

Sami Hamaoui Gives Painting to LERC's Museum

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Reported by Victoria B. Huerta, International Intern

Through *Les Amis de Portugal-Liban*, Lebanese-French artist Mr. Sami Hamaoui, gave one of his paintings to the Lebanese Emigrant Nucleus Museum at Notre Dame University-Louaize (NDU). His artwork will form part of the cultural material in the Museum's permanent exhibition. Beauty, lighting, textures, materials and contrasts are what mainly attract Mr. Hamaoui. Encounters with beautiful faces, interactions, and the exchange of ideas are his main inspirations.

LERC's Director, Ms. Guita Hourani and Chief Archivist and Indexer, Mrs. Liliane Haddad, received the entourage. The *Les Amis de Portugal-Liban* delegation included its President, Mia Vieira-Azar, as well as Ms. Edith Nazar and Ms. Gulineau.



From left :Ms. Victoria Huerta, international intern; Ms. Guita Hourani, LERC Director; Ms. Mia Vieira-Azar, President of Les Amis de Portugal-Liban; Ms. Edith Nazar; Mr. Roberto Khatlab, Director of CECAL-USEK, Mr. Sami Hamaoui, Ms. Gulineau and Mrs. Liliane Haddad, Chief Archivist and Indexer. (June 2012)

In 2012, Mr. Hamaoui took a three-month live-model design course at the Ecole Nationale Supérieure des Beaux Arts of Paris. He mainly paints with oil, aquarelle, and mixed techniques. He has had several painting exhibitions, some of which include Université Saint-Joseph (USJ), Beirut in 2012; Ninar Art Café BabSharki, Damascus, in 2011; Espace l'Harmattan Paris, in 2010; Malta International Biennale in 2008, and Ecole de Management de Lyon in 2000.

Mr. Hamaoui is also a photographer. His preferred themes are portraits, nature, and cities. In 2010, he presented a photography exhibition at Espace Brémontier, Paris.



Mr. Sami Hamaoui explaining his painting at the Lebanese Nucleus Museum NDU. June, 2012.

The painting he presented to the Museum represents the journey of the Portuguese around the globe. The painting celebrates the Portuguese poet Luis de Camoes. Mr. Hamaoui explained the importance of the lighting in his work, noting that different tonalities are usually seen under different light settings. LERC's Museum is delighted with Mr. Hamaoui's donation and hopes to collaborate further with *Les Amis de Portugal-Liban*.