

## Art Jameel Commissions:

Art Jameel has a longstanding interest in commissioning artists to make new works, often for the public realm, as well as in media or situations that further their ongoing artistic practice. In 2017, Art Jameel launches a commissioning programme anchored at the forthcoming contemporary arts institution in Dubai, UAE. The programme runs in a 3-year cycle, focussing on sculpture (2018); research and lecture series (2019); and drawing and painting (2020). The [Jameel Arts Centre](#) is set to open in the winter of 2018. The sculpture commission, themed around the medium of light, will make its debut at the Centre, situated in Jadaf, on the Dubai Creek. Details of the 2019 and 2020 editions of Art Jameel Commissions will be revealed in the coming years.

Each commission will play a central role in the Jameel Arts Centre's programming, and should embrace the institution's aims, to be a multidisciplinary, exploratory space dedicated to contemporary artists, writers and researchers from across the Middle East and beyond, and welcoming of a broad local, regional and international audience base.

## Art Jameel Commissions: Sculpture

The first [Art Jameel Commissions](#) programme takes sculpture as its starting point – envisaging the genre in its widest sense – and focusses on light as an artistic medium. Art Jameel Commissions: Sculpture aims to support artists in the development of their practice, through the exploration of (familiar and new) media, and to enable broad audiences to connect with works outside of the gallery space.

The eminent jury includes writer and curator **Shumon Basar**; independent curator and art historian **Reem Fadda**; **James Lingwood**, Co-Director, Artangel; **Elvira Dyangani Ose**, Senior Curator of Creative Time; and **Sheikha Hoor Al Qasimi**, President, Sharjah Art Foundation; plus representatives from Art Jameel.

Art Jameel has a long track record of working with artists to produce and exhibit works for the public realm. In collaboration with Jeddah Municipality, for example, Art Jameel founded an [open-air museum](#), restoring and showcasing 20 major sculptures in a public park on the Corniche in Jeddah, Saudi Arabia; recent new commissions include a major outdoor work by [Maha Malluh](#).

Art Jameel is inviting artists to respond to the brief for this exciting opportunity – specifically, artists from or based in the Middle East, North Africa and Turkey and those around the world (regardless of nationality) who have links to, and have a meaningful understanding of the wider 'Middle East region'. Applicants may originate from the region, reside either in the region or diaspora, and/or have contributed to the various cultural scenes across this diverse and nuanced region.

Artists must have some prior experience of working to commission in the public realm. Although the commission is for a work utilising light technologies, artists who have not previously worked with light as a medium before are also encouraged to apply.

The work should have the capacity to push one's understanding of the role of light in a dynamic, nocturnal city such as Dubai, and the ways in which artists and architects have embraced the medium. For the first

stage of the application process, artists should submit an outline proposal, concept drawing and draft budget. All proposals will be considered by the jury, who will select three artists' proposals for the shortlist. The three shortlisted artists will be asked to submit more detailed concept drawings and budget. The jurors will then select the winning commission from the three shortlisted artists based upon their detailed submissions.

## Brief & Eligibility

Art Jameel aims to commission a work that embraces light as a medium, to be installed initially at the Jameel Arts Centre, Dubai. The artist may use the architectural facade of the Centre as a point of inspiration for the work, or alternatively propose locations in and around the building. The work should ideally have a strong visual impact during daylight hours as well as at night, and should create an added visual and conceptual dimension to the Centre.

*The commission is open to artists who:*

- demonstrate some experience with working to commission in the public realm
- demonstrate an ability to design a work that is technologically robust, suitable for semi-permanent public display, and sustainable
- have a proven track record of adhering to budget and deadline
- are of any nationality or age and have links to, and a grasp of, the environmental and cultural nuances of the location and the wider Middle Eastern region. Artists may be from or based in the Middle East, North Africa or Turkey — either living in the region or diaspora — and/or engaged in contributing to the various cultural scenes of the region
- have an awareness of light technology as a medium and embrace conceptual and visual ideas/designs that are wholly original, dynamic, carefully considered and contextually-appropriate

## Criteria

*Submissions should:*

- take into account the architecture and environment of Jameel Arts Centre, Dubai and its intent as an institution
- stand out conceptually, artistically and technically

