

Rafik El Kamel (1944-2021) born and lived in Tunisia.

Rafik El Kamel's paintings are characterised through compositions which he set up as an exchange between space and light. Throughout his career, he reflected an inner reality, one that was invisible to the naked eye, assembled shapes are recognisable throughout his work. By painting graphic forms in clusters, he presented a dynamic world, powerful yet fragile where the equilibrium seems firmly occupied by an underground chaos that's unremittingly ready to claim back its rights. Through this approach, he was able to describe life in an abstract form, by eliminating traces of nostalgia, he expressed a certain solitude, where the artist faced a necessary urge to reveal.

He graduated from the School of Fine Arts in Tunis in 1966. He continued his artistic training at the School of Decorative Arts in Paris. Between 1967 and 1971, he discovered the refined expression of painting during his stay in Paris. Upon his return to Tunis, he taught at the Ecole des Beaux-Arts.

Since 1966 Rafik El Kamel's work has been widely shown at international institutions, including the annual exhibitions of L'Ecole de Tunis, at the Salon de Mai in Paris, at the Biennale of young artists in Paris in 1977 and in 2002 at the Institut du Monde Arabe in Paris in "Perspective on contemporary Arab art". In 1984, he was awarded the first prize from the city of Tunis and the first prize from the annual exhibition of contemporary art in Tunis.

Rafik El Kamel**Born** 1944. Tunis. Tunisia**Died** 2021. Tunisia**Degree in Fine Arts** Ecole Nationale des Beaux-Arts de Tunis**Lived & Worked** between Tunis and Maamoura. TunisiaSelected Solo Exhibitions

- 2008 Kalysté Gallery. La Soukra. Tunis. Tunisia
- 2004 Kalysté Gallery. La Soukra. Tunis. Tunisia
- 2002 Ammar Farhat Gallery. Sidi Bou Saïd. Tunis
- 1995 Kalysté Gallery. La Soukra. Tunis. Tunisia
- 1994 Maegt Gallery. Barcelona. Spain
- 1993 Schauer Gallery. Paris. France
- 1990 Ammar Farhat Gallery. Sidi Bou Saïd. Tunis. Tunisia
- 1987 Fregnac Gallery. Paris. France
- 1986 Gorgi Gallery. Tunis. Tunisia
- 1984 Sidi Bou Saïd Museum. Sidi Bou Saïd. Tunis. Tunisia
- 1982 Renate Seeger Gallery. Munich. Germany
- 1980 Fregnac Gallery. Paris. France
- 1976 Irtissem Gallery. Tunis. Tunisia
- 1966 German Cultural Center. Tunis. Tunisia
- 1966 Yahia Gallery. Tunis. Tunisia

Selected Group Exhibitions

- 1967 Ecole de Tunis exhibition. Tunis. Tunisia
- 1970 Palais de l'UNESCO. Paris. France
- 1970 Salon de Mai. Paris. France
- 1970 Cité Internationale des Arts. Paris. France
- 1971 Ecole de Tunis exhibition. Tunis. Tunisia
- 1974 Irtissem Gallery. Tunis. Tunisia
- 1981 Irtissem Gallery. Tunis. Tunisia
- 1984 Centre National d'Art Vivant. Tunis. Tunisia
- 1985 Centre National d'Art Vivant. Tunis. Tunisia
- 1985 Gorgi Gallery. Tunis. Tunisia
- 1985 Rafik El Kamel. Hédi Turki – Hassen Soufy
- 1985 Kuwait Exhibition for Arab Artists (1er prix). Kuwait
- 1986 Villeneuve d'Ascq Museum of Modern Art. France
- 1986 Théâtre du Rond-Point. Paris. France
- 1987 Musée d'Arts Africains et Océaniens. Paris. France

- 1988 IMA Museum. Paris. France
- 1989 L'hippodrome de Douai. Paris. France
- 1990 Shoman Foundation. Amman. Jordan
- 1991 Ammar Farhat Gallery. Sidi Bou Saïd. Tunis. Tunisia
- 1993 Auditorium of Galicia. Santiago de Compostela. Spain
- 1995 IMA Regard sur l'art contemporain. Paris. France
- 1996 Kalysté Gallery. La Soukra. Tunis. Tunisia
- 1996 Islamic Contemporary Art Gallery. Kasse. Germany
- 1997 Skoto Gallery. New York. U.S.A
- 1998 Skoto Gallery. New York. U.S.A

Collections

- Institut du Monde Arabe. Paris. France
- Kamel Lazaar Foundation. Tunis. Tunisia
- Musée d'Art Moderne de la Ville de Paris. France

Artist residence

- 1968.1969 Cité Internationale des Arts. Paris. France
- 1967 Presidential award. Tunisia

Publications

- Zoubeir Lasram. Rafik El Kamel. Cérès Productions. 1992.
- Ali Louati. Daniel Sotiaux. Quatre artistes de Raik El Kamel
- Habib Bouabana. Gouïder Triki. Ahmed Hajeri. Ed. de la Maison des arts. Ministère de la culture. 1999.