



## 32 Art Dubai exhibits to see

Tour the UAE's top galleries and check out these exhibits this month



By Georgina Wilson-Powell  
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### 1x1 Gallery

#### Group show

This Dubai gallery is known for its vast collection of modern and contemporary Indian art and serves a vital role in furthering these genres within the healthy Dubai art scene. During March, 1x1 will be presenting a superb group show that will highlight some of the best-known names in the past century of Indian art, including MF Husain, FN Souza, Ram Kumar, SH Raza, Laxma Goud, Thota Vaikuntam, Bhupen Khakar, Badri Narayan, Jogen Chowdhury, Himmat Shah, Ganesh Pyne, G Ravinder Reddy, Chittrovanu Mazumdar, GR Iranna, Shibu Natesan and Bose Krishnamachari.

March 15–April 15. Open Sat–Thu 11am–8.30pm. Villa No. 1023, Al Manara, Al Wasl Road, [www.1x1artgallery.com](http://www.1x1artgallery.com) (04 348 3873).

### Alliance Francaise Of Dubai

#### 'White Pages, White Books, Artist Touch' by Jean Charles Yaich

French artist Jean Charles Yaich creates his beautiful, monochromatic light sculptures with white paper, based on an 'open-book' concept – a book as an object, an open book to everyone's reflection and in a constant dialogue with his imaginative world. Inspired by poems and dreams, 'White Pages, White Books, Artist Touch' is a story told by signs and forms, rendered into aerial abstraction, light and pure.

March 15–31. Open Sun–Thu 9am–1pm, 4pm–8pm; Sat 9am–1pm. Street 18. Bur Dubai, [www.afdubai.com](http://www.afdubai.com) (04 335 8712).

### Art Chowk

#### 'What Are we looking at?' Group show

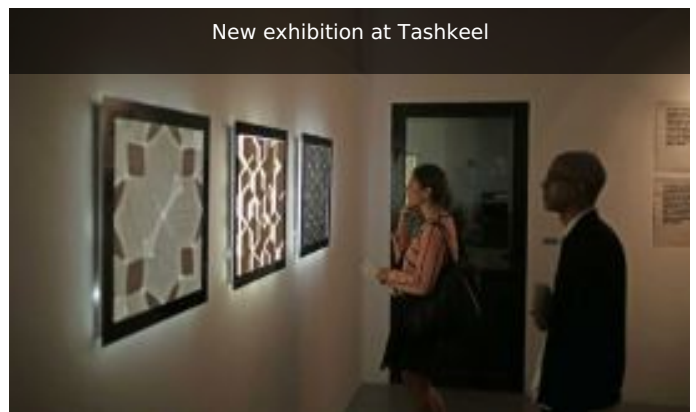
Increasingly perceptions dominate our decisions. Packaging rather than value drives economic and cultural behaviour. With infinite choices we are attracted to the one that looks the best and we connect to those who most reflect our perception of ourselves. Public opinion guided by perceptions dictates cultural boundaries and political affiliations. The truth, hidden behind this visual, is diffused and may be distorted. Or it may just be different. Technique and context

are used to snapshot this perversion. The works question accepted truths through subject matter and practice, and prod the viewer to look beyond what is immediately visible. This exhibition features work by RM Naeem, Jamil Baloch, Laila al Masri, Faraz Ali and Asif Ahmed.

March 19 - 20. Open daily, 10am-7pm. Modula Conceptua, Jumeirah Beach Road, Um Sequim 1 (050 505 6490/04 394 3002).



## SIMILAR ARTICLES



### **Art Couture**

#### **TRIO: A Celebration of Contemporary Art @Art Couture**

Art Couture presents three artists linked by their shared passion for art, exhibiting their individual collections. Syrian artist Hassan Edalbi's presents 'Moods', which highlights the various moods we all experience in our day-to-day lives. In caricature, his figures are humorous and light-hearted, whereas his acrylic paintings explore more reflective and emotional feelings. Sharjah-based Syrian artist Basem Al Sayer presents 'Dreams And Reality', featuring numerous figures, symbols and signs, exploring the notion of memory, whilst Canadian-born Cynthia Reta Richards completes the trio with 'Read Between The Threads', a homage to the challenging Bedouin lifestyle still at work behind the scenes of today's modern Middle Eastern society.

Until April 27. Al Fattan Marine Towers II, Jumeirah Beach Residence, Dubai Marina, [www.artcoutureuae.com](http://www.artcoutureuae.com), (04 399 4331).

### **Art Sawa**

#### **'Coastal Promenade' by Camille Zakharia**

'Coastal Promenade' is Zakharia's latest photographic essay and part of the 'Reclaim' project which won Bahrain the

Golden Lion award at the Venice Biennale for Architecture 2010. Commissioned by the Ministry of Culture, and curated by Noura Al-Sayeh, the 'Coastal Promenade' portfolio illustrates the diversity of the coastal landscape along the shores of the Kingdom of Bahrain. The images range from the darker themes of the ecological effects of land reclamation to a lighter look at the way in which their users are appropriating these coastal areas. Candid in his approach, Camille Zakharia attempts to paint the true colour of the place and its people during a time of dramatic change.