- engage meaningfully with a broad, contemporary audience base
- provide a captivating focal point that will ideally have a strong presence during daylight hours as well as when illuminated at night
- show some flexibility in terms of design and adaptability to place and shipment (required so that the work could potentially be installed at another suitable site at a later date)
- meet the deadlines of the application and production process, and of installation around October 2018

## **List of additional documents/appendices included in this brief:**

- ground plan of site
- elevation drawings of south-facing façade (land side)
- architectural visualisations of the finished building within its environment
- technical specifications

## **Budget**

A budget of USD 500 will be paid to each of the three artists who are invited to submit a more detailed proposal and budget at the second stage. The production budget for the winning commission will be USD 70,000 to include:

- the artist's own fee
- any applicable taxes
- all materials necessary for the production and exhibition of the work
- insurance and transport of work to port of entry (UAE)
- production costs of work

## In support of the winning commission, Art Jameel will provide:

- technical (engineering and architectural) expertise and advice made available to all three shortlisted candidates and then to the commissioned artist regarding the installation of the work onsite, both during the production process and during installation.
- installation and art handling expertise and support onsite; the exact breakdown of responsibility between the artist and institution as regards to expertise and installation is to be determined during Stage Two of the application process and discussed with shortlisted artists
- transportation of the work from port of entry to the site for installation
- costs of installation of the work at the Jameel Arts Centre in Jadaf, Dubai
- insurance of work during transportation, installation and once in the care of Art Jameel
- travel and accommodation for the artist to undertake a site visit during the production process
- travel and accommodation for the artist to undertake a site visit to oversee the installation

## Application Process: Stage One

At the first stage, artists are invited to respond to the above brief with outline drawings, a budget and the application form by **November 21, 2017**, 11:59 pm (Dubai time). The [application form](#) is to be completed online in English and requires the following information:

- a statement on how your proposed work relates to the brief (max 3000 characters)
- a statement of your approach to the commissioning process (max 3000 characters)
- a summary that highlights your relevant experience of working to commission for projects in the public realm (maximum 3000 characters)
- photographs of work relevant to your proposal – up to 20 images (A4 or 300dpi in JPEG format via [wetransfer.com](#)) and each file name labelled *[Title\_FirstnameLastname]*, or video links (each video will be counted as one image) to be uploaded to Vimeo or Youtube and pasted in the link field of the image details section.

- a list of captions relating to images (to include date, dimensions and medium). Dimensions and weight are approximations until concept is realised.
- up to 3 concept drawing/s of your proposed design (max size 300dpi or A3) and file name labelled *[Conceptdrawing1\_FirstnameLastname]* to correspond with the sequence in the application.
- a draft budget in .xlsx, .xls, .doc, .docx or pdf format
- You may access the relevant documents and brief [here](#) and the online application form [here](#).

If you are submitting your application and materials by post, please ensure they are delivered no later than **November 21, 2017** to:

For couriered mail (Fedex, DHL, etc.):  
Attention: Art Jameel Commissions  
Project Space Art Jameel  
Warehouse 48  
Alserkal Avenue, Al Quoz 1  
Dubai, United Arab Emirates  
Phone: +971 4 323 9971

For registered mail:  
Attention: Art Jameel  
Floor 18, Jumeirah Business Centre 1  
Jumeirah Lake Towers Cluster G  
PO Box 643664 | Dubai | United Arab Emirates  
Phone: +971 4 323 9971

Should you have any technical difficulties please email: [commissions@artjameel.org](mailto:commissions@artjameel.org).

## Stage Two (shortlisting of three artists)

Artists will be notified of the results of Stage One of the application process by December 20, 2017. Three artists will be shortlisted by the Jury and invited to proceed to the second stage; this stage requires more detailed concept drawings and technical specifications, a work-plan, detailed budget and maintenance plan to be submitted by January 31, 2018 for which they will receive a budget of USD 500. Shortlisted artists will have access to a support network of architectural, engineering and technical experts who are familiar with the Jameel Arts Centre, Dubai.

## Stage Three

The Jury will meet for the second time to deliberate the final three proposals, and one artist will be selected to realise the commission. The commissioned artist will be selected and invited for a site visit in the Spring of 2018.

Best of luck to all those who apply!

