For Hassan Sharif, art was a daily practice calling for continual renewal, constant experimentation, uninterrupted exploration, delicately balanced between rigour and happenstance. Recently deceased, this artist, born in Dubai, was a pioneer of conceptual art in the Middle East, known, above all, for his “accumulations”, sculptures created by assembling everyday objects into works with a distinctly anti-consumerist message. The exhibition Blue, the third monographic exhibition that the Isabelle van Den Eynde Gallery has dedicated to the artist, retraces his forty-year career, focusing on one aspect of his work in particular - his use of colour. Paintings, objects and sculptures accompany us through the world of the artist, complex, provocative and ironic. The series Squares (2013), Cadmium Red Hue (2010), the series Venus and Fish (2009) and the triptych Blue (2016), are just a few of the works on display. Hassan Sharif didn’t use colours symbolically, he considered himself more “realist” than symbolist, and he didn’t try to suggest a specific narrative. His works reveal a polyhedral use of colour and a non-conventional artistic approach, playful, sneaky and subversive. For this tireless experimenter, capable of revolutionising the Middle East’s art scene, art is meant to surprise and agitate, moving us away from inert thoughts and visions.