

Press Release

Sara Shamma: Q

Upper Gulbenian Gallery, RCA, Kensington Gore, London SW7 2EU

Private View: Wednesday 27th November 2013pm

Exhibition dates: Thursday 28th November – Monday 2nd December 2013

'Art and culture changes the world, more than legislation, regulation, and political speeches.'

These were the poignant words of Shami Chakrabati CBE who opened 'Q', a solo exhibition by leading Syrian Artist Sara Shamma, held at the Royal College of Art.

Last night's event saw the merging of eastern and western cultures, keenly reminding us of our shared human emotion and instinct. The unparalleled power of art in its ability to humanize conflict and evoke the human condition, is a belief which has been vindicated by Chakrabati's **'many years of experience as a scruffy human rights campaigner.'**

Praising 'Q' Chakrabati encouraged the audience to reflect deeply on Shamma's work and her statement that **'it is easier to control and manipulate a crowd in a queue than the individual'**.

Arresting in its rawness, drama, and potent metaphors, 'Q' is Shamma's personal response to a dramatic change in the mentality and behaviour of a people at war and under threat. Her painting reflects not the political aspects of conflict, but the human cost to the individual's identity and even liberty. A vibrant and dramatic experience, a vast canvas, Q stretches over 60 feet long as each individual painting becomes part of a greater whole reinforcing the notion of the power of the queue.

'Q' provides us with the chance to support a woman artist who continues to work despite the challenge of having to flee from Syria to the Lebanon, and who has succeeded to communicate her experience to the UK. The exhibition runs for one week only. Please don't miss this, or the opportunity to draw Shamma's work to the attention of your readers/viewers/ listeners.

All Enquiries: Paula Lent, Art Masters

E: paula@artmastersds.com

Mobile: 07977018000