



Press Release

ART JAMEEL JOINS GROUND-BREAKING ALLIANCE OF ARTISTS AND WRITERS IN 28 COUNTRIES ACROSS THE WORLD TO FORM THE *WORLD WEATHER NETWORK* IN RESPONSE TO GLOBAL CLIMATE CRISIS

Dubai, United Arab Emirates | June 20, 2022 - In response to the global climate emergency, Art Jameel has joined 27 arts organisations across the world to form the *World Weather Network*, a ground-breaking constellation of 'weather stations' located across the world in oceans, deserts, mountains, farmland, rainforests, observatories, lighthouses and cities.

For one year starting tomorrow, **June 21, 2022**, artists and writers will share 'weather reports' in the form of observations, stories, images and imaginings about their local weather and our shared climate, creating an archipelago of voices and viewpoints on a new global platform.

Art Jameel's weather station, located in the desert gardens, library and public spaces of the **Jameel Arts Centre**, Dubai's contemporary museum, explores *atmospheric humidity*, a central climatic marker of the Arabian Gulf.

Offering different ways of looking at, listening to, and living with the weather, writers and artists' weather reports will be shared on the *World Weather Network* platform from each location: the Himalayas, the Mesopotamian Marshes in Iraq and the desert of the Arabian peninsula; the Great Salt Lake in Utah and the 'Great Ocean of Kiwa' in the South Pacific; 'iceberg alley' off the coast of Newfoundland, the waters of the Baltic Sea and the Arctic Circle; a tropical rainforest in Guyana and farmland in Ijebu in Nigeria. Artists and writers are working in observatories in Kanagawa in Japan and Manila in the Philippines; looking at cloud data in China and lichens in France; lighthouses on the coast of Peru, the Basque Country and the Snaefellsness peninsula in Iceland; and cities including Dhaka, Istanbul, Johannesburg, London and Seoul.

The Dubai-based Art Jameel *weather station* is anchored physically in the **Jameel Library**, through special events, research and book displays, and in the Jameel's **desert gardens**, through on-site air-to-water generators, providing visitors with fresh drinking water and insights into daily humidity and weather conditions.

The Art Jameel station's *weather reports* – featured on the central *World Weather Network* platform and via listening posts at the Jameel Arts Centre – primarily take the form of narrative podcast episodes by artists and writers, released throughout the year, that explore themes including *The Threshold, Sweat and Labour* and *Technofutures*. Contributors to the podcast series include: **Noush Anand, Saira Ansari, Nadim Choufi, Nadine Khalil, Nidhi Mahajan** and **Deepak Unnikrishnan**, among others.

"Art Jameel's work is underpinned by collaboration, exchange and a focus on addressing contemporary debates through working with artists, writers and creative practitioners," said **Art Jameel Chair and Founder Fady Jameel**. "There is no contemporary debate more urgent than the climate crisis, and we are delighted to be working with inspirational, like-minded partners in the World Weather Network to bring voices from the arts together with those of ecologists and scientists -- mirroring our broader approach across all Jameel family philanthropies. We look forward to seeing you online and in-person throughout the year as we collectively explore every facet of our changing weathers."

Throughout the year, across the 28 global weather stations, climate scientists, environmentalists and communities will participate in a wide-ranging programme of **special events** held in each location and online through the platform.

Among multiple events marking the June 21 launch of the *World Weather Network* is **Word Weathers**, a global, live performance and writing exchange that sees the weather recorded over a full 24-hour period, marking the winter/summer solstice. Artspace **Te Tuhi**, located in the Pacific Rim (Te Moana Nui A Kiwa), invited Art Jameel to participate, who in turn commissioned **Moza Almatrooshi** and **Sree**; the two UAE artists join more than 40 creatives around the world, who each log-on at dawn in their timezone to write and perform online. The performance will stream free, to a global public, for a full 24 hours on the World Weather Network and Te Tuhi sites.

Through the course of the year, the *London Review of Books* is commissioning special reports from writers based in many of the locations in the *World Weather Network*.

Whilst each organisation is reporting on their local weather, every one of these 'weather stations' is connected by the over-heating of the world's atmosphere. The *World Weather Network* presents alternative ways of responding to the world's weather and climate, and is an invitation to look, listen, learn and act.

