

- New Horizons -  
Fotopaint  
by  
Adnan Myassar  
Happy New Year  
1955

What news about  
your Cosmic Art?  
I hope you have almost  
finished this book. I wish  
you best of luck and a prosperous  
new year. P.M.

New Address:  
P. O. Box 332  
Aleppo,  
Syria



"Ashamed"

by

A. Myassar

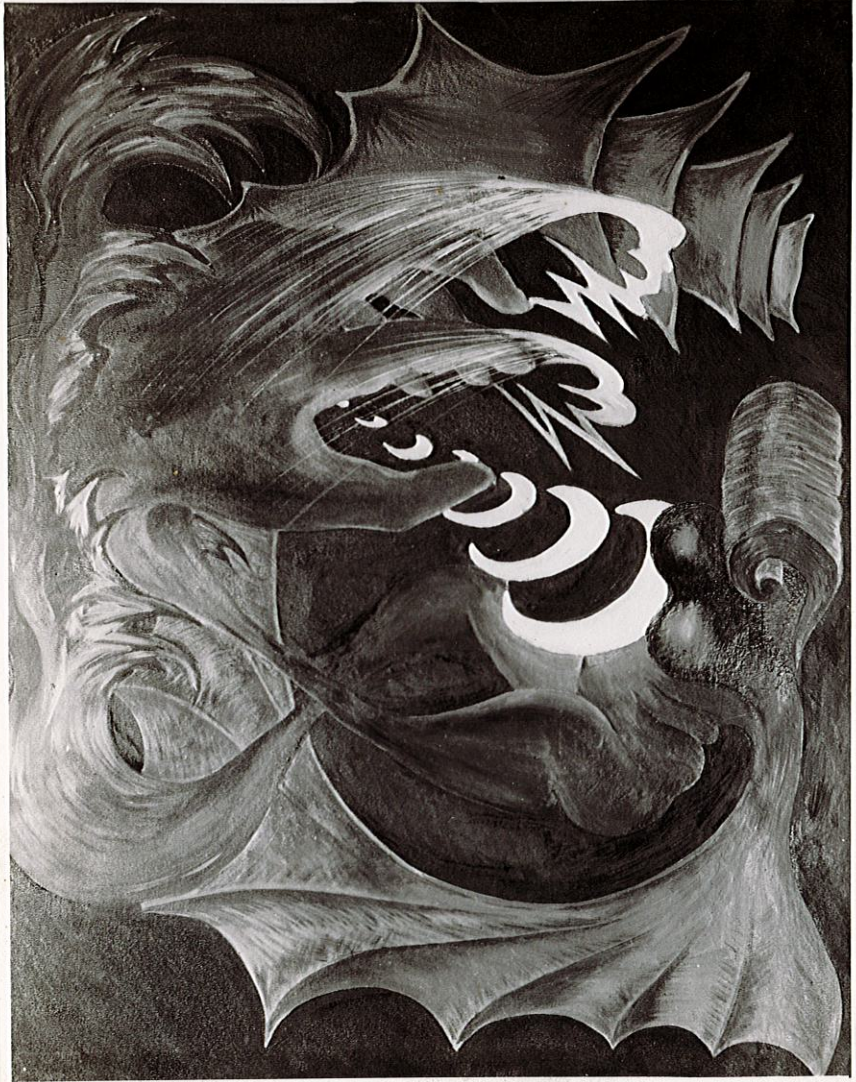
SYRIA

*With Best Wishes  
for*

*Christmas*

*& The New Year*

*Qallat Markab—Crusader Castle  
overlooking I.P.C. Syrian Terminal at Banias*



ROBERTSON  
ALLEN  
STAMP  
MAY 1944  
T. J. ROBERTSON

Handwritten signature

24

Temptation  
The dream of the cell wings the whole emotion  
to the continuous attacks of the wings; the sha-  
dow embibed with the vapors of the sacred flames  
resists.

Adnan Myassar

Miyassar

JUL 29 1959

0.

June  
JL

Jan?

