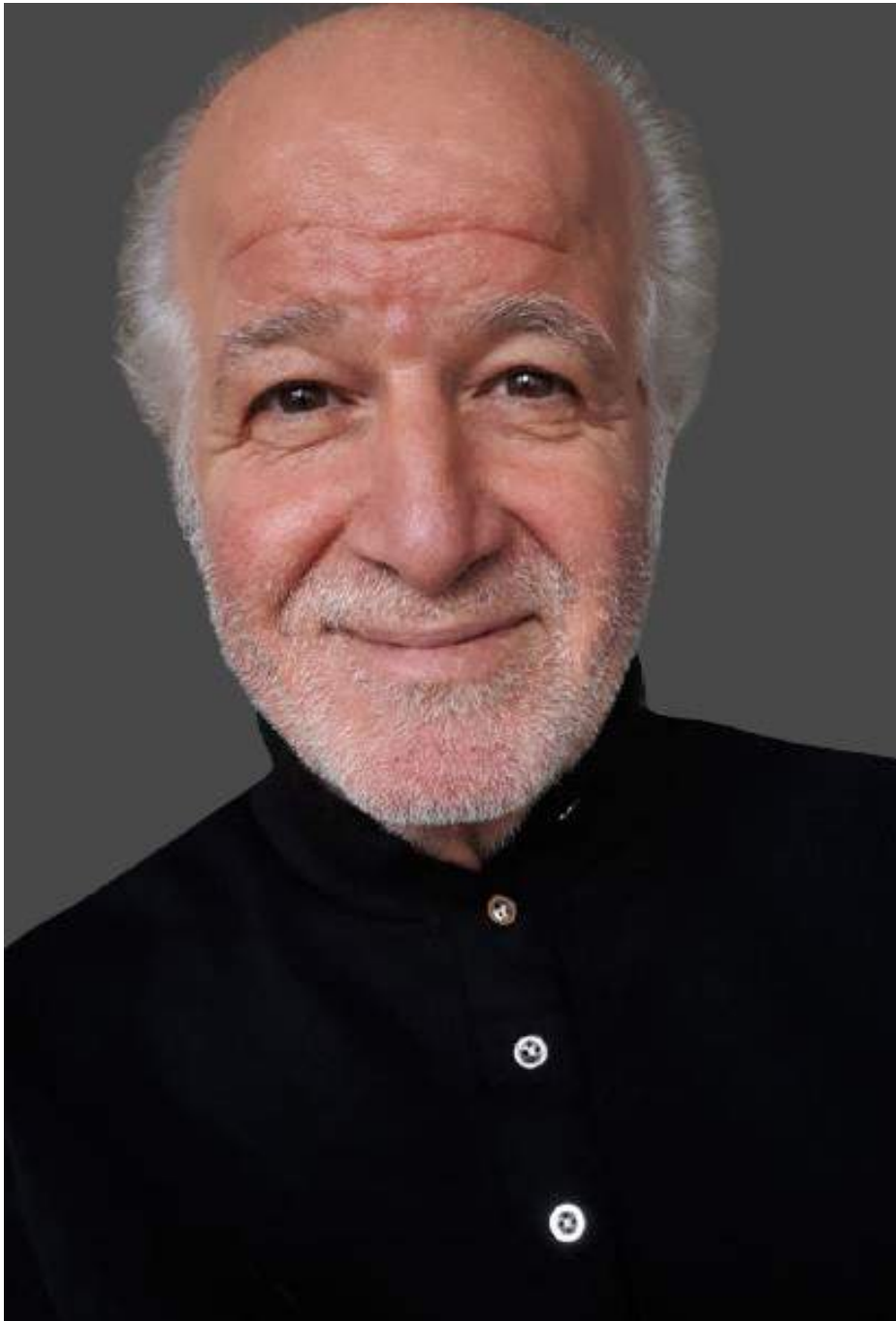


# *HAMSI Boubeker*

## Full biography



# HAMSI, art and life

In his sunny and multicoloured painting, HAMSI places his child's gaze on the world and gives us to see it as he would like to see it, frozen in a ray of sunshine, in a burst of laughter, sprinkled with cheerful colours, vibrant with life, in peace, harmony and sharing. HAMSI Boubeker wants to be the messenger of a Kabyle culture, of oral tradition, dear to his heart and whose extreme richness would have fallen into oblivion if he had not brought it back to us.

A lover of life, fundamentally interested in the people he meets, he leaves in his work a trace of each experience, each encounter, each memory, as if to give proof of his unconditional confidence in the beauty of the world and of mankind.

Although he has assimilated Western culture in depth, Hamsi does not follow the trends and styles of European painting. True to his culture of origin, he constantly seeks to reconnect with the decorative and ornamental work that characterises it, his painting, a mixture of geometric decors inspired by tradition, is surprisingly contemporary.

## **Anita Nardon, art critic - April 1992**

With Hamsi, you are served. The tent on the sand, the tattooed hands of the attentive mother, the neighbour who rolls the couscous, the sweetness of the women's company when you are a little boy, and then the men's coffee, the rural life, and finally the wisdom when the man becomes a respected grandfather. Everyday life is presented in tart colours, without fear of oppositions or contrasts, with total simplicity, in a series of works on paper with an authentic freshness that is much needed at the end of this century of speed and violence.

## **Yasmina Khadra, writer - May 2010**

"Boubeker Hamsi is the touch that stirs up the sensitive fibre in us, the one that reconciles us with the ordinary things in life. The simplicity of his work awakens us to such obvious scenes of life that it elevates naivety to the rank of the sublime. Her colours send us back to the lights that we no longer know how to appreciate in the banality of everyday life, the colours of a poet, of a skilful and accessible magician, of a griot dazzled by the sun and who makes, from each canvas, a summer, an escape, an invitation to serene contemplation, in short, a tender and gentle tranquillity. »

## **Fadila Laanan, former Minister of Culture of the French Community - 11 June 2013.**

"My visit to Bejaïa is a recognition to the artist HAMSI Boubeker

On the fringe of her visit to Bejaïa for the opening of the exhibition of the Algerian artist who emigrated to Belgium, Boubeker HAMSI, the Belgian Minister of Culture, Fadila LAANAN, praised the latter's place in Belgium". Belgium is generally a grey country. HAMSI changed its colour and gave it the colour of the sun." She said in an interview with the newspaper "Al-Khabar".

## **Laurence Nitlich, Gallery owner - May 2016**

Although he has assimilated Western culture in depth, Hamsi does not follow the trends and styles of European painting. Faithful to his culture of origin, he constantly seeks to reconnect with the decorative and ornamental work that characterises it. His painting is a mixture of geometrical decorations inspired by tradition and "realistic and naive" representations of characters from the West, [...].

All of Hamsi's art is an art of wonder",

## **Jeannette ALLARY, painter - 2017**

"A canvas that speaks ... Your extraordinary universe: precision, meticulousness, details! It's an open book ! ».

## **Bernard GOUTTENNOIR, art critic in Lyon and expert in the 2017 auction room.**

"his painting between BAYA and the ethnological art of ALGERIA, quite close to the gesture of DENIS MARTINEZ and includes a form of contemporary authenticity".

# HAMSI'S DREAMY KABYLIA



Pictures of youth. At the top left of the photo, the artist with his mother.



HAMSI Boubeker was born in Algeria on 22nd April 1952 in a small town in Kabylia, Bejaïa, in the middle of the Algerian war. He comes from a family of eleven children. Since 1979, he has been living in Belgium and obtained naturalisation in 1990. Musician, singer, storyteller and painter, HAMSI is a versatile and self-taught artist whose reputation is well established in Belgium and abroad.

A citizen of the world, he actively participates in projects in favour of peace: 1988 record book for Unicef, 1994 "Hands of Hope" - Peace through respect for cultures in more than 82 nations, founder of the Association for Afous Peace, awarded by UNESCO in 2000.

In his sunny and multicoloured painting, HAMSI puts his child's gaze on the world and gives us to see it as he would like to see it, frozen in a ray of sunshine, in a burst of laughter, sprinkled with cheerful colours, vibrant with life, in peace, harmony and sharing. HAMSI wants to be the messenger of a Kabyle culture, of oral tradition, dear to his heart and whose extreme richness would have fallen into oblivion if he had not brought it back to us.

A lover of life, fundamentally interested in the people whose paths he crosses, he leaves in his work a trace of each experience, each encounter, each memory, as if to give proof of his unconditional confidence in the beauty of the world and of mankind.

Although he has assimilated Western culture in depth, HAMSI does not follow the trends and styles of European painting.

Faithful to its culture of origin, it is constantly seeking to revive the decorative and ornamental work that characterises it. His painting is a mixture of geometric decorations inspired by tradition and "realistic and naive" representations of characters.

All HAMSI's art is an art of wonder.



*La Femme et son enfant*  
Acrylic, Indian ink on canvas (30x40 cm)

# HAMSI

## Full biography

### HAMSI, art and life

*HAMSI Boubeker was born in Algeria on 22nd April 1952 in a small town in Kabylia, Bejaia, in the middle of the Algerian war. He comes from a family of eleven children. Since 1979 he has been living in Belgium, and in 1990 he obtained naturalisation.*

*For all his artistic and humanitarian work, he was promoted, in 2009, to the high distinction of Officer of the Order of the Crown from the hands of the Minister of Culture Mrs. Fadila LAANAN, and later received several honorary titles. He will lead an artistic and humanitarian project called "Hands of Hope" from 1994 to the present day, in more than 82 participating countries.*

*In 2009, the "Lemonnier" metro station in Brussels was inaugurated by the Minister of Transport, Pascal SMET. A station decorated with symbols inspired by traditional Kabyle motifs.*

*Musician, singer, storyteller and painter, HAMSI is a versatile and self-taught artist whose reputation is well established in Belgium and abroad.*

#### **1963**

Student at the traditional conservatory of Bejaïa as a chorister. With the master Sadek EL BEJAOU, he learns the Andalusian, Kabyle and Arabic popular repertoire.

#### **1967-73**

- Certificate of Elementary Elementary Education.
- Goes to Algiers to continue his studies and discovers polyphonic singing.
- Choir singer, then choir conductor. Knowledge of an international repertoire.
- Follows courses to become a teacher at the Institute of Pedagogical Training in Algiers.

#### **1973-75**

- Takes part in a training course for choir leaders, organised by the National Institute of Music in Algiers.
- Teaches French in Algiers.
- First single "Houria-Nejma".
- Creates a chanterie with the great writer KATEB Yacine.
- Interprets his songs with his choir in France (Vaison-la-Romaine choir), then in England (Europa Cantat).
- Takes part in the 1st degree choir master conducting course organised by the A COEUR JOIE movement in Carpentras (France).





Performs his songs with his choir in France (choralies de Vaison-la-Romaine)



Concert given in Utrecht - The Netherlands

### 1976-78

- Does his military service by directing the barracks band.
- Then transferred to civilian service at the C.R.A.P.E. (Centre for Anthropological, Prehistoric and Ethnological Research), as assistant ethnomusicologist to the writer Mouloud MAMMERI, he took part in various missions where he collected folk songs from different regions of Algeria in the field. Creates a group and gives a few concerts.

### 1980-81

- He left Paris for Brussels where he settled. Beginning of a big tour alone, then with musicians. Participates in numerous radio and TV programmes. The press devotes several articles to him.

### 1982

- Records and self-produces a new album "Tameyra di tguarin".
- Activist at the "Racist Anti Frontier" in Schaerbeek.
- Participates in a hunger strike in solidarity with the non-attached members of the municipality of Schaerbeek.
- Gives numerous concerts during anti-nuclear and anti-racist demonstrations, as well as during major peace movements.

### 1983-84

- Reforms a group with musicians of various origins and renews its music while preserving the authenticity of Kabyle music.
- Presents his new show by giving numerous concerts in Belgium, France, Holland and later in Switzerland.

### 1985-86

- Records and self-produces a new album Contes berbères de Kabylie proposed by HAMSI, in French version - Belgium.

- Takes part, with the title of Liberté, in a compilation of a 33 T - R.T.B.F.

### 1987-88

- Produced and self-produced an album Le Chant des Profonds.
- Produced a book/45 T, "Si tu veux la paix prépare l'enfance" (If you want peace, prepare for childhood) for UNICEF, as part of the International Year of Peace.
- Gives many concerts of his new show in Belgium, Holland and Germany.
- Publication of a tale by Le vieux, l'enfant, et la canne, published by CASTERMAN.

### 1989

- Directs the music for the documentary KATEB Yacine, L'Amour et la révolution, produced by the C.B.A.
- His painting enchants and he participates in many exhibitions.
- First prize of the Museum in the International Competition organised by the Museum of Naive Art of Lasne, in November 89.
- Continues to give concerts both in Belgium and Holland.
- Participates in many television programmes which will devote several reports to him.

### 1990

- Collaborates with the Musée Charlier (Brussels), until 1994, as co-organiser of cultural events.
- Gives numerous concerts.
- Composes the music for the documentary Territoire de la mémoire, produced by the French Community.
- Exhibition of his paintings in Belgium and in collective in Switzerland.
- Exhibits reproductions of his works in Bejaïa (Algeria), at the national theatre as part of the poetry festival.

- Diploma of participation in the 19th international competition organised by the PRO ARTE KASPER Gallery in Switzerland.
- Diploma of Honour: International Exhibition "PRISMA 90", in Belgium.

### 1991

- Gives concerts.
- Publishes a storybook in French and Dutch at E.P.O.

### 1992

- Exhibits in Brussels and Paris.

### 1993

- Exhibits in Brussels, London and Paris.
- Publishes a storybook *Itouma et la forêt trahie* (Itouma and the Betrayed Forest) published by L'HARMATTAN in Paris.

### 1994

- Published by OXFAM, with the reproduction of his works, a calendar and greeting cards for the benefit of various projects in third world countries.
- Publishes a book of art and poetry, *Empreintes*, éditions Le Flambeau
- Exhibits in Belgium and France.
- Organises several exhibitions for young painters.
- Prepares a major international project Hands of Hope, a hand for peace through respect for cultures (collections and exhibitions of handprints from several countries, illustrating peace and tolerance).

### 1995 - 96

- Founded AFOUS asbl to carry its project Hands of Hope.
- Is appointed director of AFOUS asbl.
- Organises and co-organises most of the exhibitions Hands of Hope - Peace through Respect for Culture.
- Start of the operation Hands of Hope: travelling exhibition with workshops for children, Brussels, Mol, European Parliament in Strasbourg, and Soignies, which devotes two exhibitions to it at the Art Centre: Hands of Hope and Women of My Childhood.

### 1997

- Exhibits at the International Centre in Brussels.
- Exhibits at the Town Hall in Schaerbeek.
- Exhibits at the Maison de la Laïcité in Charleroi.
- Exhibits at the Art Centre of Emmen (Netherlands) on the theme of the Kabyle woman.
- Leads several workshops in schools, youth centres, homes for the elderly, centres for the handicapped, prisons...
- Collects handprints in more than fifty countries from personalities from the political world,



Numerous hand-drawing workshops have been carried out during the exhibitions of the works "Hands of Hope".

the cultural world, the Nobel Peace Prize.

- The press devotes several articles and reports to him.

