, this project of EU-MAN is a cultural one, it is not a commercial one, and of course I do not want to appear in the rebel form as well, I mean the bohemian artists that we witness during the sixties and the early seventies of the last century. We are living in a different age, art and artists forced to circle in the axis as business people and other types.

When a person sees a very postmodern artist like Jeff Koons, should think about the end of the history of culture. I do not want to discuss this now, because I will come to this point on the article exhibition review later, but what I want to say it might be a shock to whom who dose not expect that I write something like this.

Perhaps some one will ask many question, how I dear to write about a respected well-known artist like this? How I can write and I am a responsible about an organization that must be polite and to some extant doing politic to keep some profile that might suit the politic of the funding land. An organization which always becoming huger and huger of responsibilities to many people despite it was on my personal only.

I have to admit that I reached to some stony point, which I cannot develop the qualitative work of the organization. The problem as I see is in me, my way thinking, I reached to that point that we in the EU-MAN are not doing more than the routine work which make exhibitions, publishing and speeding the magazine and participating to some conferences and seminars.

One might say, what do you want and you done all these activities? My answer defiantly will be, creating a new cultural habit is not a routine matter, it is forever research, it is not creating occasions.

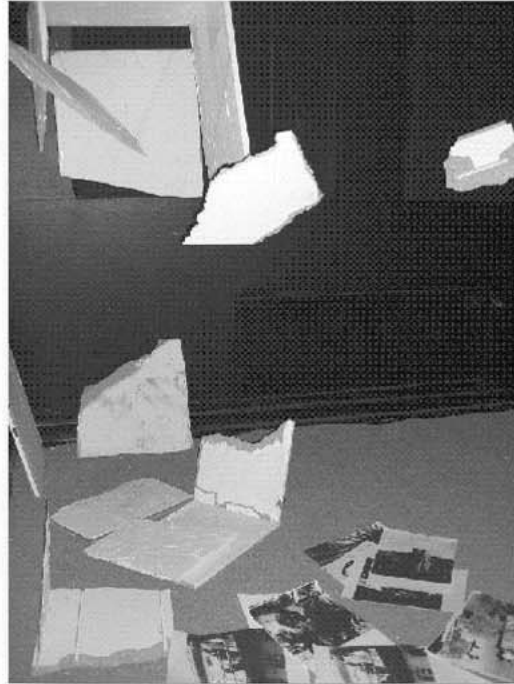
I simply want to continue my project that I started eight years ago; I am defending the identity of the migrant art, what I call it, and what I start eight years ago to put the characteristics of the third culture as I called it.

This can be only by studding, researching and other follow-ups, creating dialogue, not by creating material. I confess that media is the most important part of the work, but, the cultural work has its strong messages as I imagined eight years ago, it needs a lot to know, a lot to do, and what lead me to the traditions is many reasons I can discuss them with others but I suppose that others understand me.

*Amir Khatib*

## JAFAR TAOUN'S SHOW IN MALMÖ

The artist Jafar Taoun had a personal show in Malmö Sweden, and received much attention from the media as well as from the general public in Malmö. The art community in Sweden took a great interest in this particular exhibition, and Swedish SVT presented it in short news about the exhibition.



## EU-MAN IN VAASA

10 members of the EU-MAN will participate in our exhibition in the City of Vaasa The Mustasaari venue. The exhibition will take place from 18 April to 13 May. For further information you may visit our website on the Internet.



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## AHMED MODHIR IN BELGRADE

Ahmed Modhir presented his latest art works in Galerija Graficki Kolektiv in Belgrade Yugoslavia, for the period from the 14th to the 26th of February 2005.



Ahmed is migrant well known artist who is respected in his second home land Sweden as a graphic artist. Worth mentioning that Ahmed studied in Warsaw Poland and living and working now in Sweden, he has own workshop in Falu in Sweden which receive the public city-wide, so it became a phenomenon in the city and country wide as well.

## “BY MEANS OF ART AGAINST TERRORISM”

EU-MAN has received an invitation from the House of Art in Budapest, to be a partner in some art projects with Hungary and other European countries to work on the Europe cultural 2000 program. The project is called “By means of art against terrorism” We are going to issue further information about the project and our involvement in it.

