



### Absence and Ruin In Hanaa Malallah's 'The God Marduk'

By *Tiffany Floyd*

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**Exclusive:** WORLD

**Offers an in-depth analysis and contextualization of Iraqi artist Hanaa Malallah's art book *The God Marduk*, published in 2008.**

This book is an object biography that provides an analysis of a single artwork by contemporary Iraqi artist Hanaa Malallah to consider how modern Iraqi art was fundamentally altered as a result of the sanctions and wars of the late twentieth century and early twenty-first leading to a transition from the modern into the contemporary – a shift that has yet to be satisfactorily theorized. This study contextualizes Malallah’s art book *The God Marduk*(2008) within the artistic trajectories of the artist’s education and career in Iraq during the 1980s and 1990s. It will, furthermore, investigate Malallah’s use of the ancient past as a conduit for aesthetic and emotive expression offering an in-depth analysis through the methodology of phenomenology. The book concludes with a reflection on Iraqi art in the post-2003 period.

**Key selling points**

Aids in filling a gap in current art historical scholarship and will be a good teaching tool to develop much-needed higher education curriculum on Middle Eastern, particularly Arab and Iraqi, art.

Caters to a growing market and scholarly interest in Hanaa Malallah.

Provides a good teaching tool to develop much-needed higher education curriculum on Middle Eastern, particularly Arab and Iraqi, art.

Adds significantly to scholarship on Modern and Contemporary Art of the Arab World, Iran, and Turkey.

**About the Author(s) / Editor(s)**

Tiffany Floyd received her PhD in Art History from Columbia University with a dissertation centered on modern and contemporary art in Iraq. She is currently an adjunct faculty member of the Department of Art History at the University of North Texas.

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