

For immediate release



Q Calling the Shots

03/03 – 02/04

Vol. 2 – Narrative Photography

The art of the narrative: the capacity of telling a story through a picture, an artwork, documenting the moment and capturing the past. In the contemporary practice, the narrative is constructed, and most images are constructed: they are there to push the viewer to ask questions and create the story in his own imagination.

Q Calling the shots

03/03 Volume 2 Narrative Photography Opening@7pm

After the success of Vol. 1, we are happy to present the following artists, exploring the narrative elements in their work.

Ammar Al Beik (Syria)
Gregory Buchakjian (Lebanon)
Chaza Charafeddine (Lebanon)
Clara Gebran (Lebanon)
Jeroen Kramer (Netherlands)
Fassih Keiso (Syria)
Alessandro Rizzi (Italy)
Jocelyne Saab (Lebanon)
Canan Senol (Turkey)
Mitra Tabrizian (Iran)
Ali Taptik (Turkey)

The opening also features a live installation in its premiere with the artist in residence Sheila Ribeiro (aka dona orpheline). www.qartlog.com

Since opening in 2009, Q has established itself as a leading contemporary art space in Beirut's high-end Marina district. The gallery combines the unique role of managing a private collection with providing a platform for creative collaborations between artists, collectors and galleries in a public environment.

Q contemporary

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Artist Biographies

Sheila Ribeiro/dona orpheline

Interested in power dynamics, Sheila Ribeiro/dona orpheline's work primarily concerns illusion and desire in the field of contemporary communication. Through impurity, confusion and libido, her poetry is a game of tensions that crosses new media, culture and identity approaching symbolic violence and displacement.

Among her main collaborators figure the Canadian choreographer Benoît Lachambre, the film director Sophie Deraspe, the Brazilian musicians Maurício Pereira and Edgard Scandurra, as well as Martin Bélanger, Laurent Goldring and Wagner Schwartz. She lives in Florianópolis (Brazil) with the Italian anthropologist Massimo Canevacci with whom she researches the dimensions and states that permeate her artwork.

Her pieces for stage, installations and videos has been shown worldwide: *organic totem* (2010), *tilt surrender* (2009), *almost* (2008), *flesh organizer* (2007), *Sandmann* (2006), *killing an Arab* (2004), *The first REAL human clone* (2003); *VIP* (2003); *diet Subtitles* (2001)... donaorpheline.com

Ammar Al Beik

As a result of his great artistic range and background, Al Beik's photographs possess a cinematic quality that can only be found amidst the portfolio of a seasoned image maker. Forever embracing experimentation, he works with an assortment of techniques. Often materializing in the form of large ultra chrome prints on canvas, his photographs toy with the manipulation of light and contrast and delve into the art of visual storytelling, holding the narrative of his subjects up with careful scrutiny and heightened sensitivity.

Gregory Buchakjian

Gregory Buchakjian currently focuses on critical research in modern and contemporary Lebanese art. Faculty member at Académie Libanaise des Beaux-Arts (ALBA) where he was a co-founder of Atelier de Recherche (1997-2004), he contributed to various publications such as *Esteban Lisa, Tradition and Abstraction* (Beirut, Foundation Audi, 2010), *Convergence, New Art from Lebanon* (Washington, Katzen Art Center, 2010) and *Of Light and Blood, Spain and Lebanon, shared stories* (Beirut, Foundation Audi, 2010).

His personal work deals with the city and its history through multiple scopes including writing (*Halte, Labor et Fidès*, 2005), installation (*Office Dada*, 2008), animated film (*What, shoes?* Festival de Genève La Bâtie, 2006), and photography, where he likes confronting the human body with urban spaces (*Under (the) line*, 2009).

Chaza Charafeddine

Born in Tyre in 1964. She studied special education in Savigny, Switzerland and Eurythmie dance in Hamburg, Germany. She taught dance in Switzerland and Lebanon before she started working in cultural field. In Berlin, she worked for the House of World Culture (HKW) and in Beirut for Ashkal Alwan, as project coordinator for different exhibitions and cultural events. She has published several short stories and articles in Lebanese and pan Arab newspapers. Since 2008 she works and lives in Beirut as free lance artist.

