

**ART DUBAI**  
11-13.3.2022

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**HOLDING**

## **Press Release**

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### **ART DUBAI 2022 PROGRAMME**

**Dubai, United Arab Emirates – 9 March 2022:** Art Dubai is pleased to present full details of the fair programme for its 15th edition, taking place at Madinat Jumeirah, Dubai, UAE, from 11-13 March 2022 (previews on 9 and 10 March).

Welcoming over 100 contemporary, modern and digital galleries from 44 countries, including more than 30 first-time exhibitors, Art Dubai 2022 represents the most extensive edition of the fair to date. This year's programme features newly commissioned site-specific works by internationally renowned artists; a unique new digital section that acts as a bridge between the crypto and art worlds; ground-breaking group exhibitions; and an ambitious multi-strand talks programme, including the 15th edition of the Global Art Forum. Across the UAE, for Art Dubai Week, the country's leading institutions present a parallel programme of significant solo and group exhibitions, talks and events.

View the list of galleries participating in Art Dubai 2022 [here](#)

#### **Commissions and Exhibitions**

Art Dubai's commissioned artist for 2022 is INLAND, represented by Fernando Garcia-Dory, who presents a new multi-site installation at the fair and in a variety of locations across Dubai. *Sand Flow* manifests in a range of places and moments, combining visions of Dubai's past, present and future and examining the ways in which the multiplicity of cultures and communities inhabit the city and their contributions to it. The artwork incorporates archaeology, hydrology, urbanism and transport as well as the Middle East's rich oral storytelling traditions, heritage and crafts.

Curated by Maryam Al Dabbagh and Mays Albaik, a new exhibition, titled "Speculative Links" commissioned by Warehouse421 in collaboration with The Salama Bint Hamdan Emerging Artist Fellowship (SEAF) and Art Dubai will present a selection of works drawing on threads and recurring research themes that persist across the fellowship's different cohorts of UAE-based artists. The artists' work spans a wide range of practices, including painting, drawing, engraving, mixed media, and embroidery, exploring from personal memories, to social commentaries, as well highlighting the intense homing desire.

Julius Baer has commissioned Filipino-American light and media artist James Clar (Silverlens) to create an interactive video installation entitled *Cloud Seed*, for the Julius Baer lounge at the fair. The installation immerses visitors in a large-scale real time simulation of raindrops and fog, using custom technology to create a slowly morphing visual system that reflects our control of the environment. Through the commission, Julius Baer wants to showcase the emergence of mega trends such as digital disruption and how artists are using cutting-edge technology in their practice.

Boghossian is a Geneva-based high jewellery house with a rich heritage spanning over 150 years. The Boghossian booth installation at Art Dubai 2022 highlights the dialogue between cultures and the extraordinary beauty that has resulted from multicultural influences. Visitors will discover a modern cabinet of curiosities held solely by the tension of silk cords, beautifully displaying an array of unique and audacious jewels. Designed by the Danish Kufstudios, the silk cords intertwine with the richly lacquered furniture of celebrated Lebanese designer Nada Debs.

BMW has a long and proud tradition of collaborations with some of the world's most talented and renowned artists. With a continuous support of contemporary art and culture across the world, BMW also maintains long-term and sustainable partnerships with the most important and prestigious art fairs around the world. In line with its aim to support art globally, BMW Middle East supports the art scene across the region through various approaches. In Dubai, BMW Middle East continues to cement its commitment to expanding and bolstering the art and cultural landscape, having partnered with Art Dubai since 2018. Following its world premiere in Los Angeles in February, THE 8 X JEFF KOONS - the most elaborately designed vehicle in all of BMW's history - will be presented at Art Dubai 2022.

In 2021, the Maison Ruinart Prize was awarded to Congolese photographer Gosette Lubondo. Given by Maison Ruinart in partnership with the Picto Foundation, this prize celebrates an emerging photographer selected from the "Curiosa" section of Paris Photo. Gosette Lubondo's work is a reflection on memory, heritage, and time. The pieces produced during her residency are born from her encounter with the different places involved in the champagne making process and will be on display at the Ruinart Lounge at Art Dubai.

