

Press release

**Khaled Jarrar**

*The Battalion*

Exhibition from Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> of March to Friday 26<sup>th</sup> of April 2013

Opening Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> of March 2013 from 18h00

The Galerie Guy Bärtschi is pleased to present for the first time in Switzerland, a solo show of the Palestinian artist **Khaled Jarrar** called *The Battalion*, for which the artist has come especially from Ramallah where he lives and works. On this occasion, you will discover the artist's involved work denouncing, with subtlety and intelligence, the difficult realities of everyday life within the Israeli-Palestinian conflict.

Recently awarded the jury's special Prize at the 9<sup>th</sup> Dubai International Film Festival and captain of the non-armed Palestinian presidential guard, **Khaled Jarrar** offers a vision of a situation that concerns us all and that cannot leave us indifferent. The Galerie Guy Bärtschi has edited the first monographic catalogue for the artist with an original essay by Mrs Reem Fadda, co-curator for Middle-Eastern Art at the Guggenheim Abu Dhabi, from which the following text:

« Jarrar's work raises important questions regarding art as a realm in which certain activities may take place that would not have been possible elsewhere. The question is not how politics affects art but how art affects politics. It allows the space for us to believe in the freedom to think outside the box. By deeming his project "art," Jarrar's work actually takes on the potential to spawn political dialog. Through his projects, art becomes a space in which to assert independent ideas and the free imagery of what could be. His method explores new ways to establish an alternate reality resisting occupation. Despite its more specific roots, his work resonates on a universal scale. »