# 

Press Release March 11, 2019

## ART DUBAI ANNOUNCES FULL PROGRAME FOR ART WEEK 2019 March 16 – 23, 2019

- Art Week's 9<sup>th</sup> edition spans three Emirates: Abu Dhabi, Dubai and Sharjah
- 500+ events will be staged by more than 80 venues: from exhibitions to panel discussions, film screenings, workshops and live performances
  - A 25% increase in venues hosting events since Art Week 2018

**March 11, 2019, Dubai, United Arab Emirates** - Initiated by the Art Dubai Group and supported by Dubai Culture & Arts Authority (Dubai Culture), **Art Week** is the region's largest cultural festival taking place in the UAE every March as part of Dubai's Art Season.

The 9<sup>th</sup> edition of Art Week starts on Saturday March 16 with over 500 events taking place over seven days across three Emirates - Abu Dhabi, Dubai and Sharjah. As a testament to the UAE's thriving and dynamic cultural scene, this year's Art Week sees a 25% increase in venues staging events throughout the week, with over 80 venues filled with exhibitions, panel discussions, film screenings, workshops and live performances.

For the first time, a selected range of activities, all open to the public, are available to view on <u>Art Dubai's</u> <u>website</u>; searchable by category and location, listing the highlights of the Week and what not to miss. The website is supported by a free print guide to Art Week in partnership with My Art Guides, available at Art Dubai and arts venues across the UAE.

**Art Dubai,** the flagship cultural event of Art Week, returns to Madinat Jumeirah, March 20-23, with its most extensive programme to date comprising of four gallery sections, performance art and music, talks and workshops, special projects and family programming. For its 13<sup>th</sup> edition the fair introduces Bawwaba, a new section focused on projects about Latin America, the Middle East, Africa and Central and South Asia, and UAE NOW which explores the evolving landscape of the country's independent local artist-run platforms.

The 6<sup>th</sup> edition of **Dubai Art Season** 'Take a Walk on the Art Side' runs from March 1 –April 30. Under the patronage of Her Highness Sheikha Latifa bint Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Vice Chairman of Dubai Culture & Arts Authority, **SIKKA Art Fair** returns for its 9<sup>th</sup> edition in the heart of Old Dubai at Al Fahidi Historical Neighbourhood from March 16-24. The fair, the first to open during Art Week, reflects 2019 as the Year of Tolerance in the UAE by bringing together emerging regional talents displaying works under the theme *An Open Window to Art and Tolerance*. For the first time this year, Sikka Art Fair will offer two distinctive but intertwined experiences: 'Sikka by Day,' celebrating Al Fahidi tenants, the neighbourhood, and their art exhibitions and installations; and 'Sikka by Night' where multiple cultural activations will be hosted.

On March 18, **Alserkal Avenue's Galleries Night** will provide an extended-hours evening of exhibitions, commissions, artist talks, guest projects, screenings, tours and workshops. Not to be missed on this vibrant evening is **Concrete's** *Fabric(ated) Fractures*, a group exhibition presented in collaboration with the Samdani Art Foundation featuring works from artists with a connection to Bangladesh. Concurrently, **DIFC Art Nights** presents a fusion of art, culture and entertainment with a number of exhibitions and creative activities.

Across town in Jaddaf Waterfront, the newly opened **Jameel Arts Centre** presents its inaugural exhibition *Crude* as well as a selection of *Artist's Rooms* by Maha Malluh, Seher Shah and Randhir Singh, Hemali Bhuta and Farah Al Qasimi and an array of talks related to exhibitions and activities happening across the UAE. Elsewhere in Dubai, **Tashkeel** presents a group exhibition of 30 works by artists living and working in the UAE.

Beyond Dubai, visitors to the **Louvre Abu Dhabi**, can view works by Rembrandt van Rijn and Johannes Vermeer for the first time in the Middle East. Also making a debut in the region is the *The Princely Collections*, featuring key figures in the Late Renaissance and Baroque artistic movements, presented at the 16<sup>th</sup> annual **Abu Dhabi Festival at ADMAF** in Manarat Al Saadiyat. Other Abu Dhabi debuts include Swiss artist Zimoun's survey exhibition at the **NYU Abu Dhabi Art Gallery** and **Warehouse421**'s group exhibition focusing on the development of six of the key *Abjads* (consonantal alphabets) of the Middle East.

