



## INFORMATION FOR THE PRESS

### ART DUBAI AND THE FIAC, BREAK NEW GROUND IN THE MIDDLE EAST

**Art Dubai** (March 19-22, 2008) and the **FIAC** (October 18-22, 2007) have just announced that they will collaborate on a joint project under the title of **PARIS-DUBAI**, to be hosted by Art Dubai's **Global Art Forum** in March 2008 and at FIAC's **Parcours Privé** in October 2008.

**The Global Art Forum** was launched last March and brought together 40 of the art-world's top personalities for three days of discussion; raising a number of topical issues including, the Next 10 years of Contemporary Art in the Middle East and Branding Cities through Culture. It also featured a series of interviews with artists from both East and West, including Wim Delvoye, Jan Fabre, Kader Attia and Hassan Khan.

This October the FIAC will welcome Art Dubai to Paris, to join the FIAC's **Parcours Privé** program, for the launch of the 1st edition of the Global Art Forum Transcripts publication, on October 17th at the Institut du Monde Arabe. Art Dubai will collaborate with the FIAC, next March in Dubai, to organize a special program for the **Global Art Forum, PARIS-DUBAI**, bringing together a number of artists and intellectuals from throughout the Middle East and who have had long-standing links with France, and notably Paris. In October 2008, FIAC will host Part two of this ongoing series of encounters.

Paris is a world metropolis for the arts and like other great post-colonialist centres it has not only thrived upon the vitality and diversity of cultures that it brings together, but has also served as an inspiration. It has long captured the imagination as both the subject and workplace for many artists and intellectuals from and close to the Middle East.

Over its 34-year history as the top art fair in France, the FIAC has grown through strategic collaborations with all the major contributors of the cultural scene in France. The **PARIS-DUBAI** project reflects a new spirit, bringing together two art fairs on the essential issues of art, through constructive dialogue. It will be the first in a series of projects between Art Dubai and the FIAC, encouraging ongoing creative collaboration between artists, curators, museum directors, collectors, academics and intellectuals from East and West.

Art Dubai at the FIAC 2007,  
**Parcours Privé**  
Global Art Forum Transcripts 1, book launch  
17 October, 2007 19:30 – 21:30  
Institut du Monde Arabe  
9th floor, Salle du Haut Conseil  
1, rue des Fossés-Saint-Bernard  
75005 Paris  
By invitation only

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**For the FIAC**

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**Notes to editors:**

The 34<sup>th</sup> edition of the FIAC, the modern and contemporary art fair, will be held from October 18<sup>th</sup> through 22<sup>nd</sup> in the Grand Palais, the Louvre's Cour Carrée and the jardin des Tuileries, in Paris.

Continuing the strategy of change begun in 2004, FIAC 2007 is characterized by a consolidation of their position, renewed strength and a desire to improve the quality of the offer in all areas of the fair. The commitment to the FIAC's identity as a general interest fair can be seen in the establishment of a balance which is both historical – between modern, contemporary and emerging trends and design – and geographical. Among the 179 exhibitors from 23 countries, FIAC has created a balance between the French context, with 76 French galleries (42%), and international scenes with 103 foreign galleries (58%). The reaffirmation of the fair's commitment is also reflected through the long-term establishment in exceptional venues, the Grand Palais, the Louvre's Cour Carrée and the Jardin des Tuileries; the proposal of an itinerary that includes the city and which led more than 90% of the visitors in 2006 to visit both sites, to stay longer

(average visit one day more for more than half of the visitors) and to return several times (thanks to the tickening system); and last but not least, the perpetual desire to federate the vitality of the Parisian art scene, once again in full force this October 2007.