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CONTEMPORARY ART FROM THE UAE

SEPTEMBER 15 – DECEMBER 15

# Photography

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■ Sheikha Lateefa Bint Maktoum

■ Lamyia Gargash

□ Maitha Huraiz

■ Anas Al Dheeb

(Photography will be upstairs)

# Painting

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- Abdul Qader Al Rais
- Hussein Sharif
- Mohammed Kazem
- Dr. Najat Maki
- Musab Al Rais
- Noor Al Suwaidi
- Sheikha Alyazia Nahyan Al Nahyan
- Sumaya Al Rais
- Maisoon Al Saleh

(Painting will be downstairs)

# Sheikha Lateefa Bint Maktoum

Emirati artist Lateefa Bint Maktoum combines photography and montage to create ethereal landscapes that examine transformations in culture and the ever-changing connections between life, nature and women.

Using her personal experiences of life in Dubai as a base, Maktoum re-imagines and re-invents the landscape of her childhood. She explains the importance of nature to cultural rituals such as preparing food, saying, "I used to cut leaves off the ghaf tree with one of my mother's friends and take them back to the Majlis to eat with rice." The importance of women and the bonds that are built through cultural practices have influenced her artwork. She notes, "what Dubai was, the essence of it is being lost."

In her series *Observers of Change*, part of the UAE's exhibit at the 2011 Venice Biennale, Maktoum captures the Gulf nation's transformed landscapes amid mass urbanisation, land reclamation and construction. Upturned and wilted palm trees represent an acute awareness of the conflicting environment of her homeland and the death and rebirth of cities.



*Observers of Change 1*

128 x 184 cm | 2011 | Photo Courtesy of Tashkeel



*Observers of Change 2*  
128 x 184 cm | 2011 | Photo Courtesy of Tashkeel



*Observers of Change 3*  
128 x 184 cm | 2011 | Photo Courtesy of Tashkeel



*Observers of Change 4*  
128 x 184 cm | 2011 | Photo Courtesy of Tashkeel

# Lamya Gargash

Concerned with the relics of an ever self-renewing architecture, Lamya Gargash documents the forgotten spaces in public and private realms in Emirati society. Through her practice and photographic series such as Presence, Familial and Majlis series, Gargash investigates the fast pace at which her surroundings are changing and what is left behind when a culture undergoes an unwavering thrust forward. Gargash's most recent series, Through the Looking Glass, shifts the focus of Gargash's subject matter from places devoid of people, to the figure and the physical human presence as opposed to its haunting existence in previous series.

Gargash's works were included in group exhibitions at such prominent institutions as Gyeonggi Museum of Modern Art, Korea; Busan Museum of Art, South Korea; The Vitra Museum, Wil Am Rhein, Germany; Goethe Institute in Berlin, Germany; and Emirates Palace, Abu Dhabi.

Gargash's first artist book titled Presence, is a photographic series which documents recently vacated houses and structures in the United Arab Emirates that have been abandoned or left for demolition.



