

Artist Sakhr Farzat

The difficulty in Fine Art is due to its use of silent language Humanity is wearing a New Tissue of Culture

Dialogue By: Muna Mater

The works of Hassan Sharif depend primarily on a negation or refusal to the known artistic medium or language...this is intellectually legitimate and justified. There are always two philosophical approaches in treating such matters. It is either starting by the confirmation of a thing we go toward or negation. This means moving from life to death acquainting and familiarizing ourselves with the whole journey, or movement towards confirmation. That means moving from death to life. The style of Hassan Sharif is known in Europe and it contains a negation of the artistic medium in its traditional form with the intention of confirming a new existence to art...that is moving anti-current...and this does negate the possibility of reaching the set objective.

The style per se is frequently used in Europe...but it is a popular one. I estimate the existence of a wide gap between artist and public viewers in the Arab World. Sometimes the artist deems it not necessary and non-sensical to fill up this gap and he resorts to a contradictory solution or attitude that is widening this gap. In this case Hassan Sharif is quite faithful to himself and acting from that faithfulness and extreme sensibility, he chose the other or second solution; this is perhaps due to his conviction in the impossibility of filling up this gap.

- We remind him to elaborate more on this difficult issue, and he continues to say:

* To be an artist is a human intellectual condition ahead of others...and this is a very common case in societies known for their high percentage of illiteracy! This is in addition a quasi-total illiteracy regarding the art language. So I do not blame in any way Hassan Sharif for his embracing such an attitude or approach...mine might be different solution when I left...and if I carried the cross of exile Hassan Sharif has carried the one of solitude and loneliness. Naturally this is not a shared fate or destiny; there are exceptions to it but there is a certain difficulty concerning art language...a difficulty in its reaching viewers...

The above difficulty is due to the fact that art uses silent language...It is a stage that situates itself just below philosophy, philosophy being the most difficult one of the stages of writing...After such writing reaches its culminating stage in difficulty we reach or arrive at silence...From here debuts the painting and drawing horizon and when we complete this errand with that silence and till its end...we come back again to writing and so on...Thus the circle is completed.

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Translated by Dr.Hassan El-Rayah