A major highlight of the calendar this year is the 14<sup>th</sup> edition of the **Sharjah Biennial**, which takes over spaces at the **Sharjah Art Foundation**, **Sharjah Art Museum**, the **Emirates Fine Art Society** and stretches across to venues on the East Coast. Elsewhere in the Emirate, **Maraya Arts Centre** host **UAE Unlimited**'s fifth collaborative exhibition and Sharjah Art Museum presents the long-term exhibition *Century in Flux: Highlights from the Barjeel Art Foundation*.

For a full listing of Art Week events, please visit <u>www.artdubai.ae/artweek</u> @artweekdubai | #artweek2019

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## **MEDIA CONTACT**

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## NOTES TO EDITORS

## List of participating venues:

\* means new addition for 2019

1971 Design Space, Sharjah 1x1 Art Gallery, Alserkal Avenue, Al Quoz, Dubai 71Structural Art, Alserkal Avenue, Al Quoz, Dubai\* ADMAF at Manarat al Saadiyat, Abu Dhabi AKKA Project, Al Quoz, Dubai\* Alserkal Programming Pop-ups Andakulova Gallery, DIFC, Dubai Antidote at Alliance Francaise, Oud Metha, Dubai Art Emaar, Downtown, Dubai Atassi Foundation, Alserkal Avenue, Al Quoz, Dubai\* Ayyam Gallery, Alserkal Avenue, Al Quoz, Dubai Bait 15, Abu Dhabi\* Carbon 12, Alserkal Avenue, Al Quoz, Dubai CAVE DXB, d3, Dubai\* CHI-KA, Alserkal Avenue, Al Quoz, Dubai Christie's, Emirates Towers, Dubai Cinema Akil, Alserkal Avenue, Al Quoz, Dubai\* Citizen E Gallery, d3, Dubai College of Fine Arts & Design, University of Sharjah, Sharjah Comptoir 102, Jumeirah, Dubai Concrete, Alserkal Avenue, Al Quoz, Dubai Courtyard Playhouse, The Courtyard, Al Quoz, Dubai Cuadro Gallery, DIFC, Dubai Cultural Foundation, Abu Dhabi\* Custot Gallery Dubai, Alserkal Avenue, Al Quoz, Dubai d Academy, Alserkal Avenue, Al Quoz, Dubai\* DIFC Art Nights, Dubai Dubai Design District, d3 Dubai Opera, Downtown, Dubai eL Seed Studio, Alserkal Avenue, Al Quoz, Dubai Elmarsa, Alserkal Avenue, Al Quoz, Dubai Etihad Modern Art Gallery, Abu Dhabi Fikra, Sharjah FN Design, Alserkal Avenue, Al Quoz, Dubai Fully Booked Dubai Art Book Fair, Alserkal Avenue, Al Quoz, Dubai Gallery Isabelle Van Den Eynde, Alserkal Avenue, Al Quoz, Dubai Gallery Ward, d3, Dubai Green Art Gallery, Alserkal Avenue, Al Quoz, Dubai Grey Noise, Alserkal Avenue, Al Quoz, Dubai Gulf Photo Plus, Alserkal Avenue, Al Quoz, Dubai HIPA, Downtown, Dubai Inked, Alserkal Avenue, Al Quoz, Dubai Ishara Art Foundation, Alserkal Avenue, Al Quoz, Dubai\* Jameel Arts Centre, Al Jadaf, Dubai\* jamjar, Alserkal Avenue, Al Quoz, Dubai Jean-Paul Najar Foundation, Alserkal Avenue, Al Quoz, Dubai Kind Workspace, The Courtyard, Al Quoz, Dubai\* La Galerie Nationale, Alserkal Avenue, Al Quoz, Dubai Lawrie Shabibi, Alserkal Avenue, Al Quoz, Dubai Leila Heller Gallery, Alserkal Avenue, Al Quoz, Dubai