## SUB-ASSOCIATION OF EU-MAN IN SWEDEN ?

A group of EU-MAN members in Sweden Malmö trying to establish a sub-association of the EU-MAN in Malmö, they have already get the green light from the authorities to open a new gallery in Malmö. The group in the procedure to register the association and to find a way for support in Sweden, the EU-MAN in Finland welcome the idea and promise to work together toward cooperation, exchange and more networking.

So, we can say EU-MAN in Sweden planing group exhibition as forward to the activities of them and will invite this summer some of our members Europe-wide.

For more information you can contact: [tjafar@hotmail.com](mailto:tjafar@hotmail.com)

## IRAQI ARTISTS IN ITALY

Ali Assaf, Jaber Alwan and Aziz Kareem, three Iraqi artists, held an exhibition in AKI the news agency of Italy. Ali is considered to be one of the first Iraqi artists who paid attention to the idea of art, and is the first Arab artist who uses photos in his paintings and video installations.

Ali is one of the bravest Arab artists who have worked with performances, conceptual art and contemporary works of art.



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## KENSIKA SHIMIZU'S EXHIBITIONS

Recently the Japanese artist Kensuka Shimizu who lives and works in Finland set up two exhibitions one in Turku and the other one in Helsinki the international Culture Center of CAISA.

Shimizu combines graphics and literature. He is a painter as well as a poet, which is why he writes on his painting. Shimizu says about words in his art: In some of my art works, words are seen

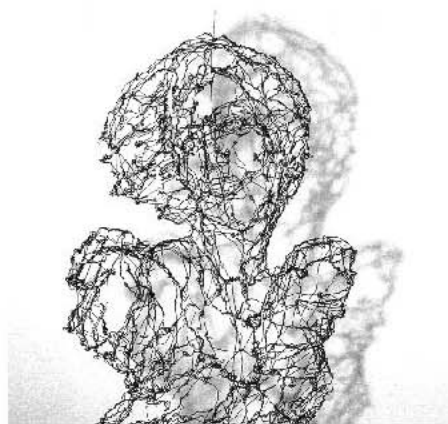
or written. From the very beginning, I have been interested in using words in my art works. When I was a senior high school student in Japan, I started to enjoy writing words in an artistic manner.



*"Communication" - acrylic, ink, collage*

## EXHIBITION IN OSTROBOTHNIA - FINLAND

The well-known Chilean artist, who lives and works in Finland will hold an exhibition in the museum of the Ostrobothnia in the northern part of Finland, the exhibition will take place from 3 April and will be open for three weeks.



## Ali Abou

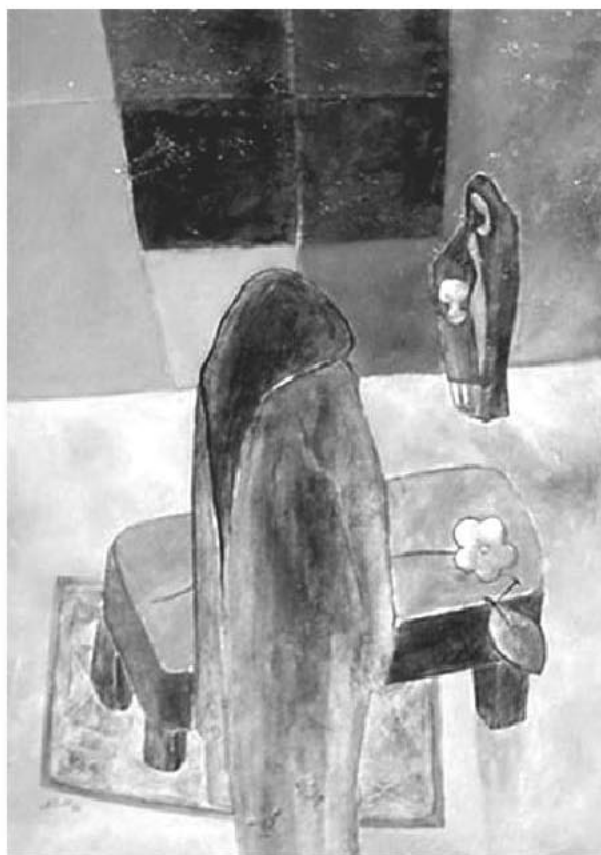
Ali Abou is an artist who attracted my attention from the very first time I saw his artistic work. I felt it deeply as if it was an old friend; someone you meet for the first time in your life and feel you have known a long time ago.