### 1998

- Signs a contract with the Ministry of Transport of the Brussels-Capital Region for the creation of three large frescoes representing his works on his hands at the Lemonnier metro station.
- Publishes postcards at AFOUS
- Exhibits *Les Mains de l'Espoir*, jointly with the Ministry of the French Community of Belgium, the Musée d'Art Spontané, and the Maison du Savoir a.t.d. Quart-Monde.
- Exhibits in Antwerp "Oude Badhuis".
- Exhibits in Paris *Femmes de mon enfance*, at the Algerian Cultural Centre.

### 2000

- His Hands of Hope project has been awarded the UNESCO "Flagship Action for the Culture of Peace" label.
- Realises with the Commune of Schaerbeek the great exhibition *The Journey of Hope*.
- Composes the song *Dream of Light*, as part of the Millennium celebrations at Notre Dame des Champs.
- Creates "Le Mur de l'Espoir" (The Wall of Hope) in the visiting room of the St-Gilles prison with works by prisoners and their children.
- Participates and leads several workshops on the theme of peace.
- Participates and exhibits his international project "Hands of Hope" at the 6th World Conference of Peace Educators in Paris.
- Leads several debates and painting workshops in several schools and other institutions on the theme of peace and respect for others.
- Meeting with the painter FOLON.





The children's delegation and HAMSI at the exit of the press conference held at the Brussels City Hall just before the planned departure for the UN headquarters in New York, 2001.

#### 2001-02

- Composed and co-wrote Les Mains de l'Espoir, a hymn for peace sung by children in Romans (France).
- Exhibits at the Maison de l'Art Actuel des Chartreux in Brussels.
- Produces the Fresco without Borders (25mx2m), dedicated to undocumented migrants, in collaboration with several associations.
- As part of its international operation, Hands of Hope
- Peace through Respect for Cultures, it launches an international appeal and organises the celebration of the World Day for Peace on 18 September.
- Devotes himself to organising the trip to the UN, with a delegation of children from countries at war, to meet Madame ANNAN.

#### 2003-04

- Organises the celebration of the World Day for Peace in Algeria on 21 September at the Regional Theatre of Bejaïa (exhibition, drawing workshops, radio broadcasts...).
- Exhibits in the framework of the Arab World Illustrators at the Institut du Monde Arabe (France, Paris), then at the Centre d'Art Contemporain (Spain, Seville).

#### 2005-06

- For health reasons, HAMSI takes up with difficulty the creation of new works and starts to learn the use of graphic software that he will use later on when he renews the layout of his works, Les Mains de l'Espoir, in the Lemonnier metro station.



Promu, Officier de l'Ordre de la Couronne - 2009

#### 2007

- Highlighting of his works that line the walls of the Lemonnier pre-metro station. On the occasion of the transformation work on this infrastructure, a new image of these drawings on enamelled sheet metal will be produced. The 213 illustrated modules will be placed for the inauguration scheduled for May-June 2008.



Shooting sequence of the documentary, during the silkscreen printing of the hands on modules on enamelled sheet metal in Gent.



Exhibition at the European Parliament in Brussels



L' hommage rendu, le 22 juin 2012 - TRB de Bejaïa

## 2008

- Exhibits his works HAMSI, l'Art et la Vie, in Brussels (Maison de la Francité then at the European Parliament in Brussels), in Paris, at the Algerian Cultural Centre then at the Jette Cultural Centre.

## 2009

- Official inauguration of the Lemonnier metro station, illustrated by his works
- Preview presentation in the presence of the Minister of Culture Fadila LAANAN of the art film "Empreinte de la vie", dedicated to the artist and directed by Yves Gervais and Stéphanie Meyer.
- Receives the high distinction of Officer of the Order of the Crown from the hands of the Minister of Culture Fadila LAANAN.

## 2010

- March, participation in the International CINERAIL Festival in Paris of the art film dedicated to HAMSI, Une empreinte de la vie, by Yves Gervais and Stéphanie Meyer.
- May, exhibits his most recent work, La Terre est mon village, at the Algerian Cultural Centre in Paris. On this occasion, the art film "Une empreinte de la vie" by Yves Gervais and Stéphanie Meyer is screened.
- Publishes a catalogue "La Terre est mon village", very recent works on canvas.
- Publishes a catalogue "Les Mains de l'Espoir" (French/English) about his work in the Brussels metro Lemonnier.

## 2011

- June, exhibits at the Centre Culturel Schungfabrik in Kayl, Grand Duchy of Luxembourg.

## 2012

- January-February, exhibition at the Maison des Cultures de Saint-Gilles in Brussels.
- May/June, exhibits at the Palais de la Culture d'Alger
- Galerie Baya, Algeria.
- June, the artist's hometown pays him a great tribute on 22 June 2012, during a ceremony organised by Mr Omar FETMOUCHE, director of the Regional Theatre MALEK BOUGUERMOUH of Bejaïa.

## 2013

- Publishes a book of art and poetry with Nadia Agsous, Réminiscences, éditions Marsa - Paris
- February, exhibits at the Atelier Groot Eiland in Brussels.
- May 2013, he was decorated "Knight of the Order of the Belgian Cross" in recognition of his services to the community. This honorary title was awarded to him by the Royal Philanthropic Society of Medallists and Decorators of Belgium.
- September, exhibits at "EXPO Artworld" - Les Caves, Brussels.
- May, exhibits his works at the Regional Theatre of Bejaïa - Algeria.

## 2014

- Publishes a book/CD "Contes kabyle de mon enfance" - Self-produced - Cordon Musical asbl
- February, exhibits at the Paris City Hall, as part of the "20th Masgreb des Livres" (20th Masgreb of Books).
- May, exhibits his works at the "ART COMPAGNY" Gallery in Brussels.





Exhibition of the "Paroles Tissées" collection at the Schungfabrik in Kayl, Grand Duchy of Luxembourg, in 2015.

## 2015

- Exhibits his work "Paroles Tissées" at the Schungfabrik in Kayl, Grand Duchy of Luxembourg.
- Receives the "Honorable Mention from the Chelsea International Fine Art Competition from New York".

## 2016

- Mars, exhibits his works "La Terre est mon village", at the Charlier Museum in Brussels, and receives the title of "Honorary Citizen" of Saint-Josse-ten-Noode.
- April-May, exhibits his works "La Terre est mon village", at the Orangery of the Château de Sucy-en-Brie, in France.

## 2017

- April, exhibits his brand new collection " Paroles Tissées " Canvas inspired by Berber patterns from Kabylia, at the Algerian Cultural Centre in Paris.
- May-June, exhibits his new works from his collection " La Terre est mon village ", at the Fédactio gallery, in Brussels.

## 2018

- March/June, exhibits his collection "Paroles Tissées", paintings inspired by Kabyle motifs, at The Black Wall in Brussels.
- July/August, exhibits his collection " La Terre est mon village ", at the Palais de la Culture in Algiers at the " Baya " gallery in Algiers.

## 2019

- April/May, Exhibits his collection, "La Terre est mon village", at the Médiathèque Intercommunale de Longwy in France.

- September, has been appointed as a Member of the International Jury for the competition, PEACE, the Youth Competition for Peace, 2018/2019 edition, France Télévision and Unesco.
- October/December, exhibits his collection, "La Terre est mon village", at the Centre Culturel Flamand de Forest in Brussels.

## 2020

- Produces a whole new collection of new works, acrylic and ink on paper, during the entire period of confinement. Scenes of confined families, inside their cottages.



Exhibition at the "Baya" gallery - Palace of Culture of Algiers - 2012



# MULTIDISCIPLINARY ARTIST



*HAMSI in the metro Lemonnier @ Steven Boxtel*

## A monumental work in the metro : "THE HANDS OF HOPE"

**More than one million commuters a year.**

To decorate the Lemonnier metro station in Brussels, the authorities turned to HAMSI, the Belgian artist of Algerian origin.

The creator of the famous "Hands of Hope", the station was inaugurated at the end of 1999. Ten years later, in

the occasion of the modernization work of this infrastructure, these drawings have been the subject of an

new image setting on enamelled sheet metal.

213 illustrated modules were installed and inaugurated

officially in June 2009, by the Minister of Transport, Pascal Smet. The realization of this set was followed, step by step, by the filmmakers Yves Gervais and Stéphanie Meyer, who made a film :

"Une empreinte de la vie", produced by the Brussels Video Centre.

### The Lemonnier metro

We know that, for several decades, the Brussels Region has welcomed a significant number of people of foreign origin, and particularly of North African origin. The Lemonnier metro station, among others, is located in a district of Brussels-City with a highly multicultural population. It is therefore a symbolically important place of passage, where the inhabitants of the district, schoolchildren, workers and travellers from the Gare Internationale du Midi station meet every day...

In 1998, the metro managers had to choose the artist who would decorate the station. They therefore turned to HAMSI, who was able to integrate perfectly into the Brussels world without rejecting anything of his native Berber culture. He decided to accept the



*Work located at the entrance of the station (3mx6m) @ Steven Boxtel*

proposal, and to work from hand silhouettes belonging to about forty of his friends.

These silhouettes, each of which therefore has its own identity and history, are enlarged, arranged in a dynamic composition, decorated with symbols inspired by traditional Kabyle motifs. They are painted on marine multiplex panels, themselves assembled in three large 5-metre high sets, which are fixed along the metro platforms.

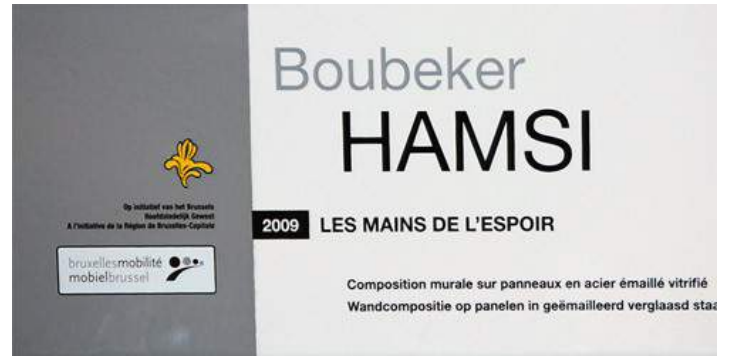
In addition, for the entrance to the station, HAMSI has created an original work of art in colour on 6 by 4 metres of enamelled sheet metal, representing various aspects of life in Brussels in the form of a mosaic.





# INAUGURATION OF THE STATION ILLUSTRATED BY THE ARTIST

The station was inaugurated for the first time by the Minister of Transport, Mr Jos CHABERT, at the end of 1999. Ten years later, on the occasion of the modernisation work on this infrastructure, the station was officially inaugurated in June 2009 by the Minister of Transport, Mr Pascal SMET. Several members of the government, members of the Algerian Embassy and Consulate, friends of the artist, as well as the press were present.









# INTERNATIONAL OPERATION IN FAVOUR OF OF PEACE "HANDS OF HOPE".

Multidimensional and international operation in favour of peace born in 1994 in Brussels, initiated and created by the artist B. HAMSI - More than 82 participating countries. In 2000, it received the label "Flagship Action for the Culture of Peace" from UNESCO.



Fresco created in Geneva, as part of the 3rd gathering of young people from the French-speaking world, on 20 March 1999.

## "If you want peace, prepare for childhood".

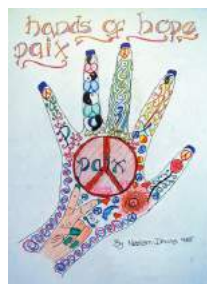
The "Hands of Hope" operation, supported and animated by the "AFOUS" association, has been launched since 1994 by the Algerian-born artist, HAMSI. The name "AFOUS" comes from Tamazight (Berber), and means hand. The open hand, a universal symbol of welcome, friendship and solidarity, has thus become, through the countless workshops and exhibitions that have taken place since then, a graphic medium whose meaning is accessible to all, young and old, elderly or disabled, from all countries and cultures. After the organisation of debates on human rights, respect for others and non-violence, each participant is invited to enrich the imprint of his or her own hand with a drawing and a message of peace and tolerance. HAMSI has chosen to launch, together with children from all over the world and, in particular, with children who are victims of war or genocide, a vibrant appeal for peace.



Lebanon



Nepal



United Kingdom



Algeria



China



Belgium



Iraq



India



## Some events around the world

### More than 82 participating countries.



India



Nicaragua



April 2000 - SENEGAL - DAKAR - On the sidelines of the World Education Forum - 01 April 2000



April - May 1999 - NETHERLANDS - ASSEN  
Mr. Relus Terbeek, Queen's Commissioner, symbolically handing over drawings to HAMSI, in the presence of members of Parliament.



November 2000 - BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA -  
Realisation of the Fresco of Reconciliation - Bogojno Cultural Centre - 01 November 2000.  
Realisation of the large fresco representing the Mostar Bridge.



July 1999 - ALGERIA - Souk El Tenine - "National Solidarity" Holiday Centre  
Child whose parents were murdered by terrorists.



January 2001 - AN INTERNATIONAL FRESKO  
LA FRESQUE SANS FRONTIERE, dedicated to undocumented migrants. Participants of various nationalities participated in the realisation of this fresco.  
It was to be presented at the UN headquarters in New York, during the meeting of the children's delegation and HAMSI with Mrs. Nane Annan on 18 September 2001.



# ACQUISITIONS

## Private collections

Private individuals in Belgium, France, the Netherlands, the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg, Switzerland, Spain, Greece, Italy, Algeria, the United States...

Charlier Museum (Belgium)

Lasne Museum (Belgium)

Museum of Spontaneous Art (Belgium)

Ris-Orangis Cultural Centre (France)

Emmen Art Centre (Netherlands)

Town Hall of the City of Kayl (Grand Duchy of Luxembourg)

Art For You Gallery (Algeria)

Wallonia Brussels Delegation in Algiers (Algeria)

## THE RECOGNITIONS

- **1989** - First prize of the Museum in the International Competition organised by the Museum of Naive Art of Lasne.

- **1990** - Diploma of participation in the 19th International Competition organised by the PRO ARTE KASPER Gallery in Switzerland.

- Diploma of Honour: International Exhibition "PRISMA 90", in Belgium.

- **2000** - Receives from UNESCO, the label "Flagship Action of the International Year for the Culture of Peace", in the framework of its international peace operation "Hands of Hope".

- **2000** - Promoted "Ambassador of Raviole" in Romans, France.

- **2009** - Promoted Officer of the Order of the Crown by the former Minister of Culture, Mrs. Fadila LAANAN, in Belgium.

- **2012** - Great Tribute, paid in his native town, during a ceremony organised by Mr Omar FETMOUCHE, director of the Regional Theatre MALEK BOUGUERMOUTH in Bejaïa, Algeria.

- **2013** - Promoted Knight of the Order of the Belgian Cross, awarded by the Royal Philanthropic Society of the Medallists and Decorated of Belgium.

- **2015** - Honourable Mention, Chelsea International Fine Art Competition, by Agora Gallerie in New York, USA.

- **2016** - Promoted "Honorary Citizen" at the Charlier Museum, Belgium.

