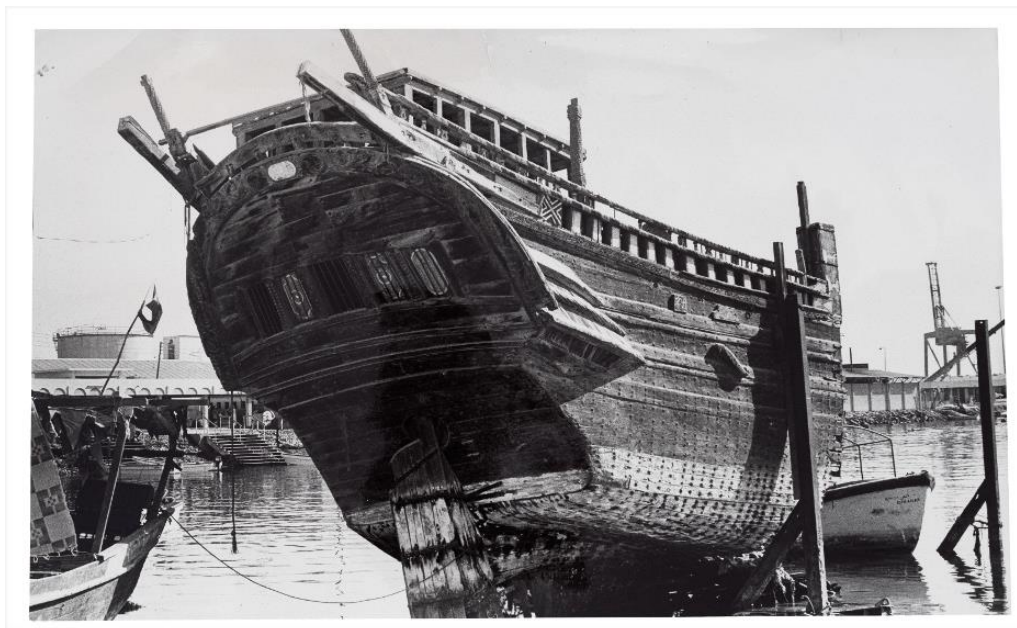


Abu Dhabi Art Announces over 100 Participating Galleries For 16th Edition

Annual art fair will take place between 20th – 24th November 2024 at Manarat Al Saadiyat and will feature 102 local, regional and international galleries in biggest edition to date

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Dhow, Sharjah - from the Asala Collection

Abu Dhabi, UAE, 31 October 2024: Abu Dhabi Art has announced the participation of 102 established and emerging galleries from 31 countries across the world, at the upcoming 16th edition of the fair, which will take place at Manarat Al Saadiyat from 20th – 24th November 2024.

The 16th edition brings together a group of galleries presenting modern and contemporary art, alongside 3 new Focus sectors at the Fair; **Something Bold, Something New**, a spotlight on modern artists from the region; **The Collectors Salon** bringing together galleries

presenting artefacts, historical objects, manuscripts and artworks for the first time at Abu Dhabi Art, and ***Silk Road: Drifting Identities*** bringing together galleries and artists from Central Asia & the Caucasus.

The gallery sector, Emerge, has also expanded to include 9 galleries, all selling works priced under USD3,000 and the long-standing sector ***Bidaya*** will introduce two gallery newcomers to the regional art scene.

HE Mohamed Khalifa Al Mubarak, Chairman of DCT Abu Dhabi stated: “The opening or re-launching of our national museums and institutions in recent years has already had an immeasurable impact on our cultural economy. With the upcoming museum openings confirmed for Saadiyat Cultural District including Guggenheim Abu Dhabi and Zayed National Museum, the commercial art sector which flies alongside this, is anticipated to enjoy unprecedented growth over the next decade. Abu Dhabi Art serves as an engine for our cultural economy and has played a key role in developing the art market here in the UAE, whilst expanding it globally”.