Oct

Have P.E.  
Main to  
send  
P.D.

*[Faint, illegible handwriting in the upper left quadrant]*

*DeShon*

D A T A S H E E T      DATE. May 3, 1952 . . . .

CONCERNING AN INDIVIDUAL WORK OF MODERN RELIGIOUS ART:

(meaning art with some of these qualities: unconventional, synthetic, expressionistic, metaphysical, mystical, transcendental, dynamic, concerned with man's destiny and relation to the cosmos).

(Send to Dr. R. F. Paper, Syracuse University, Syracuse 10, N. Y.  
Sincere thanks to you.)

1. Name of Artist (please print) . Adna n Myassar . . . . .
2. Year of birth . 1921 . . . . . 3. Nationality . Syrian . . . . .
4. Permanent mail address . Esso Standard (Near East) Inc. . . . .  
P.O. Box 701 Damascus, Syria
5. Title of work . THE LAST DAY OF THE UNIVERSE . Year finished . 1951
7. Exact medium used (as: painting in oil, water color, serigraph, lithograph, sculpture in marble, etc.) Oil Painting . . . . .
8. Size 70 cm/100 Color Notes: Loud colors for the part representing the Hell, Joyful colors for the Heaven and Pale colors for the Resurrection.
9. Present owner and address . It is in my own possession.

(Use back of sheet if necessary in answering the following questions:)

10. Books and magazines (with dates) containing accounts of your work:
11. Under what conditions would you grant me permission to use a reproduction of this work in a comprehensive, illustrated book on modern religious art?  
Without any condition.
12. A frank, clear statement of the mood, sentiment, idea, or vision which you experienced, developed or expressed in this work, and perhaps indicate its occasion?  
The following questions will be answered in detail and sent to you under separate cover some time very soon.
13. What do you regard as your distinctive or characteristic technical manner, method or achievement?
14. Would you write a compact statement of your philosophical and religious background, view, or outlook?

15. Name and address of one artist (or more) who is producing significant works of the kind described above:

Adnan Myassar,  
Esso Standard,  
Homs - Syria.

---

December 12, 1953.

Dear friend,

It is nearly one year ago I have not heard anything from you. I hope you are enjoying a good time, healthy and happy life. How is your book on Cosmic Art?! I wish you are going on successfully.

I enclose herewith five black and white copies of my recent work, which two of them, "Temptation" and "Eyes of Eternity" are second reproduction. Copies of my first reproduction are available in your files. The third picture which is quite personal, represents a conception of my sister in law; the fourth & the 5th "Destiny" & "Frustration" may suit to your subject. Anyhow, I wonder how will be your comments.

I am preparing a private exhibition for over than 30 paintings which will

.../2

take place in some Art Club in Damascus on March or April 1954. A printed & illustrated booklet will be forwarded to you on due time.

I am anxious to hear at your earliest convenience about your last steps on Cosmic Art.

I take this opportunity to reciprocate your wishes for a Merry Christmas and a happy new year.

With my best wishes, I am,

Sincerely yours

AMyassar.

استو ستاندر (الشرق الأدنى) شركة مساهمة

بنابة القذافي - شارع الحجاز  
دمشق - سوريا

ESSO STANDARD (NEAR EAST), INC.

KUDSI BUILDING -- HEDJAZ STREET

DAMASCUS - SYRIA

Syria  
Mysora  
تلفر افيا : اسوسيز  
الهاتف : ١٢٠٧٦  
السجل التجاري ٢٢

Tel. Addr. : ESSO SALES

Phone : 12076

R. C. 32



Damascus, January 10, 1953.

Ref. : .....

Dear Dr. Piper,

I thank you very much for your greeting card and I reciprocate your wishes for the new year.

I enclose herewith a photo of my "Agony" which interpretation was given to you in my previous letter.

I am, indeed very glad that Cosmic Art is advancing steadily, and I wish you all success.

