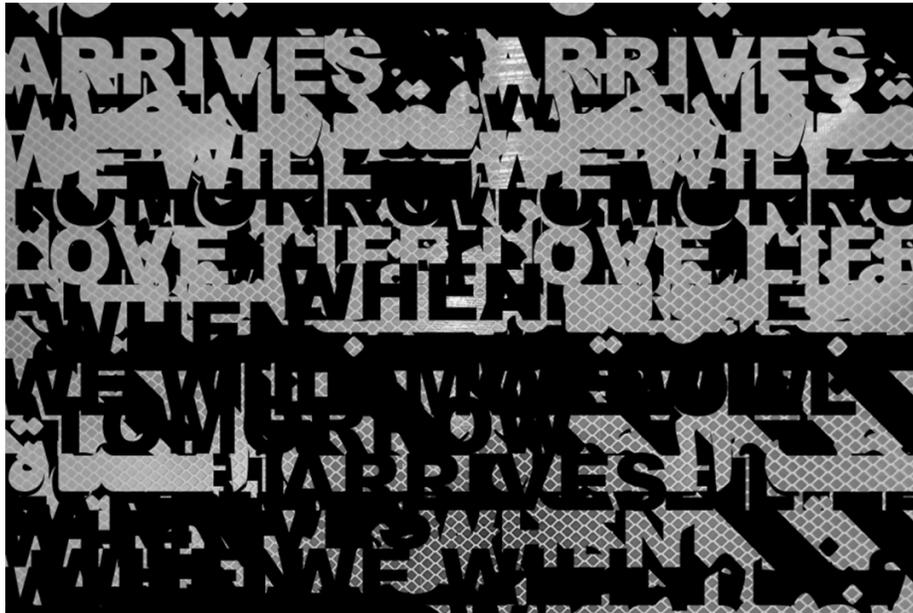


Abed Elmajid Shalabi

when tomorrow arrives we will love life



Abed Elmajid Shalabi, *when tomorrow arrives we will love life* (detail), 2024

1353 U St NW, Washington, DC 20009

Dates: March 30–May 4, 2024

Opening reception: Saturday, March 30, 5–7pm

Washington, DC: Hamiltonian Artists is pleased to present Abed Elmajid Shalabi's solo exhibition *When Tomorrow Arrives We Will Love Life*. Titled after Mahmoud Darwish's poem *A State of Siege* (2002), this exhibition will present new and recent sculptural works that confront the realities of modernization in the post-oil Arab world, leaning into the question of the future.

Shalabi's material vernacular ranges from fragile ceramics to commercial concrete. Castings of vehicular and industrial objects like construction truck seats, gas pumps, shock-resistant rubber mats, and truck beds function as emotional provocations—interrogating the illusions of progress, safety, and direction that have been prescribed by the Western gaze. By exposing surface cracks, emptiness, and other moments of vulnerability, Shalabi pushes against the speed of modernity and the ways in which its false promises alter our connection to the body, gender, and self.

Shalabi's abstracted, site responsive installation reflects a new exercise in experimentation. Rather than directing viewers into a predetermined notion or narrative, Shalabi situates his sculptures on the line between meaning and ambiguity—inviting the viewer to draw their own connections to the many themes that underpin his practice.

An artist-guided exhibition walkthrough will be held on Saturday, April 13, at 3pm.
Link to register [here](#).

Visit ha-dc.org and follow [@hamiltonian_artists](https://www.instagram.com/hamiltonian_artists) on Instagram for more information.

ABOUT THE ARTIST

Abed Elmajid Shalabi (b. 1991) is a Palestinian Israeli artist who lives and works in Richmond, VA. Shalabi earned his BFA in Fine Arts from Shenkar College of Engineering, Design and Art, Ramat Gan, Israel, in 2019 and studied at the Universität der Künste Berlin, Berlin, Germany. He earned his MFA in Sculpture from Virginia Commonwealth University, Richmond, VA, in 2021 and was an artist in residence at the Skowhegan School for Painting and Sculpture, Madison, ME, in 2022.

Abed Elmajid Shalabi has been a fellow at the Virginia Museum of Fine Arts, Richmond, VA (2024, 2020), and Lighthouse Works, Fishers Island, NY (2023). He has been awarded an Artis International Residency Grant (2023, 2022) and Foundation for Contemporary Arts Emergency Grant (2023). Shalabi's works have been featured in exhibitions nationally and internationally, including C24 Gallery, New York, NY; SARA'S, New York, NY; Vox Populi, Philadelphia, PA; and the Orange County Center for Contemporary Art, Santa Ana, California. Shalabi is a 2022–24 Hamiltonian Artists fellow.



ABOUT HAMILTONIAN ARTISTS

Hamiltonian Artists' mission is to build a dynamic community of innovative artists and effective visual art leaders by providing professional development opportunities to early-career artists and by advancing their entrepreneurial success. In 2007, Paul So, an avid painter and a physics professor at George Mason University, founded Hamiltonian Artists and Hamiltonian Gallery with the vision of creating an innovative career incubator program for emerging visual artists. In 2019, the Board of Directors of Hamiltonian Artists chose to merge the two organizations into a single 501c3 nonprofit to better serve the mission.

Today, Hamiltonian Artists is a dynamic catalyst for DC's creative economy and a vibrant center for contemporary art in Washington, DC. Through its unique investment into the next generation of cutting-edge artists, Hamiltonian helps artists to develop important business skills, professional experiences, and visibility to support and sustain their art career. Through a two-year artist fellowship, artist talks, public events and its membership program, the organization contributes to the vitality of DC's burgeoning arts scene by deepening the appreciation for contemporary art and culture throughout Washington, DC, and beyond.

VISIT

Hamiltonian Artists, 1353 U Street NW, Washington, DC 20009
Hours: Thursday–Saturday, 11am–6pm

For more information, visit ha-dc.org

CONTACT

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anisa@hamiltonianartists.org

Press materials available [here](#)