

Chafic Aboud

Growing up in Beirut in a middle-class family, Chafic Aboud spent summer vacations in the mountains of Lebanon. As a young adult eager to develop his artistic talent, he attended the Lebanese Academy of Fine Arts, and studied under French painter Georges Cyr and Lebanese artist Cesar Gemayel. Aboud's introduction to Western art at the Academy inspired him to move to Paris upon his graduation in 1947.

While in Paris, Aboud enrolled in the Ecole Nationale des Beaux Arts in 1952, to study drawing and engraving. He also developed connections with a number of prominent artists, including Ferdinand Léger and André Lhote. The post-war art scene in Paris was heavily dominated by Abstract Expressionism, and the influence of this style is apparent in Aboud's loose brushwork and lack of figurative subject matter.

Starting in 1955, Aboud participated in the Salon des Réalités Nouvelles, eventually becoming a member of its committee in 1962. In 1959, he took part in the inaugural Biennale de Paris, and was awarded the Prix Victor Choquet in 1961. He was also awarded the 1964 Prix du Salon d'Automne at the Sursock Museum in Lebanon. Aboud continued to live and work in Paris until his death in 2004. During his lifetime he had a number of solo exhibitions in Europe and Lebanon, and today some of his work can be viewed in the permanent collection of the Pompidou Centre in Paris.