SUHEIL SHAABAN BADDOR

Waiting

A Philosophical and Artistic Journey



Contents

In painting and in sculpture, Suheil Shaaban Baddor returns to one human condition: waiting. His anonymous figures stay alert, recline or play music, holding hope and pain together.

Prelude 1

Painting 7

Sculpture 26

Honours 35

Curriculum Vitae 41

Suheil Shaaban Baddor

Visual Artist | Poet | Researcher | Art Critic

Suheil Shaaban Baddor is a Syrian visual artist, born in Syria in 1957. He studied Philosophy before pursuing Fine Arts at the University of Damascus.

Throughout his distinguished artistic career, Baddor has held numerous solo exhibitions and participated in more than 50 group exhibitions across the Middle East, Europe, Asia, and the United States.

His artistic practice encompasses painting, sculpture, and participation in international art symposia, workshops, and cultural events. He has contributed to the international art scene through his participation in major exhibitions, biennials, and artistic gatherings.

In addition to his visual art practice, Baddor is a poet, researcher, and art critic. He has published four poetry collections and contributed articles and critical writings to Arab and Emirati newspapers.

His artistic and intellectual achievements have earned him numerous awards and honors, including an honorary doctorate conferred by the State of Palestine in recognition of his contributions to art and culture.

He currently resides in the United Arab Emirates, where he is dedicated full-time to his artistic practice. He holds a UAE Golden Residency under the Creative and Talented Individuals category.



Waiting

A Philosophical and Artistic Journey

Waiting is a profound human experience. It is not merely a passage of wasted time, but a state that places the individual in confrontation with the unknown. Here, time loses its conventional meaning, and moments begin to acquire a deeper significance. A transformation then begins, from absence to presence.

Waiting is one of the most profound dialogues between hope and the unknown. It implies accepting that we remain suspended in a state of uncertainty. In this state, the soul enters into an encounter with many deep and difficult questions.

This is where my artistic journey began, through painting, drawing, and sculpture, as I sought to explore the state of waiting and its persistent, urgent questions. Waiting has always been present in every detail of my life, whether small or significant. Perhaps, in many of its manifestations, it is an elusive and fluid state, one that resists any precise interpretation.

Yet it carries two ever-present faces: hope and pain.

Waiting is a vast space that encompasses the full range of human impulses and emotions.

I have been deeply drawn to the many states of waiting and anticipation expressed through human faces and their reactions: anxiety, sleeplessness, joy, happiness, triumph, loss... Yet I have always imbued my figures with a positive sense of waiting, an anticipation of a better reality to come, despite having grown up in an environment that offered little hope, for many different reasons.

Waiting, continued

Yet it carries two ever-present faces: hope and pain.

In my artistic works, some of which I have published in two volumes, I titled the latter Sonata of Waiting. It presents a collection of oil paintings, drawings, and sculptures.

My human forms appear abstract and anonymous, stripped of all the features that distinguish them or grant them a specific identity. They become representations of the human self alone.

I have adopted a distorted and non-realistic approach to the creation of form. Consequently, I have relied on the content of the work and its implications as the primary means of expression.

My visual compositions are imbued with hope, despite the almost perpetual state of waiting that inhabits them. My figures may appear alert, reclining, or playing a musical instrument, challenging the passage of time through music while waiting for their anticipation to be fulfilled.

They remain far removed from extremity, carrying within them a profound sense of peace, security, and tranquillity. Yet the passage of time is clearly inscribed upon the features of my figures, regardless of their postures or states of being.

Through this, I have sought to enter the inner depths of the experience of waiting, attempting to explore reality and unveil the faces of waiting that I have brought into existence.

Many of my figures seem to suggest that they have waited for a long time, until waiting itself has exhausted them.

Waiting, continued

a confrontation with the self and the unknown

Nevertheless, I have attempted to shape the subject in such a way that these same figures appear to have been waiting for only a few minutes. In doing so, I seek to grant them the legitimacy of remaining still, of enduring, and of continuing to wait.

In my artistic project, I rely on sensory and expressive content in both oil painting and sculpture.

Waiting is an inevitable state that accompanies us until the end of life. For this reason, I have chosen not to borrow an actual person, face, or garment through direct imitation of reality.

Instead, mental exploration and imaginative wandering within the artwork have become the platform from which I engage in dialogue with waiting. I manipulate form without harshness, approaching it with tenderness, so as not to burden it.

