

Artist Farooq Hassan

Hassan spent his youth in crowded cafes and on the docks in Iraq, striving to capture on paper the colorful scenes playing out before his eyes.

As a young man, he taught high school. "We did our best to create art, not politics," Hassan recalls. He also collected stamps, a hobby that eventually led to an unusual and satisfying outcome—he ended up designing more than 75 commemorative postage stamps for the Iraqi postal service.

For 50 years he built his international standing as an artist. His work was exhibited in London, Amman, Basrah, and Baghdad. In Iraq, he was considered a national treasure. Then, politics changed his life forever.

Between 1980 and 1991 Hassan moved 22 times, always one step ahead of political strife in Bagdad. After the Iran-Iraq war ended and the first U.S. Gulf war resulted in sanctions, times were hard and dangerous, and yet, it was a time when art began to flourish again. Hassan devoted himself full-time to his paintings.

Life in Iraq was especially perilous for his daughter, Dalia, a reporter for the Washington Post and translator for the American and NATO forces. She took an opportunity to immigrate to the U.S. and encouraged her mother and father to follow.

In 2010, Hassan and his wife, Haifa, joined their daughter in Portland, Oregon. Hassan was 71 years old and he had lost everything: his reputation as a master artist, the paintings he had created in Iraq, and his home. So, he set about renewing himself through painting.

Hassan is currently represented by galleries in Iraq, Jordan, and The Geezer Gallery in Portland.



The Geezer's Gallery

A WHOLE NEW OLD

We are a not-for-profit organization that showcases investment quality senior artists, while providing evidence based - creative art stimulus programs, specializing in working with seniors.

- **The Geezer Gallery's Mission** a not-for-profit organization that provides exhibition opportunities to juried senior artists (60 and above) in multiple venues, so they can achieve recognition and sales of their work, ultimately providing funds shared with the artist and the gallery to provide funding for evidence - based art programs and research for the senior community.
 - **Our Goal** aims to break down ageist stereotypes and support a variety of art based curriculums for senior living communities in Portland. We know through science and research that art increases brain health and decreases depression; it increases self-mastery and creates social connections, so it's a natural way to keep our elders and our society healthier.
 - **We Envision** a future where seniors are redefined as valuable contributors; a time when seniors can view themselves as vital role models, worthy of acceptance and purpose. Ultimately we are changing the perception of aging.
 - **The Geezer Gallery** has been showcased on Oregon Public Broadcasting as well numerous times on the Public Broadcasting Service nationally. We have been featured in the New York Times, Oregonian, and numerous professional journals and publications.
 - **Collaborations** between the Geezer Gallery and OMSI (Oregon Museum of Science and Industry) have provided the opportunity to educate the public in arts and healthy aging initiatives, while showcasing master senior artists. Currently, we are a resident organization of the Artists Repertory Theatre providing a unique collaborative experience between the visual arts and performing arts. The Geezer Gallery model is currently being replicated in our East Coast location in Asheville, North Carolina with the Council on Aging.
 - **Our Community Partnerships** are a critical element of our mission: we partner with Oregon Health Sciences University OHSU, Oregon Partners for Alzheimer's Research OPAR, Oregon Center for Aging & Technology in collaborative research projects. Other partners include: National College of Natural Medicine NCNM, Terwilliger Plaza, Hawthorne Gardens, Mary's Woods, Elite Care, Lake Oswego Women's Imaging Center, The Springs at Tanasbourne, World Forestry Center and multiple others.
 - **Our Subsidiary is Art Vault** we specialize in interior corporate art décor and imagery through art sales revolving art exhibitions, art procurement and art centered corporate environments.
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email: contact@geezergallery.com
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(503) 244-0441

Corporate Offices Located at:

National College Of Natural Medicine
049 SW Porter, Portland, OR 97201

West Coast Gallery Location:

Artists Repertory Theatre
1515 SW Morrison, Portland, OR 97205
Tue-Sun. Noon - 6pm

East Coast Gallery Location:

Council on Aging, Buncombe County
46 Sheffield Cr., Asheville, NC 28803

SEEZER GALLERY

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