His art is very close to mine, it is familiar as if I have known it since my early childhood, although the first time I saw his artistic work was in 1998 when he sent me three of his impressive works to participate in one of EU-MAN's large-scale projects, the EU-MAN 98, which took place in Finland and Denmark

Ali is a researcher more than he is an artist. His own project Art and Nature started a long time ago.

*“Ali is a researcher more than he is an artist”*

*Written by: Amir Khatib*





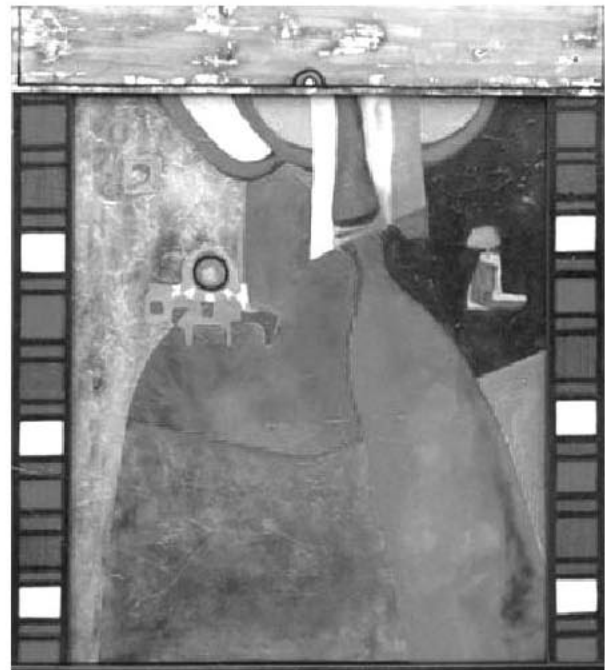
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He was very fascinated with nature, not from the environmental aspect, but for the purpose of forming a relationship with the essence of nature. Searching deep inside himself for the soul and the silence that is so hard to find.

*ART & NATURE are both an ideology and an art project. It began in 1967 after years of searching for and*

*discovering the common threads that bind art and nature together. The project analyses the laws of nature and their application and reflection in the works of art - conveying the laws of nature to art and affirming their existence. It is based on the ideology that constitutes the basis and the template for the above project. Art is the medium through which an artist empowers the spectator; his beliefs will be passed on and project its force.*



My personal relationship with him I can express as an artistic experience, experience with an artist who is a rich and natural soul, good and generous like nature itself. He does not want to cause trouble to others. The same applies to his works of art. They are aesthetic works that wish to give something to the spectator at the same time as perhaps relieving the spectator of wrong notions he might nourish.

His primitive figures, whether they are human beings or animals or other things, make you feel that you have returned to nature or to the first nostalgic feeling of the womb. His works remind me of the novelist Emile Zola or of all the other writers and intellectuals who have invited us to return to Mother Nature.

# ARTIST OF THE ISSUE

## Ali About

Lately, when I phoned him, we were discussing many things about art life in Finland, Europe and other parts of the world. A world that we agreed is full of problems. By creating fine cultural habits we may survive a little longer and make life easier.

Many questions were discussed between us about important issues, but as usual most of the questions were about our existence, our lives as artists in Europe. I found Ali to be the same as he has always been; nothing has changed him, he answers in the same spirit, has the same ideas, so I became eager to know more about him and about how he thinks of this world, because I find that Ali's opinion is always important and worth listening to, especially the opinions that concern art and life in Europe.

*Art is a huge responsibility, art is an investment of the power of mankind, and the message of art is to educate people, to instil moral and good behaviour; but is it the responsibility of the individual or of society? I think it is the responsibility of both. The artist has conscience, but he is no better or worse than other people. It is God who creates us as human beings, and endows us with talents.*

Ali is so full of knowledge, so full of ideas that I sometimes find it hard to follow him when he shares his thoughts with me and tells me about his ideas. Each sentence contains a new idea, and is an invitation to start thinking oneself. He has inspired me to think in depth, something I have rarely experienced with others.