Until March 27. Road 323, Al Quoz, [www.artsawa.com](http://www.artsawa.com), (04 340 8660).

## Artspace

### Group show

In a dynamic and highly-topical show of brand new work, executed in response to the recent events in Cairo, Zakaria Ramhani, Adel El Siwi, Nadine Hammam, George Bahgory, Hani Zurob and Khaled Hafez, Charbel Samuel Aoun and Mohammed Tammam present a multi-media group show that is fresh, relevant and powerful in its breadth and energy. Open Sat-Thu 10am-8pm. Gate Village Building. 3, Level 2, DIFC, [www.artspace-dubai.com](http://www.artspace-dubai.com), (04 323 2082).

## Ayyam Gallery

### 'Trees And The High Rising City' by Samia Halaby

Ayyam Gallery Dubai (DIFC) presents 'Trees And The High Rising City,' a solo show by Samia Halaby, highlighting recent works by the seminal Palestinian-born artist. At this stage in her oeuvre, Halaby has revisited many of the aesthetic breakthroughs that first distinguished her illustrious career. Yet, although her latest canvases draw from earlier experiments, she explores the angular perspective of architecture alongside the textures and variances found in nature, creating compositions that reflect the energy of bodies and masses in motion as they intersect and converge before the viewer - a daring, rarely seen, feat in abstraction. This collection of work speaks of an artist who has continuously searched for new ways to visually interpret the world around her. Here, the artist has sought to dismantle the picture plane even further, by bringing together elements that have never been simultaneously examined in her work before.

Open March 13-April 28. Sat-Thu 10am-8pm. Podium Level, DIFC, Gate Village, Building 3, [www.ayyamgallery.com](http://www.ayyamgallery.com) (04 439 2395/04 439 2390).

## Carbon 12

### André Butzer

Carbon 12, in association with the prestigious Max Hetzler gallery, proudly presents the art of André Butzer in his first major solo exhibition in the Middle East. 'Potato Chips, Coke and Medicine', 'Fanta and Sprite, long-life milk, Micky and Donald'. At first glance Butzer's exhibition titles have a distinct pop feel, a certain lightness. Works named 'Blue Smurfs', 'Entombment of Winnie the Pooh' or 'Favorite Painting of Paul Cezanne' suggest the absurd and conceptual. His paintings oscillate between abstraction and figuration, enchanted with bright colours and executed with expressive brush strokes. Characters are born, a whole universe of signs and signifiers in constant flux, referencing American and German history, politics and economy, pop culture and the entertainment industry, but always focusing on the development of a personal vocabulary.

March 14-April 20. Open Sat-Thu 11.30am-7pm. Warehouse D37, Al Quoz 1, Street 8, Al Serkal Avenue, [www.carbon12dubai.com](http://www.carbon12dubai.com) (050 464 4392).

## Cuadro Fine Art

### 'Right Here, Right Now' and 'We Are Beginning: Personal Projects In Public Spaces'. Group show

There's a frenetic bustle of activity at DIFC's trailblazing Cuadro gallery this month. In 'Right Here, Right Now' five rising stars of the Arab, Iranian and Turkish art scene bring a riotous assembly of colour, light, creativity, passion and vision across a spectrum of mediums including traditional media such as oils and acrylics as well as mixed media, photography and neon. With work from acclaimed British-Iraqi painter Athier whose new, monumental, post-pop compositions employ geometric Islamic shapes and Arabic calligraphy, Saudi Arabian artist Manal Al Dowayan, a former Cuadro artist-in-residence, Jaffar Al Oraibi, a Bahraini artist making his UAE debut with 25 new large-scale works under the title 'When Ali Met William', Iranian artist Gita Meh highlighting new works from her celebrated 'I Command: The Michaelangelo Series' which deconstructs Michelangelo's Sistine Chapel iconography, overlaying it with images of quotidian modern life and Ali Taptik, a Turkish lens-based artist, launching works from a new series that juxtaposes the anonymity associated with a new city with his intimate personal experiences, this exhibition is an essential experience for anyone even remotely interested in the future of Middle Eastern contemporary art.

In 'We Are Beginning' Cuadro showcases American-born, Berlin-based artist Brad Downey's 'interference street art', a concept never seen before in the region. Downey's work playfully manipulates mundane objects on the street, such as signs, bricks and construction materials, transforming them into meaningful messages. Look out for Downey's 'modifications' to street furniture around the DIFC area and the Madinat Jumeirah complex during Art Week. Also at Cuadro, Lebanese contemporary jeweller and artist Nadine Kanso will launch her first-ever pop-up shop, retailing limited editions from her 'Bil Arabi' line, including T-shirts, beachwear, pouches, cushions and select jewellery pieces, echoing the links between art, fashion and self-expression.

From March 14. Open Sun-Thu 10am-8pm, Sat 12pm-6pm (or by appointment). Gate Village Building 10, DIFC Gate Village, [www.cuadroart.com](http://www.cuadroart.com) (04 425 0400).