

SAYIDATY

WOMEN'S MONTHLY

**SAUDI
BLOGGERS**
FIND SOLACE
IN ONLINE
ANONYMITY

**TURKISH
DELIGHT**
WHAT
MAKES
WOMEN
HAPPY IN
TURKEY

80+
SMART
SPLURGES

**THE WOMEN
OF GADDAFI**

ALEK WEK
FROM SUDANESE
REFUGEE TO INTER-
NATIONAL SUPER-
MODEL

SPRING
LOVING
FASHION
SPECIAL

**OLIVIA
WILDE**

AT HER BEST

CAROLINE DECHAMBY

DONS FLASHY COLOURS

Born in Utrecht, Holland in 1964, Caroline Dechamby grew up in an artistic environment, her mother being a painter following the traditions of naïve art and her father a well respected architect. At an early age she left her native country for Paris to study her love of the French language. It was here, whilst carving out a career in fashion, that her passion for painting began to possess her. Her inspired visions have led to a following amongst the rich and fashionable from around the world.





She now resides in Crans-Montana, the uber cool winter and summer resort situated in the heart of the Alps in the Valais region of Switzerland. Her contemporary gallery located in Crans-Montana is where she prefers to create. Self-taught, her style is a combination of art and artifice, alternatively exquisite, exotic or bizarre but always chic. Her fascination with nature is transformed into fantasy. A colourful world where subjects evolve and flourish to become contemporary themes where colour, light and shape mix into strong visual identities and hyperrealism is born.

Her collections are representative of Caroline's constant evolution. Materials include; oil on canvas with Plexiglas and diamonds and play tribute to Roy Lichtenstein, Andy Warhol, Miró, Fontana, Mondrian and Balthus. Works feature the element of surprise, unexpected juxtapositions and non sequitur. Caroline would advocate the idea that ordinary and depictive expressions are vital and important, but that the sense of their arrangement must

"Mise en Scene"

Caroline Dechamby will be in Beirut on April 7 to launch her "Mise en Scene" exhibition at the Q Contemporary Gallery. The gallery will open its doors on the 7 and the exhibition will last until April 30, 2011.

be open to the full range of imagination according to the Hegelian dialectic — a philosophical movement that many Surrealist artists and writers adopted as a form of their ultimate expression. André Breton, best known as the principal founder of surrealism, was explicit in his assertion that surrealism was above all a revolutionary movement. Caroline's work with free association, dream analysis and the hidden unconscious follows this revolutionary thought process. It is of the utmost importance to her to develop methods to liberate imagination and free people from what they see as false rationality and restrictive customs and structures. To revolutionise human experience,

including its personal, cultural, social and political aspects.

Caroline's own journey in life has not been without its challenges but she says that her experiences have taken her to where she is today. She advises that we should never give up hope and always follow our dreams, which will lead us to a natural path of progression and inspiration in the theatre of life. "Ideas inspire a person to get up and go do something. So I always say that ideas tell you what to do and if you fall in love with them, then you find yourself translating those ideas to a medium, one medium or another. It's a thrilling thing for us human beings to capture an idea, which then leads to creating something exciting. There are so many different things, painting, sculpture and photography and manipulations of photographs. There's just an infinite world of things that are possible, but it is the idea that drives the spirit. Life is a gamble... each new experience reflects new roads to travel — my work is a reflection of a life that continues to create and be energised," explains the artist.