

Georges Fikry Ibrahim
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ARTIST PROFILE

Born and raised in Cairo, Georges Fikry Ibrahim was awarded his PhD from the Faculty of Fine Arts, Helwan University in 2000.

A vibrant mixture of all the colours of Egypt's history, from the ancient Egyptian heritage, to the Coptic, the Islamic, the Folklore and the Modern, Fikry's paintings are studies of our intricate heritage. His scenes present elements of Egypt's social structure and its effect on its people's emotions.

Combining humour, satire, acute observation and sincerity of emotions, George Fikry's paintings analyze and present the social values of the Egyptian culture, with all its exciting and sometimes contradictory dispositions.

SOLO EXHIBITIONS (SELECTION)

- 1994 – "Earth Mythology", Zamalek Arts Complex, Cairo, August.
- 1996 – "Myth Sequences", Zamalek Arts Complex, Cairo, March.
- 1997 – "Chamber Drawings", Cairo Atelier, March.
- 1999 – "Chamber Drawings", Zamalek Arts Complex, January.
- 2001 – "Chamber Drawings", Zamalek Arts Complex, February.
- 2002 – Egyptian Academy in Rome, Italy, June.
- 2003 – "Chamber Drawings Sequences", Zamalek Arts Complex, June.
- 2005 – Exhibition, Fine Arts Albertina Academy, Torino, Italy, June.

GROUP EXHIBITIONS (SELECTION)

- 1989, 1990, 1991, 1995 – Pioneers Exhibition, Cairo.
- 1989, 1990, 1991, 1992, 1993, 1994, 1995 – Youth Salon, Cairo.
- 1997, 1999, 2001, 2003 – The National Exhibition of Fine Arts, Cairo.
- 1998, 1999, 2000, 2001, 2002, 2003, 2004 – Little Works Salon.
- 1993, 1994, 1995 – Homeland x 1 Society Exhibition.
- 1995 – Contemporary Egyptian Art Exhibition, Vienna, Austria, October.
- 1997 – Contemporary Egyptian Art Exhibition, Pakistan, April.
- 1999 – Contemporary Egyptian Art Exhibition, Jordan, June.
- 1999 – Contemporary Egyptian Art Exhibition, Qatar, October.
- 2000 – Contemporary Egyptian Art Exhibition, Sharjah, UAE, September.
- 2000 – "Creative Dialogue: Paradoxes of Contemporary Egyptian Art at the Beginning of the 21st Century" (curated and theorized by the artist), UAE, October.
- 2001 – Contemporary Egyptian Art Exhibition, Tunisia, May.
- 2002 – Silver Jubilee Exhibition (25th Anniversary of Arts Complex), Zamalek, October.
- 2004 – First International Alexandria Biennial for Artist's Book.
- 2004 – "Salon Stars" Exhibition, parallel to 6th Youth Salon.
- 2004 – Contemporary Egyptian Art Exhibition, Frankfurt International Book Fair, Germany, September.
- 2005 – "Dream Mythology", Italian Cultural Center, Cairo.
- 2005 – Contemporary Egyptian and Korean Art Exhibition "Art and Soul", Opera House Arts Palace, Cairo.
- 2005 – Exhibition, Egyptian Cultural Center, Rome, Italy.
- 2006 – Nominated by Ministry of Culture and Helwan University for the 29th National Exhibition commemorating 100 Years of Egyptian Plastic Arts Movement.

ACADEMIC ACTIVITIES

1997 – Designed the poster and the sixth Academic Convention Book cover, Faculty of Art Education, Helwan University, May 1997.

2002 – Prepared, organized and ran the first theorization workshop entitled "Cultural and Creative Dialogue between Art Learners and Contemporary Egyptian Artists" for postgraduate students (Complementary Diploma), Faculty of Art Education, March 2002.

2002 – Launched the first issue of "Contemporariness in Art Education" (Muharram 1433 H.), including theorization articles and research papers for postgraduate students, March 2002.

2003 – Prepared, organized and ran the second theorization workshop entitled "Digital Culture: Theoretical and Practical Associations" for postgraduate students, Faculty of Art Education, April 2003.

2003 – Launched the second issue of "Contemporariness in Art Education" (Muharram 1434 H.), April 2003.

2005 – Academic mission to Italy: Fine Arts Albertina Academy, Torino; University of Rome "La Sapienza", April–June 2005.

1999–2005 – Conducted activities at the Center for Community Service and Environment Development, teaching drawing and photography, Free Studies Division, Faculty of Art Education, Zamalek.

1999–2005 – Prepared and organized annual exhibitions for 30 students in the Free Studies Division (1999, 2000, 2001, 2002, 2003, 2004, 2005).