*Tangled*

60 x 60 cm | 2014 | Photo Courtesy of The Third Line Gallery

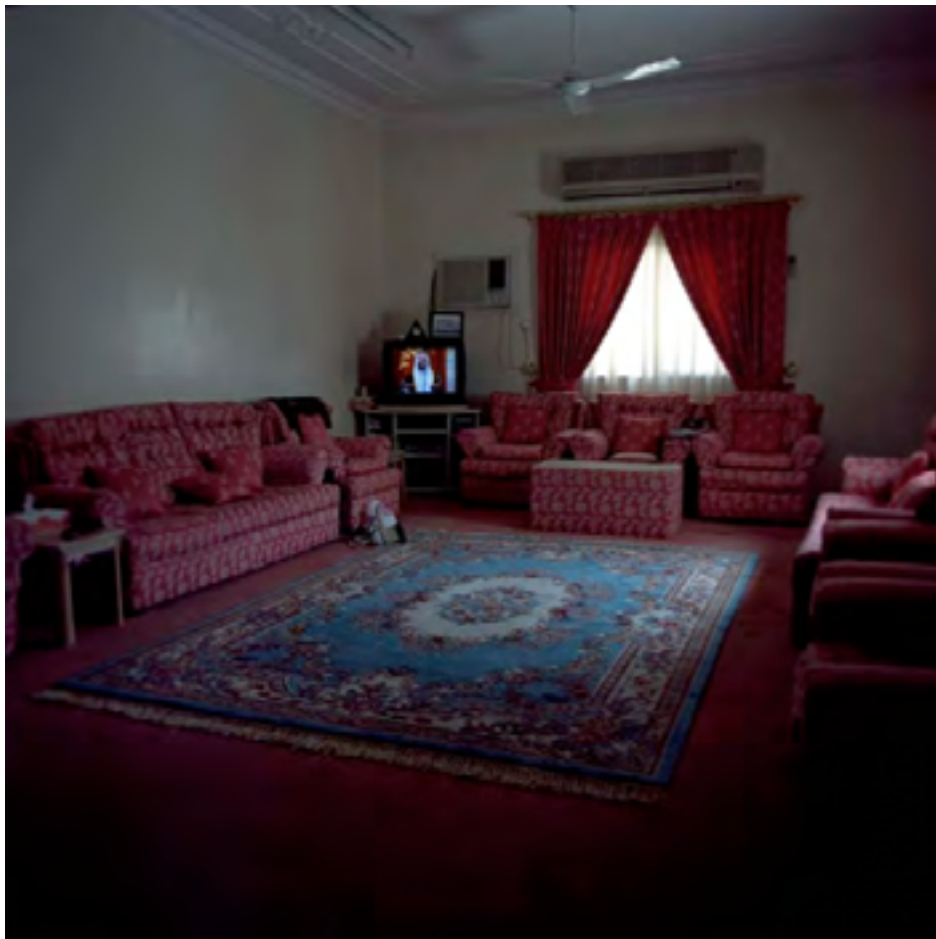


*Drapes*  
60 x 60 cm | 2014 | Photo Courtesy of The Third Line Gallery



*Pink Bedroom*  
60 x 60 cm | 2006 | Photo Courtesy of The Third Line Gallery





*Pink Sofas*  
60 x 60 cm | 2006 | Photo Courtesy of The Third Line Gallery



*Untitled (From The Pulse Series)*  
60 x 60 cm | 2006 | Photo Courtesy of The Third Line Gallery

# Maitha Huraiz

Born in 1989, in Dubai, Maitha Huraiz is one of the younger photographers from the country. She studied Visual Arts at the Zayed University between 2006 and 2010.

She has participated in several group and solo shows both, in the UAE and abroad. Huraiz also won the Emirates Photography Award in 2007.



*Behind Closed Doors*  
180 x 200 cm | 2008

# Anas Al Dheeb

As a Member of the Oman Photography Club, Aldheeb has directed lectures and workshops in both theoretical and practical photography, as well as in photo editing. His photographs are varied, ranging from portraiture to spectacular landscapes. This year he exhibited in a solo show in Japan at the Ship of World Youth program, projecting beautiful images of people and places to a global audience.

Despite his young age, he has already enjoyed much international praise in the form of awards, his achievements range from 1st place in the Photo Art Prague International Salon this year to a FIAP honorary award in the 2014 Egypt Youth competition.



*Fisher Men*

118 x 79 cm | 2014 | Photo Courtesy of The Artist



*Working Time 1*  
118 x 79 cm | 2014 | Photo Courtesy of The Artist



*Reader*  
118 x 79 cm | 2014 | Photo Courtesy of The Artist

# Abdul Qader Al Rais

Abdul Qader Al Rais is one of the most-acclaimed artists from the United Arab Emirates. Born in 1951, Al Rais paints landscape and architectural scenes inspired by traditional Emirati neighbourhoods, buildings and forts using a photorealistic style. The established artist also creates abstract paintings incorporating Arabic letters. The use of small floating squares is a signature style carrying through Al Rais' works.

Recipient of the first Sheikh Khalifa Prize for Art & Literature, Dubai-born Al Rais developed his distinct style through years of experimentation. Al-Raies has held exhibitions worldwide since 1965.



*The Door*  
205 x 155 cm | Oil on Canvas



*Untitled*

150 x 150 cm | Oil on Canvas

# Hussein Sharif

Emirati artist Hussain Sharif, born in 1961 in Dubai, has participated in numerous exhibitions in his native UAE, Russia, Holland, France, Egypt and Germany. Sharif's body of work includes painting, drawing, collage and installation and he is credited as a pioneer of Emirati art.

