

## PRESS RELEASE

Galerie ART CRU Berlin • Oranienburger Straße 27 • 10117 Berlin

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## Maged Houmsi – Leben in zwei Welten (Life in Two Worlds)

Vernissage: 14.04.2011, 7 p.m. Exhibition: 15. 04 – 27. 05. 2011 Galerie ART CRU Berlin The artist is present. Introduction by Dr. Wolfram Voigtländer

"His paintings are translations, not images of reality".

"Life in Two Worlds" by Syrian artist Mohamed Majdeddin Houmsi is an overwhelming, colourful interaction between high-contrasted tones and the artist's dreams and fantasies. Looking at the paintings you are moved by the happy, mostly warm colours.

The images are snap-shots, taken from Houmsi's dreams, affected by his love for art and longing for his Syrian hometown Aleppo. They are historical witnesses and give insights into his life between emigration and integration, into personal experiences, and ever so often into memories of Aleppo. The colours in his paintings are a dynamical expression of the artist's fantasy.

He creates abstractly featured paintings. All of his works impress mostly through strong colours. They are high in expression but always composed in a harmonically balanced manner. By use of different scraping and mixing techniques he sets strong accents in his works. The viewer gets new inspiration in a new world of thought. His unique handwriting conveys power, freedom and a surprising optimism.

Mohamed Majdeddin Houmsi, born 1962 in Syria, lives in Berlin since 1980 after he fled the Syrian civil war. All his works have been created between Tiergarten and Kreuzberg. Since he started painting in 1989 his paintings have been shown in 26 exhibitions.

The artist Maged Houmsi and gallery director Alexandra von Gersdorff-Bultmann are available for interviews and will be glad to answer any questions.



Galerie ART CRU Berlin is Berlin's only gallery for so-called Outsider Art since 2008. The term (introduced in 1945 by painter Jean Dubuffet as "Art Brut") refers to art by people with psychiatric diseases or mental disabilities. The gallery's main focus is to reduce the distance between established art and Outsider Art. Furthermore it aims at interconnectimg the artists and their scenes. Being located at the Kunsthof on Oranineburger Straße, the gallery doesn't just present works by people with disabilities right in the centre of the art scene, it also increases their public visibility. Galerie ART CRU Berlin is carried by the non-profit federation PS\_ART e.V. Berlin (network of different institutions) lead by Alexandra Gersdorff-Bultmann and her son Nikolaj Bultmann.

## For further information and images please contact:

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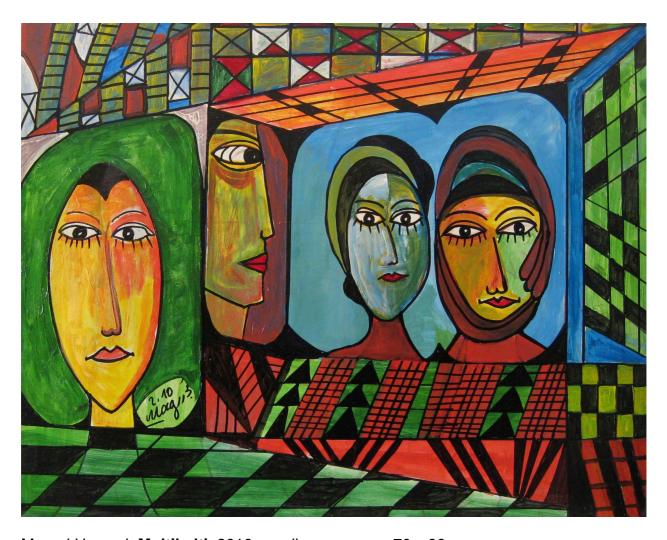
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Opening hours: Tuesday till Saturday





Maged Houmsi: Multikulti, 2010, acrylic on canvas, 70 x 90 cms