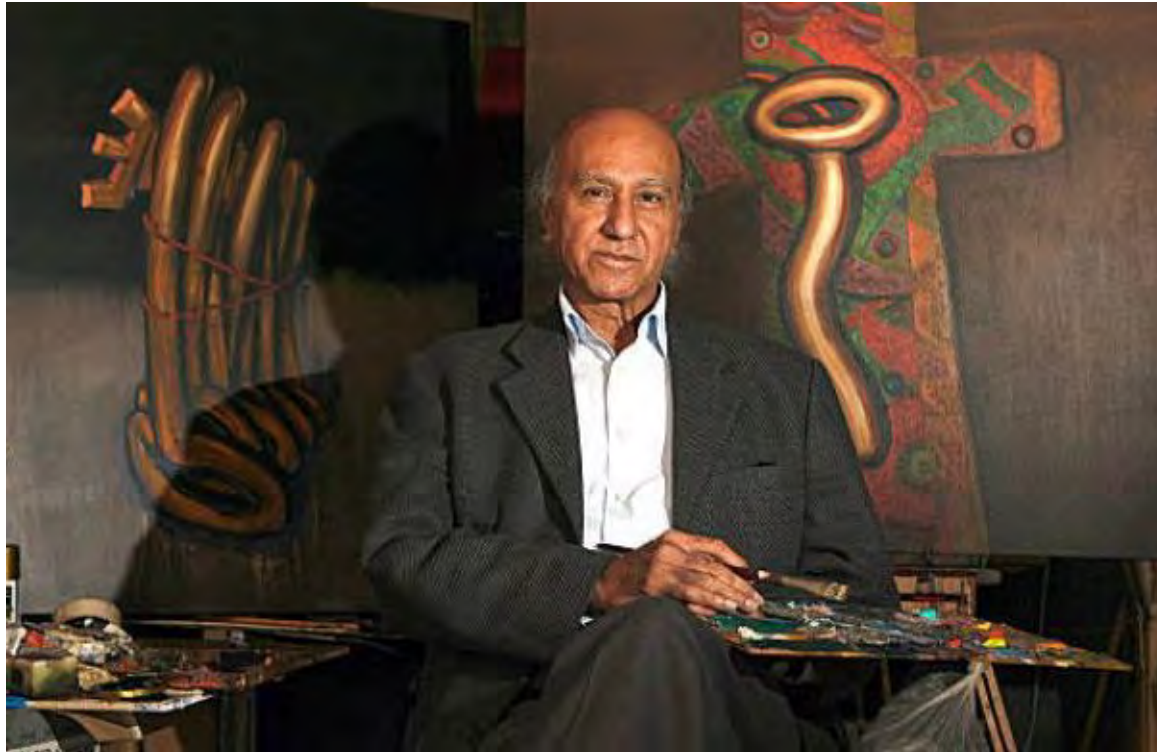


HAYHILLGALLERY
MASTER WORKS AND CONTEMPORARY ART

ALA BASHIR

A painting by Ala Bashir depicting a man with a bird on his nose. The man is shown from the chest up, looking upwards with his eyes closed. A vibrant blue-green bird with a red eye is perched on his nose. The man's hair is dark and appears to be blowing in the wind. The background is a muted, earthy brown. The overall style is expressive and somewhat somber.



Ala Bashir was born in Iraq in 1939, eighteen years after his country declared independence from Britain. As an artist and physician, Bashir was once not only part of Saddam Hussein's medical team, but his reluctant confidant too.

The resultant works from this period are given shocking context by Saddam's remark that they would be '*a record of Iraq at (that) point in history*'.

The artist's style is easily comparable to that of the surrealists, yet these nightmarish visions are not dreams- they depict the very real suffering he was witnessing daily. Unexpected directions in style often make his work difficult to decipher, whilst recurring signs such as the raven and the mask draw directly from traditional Iraqi imagery.

Abstract backgrounds eat into the figurative, bricks fuse with skin, snakes fall like entrails from rotting apples. These tortured forms metamorphose into each other, contorted with pain.

Bashir paints with great compassion from the devastating perspective of the Iran-Iraq war. Having formerly pioneered techniques for reattaching severed hands, this artist-surgeon now attempts to reconnect the eyes with the heart.



