

For immediate release

Art Jameel announces a diverse autumn/winter 2021-22 programme, bringing together works from the 1970s to the present day by more than 55 artists from 14 countries across major thematic group shows, regional debut solo exhibitions, international collaborations and new commissions, film and public programmes

- **'The Distance from Here': a major group show combining large-scale Art Jameel Collection and newly commissioned works, featuring 11 artists, accompanied by a film and public programme**
- **'Off Centre / On Stage', curated by eminent architect and writer Todd Reisz and supported by Barjeel Art Foundation, takes over the Jameel's lobby; includes never-before-seen images from the 1970s depicting the making of modern Dubai, accompanied by a new publication**
- **'Pacita Abad: I Thought the Streets Were Paved with Gold': the first exhibition in the Middle East of works by the revered late Filipina artist**
- **The debut of a specially-commissioned, site-specific interactive sound and video installation by Hong Kong-based Samson Young**
- **Jaddaf Waterfront Sculpture Park features the first in a series of annual winter public works; 2021-22 commissioned artists include Nahla Tabbaa and Trevor Yeung**
- ***The Jump*: a film by Shuruq Harb, recipient of the Han Nefkens Foundation – Fundació Antoni Tàpies Video Art Production Award 2019**
- **Three collaborative and touring exhibitions held in London, Berlin and Dublin in collaboration with V&A Museum; The Hugh Lane; SAVVY Contemporary and Ifa Gallery**
- **The next iteration of Library Circles presents research by Salma Serry mapping out the intersections of food with history, politics and knowledge**

Dubai, United Arab Emirates | July 12, 2021 - [Art Jameel](#), an independent organisation that supports artists and creative communities, announces a dynamic roster for autumn/winter 2021-22 at Jameel Arts Centre, Dubai's contemporary art museum. The programme features significant new exhibitions including 'The Distance from Here', a group exhibition of 11 artists' works drawn from the Art Jameel Collection plus new commissions; 'Off Centre / On Stage', curated by eminent architect and writer Todd Reisz, featuring more than 60 never-before-seen photographs of Dubai's architectural development in the late 1970s; the Middle East's first solo exhibition by revered Filipina artist Pacita Abad titled 'I Thought the Streets Were Paved with Gold'; and the latest Artist's Room – a new interactive sound and video installation by Samson Young.

Alongside the exhibitions is a myriad of indoor and outdoor programmes, including the screening of *The Jump*, a new film by Shuruq Harb, winner of the collaborative Han Nefkens Foundation -

Fundació Antoni Tàpies Video Art Production Award 2019; the latest iteration of Library Circles, featuring original research by food writer and filmmaker Salma Serry; and the debut of an annual series of installations this winter by UAE-based and international artists, commissioned for the Jaddaf Waterfront Sculpture Park, featuring Nahla Tabbaa and Trevor Yeung.

All of the season's exhibitions feature new, bilingual publications, published collaboratively by Art Jameel and available for purchase from [Art Jameel Shop](#).

Exhibitions: 'The Distance from Here'

Level 1, September 8, 2021 - January 22, 2022

Drawn from the Art Jameel Collection, plus loans and new commissions, 'The Distance from Here' is a major, timely group exhibition highlighting 11 artists' personal responses to, and interactions with space and time. The show includes works by **Mona Ayyash, Yto Berrada, Hicham Benhoud, Jason Dodge, Shilpa Gupta, Joana Hadjithomas** and **Khalil Joreige, Sreshta Rit Premnath, Hrair Sarkissian, Do Ho Suh, and Anup Mathew Thomas**.

This group exhibition explores how our bodies become essential materials to navigating the day-to-day spaces in which we exist: through touch, language, movement and memory, exploring our lived experiences and connections to the individual and collective. Focusing on spaces of transition, both physical and non-physical, the exhibited works explore the 'in-between' spaces and exchanges that are often forgotten, overlooked or come to our attention during periods of prolonged reflection.