*The picture should impart a talent of meditation in the spectator. This I believe is the obligation of art. Pictures should impart feelings and a message at the same time. Only then can they inspire the talent of meditation, and if you ask me why man needs this talent, I will say that it enables him to make decisions. This I think is one of the greatest aims of mankind on this earth.*

Ali has a deep feeling of universality, even in his behaviour. He is one of the rare artists whom I have met in my life whose thinking and behaviour is in natural harmony.

*I do not feel that I am forced to live in a particular country, such as Finland or Egypt or anywhere else in this world, simply because this world is mine, I am a son of the world, I belong to it, what else is there to say?*

Ali is multi-faceted person. He is meditative and always optimistic, because he knows what he wishes of this life; his involvement in art gave him a belief in and understanding of life in the deep and heartfelt way you rarely meet in other artists, or for that matter, in any other person today.

This is by no means strange, because as an artist, a creator of feelings Ali has learned from his experience in society and conveys it out of a pure heart in his personal art. In fact, it is very difficult for me to distinguish between him as a person and his artistic work.

*Amir Khatib*

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# RETROSPECTIVE OR PEDANTRY?

*By: Amir Khatib*

*“Koons could create  
a new phenomenon  
in the world of  
visual art”*

## **Jeff Koons**

Between time to time the world of fine arts surprise us by some phenomena which one can consider it not art at all, what they want from us, why they want us to believe that our brains are smaller than what we think, they are very ironic to us, -one viewer in the salon said so.

The Helsinki City Art Museum hosting this season the very well known American artist “or that what they call his at least” Jeff Koons, which he considered one of the most important talented artists of the contemporary time.

Koons could create a new phenomenon in the world of visual art. That what Rem Koolhaas and Hans Ulrich Obrist think in their interview with Jeff whom I read in the catalogue that appeared during the exhibition.

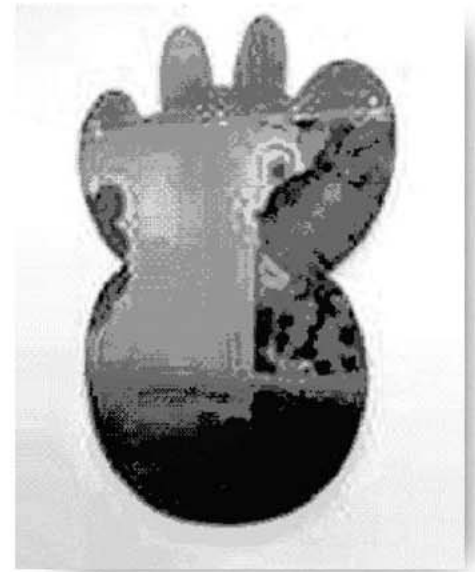
Koons show some works that are surprisingly inspiring many questions, about art and why we consider this type of works as art, but that by itself is one characteristic of the contemporary art.

The works dose not inspire questions and puzzles, because they are sinking in the unknown and the abstract, but they are much simpler than anyone can imagine, they some times are closer to the handcraft, so the visitor to the exhibition do not know why they are artworks at all?

He, studded at the art school for many times, he worked in the purse market many time, but he was like any typical contemporary American citizen, who dreams of wealth and richness, or in other word the supreme. His main aim to enter the art world was the money, not creating a new phenomenon.

At the press conference before the opening Jeff declares that contemporary artists should go around 360 degrees to know what is surrounding them, because art cannot survive by itself only. That is may be right, but how? And when? He added, contemporary artist should know how to use the opportunities around him or her to support his or her artworks.

As a matter of fact, that it is not strange to any viewer or to whom who wants to know this artist through his works, which they are not his works basically, but he wants them to be his works. *We would encounter a fair amount of resistance to the idea that Koons is anything more than a clever opportunist who has pulled the wool over the rest of the Art World's eye.*



*Lehinä, 1999. Courtesy Sonnabend Collection, New York*

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# RETROSPECTIVE OR PEDANTRY?