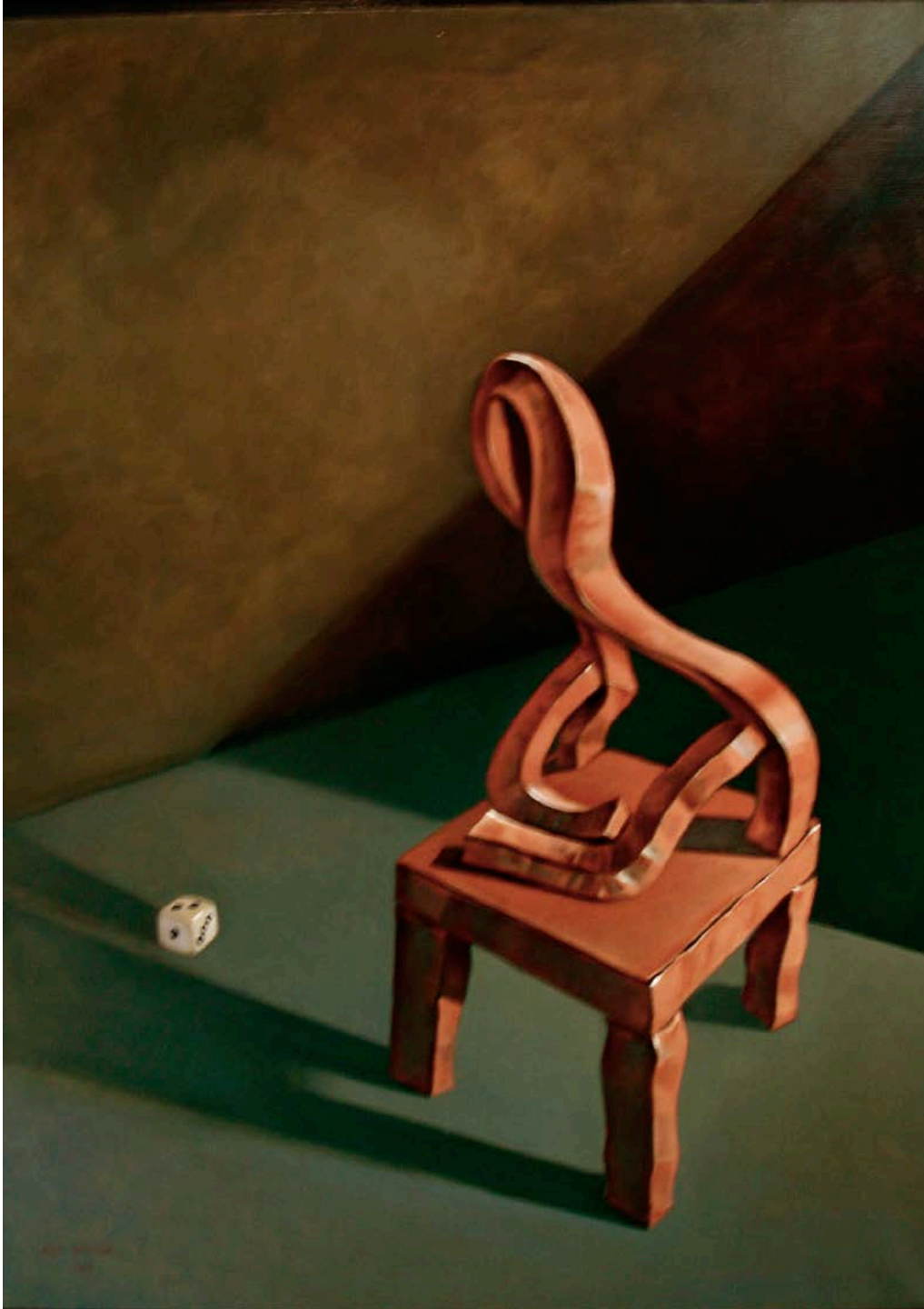
Torment
Oil on canvas
119 x 99 cm



Reflection
Oil on canvas
130 x 120 cm



Adam And Eve
Oil on canvas
130 x 120 cm



Contemplation
Oil on canvas
145 x 114 cm



Decorated Chair
Oil on canvas
120 x 120 cm

ALA BASHIR
2010



Embalmed History
Oil on canvas
120 x 120 cm

ABDULKADIR
2016

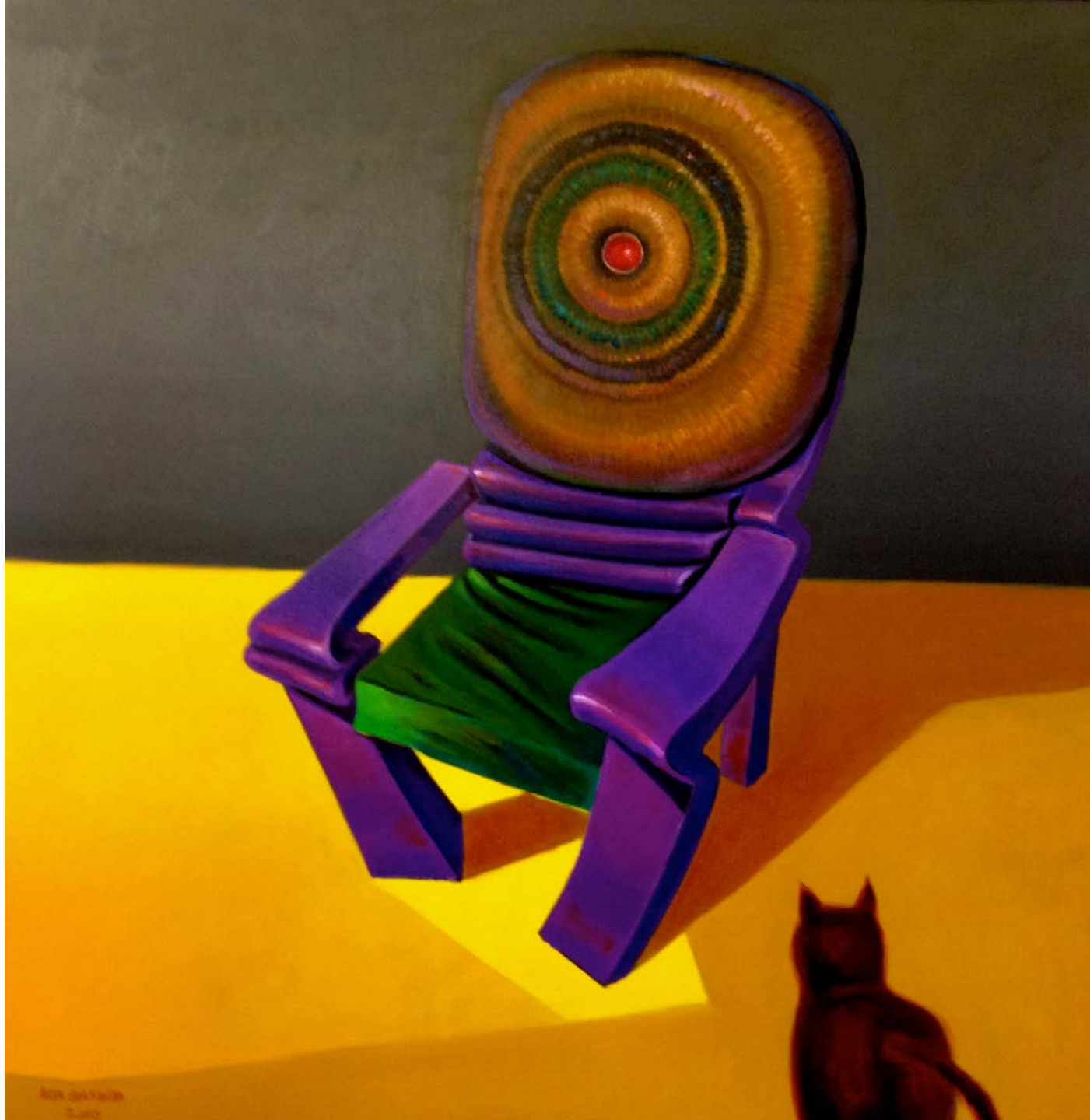


Confusion
Oil on canvas
120 x 120 cm

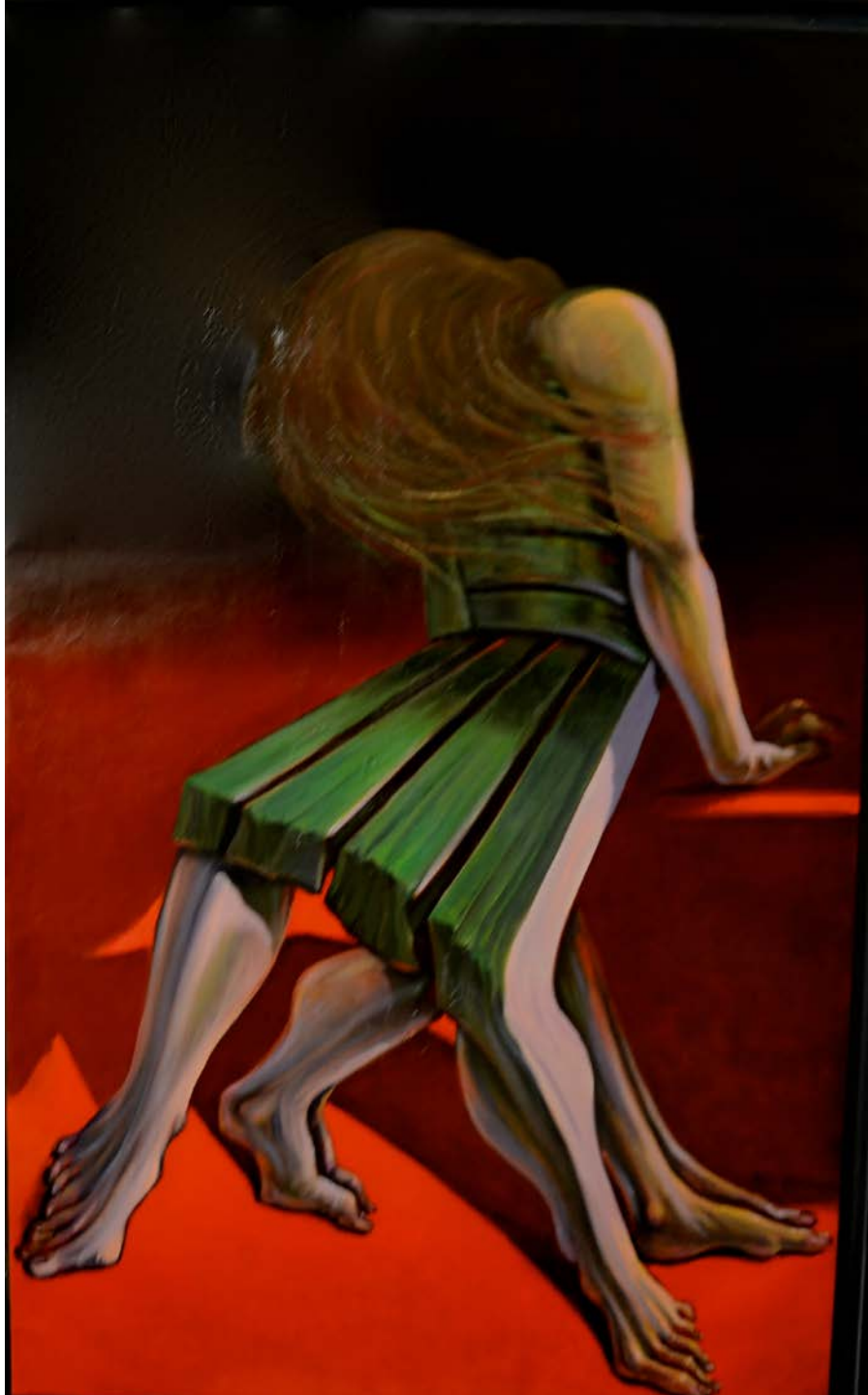


ALA BASHIR
2010

Resolution
Oil on canvas
120 x 120 cm



Envy
Oil on canvas
120 x 120 cm



Hesitation
Oil on canvas
150 x 92 cm



Labeled Chair
Oil on canvas
120 x 120 cm

