

Ahmad Askalany was Born in 1978 in *Nag Hammadi*, Upper Egypt and currently lives and works in Cairo. His works, produced with simple techniques, show an explicit connection with traditional materials and craft methods associated with the ancient cultures of Egypt. Characteristic of Askalany's works, whose subjects include human figures and animals inspired by his native town, are the aesthetic forms that place an emphasis on both structure and volume. Askalany's work challenges the very boundaries associated with the notion of what is perceived as crafts and arts, and manages to respond and contribute to the complexity of contemporary artistic practice. Askalany participated in various important solo and group exhibitions worldwide such as Mashrabiya Gallery, Cairo, Egypt; British Council, Cairo, Egypt; Le Parc de la Villette, Paris, France; The Arts academy, Rome, Italy; Holland Circle theatre, Netherland, the 4th Rome and Mediterranean countries Biennale, Sarajevo. Moreover, he represented Egypt at the 2009 Venice Biennale.