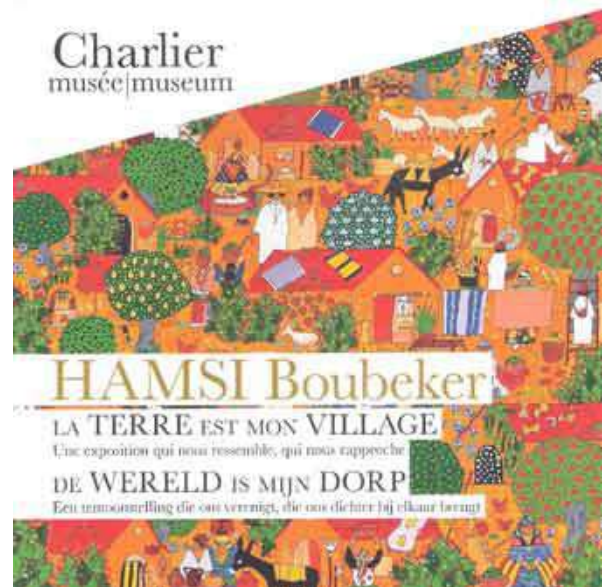
- **2019** - Designated by the Secretary General of the Belgian French and German-speaking Commission for UNESCO, as Member of the International Jury for the competition, PEACE, the Youth Competition for Peace, 2018/2019 edition, France Télévision and UNESCO.

## Publications

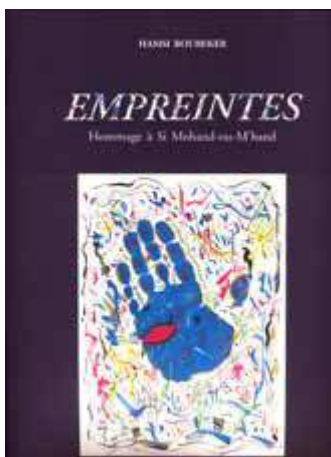
- Le Vieux, l'enfant et la canne, Casterman, 1988
- Si tu veux la paix prépare l'enfance, booklet /45 T Unicef profit, 1988
- Contes berbères de Kabylie, Brussels, EPO, bilingual book-cassette, 1991
- Aïcha, l'ogre et père Inouva, Brussels, Didier Hatier, 1990
- Itouma et la forêt trahie, Paris, L'Harmattan, Contes des quatre vents, 1993
- Prints, Book of art and poetry, in homage to Si Mohand-ou-M'hand, the great Kabyle poet. Illustrated with Berber graphics, Le Flambeau, 1994
- Reminiscences, HAMSI Boubeker and Agsous Nadia, Paris, Marsa Édition, 2012
- Contes kabyles de mon enfance, Book/CD in French version, Autoproduction, Cordon Musical asbl, 2014

## Catalogues

- Les mains de l'espoir, le pouvoir visuel de la main, 1999
- Les mains de l'espoir, une expérience artistique dans le métro, 2010
- La Terre est mon village, exposition au Centre culturel algérien à Paris, 2010
- Paroles tissées, exposition à la Maison des Cultures de Saint-Gilles à Bruxelles, 2012
- La Terre est mon village, exposition au Musée Charlier à Bruxelles, 2016
- La Terre est mon village, catalogue de l'exposition, 2018



- La Terre est mon village, exhibition at the Musée Charlier in Brussels, 2016



"Empreintes, Livre d'art et de poésie, in homage to Si Mohand-ou-M'hand, the great Kabyle poet. Illustrated with Berber graphics-1994



Hands of Hope, An art experience in the metro, 2010



Paroles tissées, exhibition at the Maison des Cultures de Saint-Gilles in Brussels, 2012



Hands of Hope, The Visual Power of the Hand, 1999

# INDIVIDUAL EXHIBITIONS



Musée Charlier 2016 Bruxelles

## 1988

April, Brussels, Cultural Centre for Immigrants  
June, Chaumont-Gistoux, House of Secularism 1989  
February, Brussels, Musée Charlier  
March, Brussels, Foyer culturel de Jette  
June, Brussels, artist's studio  
September, Brussels, Tower Bridge restaurant  
December, Brussels, Amicale des Algériens

## 1991

April, Brussels, Musée Charlier  
October, Paris, Algerian Cultural Centre

## 1992

October, Lasne, Museum of Naïve Art - First International Prize for Naïve Art

## 1993

April, Brussels, Centre L'Oasis  
May, London, Africa Center Gallery  
December, Paris, Galerie Librairie L'Harmattan

## 1994

June, Ris Orangis (France), Cultural Centre

## 1995

November, Brussels, Flemish Administrative Centre

## 1996

May, Mol, Cultural Centre  
July, Strasbourg, European Parliament  
November, Soignies, Art Centre

## 1997

January, Brussels, International Centre

February, Emmen (The Netherlands), Art Centre  
Mars, Brussels, Museum Hall in Schaerbeek  
Mars, Charleroi, Social Film Festival  
October, Charleroi, Maison de la Laïcité

## 1998

January, Brussels, Museum of Spontaneous Art  
At the same time Community Atrium  
French

May, Antwerp, 'Oud Badhuis'.

June, Paris, Algerian Cultural Centre

October, Brussels, Curo-Hall

December, Aiseau-Presles, Cultural Centre

## 1999

January, Brussels, Administrative Centre Heysel  
October, France, Galerie de l'Écureuil à Romans  
June, Netherlands, Assen Museum

## 2001

February, Brussels, Galerie Les Chartreux

## 2002

April, Cultural Centre of Schaerbeek

## 2003

June, Paris, Institut du Monde Arabe (collective).  
Illustrators of storybooks

## 2004

March, Seville (Spain), Andalusian Art Centre  
Contemporary (collective of storybook illustrators)





**2008**

February, Brussels, Maison de la Francité

March-April, Paris, Algerian Cultural Centre

November, Brussels, European Parliament

November-December, Brussels, Centre Armillaire de Jette

**2010**

May, Paris, Algerian Cultural Centre

**2011**

June, Grand Duchy of Luxembourg, Centre Culturel Schungfabrik de Kayl

**2012**

January - February, Brussels, Maison des Cultures de Saint-Gilles

May-June, Algeria, Algiers Palace of Culture - Baya Gallery

**2013**

February, Brussels, Groot Eiland Workshop

September, Brussels, "EXPO Artworld", Les Caves

May, Algeria, Bejaïa Regional Theatre

**2014**

February, Paris, City Hall, " 20ème Maghreb des Livres ".

March, Brussels, Art Compagny

**2015**

June, Grand Duchy of Luxembourg, Schungfabrik de Kayl

**2016**

Mars, Brussels, Charlier Museum

April-May, Sucy-en-Brie (France), Sucy Castle Orangery

**2017**

April, Paris, Algerian Cultural Centre

May-June, Brussels, Galerie Fedactio

**2018**

April-June, Brussels, The Black Wall

July-August, Algiers, Palais de la Culture

**2019**

April/May, Exhibition hall of the Intercommunal Media

Library of Longwy in France

October/December at Gc Tenweyngaert in Brussels

## **SOME EXHIBITIONS TO DISCOVER**

**Théâtre Régional de Bejaïa AB. Bouguermouh - Algérie - Bejaïa**  
**FROM 27 MAY TO 20 JUNE 2013**

**Musée Charlier - Belgium - Bruxelles**  
**FROM 04 TO 30 MARCH 2016 - More than 70 works exhibited**

**L'Orangerie du Château - France - Sucy-en-Brie**  
**FROM 09 APRIL TO 29 MAY 2016 - More than 70 works exhibited**

**Palais de la Culture - Galerie « Baya » Algérie - Algiers**  
**FROM 29 JULY TO 20 AUGUST 2018**

## Théâtre Régional de Bejaïa AB. Bouguermouh - Algérie - Bejaïa

FROM 27 MAY TO 20 JUNE 2013



The official opening of the exhibition in the presence of the Minister of Culture of the French Community of Belgium, Mrs Fadila LAANAN, the Wali of Bejaïa, Mr Hamou Ahmed Touhami, the Alderman of the City of Brussels, Mrs Faouzia Hariche, the Director of Wallonie Bruxelles en Algérie, Mr Roger Hotermans, the Head of Culture of the Wilaya, as well as in the presence of the elected representatives of the City of Bejaïa.

The public, who came in large numbers, discovered the 25 works of the artist HAMSI and was pleased with the enhancement and artistic quality of the works exhibited.

The visitors were able to find in the painted scenes, a large part of their village childhood, but also liked certain themes which comforted them in a concern to safeguard the customs of Kabylia. Moreover, they testified, through the guestbook, of the beauty of the colours and the work so meticulous and original (see some testimonies).

Workshops were animated every day (except Fridays) from 10 am to 6 pm by HAMSI Boubeker, Miss KACI Siham and Miss TAIBI Hakima.

In connection with the exhibition, this workshop offered the children the opportunity to familiarise themselves with the works on display, and then to create drawings in their turn in relation to one of the subjects described in each work.

Many of them were accompanied by their parents, who came to discover the exhibition in the presence of the artist, and were then invited to make a drawing inspired by one of the paintings on display.

The opening of the exhibition took place on 26 May and was a huge success.





## Conclusion

Ce qui se dégage de la plupart des dessins et gouaches d'Hamsi Boubekur c'est d'abord la tendresse du dessin, la gaucherie des couleurs et la chaleur des attitudes mais aussi l'attachement à une vie existentielle liée au groupe, à la vie en société où l'accès est mis sur la communication, la parole et le chant.

Les grandes compositions à thème d'Hamsi Boubekur nous étonnent sans cesse car on y découvre à chaque regard, une nouvelle scène, un nouveau visage, une autre attitude.

Voici un artiste qui utilise certains schémas de composition rigides, adaptés aux différentes scènes mais en maintenant l'effet de surprise. En outre, il utilise des supports assez originaux pour une peinture traditionnelle.

## LE GRAND REPAS

gouache, huile sur toile  
1960-1965

## LA FEMME ET LES OLIVES

huile sur toile  
1960-1965



## INFORMATIONS PRATIQUES

Titre de l'exposition: La terre est mon village  
Exposition présentée du 17 mai au 19 juin 2013  
Ouverture: Tous les jours de 10h à 18h - Entrée libre  
Lieu: Théâtre Régional Malek Bouguermouh de Bejaia - Hall des expositions

Responsable chargé de la communication  
Salim BOUABO, Chargé de la Communication  
Tél: 034 21 26 31 (standard) ou 0559 52 84 42  
E-Mail: salim.bouabo@trbjaia.org

## Localisation pour les ateliers

En lien avec l'exposition, cet atelier propose aux groupes d'enfants des études de la localisation des œuvres exposées, puis de les exposer, des dessins et croquis avec un des sujets que décrit chaque œuvre.

## Les ateliers seront animés par :

Mme VAC, BRYAM tel 0552 43 3779  
Mme WAG, HANNA tel 0145 22 52 19

## Sponsoring:

Le Théâtre Régional Malek Bouguermouh de Bejaia, l'organe par l'architecte Abdel MOKR, le Théâtre de Bejaia à Bejaia en 2013, la province de la municipalité de Bejaia, le Département de la municipalité de Bejaia, jusqu'à ce que la commune, le conseil municipal de la culture en 1995, l'État alors dirigé par l'Union Régionale, le Théâtre Régional de Bejaia par le conseil municipal d'Alger (1995), le 19 juin 1985, la détermination des artistes à ce lieu et l'État de Bejaia.

## Artiste

Hamsi Boubekur - www.hamsi.be - info@hamsi.be



Avec le soutien de  
Ministère de la Culture  
et de la Communication  
Bejaia - Bejaia en Algérie



La Terre est  
mon village

Exposition des œuvres  
d'Hamsi Boubekur

du 17 mai au 19 juin 2013

AU THÉÂTRE  
RÉGIONAL DE BEJAIA  
MALEK BOUGUERMOUTH  
Hall des expositions

BGAYET - Revue culturelle - 2012-2013

## Arts et Lettres

### La Banque de Données:

- \* Artistes plasticiens: 24 dont 09 femmes.
- \* Artisans: 27 dont 19 femmes.
- \* Sculpteurs: 10. L'opération de recensement est toujours en cours.

«Chaque homme est une humanité, une histoire universelle»  
- J. M. Cocteau

## Hommage à Boubekur Hamsi Chanteur, musicien, assistant ethnomusicologue et artiste peintre.

Hamsi Boubekur est un artiste plurilingue. Reconnu en Europe notamment en Belgique, cependant connu en Algérie comme à Bejaia sa terre natale.

Né le 22 Avril 1952 à Metougou dans la Wilaya de Bejaia, dans une famille de 11 enfants en plein guerre de libération nationale.

Passionné par l'art dès sa tendre enfance, d'abord, choriste à 11 ans au conservatoire de Bejaia, chez le grand maître du chant arabo-andalou Cheikh Sadek El-Bedjaoui.

La jeune Hamsi a été initié à plusieurs répertoires musicaux: andalou, chaabi et Kabyle. Quelque temps plus tard, il monte sur Alger, à la fois, pour faire des études et tester sa chance. Il y découvre en particulier le chant polyphonique, un univers merveilleux.

Puis, sonne l'appel du devoir national, avant d'être incorporé sous les drapeaux pour le service national de 1976 à 1978 où il crée et dirige un groupe de musique de sa caserne, Boubekur Hamsi réalise ses premiers 45 tours (Houma-Nedjma).

Couverture professionnelle le conduit au centre de recherches anthropologiques, préhistoriques et ethnologiques à Alger (CRAPE) en qualité d'assistant ethnomusicologue. Le centre est dirigé alors par Moufouad Mammeri, célèbre anthropologue et écrivain.

En 1979, départ vers la France où Boubekur Hamsi réussit à éditer plusieurs 45 tours aux éditions Aznavou.

Deux années plus tard le destin désigne un autre cap. Une nouvelle

destination, Hamsi Boubekur, s'installe à Bruxelles en 1981 et aussitôt crée un groupe de musique et organise des tournées en Belgique, en France, en Hollande et en Suisse.

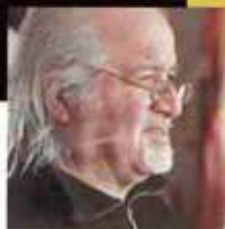
Sa position statutaire d'artiste le pousse à prendre position sur les questions de société. Il milite dans un mouvement antinucléaire pour la non-violence et la paix dans le monde. Le thème de la Paix dans le monde, va devenir l'identité sur laquelle s'efforcera l'œuvre artistique future de l'artiste.

Ensuite, plusieurs albums ont vu le jour entre 1982 et 1989. Il compose la musique du film documentaire de Kamel Dehane sur Kateb Yacine «L'Amour et la révolution», comme il compose également celle de «Territoires de la mémoire» pour la communauté Française.

Boubekur Hamsi élargit encore ses modes d'expression, en plus du chant, de la musique, de l'ethnomusicologie, il se met à l'écriture des contes pour enfants. Il réalise à ce sujet pour le compte de l'UNICEF plusieurs travaux s'inscrivant dans le cadre de la célébration de l'Année internationale pour la paix. Des petits livres ont été réalisés: «Si tu veux la paix, prépare l'enfance», «Le vieux, l'enfant et la canne» (édition Castelman), «Il y aura et la forêt tropicale» (édition Harmattan).

C'est seulement, qu'en 1988 que Boubekur Hamsi rencontre la peinture. L'art de peindre en ce qu'il a de magique et de vital. Il s'adonne à la peinture dite naïve. Une année plus tard (1989) il obtient le premier prix du concours international du musée d'Art naïf de Latine en Belgique.

