



# ART GALLERY CATALOGUE



*Dr. Mohammad Yousof Asefi was born in 1960 in Kabul Afghanistan. After graduating from high school in 1980 and honorable discharge from military service he was admitted to the Kabul Medical University from which he earned his MD degree in general medicine in 1989.*

*Drawing was a hobby for Asefi during his schooling; he began learning the art's real discipline from a well known artist Ghulam Sediq Sediq while in military service. Asefi continued his art education under instruction of another renowned artist of the time Nasrullah Sarwari. While pursuing his medical degree, he also displayed his art works at Kabul University's college of medicine.*

*Asefi experienced great pressure in trying to balance the demands of his artwork and his hospital responsibilities. Eventually he chose to devote himself entirely to painting, going on to produce thousands of art works that brought him both national and international fame.*

*Apart from his solo exhibitions—including 2020 in Melbourne, Australia; 2002 in Indonesia; 1994 in Pakistan; 1990 in the Czech Republic; and 1989 in Tajikistan—Asefi has displayed his art works, between 2007 and 2018, at the SAARC artist camps a exhibitions organized in India, Bhutan, Sri Lanka, Bangladesh, Maldives, Afghanistan, and Nepal.*

*Asefi's art works have also been displayed at different exhibitions in Dubai (1998), Islamabad (2001), New Delhi (2006), and Tehran (2013).*

*His work has earned him several medals of honor, trophies and awards, both nationally and internationally.*

*Dr. Asefi was nominated for an international award by National Geographic in 2004.*

*Dr. Asefi's artworks have decorated numerous private and public buildings in Afghanistan, including the presidential palace, the prime minister's palace and the Afghanistan parliament. Furthermore, the Nangarhar Palace, Bank-e-Mille Afghan and its Zabuli Museum, De-Afghanistan Bank, Afghanistan International Bank and, Ministry of Public Health (medical museum) were also decorated by Dr. Asefi's artworks.*

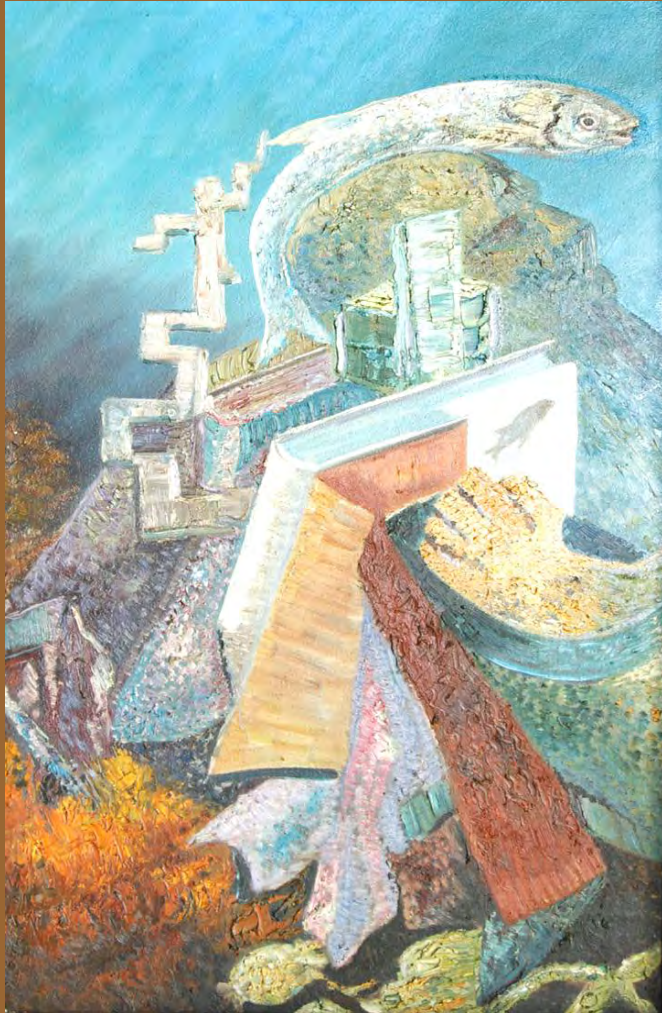


***As a tribute to his impact on Afghan art, a room at the Afghanistan National Gallery was named after him.***

*Dr. Asefi obtained membership in the Union of Artists Association of Afghanistan in 1984. He was appointed as deputy Chairman of the Consultative Association of Artists of Afghanistan in 1998. In 2004 he became a member of the Arts High Council of Afghanistan, and in 2018 he was appointed cultural advisor to the Upper House of the Parliament of Afghanistan.*

*Dr. Asefi founded his art gallery (AAG) in 2005, which was open until 10<sup>th</sup> May 2021.*

***He is currently working as a research scholar at the Arizona State University, USA.***



*Contemplation*

2010, "Contemplation," Oil on canvas,  
Symbolism, 100 X 65 cm

"Contemplation" was displayed at the SAARC  
Artist Comp and Exhibition in Thimphu, Bhutan  
and recognized as a Masterpiece.  
The artwork highlights the need for more  
attention to be paid to climate change.



