



## Q Calling the Shots

Vol. 3 – The Digital Age.  
05/05 - 28/05

Always on the forefront of the avant-garde and cutting edge, on 05/05, Q is pleased to present the Digital Age: language of the codes. This is our third and last installment of the Calling the Shots series.

### Q Calling the Shots

05/05                      Volume 3                      The Digital Age                      Opening@7:00pm

The show explores the manipulation of information and its effect on the aesthetic of art. The concept is based on the digital revolution, and carries the ramifications of a shift from traditional art forms to the digital medium.

This event features the award winning installation of Mohamed El Rawas (Lebanon) and major works by:

Ansen Atilla (Turkey)  
Ammar Al Beik (Syria)  
Ali Cherri (Lebanon)  
Anahita Razmi (Germany)  
Sheila Ribeiro (Brazil)  
Jocelyne Saab (Lebanon)  
Anne De Vries (Netherlands)  
Ayman Yossri Daydban (Saudi Arabia)

The map of the show is based on the QR code, which consists of black modules arranged in a square pattern on a white background.

Users with a camera phone equipped with the correct reader application can scan the image of the QR Code to display text, contact information, connect to a wireless network, or open a web page in the phone's browser. This act of linking from physical world objects is known as a hardlink.

With the Calling the Shots series, Q is exploring the perception of photography and conceptual works. With the huge success of Architectural Photography (11/11) and Narrative Photography (03/03), The Digital Age promises to be our most ambitious exhibition to date.



**Q contemporary**

Beirut Tower, Ground Floor Zeitoune Street Beirut, Lebanon  
info@qcontemporary.com + 961 3 300520 [www.qcontemporary.com](http://www.qcontemporary.com)

## ***Biographies:***

### **Mohamed El Rawas**

Mohammad El Rawas, painter and printmaker, was born on the 26th of May 1951 in Beirut, Lebanon. In 1971 he joined the Institute of Fine Arts at the Lebanese University in Beirut, Lebanon, and graduated with a BA in painting in 1975. At this time the civil war in Lebanon broke out, and El Rawas fled the country. The war had a drastic effect on El Rawas and he stopped painting for two years. In 1977 he traveled to Morocco, where he worked as an art instructor at the Ecole Normale des Institutrices, Rabat, until 1979. It was at this time that he started painting again. In 1979 he returned to Beirut, and held his first individual exhibit. Benefitting from a scholarship from The Lebanese University, he enrolled at The Slade School of Fine Art, University College London, United Kingdom, and graduated with an MA degree in printmaking in 1981. In 1981 he returned to Lebanon and started teaching in 1982 at the Lebanese University, Institute of Fine Arts in Beirut, a post he held till his resignation in March 2009. From 1983 until 1992 he served as Secretary General of the Association of Lebanese Artists and was a founding member of the Syndicate of Lebanese Artists in 2004. From 1992 until 2004 he taught at the American University of Beirut, Department of Architecture and Design, and founded the etching, engraving and silkscreen studios. He is currently living and working in Beirut.

Since 1979, EL Rawas has held eight individual exhibitions in Beirut and London and has participated in more than forty international art biennials and exhibitions in England, USA, Norway, Tunis, Brazil, Japan, Kuwait, France, Holland, Egypt, UAE, Poland, and China.

From these international shows he has claimed five prizes and honorable mentions including an award from the 24<sup>th</sup> Alexandria Biennial of the art of the Mediterranean countries in 2007, for his first installation and video piece entitled "SIT DOWN PLEASE".

His work is found in museums and public collections in Lebanon, Tunis, Iraq, Jordan, Sharjah, Norway and England.

Since 2007, El Rawas' Works had been successfully sold in the international art auction sales mainly those organized by Christie's and Sotheby's in England and the UAE.

### **Notes on the installation:**

Sit Down Please!

Exhibited at:

- 24th Alexandria Biennale of the Art of the Mediterranean Countries. 2007(Received the Prize of the Biennale)
- Art Paris Abu Dhabi, 2008
- American University Museum, Katzen Arts Center, Washington D.C. 2010

### **Ansen Atilla**

Born in Turkey, 1978. Ansen studied painting at the Mimar Sinan Faculty of Fine Arts. He has had four solo exhibitions at x-ist between 2004 and 2009, x-ist-ence, Resistance, Menace, and the Trace. He participated in Contemporary Istanbul 2006, 2007 and 2008. Artfair 2006 Cologne. CIGE 2008 China International gallery Exposition (Beijing,China) and Sh Contemporary 2009 (Shanghai Asia Pacific Contemporary Art Fair).

