

مقتنيات دبي
DUBAI COLLECTION

Introducing **The Dubai Collection**

The Dubai Collection is a new initiative launched by Dubai Culture & Arts Authority (DCAA) in partnership with Art Dubai Group. It is one of many initiatives supporting DCAA's 2019 Vision for the future of culture in Dubai. Held under the patronage of His Highness Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid al Maktoum, the Dubai Collection is the first institutional art collection in the city and for the city. It aims to inspire and educate those who live and visit Dubai, and support the thriving arts sector and all the creative professionals who call Dubai home.

The Dubai Collection will engage with themes connected with the historical development of the Emirate and the UAE and reflect the values of openness, diversity and interconnectedness as embodied in the spirit of its home

Whilst focusing on the UAE and the region, the Dubai Collection is an international collection with no geographical restrictions and artworks will be selected by a qualified curatorial committee

The Dubai Collection will be built in partnership with patrons who support the initiative through an innovative format where they lend artworks whilst always retaining legal ownership

Patrons can choose to include their artworks in temporary exhibitions or make them publicly accessible and all artworks in the Dubai Collection will be accessed through a digital museum

Governance

The Dubai Collection brings together a group of cultural leaders as advisors and an experienced executive team that will look after its development day to day. The Dubai Collection Steering Committee is chaired by Her Highness Sheikha Latifa bint Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum and will ensure that the initiative reflects the open, forward looking and cosmopolitan spirit of Dubai and the UAE. An independent Curatorial Committee chaired by Muna al Gurg will be responsible for the selection of artworks and the overall curatorial direction of the Collection. The Art Dubai Group will manage the initiative, from ensuring the smooth running of the advisory committees to the production of exhibitions and digital content.

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No global city is complete without a fully developed cultural dimension. A vibrant cultural life and environment is an integral part of any economic hub. Dubai has many cultural assets that enable it to be a global cultural destination and a centre for talent and innovation.”

His Highness Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum

Vice President and Prime Minister of the United Arab Emirates (UAE), and ruler of the Emirate of Dubai

Steering committee

The Steering Committee will include leading UAE cultural figures who will oversee the development of the Collection. Their main role will be to ensure the initiative reflects the open, forward looking and cosmopolitan spirit of Dubai and the UAE.

Chair of the Steering Committee

HH Sheikha Latifa bint Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum

Members of the Steering Committee

HE Noura bint Mohammed Al Kaabi
HE Abdulrahman Al Owais
HE Mohamed Al Murr
Abdelmonem bin Eisa Alserkal
Muna Easa Al Gurg



HH Sheikha Latifa bint Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum

Chair of the Steering Committee

HH Sheikha Latifa bint Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum is actively engaged in culture, arts, education, and technology in the UAE, and plays a major role in ensuring the cross-incubation of these industries through her post as Chairperson of Dubai Culture & Arts Authority (Dubai Culture).

Under her patronage and leadership, Dubai Culture has launched its flagship Dubai Art Season, which includes Art Dubai, the leading international art fair in the region, and SIKKA Art Fair, an artist-led initiative of fully commissioned works. Additional initiatives held under her patronage include Dubai Design Week, the region's largest creative festival; and Global Grad Show, the world-first exhibition of graduate works from leading design and technology universities.



HE Noura bint Mohammed Al Kaabi

Member of the Steering Committee

HE Noura bint Mohammed Al Kaabi has been President of Zayed University since 2018 and Chair of the National Commission for Education, Culture and Science. She is the chairperson of the Higher Committee for UAE Pavilion at Expo Dubai 2021.

She is on the Board of Trustees of the International Institute for Tolerance, in addition to being the vice chair of the Abu Dhabi Media Company.

She was the first Emirati to be chosen by the Foreign Policy magazine as one among the 100 global thinkers in 2013. The Forbes Middle East Council named her among the 30 most influential Arab women in the government sector. In 2015, she was honored by the American Association for Foreign Media (AAM) in recognition of her role in the growth of the UAE media industry.

She holds a BA in Management Information Systems from the United Arab Emirates University. She completed an Executive Leadership Program at London Business School in 2011.



