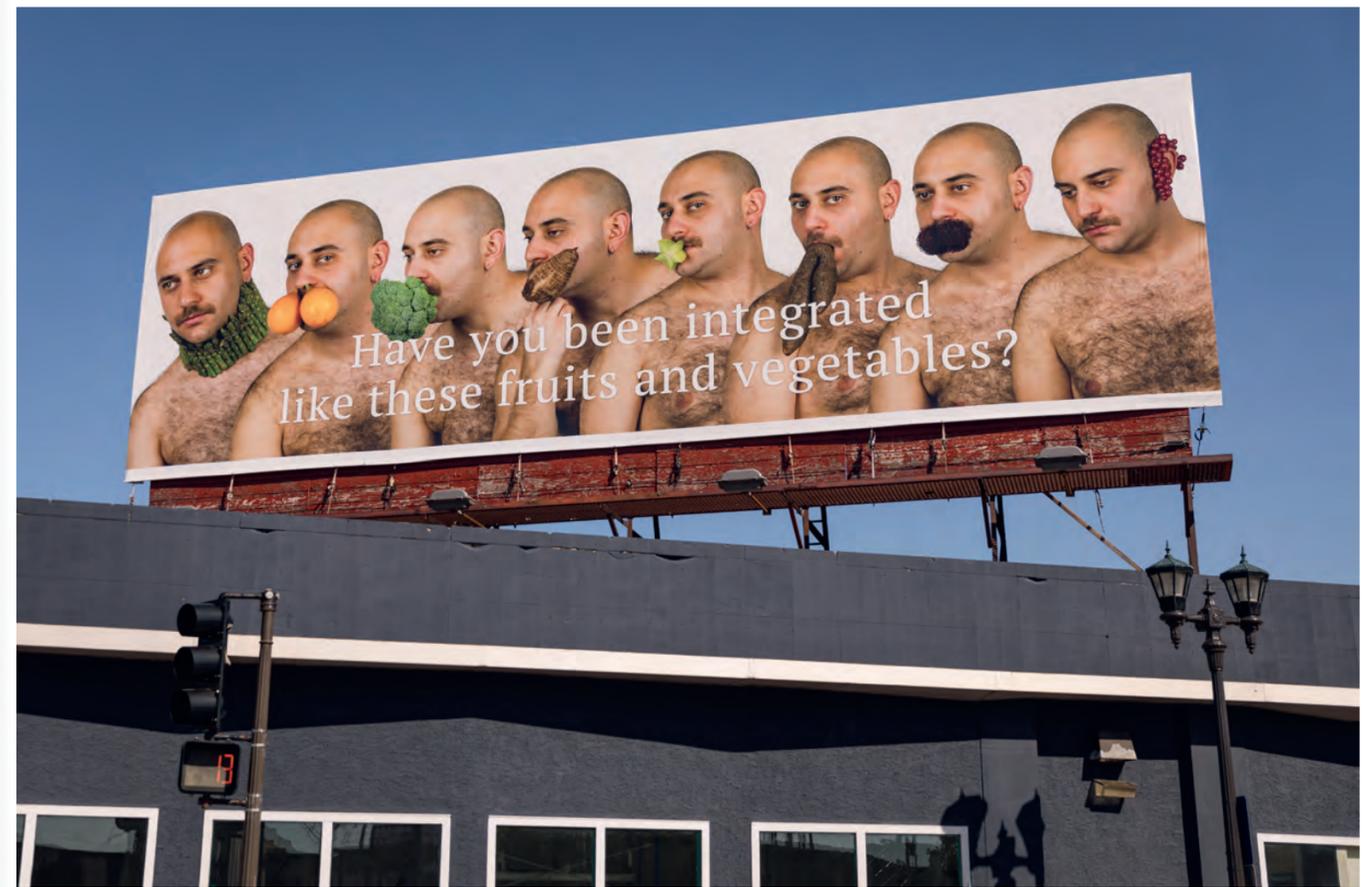


RAED YASSIN SELF PORTRAITS WITH FOREIGN *fruits AND vegetables*

In this photographic series, Yassin attempts to depict the melancholia and absurdity often associated with forcefully integrating oneself into a foreign culture or geography. In an array of varying postures and positions, the artist poses himself naked in front of the camera, each time with a different fruit or vegetable. These foods are in his eyes the success story of his dilemma. For despite their foreign origins, they have managed to fit themselves into the Western diet and go unnoticed at the dinner table. They are the successfully naturalised foreigner, the role model that the artist seeks to imitate. However, these actions become absurd when the subject is not a food but a human being. Nevertheless, the artist repeatedly twists and turns his body to compliment the shape and color of the capable vegetables. In essence, the works reflect the impossibility of erasing one's body and form in an attempt to become simply mundane in the eye of the other.



Exhibition views – Billboard, Minneapolis, St. Paul – photo by Amanda Hankerson



2009–2011 Photographic series, 52×70 cm each by Raed Yassin

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Part of the Yassin Haute Couture project, the work attempts to rewrite the history of the artist's father: a fashion designer who he has little knowledge about because of his premature death. The artist embroiders different possibilities for dresses on photographs of a soon-to-be bride that could have worn them. The designs are based on his father's stories and how he might have imagined these designs. The creative urge is incarnated as a string of alternatives, the end result of which no one will ever know.



2018 Silk embroidery on canvas print | 50 x 70 cm each by Raed Yassin



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