Galleries returning to Abu Dhabi Art this year in the Modern & Contemporary Sector include GALLERIA CONTINUA, Perrotin, Galerie ISA and Hanart TZ Gallery. New participants in this sector include Richard Saltoun Gallery, 3812 Gallery and JD Malat Gallery. Galleries participating in Special Projects Sector for the first time include Goodman Gallery, Galleria Franco Noero and ATHR; returning participant in this sector includes kó Galleries participating in the Emerge Sector include returning exhibitor GALERIST, alongside newcomers Perve Galeria and Wusum Gallery. Abu Dhabi Art has also given Rizq Art Initiative the opportunity to take part in Bidaya, which translated from Arabic means ‘beginning’ alongside Bawa from Kuwait.

Something Bold, Something New

Curated by Myrna Ayad, this Sector will consider seminal artists who have played a pivotal part in the art histories of the region. Ayad commented: “The Focus section for Abu Dhabi Art this year highlights modern art from the region, and the 8 participating galleries (most of whom are regular participants at Abu Dhabi Art) will present some never-seen-before works by modernists whose practices and legacies are long overdue recognition and appreciation. From Tunisia and Egypt to Palestine and Lebanon, through to Saudi Arabia, to nearby Iran and up north to France, the participating galleries showcase an inspiring set of modernists, including some pioneering female artists, operating from the early 1960s through to the early 1980s.”

The eight participating galleries in ***Something Bold, Something New*** and their showcased artists include: **Emily Fanous Azar** and **Nabila Hilmi** (Gallery One); **Inji Eflatoun** and **Amal Abdenour** (lilia ben saleh); **Halim Jurdak** (Saleh Barakat Gallery); **Dr Sami Al Marzoogi** (Hafez Gallery); **Ihab Shaker** (first time participant UBUNTU Art Gallery); **Aly Ben Salem** (Elmarsa Gallery) and **Rafik El Kamel** (Selma Feriani Gallery); and **Behjat Sadr**, **Hadi Hazavei** and **Sirak Melkonian** (Aria Gallery).

The Collectors Salon

A groundbreaking addition, this Sector marks the first time the fair will feature manuscripts, astrolabes, historical objects and rare books, responding to a framework pioneered by the Louvre Abu Dhabi in exploring connections between civilizations and cultures across time. Created by Roxane Zand, the 8 exhibitors in this new category include KESKINER / KENT ANTIQUES, presenting an imperial **ceremonial saddlery made for the Ottoman Sultan Selim III** (r. 1789-1807), Shapero Rare Books presenting a stand focused on Qur’ans including an incredibly rare 7th-century **Hijazi leaf from one of the first Qur’ans**, Galerie Ary Jan presenting 19th century Orientalist paintings including works by **Jacques Majorelle**, Daniel Crouch Rare Books presenting the **Asala Collection** - a library of over 500 photograph albums containing historical images of the UAE, Saudi Arabia,

and the wider Arab world, book dealer Peter Harrington Rare Books offering an exceptionally rare and significant literary treasure: **a carbon typescript of *Le Petit Prince*, featuring extensive handwritten corrections by its author, Antoine de Saint-Exupéry.** It is believed to be the first written appearance of one of the book’s most famous lines: “On ne voit bien qu’avec le cœur. L’essentiel est invisible pour les yeux” (“It is only with the heart that one can see rightly; the essential is invisible to the eye”). Other participants in this sector include INLIBRIS presenting two original brush drawings, adorning a signed and inscribed first edition of **Picasso’s wartime *Buffon***, Almine Rech with works by **Joel Andrianomearisoa, Ali Cherri, Mehdi Ghadyanloo** and **Agustin Cardenas** and Leila Heller Gallery presenting contemporary carpets by **Parviz Tanavoli, Zainab Al Hashemi**, and **Ali Cha’aban** amongst others.



Arab Man by Z.G. Donatassian - from the Asala Collection

Commenting on the works brought together for this new section Zand stated “**The Collectors Salon** is a timely reminder that art production stands on the shoulders of what has gone before. Increasingly both art history and art commerce recognize the value of

following a narrative that resonates over time, juxtaposing historical depth with modern creativity. We hope this approach enhances perspectives, highlights timeless themes and techniques, and enriches our cultural understanding. The habitat of a true connoisseur is testament to what art has contributed to humanity over time.”

