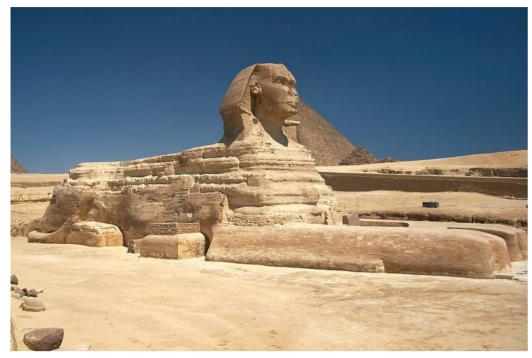
FEBRUARY 28, 2020

QUOTE **OF THE** DAY

LOVE POSSESSES NOT NOR WILL IT BE POSSESSED, FOR LOVE IS SUFFI-CIENT UNTO LOVE.

KHALIL GIBRAN

PIECES



Sphinx of Giza restored in 1989 by Adam Henein

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SHEIKHA NOORA AL-MUALLA

contemporary styles

The spectacular sculptur

The artworks displayed at SAF's "Lasting abstract painting — int

Arab News | Cairo

The acclaimed Egyptian sculptor and painter Adam Henein turned 90 last year, and his work remains relevant today, as visitors saw in a new retrospective — organized by the UAE's Sharjah Art Foundation (SAF) — at the Sharjah Art

The exhibition, which ran until November 16 last Henein's eventful seven-decade career. It was part of SAF's "Lasting Impressions" series, which, once a year, highlights a prominent Arab artist.

"We chose Adam Henein because we thought that, as a person who (has been working) since the 1950s

until today, he's one of the very few (artists) alive and who link the modernist and contemporary styles," curator Sheikha Noora Al-Mualla said.

Born in Cairo to a family of metalworkers and jewellers, Henein's defining encounter with art dates back to his childhood, when, aged eight, he reproduced a clay sculpture of the ancient Egyptian pharaoh Akhenaten after seeing it in the Egyptian Antiquities Museum. Impressed by his talent, Heyear, boasted around 80 artworks created during nein's supportive father would go on to display a few of his son's sculptures in his shop in Old Cairo.

Henein went on to gain a degree in sculpting at the School of Fine Arts in Cairo in 1953, before receiving a scholarship to study in Europe. He enrolled at Munich's Academy of Fine Arts, where artistic luminaries including Paul Klee, Josef Albers, and Alphonse Mucha once studied. And, as with so many artists, Paris was another stop for Henein — he and his wife lived in the French capital for nearly 20 years.

The time he spent in Europe was liberating and eye-opening, enabling him to experiment artistically and acquaint himself with the works of Western sculptors, according to Al-Mualla.

Henein returned to Egypt in the 1990s, and has since been heavily involved in helping to elevate the country's cultural scene. When the government decided to initiate restoration work on the Sphinx of Giza in the late Eighties, they approached Henein to ing lead the design team. He was initially hesitant about por taking on such a major commitment, but eventually po agreed in 1989. The project was finished in 1998, and fro Henein was decorated for his work on it.

In "Lasting Impressions," Henein's works most of which have arrived directly from his ins home-turned-museum in Cairo – were displayed in sta a minimalist layout over two wings. The exhibition and revealed the artist's little-known experimentation wr with abstract painting – intertwining shapes and colours creating a harmonious composition.

Henein did not limit himself to a single artistic rep medium or surface; he created paintings on delicate tal papyri, Japanese paper, and tempera. 'He did not (belong) to a certain school or method He

of painting and sculpting. His experimentation was act different than anyone else's," says Al-Mualla.



Adam Henein works on a project

mc

Saudi calligrapher Nasser Al-Salem's modern take on Islamic art

Al-Salem is one of 10 contemporary artists awarded the Al-Burda Endowment in 2018



Nasser Al-Salem

eddah-based Saudi artist Nasse latest project, was showcased Al-Burda Endowment exhibit ized by the UAE Ministry of Culture edge Development – last Novemb

Al-Salem is one of 10 contempo awarded the Al-Burda Endowment endowment is awarded to artists v Islamic art practices and continue wards developing contemporary Is

That is something Al-Salem h of doing, dating back to his time Al-Haram Al-Sharif in Makkah. In lem came second in Saudi Arabi



The idea (behind the) gree screen room is that every (filmmaker) can create a scene, then edit the pictu and add backgrounds tha sometimes surreal or diff to achieve in real life,"

NASSER AL-SALEM