Clara Gebran

Clara Gebran is a Lebanese photographer living between Beirut, Lebanon and Dubai, UAE. Her work is impregnated by cities and architectural structures. She explores derelict spaces, that used to be hubs of activity and human life. Previous projects include photographs of run-down train stations in Lebanon, as well as deserted factories in Lebanon. Her work recreates a new perspective to these places, giving these framed spaces a life of their own with a cinematographic quality. Clara Gebran is currently living and working between Dubai, UAE, and Beirut, Lebanon.

Fassih Keiso

Fassih Keiso was born in Syria in 1956.. His work deals with issues of the human body, the impact of technology and contemporary culture on humanity. It also directs awareness to the impact of globalization on art production, and reflects on issues of identity, dislocation, and East and West. Technically, the work explores the impact of digital tools on current art photography production, highlighting the transition that occurs in photography from analogue to digital by adopting and mixing the two techniques. Keiso's work has been shown widely nationally and internationally and he has received several awards including the Samstag Scholarship.

Jeroen Kramer

Jeroen Kramer was born in the Netherlands in 1967 and grew up in Amsterdam. He moved to France at the age of 19 and studied law and French literature and attended classes at the art faculty. In 2000 he started working in the Middle East as a documentary photographer. At first based in Syria, he has since moved to Lebanon. Kramers documentary work has appeared in many newspapers and magazines, The New York Times and Vanity Fair amongst others covering subjects in the Middle East, Africa, Afghanistan, Burma and the Philippines. His images have featured in a number of exhibitions, including Noorderlicht's Nazar and Act of Faith, FotoFest USA's 2005 exhibition, the exhibit La Vita Nuda at Milan's 2008 Triennale.

In 2009 a retrospective of his documentary work came out in the book titled room 103. The work was exhibited at the New York photo festival in 2010 where it won an award. It was also awarded in the Netherlands by the arts foundation.

Alessandro Rizzi

From the West to the East, through the biggest capitals of the world, Alessandro Rizzi's colour reportage observes individuals dwarfed both by immense architecture and the immensity of their cities. He regards individual subjects as keys to the meaning of the modernity that surrounds them. Rizzi, who was born in Italy in 1973, has traveled extensively between Mexico, Romania, Turkey, Lebanon and the former Soviet Union. In 1999 he began a project on social changes in the Balkans 10 years after the fall of the Berlin Wall. More recently he has worked in China and between Israel and the West Bank. In 2002, a 3M prize named him the best Italian photographer under 30.

Jocelyne Saab

Born in 1948, Beirut, Lebanon, Saab's career encompasses journalist, war reporter, filmmaker and now artist photographer. Saab has directed more than 30 documentaries and three feature films shown worldwide, and by French and European channels, NBC in the United States and NHK in Japan. To date she has shot footage in Lebanon, Egypt, Iran, Syria, Kurdistan, Ex-Spanish Sahara and Vietnam. She has written all of her films mainly "Dunia", except "Suspended life" written by Gerard Brach (Polanski's scenarist). Now Saab has turned photographer, using this medium to recreate a modern visual record in order to capture different gazes between the west and the Arab world. For Saab, contemporary art represents an alternative language of expression.

Canan Senol

Canan Şenol was born in Istanbul in 1970. She graduated from the Department of Business Administration in the Faculty of Economics and Administrative Sciences at Marmara University. She continued her study in the Painting Department in the Faculty of Fine Arts at Marmara University and graduated in 1998. In 2006, she studied at the School of the Museum of Fine Arts in Boston.

Mitra Tabrizian

Born in Teheran, Tabrizian lives and works in London. In her precisely staged, photographic works, the doctorate-holding filmmaker and photo-artist deals with futuristic visions. She playfully examines fears and ideas of human coexistence, and studies how reality and simulation relate.

Ali Taptik

Ali Taptik was born in İstanbul in 1983 and studied at the Istanbul Technical University, Faculty of Architecture. A self-taught photographer, he finished a master class on documentary photography in Nordens Fotoskola, Sweden. His first project combined diary pictures with İstanbul's urbanscapes to recreate a personal history; "Remembering Me" was shown in many cities in Europe, Asia and Turkey. His second series "Kaza ve Kader" (Accident and Fate) is about interconnected frames of the experience of accumulated urban realities. This was showcased in İstanbul, Ghent, Ljubljana, Malmo and Marseille. His latest project "Familiar Stranger" is about urban structure and the relationship of the subjects of the city with this environment.