Boubekur Hamsi semble



trouver enfin sa voie. À partir de 1990, il enchaîne les expositions. Il expose à Bruxelles, Paris, Londres, Pays-Bas, Suisse... La même année, 1990, Boubekur Hamsi profite de sa présence en Algérie pendant la saison estivale, pour se faire connaître en exposant ses toiles au Théâtre Régional de Bejaia.

Quelque temps après, un grand projet voit le jour: «Mains of Hope» ou «Les mains de l'espoir». Alors, l'artiste a besoin d'un cadre associatif qui puisse porter ses projets. Il crée en ce sens l'association «AFOLUS» (Amis de l'Art et de la Culture) basée à Kabylie. Celle-ci sera soutenue par l'UNESCO dès les années 2000, sous le label «Action phare pour la Culture de la paix». Une action est engagée en faveur de la paix dans le monde «La ronde de l'espoir» devenue par la suite «La ronde Universelle». Elle aura une audience universelle. D'abord, en Europe (Belgique, France, Bourse, Hollande, Allemagne...) et ailleurs au Maghreb et en Afrique (Algérie, Sénégal...).

L'opération ne cesse de mobiliser. Les visiteurs dessinent l'empreinte de leurs mains et dessinent un commentaire en faveur de la paix dans le monde. Celle-ci se veut à dimension universelle dont la vocation sera à caractère humaniste. Une véritable campagne en faveur de la tolérance et de la fraternité. Des scènes et des personnalités ont bien voulu parrainer l'opération (Arafat, Abbé-Pierre...) en offrant leurs mains en faveur de la non-violence et de la paix dans le monde «Les mains de l'espoir, une main pour la Paix par le respect des cultures». Plus de 80 Nations ont pris part activement à l'opération.





**Musée Charlier - Belgium - Bruxelles**  
**FROM 04 TO 30 MARCH 2016 - More than 70 works exhibited**

On this occasion, the artist was awarded the title of "Honorary Citizen" by the Mayor of the town of Saint-Josse, Mr Emir KIR, at the opening of the exhibition.

The collection " La Terre est mon village " seduced the guests, by the beauty of the paintings, the subjects and especially the shimmering colours which give a feeling of serenity and deep warmth in this beautiful Charlier Museum.

All the speakers underlined the remarkable artistic work of the painter, his generosity, his contribution to humanitarian activities in favour of peace, tolerance and respect for others.





« On retrouve dans son travail son âme d'enfant tant à travers des thèmes abordés qu'au fil des couleurs chatoyantes utilisées. »



## HAMSI Boubeker, villageois planétaire

Issu d'une famille nombreuse, HAMSI Boubeker a vu le jour en 1952 à Bejaïa, dans les prémices de la guerre d'Algérie. Habitant Saint-Josse depuis plus de 25 ans, cet artiste polyvalent et autodidacte est devenu un musicien, chanteur, conteur et peintre reconnu, dont la réputation n'est plus à faire tant en Belgique qu'à l'étranger.

Habitué à écouter chanter sa mère et sa grand-mère lors des mariages, HAMSI intègre, à onze ans, le Conservatoire traditionnel de son village natal en tant que choriste, où il prend des cours auprès du célèbre Sadek El Bejaoui, le « maître incontesté de la chanson andalouse ».

Animé par le désir d'en faire son métier, celui-ci tente l'aventure en France, et emménage à Paris en 1977 chez une de ses sœurs en vue d'enregistrer son premier album. Quand arrive la date butoir d'expiration de son visa, le disque de musique traditionnelle n'est pas encore prêt. Il part alors risquer sa chance en Belgique. Par un heureux hasard, il y fait la connaissance de Serge Moureaux, qui lui conseille d'aller à l'ambassade belge en Angleterre pour obtenir un visa d'artiste. À force de pugnacité, il devient le premier chanteur kabyle à tourner en Belgique dans les années 80.

Au-delà des nombreux concerts prestés au chant et à la guitare auprès de publics variés, il produit également des cassettes audio, deux vinyles (45 tours) et un album de contes berbères de Kabylie dont il réalise lui-même l'illustration de la pochette. Aidé par une voisine, il apprend les techniques de base du dessin, ce qui lui permet de représenter fidèlement des personnages présents dans les contes. Il s'émouvait de ce nouveau mode d'expression. Touché à cette période par le décès de son père et lassé d'endosser le rôle de manager/producteur, il abandonne peu à peu la musique pour se consacrer exclusivement à la peinture.

Dès la fin des années 80, il commence à exposer dans des Centres culturels. HAMSI est tourné vers le monde, il voyage et exporte ses tableaux en Europe, mais aussi en Algérie. L'art rythme son quotidien, lui donne du courage, lui permet de faire face à la perte de sa mère et à l'absence de sa famille en Belgique.

Son attrait pour l'art naît lui permet de remettre au goût du jour des motifs traditionnels, présents sur les tapisseries et les poteries, qui servaient de moyen de communication entre les femmes algériennes. Ses dessins parlent de ses souvenirs d'enfance, de contes et légendes, de rites ou encore de traditions, comme par exemple une cérémonie de mariage retracée sur une série d'assiettes, une toile représentant la guernière berbère « Kahina », ou encore « Le marché des figues de barbare » illustrant les célèbres concours kabyles de mangeurs de figues. On retrouve dans son travail son âme d'enfant tant à travers des thèmes abordés qu'au fil des couleurs chatoyantes utilisées. La peinture d'HAMSI lutte contre l'oubli qui menace sa culture et communique l'image globale d'une contrée, d'un mode de vie, tout en lui donnant une dimension onirique. Sa peinture est un mélange de décors géométriques inspirés de la tradition et de la représentation « réaliste et naïve » de personnages. Humanistes et anthropologiques, ses toiles sont régulièrement comparées au travail de Breughel; ce dernier l'a notamment inspiré pour « Le grand repas ».

En 1994, ce citoyen du monde s'active sur un nouveau projet. « Les mains de l'espoir » - la paix par le respect des cultures dans plus de 82 nations - pour lutter contre le racisme, sensibiliser au respect des droits humains ([www.mainsespoir.be](http://www.mainsespoir.be)). Découleront cinq ans plus tard, de grandes fresques picturales représentant des mains décorées au henné installées dans la station de métro Lemnier, où se croise au quotidien une population multiculturelle. Une marque de reconnaissance inestimable pour HAMSI, heureux que son travail soit visible pour le grand public dans un lieu populaire et de compter parmi les 59 références artistiques belges présentes dans les stations du transport bruxellois. Le Ministre de la Culture de la Communauté Française, Fadila Laanan, l'honore en 2009 du titre d'Officier de l'Ordre de la Couronne, décoration octroyée par l'État pour son mérite artistique.

Pour sa collection « La terre est mon village », présentée pour la première fois en Belgique (après Paris et l'Algérie), il retrouve le Musée Charlier où il a présenté plus de 70 œuvres en mars 2016: scènes de villages, tâches quotidiennes, richesses culturelles aujourd'hui en péril face à l'urbanisation. « Une exposition qui nous rassemble, qui nous rapproche » précise son auteur. À cette occasion, HAMSI Boubeker a été honoré Citoyen d'Honneur de Saint-Josse.

Les 3 endroits préférés d'HAMSI sont: le restaurant Omiros et ses charmants patrons, la place Saint-Josse et la commune en elle-même, ce village planétaire. HAMSI ne manque pas de rappeler son attachement à sa commune d'adoption. Il s'est d'ailleurs investi à plusieurs reprises dans les activités socio-culturelles communales (collaboration durant 5 ans avec le Musée Charlier: fête de la musique...). Il est aussi l'investigateur du projet « Moi aussi j'ai un rêve » (en référence au discours de Martin Luther King « I have a dream ») réalisé avec les enfants des écoles primaires de Saint-Josse.

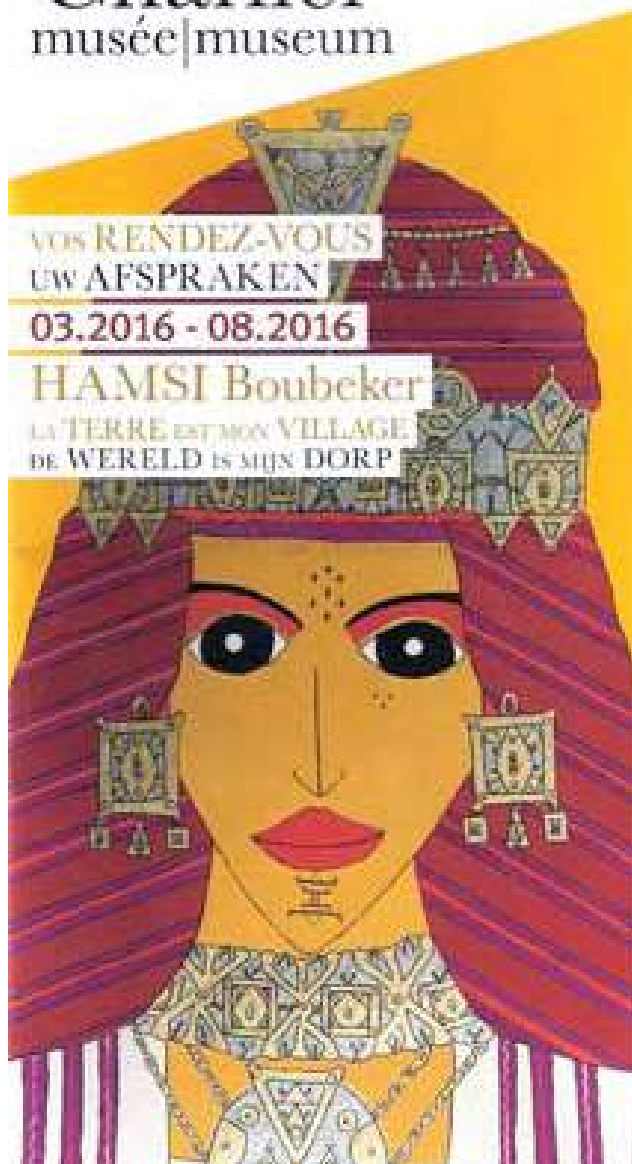
Une émission dans le programme « L'invitation » lui a été consacrée début mars 2016 sur la Trois (RTBF). À découvrir sur le web via [www.rtbf.be/l'invitation](http://www.rtbf.be/l'invitation).

INFO [www.hamsi.be](http://www.hamsi.be)

Bulletin d'information de la commune de Saint-Josse - Avril 2016

1210 printemps | 1<sup>er</sup> trimestre 2016 7

## Charlier musée | museum



**L'Orangerie du Château - France - Sucy-en-Brie**  
**FROM 09 APRIL TO 29 MAY 2016 - More than 70 works exhibited**



The Kabyle village, dreamed of by the painter HAMSI, arouses enthusiasm among a large public and amazed by the beauty of more than 40 works, exhibited until May 29th, at the Orangery of the Château de Sucy-en-Brie.

Mrs Marie-Carole Ciuntu, Mayor of Sucy-en-Brie and Vice-President of the Île-de-France Regional Council, stressed that the exhibition honours the whole town, as it symbolises the why of our struggle to look into its past in order to better understand the future, and that is simply magnificent.

Indeed, the theme of the exhibition? "An exhibition that resembles us, that brings us closer" has achieved its objective based on the comments of visitors. It shows us the daily and collective work of the villagers: weaving, pottery, preparation of whipped milk, butter, pancakes, work in the gardens and fields, olive picking and pressing, celebrations such as weddings, birth of a child... An exhibition with joyful and shimmering colours.

In reality, these are scenes where every visitor to the exhibition felt like an actor himself, and found, in a way, a sense of well-being after having peered each work.

The public thanked the artist for having brought warmth, lots of colour, joy, serenity and comfort to the Orangery of Sucy-en-Brie in these moments of conflict and sadness.





**Marie-Carole Ciuntu**

Maire de Sucy-en-Brie  
Vice-président du Conseil Régional  
d'Ile-de-France

**Luc Bourcier**

Adjoint au Maire  
en charge des Affaires Culturelles

**& L'équipe du Centre Culturel**

Ferme de Grand-Val

ont le plaisir de vous inviter au vernissage de l'exposition

## La TERRE est mon VILLAGE

ŒUVRES D'HAMSI Boubeker

Une exposition qui nous ressemble, qui nous rapproche

**Vendredi 8 avril 2016 à 19h**

Orangerie du Château - Avenue Georges Pompidou

Exposition du 9 avril au 29 mai 2016 / Orangerie du Château

Entrée libre mer. & sam. 9h -12h et 15h -18h, dim. 15h -18h

Renseignements : 01 45 90 25 12

Grand Village» acrylique sur toile 70x90cm





# PALAIS DE LA CULTURE D'ALGER MOUFDI ZAKARIA

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## LA TERRE EST MON VILLAGE OEUVRES D'HAMSI Boubeker

Sous le Haut Patronage  
du Ministère de la Culture Algérienne  
et de  
l'Ambassade du Royaume de Belgique à Alger

**INVITATION**  
**VERNISSAGE**  
26/07/2018 > 18h

**EXPOSITION**  
29/07/2018 > 22/08/2018

Plateau des Annassers, Kouba - Alger  
Tél. : Tél : 0776 147 893 ou 0672 147 893

Le vernissage sera rehaussé par la présence  
du Ministre de la Culture Algérienne,  
Monsieur Azzedine Mihoubi,  
par son Excellence l'Ambassadeur  
du Royaume de Belgique à Alger,  
Monsieur Pierre Gillon.



sabam



6

Loterie  
Nationale





**Palais de la Culture - Galerie « Baya » Algérie - Algiers**  
**FROM 29 JULY TO 20 AUGUST 2018**



Despite the summer period and the various events taking place in parallel in Algiers, and as usual, the exhibition of HAMSI's works attracted a large public who came to discover or rediscover the artist's paintings.

The important media in Algeria (TV, radio and written press) gave a wide echo to the exhibition of the works of the artist HAMSI, which took place at the Palace of Culture of Algiers Moufdi Zakaria - "Baya" Gallery. Among these media, the JT of Canal Algérie, the programme "Diasporama", Radio Algérie Internationale, Radio Culture, the written press APS, El Watan, El Moudjahid, Liberté, Le Soir d' Algérie, Algérie Patriotique, L'Expression, and many others.

The vernissage was inaugurated by the speeches of an official from the Ministry of Culture, the ambassador of the Kingdom of Belgium in Algiers and the artist.

Also present were the Director of the Palace of Culture, the Ambassadors of Croatia and Norway, the German Chargé d'Affaires and personalities from the world of art and literature: Mrs Djoher Amhiz, Mrs Samia Bensemane, Omar Fetmouche ...

In his speech, HAMSI, after presenting the theme of his exhibition, spoke of his great joy to meet the Algerian public again. He also spoke of his great gratitude to Belgium for recognising his artistic and humanitarian work.





## SOME PRESS EXCERPTS

**LE SOIR - Belgique - 30 avril 1991**

**Hamsi Boubeker, a complete and completely unclassifiable artist**

To say it's charming could be taken pejoratively; let's just say it's beautiful. Art, generally speaking, has no use for good intentions. But in this case, they do not detract from the value of the work. It is a fraternal anti-racist message, obviously, but indirectly. Above all, it is the way of expression of an unclassifiable man, situated somewhere in the middle of several cultures and several arts, between modernity and tradition.