May I introduce to you Professor Mohamad Salim Rashdan, Mazra'a, Malki Building, N° 8 Damascus - Syria, who will be a good reference and a great help for a part of your work, as far as Semetic Histories, languages, and legenderies are concerned. Please write him a letter explaining to him what you want to inquire from him in the limits of his field. I have already talked to him in this respect, and he showed to me all willingness to assist in this matter.

make card

إسّو ستاندر (الشرق الأدنى) شركة مساهمة

بناية القديس - شارع الحجّاز  
دمشق - سوريا

ESSO SALES

2076



ESSO STANDARD (NEAR EAST), INC.

KUDSI BUILDING -- HEDJAZ STREET  
DAMASCUS - SYRIA



تلفرافياً : اسوسينز

الهاتف : ١٢٠٧٦

السجل التجاري ٣٢

Damascus, ..... 19.....

Ref. : .....

2

Regarding my work, I am now preparing a private exhibition of my paintings in the American Information Service some few months later. This exhibition will contain more than fourty tableaux of Surrealist and modern paintings. I will not forget, of course, to send you a pamphlet of this exhibition. However, in any case I will find some of these paintings suitable for illustrating the Cosmic Art, I will never hesitate to send you some of their pictures.

My cordial greetings and best wishes to you.

Address :

Adnan Myassar  
Esso Standard (N.E.) Inc.,  
Damascus - Syria.

A. Myassar

الشركة الاميركية للشحن والتوزيع ش.م.

دمشق - المرجه - بناية قباني وشريبي

AMERICAN LEVANT SHIPPING & DISTRIBUTING COMPANY, S. A.

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P. O. B. : 507 صندوق البريد : ٥٠٧

CABLE ADDRESS : AMLEVCO - DAMASCUS

CODES { A.B.C. 5th EDITION  
{ BENTLEYS COMPLETE PHRASE CODE

Dr. R. F. Piper,  
Professor of Philosophy,  
Syracuse University  
Syracuse 10, N.Y., U.S.A.

Damascus,  
March 25, 1952.

Dear Esteemed Friend,

I hasten to acknowledge and thank you for your kind letter of February 23, 1952. I am returning herewith the Data Sheet duly filled. I am grateful to you for putting down my name for a copy of your book. Indeed I am very anxious to receive this copy as soon as you finished printing as I am particularly interested in that subject.

I enclose herewith another copy of the photo called TEMPTATION in replacement of the one mislaid. I am pleased to let you know that I have just remembered that I have an interesting tableau which I left in my brother's house in Aleppo whose name is AGONY. I shall write him to photograph it and send me a copy. Immediately I receive it I will forward to you. Its idea expresses a certain strange feeling swinging between death and life. The apparent features of the Agonizing man reveal a hopeless life, while his inside hidden feelings demonstrate the contrary: A mighty force is bursting from the depth of his exhausted being, condensed in his voiceless shoutings. It is a picture of philosophical expression of a man in agony, lying on a road, Way of the Life. The background of the picture is divided into two main parts. One part is representing by a violet color an infinite atmosphere of hope, and the other part represents the countless colors of life. The whole atmosphere of the second part expresses an idea of a landscape where autumn and spring are united together.

Regarding this tableau which represents a Cosmic Creature in Agony, I am unable to give myself the authority of judging as to what extent it may be useful to your work. In this case I leave it to your discretion whenever you get the copy.

Dear Esteemed Friend, may I request that you need not hesitate at any time to ask me whenever you need any information that I can be of help to you from my end. The same thing for the illustrations of your book, I am willingly ready to cooperate with you in any special ideas that you wish to illustrate. I am offering my services to you with no aim to a recognition whatever, my aim is merely to cooperate with intellectual people like yourself with views towards introducing my art and exchanging ideas.

.... / 2

(16)

الشركة الاميركية للشحن والتوزيع ش.م.

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- 2 -

Concerning the new mosques which are novel in style, according to my researches I gathered up till the present time no mosques ever existed yet. All the mosques newly built, still maintain their ancient style from the earliest times of Islamism. The mosques built several centuries ago cannot be differentiated by their style from those which have been recently built, but only by the change of the color, stones, workmanship and materials. Modernized spirits and mentalities have not yet been introduced in the Art of Construction of religious places in the Islamic World.

