

## "Posters for Gaza" Exhibit Creates Space for Palestinian Voices During Arab-American Heritage Month

SEATTLE - APRIL 1, 2024 - SZ Gallery presents the opening of *Posters for Gaza*, a group exhibit of political posters created by 26 Palestinian and Arab artists, Friday, April.
5 at 5 p.m. during the Mercer Island First Friday Art Walk in observance of National Arab-American Heritage Month.

Suzanne Zahr, a Palestinian-Lebanese Architect and owner of SZ Gallery, is the first to represent these Palestinian voices in the United States. Three artists in the collection, Nabil Anani, Sliman Mansour and Hosni Radwan are well-known throughout the Arab World with work in museums and private collections around the globe but have not exhibited in the Pacific Northwest. Zahr means to rectify that "by providing an outpost for Palestinian voices" in the United States for The Zawyeh Gallery artists to reach a new audience here.

In the 1970s and 1980s, political posters were produced extensively by the Palestinian Liberation Organization (PLO) with contributions from Palestinian, Arab, and international artists. Since that time, posters have represented a long tradition of supporting justice for the Palestinian cause and the ongoing aspiration for their independence.

"Posters for Gaza" sheds light on the humanitarian crisis taking place in Gaza and demands recognition for Palestinian rights. This exhibit follows two previous shows, "We Are Palestine," which touched on universal themes of the Holy Land and focused on humanizing the Palestinian people. "PALESTINE: Tracing Boundaries" focused more on architecture and featured Jerusalem (Al-Quds) through architectural interpretations, in addition to the impacts of imposed walls and boundary edges on the lives of the indigenous people.

"My role is to create space and time for this art," said Zahr who hopes visitors will let the political posters speak for themselves while gaining a deeper understanding and empathy for the humanity of the Palestinian people in Gaza.

"I remain steadfast in my conviction to allow for Palestinian voices to be expressed through art and culture. I believe it's the just and necessary gesture of solidarity for a people that have been unfairly dehumanized, oppressed, dispossessed, forcibly displaced, humiliated and subjugated for decades." Zahr invites the community "to view this unique collection in the spirit of empathy and curiosity, drawing their own artful interpretations."

Uniformly sized at 42 x 30 cm (16.54 x 11.81 inches) and designed in a simplified manner, all the posters are printed in vivid colors with bold graphics on fine-art archival paper reflecting the uniqueness of each artist's style, materials and underlying narratives.

**Posters** may be purchased online with 100% of proceeds benefiting The Palestine Red Crescent Society which provides medical aid to children, men and women in Gaza.

**Featured Artists:** Nabil Anani, Sliman Mansour, Hosni Radwan, Yazan Abu Salameh, Asad Azi, Mohammed Joha, Hazem Harb, Aude Abou Nasr, Dyala Moshtaha, Khaled El Haber, Hassan Manasrah, Vera Tamari, Mahdi Baraghithi, Rana Samara, Jafar Dajani, Saher Nassar, Haneen Nazzal, Issam Al-Haj Ibrahim, Majdulin Nasrallah, Bashir Makhoul, Tayseer Barakat. Bashar Alhroub, Wadei Khaled, Reda Alyasari, Bashar Khalaf and Fuad Alyamani.

Learn more at suzannezahr.com/posters-for-gaza and zawyeh.net

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## SOCIAL MEDIA & EVENT CALENDAR MESSAGE:

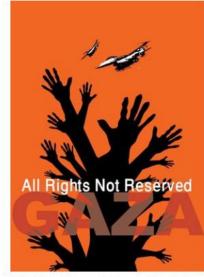
SZ Gallery presents *Posters for Gaza,* a group exhibit of political posters created by 26 Palestinian and Arab artists Friday, April. 5 at 5 p.m. during the Mercer Island First Friday Art Walk in observance of Arab-American Heritage Month in April.

The collection of uniformly sized, colorful and striking political posters created by Palestinian artists draw attention to the plight of the people of Gaza. In keeping with Palestinian history of the 1970s and 1980s, political posters were produced extensively by the Palestinian Liberation Organization (PLO) with contributions from Palestinian, Arab, and international artists. Since that time, posters have represented a long tradition of supporting justice for the Palestinian cause and the ongoing aspiration for their independence.

Learn more at www.suzannezahr.com/artists

04.05.2024 - 05.31.2024

Art Opening : Friday, April 5th, 5-8pm Art Reception : Friday, May 3rd, 5-8pm



All Rights Not Reserved - Gaza by Hosni Radwan



Palestinian Woman by Hassan Manasrah



The Orange Tree by Issam Al-Haj Ibrahim

## **MEDIA ADVISORY**

Attention: Editors/Producers/Reporters

April 1, 2024

## "Posters for Gaza" Exhibit Creates Space for Palestinian Voices During Arab-American Heritage Month

Mercer Island Architect Suzanne Zahr will open an art exhibit featuring political posters created by Palestinian artists to raise funds for The Palestine Red Crescent Society in Gaza.

**WHO:** SZ Gallery owner, Suzanne Zahr of Mercer Island and The<u>Zawyeh Gallery</u> in Ramallah, Palestine and Dubai.

**WHAT:** Opening of the "Posters for Gaza" art exhibit featuring political posters created by 26 Palestinian and Arab artists showing for the first time in the United States during Arab-American Heritage Month.

WHEN: Opening Friday, Jan. 5, 5 - 8 p.m., closing on May 31, 2024

WHERE: SZ Gallery, 2441 76th Ave SE, Suite 160, Mercer Island, WA 98040

**WHY:** The exhibit sheds light on the humanitarian crisis taking place in Gaza, recognizes the rights of the Palestinians people and is a fundraiser, with 100% of proceeds benefiting The Palestine Red Crescent Society which provides medical aid to children, men and women in Gaza.

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