**COUP de SOLEIL - Paris - janvier-février 1992**

A real Hamsi kid, all the more breathtaking as it is for him a simple artistic accident. Because this moody "young man" is originally a musician, storyteller and singer. It is by illustrating himself 4 years ago the cover of his album dedicated to "Tales of Kabylia" that we discover his pictorial talent as fresh as singular.

**DRENTSE COURANT - Pays-Bas - 12 mai 1999**

Translated from Dutch

Assen. "In the name of Peace".

This sentence is from Mr. Refus Terbeek, the Queen's commissioner, who in the province of Drenthe, as the last participant, affixed the seal of closure to the project of the artist HAMSI Boubeker.

As part of the celebration on 5 May, Boubeker collected some ten thousand hand drawings in the province of Drenthe. Since April Boubeker has collected similar drawings from all over the world.

The operation started a few years ago. In the year 2000 he wants to hand them over to UNESCO and the UN in Paris and New York respectively. The aim of this action is to proclaim an international day of peace.

**Revue FRANCITE trimestre 2008**

**Hamsi, art and life**

HAMSI Boubeker's work cannot be understood outside this maelstrom of images and feelings which often breaks out with violence, a violence that is contained, voluntarily muffled, embellished, decorated, illuminated, but which is deaf everywhere, texts as well as drawings.

HAMSI's work is also a lesson in truth and a credo of justice. His formidable enterprise of the "Hands of Hope", led all the way to the U.N., is there to bear witness.

"The richness of an identity is the light of its colour. It blends with other colours, without dominating them."

This is the inspired statement of the poet Si Mohand, published and illustrated by Hamsi. The homage is intended for fraternal humanity.

**ZEITUNG VUM LËTZEBUERGER VOLLEK - Grand Duché du Luxembourg - 19 mai 2016**

Michel Schroeder

**The artist Hamsi Boubeker**

The Earth is his village, a village without borders

From the first moments I had the pleasure of seeing a painting by Hamsi Boubeker, I felt that this artist, through his work, had important things to say, to communicate, to make us feel. In the end, simple things, within everyone's reach. It is enough, as the artist says, to open one's eyes, as well as one's heart, to grasp the immense tenderness of the world and learn to share, to meet the other, to exchange with the other.

Hamsi Boubeker is a great lover of life. From every experience, every encounter, every memory, he manages to extract a lesson of confidence in the world and in people. And it is these lessons that he shares with us through his art and his many activities.

**EL MOUJAHID - Algérie - 14 décembre 1994**

**Memory Doors**

This quest, this tendency to want to use the treasures of the past to reveal all the riches of a fertile memory, the prefacer seems to have understood this in Hamsi, when he wrote: "Fighting for beauty, singing life, diving into memory to universalise the message. ..., to bend the weapons of revolt or hope, to be faithful to the past in order to better project oneself into the universe..., such is the protean quest of Hamsi Boubeker, poet and author, painter and singer, naive and extralucid".

**LIBERTE - 10 mai 2012 - Par Aminre Idjer**

**A universal paint**

... Hamsi Boubeker paints Algeria in all its richness and splendour, revealing a talent free of any aesthetic constraint. His works are an uncovering of his heart and soul.

He paints authenticity. Whether with acrylic or Indian ink, the artist translates the sure, supple gesture, but also the look sensitive to beauty and sincerity. Softness in a rough world.

A window on a radiant childhood. Reminiscences of the past, dazzling and bursting of colours, Hamsi's painting is part of universality by its detachment from any rule of aesthetics.



## PRESENTATION OF SOME WORKS

### LA TERRE EST MON VILLAGE WORKS OF HAMSI



*Le Village de pêcheurs* - Acrylic and Indian ink on canvas (50x70 cm)



# PLUSIEURS PHASES DANS LA CREATION SON STYLE ET SA TECHNIQUE



HAMSI dans son atelier à Bruxelles © Nushin Granfar- Steven Boxtel

## La peinture

Avant d'être peintre, HAMSI a été musicien et chanteur. Il chantait en kabyle et mélangeait les instruments traditionnels et modernes dans un ensemble de sonorités d'horizons très différents. Ces chants d'inspiration traditionnelle ont en souvenir les chants des femmes de son enfance.

Ce sont elles aussi qui vont l'amener à peindre à partir de 1988. HAMSI décide de coucher sur papier les jolis contes kabyles que lui racontait sa grand-mère, et de les illustrer lui-même.

Il s'ensuit la publication d'un des contes de Kabylie chez Casterman et le début d'une carrière de peintre.

Ce sont en effet les femmes de Kabylie qui ont donné à HAMSI le goût de la peinture. Même s'il n'y a pas de tradition de peinture de chevalet dans la culture kabyle et que le mot « art » n'existe pas, la peinture décorative est omniprésente. Les femmes décorent les poteries de motifs qui remontent parfois aux temps préhistoriques et qui ont été transmis de mère en fille. Ces motifs géométriques et graphiques, que l'on retrouve aussi sur les murs des maisons ou sur les tapis, peuvent exprimer des croyances, éloigner le mauvais œil ou simplement servir de moyen de communication entre elles.

Même si les femmes de Kabylie ont ainsi véhiculé leur culture à travers les siècles, l'industrialisation,

le remplacement des objets traditionnels en terre cuite par des objets en plastique, la désertion des villages par les jeunes, plongent, petit à petit, cette culture ancestrale dans l'oubli.

Lutter contre l'oubli de sa culture, faire connaître l'art de ces femmes kabyles mais surtout exprimer toute sa tendresse et son attachement aux couleurs, aux formes de son passé, c'est ce qui pousse HAMSI à peindre.

Si la peinture de HAMSI est d'esprit essentiellement kabyle, elle ne se réfère pas aux objets, aux motifs, aux traditions kabyles de manière descriptive et encyclopédique. Ainsi, les costumes ou les bijoux que portent les femmes dans ses gouaches diffèrent parfois des costumes ou des bijoux kabyles traditionnels.

HAMSI prend des libertés vis-à-vis de ces motifs, et même si le détail semble primordial dans ses gouaches, c'est l'idée globale d'une région, d'un mode de vie qu'il nous communique. Il ne se réfère pas aux livres, ne prend pas de notes pour nous rendre des images photographiques mais se fie à son souvenir, à la spontanéité de sa peinture pour nous émouvoir.



# Quatre phases dans la création

## Son style et sa technique



**La Naissance**

Acrylique et encre de Chine sur toile( 50 cm x 70 cm)

Cette peinture, à la fois naïve et pleine de charme, prend forme au gré de l'imagination de l'artiste qui n'a pas d'idée préconçue de l'œuvre terminée mais qui « se laisse aller » dans son passé, sans balise, sans retenue.

Ce peintre, entièrement autodidacte, nous ouvre une fenêtre sur son enfance, nous fait partager son admiration pour la femme de Kabylie dans une technique simple et directe.

Il trace d'abord au crayon les contours des silhouettes puis il les repasse à l'encre de Chine. Il met ensuite en couleur (travaillant à l'économie, il colorie d'abord tous les éléments d'une même couleur). Ensuite, il repasse à nouveau à l'encre de Chine pour accentuer le graphisme.

Il utilise de l'acrylique ou de la gouache sortie du pot, sans la mélanger, et l'étale en à-plats de couleur sans aucun modelé. La magie des couleurs relève d'une dextérité et d'une spontanéité née chez HAMSI. Il colore l'âme de sa toile, au fur et à mesure de sa création. Ce sont des séries de petites taches de couleurs qui révèlent tantôt un visage, tantôt un arbre ou une jarre. Les couleurs vives - qui sont celles des robes et des bijoux en métal cloisonné, décorés de corail- se répondent et font vibrer la surface de la toile. HAMSI est un véritable magicien de la couleur.

Certains schémas de composition sont répétés, un peu comme dans les scènes flamandes ; les scènes qui comprennent de nombreux personnages se déroulent dans un même plan au sein de l'œuvre. Ces scènes sont pourtant d'une variété extraordinaire, et parmi les femmes qui s'activent à leur travail, certaines rient, d'autres discutent, on peut voir des arbres bleus, de l'herbe jaune, des oiseaux oranges...

Cet univers presque onirique semble paradoxal quand on pense aux conditions de vie difficiles des paysannes de Kabylie.

Pourtant, les couleurs chaudes de leurs robes, leurs grands yeux rieurs, les arbres gorgés de fruits, les figues de barbarie en abondance nous font croire à un petit paradis terrestre comme il n'en existe que dans l'imagination des enfants.

HAMSI fait preuve de beaucoup d'originalité dans le choix de ses supports. S'il peint généralement sur papier ou sur toile, il décore aussi des objets usuels comme des calebasses, des miroirs, des assiettes, un peu à la manière des potières kabyles.

Sa peinture est un mélange de décors géométriques inspirés de la tradition et de représentation « réaliste et naïve » de personnages.

Les personnages ont des gestes un peu schématiques et leur position est le plus souvent strictement frontale, mais leur activité est décrite avec minutie. La spontanéité prend la place de la maîtrise technique d'une peinture académiquement parfaite.

# UNE EXPOSITION ITINERANTE

## ***La Terre est mon village***

Il s'agit de plusieurs œuvres, issues de la collection *La Terre est mon village* inspirée des scènes quotidiennes de sa Kabylie natale. Des scènes ravivées à travers son inspiration et ses souvenirs d'enfance.

Ses œuvres à portée universelle se réfèrent, selon le public averti, à Brueghel et à la peinture de genre caractérisée par la description de l'action humaine.

HAMSI a voulu lui rendre hommage en peignant *Le Grand Repas*, mais, en figurant la vie quotidienne des Kabyles, il s'est rendu compte que quelques thèmes de ses toiles (*Le Mendiant*, *Le Bétail*, *Le Retour de la Chasse*, *A l'ombre des oliviers*, *La Danse du mariage*, ou encore *Autour de la Moisson*) existent également dans la peinture de Brueghel. Nombreuses sont les représentations de jeux d'enfants, les fêtes, les méthodes de production artisanale. C'est une façon de vivre ensemble.

L'artiste veut aussi témoigner, transmettre son amour pour les femmes de son enfance.

HAMSI nous montre un monde qui n'existe pas comme les scènes de Brueghel ne sont plus des réalités. C'est un mélange des cultures, source d'inspiration.

## **AVANT PROPOS...**

La collection « La Terre est mon village » a été présentée en mai 2010, à Paris, au Centre Culturel Algérien, en juin 2013 à Bejaïa au hall des expositions du Théâtre Régional de Bejaïa AB. Bouguermouh, et quelques œuvres de la collection en février 2014, à l'Hôtel de Ville de Paris, lors du 20e « Maghreb des Livres ». En mars 2016, elle a été exposée à Bruxelles au Musée Charlier, puis en avril/mai à Sucy-en-Brie, à l'Orangerie du Château de Sucy. En mai 2017, elle a été présentée à Bruxelles à la Galerie-Fédactio, et en juillet/Août 2018 à Alger, au Palais de la Culture, « Galerie Baya », du 28 avril au 15 mai 2019, à la Médiathèque Intercommunale de Longwy en France, et en octobre/Décembre 2019 au Gc Tenweyngaert à Bruxelles.

Les toiles relevées à l'acrylique et à l'encre de Chine qui représentent pour l'essentiel des scènes villageoises et des travaux quotidiens, et dont les titres sont éloquentes : *Pressage des olives*, *Les Potières*, *Au retour du puits*, *Femme parée*, *La Besogne du matin ou encore*, *Les Belles Kabyles...*

On y retrouve l'amour de l'artiste pour la lumière et les couleurs vives, pour le spectacle des femmes.

Les représentations de fêtes, de mariages, de souks, mais aussi des scènes de la vie quotidienne sont foisonnantes, « grouillantes » de vie et de couleurs. Les personnages, figurés frontalement avec des poses quelque peu schématiques, décrivent les activités avec minutie.

Ce qui se dégage de la plupart des toiles de HAMSI, c'est d'abord la candeur du dessin, la gaieté des couleurs et le charme des attitudes mais aussi l'attachement à une vie extrêmement liée au groupe, à la vie en société où l'accent est mis sur la communication, la parole et le chant. Les grandes compositions à thème de HAMSI nous étonnent sans cesse car on y découvre, à chaque regard, une nouvelle scène, un nouveau costume, une autre attitude.

La société moderne est en conflit avec ses racines. Assoiffé des traditions ancestrales et de la beauté du vivre-ensemble, HAMSI donne vie à ce passé en peignant des thèmes autour du village, avec précision, justesse et passion.

Les œuvres de HAMSI véhiculent aussi des valeurs humaines que ses parents lui ont transmises dans son enfance, telles que le partage, le respect, le volontariat, ou encore l'offrande.

Les œuvres telles *L'waâda* (l'offrande), *Les Beignets*, *La Djemâa*, *Autour du kanoun*, *Pressage des Olives*, *Le Grand repas* racontent les gestes quotidiens des Kabyles dans leurs rapports sociaux, où chacun apporte son aide à l'autre. Récolter les olives, les presser, construire une maison, organiser les fêtes, sont le fruit d'un volontariat.

Les toiles de HAMSI nous plonge, à notre tour, dans notre enfance, et nous fait découvrir la richesse de notre passé.

Les expositions, déjà présentées, ont réuni des enfants, des jeunes, des personnes âgées, des amoureux de l'art, des collectionneurs, des riches, des pauvres... Bref, des personnes qui se sont rapprochées autour des toiles, pour mieux partager ce qui leur ressemble. C'est une exposition qui parle à l'humain.

L'œuvre de HAMSI est une véritable passerelle entre les visiteurs avides de découvrir la vie sociale, les us, et la culture de l'autre.

Voilà un artiste qui utilise certains schémas de composition répétés adaptés aux différentes scènes mais en maintenant l'effet de surprise. En outre, il utilise des supports assez originaux pour une peinture naïve.





