

## 5) كi"jl <br> ة̈

الى سيادة الزعيم الاميز عبد الكريم قاسم




فاضــل عــــد البـــاتي
رئيس لـنــة نصب \&1 تموز




 وقا نظمت المجمو عات على شكل بيت من الشعر العربي

 صور المأساة التي يعج بها ماضه المي العر اق ، و وهذه تمنتهي الى ثورة الميش الانفنجارية البِبارة في الوسط ، فتليها


 سيادة الزعم الامين عبد الــكريع قاسم ان يُو انوم بنحت
 تكاملت أخيرا ونضهت ، واخخذ يستشُر قدرته ويريد

لاول مرة مند ستةو عشرين قرنا من تاريخ العراق
 عن رؤياه النبيلة في منحورتات شاهقة ، فيضع في الرون الرونز
 الاهة ، بجهروتها في الازططلاق ، وبسعها حر:هة العرافق وازدهاره وائماره . فهذا النصب الكبير



 اخرى ولذا فان لمذا النصب قيمة مز دو جهة . انه يخلد ذـرى


 ويجقل للفنان العراقي جواد ملم في هذا القرن انمــــا


بوابات العصور القديَّه، وخاصة الآشورية منها والبابلية، فتونى الضنخامة والطول في الإبعاد وقلة الخطرو
 الطول والحشرة امتار ارتفاعا فوق فور جار المارين بارزين
 ولاسيطا اذا مو من تحت النصب ، كأنه يلنحل بورابة شاهقة امبه بيوابات الصصور الآشورية والبابلية، 6 وهذا يوحي اليه بمشاركة مباشرة في المنحوتات نفسها ، رغم -
وني التاثيل حركة أكدعليها الفنان ، تعطي النصب
 الدينامي من حمياة المدينة . وقد تناءى في اكر اكثره

 من الظاهر الواقعي م فني هذه المنحوتات اقنصاد في في التفاصيل للتشديل من قوة الايماء والتعبير - وهي التي القوة التي امتاز بها الفن العراقي عبر القرون

الثمطي ومل ذز اميه عاليا في انتظار الالحظة التي يتاح
 في هذا المو ونوع ان يحقق مساعاه الطويل نحو ايجـاهـاد
 الالاحمي باسلوب عراقي ،

 المنحو تات البابلية والآشور رية والعربية كانت على هـا الغراز . فالعبقرية الفنية في العر اق هنذ اقدا الدم العصور حتى



 وقّ تم الانسجام الاسلوبي بينها وبين هندســة النصب نفسها التي صمهها المهندس المهــاري رفعت الجادر جى . فقلد استلهم المهندس في تصميم الافريز

يجب على المر ء انينظر الىنبوغ جبو اد سلم فيالرسم



 يحتمه منطق تاريخي لاتستطيع الاحداث الانهين الانلات منه بسهورة



 تستفيق فجأة فتريد ان تحقق ذاتها ، وتو طد قلمها في عالم اليوم
وهذه الاو جه الثلاثة متصلة متر ابطـــة . وهي في




 نصفه في الصنحات التــالية ، والني تضى هـي بواد اد سلم آخر سنتين هن عمره في تصميمه وانجازه ، ووالهمهالموت فاجعا مأساويا قبل انه براه ينصب في مكانه ، وهو في. الثانية والاربعين من عره

المدرسـ-ية في بغــداد . ودرس الفن في باريس وروها ,
 في المتحف العراقي ، وكان استاذ النحت في معهوهالفنون
 من الرساهين وانتحاتين الذين تخر جوا هن الأعهر


تبدأ الحركة في اتصى يكن الافريز عنيفة ، فيمتّال
 ينطاتِ دائريا باستدارة عنق المصان ورأسهعالمضضب نحو

 اربعة رجاليلبس احلدمبم الكوفيقو العقال ، وهم بحاولون

 في اليجرعة ايحاء ببلداية عارمة جار فة م انها بداية حياة قوة وخصب ، بدابة توق وتطلع : بدايةخاريارة


عرف العراق العديل من الثورات على الظلم . ولم

 يرنعون اللافتات عاليا . وقد رمز بذلك الك الى تمر دالثّبع











اراد الفنان ان يؤ كد على دور المرأة الهر اتية فيكل
 عادة منأعرقالعادات النعبية في هنا البا البلد . فالنساء فئي

 روراحت في رثاه وضياح
اما من الناحية الفنية، فقد جمل جو ادهاهذها
 الفكرة بأقل التفاصيل ، معتمدا على الخططوط الزوبعية الدركة والدوران


ما من صراع الا وله شهـاء .

