



For Immediate Release

## **Jameel Arts Centre announces a dynamic Fall/Winter 2020-21 programme of major new exhibitions, commissions, site-specific installations and digital initiatives**

- **‘Do You Remember What You Are Burning?’: Iraqi-Kurdish artist Hiwa K marks his debut solo exhibition in Asia and the Middle East highlighting more than ten years of his bold, lauded practice (December 16, 2020 - July 24, 2021)**
- **70-plus artists, filmmakers, fashion designers and thinkers come together to explore ‘the extreme self’ in ‘Age of You’, curated by Shumon Basar, Douglas Coupland and Hans Ulrich Obrist (January 28-August 14, 2020)**
- **Exploring the entangled relationship between humans, animals and the flora and fauna within the UAE landscape, Jameel Arts Centre's new Artist's Garden commission, *Desert is a Forest*, by Sunoj D and Namrata Neog, opens to the public on October 17, 2020**
- **Art Jameel’s youth programming culminates in The Assembly staging a takeover in November, featuring more than 23 upcoming UAE-based artists and creatives**
- **Major outdoor installations for autumn in the Sculpture Park include *Formation III: The Dappled Light of the Sun* by Conrad Shawcross and the return of Hassan Khan’s *Composition for a Public Park***

**Dubai, United Arab Emirates | September 15, 2020 - [Jameel Arts Centre](#)**, Dubai's contemporary art institution, announces its diverse Fall/Winter 2020-21 programme featuring two new exhibitions in the Centre’s galleries; site-specific installations in the Jaddaf Waterfront Sculpture Park; and a new Artist's Garden commission. The programme also includes the latest edition of Library Circles and a two-week takeover of the Jameel by its youth collective, The Assembly.

### **Exhibitions: ‘Do You Remember What You Are Burning?’ December 16, 2020 - July 24, 2021**

Hiwa K marks his debut in Asia and the Middle East with a solo exhibition at the Jameel Arts Centre highlighting more than ten years of the acclaimed artist’s bold and timely practice.

Hiwa K blends humour with personal experience to produce bodies of work that speak to contemporary experiences of displacement, belonging and resilience. Many of the works in this exhibition relate to the artist’s home city of Sulaymaniyah, in Iraqi Kurdistan, and his experiences of fleeing as a refugee and returning many years later.

The exhibition, titled ‘Do You Remember What You Are Burning?’ brings together works spanning more than ten years of the artist's practice, including *One Room Apartment*, an outdoor installation originally commissioned for



Documenta 14 (2017), and a new interactive large-scale work, produced especially for this show's debut in the UAE.

The exhibition was commissioned by Art Jameel as a three-venue collaboration with Hugh Lane Gallery, Dublin, and The Power Plant Contemporary Art Gallery, Toronto.

**Exhibitions: 'Age of You'**  
**January 28 - August 14, 2021**

Curated by Shumon Basar, Douglas Coupland and Hans Ulrich Obrist, with graphic design by Daly & Lyon, 'Age of You' is a dynamic, immersive exhibition about how our perceptions of ourselves have changed, and what it means to be an individual today.

A collaboration with the Museum of Contemporary Art Toronto, and set across two of Jameel Arts Centre's gallery floors, 'Age of You' includes works in film, fashion, sculpture and installation by more than 70 contributors, presented through 13 chapters that chart the remaking of the interior self. The exhibition features words and slogans by the curators and creative collaborators juxtaposed with specially commissioned art installations.

The exhibition previews a forthcoming book by the curators, *The Extreme Self*, a sequel to their previous cult title *The Age of Earthquakes: A Guide to the Extreme Present*.

**Site-Specific Installations: Artist's Garden**  
**October 17, 2020 onwards**

Jameel Arts Centre's latest Artist's Garden commission is awarded to Namrata Neog and Sunoj D: *Desert is a Forest* asks, through our situation in the UAE, "What negotiations, relationships and hierarchies emerge and submerge in this thinking landscape?"

Set to open in October 2020 and grow over the coming months, the new garden explores our local biodiversity, and the way we see and interpret the environment through the complex entanglements of humans, non-humans, food and domesticity. 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. The Artist's Garden is accompanied by a programme of talks, readings and performances by the artists and their UAE-based collaborators.



### **The Assembly: 2020 Takeover**

**October 30 - November 12, 2020**

The Assembly is an annual programme designed to foster original programming for and by UAE youth, managed by nine core members aged 18-24, who develop initiatives based on their own interests and experiences. The 2020 Assembly members were selected via a highly competitive process, following nominations from Art Jameel's extensive network of industry leaders.

For two weeks starting October 30, 2020, the Assembly will take over the Jameel with curated interventions and public programming addressing their chosen theme of 'Reassigning Value'. The nine Assembly members have selected another 14 UAE-based young artists and creatives and together they will present artworks, interventions and events at the Jameel, ranging from illustration, painting, sculpture and photography to sound-design, film and performance, plus a digital programme on their bespoke online blog.

### **Site-Specific Installations: Jaddaf Waterfront Sculpture Park**

*Formation III: The Dappled Light of the Sun*, a large-scale sculptural work by renowned British artist Conrad Shawcross makes its debut in Jaddaf Waterfront Sculpture Park, adjacent to Jameel Arts Centre. The new permanent installation comprises geometric structures that give an impression of organically branching, cloud-like forms made up of thousands of tetrahedrons. The immersive canopy stands on three tripods, six meters above ground level, revolving around geometry's natural patterns.

