

## **Waleed R. Qaisi (b.1963)**

*Waleed Qaisi was born in 1963 in Baghdad, Iraq. After his graduation, Qaisi was conscripted into the Iraqi military service. During this period, he participated in the local Iraqi art scene in solo and group exhibitions, and he won several awards. Having served in the Second Gulf War in 1990, Qaisi's approach to art changed dramatically. He left Baghdad for Amman, Jordan, where he entered the industrial field of ceramics and established a factory. He also founded a ceramics studio for the Orfali Gallery and taught ceramics courses at this studio and at a private secondary school. He had several exhibitions in Amman in the 1990s where he showed works that were influenced by his experience of the war. In 2001, Qaisi moved to Qatar where he taught youths ceramics courses at an art center. He participated in numerous international group exhibitions in the USA, the UAE, Germany, Spain, France, China, Australia, Greece, Turkey, Jordan, Egypt, the Dominican Republic, Qatar, England, and he has had solo exhibitions in Qatar and London. He completed projects in international art residencies in Denmark (My Journey), Japan (Beauty and Magic), Italy (What Do You See Through Windows?), and Spain (Figures). His work can be found in museums and private collections in Iraq, Jordan, the UAE, the USA, Qatar, Egypt, China, Japan, Denmark, Croatia, London, and Germany.*