 صارع الظلم في سبيل خير البشرية . هنه الألم الثان الثكلى تبكي


 في منحو تاته الرثاثيُّة الاغيرة
 انجلو 6 فلورنسه 6 مكاناًا لنحت هذه التهاثيل


 يبر الفنان عن أعز العاكاتات الانسانية في المياة . لقد بلور حون الأم على وليدها ، وهو حنو الطو الطبيعة على المياة لكي تنمو في منجى من الغو ائل . في هذه الـو المر كةالدائرية تحيط الأم بالحياة البديدة الحاطة السور المنع . انهـا
 تتغنى بكل ماهو غضن وعزيز ونضير لدى الانسان .


انه يوم \&1 تموز الــالد .



 حاملة الغارة تشد هن از ازرها يد الشُعب انه فجر الثورة التي انهات سجل الما المآتي وحور تلا قوة الشعب العراقي نحو اللانطالاق البناء ـ ـ والقَرص الاعلى هو الْمهس 6 رمز النهار الو ضاح الح بعل الظالام م وهو من
 كتشرق على العالم ، ومن هنا طلعت شمس الثم الثورة بقـيادة
 انه الترس الني كانت تتوقى خلفه عهود الغي والفساد .



وهكان تحققت الْرية

 التقليدي منذ ايام الاغريق ، بامر أة تحنل مشُعلا ، ولكنه شُحن فيها شُعور الفر حة العنيفة التي تكاد تحاد تحلت بالحرية في الاجواء
 ان التــــمين تلصقانها بالارض ، وانا أريدها ان تحالت

الدع

حقعت الثورة الـرية ،وانتهت حركة المنف الى
الدعة والاستقر ار .

ما أشد التقابل بين هذه إلطمأنينــة 6 هذه الر الرة
 على الارض ، انها الو عل بصبى النفس 6 بفتوة الامة 6 بالملاق والعطاء من جـديد
لقد تحورت ت القضبان الى أغصان شجر ، والو المشدودة ألا حالت الى و الضفائر في هالالين ، وترقرق الثور الوب على البسم الغض ترقرق مياه الانهر اللسخية
 مطوقات البـوامع بيغاد ،

النخبل والغالال الوفيرة


 قدعَة معناها || النخيل ه، ، والاخر الاخرى أمرأة خبلى بورفر العصور القادمة ، نزي خصب كا كالسنابل الي تحما
 والثالثّآصبية تحمل على رأسها خير ات الارض ،ورا ولانلها تمثل روافد دجّة والفرات












يصارع الانسانالارض ليستنت خيراتها ، ويعنى

 وأخيراً ير مز النانان الى ابن الشعب البار العامل في في سبيل الوطن وخير الانسان وهو يتطعل الى المــتمقبل
 والعـل على ازدهمار الزراءة والصناءة والانتــانـانج والبناء ل大ير الوطن والانسان . لذا كانت وقتنه وقفة اباء وشموو خ . وبهذا الاباء




## Agriculture and Industry. (continued from previous group)

To gather the fruits of the soil man struggles with the earth and makes of livestock an important source of national prosperity. The bull is one of Iraq's oldest symbols of potency, fertility and wealth,

Finally, the artist represents the faithful son of the people, the worker for the good of the homeland and the good of man, looking forward to the future, proud and reassured. Justice, liberty and brotherhood have been established, and everywhere there is work on agriculture and industry, production and construction for the good of this country and the good of mankind.