- The Art Jameel Commissions: Sculpture Team

## Jury Biographies

### Shumon Basar

Shumon Basar is a writer, curator and cultural critic. He is co-author of *The Age of Earthquakes: A Guide to the Extreme Present* with Douglas Coupland and Hans Ulrich Obrist. He is Commissioner of the Global Art Forum in Dubai, Editor-at-large of *Tank* magazine, Contributing Editor at *Bidoun* magazine, Director of the Format program at the AA School, and a member of Fondazione Prada's Thought Council.

### Elvira Dyangani Ose

Elvira Dyangani Ose is Senior Curator at Creative Time, Lecturer in Visual Cultures at Goldsmiths, member of the Thought Council at the Fondazione Prada and an independent curator. She was part of the curatorial team of the Biennale de l'Image en Mouvement 2016 in Geneva, Curator of the eighth edition of the Göteborg International Biennial for Contemporary art (GIBCA 2015) and Curator of International Art at Tate Modern (2011 – 2014). Previously, Dyangani Ose served as Curator at the Centro Atlántico de Arte Moderno and the Centro Andaluz de Arte Contemporáneo, as Artistic Director of Rencontres Picha, Lubumbashi Biennial (2013), and as Guest Curator of the triennial SUD, Salon Urbain de Douala (2010). She has curated, among others, the retrospective exhibition 'Carrie Mae Weems: Social Studies' (2010) and the interdisciplinary project 'Across the Board' (2012–2014). Dyangani Ose has contributed to art journals such as *Nka* and *Atlántica* and has served as guest editor of *Caderno Sesc\_Videobrasil* 10.

### Reem Fadda

Reem Fadda is an independent curator and art historian. From 2010 to 2016, Fadda worked at the Guggenheim Museum as Associate Curator, Middle Eastern Art, Abu Dhabi Project. From 2005 to 2007, Fadda was Director of the Palestinian Association for Contemporary Art (PACA), Ramallah and served as Academic Director for the International Academy of Art Palestine, Ramallah, which she helped found in 2006. She has curated many international exhibitions and biennials, including 'Jerusalem Lives (Tahya Al Quds)', The Palestinian Museum, Birzeit (2017); 'Not New Now', 6<sup>th</sup> Marrakech Biennale (2016); and the United Arab Emirates National Pavilion, 55<sup>th</sup> Venice Biennale (2013). She is also a guest curator of Sharjah Biennial 13 Act II in Beirut co-organised by Sharjah Art Foundation and Ashkal Alwan. Fadda was awarded the eighth Walter Hopps Award for Curatorial Achievement in 2017, and she received a Fulbright scholarship to pursue her PhD in the Department of History of Art and Visual Studies, Cornell University in 2008. She is based between Amman and Ramallah.

### James Lingwood

James Lingwood is, together with Michael Morris, Co-Director of Artangel. Ground-breaking works produced by Artangel over the past 25 years include Rachel Whiteread's *House* (1993), Ilya and Emilia Kabakov's *The Palace of Projects* (1998), Jeremy Deller's *The Battle of Orgreave* (2001), Steve McQueen's *Caribs' Leap/Western Deep* (2002), Francis Alys's *Seven Walks* (2005), Roni Horn's *Library of Water* (2007), Mike Kelley's *Mobile Homestead* (2010), Cristina Iglesias's *Tres Aguas* (2014), Ryoji Ikeda's *spectra* (2014) and 'Inside: Artists and Writers in Reading Prison' (2016). He has curated numerous exhibitions for museums around the world including surveys of the work of Vija Celmins, Luigi Ghirri, Douglas Gordon, Susan Hiller, Juan Munoz, Thomas Schutte, Robert Smithson and Thomas Struth.

## **Hoor Al Qasimi**

President and Director of Sharjah Art Foundation, Hoor Al Qasimi was curator of Sharjah Biennial 6. Recent curatorial projects include 'Hassan Sharif: I Am The Single Work Artist', 'Yayoi Kusama: Dot Obsessions', 'Farideh Lashai', and '1980-Today (UAE Pavilion, Venice Biennale)'. She is President of the International Biennial Association and serves on Boards including MoMA PS1, Darat al Funun and KW Berlin. Scholar-in-Residence at Cornell University, she served on numerous juries including the Maria Lassnig Prize (2017), Hepworth Wakefield (2016) and the Benesse Prize (2013).

