

## **GEORGE MERHEB**

### “Writings”

March 15<sup>th</sup> – March 31<sup>st</sup>, 2018

Mark Hachem Gallery - Beirut is delighted to present “Writings”, a solo exhibition by Lebanese artist George Merheb, featuring a new body of works.

Haunted by letters, and their dimension in time and space, their energy beyond their shape, George Merheb offers a systematic demolition of traditional writings in his works for the benefit of a new global language.

Daisy Abi Jaber writes: “For George Merheb, writing and drawing have shared destinies. He juggles with lines, colors and letters with a dizzying mixture of features and curves. His brush navigates the canvas in a falsely chaotic way, eliminating alphabets, codified drawings that refer to ideas or simply an expression or impression that becomes a performance.

Merheb’s rebellion against words and the norm of their significance proposes a new insight into the artist’s manifestation, without falling into the rules and codes of their everyday usage. The brush strokes dance their way through the canvas to surpass what we are so accustomed to seeing with letters and words.

Abi Jaber continues to write “...This pictorial Babel questions the articulation between the plurality of languages and alphabets; transforming themselves permanently, as immobile and sometimes as abstract, but still animated by a supernatural magic of the artist’s gestures and actions proving that creativity never fades. A single piece of data can create thousands of perspectives and can exceed all the borders of the world.”

Born in Lebanon in 1960, Merheb has obtained a master’s degree in drawing and painting from the Lebanese University of Beirut, Lebanon. He then studied in Venice, Italy from 1992 to 1996.

Merheb’s work has been featured in numerous solo and group exhibitions throughout Europe and the Arab world. George has also participated in several international fairs in France, Switzerland, Egypt and Lebanon.

His most noted accomplishments include limited edition lithography’s at the “National Museum” of Beirut, - Lebanon, a 450m2 painting of murals for “Chantier Fence” in Beirut Central District and 250m2 paintings of murals at “St Antoine Church” Baabdat, - Lebanon.