Maha Khoury

A J O U R N E Y O F D I S C O V E R Y

Maha Khoury, whose journey in art began in 1997, reflects upon life and its many voyages in her latest exhibition "Travel," revealing its different forms. Whether traveling from one place to another – by choice or not, vacations or discovery journeys, voyages in many ways can be uplifting or attached to loss and survival. Khoury, raised and educated in Kuwait, traveled back to Jordan in 1990 due to the Gulf War, and it was through this particular journey that she arrived at the deeper concept of travel as a way to notice people, place, time and relationships and the endless shades of grey that make up the stories.

It was through a journey of self-discovery that Khoury would also learn about the influence women have on the world they live in, enlightened by the knowledge they acquire. This particular kind of journey happens within; it's the travel from being a girl to a woman, then from a woman to a mother - from youth to experience and from innocence to wisdom. "One of the biggest journeys that I took in my life was going from someone who only does what she is supposed to do to someone who is always seeking to understand what she wants and how to share her time, gifts, knowledge and discoveries with other women - not just young women but all women so they can influence the world," explains Khoury.

Khoury's paintings are shaped by colors and events. The colors are her way of expressing feelings and moods, revealed in how she imagines the people in her paintings. The events have to do with things as simple as having visitors coming to see her from outside the country or as complex as having the Syrian refugees take shelter in different camps in the Middle East.   "You will notice that on canvas I try to capture my perception of real life as a fabric in which people, places, time and relationships are intricately woven." "Travel" is a journey of discovery that takes place across a canvas of hopes and dreams. "Travel" will run from March 17 to April 9, 2015, at Orient Gallery. ◨