Joe Abou Jawdeh was born and raised in Deir El Harf, a beautiful village full of pine trees in the Metn province.

The energy of such surroundings has been a great source of inspiration for him, and his hand has built a life of its own there.

At the age of 10, in the midst of Lebanon's civil war, Joe discovered how mysterious life can be.

The abstract power of survival is thus reflected in most of his drawings. At a later stage Joe studied fashion design and worked in international fashion houses, but he never stopped drawing. He has produced more than 100 paintings, full of original characters, and has sold dozens of them to art lovers in New York, Paris, and Beirut.

For Joe, painting is therapeutic, but it should also carry a message or support a cause.

"I don't think about painting as art; it's more about the person or the story. I would like people to be moved, through my paintings, to take action and help improve the world. I have lots of messages to send — each painting is a message."

JOE ABOU JAWDEH

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Now's the time, acrylic on canvas, 150 cm x 150 cm

