

# Pippin Contemporary Welcomes Cairo-born Painter Bassmi Ibrahim to Growing Roster of Artists

*Pippin's mission of providing visitors "a sensory experience of color & mood" is perfectly embodied in the work of abstract artist Bassmi Ibrahim.*

SANTA FE, NEW MEXICO, UNITED STATES, March 22, 2017 /EINPresswire.com/ -- Pippin Contemporary's mission of providing gallery visitors with "a sensory experience of color and mood" is perfectly embodied in the work of their newest modern abstract painter Bassmi Ibrahim. Known simply as "Bassmi," the Cairo-born artist is acclaimed for his distinct painting style that results in veils of fluid color that ebb and flow across his canvases. Pippin Contemporary began representing Bassmi this winter as the fourth artist addition since the gallery's expansive move to 409 Canyon Road last spring, a number that will continue to grow this year as Pippin's vision broadens. Currently on display are Bassmi's Isness paintings, a series of vivid and graceful compositions that stem from the artist's meditative visions.

"As the work became more about the inner layers of my psyche, it started having more purity and an ethereal look to it," says Bassmi, whose current paintings are inspired by a boundless existence and act as journeys to the inner self for artist and viewer. Bassmi manipulates oil and acrylic paint with Chinese brushes to form soft, rhythmic washes of color that saturate the canvas. While spiritual depth has been a long-time influence for Bassmi, his early paintings paid more attention to the artist's hand through lively brushstrokes and an action-oriented process. The less structured Isness works, which began to take shape in 2005, are created during a state of meditation and encapsulate the artist's deep emotional energy. While these paintings embrace Pippin Contemporary's expressive and vibrant atmosphere, they also offer something distinct from other artists. "Bassmi's remarkable paintings represent an entirely new oeuvre for the gallery," says director Andrea Wexler. "At the center of this uniqueness is the artist's relinquishment of the traditional brush in favor of applying paint in its liquid form. Bassmi's elegant and sweeping swaths of opulent color reinforce our gallery vision."



Isness 143 by Bassmi Ibrahim at Pippin Contemporary

Bassmi's free-flowing painting method and spiritual process contributes to the emotive energy and vibrancy of his paint, an effect similar to that of Mark Rothko's color fields. In the mid-1960s while Bassmi was pursuing his career as an abstract painter in New York City, he met the preeminent abstract expressionist who encouraged his artistic efforts. Rothko remains a spiritual mentor for Bassmi, who is also influenced by Jackson Pollock, Helen Frankenthaler, Willem de Kooning and Paul Jenkins. In the 1970s Bassmi moved to Clearwater, Florida where he ran an art gallery and took a

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*Andrea Wexler*

hiatus from painting to explore metaphysics, diving deeper into his spiritual studies. These principles greatly influenced Bassmi's return to painting in 1999 and eventually led him to examine the essence of being through his latest series, which is passionately illustrated in the work now showing at Pippin Contemporary.

Pippin Contemporary, founded in May 2011 by artist Aleta Pippin, is located in the heart of Santa Fe's historic art district at 409 Canyon Road. The gallery is committed to showing art that is fresh and vibrant, as well as collectible. Pippin Contemporary artists provide visitors with a “sensory

experience of color and mood” through vivid portrayals of personal expression.

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