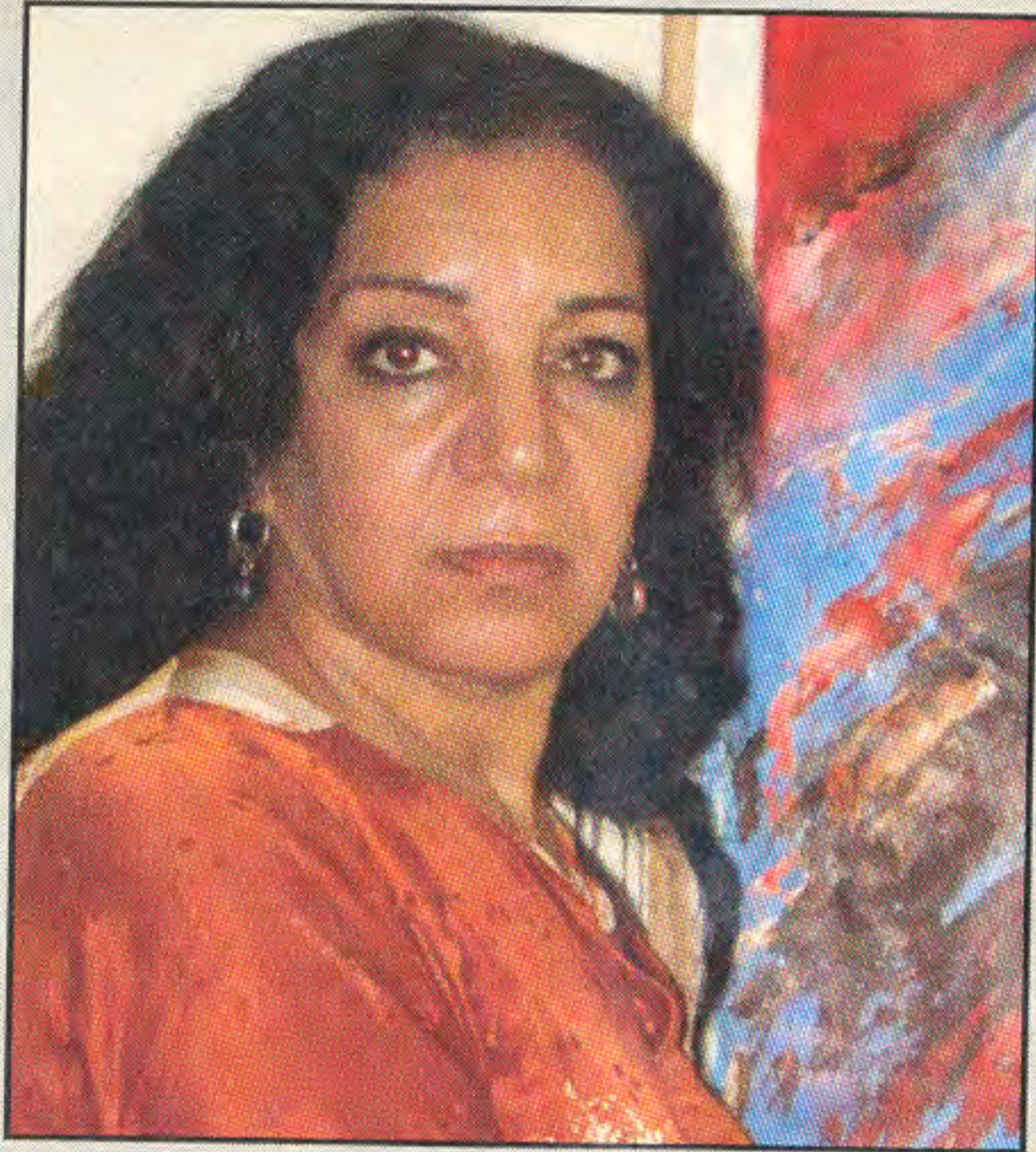


# Kareema Taha – painter

EGYPTIAN-BORN artist Kareema Taha made Bahrain her home 25 years ago. Influenced by people, places, thoughts, ideas and events she produces highly-emotive and striking portraits of women in different circumstances.

Full of expression Kareema's canvases narrate unhappiness within. Appealing eyes overflowing with feelings of sadness, loneliness and desire silently scream out their distress which strangely attracts you with the simplicity of the emotions.



Not shy of portraying the female form, Kareema is liberal with her use of colours and is modern in her approach. A devout Muslim and compulsive painter, she said: "I am a

woman who likes to express myself. I believe in freedom and respect others opinion. I do what I see is right and am generally clear in my opinions.

"I don't plan my paintings ... I realise my picture as I work. I am an extrovert who likes good music, books and films and everything influences my work. I do not paint because my painting has to sell. I paint because I enjoy my work and it gives me happiness."

An artist who uses a variety of mediums in her work, Kareema explained: "I love collage. It makes me active with my painting. Sometimes I use photographs or a piece of textile to reflect what I have to say. We all are different from one moment to another and in every painting you see a different person."

Kareema lives in Riffa and teaches art to young children at Naseem International School. She will be showing several of her new pieces at Artlounge 2.