HE Abdulrahman Al Owais

Member of the Steering Committee

HE Abdulrahman Al Owais (UAE, 1967) is a Cabinet Member and Minister of Health and Prevention and Minister of State for Federal National Council Affairs. He joined the federal Government in 2006 as the Minister of Culture, Youth and Community Development. Chairman of the Dubai Culture and Arts Authority, he is a Board Member of Dubai Healthcare City, the Chairman of the Board of Trustees of Hamdan bin Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum International Photography Award, Member of the Board of Trustees for the Sheikh Hamdan Bin Rashid Al Maktoum Awards for Medical Sciences, Member of the Board of Directors of the Emirates Foundation for Philanthropy and a Member of the Board of Trustees of Sultan Bin Ali Al Owais Cultural Foundation since 1992. He is also the 1st Vice President of the UAE National Olympic Committee.



HE Mohamed Al Murr

Member of the Steering Committee

HE Mohamed Al Murr (UAE, 1955) is Chairman of the Dubai Historical District Development Committee, Chairman of the Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum Library Foundation and a Trustee of the Emirates Literature Foundation. He graduated from Syracuse University in the United States and has been a member of several UAE academic institutions and councils. In 2011 Al Murr was appointed to the Federal National Council's 15th Chapter as a representative of the Emirate of Dubai and served as the speaker from 2011 to 2015. Mohammad Al-Murr is also a short-story writer who has published over 15 volumes of short stories and has had two collections translated into English: *Dubai Tales* and *The Wink of the Mona Lisa*.



Abdelmonem bin Eisa Alserkal

Member of the Steering Committee

Emirati businessman and patron Abdelmonem bin Eisa Alserkal is the founder of Alserkal, a socially responsible cultural enterprise, and its initiatives: Alserkal Avenue, Alserkal Arts Foundation, and Concrete. Concrete was shortlisted for the 2019 Aga Khan Award for Architecture.

Abdelmonem serves on the boards of numerous art and business institutions around the world, including the British Museum's Contemporary and Modern Middle Eastern Art Acquisition Group; the Tate's Middle East and North Africa Acquisition Committee; the Guggenheim's Middle Eastern Circle; and Etisalat Telecommunications Group Company PJSC (Etisalat). He is also a Supporter of the Centre Pompidou International Circle - Middle East.

Abdelmonem is also the managing director of Nasser Bin Abdullatif Alserkal Est., a Dubai-based family business with diversified interests in the UAE and internationally, and serves as a member of the board of the Alserkal Group.

Abdelmonem and the Alserkal family have long been supporters of the arts and have been awarded the UAE Patron of the Arts award twice.



Muna Easa Al Gurg

Member of the Steering Committee

Muna Easa Al Gurg is a businesswoman and philanthropist from Dubai. She is Director of Retail at Easa Saleh Al Gurg Group and is on several boards of directors including for non-profit organizations. Muna is Chairwoman of Young Arab Leaders, a fellow of the Middle East Leadership Initiative of the Aspen Institute, a member of the Aspen Global Leadership Network and board member of Al Gurg Charity Foundation.

Since 2008, she has been Chairwoman of Young Arab Leaders UAE.

In 2015 she launched the Muna Al Gurg Scholarship at London Business School.

Al Gurg is a member of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees Sustainability Board, mandated to provide innovative and sustainable solutions to refugees in the MENA region. At the Easa Saleh Al Gurg Charity Foundation, she is responsible for strategy and initiatives both in the UAE and internationally, including primary education support for underprivileged children in Zanzibar. Muna has been listed in the 'Women of Influence in the Arab world 2021' by CEO Middle East.

Curatorial committee

The Curatorial Committee brings together unparalleled experience in exhibition making and with developing some of the world's most established institutional collections. They will review independently every single work that enters the Dubai Collection, based only on artistic merit. The Committee meets regularly to review submissions from Patrons and to propose new acquisitions.

Chair of the Curatorial Committee

Muna Faisal Al Gurg

Members of the Curatorial Committee

Maryam Al Dabbagh
Munira Al Sayegh
Antonia Carver
Catherine David
Venetia Porter
Nada Shabout



Muna Faisal Al Gurg

Chair of the Curatorial Committee

Muna Faisal Al Gurg (UAE, 1987) studied Visual Arts at Zayed University, Dubai. She went on to receive a M.A. in History of Art and Museum Studies from the Paris-Sorbonne University in Abu Dhabi. Muna joined the Dubai Culture & Arts Authority in 2012, as a collections specialist and went on to work on the Authority's museum development projects.



