

For Immediate Release

## Art Jameel showcases works by Egyptian artist Maha Maamoun in Dubai

- **The exhibition at Project Space Art Jameel, Alserkal Avenue, is Maha Maamoun's first solo show in the Gulf**

**Dubai, United Arab Emirates | September 25, 2017** – Art Jameel's latest initiative in its Project Space in Dubai is an exhibition of video and photographic works by renowned Egyptian artist Maha Maamoun.

'Works by Maha Maamoun' takes place at Project Space Art Jameel, Alserkal Avenue, Dubai, from September 14 to October 12, 2017. As part of Alserkal Lates programming on Wednesday, September 27, Art Jameel is hosting a talk with the artist. British curator, editor and writer Shumon Basar will sit in conversation with Maamoun to discuss her process and her use of images in her photographic and video works. The talk which takes place from 6:30pm to 7:30pm at Nadi Al Quoz will be followed by an opportunity for questions from the audience.

The exhibition includes select works by Egyptian artist **Maha Maamoun**: the single channel video *2026* (2010) and four photographs from a series entitled *Domestic Tourism I* (2005). *2026* overlaps a remake of the memorable image of the time traveller in Chris Marker's *La Jetée* with an excerpt from a contemporary science-fiction Egyptian novel titled *The Revolution of 2053: The Beginning*. *2026* runs on an eternal loop and is composed of different pictorial and textual sources that keep running back to the zero hour where the future is on repeat.

The four-part series *Domestic Tourism I* is inspired by generic and idealized images of Egypt, whether promotional touristic images or in Egyptian cinema. These images are presented through four motifs: *Park*, *Beach*, *Cairo by Night*, and *Felluca*.

The exhibition takes place at Project Space Art Jameel, Warehouse 48, The Yard, Alserkal Avenue, September 14 to October 12, 2017, Saturday to Thursday, 10:00am – 6:00pm. Art Jameel exhibitions are free and open to the public; all welcome. Project Space Art Jameel is kindly supported by Alserkal Avenue.

The works were recently acquired by The Metropolitan Museum of Art through a partnership with Art Jameel.

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For more information visit [www.artjameel.org](http://www.artjameel.org) and join the conversation on Instagram [@art\\_jameel](https://www.instagram.com/art_jameel) | Facebook [Art Jameel](https://www.facebook.com/ArtJameel) | Twitter [@ArtJameel](https://twitter.com/ArtJameel)

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**Maha Maamoun** lives in Cairo, where she has been working as an artist since the early 2000s. Her practice is primarily focussed on videos and photographs and the function of images that

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are found in mainstream culture. Her work acts as a lens through which familiar images are seen in new and insightful ways. Maamoun often uses high and low brow images—ranging from YouTube footage to excerpts from bootleg 1950s Egyptian films.

Working primarily in photography and video, Maha Maamoun's work has been presented by many institutions worldwide including Centre Pompidou, Paris; Tate Modern, London; MoMA, New York; ICP, New York; New Museum, New York; MuHKA, Antwerp; MATHAF – Arab Museum of Modern Art, Doha; Mori Art Museum, Tokyo; Beirut Art Center, Beirut; Makan, Amman; Swteirischer Herbst, Graz; Witte de With, Rotterdam; Philadelphia Museum of Art, Philadelphia; Den Frie Centre of Contemporary Art, Copenhagen and Haus der Kunst, Munich. Her work was also shown in biennials and festivals including the 6th Dak'art Biennial, Dakar; Bamaco 03, Mali; 9th Gwangju Biennale; Sharjah Biennial 10; Transmediale 2014, Berlin and 64th Berlinale, Berlin. Maamoun's solo shows include *Lingering in Vicinity*, Gypsum Gallery, The Night of Counting the Years, Fridericianum, Kassel in 2014 and *The Laws of Existence* at Sursock Museum, Beirut. In addition to her art practice, she has curated and partook in the curating of arts projects in the Middle East and Europe. She is a founding board member of the Contemporary Image Collective (CIC) – an independent non-profit space for art and culture founded in Cairo in 2004. Maha Maamoun's works are in private and public collections including Deutsche Bank, The Metropolitan Museum of Art, the Whitney Museum of American Art, Bonnefantenmuseum, MuHKA, Sharjah Art Foundation, Barjeel Art Foundation and FRAC – Poitou Charentes.

### Art Jameel

Art Jameel is a not-for-profit organisation that supports artists and creative communities. Current initiatives include running heritage institutes and restoration programmes, plus a broad range of arts and educational initiatives for all ages. The organisation's programmes foster the role of the arts in building open, connected communities; at a time of flux and dramatic societal shifts, this role is understood as more crucial than ever.

Art Jameel's model is collaborative: major institutional partners include the Victoria & Albert Museum, the Prince's School of Traditional Arts and the Metropolitan Museum of Art; locally, the organisation works with individuals and organisations to develop innovative programming that embraces both ancient and new technologies, and encourages entrepreneurship and the development of cultural networks.

The Jameel Arts Centre is set to open in Jadaf, Dubai, in the winter of 2018. A not-for-profit contemporary arts institution, the Centre includes galleries, project spaces and a library and resource centre, and will feature a broad programme of solo and group exhibitions plus educational initiatives and residencies.

Art Jameel is positioned alongside Community Jameel, and complements its sister organisation's work in promoting positive social change, job creation and poverty alleviation across the Middle East, North Africa and Turkey.

[artjameel.org](http://artjameel.org)