*"Nature," 2010,  
Oil on canvas, Impressionism / Rough, 30 /60cm.*

*Nature*



*Double dealing*

*"Double dealing," 2014.  
Oil on canvas, Symbolism, 40 x 50 cm*



*Optimism*

*"Optimism," 2011. Oil on canvas, Impressionism 100 X 60 cm.*

*“Vortex,” 2015. Oil on canvas, Impressionism, 60 X 40 cm.*

*The painting with its lack of a horizon, illustrates the hopelessness of the political situation.*



*Vortex*



*Kabul late evening*

*“Kabul late evening,” 1994. Oil on canvas, Realism, 120 X 80 cm.*

*The painting illustrates the dire situation during the civil wars.*

*"Mourning," 2015, Oil, Expressionism, 100 X 60 cm.  
The painting describes the grief of parents over the death of their child.*



*Mourning*

*"The core of peace," 2012. Oil on canvas, Abstract, Kolaz 120 X 80 cm*

*The painting was displayed at the 15<sup>th</sup> Benel Asia (2012) in Bangladesh, which was honored by a Trophy.*



*The core of peace*



*Kabul old city before*

*“Kabul old city before ,” 1987. Oil on canvas with brush, Impressionism, 120 X 60 cm.*



*Kabul old city after*

*“Kabul old city after,” 2015. Oil on canvas with knife. Abstract 120 X 60 cm.*

*“Oppressed”2020, Oil on canvas, Realism/Abstract/kolaz, 140 X 90 cm.  
The painting displayed at the Melbourne exhibition on 2020.*



*Oppressed*



*Dreams*

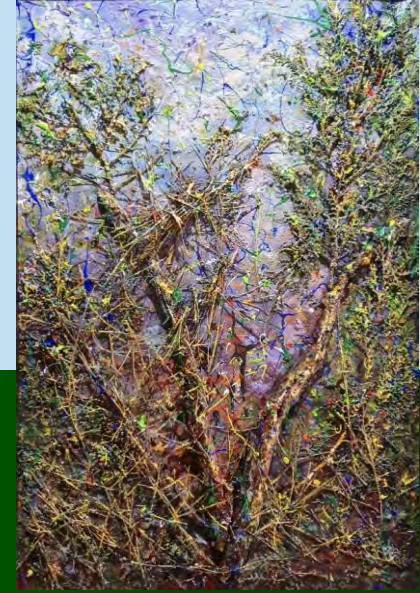
*“Dreams,”2010 , Oil on canvas, Symbolism 40 X 50 cm.*

*The art work illustrates the prolonged conflict and outsiders' intervention with a hope for gradually moving toward peace and prosperity.*





Windswept



*"Windswept," 2020. Oil on canvas, R.Ab+Colaz,  
Each 90 X 60 cm.*



*The series painting describing a wasted hope was  
exhibited in Australia.*

*“Pule Kheshtea Mosque,” 2016. Oil on canvas, Realism, 100 X 60 cm.  
The painting illustrates a famous mosque in Kabul and decorates the Afghanistan Parliament Building.*



*Pule Kheshtea Mosque*



*Kabul Old City “Char ChaTah”*

*“Char Cha Tah,” 2013. Oil on canvas, Impressionism, 200 X 100 cm.  
The painting illustrates old Kabul’s business bazaar Char Cha Tah (CCT). It was displayed at the first “Milade Kabul Festival.” The tableau won the first-place award. “CCT” soon become very famous and consequently multiple versions of it were painted for decoration of several famous places, such as the Presidential Palace, the Parliament building and other privately owned properties.*



*The outcome of the war*

*“The Outcome of the War” 1993. Oil on canvas 100 X 50 cm.*



*The grief of history*

*“The Grief of History,” 2003. Oil on canvas, symbolism, 70 X 50 cm.*

*The painting illustrates the grief over the destruction of the Bamiyan Buddhas. It was displayed at the Jakarta National Museum.*



*The aftermath of suicide*

*“The Aftermath of Suicide,” 2015. Oil on Canvas, 100 X 50 cm. The painting describes the aftermath of the suicide bombing attack that took place in front of the Asefi Art Gallery, killing several innocent people and damaging the gallery.*



*Buz Kashea*

*“Buz Kashea,” 1994. Oil on canvas with knife, Realism 200 X 120 cm. The painting illustrates the traditional sport Buz Kashea. It was displayed at the Independence Day exhibition in 1994 and decorates the Presidential Palace.*

*“National Dance ATAN,” 2018. Oil on canvas, Impressionism 90 X 60 cm. The painting illustrates the Afghanistan National Dance.*



*National Dance ATAN*

2020: A solo exhibition of Dr. Asefi's work was organized by the Afghan-Australia Social Service Association (AASS) and "Century 21 the Hills District," Melbourne. Twenty-seven paintings were displayed, illustrating both Afghanistan and Australia, featuring different techniques and styles.