*“...word like these  
are not in his  
dictionary, just the  
opportunity and  
nothing else than  
opportunity”*

Then, Koons the creator of the opportunities, he dose not anything else than the opportunities in his life, even his intermarry to the really well know porn star Cicciolina Ilona staller is an opportunity to take him up. Science, message or any other “difficult word like these are not in his dictionary, just the opportunity and nothing else than opportunity.

Although that Arthur C.Danto tried in his article at the catalogue, to take Jeff up or to make some sense out of his works, compare him with Andy Warhol or Marcel Duchamp, or even the comparison that he made by himself to the Brook time artists, when he talked about himself at the press conference, dose not make any sense that he is an artist.

This falsifying gratitude to make an artist will not stay at the history, (or I may be mistaken, because the history made by this falsifications) but no, I do not believe that at all, I do not want to change my belief of the history of mankind, I want to remain faithful to the logic to the reason that we hear inside of us, not to the rationalization that some one do to convince us.

This man dose not recognize the dimensions of mankind, or better to say he dose not see them, he sees one dimension “how much you have

# EXHIBITION REVIEW

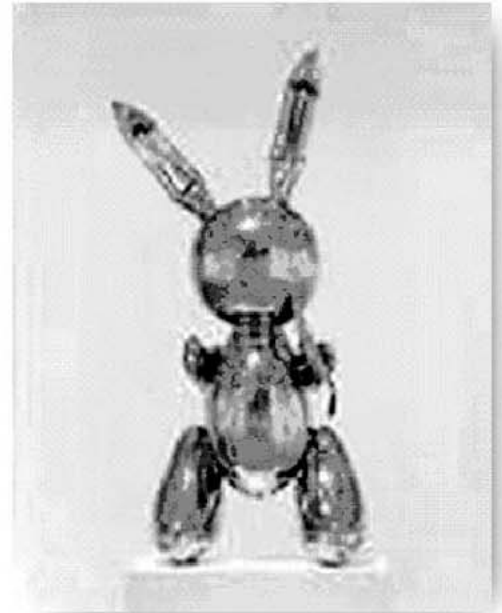
money, that much you worth” in this way as I believe he is like any ordinary one else, perhaps he will be happy to hear that, but I should admit that history has not been belt by pedants.

If some one wants to know if I am right or wrong, he/she must take any “artwork” of him, study how he find it, where and when he bought it, take for example Michael Jackson and Bubble has made by some other artist, but the idea was some one’s else too.

*The work is based on a found photo of the pop star with Bubble, his pet chimp, on his lap. The composition was first modeled in clay, a mould was taken and finally three ceramic copies of the sculpture were cast. To do the actual work, Koons looked for the most highly skilled craftsman around; it was a move which took issue at the same time with a middle-class penchant to judge artistic merit on the basis of the craftsmanship. Koons himself undermined this point in part when he admitted that none of the work had been done by the master himself.*

Or any one can take any piece of his work (see that I do not agree to call them Art) they are works, not art, take the Disney toys for example or ant thing that you want to see, you will find immediately that the person that others force us to accept as an artist is not artist at all, but he is a pure product of the market policy, nothing else than that.

**Amir Khatib**

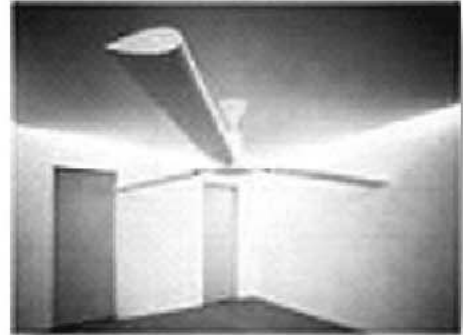


*Kani, 1986. Courtesy Sonnabend Collection, New York*

## DARREN ALMOND: PASSING AND PAST TIME

### **K21 Kunstsammlung Nordrhein-Westfalen** Dusseldorf, DE Germany

The exhibition in K21 is Darren Almond's first museum exhibition in Germany and, with about 15 works and series, provides an overview of his oeuvre from the past eight years. Alongside several groups of 'Full Moon Photographs' (long exposure photographs taken in the open air), kinetic sculptures will be displayed, along with clocks and fans, a complete bus stop and new video films. The main themes of the British artist Darren Almond, born in 1971, are time and geography. In drawings, sculptures, photographs and films, he traces the phenomena of passing and past time. He is interested both in the natural and poetic dimensions of time and its socio-historical dimensions. - Read Indepth Article at <http://www.absolutearts.com>



