

ABRAHAM: Out of One, Many

A timely artistic exploration on living harmoniously, inspired by Abraham, the common ancestor of three celebrated contemporary Middle Eastern artists from Muslim, Christian, and Jewish traditions

"ABRAHAM: Out of One, Many," a peacebuilding exhibition curated and organized by CARAVAN, an international peacebuilding arts non-profit/NGO, is touring throughout the US between 2019 – 2021.

"ABRAHAM: Out of One, Many" is an artistic response to the recent rise of antisemitism and increasing anti-Muslim sentiment, and to the general climate of growing prejudice and stereotyping, which is resulting in a new type of "tribalism" in the West.

"ABRAHAM: Out of One, Many" (playing off of the popular Latin US motto "E pluribus unum" / "Out of many, one") focuses on what Jews, Christians and Muslims have in common because of their shared ancestor Abraham, a spiritual figure of distinct significance within the three primary monotheistic faith traditions, Judaism, Christianity and Islam. The exhibition highlights what we can all learn from Abraham's example about living together more harmoniously. In these three faith traditions, whose followers are referred to as "children of Abraham," Abraham is seen as a model of hospitality – of welcoming the "stranger" and embracing the "other." The exhibition attempts to artistically answer the question, "What can Abraham teach us today about freeing our world from sectarian strife?"

The exhibition involves three celebrated Middle Eastern contemporary artists – Qais Al Sindy, Sinan Hussein and Shai Azoulay- from Christian, Muslim and Jewish faith traditions. Each artist has created paintings that focus on specific themes from Abraham's life that can guide our world today in living harmoniously, interpreting these themes for our contemporary context. "ABRAHAM: Out of One, Many" is curated by the Founding President of CARAVAN, Rev. Paul-Gordon Chandler, and the Rector of The Anglican Church in Qatar, in the Gulf region of the Middle East.

The exhibition is on a 24-month global tour, primarily to heavily trafficked sacred spaces. It premiered in May 2019 in Rome, Italy at the historic church of St Paul's Within the Walls, and was then showcased in Paris and Edinburgh, before beginning its extensive US tour through the fall of 2021.

For information on "ABRAHAM: Out of One, Many," see: www.oncaravan.org/abraham

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