Hence the worker's stance is, one of pride and power. And with this pride and power the magnificent epic of July the Fourteenth comes to a conclusion.


## Agriculture

Two farmers leaning against a shovel. They represent confidence in thesoil and fruits of the land. They stand erect, strong, holding each other. Behind them is a bull, symbol of animal wealth.

The artist, deliberately, gave one of the heads an ancient Assyrian look, to indicate the cultural continuity of the Land of the Two Rivers. The emphasis this time is on the tough hands, the hands that make and produce, whose fingers interlock in love and brotherhood.


## Tigris and Euphrates

## Palm trees and plenty.

The two great rivers and their tributaries are symbolised by Iraqi women. One is tall as a palm tree, whose fronds spread round her head. She is Tigris -an ancient Mesopotamian word meaning the date palm. Another is pregnant with future plenty: she is fertile as the corn she carries aloft. She is Euphrates-an ancient Mesopotamian word meaning fertility. The third is a young girl who carries on her head the fruits of the earth. Presumably the tributaries of Tigris and Euphrates.


## Calm and Stability

Freedom achieved through the Revolution, the violent movement now comes to calm stability.

What contrast between this serenity, this lyrical loveliness, and the previous scenes of tragedy. It is man's dream on earth, the promise of youth in the spirit, of national rejuvenation, of creating and giving freely anew.

Iron bars have turned into branches, faces contorted with agony have turned into a beautiful serene face framed by two crescentlike plaits of hair. On the young body a dress waves and shimmers like the water of bountiful rivers.

The dove, according to Jewad Selim, represents the doves of Baghdad's mosques.

## Liberty

And thus was liberty achieved.
It is the third part of the climax of conflict represented by the centre group of the Monument.

Liberty is represented by the artist in its traditional form, familiar since ancient Greece, of a woman with a flame. But she is charged with a violent joy which almost sends her flying into the air.

When asked why he gave her no feet, Jewad Selim said, "Feet would keep her stuck down to earth, whereas I want her to fly ...".



## The Soldier

It is the immortal July 14th.
The proud soldier's great and dazzling leap, embodying the strength of the saviour and revolutionary Leader who rebelled for the sake of the people, his muscles tense, his fist shattering prison bars in all directions. His body has burst out of the people like an explosion, and the gun-holding hand is reinforced with the people's hand.

It is the dawn of the Revolution which put an end to the annals of tragedy and translated the force of Iraq's people into constructive energy. The disc above is the sun, light after darkness. It is one of Iraq's oldest symbols. Here the sun first rose to illumine the world, and here the Revolution's sum first rose, led by its fearless soldier. With his foot the soldier has trampled upon a shield representing evil. It is the shield behind which took shelter all reigns of tyranny and corruption.

## The Imprisoned Thinker

This part of the Monument is closely related in composition to the gigantic leap of the soldier in the centre.

Two interconnected ideas are represented. First, the manacled thinker behind prison bars, with his right hand flung high above the bars: from the thinker, even though in chains, emanate the ideals that move man's conscience and sharpen his will, leading to rebellion against injustice.

Second, the peoplesupporting the thinker, and with the help of the soldier whose foot grows out of the people's being, destroy the bars that hold him captive.



## Mother and Child

With the greatest of economy and concentration the dearest of all human relations is here expressed. The mother's protection of her new-born is nature's own protection of life's seedling from the terrors of destruction. In a lovely roundabout movement the child is encircled by the mother as by a fortified wall. It is a movement of permanence, all energy and love. The lines are lyrical with all that is tender and delicate and, dear to the heart of man.


## Pieta

No conflict is without its martyrs.
Conflict and violent death in this country have been elevated by the artist to the level of universal tragedy in every country that has had to fight tyranny for the good of mankind. Here a mother laments the death. of her murdered son, surrounded by women. It is martyrdom with all its human implications. In this magnificent elegiac work Jewad Selim harks back in spirit and expression to the later pietas of his great furerunner, Michelangelo.

Perhaps it was not for nothing that Selim chose Michelangelo's hometown, Florence, for the execution of these sculptures.