MA DALMA
2010



Leak Of Memory
Oil on canvas
120 x 120 cm



Obscured
Oil on canvas
120 x 120 cm

AA BASHIR
2010



Blue Shirt
Oil on canvas
130 x 120 cm

AIA BASHIR
2010



Relationship
Oil on canvas
209 x 120 cm



Revival
Oil on canvas
120 x 120 cm

NIA BASIHK
2010



ALA BASHIR
2010

Suspense
Oil on canvas
120 x 120 cm



NA BASHIR
2019

Temptation
Oil on canvas
120 x 120 cm



Waiting Chair
Oil on canvas
130 x 120 cm



Transformation
Oil on canvas
120 x 110 cm



Suppression
Oil on canvas
119 x 99 cm



Man's Destiny
Oil on canvas
120 x 100 cm



Descent
Oil on canvas
130 x 120 cm

Selected Exhibitions

- 2013 Nottingham Society of Artists, UK
Columbia University, New York, USA
- 2012 Memories Of Chairs, Katara Gallery, Cultural Village, Qatar
Nottingham Society of Artists, UK
- 2011 Memories Of Chairs, Gallery of Artists Society of Nottingham, UK
- 2010 Memories of Keys, Richard Attenborough Art Centre, University of
Leicester, UK
- 2009 Single Line Drawings, Nottingham Society of Artists, UK
American Visionary Art Museum, Baltimore, USA
- 2008 Nottingham Society of Artists Gallery, UK
- 2007 Corvus Art Centre, New Haven, USA
Nottingham Society of Artists Gallery, UK

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