*La Besogne du matin* - Acrylic and Indian ink on canvas (70x90 cm)



*Pressage des olives* - Acrylic and Indian ink on canvas (70x90 cm)





*Préparatifs du grand repas* - Acrylic and Indian ink on canvas (50x70 cm)



*Le Grand Repas* - Acrylic and Indian ink on canvas (70x80 cm)





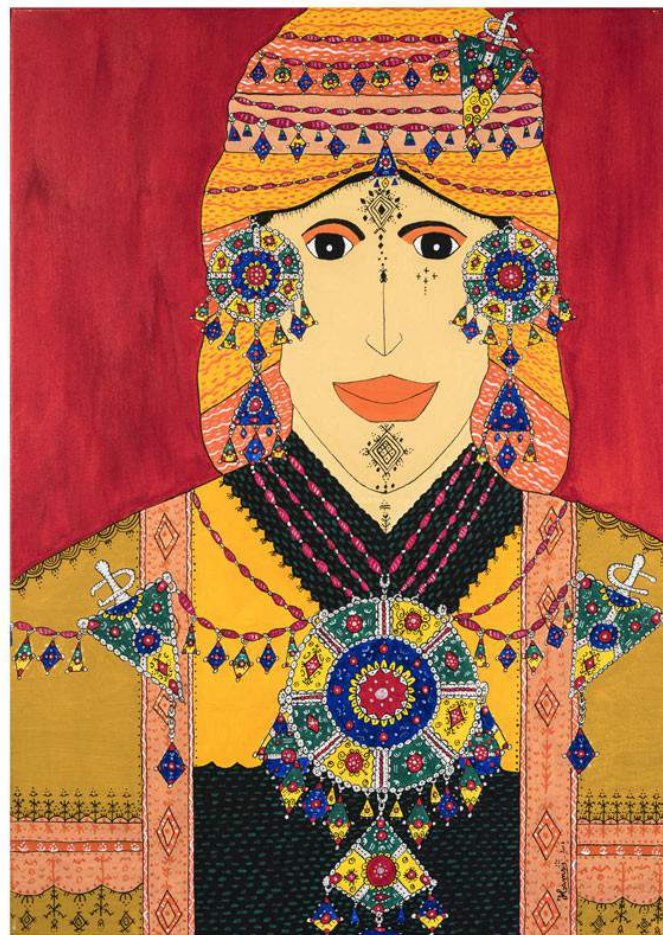
*Jour de fête* - Triptych made of 3 elements of 70 x 90 cm, acrylic and Indian ink on canvas

Le mariage est la fête la plus importante. Elle s'articule bien évidemment sur la mise en valeur de la mariée. La mariée reçoit le coffre qui contiendra ses effets personnels lorsqu'elle s'installera chez son mari. Elle est parée de ses plus beaux vêtements et bijoux, ses mains et ses cheveux sont teints au henné. Ce sont des mariages qui se font avec peu de moyens et il n'y a pas de dot. Le mariage se fait souvent au sein d'une même famille, dans une même tribu, dans un même village. La fête du mariage, comme beaucoup de fêtes, est accompagnée d'un repas dont le plat traditionnel fait partie de la fête.

Ici, on voit au milieu de l'œuvre, la mariée accompagnée d'un groupe de femmes, pour la cérémonie du henné.



*Assia*  
Acrylic and Indian ink on canvas (50x70 cm)



*Femme Parée*  
Acrylic and Indian ink on canvas (50x70 cm)





*Le Cortège de la mariée - Acrylic and Indian ink on canvas (50x70 cm)*



*Le Bain maure - Acrylic and Indian ink on canvas (50x70 cm)*





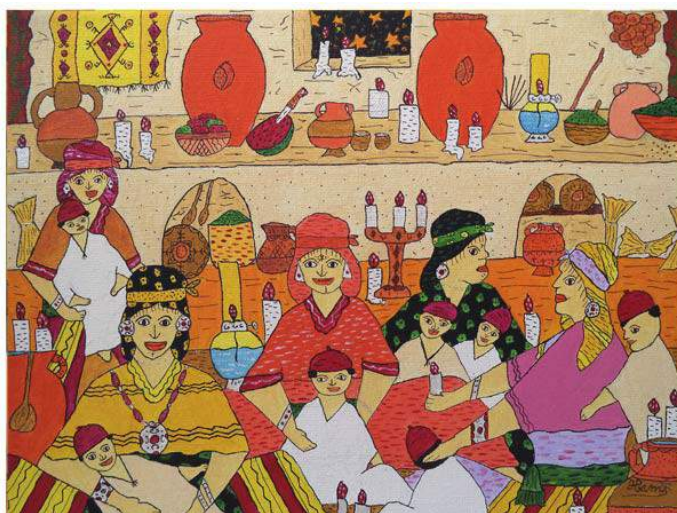
*La Grande Famille - Acrylic, Indian ink on canvas - (72x99 cm)*

Comme indiqué, auparavant, les familles kabyles comptent en général beaucoup d'enfants. Ce sont eux qui reprendront, dans le futur proche et lointain, le flambeau de leurs aïeuls.

Ici l'artiste a voulu représenter l'ensemble de toute une grande famille : les grands-parents, les parents, les hommes et les femmes mariés, ainsi que leurs petits enfants. Le nombre de personnes semble exagéré. Cela est voulu par l'artiste, d'une façon, à la fois, intentionnelle et incontournable, afin de marquer l'importance de la famille ainsi que celle du foyer. Une œuvre qui n'est pas le fruit du hasard mais elle est l'ancrage de l'artiste et de son enfance dans ce paysage étant donné que HAMSI vient, lui aussi, d'une grande famille de onze enfants.

Dans ce type de familles, les mariages se font, généralement, entre cousins et cousines, dans le but de préserver la famille, l'héritage et d'assurer la succession au sein de la même famille.

Dans l'œuvre, un des enfants tient une photo. Ainsi, il rend hommage à son arrière grand-père décédé, pour ne pas tomber dans l'oubli.



*Autour du conte*

Acrylic, Indian ink on canvas - (40x50 cm)



*Autour de l'enfant circoncis*

Acrylic, Indian ink on canvas - (40x50 cm)





**La Cuisine du jour** - Set of 4 elements of 70x90 cm, acrylic and Indian ink on canvas (90x280 cm)

Le rôle de la femme dans la société kabyle est très important. Elle s'occupe de la maison et des enfants, ce qui implique qu'elle doit penser à l'instruction, à la nourriture (préparer le repas mais aussi cultiver les aliments, les conserver), fabriquer et entretenir les vêtements. Son rôle est primordial et elle a tout à dire au sein de la maison. Le père s'appuie sur elle pour toutes les tâches du quotidien. L'idée péjorative de « la femme au foyer » n'existe pas en Kabylie car son travail domestique est mis en valeur. Elle est maîtresse de maison, le père donne une partie de la paie à sa femme. Les travaux les plus durs ont toujours été faits par les hommes. Le but de HAMSİ est de mettre en évidence le travail de la femme dans sa maison et la créativité dont elle fait preuve dans sa demeure (décorations, chants, contes, etc).

Parmi les tâches, la préparation du beurre et du petit lait. Les femmes placent le lait dans unealebasse qu'elles suspendent à une poutre du plafond puis la balancent tout en chantant. Les chants sont tantôt très lents et a cappella, tantôt très rythmés et accompagnés du bendir (ou tambourin).

La préparation du couscous demande beaucoup de travail. Ce travail se fait souvent dans la cour de la maison avec les autres femmes du village : il faut rouler la semoule, la passer, la cuire, puis préparer la viande et les légumes.

Le tissage est une tâche essentielle. Il permet de fabriquer des couvertures, des vêtements. Il faut d'abord tondre les moutons, filer la laine et la teindre, puis la tisser en prenant soin de la décorer.

Anciennement, les femmes de Kabylie ne possédaient pas d'outils ménagers manufacturés achetés au marché comme c'est le cas actuellement. Elles réalisaient elles-mêmes les jarres ou akoufi, les bols, les plats, les tajines selon des techniques très anciennes. Il s'agissait d'aller chercher de la bonne terre glaise, de la malaxer et de la débarrasser des impuretés, ensuite, il fallait façonner l'objet, le décorer, le vernir et le cuire.



**Pause culinaire** - Acrylic and Indian ink on canvas (50x70 cm)



**Le Repas** - Acrylic and Indian ink on canvas (50x70 cm)



**Les Potières** - Acrylic and Indian ink on canvas (50x70 cm)





*Le Retour de la pêche*- Acrylic and Indian ink on canvas (50x70 cm)



*La Grande pêche* - Acrylic and Indian ink on canvas (50x70 cm)



## The plate collection - Cold ceramic on plates

The artist, also has a whole collection of painted plates, cold ceramic on plates. Part of it was presented during his exhibition in February 2008 at the Maison de la Francité, and in April 2016 at the Musée Charlier.

Plates of various shapes representing still lifes, women during their daily work, fish, the henna rite.



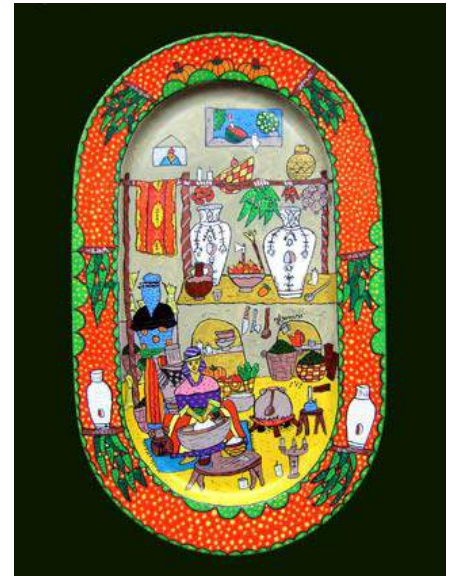
*La Nuit du henné*  
Set of five plates



*La Nuit du henné* - Continuation of the series



*Bouquet ensoleillé*



*Intérieur*



*Les Fruits assortis*



*Bouquet éternel*



# PAROLES TISSEES

## Banners and canvases inspired by Kabyle motifs



The banners « *Paroles Tissées* » - acrylics on special paper.

Not that he plans to become a weaver himself, but, inspired by this craft, which is largely in the hands of women, he imagines creating pieces on paper that evoke Kabyle tapestries, and which are intended to be hung on walls.

To continue the work of the craftsmen by giving it an extra dimension, a new destiny, in short, a future.

Towards the end of 2005, however, HAMSI imagined a very different artistic formula, with a slightly more austere appearance: what he would later call "banners", sorts of long strips of paper covered with decorative motifs, most often abstract.

HAMSI did not choose this new way at random, and even less under the influence of fashion. Quite naturally, he turns once again to the Kabyle culture, where we know that weaving occupies one of the most important places among the customary activities.

Inspired by this craft, he imagines creating on paper pieces that evoke Kabyle tapestries, and which are intended to be hung on walls. More precisely, the models of yesteryear play the role of starting points for him: in his ornamentation work, he takes up a certain number of traditional motifs, reinterprets them in his own way, then frees himself from them to invent totally original figures, which allows him to escape the risk of monotony and to obtain a great plastic diversity.

The collection was presented in January 2012, at the Maison des Cultures in Saint-Gilles, Belgium, in May 2012, at the Palais de la Culture in Algiers at the "Baya" gallery, in Algeria, and in 2015, at the Schungfabrik in Kayl, at the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg. In addition to this collection, the "Woven Motifs", another collection composed of more than 30 works, acrylic on canvas. The latter was exhibited in April 2017 at the Centre Culturel Algerian in Paris, and in March/April 2018, at The Black Wall in Brussels.





# THE HANDS OF HOPE PEACE THROUGH RESPECT FOR CULTURES

Has obtained the UNESCO label  
"Flagship Action of the International Year for the Culture of Peace."



Workshops in Senegal

## THE PARTNERS

UNESCO (as part of the International Year for the Culture of Peace), World Education Forum (Senegal), 6th World Conference on Peace Education, under the High Patronage of Mr Lionel Jospin, former French Prime Minister, General Secretariat of the Francophonie, UN in Brussels, OXFAM, CNCD (National Centre for Cooperation and Development), Amnesty International, Ligue des Droits de l'Homme, atd Quart monde, the UN in Brussels, Equal in Development asbl, the European Parliament in Strasbourg, the European Parliament in Brussels, the European schools, the City of Romans (France), Association communication (Romans- France), "Ruka Mira"-Mains de la Paix (Bosnia), organised by Écoliers du Monde, the UNPA in Brussels, the City of Lorient (France), the Parliament of the City of Assen (Netherlands), Hague Appeal for Peace - The Hague (Netherlands), the European Centre for Culture and Information - Erfurt (Germany), the International Committee of Dachau (Belgium), Démocratie ou Barbarie, the Wallonia-Brussels Government, the Ministry of the French Community (Directorate-General for Culture - Permanent Education Department), the Ministry of Defence (Priority to Peace), the Ministry of Education, the Directorate General of Catholic Education in the French and German-speaking communities, Ministry of Mobility and Transport, Ministry of Telecommunications, the French Community Commission of the Brussels-Capital Region, the Brussels Parliament, Teachers for Peace-Ramonville (France), Directorate General of Youth - Bejaïa (Algeria), the League of Families, Moral Assistance to Detainees (Belgium). ..

HAMSI participated in the promotion of Manifesto 2000, for a culture of peace and non-violence.

- More than 82 countries participated ;
- Tens of thousands of hand drawings made;
- Works by artists of various origins;
- Handprints of numerous personalities from the world of politics, literature, culture and sports;
- More than one hundred exhibitions and hundreds of workshops.



# SOLIDARITY PERSONALITIES

Some of the handprints of these personalities were given directly to Hamsi, or through Valérie EXPERT, former producer and presenter on FR3, currently journalist on LCI, by Pierre Galant, or by friends of Hamsi.

Among the latter, several of them, belonging to the political, artistic, literary, spiritual, scientific and sports circles, answered positively to the call of HAMSI, the Argentinian Adolpho Esquivel, Nobel Peace Prize winner (1980); posthumously the Palestinian Yasser Arafat, Nobel Peace Prize winner (1994); Bernard Miyet, former UN Number 2; Boutros Boutros-Ghali, former Secretary General of the United Nations; Abbé Pierre; the Belgian painters Jean Michel Folon and Roger Somville; Pierre Galant, President of the UNPA, Belgium; French philosopher and biologist Albert Jacquard; Professor Schwarzenberg; Danielle Mitterrand, President of France Liberté; Daniel Cohn-Bendit, former student leader of May 68 and former European Parliamentarian; André Flahaut, former Belgian Minister of Defence; Salvatore Adamo ; Cesária Évora ; Khaled ; Georges Moustaki ; Jean-Paul Belmondo ; IDIR ; Michel Galabru ; Maurane ; Philippe Lafontaine ; Patrick Sébastien ; Toon ; Van Dormael Jaco ; Henry Vernes ; Tibet ; Toots Thielemans ; Annie Cordy ; Wolinski ; Smain ; Valérie Expert . ... and many others who will forgive us for not being mentioned in this paragraph.

## Some messages from personalities

**Adolpho Perez Esquivel, Nobel Peace Prize 1980 - Argentina :**

"Peace and good for all the children of the world. Always you will meet the light and spring will blossom".

**Yasser Arafat, President of the Palestinian Authority - Nobel Peace Prize 1994 :**

" *With my best wishes for peace* ".

**Abbé Pierre**

"*For the weakest, peace is there*".

**Danielle Mitterrand, President of France liberté :**

"*A hand attentive to the aspirations of a heart and a mind that dictate the gestures of friendship and love that humanity needs*".

**Boutros-Boutros Ghali, former Secretary General of the United Nations and former Secretary General of the Francophonie :**

"*Peace - Development - Democracy*".

**Bernard Miyet, former Under-Secretary-General of the United Nations :**

"*It is with heart and conviction that this hand strives to guide those in charge of United Nations peacekeeping operations on the path of justice, reconciliation and prosperity for and between all peoples...*".

**Daniel Cohn-Bendit, Member of Parliament :**

"*Long live dirty hands*".

**Salvatore Adamo, Singer of variety shows:**

"*May this hand be one of the millions of others that will make the chain that leads to peace*". *Inch'allah* ".



# THE HANDS OF HOPE

## WORKS OF HAMSI BOUBEKER

**This collection of works has been created since 1993 and gave birth to the international operation "Hands of Hope" - Peace through Respect for Cultures.**

**HAMSI Boubeker initially produced about seventy works illustrating the hand in favour of Peace, Respect for the Other and Tolerance.**

Before launching, in 1994, the international operation "Hands of Hope", these works were the subject of a travelling exhibition to which school children, humanitarian associations and a large public were invited. In Belgium: at the Musée d'Art Spontané, the Ministry of the French Community, the Town Hall of Schaerbeek, the Cultural Centre of Mol...and abroad: at the European Parliament in Brussels, the European Parliament in Strasbourg, the Museum of Assen (Holland), the Algerian Cultural Centre in Paris, the Galerie l'Écureuil (Romans France), in an exhibition centre in the City of Lorient, the Cultural Centre of the City of Kayl in the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg...