Sharif, who founded and is a member of the Emirates Fine Art Society in Sharjah along with his brother, Hassan Sharif, encourages experimentation and concept-based artwork in his creations. As other artists from the emirates, he often tackles the issue of Emirati identity.



*Collage (Triptych)*

235 x 155 cm | 2007 | Photo Courtesy of Barjeel Art Foundation

# Mohammed Kazem

Dubai photographer and video artist Mohammed Kazem, born in 1969, was one of the first artists in the region to take a conceptual approach to his artwork. Regarded as a regional pioneer in incorporating video and new technologies to his pieces, Kazem seeks to achieve balance and harmony with his photographs, which often depict the relationship between memory and object. Kazem's autobiographical photos, drenched in colour, explore his relationship with the ever-changing environment around him in Dubai, which has quickly transformed from a desert emirate into a bustling city. Kazem has participated in solo and group shows in the UAE, France and Germany.



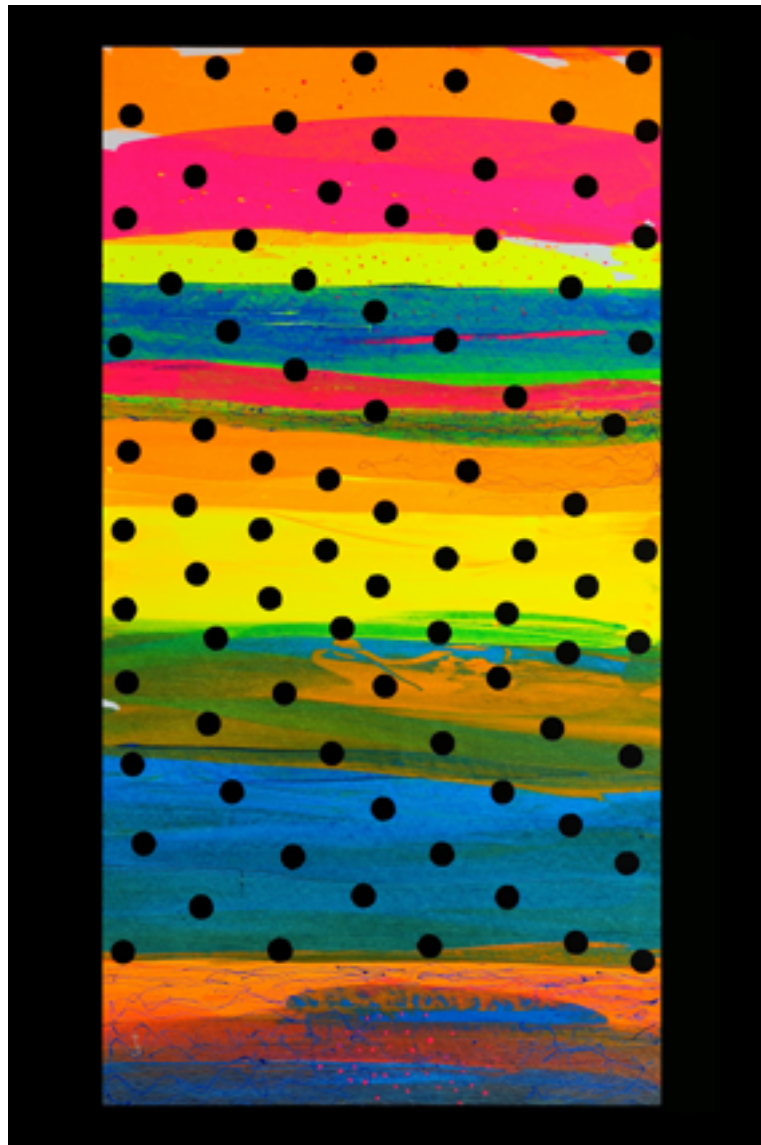
*Scene*

76 x 76 cm | 1993 | Photo Courtesy of Barjeel Art Foundation



# Dr.Najat Maki

Dr.Najat Maki obtained a PhD in metal coins from the Faculty of Arts in Cairo in 2001. She is currently the Head of Educational Techniques in the Ministry of Education. Dr. Najat is a member of the U.A.E. Plastic Arts Society, the Arts Friends Group of Arab Gulf Countries, the Al-Jidar (The Wall) Group in Sharjah, Dubai Cultural Council and was the Chair of the History and Archeology Department (1998-2000). She has participated in more than 28 group exhibitions locally and internationally and has several solo exhibitions to her credit. Suprvised and arbitrated local, Arab and international competitions.