'The Distance from Here' is accompanied by a public programme of talks, workshops and tours; a film programme, screening in Gallery 9 from November 30, 2021, to January 2, 2022; and an exhibition catalogue published by Art Jameel and produced in collaboration with the Art Jameel Library, including essays by Dawn Ross, Nadine Ghandour and Mihir Wairkar.

Exhibitions: 'Pacita Abad: I Thought the Streets Were Paved with Gold'

Ground floor, September 8, 2021 - February 13, 2022

'I Thought the Streets Were Paved with Gold' is the first solo exhibition in the Middle East of works by the revered, late Filipina artist **Pacita Abad**. The show brings together exuberant signature works – from her colourful *trapunto* embroideries to major paintings, with a focus on four main bodies of work including *Masks and Spirits* series (1979 - 1991), the *Immigrant Experience* (1983-1995), the *Door to life* series (1998-2003) and abstract works (1985-2002) – that together span abstraction to social realism, taking the exhibition visitor on a compelling journey from Manila to Hong Kong, via New York, Sanaa and beyond. The exhibition is accompanied by a public programme, publication and a range of free Tagalog resources online.

Exhibitions: 'Off Centre / On Stage', curated by Todd Reisz

Jameel Lobby, September 29, 2021 - February 19, 2022

'Off Centre / On Stage' presents around 60 photographs with documentation drawn from archives and newspapers in the '70s, collected by architect and writer **Todd Reisz** for more than a decade in the UAE and around the world. Supported by Barjeel Art Foundation, 'Off Centre / On Stage' captures a moment of early ambition for Dubai as the city started to strive for global stature –perhaps the

origins of its role in hosting Expo 2020. The collection of photos, mainly taken by architects **Stephen Finch** and **Mark Harris** between 1976 and 1979, capture a city of people from many walks of life, living in the present but employed to create the future. Images, newspaper clippings and archival material trace the making of Dubai—all stacked, lit and displayed—rendering a showroom floor of a city that has been deliberately on display for 70 years.

Accompanying the exhibition is a new publication with an original essay by Reisz and never-before-published photographs beyond those featured in the show. The book, designed by **Huda AbiFares**, is a collaboration between Art Jameel and Khatt Books.

‘Artist’s Room: Samson Young’

Gallery 10, October 30, 2021 - May 7, 2022

Multimedia artist **Samson Young** brings a new site-specific, interactive, sound and video installation commissioned by Art Jameel in collaboration with the Kochi-Muziris Biennale and Burger Collection. Titled *Reasonable Music*, the installation takes a Hong Kong urban legend as a starting point to look at nervousness, tension, and trust at a time of information overload. It presents a futuristic stage composed of computer-generated images, 3D-printed sculptures, and communication devices.

‘Artist’s Rooms: Samson Young’ is accompanied by a publication with an essay by Orianna Cacchione, Curator of Global Contemporary Art at Smart Museum of Art, University of Chicago. An iteration of *Reasonable Music* will be shown at the next Kochi-Muziris Biennale.

Film Programme: *The Jump* by Shuruq Harb

Gallery 9, September 8, 2021 - November 27, 2021

Awarded through the Han Nefkens Foundation - Fundació Antoni Tàpies Video Art Production Award, *The Jump* by Palestinian artist **Shuruq Harb** explores the psychological terrains of leaping into the void, its potential sense of cosmic freedom, physical thrill, suspension and definitive end.

Set within the tectonic rift of the Jordan Valley, the film’s narration guides us through dizzying shots of the landscape while speculating the conditions surrounding a Palestinian man’s jump into the Mediterranean. *The Jump* unfolds like a visual poem that suspends the viewer into an otherworldly space, equally hypnotising in its effects, alienating in its details and emotionally compelling in its reflection.

The work is presented across the five institutions that partner to jury and host the prize: in addition to Jameel Arts Centre – NTU Centre for Contemporary Art, Singapore; the Museum of Contemporary Art and Design, Manila; WIELS, Brussels; and the Fundació Antoni Tàpies, Barcelona.

