

In Between Worlds, Chagall and contemporary artists

Along with works of Chagall that came from different places and different periods in his life, works by 11 contemporary artists are on display. Out of the wealth themes that Chagall touches on, I have selected some of them that I have found relevant to our lives here and now.

He wandered and lived between places, between cultures and languages.

In his art, Chagall Connects & Combines this different worlds

In his video work "The messenger" Daniel Kitzlis, the artist himself is the messenger who connects places and religions:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7SbZSYJi6Lk>



Daniel Kiczales, De Boodschapper, (still) single – kanaalvideo, 17:18 min., 2011

We see the artist and musician, Kitzlis standing on the road to the Jerusalem Art Academy on Mount Scopus with his face to the Palestinian village of Al Issawiya. In East Jerusalem. The artist with his guitar answers the muezzin's call to prayer 5 times a day. It creates an impossible sound dialogue. After all, one hears and the other does not. But he is the messenger who maybe, brings hope for a dialog between the Muslims and the Jews. Between East side of the city and West of Jerusalem,.

Most of the participating artists emigrated, partly out of necessity and partly out of desire. it was only natural that clash between cultures, between generations

will happen. This clash we can see in the photo collages made by Soody Sharifi. Soody was born in Tehran, lives and works in Houston. Here we see 14th, 15th -century Persian miniatures depicting social situations. Or illustrated a story. Soody plants in them situations from her surroundings. We see Iranian immigrants in America. Planted in an old miniature, we see them dressed in traditional clothes, playing Western games,.

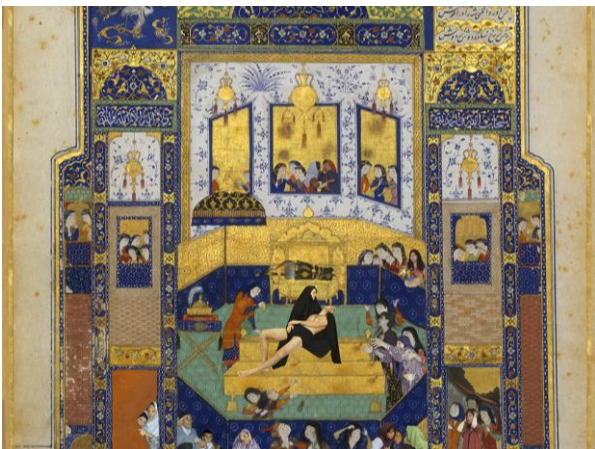


Soody Sharifi, *Iedereen speelt billiard... Soms* (Maxiatuurserie), archief inkjetafdruk, 92.08 x 100.97 cm., 2009

In this work, we see in the center of the scene mother holding her dead son.

The name this work is: Martyr\dom

This familiar image of a mother carrying her dead son, is beyond a particular culture or religion.



Hamid paints main figures from biblical stories such as Adam and Eve, Hagar or Moses. But, he does not just paint the common figures between the three monotheistic religions. In his big drawings he combines characters from Greek mythology, what we see in the media, the latest news on television and street fashion. Here we see David and Goliath. Only here, David carries Galit's head in his hand. Which more reminds the story of Judith holding the head of Holofernes, after she Cut it Off, or Perseus holding the head of Meduza, and you probably remember the beheading of the American journalist by ISIS in 2014, that was broadcast live!



Hamid El Kanbouhi, David en Golyat (uit de serie Mal Din dymak? / wie heeft geplast in mijn brein?), acryl op papier, 2015

Sirin Neshat went back to visit Iran after the revolution. She was stunned to discover the great changes of the country in which she was born and raised .And more than that, to understand how much the place of women in the struggle is not mentioned. In her art she gives voice to these women. As we see here in still from video work. She situated women in this public place and give them the freedom of presence which was of taken from them.



Shirin Neshat, Vervoering (still), zilveren prent op barietpapier, 1999
(met dank aan Lumen Travo Galerie)

Masha was born in Moscow and immigrated to the Netherlands. She explored the art along the pilgrim routes. And, inspired by Romanesque characters, she created a series that called cathedral. In this series, as in this painting, the lines of the characters merged. It is not clear where man begins and where the contours of the angel's end. There is no difference between the angel and the ordinary man, and it is impossible to know who is the sinner and who is the holy one.



Masha Trebukova, Jakob en de Engel, carborundum (siliciumcarbide) afdruk op textiel, 2017

Van Haver's three inter\connected panels refer to the Renaissance religious triptychs which are part of church altar. Van Haver uses this familiar pattern as a framework for a contemporary scene, painting people from her neighborhood in

Amsterdam. Most of them are immigrants. In her work she raises questions .about identity and ethnicity

But maybe she also refers to scene of the three angels telling Abraham about the birth of Isaac, or perhaps, these are the three wise men blessing the birth of Jesus.



Raquel van Haver, Definitie van een systeem 1, Olieverf, hars, gips, gel, houtskool, haar, as, hout, papier en teer op jute, 295 x 500 cm, 2017. (copyright van de kunstenaar, met dank aan Jack Bell galerie) Foto: Jack Bell galerie

These artists respond to cultural and social moral norms, and at the same time - .they dream of religious and spiritual freedom