## SIMON PATTERSON: HIGH NOON

### **Fruitmarket Gallery** **Edinburgh** United Kingdom, UK

Come and search the shores of the UK and New Zealand 's finest artists and designers. Splendid 2004 offers up the best money can buy, hand-carved pig-tusk pendants, unique-stitched clothing, pornographic cross-stitch kits, natty jewelry, love-sick souvenirs, snazzy T-shirts, personalized beat-socks, crocheted sausages, vintage A-Team bags, sticky sweets to nibble on and much much more! By marrying the provocativeness of art with the exhilaration of purchasing anyone can get a sugar-coated kick that comes from spending hard cash on choice art, each piece is unique and at under £150 is a rather natty way to treat yourself or a special friend... - Read indepth article at [www.absolutearts.com](http://www.absolutearts.com)



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## PEETER MUDIST: THIRD RETRETTI WINTER EXHIBITION

### **Kunsthalle Helsinki**

Helsinki, FI Finland

The third winter exhibition of the Retretti Art Centre in Kunsthalle presents work by Peeter Mudist, one of the top names in Estonian art. Known especially for his portrayal of moods and inner landscapes, Mudist belongs to the 1970s generation of artists who introduced a distinctly individualistic emphasis in Estonian art. Mudist is currently one of Estonia's the best-known and most idiosyncratic artists, who has earned the esteem of both the art world and the public at large. The exhibition features close on a hundred paintings and sculptures from the 1970s to today. Some of the works have never before been publicly exhibited.



## PAWEL ALTHAMER: WINNER OF THE VINCENT 2004

### **Zacheta Gallery of Art** Warsaw, PL Poland

The solo exhibition of Pawel Althamer (Warsaw, 1967), which was received with great enthusiasm by both national and international press and public, is moving on from Maastricht to Warsaw. The exhibition, organised for the occasion of 'The Vincent 2004', was on display until 17 January 2005 in the Bonnefantenmuseum. From 24 February, Althamer's sculptures, video installations and performances can be seen in Zacheta Gallery of Art, Warsaw, the leading museum of contemporary art in Poland.

-Read Indepth Article at <http://www.absolutearts.com>



## ART ON PAPER

The award-winning Art on Paper, is the only magazine exclusively dedicated to covering art in the paper medium. Each issue presents a carefully balanced selection of periods (contemporary, modern and old master), with comprehensive, informative, yet readable feature articles and exciting special sections. Art professionals, collectors, and artists read Art on Paper regularly to increase their knowledge and to stay on top of the latest developments in the art world.

Art on Paper is published bimonthly with a companion website, plus two annual Art Collector's Catalogues. For subscriptions or advertising, contact us at: 212 988-5959 or visit [www.artonpaper.com](http://www.artonpaper.com).

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## SHANGHART GROUP SHOW WITH PU JIE, SHEN FAN

### **ShanghArtn**

Shanghai, CN China

During the first weeks of March at ShanghArt a group show is being displayed that features new works by Pu Jie, Shen Fan and other artists. 'I like my work to discover what happens, and now the challenge is realism of things. We are living in a new time but we cannot forget the history, people to think about themselves, be sure to look back to history and sometimes we should that people not only forget what we wrong did.' -- Pu Jie  
Read Indepth Article at <http://www.absolutearts.com>



## CALL FOR ARTISTS: ART AND THE MILLENNIUM CAMPAIGN

### **Arts For Global Development Network - Art4Development.Net**

TR, Turkey

The 'Creative Volunteerism for Social Change and Development' (in short CreativeChange) Project Survey launched on UN-declared International Volunteers Day, aims to help generate awareness on volunteerism / social responsibility and the use of creative sector in social change and development. We also want to learn about the active creative individuals and organizations worldwide, give voice, share their stories, and acknowledge as well as encourage their role in the development field, particularly in achieving the Millennium Development Goals!  
Read Indepth Article at <http://www.absolutearts.com>

