



ARAB NEWS



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Lebanese painter Zena Assi breaks down her work 'My City on the Egg'



LAST UPDATE 12 DAYS AGO



CLINTON 227 IN 2016

TRUMP 304 IN 2016

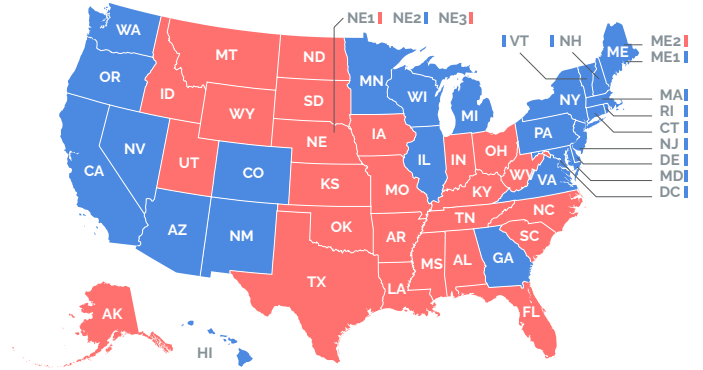
California

Electoral votes 55



Previous presidential elections

2000 2004 2008 2012 2016



Switch to the distribution of electoral votes

SENATE

PARTIAL RESULTS



33 13 2 20 30

98/100 seats

Detailed results

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

PARTIAL RESULTS



218 202

420/435 seats

Detailed results

Sources: AFP / American media



Short Url

<https://arab.news/ydkbt>

Updated 28 sec ago

ZENA ASSI

November 26, 2020 11:41

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- The Lebanese painter discusses one of her pieces from a group exhibition being shown online by Mark Hachem Gallery until November 28.

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BEIRUT: I've been working on the theme of Beirut for the past decade or more. I like to show, as much as I can, what's happening on the political, social and personal side and put them all on the same scale.

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The Egg was built by Joseph Philippe Karam in 1965. It had a lot of potential as an iconic building, but it was never finished because of the civil war. Its walls are filled with bullet marks.

During the protests of October 17, it was reclaimed as a public space. Students, teachers, and activists were giving talks in it. It was a landmark being revived and giving hope that we felt throughout the protests.

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(<https://www.arabnews.com/45thanniversary>)

I've constructed this base above the Egg because we were going through such instability in Lebanon. But there was hope. That's why I loved the stairs, which I emphasized, because you're climbing up and going to a better future.



'My City on the Egg' by Zena Assi. Supplied

At the same time, with the structure, you feel it might crumble. This was a menace for the revolution the whole time: Will it survive? I liked playing with the fragility of the structure,

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whereas the Egg is solid
— holding all this above
it.

I wanted to show the
contradictions of
Lebanon. In the top
corner, there's a sexy
woman putting lipstick
on and then you have a
different side — a history
of the civil war and
religion, which is one of
the main sources of our
conflicts. I put wings on
people hovering around
the city because we
always have this
presence of martyrs
being recalled.

You have all these
different cultures mixed
up: There's Maggi soup
— very typical to the
generation of the
Seventies and Eighties —

and then Twitter and Facebook connecting us to the outside world.

In Beirut, there are a lot of electric cables. The sky is blue, but it's not clear. I had this urge to give this dusty feeling to the atmosphere, so I sprayed a haze layer just to be more truthful about the sky above us.



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