‘Library Circles: Salma Serry’

February 2, 2022 - August 3, 2022

In its autumn iteration of Library Circles, [Jameel Library](#) presents food writer and filmmaker **Salma Serry**’s research, exploring food as a site of confluence where history, knowledge, politics, economies, senses and semantics become interconnected elements, produced and reproduced continuously throughout time.

Salma's research also links the Jameel Arts Centre's programme with that of its new sister institution, [Hayy Jameel](#) in Jeddah, which opens this winter. Hayy Arts' opening exhibition, 'Staple: What's on your plate?' is co-curated with London-based partner Delfina Foundation and investigates what we eat and the entanglement of food with memory, ecology and place through the varied contributions of more than 30 artists, researchers, thinkers, performers, filmmakers and creative practitioners.

International Exhibitions

'Jameel Prize: Poetry to Politics'

Victoria and Albert Museum, London, September 18, 2021 - November 28, 2021

'Jameel Prize: Poetry to Politics' is the sixth edition of the Jameel prize in collaboration with V&A, marking a new era by introducing a thematic focus – this year, on contemporary design.

Eight finalists have been shortlisted from over 400 applications for the £25,000 prize: **Golnar Adili** (Iran), **Hadeyeh Badri** (UAE), **Kallol Datta** (India), **Farah Fayyad** (Lebanon), **Ajlan Gharem** (Saudi Arabia), **Sofia Karim** (UK), **Jana Traboulsi** (Lebanon), and **Bushra Waqas Khan** (Pakistan).

The works on view will span graphic design and fashion, typography and textiles, installation and activism, addressing global events, lived realities and the legacies of language, architecture and craft. A winner will be announced at the opening of the exhibition in September 2021. 'Jameel Prize: Poetry to Politics' will tour internationally.

'Hiwa K: Do You Remember What You Are Burning?'

The Hugh Lane, Dublin, October 7, 2021 - February 13, 2022

Conceived as a three-venue collaboration between Art Jameel, the Hugh Lane in Dublin and the Power Plant Contemporary Art Gallery in Toronto, the exhibition will be the first by Iraqi-Kurdish artist **Hiwa K** in Ireland.

Bringing together works spanning over 10 years of the artist's practice, it blends humour with his personal experiences in responding to the contemporary condition of displacement, belonging and resilience as a refugee in Iraqi Kurdistan.

'Hiwa K: Do you remember what you are burning?' travels to the Hugh Lane from Jameel Arts Centre in Dubai, where it closes on July 24, marking the exhibition's first venue and the artist's debut in Asia and the Middle East.

Commissions: Park Projects at Jaddaf Waterfront Sculpture Park

Nahla Tabbaa, from December 11, 2021

Trevor Yeung, from January 20, 2022

Park Projects is a new programme that invites artists to produce works in the context of Jameel Arts Centre's waterfront park, questioning notions of nature and community. The inaugural edition features Dubai-based artist **Nahla Tabbaa**, who will look at the park's ecosystem and its imbrication

in networks of food production, while Hong Kong artist **Trevor Yeung**'s work will inhabit the park at night-time, witnessing what happens when the institution goes to sleep.

**Installation: *Composition for a Public Park* by Hassan Khan
Jaddaf Waterfront Sculpture Park, from September 7, 2021**

This autumn, artist **Hassan Khan**'s large-scale, multi-lingual musical artwork returns by popular demand to the Jaddaf Waterfront Sculpture Park for the third year. Designed to be experienced by moving through space, it features musical scores and spoken narrative, written in three movements and composed especially for a public park. At the heart of each movement is a narration of a text written by the artist and presented here in three languages; Arabic, Urdu and English.

Currently on view

International Exhibition: 'For the Phoenix To Find Its Form in Us. On Restitution, Rehabilitation, and Reparation.'

SAVVY Contemporary, Berlin, until August 22, 2021

ifa Gallery, Berlin, until August 29, 2021

'For the Phoenix to find its form in us' is a research, exhibition, invocations and publications programme presented by SAVVY Contemporary and ifa Gallery and developed in collaboration with Jameel Arts Centre in Dubai.