Maryam Al Dabbagh

Member of Curatorial Committee

Maryam Wissam Al Dabbagh (UAE, 1982) is a writer, researcher, and the co-founder of Rouya Consultancy, specialising in cultural communications. She received a BA in Journalism from the American University of Sharjah and an MA in Global Media and Post-National Communications from SOAS, London. Her research is focused on the Arab Diaspora in the Gulf, and exile, especially through the lens of language, belonging and return. Al Dabbagh has translated several art catalogues and books to Arabic, and was recently commissioned by Art Jameel as part of their experimental research and exhibition series: The Library Circles.



Munira Al Sayegh

Member of Curatorial Committee

Munira Al Sayegh (UAE, 1989), an independent curator based in Abu Dhabi, UAE, worked with NYUAD as an assistant producer on the FIND project (2012), as co-curator of Art Dubai Projects (2014), assistant curator of Emirati Expressions (2015), and curator of Bayn: the in-between, the third edition of U.A.E Unlimited (2017). Al Sayegh was a curator on the Guggenheim Abu Dhabi exhibition The Creative Act: Performance, Process, Presence (2017), which she worked on alongside the Guggenheim Abu Dhabi project as programmes officer (2015–2017) and whilst curating the Abu Dhabi Art talks programme (2017). In 2019, she curated the Residents section of Art Dubai, was the lead tutor for Campus Art Dubai and started the Now series, highlighting non-government funded creative platforms in the region. In 2020, Al Sayegh curated her biggest exhibition The Cup and The Saucer, commissioned by Warehouse421.



Antonia Carver

Member of Curatorial Committee

Antonia Carver (UK, 1971) is Director of Art Jameel, leading teams in Saudi Arabia and the UAE, and overseeing programmes across learning and the arts. She joined in 2016 with a mandate to develop the Jameel Arts Centre, Dubai (which opened as Dubai's contemporary arts museum in November 2018), and Hayy Jameel, Jeddah (opening November 2021), and to institute a new period of radical growth for the organisation. Among other roles, Carver was previously Director of Art Dubai (2010–2016); Projects Director at Bidoun; in strategy and programming at Dubai International Film Festival; an editor at Phaidon; and has written extensively on Middle Eastern art and film.



Catherine David

Member of the Curatorial Committee

Catherine David (France, 1954) is a French-born art historian and curator and Deputy Director of Musée National d'Art Moderne, Paris. She has worked at the Musée National d'Art Moderne, Centre Georges Pompidou, the Galerie Nationale du Jeu de Paume, Paris and the Witte de With Center of Contemporary Art in Rotterdam. In 1997, she was Artistic Director for documenta X in Kassel and in 1998, served as Director of Contemporary Arab Representations.



Venetia Porter

Member of Curatorial Committee

Venetia Porter (UK, 1955) is a curator of Islamic and Contemporary Middle East art at the British Museum. She has a BA in Arabic and Persian, an MPhil in Islamic Art from the University of Oxford and a PhD from the University of Durham on the history and architecture of Medieval Yemen. She has curated two major exhibitions at the British Museum, Word into Art (2006) and Hajj: journey to the heart of Islam (2012) and was the lead curator for the Albukhary Foundation Gallery of the Islamic World which opened in October 2018. Her research and publications, including Islamic Tiles (1995), Arabic and Persian Seals and Amulets in the British Museum (2011) range from Arabic inscriptions to contemporary art and she is a contributor to The Islamic World: A history through objects (2018).



Nada Shabout

Member of Curatorial Committee

Dr. Nada Shabout (UK, 1962) is a Professor of Art History and Coordinator of the Contemporary Arab and Muslim Cultural Studies Initiative (CAMCSI) at the University of North Texas, and is the founding president of the Association for Modern and Contemporary Art from the Arab World, Iran and Turkey (AMCA). Along with curating exhibitions and receiving a number of prestigious awards, Shabout was the Project Advisor for the Saudi National Pavilion, Venice Biennale 2019, has been elected to the College Art Association (CAA) Board of Directors (2020–2024), and appointed a member of the Board of Directors of the Visual Arts Commission at the Ministry of Culture of Saudi Arabia (2020–2023). Leading an AMCA team, she received a Getty Foundation Grant to support the project “Mapping Art Histories from the Arab World, Iran and Turkey” and, in addition, is working on a book, Demarcating Modernism in Iraqi Art: The Dialectics of the Decorative, 1951–1979, with the American University in Cairo Press.

