



For Immediate Release

Art Jameel and Gulf Photo Plus announce the return of the popular photography event, GPP Slidefest, to Saudi Arabia

- **GPP Slidefest is part of Photography Jameel’s annual programme, which aims to nurture the growing photography movement in Saudi Arabia.**
- **The event provides a platform for photographers of all levels of interest and ability in the region to learn, experiment and celebrate the art of photography.**
- **The second Saudi edition of GPP Slidefest will showcase the works of five local and regional photographers who will present and discuss their recent projects.**
- **Art Jameel and Gulf Photo Plus have also organised a special portfolio review session, for the first time, for photographers and artists to benefit from the experience and ideas of industry professionals.**

Jeddah, Saudi Arabia | September 18, 2019 – [Art Jameel](#), an organisation that supports heritage, education and the arts, today announces the second Saudi edition of GPP Slidefest. The event, held in partnership with [Gulf Photo Plus](#) (GPP), the renowned centre for photography based in Dubai, will present the work of five locally and regionally based photographers and will take place on Friday, September 27, 2019, in Beydoun Space, Jeddah, beginning at 8:30 pm.

GPP Slidefest, which aims to provide a platform for emerging photographers in the region to learn, collaborate and experiment, will present works by Saudi photographers **Iman Al-Dabbagh** and **Abdulsalam Alamri**; Kuwaiti photographers **Huda Abdulmughni** and **Mohammed AlKouh**; and GPP Co-Director, and Dubai based Tanzanian photographer, **Mohamed Somji**.

The event is part of **Photography Jameel’s** annual programme, the initiative was launched in 2017 to build on the momentum of the **Art Jameel Photography Award** (AJPA) which ran between 2010 and 2016. Photography Jameel focusses on year-round learning and community development with workshops, portfolio reviews, talks and more.

In addition to the GPP Slidefest event, Art Jameel and Gulf Photo Plus have partnered to present a portfolio review session on Saturday, September 28, 2019, also in Beydoun Space. The session will provide an opportunity for photographers and artists to meet with professional photographers and industry professionals for one-on-one sessions to share their work and receive feedback, advice, and exchange ideas. **Iman Al-Dabbagh** and **Mohammed AlKouh**, a Photojournalist and Fine Art Photographer, respectively, will be providing feedback in both English and Arabic; and **Lola Boatwright**, Managing Director of Gulf Photo Plus and **Mohamed Somji**, Photographer, Director of Seeing Things & Co-Director of Gulf Photo Plus, will be providing feedback in English. The portfolio review sessions will run from 1 pm to 2:30 pm and each session will last 15 minutes. Interested photographers can meet with as many industry professionals as they would like to, time permitting, and reviews



will be scheduled on a first-come, first-serve basis.

Antonia Carver, Director of Art Jameel, commented, “Art Jameel’s focus on photography began through our Photography Award and, through the level of response and engagement it received, has organically transformed into a grass-roots programme of workshops, talks and events for photographers across Saudi Arabia. Building on the success of last year’s inaugural edition, we are delighted to be partnering again with Gulf Photo Plus, to celebrate one of the region’s most widely practised art forms.”

Mohamed Somji, Co-Director of Gulf Photo Plus, said: “Of the many things we do at GPP, Slidefest is one of our favourite initiatives. Slidefest brings together myriad and compelling photography projects which help start conversations and enlighten us about social issues in our region and inspire other photographers to work on stories that matter to them. Together with Art Jameel, we held our first international Slidefest in Jeddah one year ago, and have since taken the event to Cairo and Manama as well, making it a region-wide event. We are excited and honoured to return to Jeddah with our friends and partners, Art Jameel”

GPP Slidefest is free to the public and will take place on Friday, September 27, 2019, in Beydoun Space, at 8:30 pm.

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For more information, visit www.artjameel.org and join the conversation:

Art Jameel: Instagram [@art_jameel](https://www.instagram.com/art_jameel) | Facebook [Art Jameel](https://www.facebook.com/ArtJameel) | Twitter [@Art_Jameel](https://twitter.com/Art_Jameel) using the hashtag #artjameeldxb

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About Art Jameel

Art Jameel 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.

[Jameel Arts Centre](#), an innovative contemporary institution in Dubai, UAE, opened on November 11, 2018; [Hayy: Creative Hub](#), a major complex for the creative industries in Jeddah, Saudi Arabia, is set to launch in 2020.



Art Jameel's model is collaborative: major institutional partners include [Delfina Foundation](#), [the Metropolitan Museum of Art](#), the [Prince's Foundation School of Traditional Arts](#) and [the Victoria and Albert Museum](#). 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.

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.

About Gulf Photo Plus

Gulf Photo Plus (GPP) is Dubai's centre for photography, equipping and inspiring the local and international photography community through photography workshops, artist talks, state-of-the-art printing services, and the region's longest-running international photography event, GPP Photo Week. GPP has garnered a reputation as a leader in photography events, both in the Gulf region and internationally, while developing the visual literacy of its community and pushing the boundaries of contemporary photography.