



Hazem Harb, Power Does Not Defeat Memory, Series 2018, Courtesy of the artist and Tabari Artspace.

## **Hazem Harb evokes the denied past of Palestine, constructing hidden realities through his collages.**

Sabsay is thrilled to announce the opening of 'Power Does Not Defeat Memory' by Palestinian artist Hazem Harb. The solo exhibition recovers else forgotten moments of Palestine's past from oblivion, reintroducing them in collages of photographic material and architectural shapes.

Assembling historical material of Palestine's past, including photographs, negatives and slides, the collages of Harb are rich in imagery symbolic of Palestinian culture and history. The exhibition does not only cast light on the present through the past and vice versa, but creates images from a construction of the historical material itself. "It's not easy to find this material because there's so much denied about Palestinian history," the artist says and

continues: "I want to put the images back into time. Philosophically time stopped at that moment [of the Naqba]. Now they are part of the present again."

While President Trump's travel ban has closed the door to people from some Arab countries like Syria and Yemen, prominent American art institutions such as the Met and MoMA have recently taken the opposite approach, concentrating on Arab and Palestinian art in their exhibition programs.

*"The international as well as the Danish art scene are currently experiencing an increased attentiveness to the work of Arab and Palestinian artists. For instance Danish-Palestinian artist Larissa Sansour has been selected to represent Denmark at*

POWER DOES NOT DEFEAT MEMORY

31 JANUARY – 23 MARCH 2019

*the Venice Biennale this year”* says Masha Faurischou.

Harb cuts reality apart to gather the fragments in the formation of a new whole, exploring the experience and memory of being in place and of being displaced. Place and space are seen in the present

while invoking a past of dwelling – a sense of belonging, which belongs to a time before Israel. *“Hazem Harb channels the painful story of his people entangled with his own into sublime aesthetic compositions, which transcend the Palestinian voice through powerful beauty”,* says Masha Faurischou.



Hazem Harb, photographed by Amman Al Attar, 2017

### About Hazem Harb

Born in 1980 in Gaza, Hazem Harb currently lives between Rome and Dubai. He completed his MFA at The European Institute of Design, Rome, Italy in 2009. Harb was awarded a residency at The

Delfina Foundation, London; Cite des Arts, Paris and Satellite, Dubai. In 2008, he was shortlisted for the A.M Qattan Young Artist of The Year award. His work is in the collections of The British Museum, Sharjah Art Foundation, Centre Pompidou, The Oriental Museum - Durham University, Salsali Private Museum, LACMA Los Angeles, Faurischou Foundation and Al Qattan Foundation among others.

Recent exhibitions include: 'Active Forms' Sharjah Art Foundation, Sharjah, UEA, 2018; 'El Beit', Tabari Artspace, Dubai, UAE, 2018; 'The Absence of Paths', Tunisian Pavilion, 57th Biennale di Venezia, Venice, Italy, 2017; 'CHERS AMIS', Centre Pompidou Museum, Paris, France, 2016; 'The Armory Show', New York, US, 2016; 'The Invisible Landscape & Concrete Futures' curated by Lara Khaldi, Salsali Private Museum, Dubai, March 2015; 'Al Baseera', Athr Gallery, Jeddah, 2014; 'I can imagine you without your home', Etemad Gallery, Dubai, UAE, 2012; 'Is this your first time in Gaza?', The Mosaic Rooms, A.M. Qattan Foundation, London, UK, 2010; 'Burned Bodies', Città dell'Altra Economia Rome, Italy, 2008.

### About SABSAY

Sabsay has been located in Central Copenhagen since May 2016. According to Sabsay, the purpose of the exhibition space is to enrich the Danish art scene with new names and practices as well as to encourage joint projects between international and local artists and curators.

**HAZEM HARB**

POWER DOES NOT DEFEAT MEMORY

31 JANUARY – 23 MARCH 2019

PRESS RELEASE

**Opening at SABSAY 31 January, 5-7 pm**

*Store Strandstræde 19, 1255 Copenhagen, Denmark.*

*Opening hours: Thursday to Friday 12-18 and Saturday 11-15 or by appointment.*

*Phone: +45 31 41 96 15*

*[www.sabsay.com](http://www.sabsay.com)*

**For further information, please contact:**

Masha Faurschou, Founder, Sabsay

Phone: +45 31 41 96 15

E-mail: [masha@sabsay.com](mailto:masha@sabsay.com)

Johanne Schrøder, Sabsay

Phone: +45 60 24 09 66

E-mail: [info@sabsay.com](mailto:info@sabsay.com) , [johanne@sabsay.com](mailto:johanne@sabsay.com)

**SABSAY**