2003–2004 – Nominated by Helwan University for academic mission; taught Field Art Education at Ain Shams University.

Member of the Technical, Print Design and Exhibitions Committees for the 5th, 6th and 8th Conventions, Faculty of Art Education, Zamalek.

Author of three books on art education: "Introduction to Art Education Teaching" (2000), "Development of Educational Thinking" (2001), and "Origins of Art Education" (2002).

RESEARCH PAPERS

2002 – "Measuring Literal Response from Art Education Faculty Students about Works by Contemporary Arab Plastic Artists", Eighth Academic Convention Book, Faculty of Art Education.

2003 – "Role of Social and Cultural Origins of Art Education in Promoting Awareness of Civilizational Heritage in the Face of Globalization", Fourth Academic Convention Book, Faculty of Fine Arts.

2005 – "Role of Cultural and Aesthetic Origins of Art Education in Activating the Child's Positive Nature to Keep Pace with Society's Variables", Girls' College, Ain Shams University.

2005 – "Paradox of Digital Cultural and Social Dialogue among Young Egyptian Artists", Parallel Convention for the 23rd Alexandria Biennial for Mediterranean Countries.

2005 – "Digital Culture as an Introduction to Enriching the Art Learner" (in collaboration with Dr. Ahmad Hatem Saieed), Faculty of Art Education.

SEMINARS & LECTURES

1995 – Seminar and dialogue session: "Youth Section at International Cairo Biennial on Philosophy of Success and Failure", Arts Complex, Zamalek, 8 Feb.

1995 – Seminar: "The 24th General Exhibition for Plastic Arts and the Seventh Youth Salon", Arts Complex, Zamalek, 30 Dec.

2000 – Lecture and workshop: "The New Pioneer of Contemporary Egyptian Art and Problems of Creative Dialogue at the Beginning of the 21st Century", Sharjah, UAE, 5 Dec.

2002 – Seminar: "Contemporary Egyptian Young Artists", Hanager Arts Center, 11 March.

2003 – Seminar: "Youth Ambitions and Developing Curricula at Art Faculties", parallel to 15th Youth Salon, Arts Palace, Egyptian Opera House, 9 Sept.

2004 – Seminar: "Developing Children's Creative Abilities", Children's Book Exhibition, 7 Dec.

2005 – Lecture: "Cultural and Academic Dialogue between Different Cultures to Enrich Visual and Artistic Culture of the Art Learner", Albertina Academy, Torino, Italy, 11 June.

2005 – Seminar: "Art and its Role in Culturing Society", Mahmoud Mokhtar Museum, 14 Aug.

WORKSHOPS

1995 – Critique workshop and research paper at International Conference of Plastic Art Critics (AICA Egyptian Section): "The Relation between the Artist, the Critic, and the Recipient" – Egyptian AICA Prize for Young Critics.

1998, 1999, 2000, 2001 – Workshops in collaboration with General Organization for Culture Houses (Suez, Luxor, Assiut, Tanta, Shalateen, Halayeb, Cairo).

1998 – Luxor Workshop and Studies, March.

2000 – Workshop in UAE on "Form, Symbol, and Sign".

2000 – Workshop, Museum Fellowship Program, exchange between Helwan University and San Jose State University, California (Fulbright).

2001, 2002 – Art Workshops at Psychological Health Hospitals, Abbassia and Helwan.

2002 – Plastic Arts Syndicate Workshops supporting the Palestinian Intifada.

2003 – Workshops at Children's Park, Sayeda Zeinab (wall paintings).

2003 – Children's workshop at Zamalek Arts Complex accompanying solo exhibition (24m x 2m wall painting).

2003 – Workshops, Alexandria Library project "My Beautiful Country Panorama" (ten governorates, including Assiut).

2004 – Various children's workshops, General Organization for Culture Houses; Suzanne Mubarak Culture House; National Center for Children's Culture; Zamalek Arts Complex.

2005 – International Workshop "From Earth to the Heart", Albertina Academy, Torino, Italy, June.

2005 – Workshops, University of Rome "La Sapienza" with Prof. Luisa Bongrami; field study at governmental institute for the deaf with Prof. Simonetta Meragna.

COLLECTIONS & AWARDS

Collections in Egypt: Helwan University; Faculty of Art Education Museum, Zamalek; Museum of Art Education Faculty, Minya; General Authority for Culture Houses; Ministry of Culture; Supreme Council for Youth and Sports; Upper Egypt Society for Education and Development. International: Modern Art Museum, Albertina Academy, Torino, Italy.

Private collections in Egypt and several Arab and foreign countries.

Winner of numerous prizes and certificates of appreciation in drawing, photography and engraving, including Pioneers Exhibitions, Youth Salon, and the Fifth International Cairo Biennial.