ANTHONY REYNOLDS GALLERY

60 Great Marlborough Street
London
W1F 7BG

Telephone +44 20 7 439 2201
Fax +44 20 7 439 1869
Email info@anthonyreynolds.com

PRESS RELEASE

THE ATLAS GROUP / WALID RAAD

The Complete Fakhouri File 21 November – 20 December 2003

We are privileged to present the first solo exhibition in the UK of work from the Atlas Group Archive.

The Fadl Fakhouri File

Until his death in 1993, Dr Fadl Fakhouri was the foremost historian of the Lebanese wars. At the time of his death, and to everyone's surprise, the historian bequeathed 226 notebooks and 2 short films to the Atlas Group for analysis, preservation and exhibition. Both films and only 2 of the notebooks in the file are currently made available for analysis and display.

This exhibition will include the two notebooks, the two short films and a recently archived set of self-portrait photographs that Dr Fakhouri produced in 1959 during his one and only trip abroad, to Paris and Rome.

The Atlas Group Archive is located in Beirut and New York. It includes dozens of documents including films, videotapes, photographs, notebooks and other objects. *The Fadl Fakhouri File* is classified in the archive as of a type that contains documents that **The Atlas Group** produced and that are attributed to named imaginary individuals or organizations.

Perceptions of historical events are inevitably established on the evidence of selective information and the interpretation of the facts by those into whose hands they fall. There is evidence, experience, and interpretation. **The Atlas Group** adds immeasurably to the history of the Lebanese wars by constructing new evidence, documenting the experience of new individuals and giving us the chance to engage in a new interpretation. This is achieved through an astonishing level of verisimilitude that puts into question the distinctions between fact and fiction and with a humanity and humour that reignites our curiosity in the truth.

Work from **The Atlas Group Archive** has been exhibited extensively over the past two years and was featured to great acclaim in Documenta XI. Numerous performance/lectures by Walid Raad have taken place all over Europe and America. He will be performing at the Whitechapel Art Gallery on Saturday 22 November (tickets: 020 7 522 7864)

For further information and images please contact Jane Bhoyroo at the gallery