Ultimately, waiting is a confrontation with the self and the unknown. Yet it is also a state in which we remain at the height of our awareness, alert and attentive to what is yet to come.

And always, after every period of waiting, another begins.

Waiting is an inner movement, rich with possibilities, that gives birth to a creative and profoundly human expression.



Playing

challenging the passage of time through music

Detail, Plate 2

Waiting is one of the most profound dialogues between hope and the unknown.



Plate 1



Plate 2





Plates 3 and 4



while waiting for their anticipation to be fulfilled

Plate 5



Alert

alert and attentive to what is yet to come

Detail, Plate 9

imbued my figures with a positive sense of waiting



Plate 6





Plates 7 and 8



Plate 9



anxiety, sleeplessness, joy, happiness, triumph, loss

Plate 10





Plates 11 and 12

an elusive and fluid state



Plate 13



Stillness

the legitimacy of remaining still

Detail, Plate 14



Plate 14



Plate 15

a profound sense of peace, security, and tranquillity





Plates 16 and 17



Faces

human faces and their reactions

Detail, Plate 18

the passage of time is clearly inscribed upon the features of my figures



Plate 18





Plates 19 and 20



Sculpture

form without harshness, approaching it with tenderness

Plate 21

rich with possibilities



Plate 22



at the height of our awareness

Plate 23





Plates 24 and 25

of enduring, and of continuing to wait



Plate 26



Plate 27





Plates 28 and 29

representations of the human self alone



Plate 30

a creative and profoundly human expression



Plate 31

Honours



قرار سامي

المنظمات المتحدة

المنظمة الدولية لحقوق الإنسان وشؤون اللاجئين

استنادًا إلى الصلاحيات المخوّلة لنا بموجب النظام الأساسي للمنظمة الدولية لحقوق الإنسان وشؤون اللاجئين

وانطلاقًا من دور المنظمة في تعزيز ودعم كرامة وحقوق الانسان، وتمثيل قيم الإنسانية عالميًا نقرر ما يلي:

منح صفة "سفير النوايا الحسنة" للفن والابداع

الفنان / سهيل بدور

تقديرًا لمسيرته الإنسانية ومساهماته في دعم العمل الفني الابداعي

المهام والصلاحيات

- تمثيل المنظمة في المحافل الإنسانية والإعلامية والثقافية محليًا ودوليًا.
- المساهمة في حشد الدعم والتأييد للقضايا والبرامج التي تتبناها المنظمة.
- الدفاع عن القضايا الإنسانية وقضايا اللاجئين وفق مبادئ المنظمة ورسالتها.
- المشاركة في الحملات التوعوية لتعزيز قيم العدالة والسلام وحقوق الإنسان.
- تقديم الدعم الفني والإسناد اللازم لتمويل مشاريع وبرامج المنظمة.
- التعاون مع الإدارات المختصة في المنظمة بما يحقق الأهداف المشتركة.
- التمثيل الانساني للمنظمة وتعزيز حضورها الدولي.

ولاية السفير

تمتد الولاية لمدة سنة ميلادية ابتداء من تاريخ 2026-01-01 ويتم التجديد بناءً على قرار الامانه العامة

الجهات المعنية

الأمانة العامة - إدارة العلاقات الدولية - الممثلية الإقليمية المختصة - المركز الاعلامي – سعادة السفير لاستكمال الإجراءات

المفوض السامي

للشرق الاوسط وشمال افريقيا

INFO@IOHR-US.ORG

WWW.IOHR-US.

GOODWILL AMBASSADOR FOR ART AND CREATIVITY

International Organization for Human Rights and Refugee Affairs

Supreme Decree granting the artist Suheil Baddor the title of “Goodwill Ambassador” for Art and Creativity, in appreciation of his humanitarian journey and his contributions to supporting creative artistic work.

One-year term starting from 01-01-2026

Full English translation on the following page

Honours English Translation of the Decree

SUPREME DECREE

United Organizations

International Organization for Human Rights and Refugee Affairs

Pursuant to the powers vested in us under the Statute of the International Organization for Human Rights and Refugee Affairs, and proceeding from the Organization's role in promoting and supporting human dignity and human rights, and in representing humanitarian values worldwide, we decide the following:

Granting the title of "Goodwill Ambassador" for Art and Creativity

to the Artist / Suheil Baddor

in appreciation of his humanitarian journey and his contributions to supporting creative artistic work

DUTIES AND POWERS

- Representing the Organization in humanitarian, media and cultural forums, locally and internationally.
- Contributing to mobilizing support and advocacy for the causes and programs adopted by the Organization.
- Defending humanitarian causes and refugee issues in accordance with the Organization's principles and mission.
- Participating in awareness campaigns to promote the values of justice, peace and human rights.
- Providing the technical support and backing necessary to fund the Organization's projects and programs.
- Cooperating with the competent departments of the Organization to achieve the shared objectives.
- The humanitarian representation of the Organization and the enhancement of its international presence.