At each exhibition, drawing workshops are created so that visitors can, in turn, illustrate the tracing of their hands by inscribing a message of peace.

It is from this approach that the international operation "Hands of Hope" was born. The works of HAMSI are meant to be a call for peace, for fraternity between peoples.

Some of these works were illustrated in the mouth of the " LEMONNIER " metro in Brussels, inaugurated in December 1999 by the Minister of Transport Jos CHABERT, and later in a new restoration of the mouth of the metro, inaugurated by the Minister of Transport Pascal SMET, on 17 April 2009.

Some of these works are intended to be a tribute to international organisations whose aim is to defend peace, human rights, tolerance and respect for diverse civilisations.

Among these works, you will find : Testimony - UN (Set of 7 paintings) - Gouache on paper, homage to the UN, Human Rights - Gouache on canvas - 1 m x 80, homage to the League of Human Rights, Peace through the union of peoples - Gouache on canvas - 60x80, homage to the European Parliament, The Bars of Deliverance (Set of 9 paintings) Gouache on paper - 40 x 55, tribute to Amnesty International, Awakening - Marie-Djamila's hand print - (one hour after her birth) - Gouache on paper - 15x16, tribute to UNICEF, Green Peace - Gouache on paper - 27x30.









**« Les Droits de l'Homme »**  
 Gouache on canvas 1 m x 80



## Some selected works by the artist



« Témoignage » - ONU  
Set of 7 paintings  
Gouache on paper





*Africa will take off* - Gouache on canvas 40x50  
Handprint of Pierre Galand - UNPA President



*La Paix par l'union des peuples* - Gouache sur toile 40x50  
Empreinte de Pierre Galand - Président de l'APNU

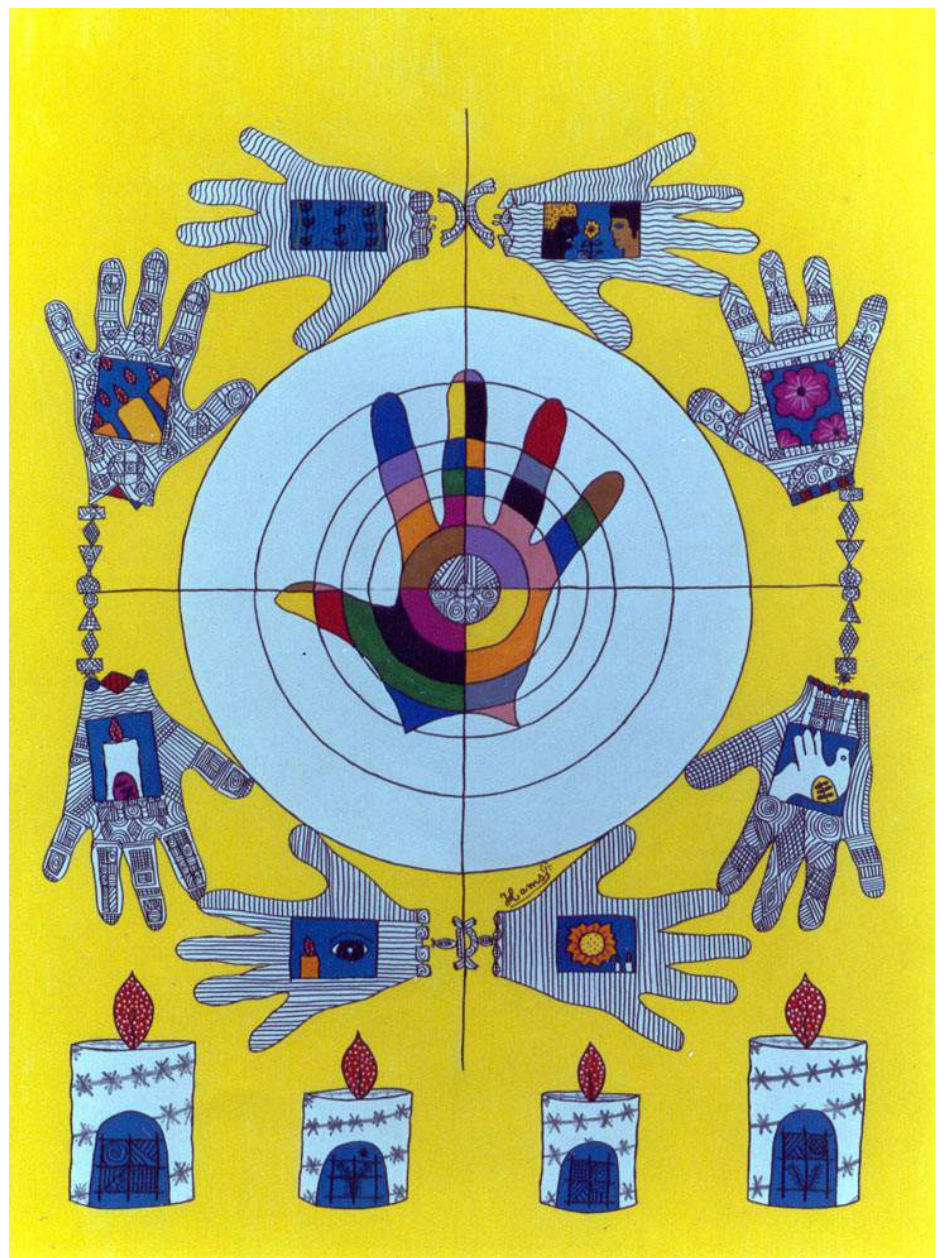
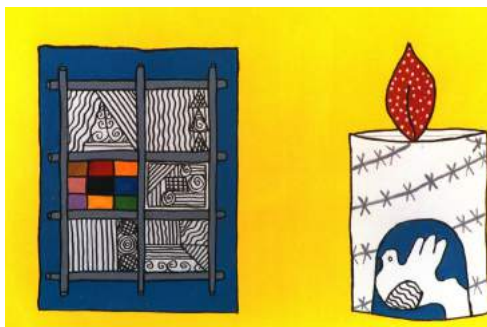
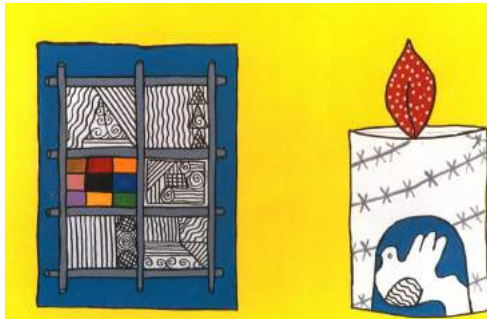
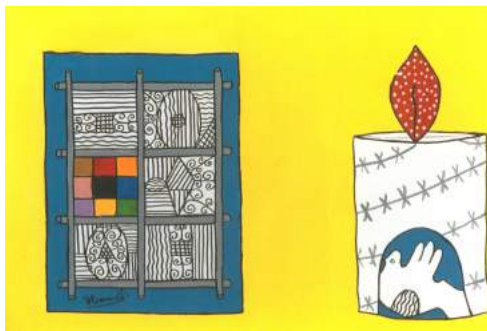


*Les Notes de l'espoir* - Gouache on paper 36x50  
Barbara Hendricks' hand print



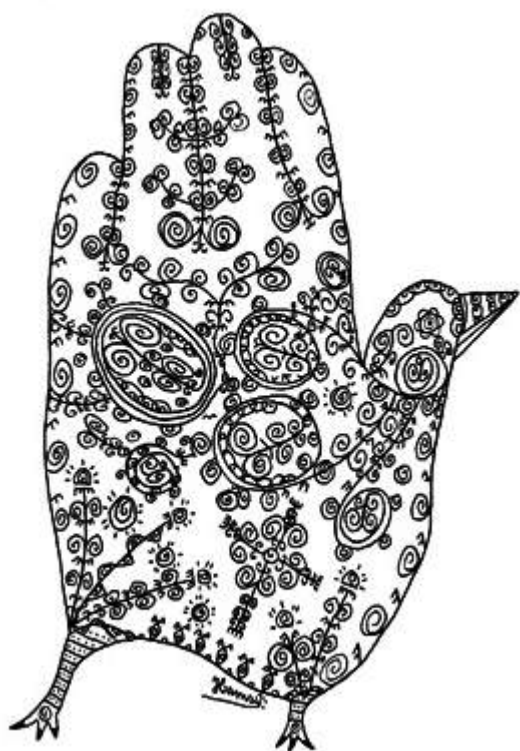
*Cocktail Africa* - Gouache on paper 24x30  
HMSI Boubeker's hand print