Silk Road; Drifting Identities

This Sector brings together artists and galleries from Central Asia and the Caucasus including Gallery Michael Janssen presenting **Gulnar Mukazhanova**, The Why Not Gallery & CH64 Gallery presenting **Mishiko Sulakauri, Gvantsa Jishkariani, Niniko Morbedadze** and **Tamaz Nutsubidze** and Pygmalion Gallery presenting modern and contemporary artists including **Zhanna Nugerbek, Almas Oraqbai** and **Yerbolat Tolepbay**.

The Sector was brought together by Elvira Eevr Djaltchinova-Malets, who commented: “These seem important debuts, because they open long-forgotten discussions around the Silk Road, which has come to represent a journey of self-discovery for travellers, a search for identity, and a time of metamorphosis. The artists exhibited in this sector come from various regions of the Silk Road – from the Mongolian steppes through Central Asia and the Caucasus hills. They draw on personal biographies and shared yet illusive cultural references across these landscapes. These threads come together in the framework of an art bazaar which in my view seems apt; after all, the current art fair model is nothing more than a replicated model of mediaeval Silk Road bazaars, places of clashes and meetings of otherness.”

Dyala Nusseibeh, Director, Abu Dhabi Art concluded: “2024 is a year of firsts for us; a year of expansion at Abu Dhabi Art. This will be the first time we have an exhibitor section dedicated to art that spans centuries – aligned primarily to the fascinating histories of our part of the world. The first time we present pioneering under-researched modern artists from our region in curated exhibition format. The first time we have ever gathered more than 100

galleries together in one space, making this our biggest edition to date. This exciting gallery list is hopefully a drum call for all to mark their calendars and come to explore the fair first-hand this November.”

END

Notes to Editors:

EXHIBITOR LIST 2024

MODERN & CONTEMPORARY

3812 Gallery | Aicon | Aisha Alabbar Gallery | Anna Laudel | Ars Belga - Boghossian Matthu | ARTSIDE Gallery | Barakat Contemporary | Dastan Gallery | Efie Gallery | Elmarsa Gallery | Espacio Ververde | Etihad Modern Art Gallery | Galeria La Cometa | Galerie Isa | GALLERIA CONTINUA | Gallery Exit | Gallery Tableau | Hafez Gallery | Hakgojae Gallery | Hanart T Z Gallery | HOFA Gallery | JD Malat Gallery | JPS Gallery | Khawla Art Gallery | Lamia Bousnina Gallery | Lawrie Shabibi | Lechbinska Art | LEE & BAE | Leehwaik Gallery | Leila Heller Gallery | Leo Gallery | Mark Hachem Gallery | NIL Gallery | October Gallery | Perrotin | Picasso Art Gallery | Pop/off/art Gallery | Richard Saltoun Gallery | Rossi & Rossi | Sabrina Amrani | Saleh Barakat Gallery | Salwa Zeidan Gallery | Selma Feriani Gallery | Sevil Dolmaci Gallery | Sun Gallery | Sundaram Tagore Gallery | Tabari Artspace | Wadi Finan Art Gallery | Zawyeh Gallery

SPECIAL PROJECTS

1X1 Art Gallery | Agorgi Gallery | Aicon Contemporary | Artbooth Gallery | ATHR | Carbon 12 | Firetti Contemporary | Galerie Tanit | Galleria Franco Noero | Gallery Isabelle | Goodman Gallery | Green Art Gallery | Iris Projects | kó | KORNFELD GALERIE BERLIN | Kristin Hjellgjerde Gallery | lilia ben salah | Lucie Chang Fine Arts | Mashrabia Gallery of Contemporary Art | Mazzoleni | P420 | PG Art Gallery | Sarai Gallery | SC Gallery | Sfeir Semler Gallery | Tabari Artspace | Taymour Grahne Projects | THK Gallery | Warin Lab Contemporary

EMERGE

Eclectica Contemporary | Fann À Porter | Foreign Agent | Galerie La La Lande | GALERIST | Hunna Art | Perve Galeria | Wusum Gallery