*Buz kashe*

*The painting above illustrates the traditional sport called BUZ KASHE and was displayed at the exhibition.*



*Dr. Asefi, 2018, working in oil on canvas with knife.  
SAARC Artist Camp and Exhibition, Negombo, Sri Lanka.*

*“Nature.” 2013. Oil on canvas, Realism, 70 X 50cm.  
The painting was displayed at the SAARC Artist Camp and  
exhibition in Maldives and was featured in the SAARC  
journal.*



*Nature*

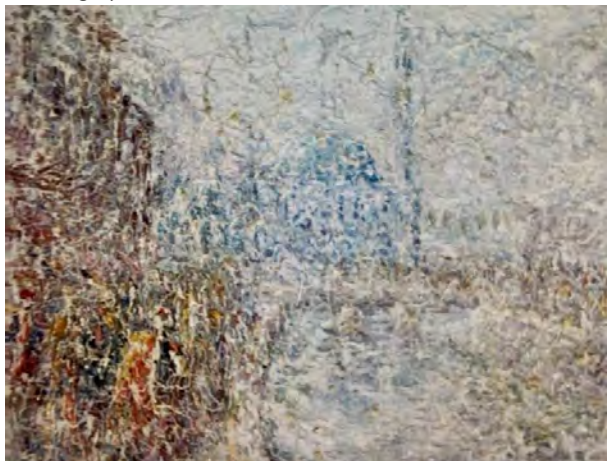


2020,  
Oil on canvas,  
Realism/Abstract  
with knife,  
70 X 50 cm

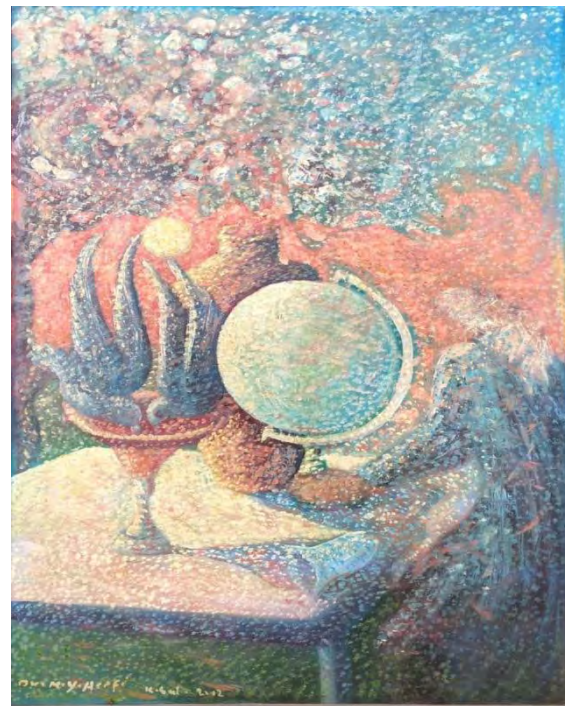
*Self explained*

*Restricted*

*Ambiguity*

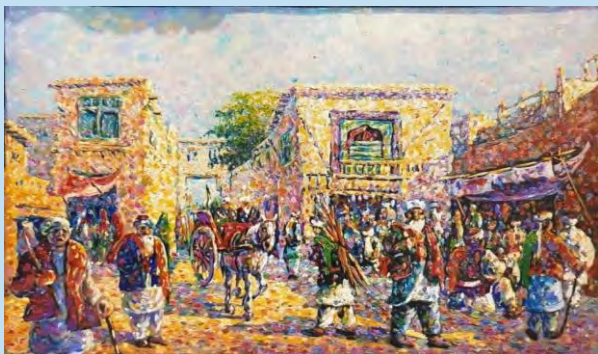


*“Ambiguity,”* 2003. Oil on canvas. Abstract/Realism, 70 X 50 cm.  
This painting was sold to a team of Hollywood filmmakers during their visit for a documentary film shoot about the life and gallery of Dr. Asefi.



*Maykhana*

*“Maykhana,”* 2011. Oil on canvas, Pointillism 70 X 50 cm.  
This painting was displayed at the SAARC artist camp and Exhibition in Kerala, India.



*A section of the Kabul old city*

*“Kabul, Old City,” 2018. Oil on canvas, impressionism, 100 X 60 cm.*

*This painting was displayed at the SAARC Artist Camp and exhibition in Sri Lanka and was selected for the SAARC magazine.*

*“A Section of Old Kabul,” 1992. Oil on canvas, Realism, 200 X 150 cm.*



*A section of the Kabul old city*





*The Asefi Art Gallery was inaugurated in 2015 and decorated with 250 artworks. After 8 months of operation, the gallery was seriously damaged by a suicide attack. The AAG was reopened in 2018 after its reconstruction and was operational until 2021.*





*Apart from being a gallery displaying the Asefi's art work, the AAG was a place for young and enthusiastic Afghans who were eager to learn painting. Dozens of young artists joined the painting classes organized at the AAG. Dr. Asefi's only Installation art work illustrates the destruction of his gallery, asking why innocent Afghans were the target of a suicide bomb attack.*





*First national exhibition, 1985  
Kabul Medical Institute.*



*1989,  
World Health Day exhibition; Kabul , Afghanistan;  
The Abu Ali Sina (Balkhi) portrait was awarded first prize  
at the competition.*



*Asefi's Art studio*

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