The cooler months also see the return of artist and musician Hassan Khan's popular, award-winning, multi-lingual musical artwork, *Composition for a Public Park*. Unfolding across Jaddaf Waterfront Sculpture Park through three simultaneous movements, the work includes a spoken libretto, written by Khan and presented here in Dubai in three languages -- Arabic, Urdu and English.

### **Library Circles: Maryam Al Dabbagh**

**September 16, 2020 - January 7, 2021**

The autumn edition of the research and experimental exhibitions series Library Circles features writer and researcher Maryam Al Dabbagh, commissioned by Jameel Library to produce a bilingual text and audio installation that takes visitors on a journey throughout the Jameel and into its hidden corners. The work features conversations and personal narratives around the theme of belonging, explored through the lenses of bureaucracy, administration and the (long-prophesied) age of retirement.



**Currently on show:**

**Michael Rakowitz**

**Until November 22, 2020**

This major survey exhibition features famed Iraqi-American artist Michael Rakowitz's most significant projects from the past two decades; the eight multifaceted installations – in sculpture, drawing, film, sound and photography -- draw on architecture, cultural artefacts, cuisine and geopolitics.

Following its display at the Whitechapel Gallery, London, and Castello di Rivoli Museo d'Arte Contemporanea, Turin, this iteration of the exhibition at Jameel Arts Centre is on until November 22, 2020. The exhibition is curated by Iwona Blazwick and Carolyn Christov-Bakargiev with Habda Rashid, Marianna Vecellio and Art Jameel's Nora Razian.

**Artist's Rooms**

**Until January 3, 2021**

The latest iterations of Jameel Arts Centre's Artist's Room series, based on works in the Art Jameel Collection, focuses on three practitioners taking a particularly innovative and nuanced approach to urgent political debates.

**Larissa Sansour** represented Denmark at the 58th Venice Biennale with the highly-acclaimed *In Vitro*, an Arabic-language sci-fi film set in Bethlehem during the aftermath of an eco-disaster; Jameel Arts Centre hosts the regional premiere of the film -- an otherworldly reflection on memory, history, place and identity.

**Taysir Batniji** explores loss and memory in a series of inkless 'drawings' etched onto paper, titled *To My Brother*. The profoundly moving and sensitive work is based on family photos of the Palestinian artist's brother's wedding and commemorates his tragic death during the 1987 intifada. *To My Brother* was commissioned originally through the Abraaj Group Art Prize, which Batniji co-won in 2012.

One of the four co-winners of the 2019 Turner Prize, Beirut- and Dubai-based artist **Lawrence Abu Hamdan's** Artist's Room includes an audio-video installation titled *This Whole Time There Were No Landmines*. Comprised of mobile phone-recorded footage and audio recordings from 2011, the work documents the 'shouting valley' in the Golan Heights, Syria.

Autumn programming also includes *Metropolis*, an installation of 1000 sculptural works by **Lubna Chowdhary**, to be explored in the Jameel Arts Centre Lobby (through until January 9, 2021).

Entrance to Jameel Arts Centre is free and open to all, Saturday, Sunday, Monday, Wednesday and Thursday (closed on Tuesdays).



Visitors are encouraged to book their two-hour slot visits online via the Jameel Arts Centre's [website](#). Exhibition spaces and visitor reception areas are managed according to cleaned, aired and disinfected throughout the day after each visitation time slot. Hand disinfectant is provided for visitors at the entrance and throughout, along with face masks and gloves if required. More information on the precautionary measures taken by the Jameel is available [online](#).

**Coming soon:**

**Exhibitions**

December 16, 2020 – July 24, 2021 – 'Do You Remember What You Are Burning?' Solo exhibition by Hiwa K  
January 28-August 14, 2021 – 'Age of You', a group exhibition curated by Shumon Basar, Douglas Coupland and Hans Ulrich Obrist

**Site-Specific Installations**

From September 30:

*Formation III: The Dappled Light of the Sun* by Conrad Shawcross

From October 17, 2020:

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

*Composition for a Public Park* by Hassan Khan

**Library Circles**

September 15, 2020 – January 7, 2020 - Maryam Al Dabbagh

**The Assembly**

October 30 - November 12, 2020 - The Assembly Take Over

**On now:**

Until November 22, 2020 – Michael Rakowitz

Until January 3, 2020 – Artist's Rooms: Larissa Sansour

Until January 3, 2020 – Artist's Rooms: Taysir Batniji

Until January 3, 2020 – Artist's Rooms: Lawrence Abu Hamdan

Until January 9, 2021 -- *Metropolis* by Lubna Chowdhary



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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 2021.

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.

### **About Jameel Arts Centre**

One of the first contemporary art 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. Jameel Arts 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.

Located by the creek in Jaddaf Waterfront, one of Dubai Holding's mixed-use destinations, Jameel Arts Centre's galleries are complemented by Jameel Library, an open-access research centre dedicated to artists and cultural movements in the Gulf states and beyond. Jameel Arts Centre also includes project and commissions spaces, a writer's studio, a restaurant and shop.

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