*COSMODREAMS* is an immersive experience, a journey into the extraordinary world conceived by Marina Fedorova in her new series of artworks. The interactive installation explores the effects of technological advancements on our lives and environment and mixes traditional art with digital technologies in the form of large-scale paintings, life-size objects, and virtual reality video with interactive panels.

## Talks, Events and Workshops

Art Dubai's 2022 programme features an innovative talks programme for a range of audiences.

Entitled 'This is the Picture' and taking place across four days, the 15th edition of the **Global Art Forum** examines the worlds of digital artefacts and crypto economies, inviting leading artists, curators, creators, thinkers and technologists to consider a range of topics from NFT art and curatorial projects, to crypto gaming and the metaverse, Web 3.0 and Dubai's new crypto zone. Confirmed participants for 2022 includes noted collectors Guy Ullens and Ryan Zurrer; pioneering artists Holly Herndon & Mat Dryhurst; and UAE blockchain advocate Saeed Al Darmaki. <https://www.artdubai.ae/global-art-forum-15/>

Bybit Talks, an eclectically curated series of conversations presented by the titular and leading cryptocurrency exchange, aims to give visitors greater understanding about the rapid growth in digital platforms, inviting guest speakers to explain more about the basics of cryptocurrency, digital media and NFT art. Participants include Tamas Banovich, co-founder of Postmasters; Seth Goldstein, co-founder of Bright Moments and Jenn Ellis, co-founder of Aora Space. <https://www.artdubai.ae/bybit-talks-series/>

Art Dubai's Modern section is accompanied by three days of Art Dubai Modern Talks (10<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> March), this year held in collaboration with the Dubai Collection, that will examine the life, work and influences of 20<sup>th</sup> century Modern masters from the Middle East and North Africa. These important artists' works form the art history of the region from the turn of the 20<sup>th</sup> century to the 1980s, and the series will significantly add to the existing scholarship and research. Participants include Art Dubai Modern curator Sam Bardaouil, leading Emirati curator Munira Al Sayegh and Nima Sagharchi, Director of Middle Eastern, Islamic and South Asian Art at Bonhams. <https://www.artdubai.ae/modern-talks-2022/>

This year's A.R.M. Holding Children's Programme features artist-led workshops for children aged 5-17 years. With a focus on sustainability, the programme is conceived by Kenyan artist Cyrus Kabiru, who works with participants to retrieve and repurpose everyday materials from their homes, transforming them into works of art. Through these workshops, Cyrus challenges participants to alter their perspectives, and re-examine how they see everyday objects and their wider surroundings. Challenging children to alter their perspective and re-examine how they see everyday objects and their wider surroundings. The programme first takes place at Art Dubai before expanding to 80 schools - reaching more than 5000 children across Dubai, in line with A.R.M. Holding's long-term commitment to artistic education and Dubai's creative economy.

## **Around Town - Art Dubai Week**

Art Dubai Week takes place during the final month of Dubai Expo 2020 with a range of solo and group exhibitions taking place across the city. Highlights include: *Jitish Kallat: Order of Magnitude* at Ishara Foundation; *A Slightly Curving Place*, curated by Nina Ghose, at Concrete, Alserkal Avenue; two important solo shows: *Taus Makhacheva: A Space of Celebration* and *Fahd Burki: Daydreams* at Jameel Arts Centre. Sharjah Art Foundation presents *Lawrence Abu Hamdan: The Sonic*, the largest solo exhibition of the artist's works to date, including a major new commission *Air Conditioning* and a site-specific performance. *When Images Speak: Highlights from the Dubai Collection* continues at the Etihad Museum, featuring a selection of nearly 70 modern and contemporary art works drawn from the collections of 11 patrons of Dubai Collection, the first institutional art collection of its kind.

## **NOTES TO EDITORS**

### **About Art Dubai**

Founded in 2007, Art Dubai is the premier platform to see and buy modern and contemporary art from the Global South. Featuring Contemporary and Modern gallery sections, annual artist commissions and year-round collector and education programmes, Art Dubai champions art and artists from across the Global South, providing a relevant and increasingly important alternative to mainstream, largely Western-led narratives.

Art Dubai is held in partnership with A.R.M. Holding. The fair is sponsored by Swiss Wealth Management Group Julius Baer. The Dubai Culture & Arts Authority (Dubai Culture) is the fair's strategic partner. Bybit is the lead partner of Art Dubai Digital.

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