The Jameel Arts Centre is one of the first not-for-profit contemporary art institutions in Dubai. Set to open in 2018, the 10,000 square meter complex is a multidisciplinary space dedicated to the display, promotion and creation of art from across the Middle East and beyond, featuring curated exhibitions that draw on the Jameel Art Collection, as well as regional and international solo and group shows.

THE NEW BUILDING

Name          Jameel Arts Centre Dubai
Location      The Jameel Arts Centre Dubai is located at the tip of Dubai’s Culture Village, overlooking the Dubai Creek

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Design Overview
Conceived as a series of boxes of varying dimensions that are bound together by a one storey high colonnade, the Jameel Arts Centre Dubai is an intimate place for experiencing and producing art. The building’s intelligent design offers a flexible and rich curatorial potential – from small intimate gallery for enjoying smaller works to large galleries with soaring height for large sculptures.

Connecting the exhibition spaces are public outdoor courtyards, which offer moments of repose and reflection as one moves from one gallery to another. The colonnade also works as an active social space, charging the edge of the building with activities and enlivening the waterfront promenade. The massing of the building, its spatiality, and its façade articulation draws from the rich architectural tradition of the region – interpreted with a modern simplicity and elegance.

Size / Functions
10,000 square meters overall, comprised of museum quality gallery spaces; an open-access research centre and library; dedicated events spaces; a roof terrace designed for film screenings and events; an outdoor sculpture area; and a café, restaurant and bookshop

Layout
Three storeys high, plus a below ground carpark; Building dimensions: 130m x 60m

Facade Material
Aluminium Panels, Precast and Insitu Concrete Colonnade

Construction Started
June 2015

Building Opening
Winter 2018

Architects
The Jameel Arts Centre Dubai was designed by the United Kingdom based Serie Architects, under project lead Christopher Lee. Serie is an international practice specialising in architecture, urban design and research, whose portfolio includes projects in the UK, Singapore, India, China, and the Middle East. Serie has gained a reputation for designing distinctive buildings in the public realm, with a special focus on cultural, civic and educational building. Serie has won a number of high profile design competitions, including the BMW London 2012 Olympic Pavilion, the Singapore State Courts Complex, and the National University of Singapore School of Architecture. In 2010, Serie Architects won the ‘Young Architect of the Year Award’. For further information: http://www.serie.co.uk/

Courtyard Gardens
Designed by landscape architect Anouk Vogel, The Jameel Art Centre courtyards draw inspiration from botanical adventurers, who explored the world to find exotic plants to bring home. The courtyards will feature a collection of sculptural plants native to the world’s different deserts. Striking vegetal textures, subtle mineral hues and unusual paving slabs provide each garden with a unique character. Anouk Vogel’s work focuses on international and cultural projects ranging from gardens to pavilions, bridges, furniture, temporary installations, sculptures and autonomous work. Swiss-born, she studied landscape architecture in England before moving to the Netherlands. In 2007 she founded her own practice in Amsterdam. In 2009 she won the competition for the new furniture of the Vondelpark, a Dutch National Heritage Site and in 2010 she was one

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of the finalists of the prestigious Prix de Rome for Architecture. For the Expo in Milan 2015 she designed the National Pavilion of the Kingdom of Bahrain in collaboration with Studio Anne Holtrop. Anouk Vogel has taught at several design schools, including at the Eindhoven Design Academy and the Amsterdam Academy of Architecture. For further information: http://www.anoukvogel.nl/

Image caption: Jameel Arts Centre Dubai © Serie Architects
PROGRAMMING AND CURATORIAL FEATURES

Exhibition Programme
Jameel Arts Centre Dubai comprises approximately 10,000 square meters of overall floor space over three storeys, including more than 1,000 square meters of dedicated gallery space. The centre will feature an evolving year-round exhibition programme of regional and international group shows, as well as those drawn works from the Jameel Art Collection, and spotlights on upcoming artists from the region and beyond.

The Collection
Art Jameel is committed to collecting works by artists from across the Middle East and beyond, with the on-going support of an international curatorial council. To date artists featured in the collection include, among others, Kader Attia, Maurizio Cattelan, Manal Al Dowayan, Monir Shahroudy Farmanfamian, Abdulnasser Ghaem, Mohammed Kazem, Yazan Khalili, Sophia Al Maria, Ahmed Mater, Maha Malluh, Hazem El Mestikawy, Monira Al Qadiri, Imran Qureshi, Conrad Shawcross, Walid Siti, and Lantian Xie.

In advance of the opening of the Jameel Arts Centre Dubai, Art Jameel has opened a temporary Project Space in Alserkal Avenue, Dubai. The inaugural installation features a five-channel video installation by Basel Abbas and Ruanne Abou-Rahme.

Curatorial Council
Art Jameel is developing a Curatorial Council to advise on its exhibitions and collections programming, which at this stage includes Jessica Morgan, director, Dia Art Foundation, New York, and the curator and writer Murtaza Vali, based between Sharjah and New York.
Art Jameel

Curatorial Themes
In its first few years, the Jameel Arts Centre Dubai’s exhibition programming and collection is informed by three thematic threads:

□ The condition and act of confluence, through the exchange of ideas, traditions and languages encouraged by cities such as Dubai and Jeddah
□ How artists are exploring the nature of living and making work in the GCC
□ Museology and the nature of developing an arts centre, including how contemporary artists are engaging with museum culture and modes of exhibition

Library & Research Centre
The Arts Centre will include a 300 square meter open access library and research centre, designed to include books, papers, theses, artists’ archives, and ephemera. The library and research centre will be a place to access, analyse, and build art histories of the Gulf region.

Rooftop & Film Screenings
A 270 square meter rooftop terrace will provide ample space for film screenings and additional events curated by Art Jameel.

Artist Residencies
The Jameel Arts Centre Dubai will house an on-going residency programme for artists, writers and researchers.

Bookstore & Cafe
Dedicated to fostering engagement with the wider community, the Jameel Arts Centre Dubai includes a full service Restaurant, a Cafe and a Bookstore dedicated to arts and culture related publications.

Image caption: Basel Abbas and Ruanne Abou-Rahme, And yet my mask is powerful, 2016, video still. Courtesy of the artists.

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