*For immediate release*

**Jameel Arts Centre's 2023 programme features more than 100 artists through a dynamic line-up of solo and group exhibitions, publications, community events and a new public art commissioning programme**

**Dubai, United Arab Emirates | March 14, 2023** - [**Art Jameel**](https://artjameel.org/), an independent organisation that supports artists and creative communities, is pleased to announce its 2023 programme at Jameel Arts Centre, Dubai’s hub for contemporary art and ideas. Presenting a range of group, solo and touring exhibitions, archival displays, publications, commissions, films, digital initiatives and learning opportunities for all ages, the programme features more than 100 artists, spanning history and geography, from Iran of the early 70s through to monumental new commissions by local artists today. The roster of programming features collaborations with major institutions and foundations including the **Japan Foundation**, Tokyo; **the V&A**, London; **Carnegie Museum of Art**, Pittsburgh; and the **Dubai Culture & Arts Authority**, Dubai.

Collaborative international exhibitions include the first solo show in the Middle East and South Asia for Japanese artist **Tsuyoshi Hisakado** (**May 4 - September 24, 2023**) plus major group shows ‘**Jameel Prize: Poetry to Politics**’ (**June 8, 2023 - January 7, 2024**); **Fereydoun Ave and the Laal Collection,** curated by **Negar Azimi** and **Sohrab Mohebbi** (**September 28, 2023 - March 24, 2024**); and ‘**Hospitality**’curated by Brooklyn- and Sharjah-based **Murtaza Vali**.

Education is at the heart of Art Jameel’s initiatives and central to the organisation’s thinking and collaborations, approaching the arts as a prism for lifelong learning. Jameel Arts Centre is home to major flagship community events including the second iteration of the Creative Careers Days fair, expanded by popular request to 3 days (October 8-9-10) which features leading entities and organisations in the field of arts and education and is held in collaboration with the Ministry of Culture and Youth.

Alongside exhibitions, commissions, research and learning, Art Jameel’s focus includes documenting and supporting critical thinking from the region and beyond by producing a wide variety of publications that preserve and expand conversations. New publications this year include *Fahd Burki: daydreams,* co-published with **MOUSSE**;*Monumental Shadows: On museums, memory and the making of history*, in collaboration with**Kaph Books**; and *The Distance from Here*, inspired by Art Jameel Collection group exhibition, held at Jameel Arts Centre and Hayy Jameel in 2021.

***COMING SOON:***

**Tsuyoshi Hisakado**

**May 4 - September 24, 2023**

**Level 1, Galleries 4-8**

In his first exhibition in the Middle East and South Asia, co-produced by **Art Jameel** and the **Japan Foundation**, Japanese artist **Tsuyoshi Hisakado**’s solo exhibition focuses on large-scale conceptual installations that span techniques and materials including sound, light, computer programming, sculpture and drawing – taking inspiration from the laws of physics and mathematics.

Initiated through a curatorial exchange between Japan and the UAE that began in 2022, co-organised by the Japan Foundation and Art Jameel, the show is curated by **Yu Iseki** and **Anna Bernice delos Reyes** and coincides with the 50th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between the United Arab Emirates and Japan.

**Group Exhibition: The Youth Takeover 2023**

**May 5-28, 2023**

**Galleries 9-10**

Total ‘Takeover’ returns to the Jameel Arts Centre, organised and co-curated by the Jameel Youth Assembly – this year’s cohort: **Auguste Nomeikaite**, **Bilal Bashir**, **Farah Ali**, **Hala El Abora**, **Karno Dasgupta**, **Nathaniel Enriquez**, **Ronald Ekore** and **Saba Sayfaiee.**

Marking the culmination of the annual, year-long talent development programme, the Takeover is an exhibition and public programme co-curated by the Assembly that features new commissions by young artists based in the UAE. This year’s Assembly has also opted to engage with, select and curate works from the Art Jameel Collection. Through investigations of collective and individual histories in Dubai and beyond, the cohort questions materiality and the built environment, among other subjects. The Takeover is accompanied by an expanded public programme of workshops and discussions, free and open to all.

