



**Fadi Yazigi**  
**Che, Angel, It's Me, Donkey**

The Mosaic Rooms are delighted to host Fadi Yazigi's first UK solo show, to coincide with Frieze Art Fair. One of the most important artistic voices in the Arab World today, the Syrian-born Yazigi has exhibited extensively throughout the Middle East, Europe and the United States.

This solo show includes recent paintings, reliefs, and sculptures, many of which reflect the personal tragedies of everyday contemporary Syrian reality, in its pre and post-revolutionary manifestations. Instead of painting life-like portraits, Yazigi's works often depict ordinary people as physically underdeveloped creatures or half-human beasts, with mask-like faces and smiles of naïve optimism. Frequently his work is used to portray the marginalised and unhappy yet their physical confinement and half-baked forms seem almost to yearn for change and metamorphosis. Black and white representations are contrasted with dramatic uses of colour, creating highly arresting and affecting imagery.



*King-Che, Bronze sculpture, 90 x 80 x 60 cm*

This unique and distinctive aesthetic is reflected in Yazigi's use of various techniques and materials ranging from bronze casting to painting directly on paper bags and even bread. There is no separation in Yazigi's world between what is and what should be art. Instead he layers materials, stories, experiences and encounters of everyday life and people until traditional boundaries are dissolved. In doing so he reveals other more emotive and uncertain realities. Are these figures with their smiles of childlike innocence really indictments of stupidity? Or are they tributes to a continuing commitment to one's hopes and dreams? Ideas of opposition constantly charge Yazigi's choices of visual style.

As the artist states: 'Art is the culmination of the uninhibited creative freedom to visually express the social and political situation of our times. It is the responsibility of an artist to faithfully reflect and convey emotions, ideas, dreams and sublimations...I try to decipher the unasked questions on the faces of people who surround me. My paintings are about life in its innumerable shades.'

Fadi Yazigi was born in Syria in 1966. He studied sculpture at the Faculty of Fine Art in Damascus, graduating in 1988. He works as a full time artist seven days a week from 8am to 6pm in his studio in Damascus. His work has been shown internationally in exhibitions and art fairs and has been sold to collectors all over world. His works have also been sold through Christie's and Sotheby's in both London and Dubai.



*Mondath, Bronze sculpture, 20 x 40 x 26 cm*



*Untitled*, mixed media on canvas 120 x 85 cm

**Artist's talk: 8th October 2011, 12pm**

RSVP [info@mosaicrooms.org](mailto:info@mosaicrooms.org), 020 7370 9990

Exhibition open Mon-Fri 11-6pm, Sat 11-4pm

A short film by Yazigi about the writer Elias Khoury will also be shown throughout the exhibition.

With thanks to:



**LOTTERY FUNDED**

Nearest Underground station: Earl's Court (Earl's Court Road exit). Buses: 74, 328, C1, C3

Parking: One disabled parking space is available by prior arrangement. Parking meters are available in Lexham Gardens behind the building.

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mosaic  
rooms**



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