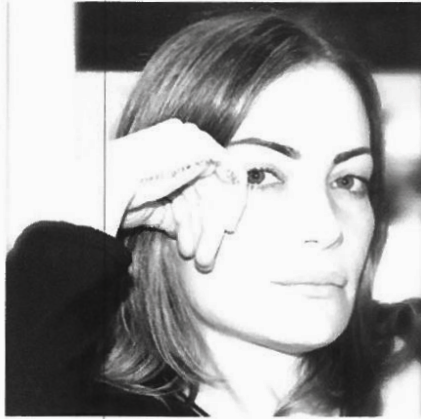


TWO THOUSAND

School of Architecture and Design
Department of Fine Arts and Foundation Studies
FINE ARTS ALUMNI BIENNIAL





MIREILLE MERHEJ

BIOGRAPHY

Born in 1973 in Lebanon, Mireille Merhej lives and works in Beirut.

After completing her AA in graphic design and BA in fine arts at the Lebanese American University in Beirut, Merhej headed to Paris where she obtained her masters in decorative painting.

Since the year 2000 she has been working with renowned Lebanese interior designers—painting murals, ceilings and walls with different techniques and textures for residential and commercial spaces.

In 2009 Merhej abandoned her work to focus on her own creative art work, mostly paintings on canvas where she deals with her nostalgia for her past memories and childhood using images from magazines news papers or pictures taken by the artist herself. “Looking” at the paintings of Mireille Merhej from a distance, one instantly recalls the works of Jacque de la Villegle, Mimmo Rotella and Raymond Haines among many artists who have adopted the iconic style of dé-collage or ripped street posters.

ARTIST STATEMENT

“In my works I try to transform scattered images floating in my mind into an interesting work of art”, she said. It is her ability to convert imagination into something more real which lies at the basis of her art. She attempts to put back together all those personal and nostalgic memories into an acceptable form - like putting together a broken piece of pottery—knowing that however one tries there is no escape from the fact that traces of fractures will always remain. Merhej admires her past and cherishes what it contains. She finds it inspirational and mystic and each one of the images she selects is related to a story whose importance has not faded to her.



Untitled
W=268 H= 160 cm
Acrylic on canvas