The only evolution which occurred to the Islamic traditions is that loudspeakers have been introduced to some mosques, and the Sheikh, the man who has to call the Muslims in mosques to pray for God, announces his callings from the room below and loudspeakers erected on the top of the Minaret transmit the prayer to the people.

In connection with your enquiry about new styled mosques, I would like if you could clarify to me the idea as to what is exactly required, as I may find myself able to help you in that respect or in similar other ways.

Awaiting your further advice with great interest,  
I remain,

Yours Sincerely

*Adnan Myassar*  
Adnan Myassar

*Handwritten notes in Arabic:*  
السجل التجاري رقم ١٢  
١٢٣٧٣  
٥٠٧  
السجل التجاري رقم ١٢  
١٢٣٧٣  
٥٠٧

الشركة الاميركية الشرقية للشحن والنوزيع ش.م.

دمشق - المرحل - باب القنصلية - شارع بريجنر - Brazil St.

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- الفرع التجاري -

السجل التجاري رقم ١٢

تلفون : ١٢٣٧٣

صندوق البريد : ٥٠٧

Damascus

December 26, 1951

Dear Dr. Piper,

I refer to your last letter dated June 6, 1951, I am very sorry to be so late in answering you, this was due to the fact that, first of all I would not like to write you before I finish the plate I promised you "The Last Day of the Universe." On the other hand, I had not a firm residence during that time, because I was travelling between cities of the Country as you may notice from my different addresses and locations I used to give you in my previous letters.

I enclose herewith a photographic copy of the plate. I think it will suit your book on Cosmic Art. It is painted in a symbolic way with a surrealist spirit. Its interpretation is very clear for you as I believe and the following comments are for your guidance.

"In the Muslom Religion, people believe in the resurrection where all the creatures survive. Among human being, those whose acts were good during their lives on Earth will safely pass on a bridge so thin as a human hair to the heaven where the man will find every thing that he missed in the life: Maidens, lads, rivers of wine, honey...etc. Those whose acts were bad they should face lot of torture and fall in hell. Some of them would become wood and burn by fire. Others who saved a slightest creature even an insect from death, this latter will help him in the future life and carry him on its back to the other side to heaven. This is a brief idea about the "Last Day of the Universe" in the Islamie belief. I should think as you have had lot of studies on all religions existing in the world, in addition to your good knowledge in Art I have to leave the remainder of comments to you. I am sure you will interprete my plate in the best way I can imagine.

I kept the original with me and I am sending only a copy of the plate for the good reason I thought it will be satisfactory for printing purposes.

I should be very glad if you would kindly book one copy of your book and I will pay for it. I am afraid that I cannot find same easily in our bookshops.

.../...

الشركة الاميركية الشرقية للشحن والنويز ش.م.

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السجل التجاري رقم ١٢

تلفون : ١٢٣٧٣

صندوق البريد : ٥٠٧

I take this opportunity and send you the season's Greetings  
and all good wishes for a Happy and Prosperous New Year.

Yours sincerely

*Adnan Myassar*

Adnan Myassar

Please address to the following  
Adnan Myassar  
Amlevco Damascus,  
P.O.Box 507  
Damascus, Syria

Dr. Raymond F. Piper  
Professor of Philosophy  
Syracuse University  
Syracuse 10, N.Y. U.S.A.

