

(Nothing But) Flowers

This exhibition presents a survey of artists who have utilized the flower as a trope in their artwork. Starting from the work of Bibi Zogbé who consistently painted flowers throughout her career, the show explores the ways in which both modern and contemporary artists have subsequently expanded the visual possibilities of representing this particular natural element. Flowers have been represented as an ornamental form across history, but it is with the rise of genre painting that the flower becomes recognizable as a denaturalized marker of the beauty of art. This exhibition takes its title from the 1988 Talking Heads song, “(Nothing But) Flowers”, which satirically inverts the romanticist desire to return to a precapitalist state of nature. *(Nothing But) Flowers* considers the ways in which artists have challenged naturalism in art and have mobilized the flower as a trope to address social and political concerns.

(Nothing But) Flowers will feature a selection of works by Clara Abi-Nader, Willy Aractingi, Rima Amyuni, Dia Azzawi, Fadi Barrage, Chaza Charafeddine, Nasseer Chaura, Haroutiun Galentz, Hrair, Hiba Kalache, Burhan Karkoutly, Abdulrahman Katanani, Louay Kayali, Helen El-Khal, Theo Mansour, Ibrahim Marzouk, Fateh Moudaress, Omar Onsi, Aref El-Rayess, Carla Salem, Juliana Seraphim, Hala Schoukair, Hady Sy, Katya Traboulsi, Vera Yeramian, Khalil Zgheib, and Bibi Zogbé.