

art nub beirut

g a b y m a a m a r y

BEIRUT FINE ART HERITAGE RESCUE

A non-governmental initiative

The blast in Beirut Port on August 4, 2020 was devastating to the city, its people, its heritage and to the fine art sector. Many artworks are in need of urgent conservation and/or restoration interventions. This sector remains neglected. Beirut's fine art suffered from severe physical and chemical damages.

Therefore, "*Beirut Fine Art Heritage Rescue*" is the first initiative to be launched by Gaby Maamary, founder of **Art Nub Beirut** shortly after the blast for direct and effective conservation strategy and tactics of safeguarding. The importance of the volunteer initiative is in its nature, as a supportive free-of-charge action plan in these difficult times. It aims to help the people whose artworks suffered from the blast with no discrimination nor prejudice when it comes to artworks, artists or social layers

The initiative is based upon three levels :

- Assessment of damage
- Conservation consultancy
- Restoration intervention

This volunteer initiative is in collaboration with Lebanese experts and authorities in the art scene and is dedicated to the conservation and restoration of artworks properties of artists, galleries, collectors, institutions and foundations.

Three weeks after the launching of Beirut Fine Art Heritage Rescue, we have conducted numerous visits and inspected different collections. The damaged artworks, properties of private owners, galleries and artists, were mostly paintings, drawing and sculptures by local and international artists, from the Contemporary all the way back to the 17TH century Flemish.

Many medias covered and supported the initiative, like MTV Lebanon, the French newspaper L'Orient-le-Jour, Gallery Magazine, and Canvas magazine (Dubai) along with online platforms based in Lebanon and the Middle East.

Beirut Fine Art Heritage Rescue is a non-governmental initiative of solidarity based on personal funding. Due to the current economic situation art materials are missing in Lebanon as for the restoration materials and equipment were always bought from Europe.

The capital control and the haircut we are subjected to in Lebanon blocked our account and transactions which made it impossible to order online. Moreover, the drastic devaluation of the local currency against the Dollar or Euro led to the downfall of our financial means.

The only escape route, to get the necessary materials to fulfil our tasks, remains, so to speak, by means of friends juggling between Lebanon and Europe with list of materials unrestricted by international flight regulations.

Dear Sir, Madame,

Even though our intention is to stand by our community to save our fine art cultural heritage, our financial means remains below our expectations and making it almost impossible to procure much needed products.

Therefore, we humbly request your support to the initiative the way you see fit.

Here is the list of urgent products we need:

Canvas roll for relining

Belgian Linen tight weave 175 gsm / 0.40 mm /width 226 cm / 4 rolls +

Belgian Linen tight weave 305 gsm / 0.70 mm /width 224 cm / 4 rolls +

Brushes

Retouching brushes pure sables. Long fine pointed tips, number 000, 00, 0, 1, 2, 3, 4

Facing paper

Bollore, 12 gr and 60 gr for painting / rolls

Glue

Plextol B 500 –

masking tape 3M blue 2090

Polyvinyl Alcohol

Acid-Free Gummed Linen Tape

Beva 371 Film

924 Adhesive Transfer Tape

Beva 371

Silicone Coated Polyester, Double Sided

Lascaux Acrylic Adhesive 360 498

Mylar Polyester Film Roll (Different Dimensions)

Polyvinyl Acetate

Css Vacuum-Release Film

Tylose

Dartek Cast Nylon Film

Filmoplast R archival tape

Rabbit Skin Glue

filmoplast P 90 archival tape

Wetting agent / Enzymes

Ox gall

Lipase

Amylase

protease

Paint

Maimeri restoration color (4 complete sets)

Ultra Violet Light

Bl 15 uv wand – 230 v

Uvl-28 / twin tubes / el series -230 v

Uv magnifier lamp 230 v

Uv twin tube portable

Varnishes

Godlen archival varnish

Retouch varnish aerosol matte

Retouch varnish bottle matte

Magnifier

Table magnifier lamps

Portable magnifier lamps 5X- 10X

Head mounted magnifier 5X – 10X

Max detail glasses

Infrared Reflectogram Camera IRR / OPUS INSTRUMENTS

Camera: APOLLO

Accessories:

macro lens

illumination kit

Filters:

1250 Short Wave Pass filter

1250-1510 Bandpass filter

1510 Long Wave Pass filter

Microscope

Leica F12 L

Respectfully,

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References:

Interview with Marcel Ghanem

<https://www.facebook.com/ArtNubBeirut/videos/2779378005618309>

Interview l'Orient le Jour

https://www.lorientlejour.com/article/1230566?fbclid=IwAR2lQzF9T1DxeULfRA_D0UMyAwTPsRb38ZEdwOOyZH2flNPYvG3uLeFDKv8

Interview Daraj Media

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=X_nmHjjLB5Q

Also check our Facebook and Instagram pages

<https://www.facebook.com/ArtNubBeirut>

<https://www.instagram.com/artnubbeirut/?hl=fr>