

**Qarm Qart** aka Carmine Cartolano was born in 1972 in Buonabitacolo (Salerno). He studied Arabic and Persian at Istituto Universitario Orientale in Naples. He has been living in Cairo since 1999 where he teaches Italian as a foreign language. He translated into Italian the Egyptian novel *“Essere Abbas Al-Abd”* by Ahmed Al-Aidy (Saggiatore), *“Colazione al Cairo”* by Mohammed Salmawy (Giunti) and *“I miei sogni nei tuoi”* by Alawiya Sobh (Mondadori). He translated into Arabic the political essay *“Al-haraka el-markeseyya fi Masr”*, published by Al-Markaz Al-Qawmi lil-targama, and the theatrical play *“Al-Qerba”* published by Dar Merit. In January 2012 he published *“Masriyyano - Yawmiyyat mosawwer italy”* (by Dar Al-Ayn), a collection of short stories written in Egyptian Arabic. In the last years he started to collaborate with the Italian photographer Derno Ricci (*“Mnawwareen”* in 2003) and they had a personal exhibition in 2007 at Mashrabia Gallery called *“2 Kitching”*. He took part into *“Strange on ground”* held at Falaky Gallery at the American University in Cairo in 2007 and he participated in the exhibition *“Oum Kalsoum – La quatrième pyramide”* held at the Institut du Monde Arabe in Paris.