## TANG GUO: HUMAN TERRITORY

### ShanghArtn

Shanghai, CN China

In the March spring, Shanghart Gallery will present "Human Territory", the latest photographic works by Tang Guo, in H Space. The name "Human Territory" comes from the poem "Drinking" by Tao Yuan Ming, which says, "I reside in the human territory, free of the earthly noise". During 2003/04, Tang spent almost 2 years to take these pictures in some countryside residences in southern Anhui. The images are some public areas in those aged residences, such as yards and living rooms, without specific persons, objects or events. As mentioned by Mr. Tang, he doesn't want to express any special implications by these pictures. It is only his perceptions on time, and he is trying to fix and extend time by the realistic media of photography. - Read Indepth Article at <http://www.absolutearts.com>



## CAREY YOUNG, TERMS AND CONDITIONS, 2004

### IBID Projects

London, UK United Kingdom

IBID Projects is pleased to announce /Disclaimer/, the forthcoming exhibition of recent work by \*Carey Young\*, which was commissioned and first shown by the Henry Moore Institute, Leeds in 2004. Youngs work has become recognised for its investigation into the increasing incorporation of the personal and public domains into the commercial realm. Disclaimer presents new text and video works which explore the connections between legal disclaimers and notions of negative space. In our increasingly litigious society, disclaimers are often seen at the end of emails or on websites and allow an author, publisher or organisation to protect themselves by automatically renouncing responsibility for their own actions or statements. - Read Indepth Article at <http://www.absolutearts.com>

## WOMEN IN THE ARTS 2005

### Museum of the Americas

Miami, USA

Through the month of March, the Museum of the Americas hosts Women in the Arts 2005: Celebrating the Women International Month - an exhibition of works by 32 women from 17 countries. The MUSEUM OF THE AMERICAS (MoA) is one of the few art institutions in Florida to foster and promote both established and emerging contemporary artists of every origin. Located in the heart of Miami, MoA serves as a significant cultural arts center for the region and an important resource for artists, educators and the public. - Read Indepth Article at <http://www.absolutearts.com>



## REMIGIJUS TREIGYS AND ANDREY CHEZHIN: 2 X BERLIN

### Giedre Bartelt Galerie

Berlin, DE Germany

Since the beginning of his career as a photographer, Remigijus Treigys (born 1961 in Lithuania) has been interested in urban and cultural landscapes. As he does not take pictures of people or other living creatures, Treigys can be called a specialist in architectural photography. For this very reason, the Robert Bosch foundation awarded him a stipend to come and work in Berlin in spring 2004. It seems this choice was also due to the fact that Treigys' approach is quite unconventional generally: probably, there was curiosity about what he and his work would make of Berlin. He usually searches for a long time for his motifs, then takes very few pictures. The artist stayed in Berlin for three weeks and produced twenty one photographs. These are the photos displayed. - Read Indepth Article at <http://www.absolutearts.com>



# LAST DROP

Yesterday all my dreams, yesterday at 10 am, my dog was barking to much, I understood that someone behind the door, and because it is 10 am, I understood it is the postman. Oh dear dog, please understand it, it is every day matter, it is not enemy, he is the postman, goodness, yes you many be right, post can be worse than enemy sometimes.

Do you believe it, look it is the postman, see please, and help me don't do that every day. The dog was happy waving his tell, and I was totally upset . so, since dogs are cleaver animals, he understood me, his tell stopped waving, but what has happened?

I have noticed that the postman took the feeling too, it was to some extant scary situation, oh god help me, make me patient, I cannot bear that any more, I defiantly need some help, but who can help me.

I understood that he has no knowledge about dogs, gladly I decided to help the post man, I explain him the situation, even though I was wondering that some Finnish man has no knowledge about dogs, he was deadly afraid, as if the dog was a lion or more dangerous than that. Then the postman get calm and blamed me, why I opened the door. But to be honest, the postman was happy after that, he said you taught me some thing good in my life today.

All of us, me my dog and the postman were happy, then I invited him to take a glass of water, he thanked me and said no I have to go, there are many posts to be distributed. He gave me the mail, among then there was an envelop that I was waiting sins age ago, I mean since last September ( I mean by September the deadline of applying to grants in Finland).