Ansen's work was in Sotheby's 2009, Contemporary Turkish Art Auction and in the group show Tradition of the New: New Aspects in Contemporary Asian Art in Sakshi Gallery, Taipei, Taiwan.

### **Ammar Al Beik**

Born in Damascus, Syria in 1972, Ammar Al Beik's artistic career stems from unconventional roots. Although graduating from the University of Damascus with a degree in business administration, his love for photography intensified while working at a camera repair shop for ten years. It is there that he received his formal training in the medium, exploring various methods and approaches while becoming an expert in photographic equipment. He has been exhibiting his photographs since the mid 1990s, at a time when he simultaneously began an impressive career in filmmaking. Taking his cinematic works to the international stage, he has earned critical acclaim from audiences and juries across the global and has been honored with a number of awards. Having participated in screenings worldwide since 1999, his films have been featured in such prestigious events as the Venice and San Paulo International Film Festivals. His invitation to the 63rd Annual Venice Film Festival was a first in the history of Syrian cinema. In just a little over a decade he has become one of country's leading filmmakers.

### **Ali Cherri**

Born in Beirut in 1976, Ali Cherri is a graduate in Graphic Design from the American University in Beirut (2000). In conjunction with his design work, he did the stage set design for "The Anthem" by Gabriel Yamine, "10/20 Irrelevant," a performance by Abla Khoury (presented at the DisORIENTation festival in Berlin, 2003) and "Biokhraphia" by Rabih Mroué and Lina Saneh (2002). Ali has finished his Master's Degree in Performing Arts at Das Arts (Amsterdam), where he presented "As Dead as Ever" (lecture/performance, 2002) and RedRum (video installation with Guy Amitai, 2003) and the video "Un Cercle Autour du Soleil" (2005) (Awarded FAAP digital arts award at Video Brazil, Sao Paulo – Brazil). He has presented "Give me a body then" (performance, 2005) as part of Diskurs 05 – European festival for young performing artists, Giessen – Germany. (October 2005) and Home Works III - a forum on cultural practices, Beirut (2005).

He recently collaborated with Rabih Mroué on an installation entitled "I Feel A Great Desire To Meet The Masses Once Again" as part of "Hadith" exhibition at gallery Sfeir-Semmler, Beirut (2006).

## **Anahita Razmi**

Born in 1981 in Hamburg Lives and works in Stuttgart and Hamburg.

October 2007 - September 2009, Postgraduate Studies Fine Arts, Akademie für Bildende Künste, Stuttgart, Class of Christian Jankowski (Video/Installation/Performance), Class of Rainer Ganahl August 2005 - January 2006, Pratt Institute, New York, Faculty of Media Arts and Fine Arts October 2001 - October 2006, Studies of Media Arts, Bauhaus-Universität Weimar, Diploma, Prof. Christine Hill.

## **Sheila Ribeiro**

Interested on 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 dimensions and states that permeates her Artwork. Her pieces for stage, installations and videos has been showed 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](http://donaorpheline.com)

## **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.

## **Anne DE Vries**

Born in 1977 in The Hague, The Netherlands living and working in Amsterdam and Berlin. Anne de Vries is an artist that is working these days on visualizing principles that are entering our world often true new technology, but seem to behold essential understanding and meaning influencing our world today. Often working with digital photography, the artist is playing with different forms of representation, modulated reality, and forms of extended reality. Playing with photography as a surface in actual space but also in 3d rendered virtual space.

## **Ayman Yossri Daydban**

Multi-media artist Ayman Yossri Daydban, born 1966 in Palestine with Jordanian nationality, lives and works in Jeddah, Saudi Arabia. Highly respected by collectors and fellow artists, he has enjoyed solo and group exhibitions across the Arab world since 1992. In 2008, Daydban participated in Edge of Arabia's exhibition at the Brunei Gallery, SOAS in London and has subsequently exhibited in their shows during the 2009 Venice Biennale, Berlin 2010, Istanbul 2010 and Dubai 2011. His work has since featured in Christie's Dubai auctions, the group show "Balla-Drama" curated by Nour Wali at Paradise Row Gallery in London and Athr Gallery exhibitions at Art Dubai 2009, 2010 and 2011.

Presented in Art Dubai 2010, his series 'Subtitles' was further exhibited in June 2010 at the Soho House in Berlin as part of the Edge of Arabia exhibition Grey Borders/Grey Frontiers and presented as a solo work at MENASART Beirut. In September 2010, the artist participated in 'Nabatt' at the Shanghai Duolun Museum of Modern Art. In January 2011, Ayman's first solo show in London was held at the Selma Feriani Gallery.