Selecting Artworks

KEY FACTS

Artworks in the Dubai Collection will engage with themes connected with the historical development of Dubai and the UAE from the second half of the 20th century up to the present day and looking into the future

Whilst focusing on the UAE and the region, the Dubai Collection is an international collection with no geographical restrictions

Regardless of provenance, all artworks are expected to reflect the values of openness, diversity and interconnectedness as embodied in the spirit of Dubai and the UAE

All artworks are subject to due diligence to ensure their legitimate provenance



Dubai Collection Patrons

Patronage is at the heart of the Dubai Collection. Some Patrons will have built museum quality collections thanks to decades of passion and dedication, others will be purchasing artworks for the first time. Regardless of where they are on their journey, the Patrons of the Dubai Collection will all contribute to building a legacy and documenting the history of Dubai.

Patrons

KEY FACTS

Patrons are the legal owners of their works, which they choose to lend to the Dubai Collection

A special loan agreement secures the inclusion of each artwork in the Collection for at least a decade

Patrons commit to make artworks either publicly accessible or support their inclusion in temporary exhibitions

Patrons can lend existing artworks in their collection or make new acquisitions for which, if they wish, they can seek advice from the Dubai Collection Curatorial Committee

Patrons can choose to be publicly recognised for their contribution, or remain anonymous if they choose



Loan Agreement

The Dubai Collection Loan Agreement is the legal foundation of the initiative and aims to formalise its core principles. It sets the parameters for the inclusion of each individual artwork in the Collection and regulates the relationship between Patrons and the Dubai Collection.

Loan agreement

KEY FACTS

Artworks become the object of a Loan Agreement once they are approved for inclusion in the Dubai Collection by the Curatorial Committee

The agreement is established between the Patron's legal entity – be it an individual or an organisation – and Dubai Culture, who legally represents the Dubai Collection

It protects the Patron's ownership rights whilst ensuring mechanisms are in place to enable the public to enjoy the artworks in different formats

It sets the timeframe for inclusion of each artwork in the Dubai Collection, as well as enabling digital content related the artwork to become publicly accessible in perpetuity

The agreement does not regulate the inclusion of artworks in special temporary exhibitions, which will be established separately with the relevant venues and always with the Patron's permission



Supporting creative talent

The Dubai Collection will offer a platform for emerging talent whilst celebrating the career of established artists. In all cases it will ensure that artists included in the Collection have a track record that demonstrates their commitment to a creative practice.

Supporting creative talent

KEY FACTS

The Dubai Collection will only consider artworks from emerging and established artists that can meet the criteria below

Established artists will have a demonstrable track record of works exhibited in an institutional context (temporary exhibitions or permanent collections) or by reputable and established private galleries

Emerging artists will have a demonstrable track record of professional development as shown by participation in reputable art initiatives, including but not limited to exhibitions, residencies, group shows and established international fairs



Collection Displays

Accessibility is one of the core principles of the Dubai Collection. The Collection can be experienced by audiences in multiple ways:

Works will be physically on display in accessible locations across the city

Works will be brought together as part of curated exhibitions in galleries and museums in the UAE and abroad

A Digital Museum will bring together educational material and critical perspectives on the Collection to support research and satisfy curiosity anywhere in the world.



Collection Displays

KEY FACTS

The Dubai Collection will encourage and support Patrons to make artworks publicly accessible in suitable venues they own or rent across the city, to help build a city-wide 'distributed museum'

The Dubai Collection will develop and help produce temporary exhibitions to extend the reach of the Collection across the UAE and abroad, whilst working with leading international cultural venues to develop exchange programmes

With the latest technologies and digital archiving methods, the Dubai Collection Digital Museum will become a resource and evolving archive through which the Collection will reach a global audience



Contact Us

To know more about how to support the Dubai Collection, please email:
info@dubaicollection.ae