While the postman was thanking and so, I opened the envelope and my dog was barking in a very high voice, he get my feeling hundred per sent, the post man get scared immediately, oh goodness as usual, that what I remember of my words. I fall down, the postman do not know what to do, he took one chair and brought me on it, he run to the tap falling a glass of water, and poured it on me. I get some refreshment, thanks that there was some one beside me this time.

We start to discuss many things, we find out that we understood each others very well, we decided to help each others as well, he promised me to not bring anymore bills, refusals and etc.

He promised to collect my good news, and beautiful post only and come to me once a week, he dose not need to suffer to come to the fifth floor, we agreed on that and we agreed something else as well. ( understanding and helping each other are the most important things in life)

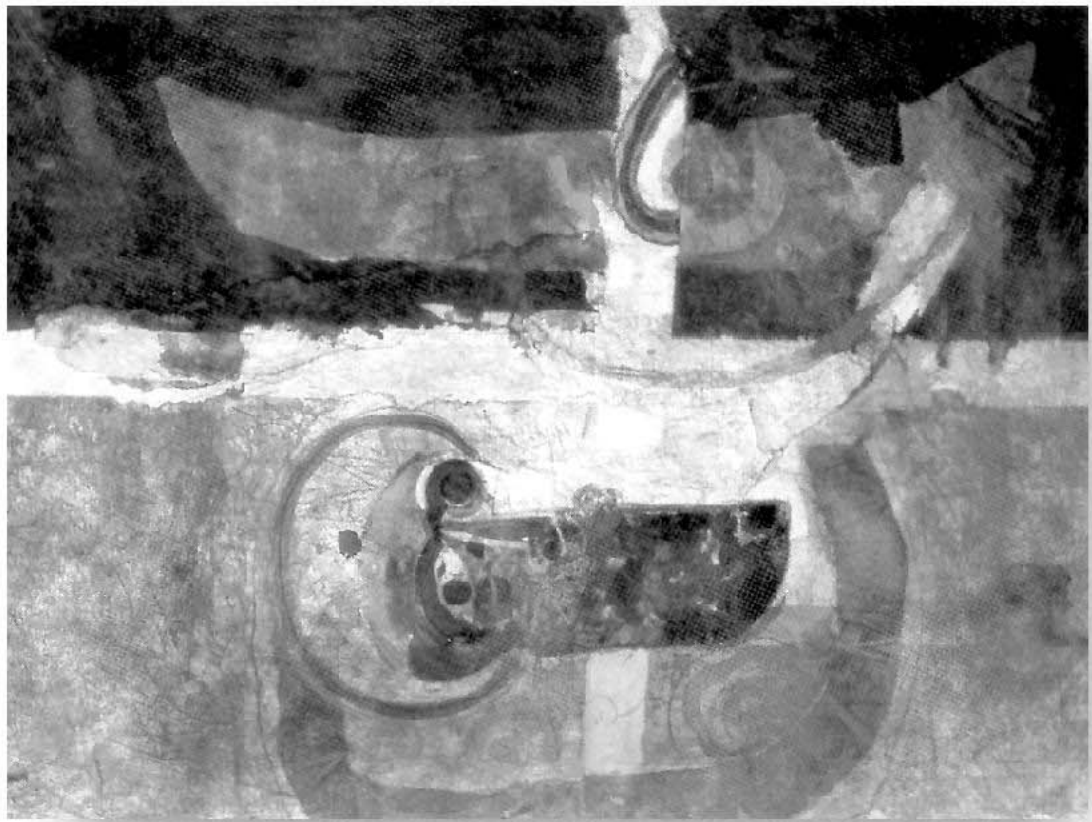
So Dear Madam or Sir,

Where ever you are, in what position you sit, we desperately need your help with understanding, of course if you can.

Greetings from the last drop maker

*Moustafa AL-Yassin*

# Salah AL Masoudi



Salah is ever faithful to his thinking, Salah never were some where out of his mind, the role of the game to him is to remain and continue as you was born pure and clean.

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The  
**WEB**



[www.eu-man.org](http://www.eu-man.org)