

An abstract painting by Dia Azzawi, featuring bold, geometric shapes in a variety of colors including white, red, yellow, blue, green, and brown. The composition is layered and textured, with some areas appearing more prominent than others. The overall style is expressive and modern.

BAZZAAR

Harper's

ARABIA

ART

ISSUE 25

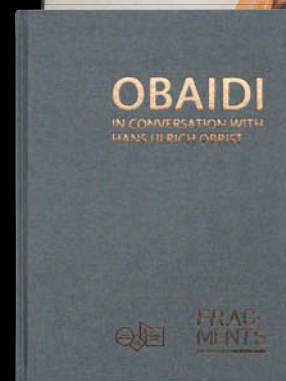
Dia Azzawi
PIONEERING
THE IRAQI
ART FRONT

NEWSHA
TAVAKOLIAN
REFLECTIONS FROM
ANOTHER WORLD

MARC QUINN'S
TRACES
of LIFE

Talking ART

If art could speak what would it say, **Nada Bokhwa** reviews some of the latest tomes on art from across the Middle East



OBAIDI: IN CONVERSATION WITH HANS ULRICH OBRIST

This hardcover features a survey of the artist, Mahmoud Obaidi's work which was published to accompany his current exhibition at Qatar Museums Gallery Katara, entitled *Fragments: An Exhibition by Mahmoud Obaidi*. Hans Ulrich Obrist introduces readers to Obaidi through a comprehensive interview with the Iraqi artist—addressing themes of transition, exile and loss. This tome showcases photographs of the large-scale sculptures commissioned for the *Fragments* exhibition. Particular highlights include the politically-charged *Mosquito Effect* and the *Ford 71* bronze and steel installations which characterise the remnants of war-torn Iraq. Readers gain a retrospective of Obaidi's work spanning from literature and film to music and architectural projects which pay tribute to the artist's illustrious career.

Edited by Tracy Goulding. Published by Qatar Museums and Silvana Editoriale S.p.A. qm.org.qa silvanaeditoriale.it

ART ET LIBERTÉ: RUPTURE, WAR AND SURREALISM IN EGYPT (1938-1948)

This historic tome illustrates the work of the surrealist writers and artists, *Art et Liberté*, who worked and resided in Cairo during the inception of the Second World War. The book is published in conjunction with the work showcased at the group's current exhibition at Centre Pompidou in Paris, which marks the first large-scale exhibition of its kind devoted to the subject. Featured is a series of the Egyptian modernists' paintings, photographs and archival documents from the late 1930s until the late 1940s.

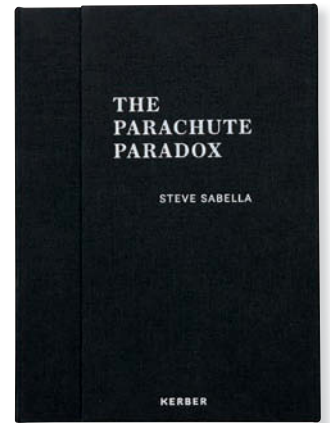
Edited by Sam Bardaouil and Till Fellrath. Published by Éditions Skira Paris. skira.net

TWO SUNS IN A SUNSET / SE SOUVENIR DE LA LUMIÈRE: JOANA HADJITHOMAS AND KHALIL JOREIGE

Published to coincide with the exhibition *Two Suns in a Sunset* (derived from the French title, *Se Souvenir de la Lumière*) conceived by the Lebanese artists and filmmakers Joana Hadjithomas and Khalil Joreige. This monograph



illustrates over 1,000 images of the duo's work which includes documentaries, fictional films, photography, art installations and performances exploring narratives of alleged concealed events throughout Lebanon's history. Among the highlights include *The Lebanese Rocket Society*—a series of photographs which address the now defunct Lebanese space programme. *Text by Philippe Azoury, Omar Berrada, José Miguel G. Cortés, Okwui Enwezor, Marta Gili, Boris Groys, Nat Muller, Hoor Al-Qasimi, Joana Hadjithomas, Khalil Jorge. Published by Koenig Books and Sharjah Art Foundation. koenigbooks.co.uk, sharjahart.org*



**SIGNS OF OUR TIMES:
FROM CALLIGRAPHY
TO CALLIGRAFFITI**

Exploring over six decades of scripture from across the Arab world and Iran—from the inception of the Lettrism movement in the 1950s to the incorporation of calligraffiti during the 21st century. The art of the written word is presented with over 40 artists illustrating the practice of calligraphy. This tome offers a comprehensive visual odyssey including Parviz Tanavoli's mesmerising

bronze scriptures and Maliheh Afnan's gauze-imprinted manuscripts to Shirin Neshat's calligraphy-embossed photography. The calligraffiti of el Seed concludes the chronology with an insight into the Arabic proverbs which inspire his murals.

Edited by Rose Issa. Text by Rose Issa, Juliet Cestar, Venetia Porter and Hans Ulrich Obrist. Published by Merrell Publishers. merrellpublishers.com

**THE PARACHUTE
PARADOX**

This profound memoir chronicles the life of the artist Steve Sabella who was born in Jerusalem's Old City and raised under Israeli occupation. "Life under occupation is like the reality of a Palestinian attached to an Israeli in a tandem jump," explains Sabella, as he refers to the metaphorical parachute tandem jump experience of departing on a plane from Israel. The artist traces his journey under occupation including living through two Intifadas, being kidnapped in Gaza and traversing between Palestinian and Israeli cultures throughout his life.

Edited by Steve Sabella. Text by Steve Sabella. Published by Kerber Verlag. kerberverlag.com



BECOMING IRANIAN

This monograph chronicles the visual documentation of the photographer and writer Bijan K Roghanchi's journey throughout Iran during a period of over two years. Born and raised in the US of Iranian descent, Roghanchi travelled to Iran in 2011 and provides a visual display of coming to terms with his heritage. Featured is a series of photographs from four generations of women in the Gilan province to the landscapes of Isfahan captured from a midnight train journey to Roghanchi's great grandfather's tomb in the holy city of Qom. This tome presents an intimate and fascinating insight into quotidian life in Iran.

Edited by Barron Rachman. Text by Bijan K Roghanchi. Published by Helden Press.