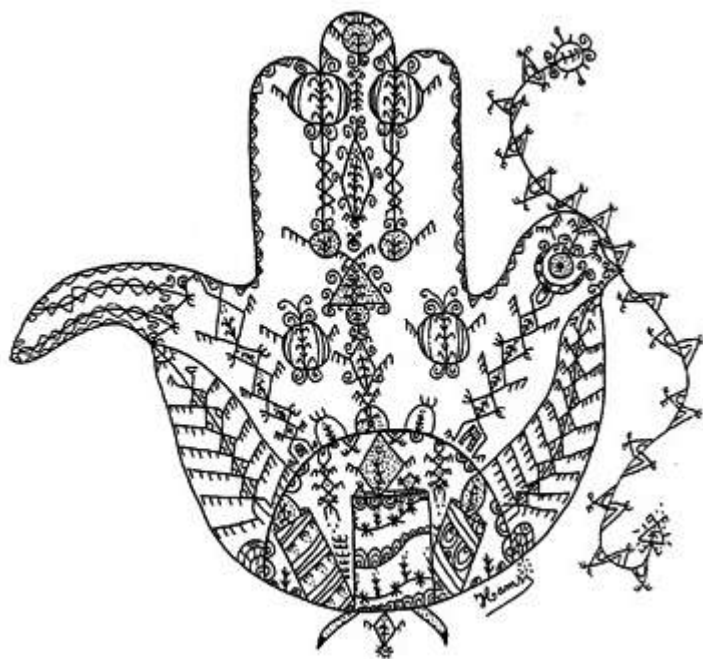


Les Barreaux de la délivrance - Set of 9 paintings - Gouache on paper 40 x 55

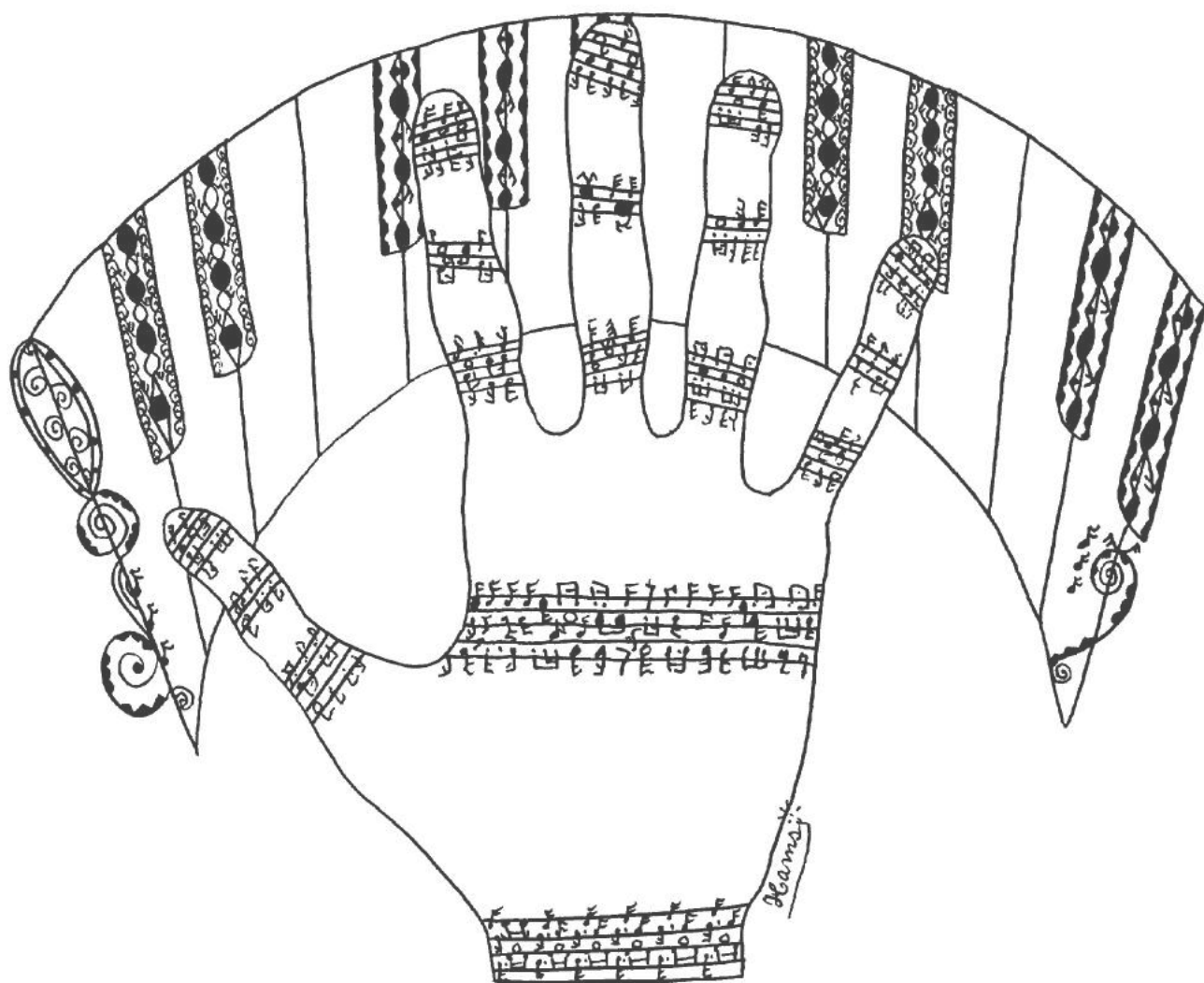




*Colombe* - Chinese ink 24x30

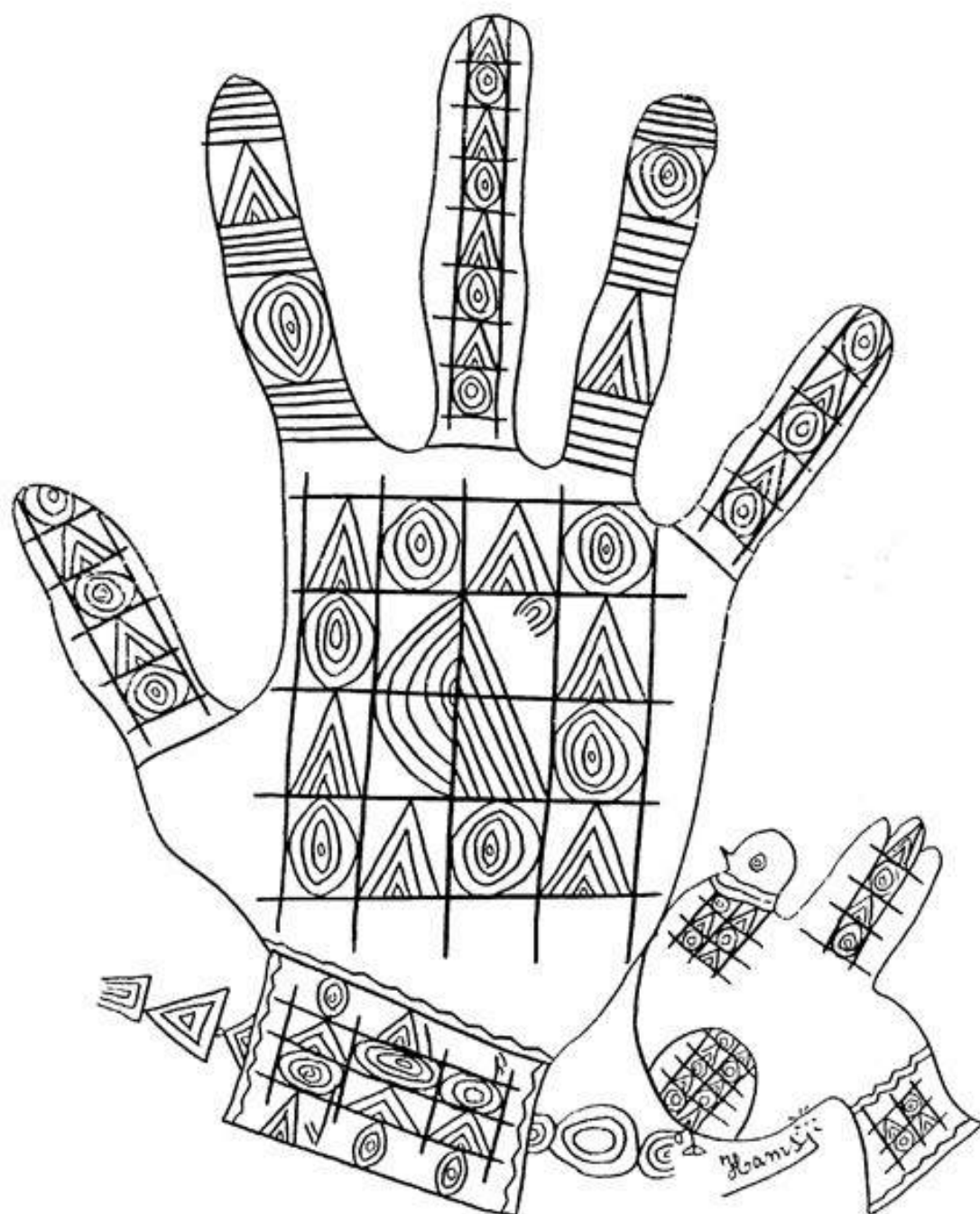


*La Messagère de l'espoir* - Chinese ink 24x30



*Symphonie* - Chinese ink 24x30





*Une main pour l'ex-Yougoslavie - Chinese ink 24x30*





*Toutes les Couleurs du monde - Gouache on paper 27x35*







# STORY ILLUSTRATIONS

Some of these illustrations have accompanied the HAMSI children's storybooks, published by several publishing houses such as: Casterman, Didier Hatier, L'Harmattan, EPO, Cordon Musical ...

They are made with gouache on paper, and others assisted by computer.

- In 2003, they were the subject of an exhibition in the framework of the illustrators of the Arab world at the Institut du Monde Arabe (France - Paris), then at the Centre d'Art Contemporain (Spain - Seville).
- These tales will be the subject of several interviews, reports through various television and radio broadcasts as well as numerous press articles, Belgian French-speaking Radio Television, BRT on the Dutch-speaking side, Télé Bruxelles and TV Brussel.
- RTBF is devoting an illustration competition based on the tale "The three sons and the treasure", broadcasting live the names of the winners and their illustrations.
- The tale "The three sons and the treasure" is broadcast on RTBF, in the presence of the storyteller, musicians and a group of children.
- Many schools broadcast the tales to their pupils and put together one of the four stories with the help of teachers and pupils.
- In the Netherlands, at the Rotterdam museum, the book was presented to the public and pupils from one school performed the tale "The louse and the flea" in Dutch.
- In 2014, the RTBF (French radio and television network) will broadcast the tale "Aïcha, l'ogre et père inouva", in the form of an animated film, and will be the subject of a show created by Cathy Constant.





## THE TESTS

### Editions - Shows



It is no coincidence that HAMSİ Boubeker takes us back to his childhood roots. In this process of raising awareness of childhood, he is the author of several tales, of which he is the illustrator. These have been published in Paris (L'Harmattan, Didier Hatier), Brussels (Média Animation, UNICEF, CORDON MUSICAL), Antwerp (EPO) and Rotterdam (Dutch version).

Told in a sweet language, these stories take us into a magical universe where good triumphs over evil, where dream and reality mingle and intertwine, where tradition meets our contemporary world.

These tales will be the subject of several interviews, reports through various television and radio programmes as well as numerous press articles, RTBF, BRT on the Dutch-speaking side, TELE BRUSSEL, TV BRUSSEL or BERBERE TELEVISION.

The RTBF in "Plein feu" and "l'Lollipop" invites HAMSİ in the studio to present his book and through the show. "Carrefour" devotes an illustration competition based on the tale "Les trois fils et le trésor", broadcasts live the names of the winners and shows their illustrations.

It also devotes to it, a report on JT1, with Jacques Bredael, and a live interview on JT2.

The tale "Les trois fils et le trésor" is broadcast on RTBF, in the presence of the storyteller, musicians and a group of children.

On the radio, Cathy Constant, in her children's programme "Les P'tits trésors", devotes several programmes to it.





RTBF (JT 1)



BRT (BABEL)

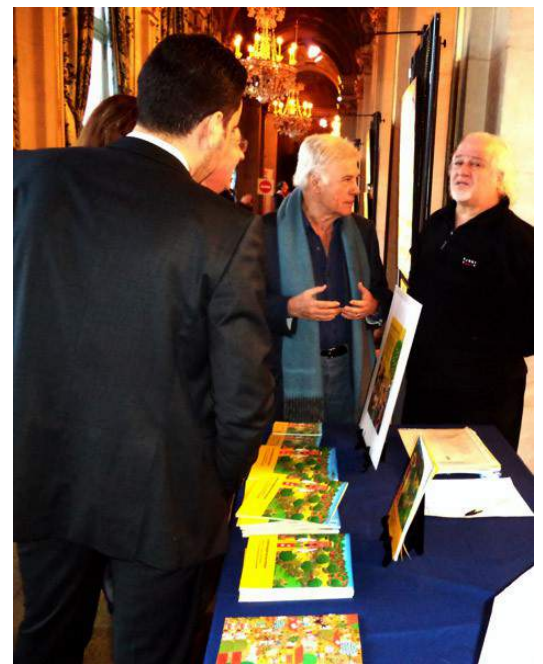


BERBERE TELEVISION - Paris

During the 20th Maghreb Book Fair which took place at the Paris City Hall, the public, including many personalities, were able to discover, among others, a dozen paintings by the artist HAMSI Boubeker exhibited on this occasion.



With the Mayor of Paris Bertrand Delanoë



With actor Guy Bedos

"Amma-Chaho", says the grandmother.  
 "Aho", the children reply in chorus.

It is through the voices of women that for generations the fabulous procession of good geniuses, ogres and witches, peasants and sultans, animals from a world where they still spoke.  
 Here is Tseriel, the ogress with her hair up to the sky, Settoute the witch and Aïcha, Little Red Riding Hood's distant cousin.

Cunning, innocence, magic, courage, beauty, humor, kindness, generosity, so many means used to counter adversity.



## MUSIC

Before being a painter, HAMSI was an author, composer and performer.



Concert retransmitted by RTBF from Liège, Belgium

Before being a painter, HAMSI was an author, composer and performer.

1976, he performed his songs with his choir in France (Vaison-la-Romaine choir), then in England (Europa Cantat).

Once in Belgium in 1978, he took part in numerous concerts in Brussels (at the Botanique, Ancienne Belgique, Forest Nationale, as part of " Touche pas à mon pote ", throughout Wallonia, and in numerous festivals in Gant, Bruges, Ostend...

In 1982, and out of solidarity, he gave many concerts during anti-nuclear and anti-racist demonstrations, as well as during the major peace movements.

From 1983 to 1984, he re-formed a group with musicians of various origins and renewed his music while preserving the authenticity of Kabyle music.

He presents his new show by giving numerous concerts in Belgium, France, Germany (Festival du Moussem) in Düsseldorf, Holland and later in Switzerland.

In 1989, he directed the music for the documentary KATEB Yacine, L'Amour et la révolution, produced by the C.B.A.

He participated in numerous radio and TV programmes. The press devoted several articles to him.

Several albums 33T, 45T, cassettes and CDs have been produced in Paris and Brussels.

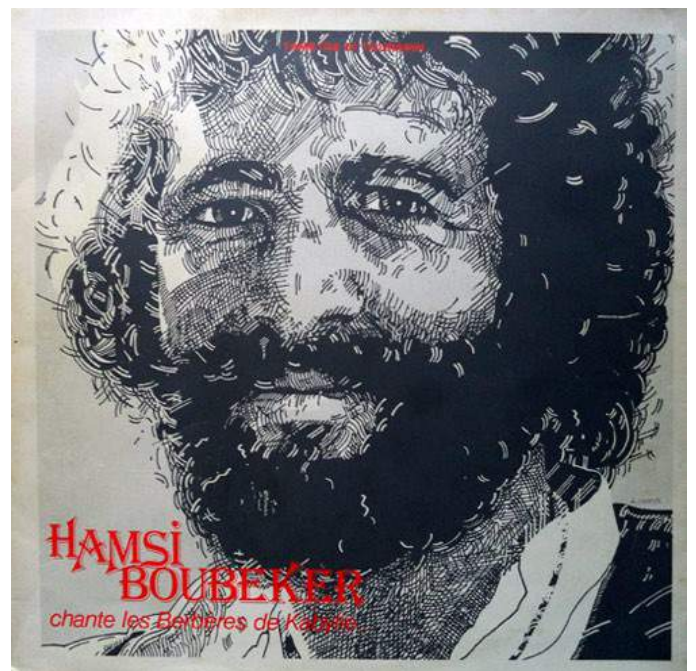


# DISCOGRAPHY

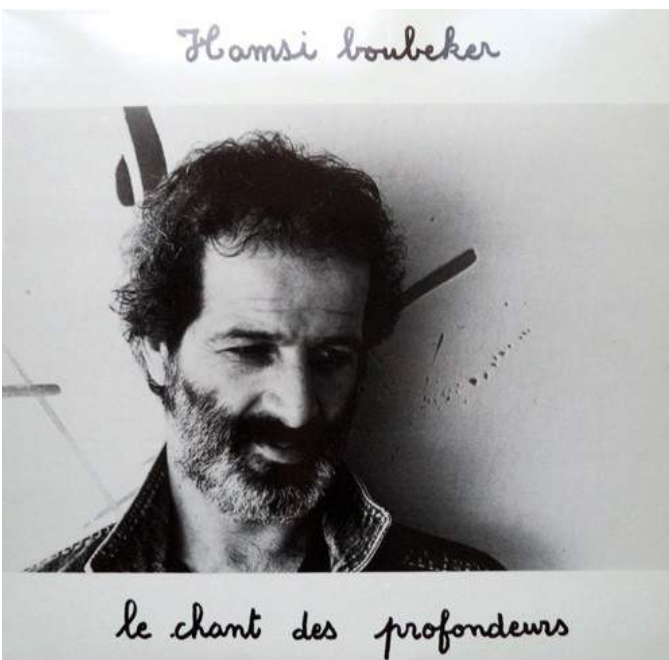
- *Si tu veux la paix prépare l'enfance*, booklet /45 T in favour of Unicef, 1988, Belgium.
- *AFUS DEG FUS*, cassette - Azwaw, 1978, France.
- *Ad-Yidir* 45T - Azwaw, 1978, France.
- *CCNA N UZEMUR* 45T - Azwaw, 1978, France.
- *HAMSI Boubeker, chante les Berbères de Kabylie*, 33T - Auto-Production, Belgique.
- *Contes berbères de Kabylie, par HAMSI Boubeker*. - MEDIA ANIMATION, 1992, Belgique.
- *Le chant des profondeurs*, 33T - Auto-Production, 1995, Belgique.
- *Houria* 45T - Algérie.
- *Tamegra di tğurarin*, cassette - Éditions Berbères, France.
- *Radio néerlandaise*, Hollande.
- *Contes kabyles de mon enfance*, CD in French version - Cordon Musical asbl, 2014, Belgique.



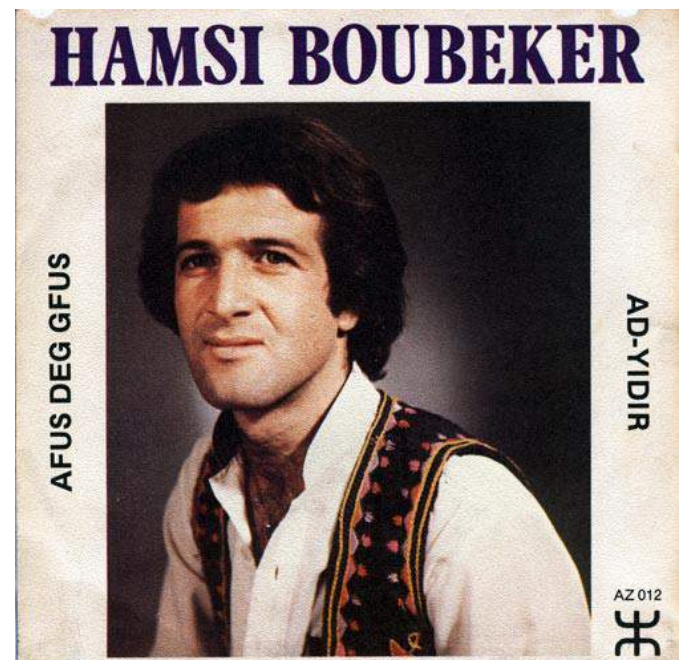
*Si tu veux la paix prépare l'enfance*, livret /45 T au profit de l'Unicef, 1988, Belgique - 1988.



*Tamegra di tğurarin*, 33T - Auto-production-1982



*Le chant des profondeurs*, 33T - Auto-produit-1995



*AFUS DEG FUS*, 45T - Ed. AZWAW - Paris 1978



## QUELQUES SCENES



Festival « Cactus » - Bruges - Belgique



Festival de Floreffe- Belgique



Manif anti-missile - 1982 - Bruxelles



Choralies (Europa Cantat) - Angleterre



Festival Moussem - Amsterdam - 1984



# HAMSI

## Full biography

**To better discover the artist and his innumerable achievements :**

Site presenting HAMSI's artistic work (exhibitions, his works in the metro, etc.).  
"Lemonnier", galleries of works, biography, awards, publications, the great international achievements, in favour of peace, in the framework of the operation "Hands of Hope".

[www.hamsi.be](http://www.hamsi.be)

**You can follow the artist HAMSI Boubeker, on social networks :**



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