To learn more, visit the *World Weather Network* platform: www.worldweathernetwork.org

Art Jameel thanks [Eshara Water](#), providers of atmospheric water generators, for their support.

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NOTES TO EDITORS

About the World Weather Network

The world's weather is not what it was. We see glaciers melting and water levels rising. Some lands are flooded and others are parched. Everywhere is heating up. Formed in response to the climate emergency, the *World Weather Network* is a constellation of weather stations set up by 27 arts agencies around the world and is an invitation to look, listen, learn, and act. From June 21, 2022 to June 21, 2023, artists, writers and communities will share observations, stories, reflections and images about their local weather, creating an archipelago of voices and viewpoints. Engaging climate scientists and environmentalists, the *World Weather Network* brings together diverse world views and different ways of understanding the weather across multiple localities and languages.

ARTANGEL, London

ARTINGENIUM, San Sebastián

ART JAMEEL, Dubai

ART SONJE CENTER, Seoul

BUNDANON, New South Wales

DHAKA ART SUMMIT, Bangladesh

ENOURA OBSERVATORY, Japan



NICOLETTA FIORUCCI FOUNDATION, Grasse
FOGO ISLAND ARTS, Newfoundland
FONDAZIONE SANDRETTO RE REBAUDENGO, Torino
HOLT-SMITHSON FOUNDATION, New Mexico
ICELANDIC ARTS CENTRE, Reykjavik
IHME HELSINKI, Helsinki
KHOJ, New Delhi
MALI, Lima
MCAD, Manila
NEON, Athens
NGO, Johannesburg
WAAG, Amsterdam
RUYA FOUNDATION, Iraq
SAHA, Istanbul
SOPHIA POINT, Guyana
TERRA FOUNDATION, Comporta
TE TUHI, Aotearoa / New Zealand
UCCA, Beijing / Qinhuangdao
YINKA SHONIBARE FOUNDATION, Lagos / Ijebu
32 DEGREES EAST, Uganda

About Jameel Arts Centre

Known as Dubai's contemporary arts museum, [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 'Proposals for a Memorial to Partition', 'Fahd Burki: Daydreams', 'Taus Makhacheva: A Space of Celebration', 'Library Circles: Salma Serry', and Artist's Garden 'Desert is a Forest' by Sunoj D and Namrata Neog.

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. Entrance to the park, gardens, exhibitions and library is free, and all ages are welcome.

Located by the creek in Dubai's Jaddaf Waterfront neighbourhood, the Jameel'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, an artisan seasonal dining concept '[Teible](#)' and the [Art Jameel Shop](#).

The Jameel 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 – [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.

About Eshara Water

Based in the UAE, [Eshara Water](#) provides businesses and consumers with atmospheric water generators (AWG) capable of creating high-quality drinking water from the air. Eshara's air-to-water technology – a bespoke, environmentally-friendly and cost-effective drinking water solution – ensures access to drinking water while eliminating the need for plastic bottles and transportation. The machines' advanced safety features ensure the water complies with all regulatory requirements and provides ultra clean, safe drinking water. Eshara is proud to partner with Art Jameel in providing air-to-drinking water machines for visitors to Jameel Arts Centre, for the duration of the World Weather Network project.

About the *London Review of Books*

In parallel with the World Weather Network, every two weeks throughout the year, there will be a new dispatch from a *London Review of Books* contributor covering an aspect of the climate or weather at one of the WWN locations, published as an *LRB* newsletter and on the *LRB* and *World Weather Network* websites. These include Rosa Lyster on lightning in Johannesburg, Skye Arundhati Thomas on the heat in Delhi, Mimi Jiang on the air in Beijing, Izzy Finkel in Istanbul, and Adewale Maja-Pearce reporting from Lagos.

Founded in 1979, the *LRB*, Europe's leading review of culture and ideas, celebrated its 1000th issue at the end of last year. Published twice a month, it provides the space for many of the world's best writers to explore a wide variety of subjects in exhilarating detail – from art and politics to science and technology via history and philosophy, fiction and poetry. In the age of the long read, the *LRB* remains the pre-eminent exponent of the intellectual essay, admired around the world for its fearlessness, its range and its elegance. To receive the *LRB* newsletter, sign up at:

<https://www.lrb.co.uk/account/newsletter-signup>