

Ali Al Mahmeed – sculptor

ONE of the most admired sculptors of the kingdom, Ali Al Mahmeed's carvings grace royal palaces and the national museum in Bahrain and are found in private collections in Kuwait, London, Beirut, Dubai, Finland and Saudi Arabia.

At Artlounge 2 he is showing works made of marble in different colours sourced from various parts of the world. In a range of forms, favourite being a bird, he shows two conjoined figures fusing together in diverse relationships.

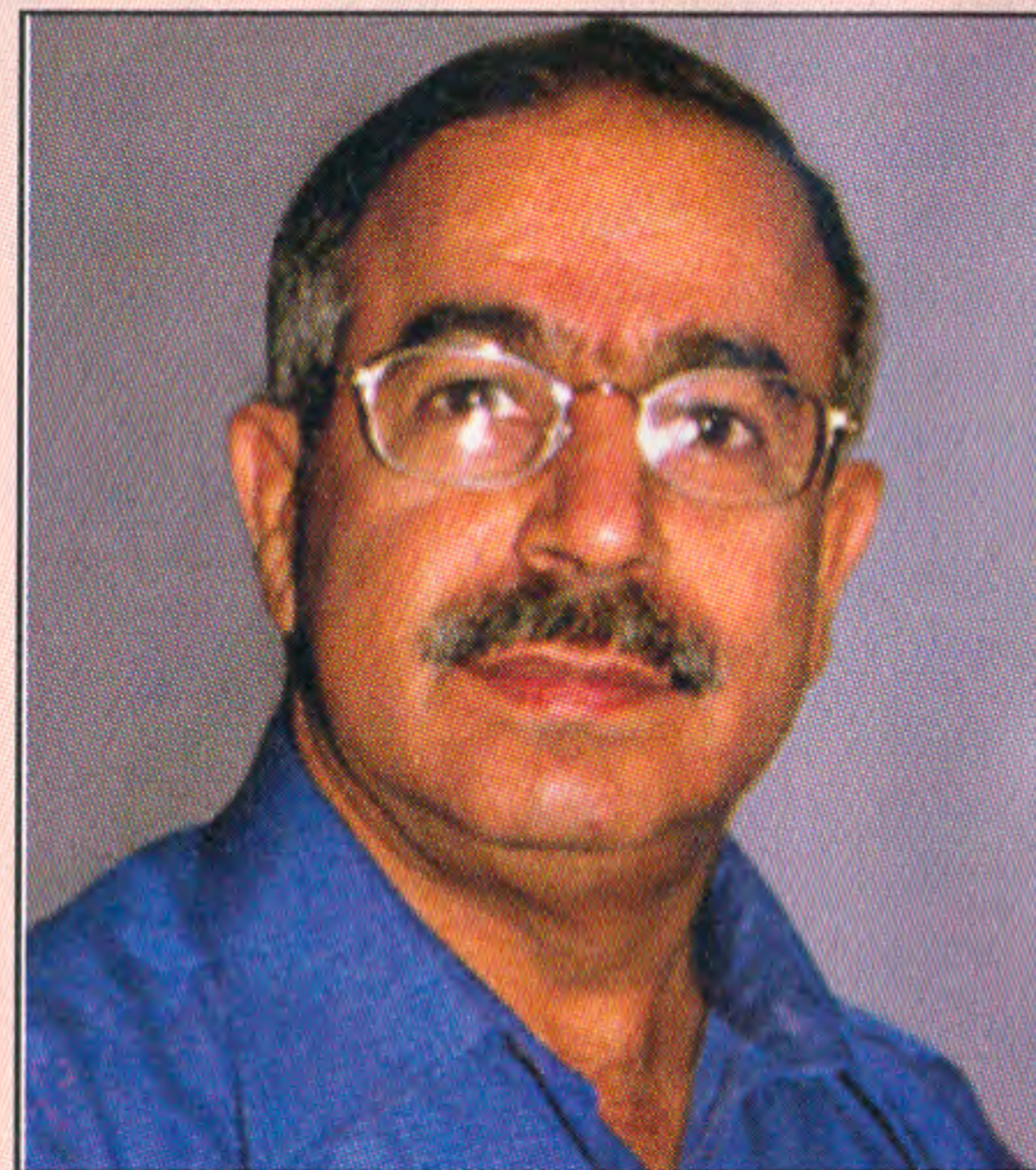
He said: "I am talking about love, meeting and togetherness with people, brothers, friends ... as an artist I am generally trying to portray a deeper meaning. The viewer is open to interpretation. Some see it just as a beautiful shape and others see the relevance of the image in a larger context.

"I like the shape of the Arabic letter and I enjoy using calligraphy as a design. Travels always bring learning. A symposium where artists come together to work and



share their art is like a school and is very important for every artist to develop his skill. They get to share cultures, styles, methods and also get to know each other."

Mr Al Mahmeed, 63, from Muharraq, is currently busy organising the Muharraq



Symposium 2008 where 10 artists from the Czech Republic, Egypt, Greece, Italy, Syria and Bahrain will come together to produce marble sculptures, three metres or more high, which will find their home in the kingdom.