## Weeping Woman

the artist wanted to emphasise the role of Iraqi women in every act of rebellion, so he portrayed her in a posture assumed in accordance with one of the oldest customs of this country. In Iraq, when a calamity has befallen the country, or when a woman is overwhelmed by rage or bitter grief, she would hoist her aba and wind the upper part of her body with it, and raise her voice in lament or denunciation.

Stylistically, Jewad Selim said he did this bronze in his favourite manner: the idea emerges through the fewest recognisable details, depending on lines of whirling motion.


## Pioneers of Revolutions

Iraq went through many rebellions against tyranny. Her people never gave in to injustice. This has been expressed in a modern idiom. These pioneers of revolutions, raising high their banners, represent popular uprisings against tyranny in bygone times as well as in the 1920 and 1936 rebellions and all the succeeding demonstrations of anger in which men and women participated equally. The movement continues. The man's hand extended back to the previous group seems to derive direction and power from it, thus linking up the whirlwind of past ages with the headlong rush of the present.

Amidst this tension the artist has placed a child: the late Jewad Selim was especially fond of this child (the only round sculpture, incidentally) with its delicate hands raised as if to bless man's effort in creating a future of justice and plenty.


## The Horse

At the extreme right, the movement has a violent beginning in the bolting horse and the men holding it back. A roundabout movement is gained by the great curve of the horse's neck and his angry head turned back towards the succeeding sculptures. The horse is a prominent Arab symbol: here it is a symbol of the force and thorough breeding of Iraq's people. Around him are four men, one of then in Arab headgear, trying to curb his mighty prancing. Every muscle in the horse and in the men's arms and hands and legs teems with vitality and force.

The group suggests a lusty full-blooded beginning. It is the beginning of a life of power and fecundity, of passion and aspiration. A beginning of civilisation.

In order to realise the extent of Jewad Selim's achievement one must look at his painting and sculpture from a historical perspective. For his development coincides with the national and political development in Iraq and the other Arab countries in a way that may not be very clear at first sight. But there is

JEWAD SELIM no doubt that a relationship between the two exists. It is perhaps made inevitable by a certain historical logic from which it is difficult for events to be entirely free.

The value of Jewad Selim's work, therefore, is multiple. It is, first, an absolute value indicative of a unique mind and a unique imagination. Secondly, it is a value closely related to the legacy of ancient Arab art and the more ancient Mesopotamian art. And thirdly, it is connected with the active selfsearching of a nation that wakes up suddenly and determines to fulfil itself and establish
its identity in the world of today.
All three aspects are inter-related. And when finally the artist finds himself, they merge together in a work of great brilliance, at whose complexity we look with amazement. This work is the Monument of the Fourteenth of July, described in the following pages. Jewad Selim spent the last two years of his life on ite design and execution, but death came to him suddenly, tragically, at the age of 42 , before ho could see it mounted in its place.

Born in 1919, Jewad Selim went to school in Baghdad and studied art in Paris, Rome and London.

He worked for a period on reconstructing ancient sculptures at the Iraq Museum, and for many years was the teacher of sculpture at the Fine Arts Institute, where he exercised a profound influence on the painters and sculptors who studied there.

His greatest influence, however, was on the development of the art movemet in Iarq, largely through his painting and sculpture in which he was always in search for an Iraqi style, and through his leadership of various groups of artists whom he inspired by his ideas and his personality.

When H.E. faithful Leader Abdul Karim Kassem asked him to make the Monument of July the Fourteenth, he had full confidence in him and gave him complete freedom in expressing the idea of the Revolution. Upon preparing the designs in Baghdad, Jewad Selim went to Florence for executing and casting them in bronze. The miracle was that he actually completed the whole work, which is one of the largest of its kind in the world, in less than two years.

