

artnet magazine Wednesday, June 13

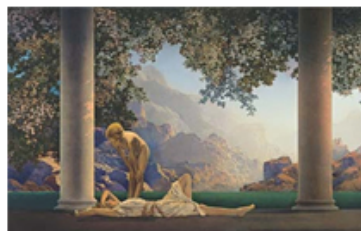


Mustafa Hulusi, "The Elysian Paintings" in the Cyprus pavilion at the Palazzo Malipiero in Venice. Courtesy Max Wigram Gallery.

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New: Interview with Damien Hirst by Joe La Placa, and Pino Pinelli by Alice Savorelli.

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Mustafa Hulusi's "The Elysian Paintings" in the Cyprus pavilion at the Palazzo Malipiero in Venice.

strikes me as unhinged, not just in terms of the artist laboring under the sign of Saturn, but as subject to a very modern schizophrenia. But then I remember too well a decade ago or so, when the artist ran loose in New York for several months, clearly unbalanced, until she was gathered up and stabilized by her friends and colleagues. Strange.

Shall we end with something nice? At the **Palazzo Malipiero** near the **Palazzo Grassi**, the Republic of Cyprus set up its pavilion, which included a series of large photo-realist paintings of luscious fruit on the vine by **Mustafa Hulusi**, part of a series called "The Elysian Paintings." The London-based Cypriot is described as "an image-based conceptual artist," whose paintings combine "the techniques of fascist propaganda, the bucolic ideal in communist propaganda, and the double nature of kitsch."

Drat, I thought they were nice pictures of fruit.

WALTER ROBINSON is editor of *Artnet Magazine*.