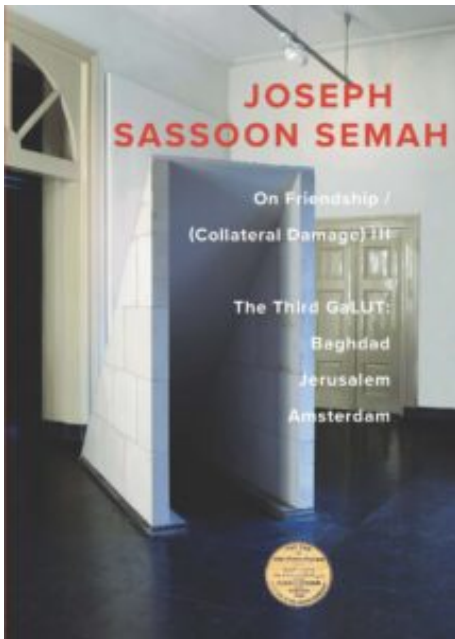


# Linda Bouws ~ Joseph Sassoon Semah Semah: Re-Thinking The Concept Of GaLUT, Re-Claiming The Lost Culture

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## Joseph Sassoon Semah: Re-thinking the concept of GaLUT, re-claiming the lost culture

Linda Bouws *Senior International Relations Art Projects*

Baghdad, Jerusalem, Amsterdam



Joseph Semah in his study in Baghdad circa 1910. He later took refuge in Jerusalem, Palestine, as one of the last of a diaspora of Jews being driven from the province of Mosul in northern Mesopotamia (1916-1917). He later moved to the Netherlands, where he became a citizen and professor of Arabic literature, Arabic, Islamic and Ottoman history at the University of Amsterdam (1920-1921). He died in Amsterdam in 1921.



The Sassoon family home in Baghdad, Iraq.



The installation 'The Third GaLUT' in Amsterdam.

Baghdad was one of the most diverse and tolerant cities in the world. Jews, Muslims, and Christians lived and traded. One of the most important of Baghdad's Jews, Joseph Semah, lived in the city for nearly 50 years. He was a leading scholar and translator of Arabic literature and history. He was also a leading scholar of the Sassoon family, which was one of the most prominent families in Baghdad. The Third GaLUT is a re-claiming of the lost culture of Baghdad and of the Sassoon family. It is a re-claiming of the lost culture of the Sassoon family, which was one of the most prominent families in Baghdad. It is a re-claiming of the lost culture of the Sassoon family, which was one of the most prominent families in Baghdad.

In the end of June 1917 a group of Jewish scholars, including Semah, visited the British Consulate in Baghdad to discuss the possibility of Jewish immigration to Palestine. The British Consulate was then in the hands of the British. The British Consulate was then in the hands of the British. The British Consulate was then in the hands of the British. The British Consulate was then in the hands of the British.



From 1917, the year of independence for Israel, life for Jews in Iraq became extremely difficult. From 1917 to 1921, British soldiers were present in Baghdad, and the British Consulate was then in the hands of the British. The British Consulate was then in the hands of the British. The British Consulate was then in the hands of the British.

Joseph Semah's family and many other Jews in Iraq were forced to leave their homes. They were driven from their homes and were forced to live in refugee camps. The British Consulate was then in the hands of the British. The British Consulate was then in the hands of the British. The British Consulate was then in the hands of the British.

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The process is a way of making an art installation that is not only for the eye but also for the ear. The artist has to think about the space and the way in which the sound will be perceived. The artist has to think about the way in which the sound will be perceived. The artist has to think about the way in which the sound will be perceived.

**Notes**

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Two photographs of art installations. The left one is a white, modular structure on a wooden stand. The right one is a white, modular structure on a wooden stand.

**Colophon**

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JOSEPH SASSOON SEMAH

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