A few months after his return to Baghdad he died, on 23rd January, 1961.

achieve the aim, for which he had striven so many years, of creating a purely Iraqi art, whereby the Iraqi epic theme would be expressed in an Iraqi style-a mixture of contemporary manner and age-old tradition. He therefore charged it with Arab and Iraqi symbols and executed it in bas relief, not in round sculpture, since the greatest Babylonian, Assyrian and Arab sculpture had always been largely of this kind. From ancient times and up to the end of Abbasid reign, artistic genius in Iraq expressed itself in low relief sculpture, linear design and 'flat' ornamentation, in opposition to European art which always tended towards concreteness and sculpture in the round. Jewad Selim thus made of his work a continuity of Iraqi genius.

Stylistically, the sculptures are in perfect harmony with the structure of the Monument itself, designed by Architect Rif 'at al Chadirji. Deriving his inspiration from the great gates of Assyria and Babylon in designing the frieze, the architect sought after magnitude, length of dimensions, and the minimization of lines and planes - the frieze is more than 50 metres
long and 10 metres high over two protruding buttresses, one on either end, each 6 metres high. The viewer, especially if he passes under the Monument, feels as though he was going through a lofty gate similar to those of Assyrian and Babylonian times, and this has a way of suggesting to him a feeling of direct participation in the sculptures themselves, in spite af their size.

There is a sense of movement in all the sculptures deliberately emphasised by the artist, which gives the Monument, erected as it is in the busiest and most mobile of Baghdad's squares, a dynamic place in the life of the city. He has in most cases avoided realistic representation in order to underline the dynamism of his conception and to release from sculpted forms such meanings as are abstract and well beyond a realistic appearance.

For in these bronzes an economy of detail is sought for the sake of greater force of symbol and expression : and this very force is the distinction of Iraqi art throughout the centuries of its history.

## THE

MONUMENT IN MEMORY OF THE GLORIOUS REVOLUTION
OF JULY 14th.

When for the first time in 2,600 years of Iraq's long history an Iraqi artist was asked to express in sculpture, and with absolute freedom, his noble vision, he cast in bronze an epic representing the Revolution of July 14th, with its deep roots in the nation's history, its sweeping power, and its confident progress towards the freedom and prosperity of Iraq. For this large monument, made by Jewad Selim, portrays the Revolution with all its lofty ideals, a magnificent expression of the people's revolution and aspirations, realising, at the same time, a fulfilment of the artist's concept of an Iraqi style derived from the soil and tradition of this great country.

This Monument, therefore, has a dual value. It commemorates a great revolution by indicating its perennial over-all significance and crystallizing visually its power and its aim. At the same time it is a brilliant work of art equal in force and imagination to some of the greatest monuments in the world. It bestows upon Iraqi Artist Jewad Selim in this century an honour which will no doubt include him among the immortal artists of history.

It consists of fourteen groups, each with its own independent concept, but all related to one another along the great frieze in a unity of sublime and complex meaning which, once the Monument is seen, rests in the mind as an unforgettable experience.

The groups have been arranged by tho artist in the form of an Arabic verse, read from right to left. It begins with the bolting horse, symbol of force and fecundity, turning ith beautiful long neck towards the succeeding images of tragedy so abundant in Iraq's past, These lead on to the mighty explosive revolution of the Army in the middle followed by Liberty, in a posture of seeming flight. After her come stability, production and gencral prosperity,

When Jewad Selim was asked by H.E. Faithful Leader Abdul Karim Kassem to do these sculptures early in 1959, his powers had finally matured. Conscious of his great ability, he was stretching out his arms, waiting for the moment when he-might treat a great subject worthy of him, such as this one. Through this subject he was able at last to

To His Excellency Faithful Leader Abdul Karim Kassem
May I, Sir, submit to Your Excellency this modest booklet in which I, with the help of some loyal friends, have tried to give a summary of what the late brilliant artist, Jewad Selim, wanted to express when he designed the Monument in Memory of the Immortal July the Fourteenth Revolution: this great work which records the epic of our people as they struggled for their rights in life and freedom. May I also, as I am given this honour, put on record my gratitude and that of my colleagues for the advice, help and encouragement you have given us while performing this duty of ours.

Fadhel Mohammed al Bayati<br>Chairman,




# THE MONUMENT IN MEMORY OF THE GLORIOUS REVOLUTION OF JULY 14TH. 