## **Fady Jameel**

Fady Mohammed Jameel is President of Art Jameel. His passion and appreciation for art has led him to create a number of successful art collaborations and partnerships, including the Jameel Prize and Jameel Gallery at the V&A, London, as well as an institutional partnership with the Met, New York. He is a member of the Director's Council of the Dia Art Foundation, New York, and the council at the Centre Pompidou, Paris. He is also President of Community Jameel International, Art Jameel's sister organisation, which is dedicated to sustainable social and economic enterprise across the MENAT region through a wide range of programmes, including job creation, education, and health and social initiatives.

## **Antonia Carver**

Antonia Carver is Director of Art Jameel. Previously Director of Art Dubai (2010-2016), she led its development into the leading international fair for the Middle East and South Asia. Based in the UAE since 2001, Carver has written extensively on Middle Eastern art and film. In 2004, she joined *Bidoun* as an editor and later became the director of the organisation's projects division. Carver has also served strategy and programming roles at the Dubai and Edinburgh international film festivals, the Institute of International Visual Arts, and Phaidon.

## Frequently Asked Questions

Q Where will the light-work be sited?

A It will be situated initially at the Jameel Arts Centre, Jadaif, Dubai, UAE

Q How long will it be sited for?

A At least one year (potentially longer, depending on the nature of the work)

Q Can a collective or duo apply?

A Yes, but they will be considered one artist with a shared budget.

Q Who will own the work?

A The work will enter the collection of Art Jameel

Q Will the artist retain the copyright for the design?

A The artist will retain copyright for the design.

Q How will it be maintained?

A A maintenance agreement will form part of the commissioning contract.

Q Who will pay installation costs?

A Art Jameel is responsible for costs related to readying the site, installing the work in situ and ongoing maintenance.

Q Who will apply for city planning permission, should that be necessary for the installation?

A The commissioning team (led by Art Jameel).

Q Instead of photos, can we supply short videos of work in the public realm?

A Yes, YouTube and Vimeo links will be accepted.

Q If I have participated in a Jameel-affiliated programme in the past, am I still eligible to apply?

A Yes, the Commission is open to everyone who meets the criteria.

If you have any questions that have not been addressed above, please contact:

**[commissions@artjameel.org](mailto:commissions@artjameel.org)**



## Terms and Conditions

### Stage One

I) A panel of eminent jurors will select the winning commission. By registering his/her interest and submitting his/her details and concept proposals, the artist agrees to be bound by the rules and terms and conditions of entry and by the decision of the judging organisation, which is final and binding in all aspects, being specified that jurors are not obliged to provide reasons for their decision.

II) Jurors will not enter into correspondence with artists.

III) Only one artist (or collective, should the application be made as a duo/group) will be commissioned.

IV) Designs must be the artist's own work and not breach any third party's intellectual property rights in any way. Artists must declare the names of any third parties who may have intellectual property, moral or other rights in any part of the work submitted. Artists must be able to demonstrate on demand that any third party rights have been assigned, licensed or waived as appropriate for all relevant purposes. In the case of copyright infringement, the artists will assume full responsibility, the commission will be cancelled and the artist will reimburse the commissioner any fees paid and costs incurred.

V) All submissions must comply with the rules and if they do not comply they shall be disqualified.

VI) By completing a submission, artists' contact information will be entered into Art Jameel's database.

### Stage Two

I) Artists shall agree to take part in related promotional photographs, interviews and similar publicity activities as may be reasonably requested. Notably the use of the artist's name, biography and image of work may be used for publicity.

II) Artists who are invited to second stage must make their drawings available for display should the commissioner choose to exhibit them.

III) Shortlisted concept drawings will be owned by Art Jameel.

IV) The final sculpture will be owned by Art Jameel.

V) The artist will retain copyright for the design.

VI) A commissioning contract and any other necessary contracts will be executed by the commissioned artist and Art Jameel setting out each parties' rights and obligations under the Commission.

VII) Should the installation of the winning commission involve grounds outside of the Arts Centre, it could be subject to municipality and other permissions. Should the need arise to adjust the concept in accordance with such regulations, Art Jameel and its panel of technical experts will advise the artist, and full cooperation and understanding is expected.