BIDAYA

Bawa | Rizq Art Gallery

SILK ROAD; DRIFTING IDENTITIES | ELVIRA EEVR DJALTCHINOVA-MALEC

Galerie Michael Janssen | Pygmalion Gallery | CH64 Gallery | The Why Not Gallery

SOMETHING BOLD, SOMETHING NEW | MYRNA AYAD

Agial Art Gallery | Aria Gallery | Elmarsa Gallery | Gallery One | Hafez Gallery | lilia ben salah | Selma Feriani Gallery | UBUNTU Art Gallery

THE COLLECTOR'S SALON | ROXANE ZAND

Almine Rech | Daniel Crouch Rare Books | Galerie Ary Jan | INLIBRIS | KESKİNER / KENT ANTIQUES | Leila Heller Gallery | Peter Harrington Rare Books | Shapero Rare Books

ABOUT THE 2024 GALLERY REPRESENTATIVES

About Roxane Zand

Harvard and Oxford educated, Roxane Zand began a career in the arts at the Tehran Museum of Contemporary Arts, subsequently moving to the UK to work in the non-profit arts sector. She has served a variety of institutions such as the British Museum and Asia House, joining Sotheby's in 2006 to lead its presence in the Middle East & Gulf.

In March 2020 she left Sotheby's as Senior Director and Deputy Chairman to start her own consultancy. She continues to sit on several MENA Boards, AFAC, and advises the non-profit sector. Her most recent book was *Geometry and Art in the Modern Middle East*. She is the Arts Editor for the *Encyclopedia Islamica*. She was appointed Deputy Lord Lieutenant (DL) by Her Majesty the Queen for her services to Middle Eastern art. She is also a charity auctioneer.

About Myrna Ayad

For over two decades, Myrna Ayad has authored, edited, and contributed to several books, magazines and dailies on visual art and culture from the Arab world and Iran. A frequent panellist, jurist, and moderator, her role as an independent cultural strategist allows her to work on projects within the luxury sector, government entities, private companies, and non-

profit organisations. Based in the UAE for over four decades, Ayad is a graduate of the American University in Dubai and lives in Dubai with her husband and two children.

About Elvira Eevr Djaltchinova-Malec

Elvira Eevr Djaltchinova-Malec is an art practitioner with over thirty years of experience. She studied aesthetics, art history and cultural anthropology at university, following which she taught history of Asian art and architecture, aesthetics, semiotics and history of philosophy at the University of Warsaw. She has also worked as a curator at the Asia-Pacific Museum in Warsaw and the State Ethnographic Museum in Warsaw. She is the founder and president of the Warsaw Institute for Modern and Contemporary Asian Art Foundation named after Nejad Devrim. Since 2017, she has organised annual international meetings of collectors of Asian art through the GAAB Collectors Summit. She is currently working on a documentary about the life and work of Turkish artist Nejad Devrim.

About Abu Dhabi Art

Abu Dhabi Art expands beyond the notion of a traditional art fair, in placing strong emphasis on a diverse public engagement programme, including art installations and exhibitions, talks and events that take place in different locations throughout the year. The culmination of this year-long programme is the Abu Dhabi Art event in November, which provides an important sales platform for participating galleries whilst also offering these galleries an opportunity to showcase ambitious installations and site-specific works by their artists to a wide audience. abudhabiart.ae

About the Department of Culture and Tourism – Abu Dhabi

The Department of Culture and Tourism – Abu Dhabi (DCT Abu Dhabi) drives the sustainable growth of Abu Dhabi’s culture and tourism sectors and its creative industries, fuelling economic progress and helping to achieve Abu Dhabi’s wider global ambitions.

By working in partnership with the organisations that define the emirate’s position as a leading international destination, DCT Abu Dhabi strives to unite the ecosystem around a

shared vision of the emirate's potential, coordinate effort and investment, deliver innovative solutions, and use the best tools, policies and systems to support the culture and tourism.

DCT Abu Dhabi's vision is defined by the emirate's people, heritage and landscape. We work to enhance Abu Dhabi's status as a place of authenticity, innovation, and unparalleled experiences, represented by its living traditions of hospitality, pioneering initiatives and creative thought.

For more information about the Department of Culture and Tourism – Abu Dhabi and the destination, please visit: dct.gov.ae and visitabudhabi.ae