TERM OF THE AMBASSADOR

The term extends for one calendar year, starting from 01-01-2026, and is renewed by decision of the General Secretariat.

CONCERNED PARTIES

The General Secretariat – International Relations Department – Competent Regional Representation – Media Center – His Excellency the Ambassador, to complete the procedures.

High Commissioner for the Middle East and North Africa

Honours



Small Works Jury, Muscat, Oman



Al-Adasi Award for Arts and Architecture, Egypt



Dubai International Symposium



Adana Symposium, Arnica Art Land, Turkey

Honours



Armenia International Symposium, Yerevan



Mahres Festival



Mersin International Symposium, Turkey



Syrian Ministry of Culture

Honours



Grand Prize and Honour, Dubai Festival, Guinness Group



Dubai Symposium and Rashid Center, 2015



Sultan Al Owais Foundation, Dubai



Rashid Center for Communication

Honours



Hurghada International Arts Symposium, Egypt



City of Setif, Algeria



Mediterranean Symposium, Egypt



Sohar International Sculpture Symposium

Curriculum Vitae

Education	Studied Philosophy Studied Fine Arts at the University of Damascus, Syria
Memberships	Member of the Syrian Artists' Syndicate Member of the Arab Association of Fine Artists Member of the Emirates Fine Arts Society Honorary Member of the International Asian Art Center, Nebraska, USA
International Invitations	Special invitation from the International Asian Art Center, Nebraska, USA Special invitation from the Bemis Arts Center, Omaha, USA Invitation from the Camille Nelson Art Center, Nebraska City, USA
Exhibitions and Art Events	Participated in exhibitions organized by the Syrian Ministry of Culture from 1980 to 2008 Participated in exhibitions organized by the Emirates Fine Arts Society Participated in exhibitions at Bait Al Shamsi Arts Participated in two editions of the Sharjah Biennial Participated in two editions of Art Dubai Participated in Art Paris Abu Dhabi Participated in workshops at Bait Al Shamsi Arts, where he was also one of the resident artists

Solo Exhibitions, 1986–2026

Syria	Emaar Gallery Damascus Gallery Ishtar Gallery
United Arab Emirates	Cultural Foundation, Abu Dhabi (two exhibitions) Al Shamsi Art Gallery Sharjah Museum Gallery 4 Walls Mercato Center Khan Murjan, Wafi Center Qubab Gallery, Abu Dhabi
Jordan	Orient Gallery
Kuwait	Tilal Gallery Dan Gallery
Bahrain	Albareh Gallery
Egypt	Nile Gallery Azad Gallery
Oman	Bait Muzna Gallery, Muscat
United States	International Asian Art Center, Nebraska

International Art Symposia and Workshops, 2000–2026

Syria	First Damascus Fine Arts Symposium
Jordan	Palette Symposium
Egypt	Luxor International Symposium Ostraka International Symposium Mediterranean International Symposium, Alexandria Hurghada International Symposium
Morocco	First and Second Fine Arts Symposiums, Kenitra Fez International Arts Festival
Algeria	Setif International Symposium
Lebanon	Ehden Symposium
Iraq	First Fine Arts Symposium Al-Wasiti International Symposium
United Arab Emirates	Arab Sculpture Symposium, organized by the Cultural and Scientific Association Rashid Center Symposium (two editions)
Tunisia	Mahres International Symposium (four editions) Hammamet Symposium Al-Makan International Symposium
Bulgaria	Rusalka International Symposium
Turkey	Istanbul University Avcilar Symposium Mersin City Symposium

And always, after every period of waiting, another begins.

Dr. Suheil Baddor

Plastic Artist

Paint, Sculpture

+971 501454184

+971 43930069

sbaddor@gmail.com

Facebook: Suheil Baddor

Instagram: suheilbaddor

UAE, Dubai, Al Shindagha, Crossroads of Civilization Museum