This year’s Assembly members and Youth Takeover co-curators speak more than eight languages and have ties to communities in the Gulf, the Levant, South and Southeast Asia, West Africa, and the Baltics.

This itiration’s learning programme was designed, curated and facilitated by Youth Assembly alumna **Shama Nair**.

**‘Library Circles: Another Empty House’**

**From May 5, 2023**

**Jameel Library**

In this iteration of Library Circles, Kerala- and Dubai-based researchers **Zahra Mansoor**, **Juneida Abdul Jabbar** and **Shahnaz Hashim** of **Another Empty House** investigate the phenomenon of empty houses in Kerala and its relationship to economic, patriarchal, and capitalist behaviours. The group presents a research display that foregounds their primary materials, sourced from films, ads, YouTube videos and oral histories.

**‘Library Circles: Another Empty House’** is accompanied by an expansive community-focussed programme, taking place in the Jameel Library starting in May 2023.

**Group Exhibition: ‘Jameel Prize: Poetry to Politics’**

**June 8, 2023 - January 7, 2024**

**Ground floor, Galleries 1-3**

Jameel Arts Centre hosts the sixth edition (titled ‘Poetry to Politics’) of the Jameel Prize, the first to have a focus on contemporary design; the exhibition debuted at the V&A in London, and has toured to Centro Cultural La Moneda in Santiago, Chile and El Museo Provincial de Bellas Artes Franklin in Argentina, before arriving “home” in the UAE.

‘Jameel Prize: Poetry to Politics’ features works by the eight finalists of the sixth edition of the 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).⁠ Saudi artist **Ajlan Gharem** was announced as the winner in September 2021, chosen by an esteemed, independent jury for his architectural installation *Paradise Has Many Gates* (2015).⁠

‘Jameel Prize: Poetry to Politics’ jury members are: Dr **Tristram Hunt**, Director of the V&A (Chair); **Alice Rawsthorn**, design critic and author; **Sultan Sooud Al-Qassemi**, writer, researcher and founder of Barjeel Art Foundation; **Mehdi Moutashar**, artist and joint winner of Jameel Prize 5; and **Marina Tabassum**, architect and joint winner of Jameel Prize 5.

Founded in 2009, the Jameel Prize is a collaboration between the V&A and Art Jameel and is the world’s leading award for contemporary art and design inspired by Islamic tradition. The sixth edition is curated by the V&A’s Jameel Curator of Contemporary Art from the Middle East **Rachel Dedman**.

**Group Exhibition: Fereydoun Ave and the Laal Collection**

**September 28, 2023 - March 24, 2024**

**Level 2, Galleries 9 and 10**

Featuring more than 30 artists from the collection of one of Iran’s most influential and critical artists, this exhibition highlights five decades of modern and contemporary Iranian art, shaped by personal history, friendship, sensibility and circumstance. Curated by **Negar Azimi** and **Sohrab Mohebbi**, the exhibition debuted at the 58th Carnegie International; this expanded iteration is presented by Art Jameel in partnership with the Carnegie Museum of Art, Pittsburgh.

Featured artists include: **Shirin Aliabadi**, **Yaghoub Amaemehpich**, **Nazgol Ansarinia**, **Fereydoun Ave**, **Haydeh Ayazi**, **Ashurbanipal Babilla**, **Sadra Baniasadi**, **Leyly Matine-Daftary**, **Davood Emdadian**, **Parvaneh Etemadi**, **Monir Shahroudy Farmanfarmaian**, **Raana Farnoud, Shahab Fotouhi, Ali Golestaneh**, **Ramin Haerizadeh, Rokni Haerizadeh, Arash Hanaiae, Khosrow Hassanzadeh, Sirak Melkonian**, **Yashar Samimi Mofakham**, **Ardeshir Mohasses**, **Houman Mortazavi**, **Farhad Moshiri**, **Nikzad Nodjoumi**, **Iman Raad**, **Behjat Sadr**, **Bijan Saffari**, **Mostafa Sarabi**, **Mamali Shafahi**, **Reza Shafahi**, **Shideh Tami**, **Cy Twombly**, **Manouchehr Yektai**, **Hossein-Ali Zabehi**, among others.

