

Sanam Khatibi

30.04—03.10

Groeningemuseum



Mind the Artist

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Exhibition Sanam Khatibi

Sanam Khatibi's works deal with animality, and our primal impulses and the core of her practice interrogates our relationship to power structures, specifically the duality of triumph and failure. The recurrent themes that often feature in her work question our relation to excess, loss of control, bestiality, domination and submission. She is also interested in the thin line that exists between fear and desire, and how closely they are interrelated.

Her subjects live on their impulses in alluring, exotic landscapes. They are ambiguous with their relationship to power, violence, sensuality

and each other. She plays with ambivalence to juxtapose dualities such as animal versus human, past versus present, and cruelty versus seduction. Wildlife and animals are an integral part of her practice, and her subjects are often depicted within the same plane as the flora and fauna.

Her work consists of paintings, embroideries, tapestries, and sculptures.

Belgian artist, lives and works in Brussels.

Sanam Khatibi is represented by rodolphe janssen in Brussels and PPOW in New York.



Lemon Drizzle

'Lemon drizzle' is the name of the solo exhibition with paintings and an artistic installation of the Belgian artist Sanam Khatibi (° Tehran). Khatibi's oeuvre is diverse. Her art is enigmatic.

The artist does not only make paintings large and small size. She also creates sculptures, embroidery, tapestries. Megalomaniac paintings on canvas are reminiscent of the iconography and compositions of Lucas Cranach the Elder, Jan Van Scorel, Frida Kahlo ...

In every artwork by Sanam Khatibi is emerging a literary force. Still lifes on panel, of a smaller size, derive their intimacy, sense of detail and picturesque power to 17th-century Baroque still lifes. The artist brings to each vanitas scene a wealth of visual material together.

Gesamtkunstwerk

Sanam Khatibi handles aspects of one spacious, artistic legacy that is part of the collective memory, in the visual language, design and the coloration of her works. All works of art in the exhibition form one 'Gesamtkunstwerk'. They tell a layered story. They belong inseparably together, in terms of content, scenographic and according to use of color. The artist uses in the paintings of Lemon Drizzle repeatedly a (light) green and yellow tonality.

Connecting the colors. They become in all their facets dissected artistically and emotionally.

From a humble attitude that graces her, one exhibition space is sufficient for Sanam Khatibi to her art and living world to reveal. She brings two large paintings there, a selection of still lifes and a handful of meticulous selected ceramics and other objects from her personal collection and from the collection of Musea Brugge together.

Now that the evening is no longer silent (2018) and Lemon Drizzle (2021) practice, due to their spaciousness dimensions and overwhelming figures, one conjuring power. Showcase the paintings - like grotesques - thin, almost transparent, naked female figures in a natural looking, opulent decor. They bathe sensually in color and light.

With a refined sense of detail, Sanam Khatibi pays tribute to those who have the power of just embrace nature and human violence also defy.

The composition of "Now that the evening is no longer silent" is reminiscent of the Landscape with Bathsheba from ca.1540-1545 by Jan van Scorel (Schoorl 1495 - Utrecht 1562). Just like Van Scorel, Khatibi carefully manipulates and calculates its perspective. She has a low point of view, places the Venus figures broadly drawn out the canvas. One of the female figures is flattering down in a panoramic landscape. Trees and shrub parties divide the composition and grant depth, create dynamism.

The monumental size of the two largeworks and the large-scale figures on this one Paintings, places the accompanying still lifes with often tiny objects and creatures not in the shadow. The smaller works come to a halt to the fluid mobility of man and nature on large-format works. Miniscule objects enjoy the subtle play of light-dark, will be in an undefined space posited. The meticulous lines and intense color setting make them recognizable as silent witnesses to the silent vanitas scene. Similar small objects are also part of the great paintings. Playing in the still lifes they take on the role of soloists. The objects on the still lifes tell the story of the great works in close up. They have been torn from their natural surroundings. They become symbols, emblemata. The scenes have a calming effect. They intoxicate.

Magic, mythology and mysticism

"Lemon drizzle" is more than an exhibition. The expo in capsule form offers a place to experience art. Khatibi, the artwork and the visitors are part of a magical stage performance. Khatibi is protagonist. Her universe appeals to the imagination. Khatibi chooses, in every work of art, for a complex iconography. In the paintings and installation brings the artist man and animal, the inevitable death and death, transience and life, feelings of defense and resignation, power and impotence, violence and destruction, all in one fantastic, mysterious world. It seem mythological scenes. Move at the same time the living beings as figures in mystical tableaux vivants with an apocalyptic character. They elicit wonder. They call out admiration. The stories with human rituals feel terrifyingly real. Artist and art invite reflect.

Groeningemuseum

Sanam Khatibi's oeuvre adds an extra dimension to the Groeninge collection that spans a period of more than 500 years. The museum acts as a muse here, as well as "encyclopedia". Khatibi refers in her after all, regularly work for artists, themes and art styles from different periods and pranks, leaving the masterpieces out of it Groeningemuseum will become even more valuable.

In this way, the collection does not only show that it is an inexhaustible source for (contemporary) artists, but they also like frame of reference.