The two-venue exhibition dwells on the entanglements of restitution, rehabilitation and reparation to further the discourse on the dispossession of material heritage. It continues the questions raised through the 2019 Jameel Arts Centre exhibition 'Phantom Limb', part of a long-term research thread at Art Jameel on our lived relationship to material heritage, historicisation, the weaponisation of heritage and the construction of foundation myths.

The exhibition is accompanied by publications, an online and in-person public programme, in addition to laboratories coming up in Cameroon, Nigeria, Rwanda, Palestine, Colombia, Philippines and the UAE. [Learn more](#).

Commissions: Artist's Garden: *Desert is a Forest* by Namrata Neog and Sunoj D

Until Spring 2022

Jameel Arts Centre's latest Artist's Garden commission awarded to **Namrata Neog** and **Sunoj D**'s '[Desert is a Forest](#)' explores the entangled relationship between humans, animals and the flora and fauna within the UAE landscape. The plant species grown in the Artist's Garden are indigenous to the UAE and tell the story of their traditional uses as food and medicine, offering a means to explore local plant ecology and nutritional habits.

Library Circles: *Maysoon Al Dwairi*

Until November 29, 2021

[Jameel Library](#) presents a research display by researcher and educator **Maysoon Al Dwairi**, which zeroes in on a crucial moment in the UAE's history – the development of its education systems. The research, presented through a selection of readings, recollections of oral histories, an annotated

archival display, and a commissioned text, looks at the period right before and after the unification of the Emirates in 1971, grounding these accounts within philosophies of education in the Arab and Muslim worlds.

'Hiwa K: Do You Remember What You Are Burning?'

Until July 24, 2021

Hiwa K blends humour with personal experience in his debut in Asia and the Middle East with a solo exhibition at the Jameel Arts Centre that speaks to contemporary experiences of displacement, belonging and resilience as a refugee in Iraqi Kurdistan.

Art Jameel commissioned the exhibition as a three-venue collaboration with Hugh Lane Gallery, Dublin (October 7, 2021–February 13, 2022), and The Power Plant Contemporary Art Gallery, Toronto (June 25–September 2022).

'Age of You'

Until August 14, 2021

In collaboration with the Museum of Contemporary Art Toronto, 'Age of You' is an immersive exhibition, bringing 70-plus artists, filmmakers, fashion designers and thinkers to focus on how our perceptions of ourselves have changed and what it means to be an individual today. 'Age of You' is curated by Shumon Basar, Douglas Coupland, and Hans Ulrich Obrist, with graphic design by Daly & Lyon.

The exhibition is accompanied by *The Extreme Self*, a sequel to the curators' previous cult title, *The Age of Earthquakes: A Guide to the Extreme Present*. The graphic novel is available for purchase at the [Art Jameel Shop](#), in-store and [online](#) for delivery anywhere in the UAE.

Coming Soon

Exhibitions

September 8, 2021 - January 22, 2022 - 'The Distance from Here'

September 8, 2021 - February 13, 2022 - 'I Thought the Streets Were Paved with Gold' by Pacita Abad

September 29, 2021 - February 19, 2022 - 'Off Centre / On Stage', curated by Todd Reisz

October 30, 2021 - May 7, 2022 - 'Artist's Room: Samson Young'

October 7, 2021 - February 13, 2022 - 'Hiwa K: Do You Remember What You Are Burning?' at the Hugh Lane, Dublin

September 18, 2021 - November 28, 2021 - 'Jameel Prize: Poetry to Politics' at Victoria and Albert Museum, London

Film Programme

September 8, 2021 - November 27, 2021 - *The Jump* by Shuruq Harb

Library Circles

February 2, 2022 - August 3, 2022 - Salma Serry

Commissions

Jaddaf Waterfront Sculpture Park: Park Projects

Nahla Tabbaa, from December 11, 2021

Trevor Yeung, from January 20, 2022

Installation

From September 7, 2021 - *Composition for A Public Park* by Hassan Khan

Events

November 25-26-27, 2021 - Down to Earth

Currently on View

'For the Phoenix To Find Its Form in Us. On Restitution, Rehabilitation, and Reparation.'

