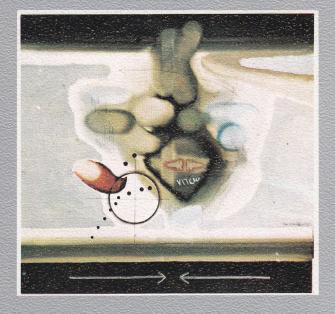
## NASIRI



## Sultan Gallery April 1977 Kuwait





## Rafa al-Nasiri

Less obviously emotional, but no less aesthetically charged, is the work of Rafa al-Nasiri who in recent years has also come under the spell of Arabic calligraph. For centuries, calligraphy for the Arab artist was a major outlet of creativity: he employed it inventively and in endless modulations to express a powerful aesthetic impulse often associated with 'spiritual' feelings, largely because most of the phrases thus written were of a religious nature. Although Nasiri did in the beginning employ such phrases as a basis, or a pretext, for his lovely configurations, he was soon to seek the formal values of individual letters for his new kind of plastic variations. The relation between his original graphic skill, hightened by his study of Chinese Art, and his novel manipulation of the alphabet, has thus been emphasised. Having mastered the distribution of balances, extensions, and empty planes, he achieves a harmonic lightness, a sheer visual delight, which once marked his earlier non-calligraphic work. More recently he has taken even greater liberty with his forms, and words, haphazard numbers, crosses and circles, become symbolic graffiti, suggestive of repressed agonies: the poetic undertones thus join forces with the purely visual sensation.

Jabra I. Jabra

بتعبيرية رمزية يجسد الناصري رؤياه الانسانية للعالم مرتبطا بواقع هذه الارض حضاريا وزمنيا .

انه يتحرك فوق سطح اللوحة عبر خطوطه حركة تلقائية مستوحيا مواضيعه من واقع يومي معاش غير ان عينيه تختصران هذا الواقع وتحيلانه الى مجموعة رموز والغاز تحددها الالوان : فالشارع والافق وكل ما له علاقة بمشاهدات الانسان يتحول لديه الى لغة خاصة يطرح من خلالها عالمه .

لقد ظل الناصري اسير الحرف العربي وظل مخلصا لجمالية هذا الحرف الذي يتشكل لديه تشكلات حرة دون ان يكون لمعناه اللفظي اية اشارة مقصودة . فالحرف هو تكوين جمالي حسب مثله مثل الرقم والسهم والخطوط المتقاطعة . انها علامات مميزة نجدها تتجمع هنا على شكل طلسم او قصيدة مقطعة او اشارة موصلة وربما رافضة .

انه يعبر باللون تعبيرا حسيا ورهافة تتمثل بدقة الخطوط • هذه الدقة التي اكتسبها من ممارسته فن الحفر (الكرافيك) والحفر على الزنك بالذات ، فطبيعة هذا الفن النبيل هي طبيعة شعرية مرهفة الاحساس دقيقة التعبير وقد عمت هذه الصفة على اعماله كافة بل وسرت لتشمل تجربة اللوحة المرسومة .

في الوائه غنائية صادحة ، وحين تجتمع اعماله تبدو وكأنها تتحرك عبر تناغم صوتي يتجاوب فيه اللحن الرئيس مع الخلفية المناقضة له ، وهي الوان تنفعل بقدر انفعال الطبيعة في هذه المنطقة ، الوان صريحة تتداخل في حوارات وتتعوج عبر المساحة المنفرشة بامتداد يشبه ارض العراق ذات الانبساط الشاسع تحت الشمس المحترقة ،

الجمال الذي يبشر به الناصري في اعماله يتحدث الينا بلغة الشعر مبحرا عبر عالم يتأرجح بين الحلم والواقع ، وهو حين يمجد الجمال يضم علامة فارقة نجدها تحتل اجمل موقع ، فالحمام القتيل وشارات الرفض والإهداف ، اذ تولج في البحر الملوث والسماء الدامية ليست الا تساؤلات مشروعة ، فهناك من يتعمد قتل الجمال والبراءة !!

مي مظفر بغداد ۱۹۷۷

- 1940 Born in Tikrit IRAQ.
- 1959 Graduated from the Institute of Fine Arts Baghdad.
- 1963 Graduated from the
  Central Academy of
  Fine Arts China (Graphic Department).
  One man show of graphic arts Hong-Kong.
- 1964 Was appointed in the Institute of Fine Arts (Graphics).
- 1965 One man show of graphic art Czeckoslovakian Cultural Center-Baghdad.
  International Graphic Art Exhibition Leipzig.
- 1966 One man show of graphic art EA gallery Baghdad.
  Iraqi Graphic Art Exhibition Berlin.
- 1967 1969 Studied graphic
  Art with Portugese artists Joao Ogan and
  Alice Jorge at Lisbon
  by scholarship from
  Gulbenkian Foundation.
  Portugal.
- 1968 Exhibition of paintings,
  Exhibition of Graphic
  Art Galaria Gravura Lisbon.
  Portugese Graphic ArtLisbon.

- Automn Saloon Eshtorel Portugal. First International Tri-
- First International Triennale India.
- 1969 One man show of graphic art - Society of Iraqi Artist's Hall -Baghdad.
  - One man show of graphic art - Gallery One-Beirut.
  - First International Biennale of Graphic Art liege - Belgium.
  - With a group of Iraqi artists, have issued a manifesto entitled -The New Vision.
- 1970 One man show of graphic art Sultan Gallery Kuwait.

  Third International Biennale of graphic art Cracov Poland.

  Exhibition of Iraqi posr ters Baghdad.
- 1971 One man show of paintings Sultan Gallery Kuwait.

  Four Iraqi artists exhibition National Gallery of Modern Art Baghdad.
- 1972 Four Iraqi artists exhibition National Gallery of Modern Art Baghdad.

- Three Iraqi Artists Exhibition Gallery One Beirut.
- First Norwegian international print Biennale. Exhibition of Arab Art-Cyprus.
- Fourth International Poster Biennale Poland.
- 1973 One Man show of Paintings Contact Gallery Beirut.
  - Six Iraqi and Syrian artists exhibition National Gallery of Modern Art Baghdad, Arab Cultural Center Damascus.
  - Iraqi Graphic Art and Poster - Museum of Antiquty - Damascus. Five Iraqi Artists exhibition - National Gallery of Modern Art -Baghdad.
- 1974 One man show of paintings Sultan Gallery Kuwait.
  Seyen Iraqi artists exhi-
  - Seven Iraqi artists exhibition National Gallery of Modern Art Baghdad.
  - Fourth International Biennale of Drawing -Rijka. Yogslavia. Fifth International Pos-

- ter Biennale Poland.
  Joined a Graphic course supervised by Profeser Otto Eglau, and was awarded the Honor Prize from the International Summer Academy Salzburg Austria.
- 1975 One man show of paintings, graphics National Gallery of Modern Art Baghdad.
  - Three Iraqi Artists (Graphic Exhibition) Baghdad.
- Third Triennale India.

  1976 One man show of paintings, Graphics. Nadar

  Gallery Casablaca.
  - 2nd Arab Art Biennale-Rabat.
  - Iraqi Contemporary Art. Modern Art Museum -Paris.
  - Third Normegian International Print Biennale. Fifth International Biennale of Drawing Rijka Yogoslavia.
  - Sixth International Poster Biennale Poland.
- 1977 First New York International Drawing Biennial.
  - One man show of Paintings, Graphic Sultan Gallery Kuwait.

