



## At the opening of Ala Bashir's exhibition Illusion on 9th September at gallery of Nottingham Society of Artists .

From left - Sudad Shahlan producer who lives in Holland, he is also a well known artist. Alan Gardner, Ala Bashir, Dia Azzawi well known artist. Basim Mehdi, President of British - Iraqi Artists Society. Amel Bashir.



## Ala Bashir and the Power of Thinking

By Farouk Yousif, Art Critic

In his latest exhibition, Illusion, at the Nottingham Society of Artists in Nottingham, UK, from 4- 9 September 2018, Ala Bashir blends realism with illusion to produce dreamlike images of reality. Bashir's work does not comprise prettily painted scenes or mere technique, however. He confronts us with an intense reality borne of the duality of logical and abstract thought. He is The Thinker of artists. Bashir's paintings depict his thinking on the mystery of the human existence, of the universe. They invite us into hidden worlds of sophisticated imagery and wisdom a passing glance is incapable to capture. Bashir's works describe the depth of humanity in terms of comfort and torment, with notions of pain and suffering informed by his profession as a physician. Bashir contemplates

concepts of destiny, whereby his art moves beyond the here-and-now to connect us to the absolute.

Bashir's art lies at the intersection of symbolism and expressionism. Through his compact, tense style, he summarizes the story of mankind, which, in the face of unchanging human nature, must also face itself.

Ala Bashir, born in 1939, is a British-Iraqi artist and physician. He started painting as part of the Iraqi Impressionists Group - led by artist Hafid Al-Duroobi- at the end of the 1950s. Bashir kept his distance from what was then described as Iraqi Modern Art, to develop his own modernism in which thinking stands prominent. Bashir is The Thinker in an artist's gown.

We started with cats  
Christmas reminder

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Our gallery is open a  
used daily and most

The main gallery is a  
a day. Facilities inclu  
The lighting is excell

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