***SAVE THE DATE:***

**Group Exhibition: ‘Hospitality’**

**November 2, 2023 - April 28, 2024**

**Level 1 Galleries 4-8**

**‘Hospitality’** is curated by Brooklyn- and Sharjah-based **Murtaza Vali** and features the works of around 20 artists exploring the multifaceted roles played by hotels and the hospitality industry in the postwar era. Including major loans from renowned international museums, new commissions and works from the Art Jameel Collection, together with archives and architectural interventions, the exhibition lends a critical eye to established histories of colonialism, nationalism, modernity, conflict, and globalisation. More details coming soon: watch this space!

**‘Library Circles: Rashed Almulla’**

**From November 15, 2023**

**Jameel Library**

The Autumn 2023 iteration of the Jameel Library features **‘Library Circles: Rashed Almulla’** with a historical visual retelling of a nation through national stamps produced in the UAE before and during the nation's formative years. The display is accompanied by annotations and captions, contextualizing Almulla's study.

**Creative Careers Days: 'you can't have arts without..'**

**October 8, 9, 10, Sunday, Monday, Tuesday**

The UAE’s annual festival devoted to high school and university students, helping them explore their future in the arts, returns to Jameel Arts Centre, expanded to three days after its highly popular debut in 2022. Held in collaboration with the Ministry of Culture and Youth, and featuring 30+ leading arts organisations and universities, **Creative Careers Days** gives students (and teachers) a unique opportunity to meet and discuss ideas with key artists, curators and industry specialists. Inspirational talks, informational workshops, and behind-the-scenes-at-the-museum tours run throughout the three-day fair. Programmes highlight a diverse range of creative careers pathways; options in tertiary education, locally and internationally; student and postgraduate open calls, residencies, internships and volunteering opportunities, and more.

***NEW AND FORTHCOMING PUBLICATIONS:***

***Fahd Burki: daydreams***

Published by **Art Jameel** and **Mousse Publishing**, *Fahd Burki: daydreams* is a monograph of the Lahore-based artist, following his eponymous survey exhibition at Jameel Arts Centre in 2022. The publication includes commissioned essays by writers **Saira Ansari** and **Murtaza Vali**, providing a personal look at Burki's earlier life and work and insight into the evolution of his practice from figuration to minimalist abstraction.

Available at the **Art Jameel Shop** (in-person and online) and through **Mousse Publishing.**

***Monumental Shadows: On museums, memory and the making of history***

Published by **Art Jameel** and **Kaph Books,** *Monumental Shadows* brings together artists and writers to explore debates around material heritage, colonial heritage, reparation, and museology. Through commissioned essays, speculative fiction, and visual contributions, this major multi-authored volume stems from and continues conversations instigated by Art Jameel’s 2019 group exhibition ‘Phantom Limb’ at Jameel Arts Centre, Dubai.

*Monumental Shadows: On museums, memory and the making of history* is available at the Art Jameel Shop and in bookstores worldwide.

***The Distance from Here***

This publication is inspired by the Art Jameel group exhibition ‘The Distance from Here’, held at Jameel Arts Centre, Dubai (September 8, 2021 – January 22, 2022) and at Hayy Jameel, Jeddah (June 8 – October 25, 2022).

This experimental publication features three new commissions: essays by artist **Nadine Ghandour** and writer **Mihir Wairkar**, and an illustrated essay by artist **Son Ni**.

