



***"HRAIR"* Book Signing and *"Splendor in Color"* Exhibition at Byblos Bank**

Byblos Bank Headquarters, Ashrafieh, 15 May 2012: Renown Lebanese artist Hrair is crowning his successful and long-lasting career with "HRAIR", a book that offers an insight into his creative world. The painter included a selection of his paintings into this book that focuses on his key themes: horses, women, flowers, landscapes, as well as iconography-inspired paintings.

The book signing took place on Tuesday, 15 May 2012, at Byblos Bank Headquarters. To make this event special, Hrair devised a unique drawing on each book for Byblos Bank invitees among which were clients, art connoisseurs and amateurs, as well as media representatives.

In conjunction with the book signing, a week-long painting exhibition of the artist titled "*Splendor in Color*" was also launched at Byblos Bank Headquarters.

Nada Tawil, Head of Byblos Bank Group Communication, commented: "Arts and Culture play a vital role in the betterment of our society to which Byblos Bank is committed. We are very proud to host Hrair's book signing and painting exhibition. Indeed, Byblos Bank and Hrair are both staples in their respective fields, having established themselves in Lebanon since the 60's and grown to become ambassadors of our beautiful country worldwide."

Known for his Byzantine-inspired paintings and his harmonious style, Hrair gained recognition not only in his home country but also in Europe, the United States, and in the Arab world as he exhibited his paintings in galleries around the globe. "I was born a painter, an artist, and art is my life", Hrair said. "I was always inspired by colors, movement, and forms and people loved my art because it is spiritual, mystical, and optimistic. My fans, art collectors, and people who have faith in my art, like Byblos Bank, encouraged me to create this book to draw upon all my experiences and to have a retrospective of my artworks and career."

"Splendor in Color" presents 25 paintings created exclusively for this event. It will extend till Tuesday, 22 May 2012, weekdays from 5:00 PM till 9:00 PM and during the weekend from 10:00 AM till 3:00 PM.