Rem  
96  
B 4

Rem  
Camp  
Duck  
Duck

My room  
B 4

Damascus, Feb. 23. 1951

Feb.  
1951

Dear Esteemed Friend,

I received your letter dated Nov. 24 1950 and I understood that mailed under separate cover several sheets from your work and your photo. Thank you very much for the consideration you have given to my drawings and I promise you to pay my full attention to your project. I did not write to you as soon as I received your letter, because I was waiting for the package you have sent separately to start studying your purpose in greater detail. But an important business obliged me to leave for Damascus and I remained here till now. I wrote to a friend of mine in Aleppo and asked him to tell the postman to refer all my letters to Damascus. But unfortunately this package was kept in the Post Office for about a month, then it was returned back to you. I am very sorry for this bad coincidence, and please re mail it as soon as it reaches you with the same stamps and without paying any extra charge to the following address: Adnan Myassar c/o Zahir Fansa - New Awkaaf Building - Aleppo - Syria. This friend may transfer it to me in any time I am out of home.

I am thinking to prepare two special plates for your book from the following subjects in an abstract form:

1. Ankar and Nakeer: The two angels who investigate with the deads immediately after the burrial and hit them for a every bad thing they have done during the life. It is very interesting this Islamic Superstition.
2. The last day of the Univers or the Resurrection as described in the Koran.

Please write to me your opinion about these two subjects if they were O.K. for your purpose. I am making some arrangements in order to travel to some part in the United States; so, I hope to meet you some time in the near future

But an important business obliged me to leave for Damascus and I remained here till now. I wrote to a friend of mine in Aleppo and asked him to tell the postman to refer all my letters to Damascus. But unfortunately this package was kept in the Post Office for about a month, then it was returned back to you. I am very sorry for this bad coincidence, and please remail it as soon as it reaches you with the same stamps and without paying any extra charge to the following address: Adnan Myassar c/o Zahir Fansa - New Awkaaf Building - Aleppo - Syria. This friend may transfer it to me in any time I am out of home.

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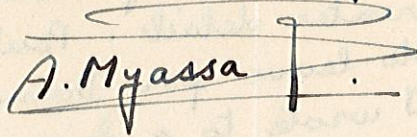
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2. The last day of the Univer or the Resurrection as described in the Koran.

Please write to me your opinion about these two subjects if they were O.K. for your purpose. I am making some arrangements in order to travel to some part in the United States; so, I hope to meet you some time in the near future.

I will be very glad if you can give me the address of the Surrealist Artist the Spanish "Salvador Dali" who is living in the U.S.A. now. Thank you very much for the addresses of galleries you have written to me.

I am sending to you in this letter a snapshot of me.

Yours very truly

A. Myassa

# Z. A. & O. SH. MYASSAR

IMPORT - EXPORT - AGENCIES

P. O. B 517 - TEL. 8-46

ALEPPO, SYRIA.

Adnan Sh. Myassar  
Aleppo, November 15, 1950

Dr. R.F. Piper  
Professor of Philosophy  
Syracuse University  
Syracuse 10, N.Y., USA.

Dear Sir,

My friend F. A. Moodarress gave me your address and asked me to send to you some photographs of my paintings for your illustrated book on COSMIC ART.

Herewith, please find two photos with few words written on the back of each one for your guidance.

In case that they will not satisfy your requirements, please :

1. let me know, so I would draw on your request new plates taking as a background, the Koran, the Prophet statements ( al Hadith ) , and the very old legends of Islam which are still maintaining their colorful thoughts.

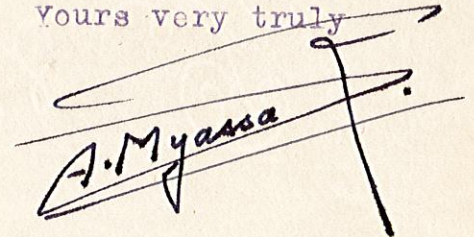
2. publish them if possible in American magazines after being briefly introduced by you.

I should be very glad to know names and addresses of any one who can help me to exhibit and sale my works in American Galleries.

I would like also to draw your attention to the fact that " unfortunately " I do not like to exhibit or to publish a MODERN/ART our countries.

in

Yours very truly

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "A. Myassar". The signature is written in a cursive style and is enclosed within a large, hand-drawn scribble that consists of several overlapping lines.

N.B.

Please find three photos from Mr. Moodarress for you.

Address :

Adnan Sh. Myassar  
P.O. Box 517  
Aleppo - Syria