Louvre Abu Dhabi. Abu Dhabi M Woods, The Dubai Mall, Dubai\* Maisan15, Al Barsha, Dubai\* Majlis Gallery, Al Fahidi Historical Neighbourhood, Dubai Maraya Art Centre Sharjah Matar Bin Lahej Gallery, Jumeirah, Dubai\* Mawaheb, Al Fahidi Historical Neighbourhood, Dubai Meem Gallery, Al Quoz, Dubai Moser, Rue Royale, Palm Jumeirah, Dubai\* Opera Gallery, DIFC, Dubai Qasr Al Hosn, Abu Dhabi\* Re: Urban Studios, d3, Dubai Salsali Private Museum, Alserkal Avenue, Al Quoz, Dubai Salwa Zeidan Gallery, Abu Dhabi Satellite, Alserkal Avenue, Al Quoz, Dubai Selections Magazine, Alserkal Avenue, Al Quoz, Dubai Sharjah Architectural Triennial, Sharjah\* Sharjah Art Foundation, Sharjah Sharjah Art Museum, Sharjah Sharjah Biennial 14, Sharjah Sharjah Heritage Museum, Sharjah\* Sharjah Museum of Islamic Civilisation, Sharjah Showcase Gallery, Alserkal Avenue, Al Quoz, Dubai Sikka Art Fair, Al Fahidi Historical Neighbourhood, Dubai Sotheby's, DIFC, Dubai SVENM, Alserkal Avenue, Al Quoz, Dubai TABARI ARTSPACE, DIFC, Dubai Tamashee, Alserkal Avenue, Al Quoz, Dubai\* Tashkeel Al Fahidi, Al Fahidi Historical Neighbourhood, Dubai Tashkeel Youth Hub, Emirates Towers, Dubai\* Tashkeel, Nad Al Sheba, Dubai Techarc, Alserkal Avenue, Al Quoz, Dubai\* The Empty Quarter, DIFC, Dubai The Lighthouse, d3, Dubai The NYU Abu Dhabi Art Gallery, Abu Dhabi The NYU Abu Dhabi Arts Center, Abu Dhabi The Third Line, Alserkal Avenue, Al Quoz, Dubai The Workshop, Jumeirah, Dubai Total Arts, The Courtyard, Al Quoz, Dubai Warehouse421, Abu Dhabi XVA Gallery, Al Fahidi Historical Neighbourhood, Dubai Zayed University Urban Satellite Space (ZUUSS), Alserkal Avenue, Al Quoz, Dubai\*

## About Art Week

Art Week highlights the broad programme of cultural events taking place across Dubai and beyond each March, and offers residents and visitors alike a packed programme of fairs and festivals, one-off happenings, special performances and installations.

Spread over seven days and across the Emirates, highlights include: the region's leading art fair, Art Dubai; SIKKA Art Fair, held in the heart of Old Dubai; openings and special events in the city's commercial gallery districts of Alserkal Avenue, DIFC and Dubai Design District (d3) and the newly-opened contemporary arts museum, Jameel Arts Centre, Louvre Abu Dhabi, the 16<sup>th</sup> Abu Dhabi Festival and the 14<sup>th</sup> Sharjah Biennial

Launched by the Art Dubai Group with the support of the Dubai Culture & Arts Authority, Art Week aims to demonstrate the dynamism and progressive spirit of the city's thriving cultural scene.

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## About Art Dubai

Art Dubai is a leading international art fair as well as the world's leading platform for Contemporary and Modern art from the MENASA region.

Mirroring Dubai's position as a centre of trade and junction between different cultures, Art Dubai further acts as a place of discovery for art from centres that are usually omitted from the Western mainstream dialogue on art; in geographical terms referring to a region, which has recently become known as the 'Global South'.

Art Dubai promotes regional art and artists by featuring a unique mix of programming and commissioned works, often in partnership with other regional institutions. Redefining the role an art fair should play, Art Dubai cultivates an ecosystem for art, education and thought leadership beyond the commercial aspects of the fair. Two examples of this are the fair's critically acclaimed Global Art Forum, the largest arts conference in the Middle East and Asia, and Campus Art Dubai a one-of-a-kind educational programme in the UAE.

The fair further acts as a grassroots-type institution for art and art production through initiatives such as Residents, a programme-cum-gallery section for international artists, who are invited to the UAE for a 4-8 week residency to immerse themselves in the local scene.

Acting as a digital extension of Art Dubai's offering, Art Dubai Portraits is a commissioned film series profiling artists that are connected to the fair through its programming or participating galleries. This serves as a one-of-a-kind resource for curators and researchers working with art and artists from the region.

The fair is sponsored by Julius Baer and Piaget, with Madinat Jumeirah as the home of the event. The Dubai Culture & Arts Authority (Dubai Culture) is a strategic partner of Art Dubai and supports the fair's year-round education programme. BMW is the exclusive car partner of Art Dubai.

## www.artdubai.ae

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