***ONGOING AT THE JAMEEL:***

**Artist's Rooms**

**Until May 14, 2023**

Drawn largely from the **Art Jameel Collection**, Artist's Rooms is a series of solo exhibitions by influential, innovative artists focusing on practitioners from the Middle East, Asia and Africa. These capsule shows are collaborative and curated in dialogue with the artist. All three artists featured in 2022-23 are exhibiting in a solo museum show in the Gulf for the first time.

**Ayesha Sultana**

Gallery 1

Bringing together recent works on paper and canvas by upcoming artist Ayesha Sultana, this exhibition explores the artist's longstanding engagement with the materiality and everyday iconography of her home city of Dhaka, rendering forms of street corners, architectural features, wall textures and construction detritus encountered during her day-to-day life.

**Risham Syed**

Gallery 2

The exhibition comprises established Lahore-based artist Risham Syed's major installation, *The Seven Seas* (2012), a series of large-scale quilts depicting 20th-century maps of various port cities that were strategically located on the colonial European trade route – including Ras al-Khaimah, UAE; Izmir, Turkey; Kandy, Sri Lanka, among others.

**Daniele Genadry**

Gallery 3

This Artist's Room is anchored around Paris and Beirut-based multimedia artist Daniele Genadry's major painting *Blind Light* (2017), with new works based on her recent research in La Rochelle, France and the Grand Canyon, USA. Genadry focuses on distance, light and movement and how they combine to affect visual experiences.

**Artist's Garden: *Samur* by Zheng Bo**

**Until December 1, 2024**

Zheng Bo's Artist's Garden commission features a dance performance with two human dancers and a Samur tree growing in the Mleiha desert in Sharjah, paying homage to the tree's resilience and cultural significance across the Arabian Peninsula, Thar Desert, central Sahara Desert and East Africa. The dance is presented as a film installation at the Jameel, surrounded by a landscape of indigenous desert plants. Bo's practice cultivates a kinship with plants, engaging with human relationships to the natural world through various mediums.

**Group Exhibition: ‘An Ocean in Every Drop’**

**Until April 2, 2023**

**Level 1, Galleries 4-8**

With its title inspired by a 13th-century poem by Rumi – “You are not a drop in the ocean. You are an ocean in every drop” – the exhibition speaks to the centrality of water in shaping our world and the complex web of relations produced by thinking with water, featuring 15 regional and international artists from 14 countries, from First Nations and indigenous communities, through Ancient Persia to the UAE. Bringing together existing works and new commissions that range from large-scale installation and audiovisual works to manuscripts and works on paper, ‘An Ocean in Every Drop’ seeks to re-enchant our relationship with water through history, from the 10th century to the present day, exploring the vast and ancient ways in which water shapes human development, produces history, culture, language and social relations.

Exhibiting artists include: **Jumana Emil Abboud**, **Martha Atienza**, **Raven Chacon**, **Cian Dayrit**, **Léuli Eshrāghi**, **Asunción Molinos Gordo**, **Abul Hisham**, **Candice Hopkins**, **Sohrab Hura**,**Hussein Naserreddine**,**Thảo Nguyên-Phan**, **Daniel Otero Torres**, **Karan Shrestha**, **Fatima Uzdenova** and **Munem Wasif**, as well as the work of 10th century geographer and writer **al-Istakhri.**

**Tekla Aslanishvili: *A State in a State***

**Until April 23, 2023**

**Level 2, Gallery 9**

Tekla Aslanishvili's experimental documentary, "A State in a State" (2022), explores railroad construction, disruption, and fragmentation in the South Caucasus and Caspian regions, tracing the emergence of fragile political borders following the collapse of the Soviet Union.

*A State in a State* was made possible through the Han Nekfens Foundation – Fundació Antoni Tàpies Video Art Production Grant 2020, in collaboration with Art Jameel, Dubai; Museum of Contemporary Art and Design, Manila; NTU CCA, Singapore; and WIELS, Brussels.