Until August 22, 2021, SAVVY Contemporary, Berlin

Until August 29, 2021, Ifa Gallery, Berlin

At Jameel Arts Centre, Dubai

Until July 24, 2021 - 'Hiwa K: Do You Remember What You Are Burning?'

Until August 14, 2021 - 'Age of You'

Until November 29, 2021 - Maysoon Al Dwairi

Until Spring 2022 - Artist's Garden: *Desert is a Forest* by Namrata Neog and Sunoj D

END

Jameel Arts Centre is free and open to the public

10am to 8pm from Saturday to Thursday; 12pm to 8pm on Fridays, and closed on Tuesdays.

COVID-19 Notes

Jameel Arts Centre complies with all safety regulations and spacing guidelines. Hand disinfectant is provided for visitors at the entrance and throughout the Centre, along with face masks and gloves if required.

Visitors are encouraged to book [two-hour slot](#) visits online via the Jameel Arts Centre's website.

Exhibition spaces and visitor reception areas are cleaned, aired, and disinfected throughout the day after each visitation time slot. More information on the precautionary measures taken by the Jameel Arts Centre is available [online](#).

For more information visit www.jameelartscentre.org | [Art Jameel](#)

Instagram [@jameelartscentre](#) | Facebook [@jameelartscentre](#) | Twitter [@jameelartscentre](#)



Press Contacts

John Carlo Bogayan

john@rpr.ae

+63 956 021 0417

About Jameel Arts Centre

One of the first contemporary arts institutions in Dubai, [Jameel Arts Centre](#) presents curated solo and group exhibitions, drawn both from the Art Jameel Collection and through regional and international collaborations. Current exhibitions include 'Age of You', works by Hiwa K, Library Circles: Maysoon Al Dwairi, and Sunoj D. and Namrata Neog's Artist's Garden.

The Centre is a 10,000-square metre, three-storey, multi-disciplinary space designed by UK-based practice Serie Architects. The building is punctuated by seven gardens, designed by landscape architect Anouk Vogel, which reflect local and global desert biomes. Sitting alongside is the Jaddaf Waterfront Sculpture Park, designed by waiwai, and a collaboration between Art Jameel and Dubai Holding.

Located by the creek in Dubai's Jaddaf Waterfront neighbourhood, the Centre's galleries are complemented by the Jameel Library, an open-access research centre dedicated to artists and cultural movements in the Gulf states and beyond. The Jameel also includes project and commissions spaces, a writer's studio and [Art Jameel Shop](#).

The Centre serves as a hub for educational and research initiatives for diverse audiences. Its wider programming embraces partnerships with local, regional and international artists, curators and organisations.

About Art Jameel

[Art Jameel](#) supports artists and creative communities. Founded and supported by the Jameel family philanthropies, the independent organisation is headquartered in Saudi Arabia and the UAE and works globally. Art Jameel's programmes – across exhibitions, commissions, research, learning and community-building – are grounded in a dynamic understanding of the arts as fundamental to life and accessible to all.

Art Jameel's two institutions – the forthcoming [Hayy Jameel](#), a dedicated complex for the arts and creativity in Jeddah, Saudi Arabia, and [Jameel Arts Centre](#), an innovative contemporary institution in Dubai, UAE – are complemented by digital initiatives plus collaborations with major institutional partners and a network of practitioners across the world.

Art Jameel and the Jameel family are currently celebrating three quarters of a century of philanthropy; this journey is marked through [the 75 Years / 75 Voices / 75 Stories](#) project, which engages key figures from the worlds of business, arts, academia and philanthropy, including [HE](#)



[Noura Al Kaabi](#), UAE Minister of Culture and Youth; [Tristram Hunt](#), Director, V&A; [HRH The Prince of Wales](#); [Max Hollein](#), Director at the Metropolitan Museum New York; and [L. Rafael Reif](#), President, MIT.