

**Press Release**

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**ART DUBAI ANNOUNCES GALLERY LINE-UP FOR 2022 EDITION  
AND LAUNCH OF NEW DIGITAL SECTION**

- *Art Dubai 2022 will take place from March 11-13, 2022 at Madinat Jumeirah, Dubai in what will be the fair's most extensive edition to date*
- *Art Dubai's 15<sup>th</sup> edition will feature over 100 contemporary and modern galleries from over 40 countries including more than 30 first-time participants*
- *Art Dubai Digital – a new section of the fair – will focus on the development of art in the digital realms, including galleries and innovative NFT platforms from around the world*
- *The 15<sup>th</sup> edition of Global Art Forum will bring together leading creators and thinkers to examine the worlds of digital artefacts and crypto economies*

**Dubai, United Arab Emirates – 6 January 2022** – Art Dubai today announced the list of participating galleries at its 2022 edition, which will be its most extensive to date. The fair will take place at Madinat Jumeirah, Dubai from 11-13 March 2022, with previews on 9 and 10 March.

The leading global platform for art and artists from the Middle East and Global South, the 15<sup>th</sup> edition of Art Dubai will present over 100 galleries from more than 40 countries across four main gallery sections: Contemporary, Modern, Bawwaba and new section Art Dubai Digital. The 2022 fair will include more than 30 first-time participants and over 50% of the gallery programme is drawn from the Global South, reaffirming Art Dubai's position as the leading marketplace for art from this region.

The fair's upcoming edition marks the debut of **Art Dubai Digital**, an innovative new digital art and NFT section that will provide a comprehensive, 360° introduction to this fast-developing landscape. This new physical section of the fair will showcase a curated selection of digital artworks presented by 17 leading international galleries and platforms, examining the context out of which NFTs, cryptocurrency, video art and virtual reality (VR) have grown since the rise of digital art in the 1980s. The programme will be accompanied by an extensive talks and education programme, including the 15<sup>th</sup> edition of **Global Art Forum** and a series of introductory talks.

**Art Dubai's Artistic Director Pablo del Val commented:**

*"Art Dubai is a truly global fair, and this is reflected in both the quality and geographic spread of the galleries participating in our 2022 edition, which will be our largest to date. That so much of the programme is drawn from the Global South highlights the increased interest in and appetite for collecting non-Western art, the strengthening of the gallery scene beyond the traditional centres of the art world, and the role Art Dubai plays as a platform for the region. We are particularly pleased*

*to launch Art Dubai Digital, which will provide an important and needed bridge between the rapidly-developing global crypto-sphere and the international art market.”*

Art Dubai is held under the patronage of HH Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Vice President and Prime Minister of the UAE and Ruler of Dubai. Art Dubai is held in partnership with A.R.M. Holding. The fair is sponsored by Julius Baer. The Dubai Culture & Arts Authority (Dubai Culture) is the fair's strategic partner.

View the list of galleries participating in Art Dubai 2022 [here](#)

## **Art Dubai 2022 Gallery Programme**

**Art Dubai Contemporary 2022** will feature 77 galleries from 33 countries, and will welcome 15 first-time exhibitors in 2022. New participants will include Andréhn-Schiptjenko (Stockholm/Paris), FORO.SPACE (Bogota), Isla Flotante (Buenos Aires), MARUANI MERCIER (Brussels/Knokke/Zaventem), P420 (Bologna), Rhizome (Algiers) and Window Project (Moscow/Tbilisi).

**Art Dubai Modern 2022** is curated by Sam Bardaouil and Till Fellrath and will feature solo presentations of museum-quality works by 20<sup>th</sup> century masters from the Middle East, South Asia and Africa. Featured artists in 2022 will include Bibi Zogbé (Agial Art Gallery, Beirut); Mohamed Kacemi (Comptoir des Mines, Marrakesh); Aref El Rayess (Sfeir-Semler Gallery, Beirut/Hamburg) and Rabin Mondal (DAG World, New Delhi/Mumbai/New York).

**Bawwaba** – meaning *gateway* in Arabic and exclusively featuring works made in the past year or specifically for the fair – will feature ten solo presentations, including six first-time exhibitors: TARQ (Mumbai), NATURE MORTE (New Delhi), VIGIL GONZALES (Cusco), Jahmek Contemporary Art (Luanda), Madragoa (Lisbon) and Rele Gallery (Lagos).

Following a successful debut in March 2021, Art Dubai is also pleased to confirm the return of its innovative **Gallery Support Programme**, where accepted galleries only pay booth fees based upon sales. For the 2022 fair, the scheme is open to galleries formed in the last five years and either based in, or representing artists from, the Global South.

## **Art Dubai Digital**

As the art world continues to adapt and evolve in the digital and NFT realms, new communities are emerging to support these worlds, involving new creators and stakeholders.

Art Dubai Digital will include a dedicated gallery section curated by Chris Fussner, Web3 specialist and Director of Tropical Futures Institute (Cebu, Philippines), that will include leading international platforms working with NFTs; contemporary galleries with projects devoted to digital art and NFTs; galleries that have been working with digital art since the 1980s; and NFT e-commerce sites and organisations that are turning existing physical art into NFTs. The participants, representing a broad

geographic base and featuring both traditional galleries and digital platforms, will include **Institut, Postmasters, Bright Moments, HORIZONS by so-far and AORA, Cyber Baat, Emergeast and NFT Asia.**

Alongside this commercial section, Art Dubai is launching **Campus Art Dubai 9.0 Blockchain Edition**, a new eight-week NFT strand within the fair's education programme. Powered by Materia, the course is led by a host of local and global leading experts in the blockchain and NFT art sector, and will support 12 UAE and international artists who have a digital background.

Additionally, an innovative **Crypto Media Lab** will function as a gathering space for the companies that support these communities, including cryptocurrency platforms, exchanges, and organisations providing the relevant tools to access the digital realm. The programme will also be supported by a **new talks programme**, which aims to give visitors more context about digital platforms, inviting guest speakers to explain more about the basics of cryptocurrency, digital media and NFT art.

The 15<sup>th</sup> edition of Art Dubai's celebrated **Global Art Forum**, entitled 'This is the Picture,' will examine the worlds of digital artefacts and crypto economies. Commissioned by Shumon Basar, Global Art Forum 2022 will invite artists, curators, creators, thinkers and technologists to consider a range of topics from NFT art and curatorial projects, pay-to-play gaming, metaversing myths, Web 3.0 hopes, and where legacy institutions might fit in to all the above.

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## **NOTES TO EDITORS**

### **About Art Dubai**

Founded in 2007, Art Dubai is the premier platform to see and buy modern and contemporary art from the Global South. Featuring Contemporary and Modern gallery sections, annual artist commissions and year-round collector and education programmes, Art Dubai champions art and artists from across the Global South, providing a relevant and increasingly important alternative to mainstream, largely Western-led narratives.

Art Dubai is held in partnership with A.R.M. Holding. The fair is sponsored by leading Swiss wealth management group, Julius Baer. The Dubai Culture & Arts Authority (Dubai Culture) is the fair's strategic partner.

[artdubai.ae](http://artdubai.ae)

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