**Sara Sadik: *They will end up in ravines***

**Until August 20, 2023**

**Level 2, Gallery 10**

Sara Sadik's videos stage young men striving to achieve moral and physical transformation in challenging social circumstances. The artist mixes video games, science fiction, everyday life, and French rap music to write her coming-of-age stories. Her five-screen circular installation *Ils finiront dans des ravins (They will end up in ravines)* is inspired by large-scale gaming arenas. Over game-like missions, the characters face multiple challenges and invent their ideal society, devising ways to protect their community and environment. Commissioned for the **16th Lyon Biennale** in collaboration with Art Jameel.

**Jaddaf Playscape Commission**

**Open call: until March 31, 2023**

**Jaddaf Waterfront Sculpture park**

The new Jaddaf Playscape Commission creates a space for creative enjoyment, imagination and play for all ages. The Commission is a major opportunity for UAE-based artists, designers, architects and collectives to propose and create a monumental, interactive and playful public artwork at the Jaddaf Waterfront Sculpture Park, opening in Autumn 2023 for an initially intended duration of around four years. The Commission, devised and curated by Art Jameel, is part of [Dubai Culture’s new Dubai Public Art initiative.](https://dubaiculture.gov.ae/en/about-us/special-projects/our-projects-events/Dubai-Public-Art)

**‘Jameel Library Commissions: In Search of Magic’**

**Until July 15, 2023**

**Jameel Library and online**

Jameel Library features a study of regional textile and talismanic practices in a project by **Khalid Mezaina** titled **‘In Search of Magic‘** with entries released every fortnight since July 2022 on a dedicated online platform.

Exploring themes and techniques on surface design, ceremonial textiles, costumes for the stage and the magical world of talismans, Khalid Mezaina’s commission is two-fold: writings and a physical textile piece that unfolds throughout the year-long duration of the commission.

Read ‘In Search of Magic’ [here](https://insearchofmagic.jameelartscentre.org/).

**World Weather Network**

**Ongoing**

**Jameel Arts Centre and online**

Art Jameel joins the World Weather Network, a global constellation of 27 arts organisations, to create an archipelago of voices and viewpoints about local weather and shared climate. At the Jameel station, visitors can explore atmospheric humidity, a central climatic marker of the Arabian Gulf, while enjoying fresh drinking water from on-site air-to-water generators. The weather reports are narrative podcast episodes by artists and writers, exploring themes like The Threshold, Sweat and Labour, and Technofutures. Contributors include Noush Anand, Saira Ansari, Nadim Choufi, Nadine Khalil, Nidhi Mahajan, and Deepak Unnikrishnan.

To learn more, visit the World Weather Network platform: [www.worldweathernetwork.org](http://www.worldweathernetwork.org)

**-ENDS-**

**Notes to Editors:**

**Jameel Arts Centre is free and open to the public**

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

**For more information visit** [www.jameelartscentre.org](http://www.jameelartscentre.org) | [Art Jameel](https://artjameel.org/)

Instagram [@jameelartscentre](https://www.instagram.com/jameelartscentre/) | Facebook [@jameelartscentre](https://www.facebook.com/JameelArtsCentre/) | Twitter [@jameelartsctr](https://twitter.com/JameelArtsCtr)e

**Press Contacts**

**Ruba Al-Sweel**

ruba@artjameel.org

**Arfa Shahid**

arfa@rpr.ae

+971 56 560 3967

**About Jameel Arts Centre**

One of the first contemporary arts institutions in Dubai, [Jameel Arts Centre](https://jameelartscentre.org/) presents curated solo and group exhibitions, drawn both from the Art Jameel Collection and through regional and international collaborations.

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 Jemeel’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’](https://www.teible.com/) and the [Art Jameel Shop](https://shop.artjameel.org/).

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](https://artjameel.org/) 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](http://www.jameelartscentre.org/), 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.