Curriculum Vitae

Sanam Khatibi exhibited in Central Museum (Utrecht, Netherland), 16th Istanbul Biennial, curator Nicolas Bourriaud (Istanbul, Turkey), M HKA (Antwerp, Belgium), MAC, Musée d'Art Contemporain (Marseille, France), CRAC Occitane (Sète, France) (group exhibitions).

The artist recently had a solo exhibition in, among others, BPS22 (Charleroi, Belgium), Kunsthal (Ghent, Belgium), PPOW (New York, USA).

Sanam Khatibi is represented by rodolphe janssen in Brussels and PPOW in New York.

Literature

S. Delobel, Sanam Khatibi 'My Garden is Wilder than Yours', Posture Editions, 2018.

N. Demoen, Sanam Khatibi 'Cyanide', Posture Editions, 2020.

M. Faries, 'Jan van Scorel, Landscape with Bathsheba, Utrecht, c. 1540 – c. 1545', in: M. Ubl (Ed.), Early Netherlandish Paintings, 2010, Online Coll. Cat. Amsterdam: hdl.handle.net/10934/RM0001.COLLECT.5443, consulted on 28 January 2021.

P. Versteegen, Emily Dickinson. Verzamelde gedichten, Van Oorschot, 2018.

C. Pichois, Baudelaire. Oeuvres Complètes, Lonrai, 2018.

Selected Solo Exhibitions

2020

Cyanide, rodolphe janssen, Brussels, Belgium

Cruellest of the Seas, Kunsthal Gent, Gent, Belgium

2019

An Hour Before the Devil Fell, P.P.O.W, New York, USA

De ta salive qui mord, Musée d'art de la Province de Hainaut, BPS22, Charleroi

The Murders of the Green River, rodolphe janssen, Brussels, Belgium

2018

Wild Mink, artlead Salon, Brussels, Belgium

2017

Rivers in your mouth, rodolphe janssen, Brussels, Belgium

With tenderness and longing, Billboard Series: Art in Public Space, Artlead, Gent, Belgium

No church in the wild, The Cabin LA, Los Angeles CA, USA

2016

Le jardin décomposé, Super Dakota, Brussels, Belgium

The hollow in the ferns, NICC, Brussels, Belgium

2015

Ask me nicely, trampoline, Antwerp, Belgium

2014

Séduire ou crever de faim, Island, Brussels, Belgium



Practical information on the exhibition

Title	Sanam Khatibi
Location	Groeningemuseum, Dijver 12, 8000 Brugge
Dates	from 30 April until 3 October 2021
Opening times	from Tuesday to Sunday, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Closed on Mondays, except for Whit Monday.
Tickets	€ 14 € 12 (red.) [permanent exhibition included] - via www.museabrugge.be/tickets free up to 12 years and Bruges inhabitants
E-exhibition	'Ceramic objects from the collection Musea Brugge, chosen by Sanam Khatibi' (from the beginning of June 2021)
More info	www.mindtheartist.be

IMAGES IN HIGH RESOLUTION

Images to promote this exhibition/museum can be downloaded via the following link:
<https://www.flickr.com/photos/museabrugge/albums>

Please mention the correct credits to be found with each photo.

MORE INFO

All arrangements can be made via the press officer of Musea Brugge,
sarah.bauwens@brugge.be or [+32 50 44 87 08](tel:+3250448708).

Press visits to the exhibition are possible with an appointment: see on the website
museabrugge.be/en/pers. The press file can be consulted there, and texts can be copied.

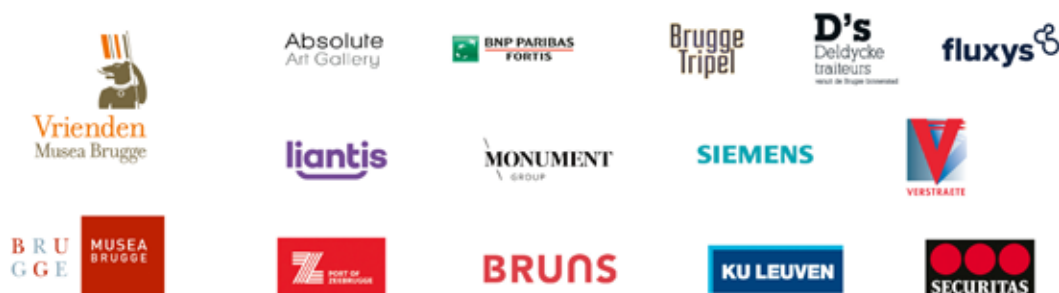
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Thank you for your cooperation and interest.

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to be continued...

Takeovers by KAAP — CONCERT — MOCOV — with the support of Vlaanderen

The exhibition 'Sanam Khatibi' is the third project in the festival series 'Mind the Artist' by Musea Brugge.

The unexpectedly long duration of the corona crisis has turned the entire cultural sector on its head. Artists are hit especially hard. With 'Mind the Artist' Musea Brugge intends to invest for a year in the remarkably versatile and creative talent that our country possesses. Musea Brugge connects artists from every possible discipline - including photographers, authors, visual artists or musicians - with its existing museum collections. A number of artistic centres have even programmed a takeover in one or more museum locations.

Discover everything you need to know about this inspirational dialogue between contemporary art and old(er) art on www.mindtheartist.be