*Untitled*

110 x 180 cm | Photo Courtesy of the artist



*Untitled*  
100 x 120 cm | Photo Courtesy of the artist



*Untitled*  
100 x 100 cm | Photo Courtesy of the artist

# Musab Al Rais

Emirati artist Musab Abdul Qader Al Rais has been experimenting with art since his childhood, inheriting his talent from his father, renowned artist Abul Qader Al Rais. The 30-year-old engineering graduate's work is fashionably striking with the use of bold colours and tints to express the depth of space and forms in his watercolours.

The manner in which Musab's style has evolved - have taken his works on a new artistic high and demonstrate that technique is pivotal and not merely a secondary creative tool. The technique of painting the multi-colored layers are reminiscent of the treatment of drapery in Renaissance paintings, where the meaning that lies beyond the obvious.

The contemporary artist also uses acrylic as a medium to propel his work from a lifeless canvas into a work of art that paints a story of the country's cultural lineage and makes an unmistakable mark of Musab's Emirati identity.



*Abstract*

150 x 200 cm | Photo Courtesy of the Artist



*Untitled*  
150 x 200 cm | Photo Courtesy of the Artist



*Window*  
120 x 180 cm | Photo Courtesy of the Artist

# Noor Al Suwaidi

Noor Al Suwaidi's work can be best described as a kaleidoscopic trip into colourful canvases and variegated works on paper, all oscillating between the realms of portraiture and figurative abstraction. Born in 1981, Al Suwaidi grew up in Abu Dhabi and since the age nine has dedicated herself to a creative career that—over the past years—has reached a seminal phase in its development. A particular interest in painting led her to pursue studies in the UK and the US, through which she conceived, expanded, and consequently refined her artistic style.

Al Suwaidi is also an independent curator and has curated exhibitions in the UAE and in the USA. Her latest show opened at Maraya Art Center, Sharjah. The Present features contemporary artworks by 10 artist from the Emirates.



*Dreamers (Diptych)*

120 x 90 cm | 2010 | Photo Courtesy of Barjeel Art Foundation

# Sheikha Alyazai Nahyan Al Nahyan

Alyazia drew the contours of her future artistic career at an early age, adopting a unique approach in her paintings which are characterized by cultural reflections joined by canvas transformations.

She participated in art exhibitions and events, like: the "Emirati Expressions" exhibition in Abu Dhabi, the "39 Artists" exhibition, organized by the Ministry of Culture, for the occasion of the UAE National Day; the "Fine Arts " of Abu Dhabi Business Women Council in 2011; the "Art Dubai" and "Art Abu Dhabi" exhibitions; the "Two Generations" exhibition, organized by the Al Jidar Group at the Al Owais Cultural Foundation in Dubai in 2012; organized the "Faces of Leadership" exhibition, featuring the rulers of the UAE, in collaboration with the Ministry of Culture in 2010; her first solo art exhibition in 2011 entitled "Dialogue," at the Art Space Gallery in Dubai.



*Weather Report*



*Email*



*Bluetooth*



SMS



*Second Part Of The Story*



# Sumaya Al Rais



*Untitled*  
120 x 90 cm | 2014 | Photo Courtesy of the Artist



*Untitled*  
100 x 150 cm | 2015 | Photo Courtesy of the Artist

# Maisoon Al Saleh

Born in 1988, the up-and-coming Emirati artist and entrepreneur Maisoon Al Saleh is active in her practice both in Dubai and internationally. She graduated from Zayed University in 2010, with a degree in Interior Design. Al Saleh's first solo show was at the Maraya Art Center, Sharjah, in Autumn 2010.

Al Saleh's work has been exhibited in UAE at various exhibitions, including Art Dubai; Emirati Expression at Emirates Palace, Abu Dhabi; Macedonian Museum, Greece; Palazzo TE Museum, Italy; Centro Cultural CajaGRANADA Memoria de, Spain; and her work has also been included in many shows in the United States. Her work is also included in the Barjeel Art Foundation collection in Sharjah.



*Mommy and I*

140 x 100 cm | Photo Courtesy of the Artist